

Additional File 1 Search strategy

Databases

MEDLINE 1966–2005

CINAHL 1982–2005

HealthSTAR 1975–2005

Quality and processes of care search terms

#1. PROCESS ASSESSMENT (HEALTH CARE)/

#2. OUTCOME ASSESSMENT (HEALTH CARE)/

#3. OUTCOME AND PROCESS ASSESSMENT (HEALTH CARE)/

#4. QUALITY INDICATORS, HEALTH CARE/

#5. QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE/

Mortality search terms

#6. mortality.mp.

#7. exp MORTALITY/

Combinations

#8. #1 or #2 or #3 or #4 or #5

#9. #6 or #7

#10. #8 and #9