

Appendix 1: Search Strategy for Other Databases [posted as supplied by author]

Global Health (1973 to March 2010)

For the search of Global Health database, replacement subject headings mapped to the Global Health database were used when possible, otherwise the text was used similar to the MEDLINE searches conducted previously.

- 1 exp school children/ or exp children/ or exp preschool children/
- 2 (baby or babies or infant\$ or toddler\$ or child\$ or girl\$ or boy\$ or pre school\$ or pre-school\$ or preschool\$.tw.
- 3 1 or 2
- 4 retinol.sh.
- 5 (retinol\$ or retinal\$ or aquasol a or vitamin a).ab,ti.
- 6 4 or 5
- 7 exp randomized controlled trials/ or exp clinical trials/
- 8 random*.mp.
- 9 placebo.mp.
- 10 trial.mp.
- 11 7 or 8 or 9 or 10
- 12 3 and 6 and 11

EMBASE (1980 to 2010 Week 16)

EMTREE index terms were used when possible. The UK Cochrane Centre's suggested combination of EMTREE and free text words were used to search for randomized-controlled trials.

- 1 exp infant/ or exp child/ or exp child, preschool/
- 2 (baby or babies or infant\$ or toddler\$ or child\$ or girl\$ or boy\$ or pre school\$ or pre-school\$ or preschool\$.tw.
- 3 1 or 2
- 4 exp Vitamin A/
- 5 (retinol\$ or retinal\$ or aquasol a or vitamin a).ab,ti.
- 6 4 or 5
- 7 exp crossover-procedure/ or exp double-blind procedure/ or exp randomized controlled trial/ or exp single-blind procedure/
- 8 (random\$ or factorial\$ or crossover\$ or cross over\$ or cross-over\$ or placebo\$ or (doubl\$ adj blind\$) or (singl\$ adj blind\$) or assign\$ or allocat\$ or volunteer\$.mp.
- 9 7 or 8
- 10 3 and 6 and 9

The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) 27 April 2010

- #1 MeSH descriptor Child explode all trees
- #2 MeSH descriptor Infant explode all trees
- #3 MeSH descriptor Child, Preschool explode all trees
- #4 (baby or babies or infant* or toddler* or child* or (pre next school*) or preschool* or girl* or boy*):ti,ab,kw
- #5 (#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4)
- #6 MeSH descriptor Vitamin A explode all trees
- #7 retinol* or retinal\$ or "aquasol a" or "vitamin a"
- #8 (#6 OR #7)
- #9 (#5 AND #8)

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Mh vitamin a or tw retinol\$ or tw aquasol\$ or tw retinal\$ [Words] AND [Tw baby or Tw babies or Tw child\$ or Tw infant\$ or Tw toddler\$ or Tw girl\$ or Tw boy\$ or Tw preschool\$ or Tw pre-school\$ or Tw niño or Tw niños or Tw niña or Tw niñas or Tw bebé or Tw bebés or Tw preescolar or Tw prescolares [Words]

AND ((Pt randomized controlled trial OR Pt controlled clinical trial OR Mh randomized controlled trials OR Mh random allocation OR Mh double-blind method OR Mh single-blind method) AND NOT (Ct animal AND NOT (Ct human and Ct animal)) OR (Pt clinical trial OR Ex E05.318.760.535\$ OR (Tw clin\$ AND (Tw trial\$ OR Tw ensa\$ OR Tw estud\$ OR Tw experim\$ OR Tw investiga\$)) OR ((Tw singl\$ OR Tw simple\$ OR Tw doubl\$ OR Tw doble\$ OR Tw duplo\$ OR Tw trebl\$ OR Tw trip\$) AND (Tw blind\$ OR Tw cego\$ OR Tw ciego\$ OR Tw mask\$ OR Tw mascar\$)) OR Mh placebos OR Tw placebo\$ OR (Tw random\$ OR Tw randon\$ OR Tw casual\$ OR Tw acaso\$ OR Tw azar OR Tw aleator\$) OR Mh research design) AND NOT (Ct animal AND NOT (Ct human and Ct animal)) OR (Ct comparative study OR Ex E05.337\$ OR Mh follow-up studies OR Mh prospective studies OR Tw control\$ OR Tw prospectiv\$ OR Tw volunt\$ OR Tw volunteer\$) AND NOT (Ct animal AND NOT (Ct human and Ct animal))) [Words]

African Index Medicus 27 April 2010

retinol\$ or retinal\$ or aquasol a or vitamin a [Descriptor]

metaRegister of Controlled Trials 27 April 2010

(baby or babies or infant or child) and (vitamin a or aquasol or retinol or retinal)