

Table A. List of excluded trials and reason for exclusion [posted as supplied by author]

Study	Reason for exclusion
Gejervall ^{w8}	Acupuncture not administered within one day of the embryo transfer procedure (i.e. acupuncture (with electrical stimulation) administered as an alternative to conventional anesthesia, only during the surgical procedure of removing the eggs from the woman's ovaries)
Humaidan ^{w9}	Acupuncture not administered within one day of the embryo transfer procedure (i.e. acupuncture (with electrical stimulation) administered as an alternative to conventional anesthesia, only during the surgical procedure of removing the eggs from the woman's ovaries)
Quintero ^{w10}	Small (n=17 randomized, with 7 completers) cross-over RCT that did not report numbers randomized to each of the 2 groups, which made it impossible to extract relevant data from the first treatment phase before the cross-over occurred; RCT investigator was e-mailed to request this data, but no response was received
Sator-Katzenschlager ^{w11}	Acupuncture not administered within one day of the embryo transfer procedure (i.e. acupuncture (with electrical stimulation) administered as an alternative to conventional anesthesia, only during the surgical procedure of removing the eggs from the woman's ovaries)
Stener-Victorin ^{w12}	Acupuncture not administered within one day of the embryo transfer procedure (i.e. acupuncture (with electrical stimulation) administered as an alternative to conventional anesthesia, only during the surgical procedure of removing the eggs from the woman's ovaries)
Stener-Victorin ^{w13}	Acupuncture not administered within one day of the embryo transfer procedure (i.e. acupuncture (with electrical stimulation) administered as an alternative to conventional anesthesia, only during the surgical procedure of removing the eggs from the woman's ovaries)
Udoff ^{fcw14}	Random allocation of patients using a coin toss and extreme imbalance of the randomization results
Zhang ^{w15}	Conference abstract of the included Paulus et al 2002 RCT ^{w4}
Zhang ^{w16}	Chinese language publication, judged to be a derivative publication of the Paulus et al 2002 RCT ^{w4} (although this article described somewhat different methods and results from the included Paulus et al 2002 RCT ^{w4} ; on further scrutiny, this Chinese article was judged to be a derivative publication)
Zhang ^{w17}	Chinese language publication, judged to be a derivative publication of the Paulus et al 2003 RCT ^{w5} (although this article described somewhat different methods and results from the included Paulus et al 2003 RCT ^{w5} ; on further scrutiny, this Chinese article was judged to be a derivative publication)