

Appendix 1 (as supplied by the authors).

Databases included in electronic search.

MEDLINE (January 2000 to February 2009 week 08)
EMBASE (January 2000 to 2009 week 08)
Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (first quarter 2009)
Web of Science (January 2000 to 2009 week 08)
Scopus (January 2000 to 2009 week 08)

Medline search strategy.

1 *chest pain/ or chest pain/bl, di, et, en, ep, pa, ra or (chest adj pain).mp. or chestpain\$.mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 11195
2 (emergen* adj3 (treatment\$ or center\$ or centre\$ or unit\$ or room\$1 or department\$ or service or physician\$ or medicine or care or ward\$1)).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 49398
3 emergency service,hospital/ or emergency medical services/ or triage/ 33169 Advanced DISPLAY
4 exp angina pectoris/di, co, et, ep, ra, mo or exp myocardial ischemia/di, ra, co, et, ep, mo 70803 Advanced DISPLAY
5 (acute adj2 (coronary or cardiac or myocardial or heart) adj2 (syndrome\$ or infarct\$)).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 26343
6 diagnosis, differential/ or exp diagnostic errors/ or missed.mp. or patient discharge/ or patient readmissions/ or outcome\$.mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 853086
7 Risk Assessment/ 89643
8 (timi adj3 risk).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 147 9 (risk adj4 (stratif\$ or score\$)).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 11211
10 (thrombolysis adj3 myocardial).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 1441 Advanced DISPLAY
11 (1 or 4 or 5) and (2 or 3) 3901
12 7 or risk\$.mp. or predict\$.mp. or prognos\$.mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 1138914
Advanced DISPLAY
13 11 and 12 and (8 or 10) 71
14 13 and (prospective\$ or cohort\$ or evaluat\$ or validat\$ or comparative\$).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] 47*

*The original MEDLINE search strategy identified 131 potentially eligible records but did not capture two benchmark articles used to design the search strategy. The strategy was modified to capture these benchmark articles and updated through the end of February 2009 (modified strategy shown above), resulting in a total of 178 records. The remaining records were identified from other electronic databases.