

## Appendix 1: Search strategy for Medline [posted as supplied by author]

This was adapted for other databases.

- 1 Geriatric Assessment/
- 2 Health Services for the Aged/
- 3 needs assessment/
- 4 risk assessment/
- 5 exp Diagnostic Services/
- 6 "Health Services Needs and Demand"/
- 7 exp Health Services/
- 8 exp "Delivery of Health Care"/
- 9 exp "Outcome and Process Assessment (Health Care)"/
- 10 or/3-9
- 11 geriatrics/
- 12 10 and 11
- 13 1 or 2 or 12
- 14 geriatric assessment.tw.
- 15 (geriatric adj2 consultation).tw.
- 16 (geriatric adj2 evaluation).tw.
- 17 or/13-16
- 18 randomized controlled trial.pt.
- 19 controlled clinical trial.pt.
- 20 intervention studies/
- 21 experiment\$.tw.
- 22 (time adj series).tw.
- 23 (pre test or pretest or (posttest or post test)).tw.
- 24 random allocation/
- 25 impact.tw.
- 26 intervention?.tw.
- 27 chang\$.tw.
- 28 evaluation studies/
- 29 evaluat\$.tw.
- 30 effect?.tw.
- 31 comparative studies/
- 32 animal/
- 33 human/
- 34 32 not 33
- 35 or/18-31
- 36 35 not 34
- 37 17 and 36