

**Online supplemental material of the article:
Greco, et al. The attractiveness of network meta-analysis: a comprehensive systematic and narrative review.**

TABLE S1 - The list of the 92 articles excluded from the analysis.

| Author | Year | Abbreviated journal name |
|----------------|------|--------------------------------|
| Catalá-López F | 2014 | Rheumatol Int |
| Corbett MS | 2014 | Osteoarthritis Cartilage |
| Hutton B | 2014 | Syst Rev |
| Jiang X | 2014 | Biom J |
| Meijler WJ | 2014 | J Pain Symptom Manage |
| Ohlssen D | 2014 | Pharm Stat |
| Pandis N | 2014 | Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop |
| Tan SH | 2014 | J Clin Epidemio |
| Thorlund K | 2014 | Cost Eff Resour Alloc |
| Warren FC | 2014 | Stat Med |
| Zeng C | 2014 | Osteoarthritis Cartilage |
| Zhang J | 2014 | Clin Trials |
| Abramovici A | 2013 | Evid Based Med |
| Achana FA | 2013 | Stat Med |
| Amaral JF | 2013 | Thyroid |
| Bonsu KO | 2013 | Syst Rev |
| Busse JW | 2013 | Syst Rev |
| Catalá-López F | 2013 | Osteoporos Int |
| Catalá-López F | 2013 | J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg |
| Chaimani A | 2013 | PLoS One |
| Cipriani A | 2013 | Ann Intern Med |
| Cope S | 2013 | BMC Med Res Methodol |
| Dias S | 2013 | Med Decis Making |
| Donegan S | 2013 | Stat Med |
| Freemantle N | 2013 | Osteoporos Int |
| Greco T | 2013 | Stat Methods Med Res |
| Jansen JP | 2013 | BMC Med |
| Jiann BP | 2013 | Eur Urol |
| König J | 2013 | Stat Med |
| Mavridis D | 2013 | Stat Med |
| Messori A | 2013 | Clin Infect Dis |
| Messori A | 2013 | Thromb Haemost |
| Mills EJ | 2013 | BMJ |
| Seftel A | 2013 | J Urol |
| Senn S | 2013 | Stat Methods Med Res |

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|----------------|------|-------------------------|
| Spineli LM | 2013 | Clin Trials |
| Thorlund K | 2013 | BMC Med Res Methodol |
| Tricco AC | 2013 | Syst Rev |
| Tricco AC | 2013 | Syst Rev |
| Tricco AC | 2013 | Syst Rev |
| Tricco AC | 2013 | Syst Rev |
| Tricco AC | 2013 | Syst Rev |
| Zaccara G | 2013 | Br J Clin Pharmacol |
| Arnold M | 2012 | BMC Genomics |
| Catalá-López F | 2012 | Diabetologia |
| Cipriani A | 2012 | Epidemiol Psychiatr Sci |
| Donegan S | 2012 | Stat Med |
| Griebeler M | 2012 | Syst Rev |
| Jansen JP | 2012 | BMC Med Res Methodol |
| Mills EJ | 2012 | JAMA |
| Prutsky GJ | 2012 | Syst Rev |
| Schulman S | 2012 | Thromb Haemost |
| Thorlund K | 2012 | Syst Rev |
| Thorlund K | 2012 | Clin Epidemiol |
| Tricco AC | 2012 | Syst Rev |
| Tricco AC | 2012 | Syst Rev |
| Trinquart L | 2012 | PLoS One |
| Tu YK | 2012 | ISRN Dent |
| Ades AE | 2011 | Value Health |
| Elliott WJ | 2011 | Arch Intern Med |
| Fadda V | 2011 | Br J Ophthalmol |
| Fadda V | 2011 | BMJ |
| Hoaglin DC | 2011 | Value Health |
| Jansen JP | 2011 | Value Health |
| Jansen JP | 2011 | BMC Med Res Methodol |
| Jones B | 2011 | Pharm Stat |
| Li T | 2011 | BMC Med |
| Messori A | 2011 | Aliment Pharmacol Ther |
| Passaro D | 2011 | Int J Cardiol |
| Salanti G | 2011 | J Clin Epidemiol |
| Vignes M | 2011 | PLoS One |
| Ades AE | 2010 | Value Health |

