

Appendix 1 (as supplied by the authors): Search strategy for trials (run as of September 30, 2011)

#	Ovid MEDLINE	Results
1	Zinc/ or Zinc Acetate/ or (zinc/ and acetic acid/) or zinc acetate (nm) or (zinc adj2 acetate).ti,ab. or Zinc Sulfate/ or ZINC SULFATE (nm) or (zinc/ and sulfates/) or (zinc adj2 sulfate*).ti,ab. or (zinc/ and gluconates/) or (zinc adj2 gluconate).ti,ab. or zinc.ti,ab. or ("ascaro L 15" or "blue powder" or "CCRIS 1582" or CCRIS1582 or "EINECS 231-175-3" or "EINECS 2311753" or EINECS2311753 or "HSDB 1344" or HSDB1344 or jasad or "LS 2" or LS2 or "LS 6" or LS6 or merrillite* or rheinzink or "zincum metallicum").mp.	79455
2	exp respiratory tract infections/ or (common adj2 cold*).ti,ab. or (upper adj2 respiratory).ti,ab. or (cold or colds).ti,ab. or Rhinovirus/ or rhinovirus*.ti,ab.	338877
3	1 and 2	863
4	(controlled clinical trial or meta analysis or multicenter study or randomized controlled trial).pt. or randomized controlled trials as topic/ or controlled clinical trials as topic/ or multicenter study as topic/ or meta analysis as topic/ or random allocation/ or double-blind method/ or single-blind method/ or (random* or (doubl* adj2 dummy) or ((Singl* or doubl* or trebl* or tripl*) adj5 (blind* or mask*)) or RCT or RCTs or (control* adj5 trial*) or multicent* or placebo* or metaanalys* or (meta adj5 analys*) or sham or effectiveness or efficacy or compar*).ti,ab. 3458987	3712555
5	3 and 4	348
6	(controlled clinical trial or randomized controlled trial).pt. or randomized.ab. or dt.fs. or randomly.ab. or trial.ab. or groups.ab.	2790165
7	exp animals/ not humans/	3707268
8	6 not 7	2368495
9	3 and 8	285
10	5 not 9	156
11	4 or 8	4980957
12	3 and 11	441

#	EMBASE	Results
1	zinc/ or exp zinc acetate/ or zinc sulfate/ or gluconate zinc/ or zinc derivative/ or (zinc adj2 acetate).ti,ab. or (zinc adj2 sulfate*).ti,ab. or (zinc adj2 gluconate).ti,ab. or zinc.ti,ab. or ("ascaro L 15" or "blue powder" or "CCRIS 1582" or CCRIS1582 or "EINECS 231-175-3" or "EINECS 2311753" or EINECS2311753 or "HSDB 1344" or HSDB1344 or jasad or "LS 2" or LS2 or "LS 6" or LS6 or merrillite* or rheinzink or "zincum metallicum").mp.	110739
2	exp Rhinovirus infection/ or exp rhinovirus/ or exp respiratory tract infection/ or (common adj2 cold*).ti,ab. or (upper adj2 respiratory).ti,ab. or (cold or colds).ti,ab. or rhinovirus*.ti,ab.	344157
3	1 and 2	1293
4	ct.fs. or controlled clinical trial/ or randomized controlled trial/ or multicenter study/ or meta analysis/ or (random* or (doubl* adj2 dummy) or ((Singl* or doubl* or trebl* or tripl*) adj5 (blind* or mask*)) or RCT or RCTs or (control* adj5 trial*) or multicent* or placebo* or metaanalys* or (meta adj5 analys*) or sham or effectiveness or efficacy or compar*).ti,ab.	4433360
5	3 and 4	561
6	randomized controlled trial/ or ct.fs. or random*.mp. or (doubl* adj blind*).mp.	1053311
7	3 and 6	305
8	5 or 7	562
9	5 not 7	257

#	EBM Reviews – CCTR	Results
1	Zinc/ or Zinc Acetate/ or (zinc/ and acetic acid/) or (zinc adj2 acetate).ti,ab. or Zinc Sulfate/ or (zinc/ and sulfates/) or (zinc adj2 sulfate*).ti,ab. or (zinc/ and gluconates/) or (zinc adj2 gluconate).ti,ab. or zinc.ti,ab. or ("ascaro L 15" or "blue powder" or "CCRIS 1582" or CCRIS1582 or "EINECS 231-175-3" or "EINECS 2311753" or EINECS2311753 or "HSDB 1344" or HSDB1344 or jasad or "LS 2" or LS2 or "LS 6" or LS6 or merrillite* or rheinzink or "zincum metallicum").mp. or gluconate zinc/ or zinc derivative/	2252
2	exp respiratory tract infections/ or (common adj2 cold*).ti,ab. or (upper adj2 respiratory).ti,ab. or (cold or colds).ti,ab. or Rhinovirus/ or rhinovirus*.ti,ab. or exp Rhinovirus infection/ or exp rhinovirus/	11722
3	1 and 2	89

#	CINAHL	Results
S1	(MH "Zinc") OR "zinc" OR (MH "Zinc Sulfate") OR (MH "Zinc Compounds")	2628
S2	(TX Zinc*)	2834
S3	S1 or S2	2834
S4	(MH "Respiratory Tract Infections+")	30585
S5	(TX rhinovir*)	154
S6	S4 or S5	30640
S7	S3 and S6	206
S8	(MH "Double-Blind Studies") OR (MH "Randomized Controlled Trials") OR (MH "Single-Blind Studies") OR (MH "Triple-Blind Studies") OR (MH "Multicenter Studies") OR (MH "Meta Analysis") OR (TX random*) OR (TX rct)	135136
S9	S7 and S8	57

#	AMED	Results
1	Zinc/ or (zinc adj2 acetate).mp. or (zinc adj2 sulfate*).mp. or (zinc adj2 gluconate).mp. or zinc.mp. or ("ascaro L 15" or "blue powder" or "CCRIS 1582" or CCRIS1582 or "EINECS 231-175-3" or "EINECS 2311753" or EINECS2311753 or "HSDB 1344" or HSDB1344 or jasad or "LS 2" or LS2 or "LS 6" or LS6 or merrillite* or rheinzink or "zincum metallicum").mp.	266
2	exp respiratory tract infections/ or (common adj2 cold*).ti,ab. or (upper adj2 respiratory).ti,ab. or (cold or colds).ti,ab. or rhinovirus*.ti,ab.	1446
3	1 and 2	14