

## **Appendix 1: Search methods for identification of studies**

A PubMed search was performed on January 20, 2013 to identify English language RCTs. Search terms used were:

((("random allocation"[MeSH Terms] OR ("random"[All Fields] AND "allocation"[All Fields]) OR "random allocation"[All Fields] OR "randomized"[All Fields]) AND ("clinical trials as topic"[MeSH Terms] OR ("clinical"[All Fields] AND "trials"[All Fields] AND "topic"[All Fields]) OR "clinical trials as topic"[All Fields] OR "trial"[All Fields])) AND ("power (psychology)"[MeSH Terms] OR ("power"[All Fields] AND "(psychology)"[All Fields]) OR "power (psychology)"[All Fields] OR "powered"[All Fields])) AND ("bone and bones"[MeSH Terms] OR ("bone"[All Fields] AND "bones"[All Fields]) OR "bone and bones"[All Fields] OR "bone"[All Fields])) AND ("bone marrow"[MeSH Terms] OR ("bone"[All Fields] AND "marrow"[All Fields]) OR "bone marrow"[All Fields] OR "marrow"[All Fields])) AND ("pathology"[Subheading] OR "pathology"[All Fields] OR "biopsy"[All Fields] OR "biopsy"[MeSH Terms])).

A Cochrane CENTRAL search of randomized controlled trials was performed on January 26, 2013. Search terms used were: powered bone marrow biopsy.

As well, the following technology assessment organizations websites were searched on January 24, 2013 using the search terms bone marrow biopsy:

- Agency Health Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Technology Assessment
- California Technology Assessment Forum (CTAF)

- Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technology in Health (CADTH)
- National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)

Secondly, hand searches of the reference sections of RCTs identified were also undertaken.

Thirdly, the manufacturer of the powered biopsy system, Vidacare, was contacted on 1/27/13 to determine if there were other non-published RCTs on the use of the powered system.