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|----------------|------|---------------------------------|
| Dias S | 2010 | Stat Med |
| Edwards SJ | 2010 | Value Health |
| Kumar A | 2010 | Haematologica |
| Woods BS | 2010 | BMC Med Res Methodol |
| Giralt S | 2009 | J Natl Cancer Inst |
| Mehta J | 2009 | J Natl Cancer Inst |
| O'Regan C | 2009 | Trials |
| Tricot G | 2009 | J Natl Cancer Inst |
| Baumgartner RW | 2008 | Eur Heart J |
| Chung H | 2008 | Clin Trials |
| Jansen JP | 2008 | Value Health |
| Lam SK | 2008 | Eur Heart J |
| Caldwell DM | 2007 | Lancet |
| Cipriani A | 2007 | Lancet |
| Lu G | 2007 | Stat Med |
| McAlister FA | 2007 | Nat Clin Pract Endocrinol Metab |
| Pocock SJ | 2007 | Lancet |
| Ballesteros J | 2005 | J Clin Psychopharmacol |
| Lumley T | 2002 | Stat Med |
| Bucher HC | 1997 | J Clin Epidemiol |

TABLE S2 - Descriptive characteristics of the 71 networks meta-analysis published in MEDLINE/ PubMed (update April 15th, 2014) with at least four treatments, two closed loop and dichotomous primary outcome.

| Author | Year | Journal | PubMed ID | Number of treatments | Number of studies | Clinical indications | Type of interventions included |
|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Cardiovascular setting | | | | | | | |
| Dogliotti A | 2014 | Heart | 24009224 | 8 | 20 | Non-valvular atrial fibrillation | Oral antithrombotics |
| Kang SH | 2014 | Eur Heart J | 24459196 | 8 | 113 | Coronary revascularization | Stents |
| Palmerini T | 2014 | J Am Coll Cardiol | 24211507 | 8 | 89 | Revascularization | Stents |
| Assiri A | 2013 | Clin Ther | 23870607 | 9 | 21 | Non-valvular atrial fibrillation | Antithrombotic drugs |
| Bangalore S | 2013 | BMJ | 24212107 | 8 | 126 | Coronary artery disease | Stents |
| Chatterjee S | 2013 | BMJ | 23325883 | 6 | 21 | Heart failure and reduced ejection fraction | Beta blockers |
| Landoni G | 2013 | Br J Anaesth | 23852263 | 4 | 38 | Cardiac surgery | Anesthetic drugs |
| Naci H | 2013 | Eur J Prev Cardiol | 23447425 | 7 | 92 | Coronary heart disease | Stents |
| Naci H | 2013 | Circ Cardiovasc Qual Outcomes | 23838105 | 8 | 135 | Cardiovascular disease | Statins |
| Naci H | 2013 | QJM | 23431221 | 7 | 61 | Major cerebrovascular disease | Stents |
| Navarese EP | 2013 | BMJ | 24196498 | 6 | 60 | Coronary artery disease or acute coronary syndrome | Stents |
| Palmerini T | 2013 | J Am Coll Cardiol | 23747778 | 5 | 22 | ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction | Stents |
| Ribeiro RA | 2013 | Int J Cardiol | 22192281 | 4 | 47 | Cardiovascular disease | Statins |
| Stegeman BH | 2013 | BMJ | 24030561 | 14 | 23 | Venous thrombosis | Generation of progestogen |
| Alberton M | 2012 | QJM | 21920996 | 7 | 72 | Cardiovascular disease | Statins |
| Cohen A | 2012 | Clin Appl Thromb Hemost | 22387582 | 5 | 43 | Venous thromboembolism following elective knee or hip replacement | Pharmacological prophylaxis |
| Fretheim A | 2012 | BMC Med | 22480336 | 9 | 25 | Cardiovascular disease | Antihypertensive drugs |
| Hutton B | 2012 | BMJ | 22968722 | 4 | 106 | Cardiac surgery using cardiopulmonary bypass | Antifibrinolytic drugs |

