

## Web appendix: Medline search strategy

Database: Ovid MEDLINE(R) In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations, Ovid MEDLINE(R) Daily and Ovid MEDLINE(R) 1950 to Present (2011-03-16)

### Search Strategy:

1 : randomized controlled trial.pt. **(301753)**

2 : controlled clinical trial.pt. **(81940)**

3 : randomized.ab. **(217668)**

4 : placebo.ab. **(126059)**

5 : drug therapy.fs. **(1431187)**

6 : randomly.ab. **(160682)**

7 : trial.ab. **(224833)**

8 : groups.ab. **(1063732)**

9 : 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 **(2710014)**

10 : exp animals/ not humans.sh. **(3548210)**

11 : 9 not 10 **(2308234)**

12 : exp Tonsillectomy or tonsillectom\$.mp. or tonsillectom\$.mp. **(8111)**

13 : adenotonsillectom\$.mp. or adenotonsillectom\$.mp. **(1132)**

14 : 12 or 13 **(8325)**

15 : exp Palatine Tonsil or palatine tonsil\$.mp. or tonsil\$.mp. or adenotonsil\$.mp. **(26128)**

16 : exp Tonsillitis or tonsillitis.mp. or tonsillitis.mp. or adenotonsillitis.mp. **(7766)**

17 : 15 or 16 **(26473)**

18 : exp Surgical Procedures, Operative or surgical procedure\$.mp. or exp Ambulatory Surgical Procedures or ambulatory surgical procedure\$.mp. or elective surgical procedure\$.mp. or exp Surgical Procedures, Elective or otorhinolaryngologic surgical procedure\$.mp. or exp Otorhinolaryngologic Surgical Procedures or exp Surgical Procedures, Minor or minor surgical procedure\$.mp. or ear nose throat surgery.mp. **(2038602)**

19 : surg\$.mp. or operat\$.mp. or excis\$.mp. or extract\$.mp. or remov\$.mp. or dissect\$.mp. or ablation\$.mp. or coblat\$.mp. or electrosurg\$.mp. or exp Electrosurgery or electrocoagulation\$.mp. or exp Electrocoagulation **(2503228)**

20 : postoperative complication\$.mp. or exp Postoperative Complications or postoperative hemorrhage\$.mp. or exp Postoperative Hemorrhage or postoperative pain\$.mp. or exp Pain, Postoperative or postoperative analgesia.mp. or ponv.mp. or exp "Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting" or (postoperative nausea and vomit\$.mp. or postoperative care.mp. or exp Postoperative Care or postoperative period.mp. or exp Postoperative Period or surgical blood loss.mp. or exp Blood Loss, Surgical or surgical hemostasis.mp. or exp Hemostasis, Surgical **(462811)**

21 : 18 or 19 or 20 **(3672499)**

22 : 17 and 21 **(10771)**

23 : 14 or 22 **(11624)**

24 : steroid\$.mp. or exp Steroids or corticoid\$.mp. or corticosteroid\$.mp. or glucocorticoid\$.mp. or exp Glucocorticoids or exp Cortisone or cortison\$.mp. or exp Dexamethasone or dexamethasone.mp. or decadron.mp. or exp Methylprednisolone or methylprednisolone.mp. or hydrocortisone.mp. or exp Hydrocortisone or solumedrol.mp. or medrol.mp. or depomedrol.mp. or solucortef.mp. or prednisolone.mp. or exp Prednisolone or prednisone.mp. or exp Prednisone or exp Betamethasone or betamethasone.mp. or celestone.mp. or kenalog.mp. or exp Triamcinolone Acetonide or exp Triamcinolone or triamcinolone.mp. **(840351)**

25 : 11 and 23 and 24 **(258)**