

Additional file 2: Excluded studies

Reference	Reason for exclusion
<b>Cox-2 inhibitors in focus: Rofecoxib as effective as the "classics".</b> <i>MMW Fortschr Med</i> 2001 Nov 15; 143(46):50-51	Review, not clinical trial
JS Gimbe, A Brugger, W Zhao, K M Verburg and GS Geis: <b>Efficacy and tolerability of celecoxib versus hydrocodone/acetaminophen in the treatment of pain after ambulatory orthopedic surgery in adults.</b> <i>Clin Ther</i> 2001 23(2):228-241	Not rofecoxib
JJ Huang, A Taguchi, H Hsu, GL Andriole and A Kurz: <b>Preoperative oral rofecoxib does not decrease postoperative pain or morphine consumption in patients after radical prostatectomy: a prospective, randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial.</b> <i>J Clin Anesth</i> 200113(2):94-97	Study drug administration before operation, no baseline pain intensity
AH Jeske: <b>COX-2 inhibitors and dental pain control.</b> <i>J Gt Houst Dent Soc</i> 1999 71(4):39-40	Review, not clinical trial
BW Morrison, SE Daniels, P Kotey, N Cantu and B Seidenberg: <b>Rofecoxib, a specific cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor, in primary dysmenorrhea: a randomized controlled trial.</b> <i>Obstet Gynecol</i> 1999 94(4):504-508	Not postoperative pain
BW Morrison, J Fricke, J Brown, W Yuan, P Kotey and D Mehlisch: <b>The optimal analgesic dose of rofecoxib: Overview of six randomized controlled trials.</b> <i>J Am Dent Assoc</i> 2000 131(12):1729-1737	Review, no identifiable unique trial data
AE Pickering, HS Bridge, J Nolan, PA Stoddart: <b>Double-blind, placebo-controlled analgesic study of ibuprofen or rofecoxib in combination with paracetamol for tonsillectomy in children.</b> <i>Br J Anaesth</i> 2002 88(1):72-77	Children, not adult
SS Reuben, S Bhopatkar, H Maciolek, W Joshi, and J Sklar: <b>The preemptive analgesic effect of rofecoxib after ambulatory arthroscopic knee surgery.</b> <i>Anesth Analg</i> 2002 94(1):55-59	Immediate postoperative administration before established pain
SS Reuben and NR Connelly: <b>Postoperative analgesic effects of celecoxib or rofecoxib after spinal fusion surgery.</b> <i>Anesth Analg</i> 2000 91(5):1221-1225	Concurrent morphine administration
SS Reuben, R Fingerroth, R Krushell, H Maciolek: <b>The evaluation of safety and efficacy of the perioperative administration of rofecoxib for total knee arthroplasty.</b> <i>J Arthroplasty</i> 2002 17: 26-31	Not single dose analgesic trial, with 3-day use before surgery
DO Stichtenoth and JC Frolich: <b>Therapy with preferential and specific COX-2 inhibitors.</b> <i>Internist</i> 2001 42(3):421-426	Review, not clinical trial
RL Wynn: <b>The new COX-2 inhibitors: rofecoxib (Vioxx) and celecoxib (Celebrex).</b> <i>Gen Dent</i> . 2000 48(1):16-20	Review, not clinical trial