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|--|------|----------------------------|----------|----|-----|--|---|
| Palmerini T | 2012 | Lancet | 22445239 | 7 | 49 | Thrombosis | Stents |
| Sciarretta S | 2011 | Arch Intern Med | 21059964 | 9 | 26 | Hypertension | Antihypertensive drugs |
| Owen A | 2010 | Int J Cardiol | 20061035 | 4 | 14 | Non-valvular atrial fibrillation | Antithrombotics |
| Thijs V | 2008 | Eur Heart J | 18349026 | 5 | 24 | Prevention of serious vascular events after transient ischaemic attack or stroke | Antiplatelet drugs |
| Elliott WJ | 2007 | Lancet | 17240286 | 6 | 22 | Hypertension (impaired glucose tolerance, insulin resistance, and obesity) | Antihypertensive drugs |
| Psaty BM | 2003 | JAMA | 12759325 | 7 | 42 | Hypertension | Antihypertensive drugs |
| Endocrinology and metabolic disorders | | | | | | | |
| Tadrous M | 2014 | Osteoporos Int | 24287510 | 5 | 50 | Osteoporosis | Bisphosphonates |
| Rudroju N | 2013 | Pain Physician | 24284851 | 6 | 21 | Painful diabetic neuropathy | Antidepressant and anticonvulsant drugs |
| Wu HY | 2013 | BMJ | 24157497 | 11 | 63 | Diabetes | Antihypertensive drugs |
| Dunkley AJ | 2012 | Diabetes Obes Metab | 22284386 | 4 | 13 | Metabolic syndrome | Pharmacological treatments and lifestyle regimens |
| Liu SC | 2012 | Diabetes Obes Metab | 22486990 | 9 | 39 | Type 2 diabetes mellitus | Antidiabetic drugs |
| Murad MH | 2012 | J Clin Endocrinol Metab | 22466336 | 10 | 116 | Fragility fractures prevention | Pharmacological agents |
| Sun F | 2012 | Diabetes Res Clin Pract | 23020934 | 8 | 45 | Type 2 diabetes mellitus | Glucagon-like peptide-1 agonists |
| Sun F | 2012 | Exp Diabetes Res | 23365557 | 8 | 35 | Type 2 diabetes mellitus | Glucagon-like peptide-1 agonists |
| Padwal R | 2011 | Obes Rev | 21438991 | 9 | 31 | Obesity | Bariatric surgeries and/or standard care |
| Neurology | | | | | | | |
| Yang B | 2014 | PLoS One | 24551100 | 6 | 145 | Acute cerebral stroke | Treatments of acute cerebral stroke |
| Bodalia PN | 2013 | Br J Clin Pharmacol | 23351090 | 12 | 43 | Refractory focal epilepsy | Antiepileptic drugs |
| Filippini G | 2013 | Cochrane Database Syst Rev | 23744561 | 10 | 44 | Multiple sclerosis | Immunomodulators and immunosuppressants |
| Levi Marpillat N | 2013 | J Hypertens | 23552124 | 6 | 17 | Cognitive decline and dementia | Antihypertensive drugs |
| Malloy RJ | 2013 | Clin Ther | 24139421 | 11 | 24 | Stroke | Antiplatelet drugs |
| Thorlund K | 2013 | Cephalalgia | 24108308 | 8 | 74 | Migraine | Triptans |

