

### **Appendix 1: Search strategy (as supplied by the authors)**

We searched PubMed, Google Scholar and Science Direct. We tailored our search strategy to each database and included the terms “waste management,” “environment,” “operating room,” “sustainability” and “green health care.” The search was restricted to the English language. Two reviewers (Y.K., N.S.) independently reviewed articles, and the full text for any article flagged as potentially relevant was retrieved.

Articles retrieved included 62 research studies, 33 review articles, 24 expert opinions, 5 news reports, 5 data registries, 5 industry-sponsored product reviews, 2 single-institution reports and 2 practice guidelines. Due to the heterogeneity in design as well as the paucity of standardized research in this area, study quality was not assessed.

An article was included in the analysis if it provided information on waste management strategies or waste production in the operating room setting. We resolved any disagreements in the inclusion of an article by consensus. The reference lists of all selected studies were reviewed and all records were downloaded into Reference Manager, version 11.0 (Thomson ISI Research-Soft, Philadelphia, PA). If necessary, authors were contacted for information that was unclear or missing.