| Pschiatry | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|----------|----|-----|---|---|
| Reichenpfader U | 2014 | Drug Saf | 24338044 | 17 | 37 | Major depressive disorder | Second-generation antidepressants |
| Leucht S | 2013 | Lancet | 23810019 | 15 | 212 | Schizophrenia | Antipsychotic drugs |
| Ramsberg J | 2012 | PLoS One | 22876296 | 17 | 87 | Major depressive disorder | Antidepressant drugs |
| van Valkenhoef G | 2012 | J Clin Epidemiol | 22197518 | 5 | 25 | Depression | Second-generation antidepressants |
| Cipriani A | 2011 | Lancet | 21851976 | 14 | 68 | Acute mania | Antimanic drugs |
| Cipriani A | 2009 | Lancet | 19185342 | 12 | 117 | Unipolar major depression | Antidepressant drugs |
| Pulmonology | | | | | | | |
| Cope S | 2013 | Respir Res | 24093477 | 10 | 40 | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | Long-acting bronchodilators |
| Dong YH | 2013 | Thorax | 23042705 | 6 | 42 | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | Inhaled medications |
| Karabis A | 2013 | Int J Chron Obstruct Pulmon Dis | 24043936 | 5 | 21 | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | Antimuscarinic bronchodilators |
| Mills EJ | 2011 | Clin Epidemiol | 21487451 | 10 | 26 | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | Pharmacotherapies for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease |
| Baker WL | 2009 | Pharmacotherapy | 19637942 | 8 | 43 | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | Long-acting beta(2)-agonists and inhaled corticosteroids |
| Puhan MA | 2009 | BMC Med | 19144173 | 4 | 35 | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease | Long-acting beta-agonists, long-acting anticholinergics and inhaled corticosteroids |
| Gastrointestinal tract | | | | | | | |
| Li L | 2014 | PLoS One | 24587319 | 5 | 43 | Benign gallbladder disease | Laparoscopies |
| Li LT | 2014 | Colorectal Dis | 24422861 | 6 | 15 | Enterostomy (ileostomy or colostomy) reversal | Skin closure techniques |
| Akshintala VS | 2013 | Aliment Pharmacol Ther | 24138390 | 16 | 99 | Retrograde cholangio-pancreatography | Pharmacological prophylaxis |
| Shi KQ | 2013 | Eur J Clin Invest | 23725530 | 12 | 51 | Oesophageal varices | Interventions for secondary prophylaxis of variceal bleeding |
| Tang DH | 2012 | Clin Ther | 22296947 | 4 | 85 | Postoperative nausea and vomiting | Serotonin type 3 receptor antagonists |
| Oncology | | | | | | | |
| Terasawa T | 2013 | Cancer Treat Rev | 22703832 | 12 | 30 | Advanced-stage chronic lymphocytic leukemia | First-line therapies for advanced-stage chronic lymphocytic leukemia |

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|----------------------|------|----------------------------|----------|-----|-----|--|--|
| Blanchard P | 2011 | J Clin Epidemiol | 21330105 | 6 | 102 | Head and neck cancers | Fractionated radiotherapies and chemotherapies |
| Mauri D | 2008 | J Natl Cancer Inst | 19066278 | 22 | 172 | Creast cancer | Chemotherapy regimens |
| Kyrgiou M | 2007 | J Natl Cancer Inst | 17105988 | 120 | 198 | Ovarian Cancer | Chemotherapy regimens |
| Immune system | | | | | | | |
| Reich K | 2012 | Br J Dermatol | 21910698 | 8 | 20 | Moderate to severe psoriasis | Biologic therapies |
| Singh JA | 2011 | Cochrane Database Syst Rev | 21328309 | 9 | 163 | Rheumatoid arthritis | Biologic therapies |
| Infections | | | | | | | |
| Rotta I | 2013 | JAMA Dermatol | 23553036 | 14 | 65 | Dermatophytosis | Topical Antifungals |
| Wang H | 2010 | J Hosp Infect | 20638155 | 10 | 48 | Nosocomial infection | Central venous catheteres |
| Smoke | | | | | | | |
| Cahill K | 2013 | Cochrane Database Syst Rev | 23728690 | 12 | 267 | Smoking cessation | First-line pharmacotherapies |
| Cooper NJ | 2012 | Epidemiol Rev | 22128085 | 7 | 20 | Smoke alarms in households with children | Interventions to increase the uptake of smoke alarms in households with children |
| Other | | | | | | | |
| Buti J | 2013 | J Clin Periodontol | 23346965 | 7 | 31 | Coronally advanced flap | Root coverage procedures |
| Lin PY | 2014 | J Dent | 24513112 | 5 | 22 | Pulpitis in primary molars | Pulpotomy techniques |
| Gupta AK | 2013 | Br J Dermatol | 23550994 | 8 | 36 | Actinic keratosis (nonimmunosuppressed participants) | Interventions for actinic keratosis |
| Haas DM | 2012 | BMJ | 23048010 | 6 | 95 | Preterm delivery | Tocolytics |
| Trelle S | 2011 | BMJ | 21224324 | 8 | 31 | Any medical condition | Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs |

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