

Appendix 1: Search strategies [posted as supplied by author]

Medline

1. acetaminophen.mp. OR exp acetaminophen/
2. *Analgesics, Non-Narcotic/tu, th [Therapeutic Use, Therapy]
3. analgesic*.ab,ti.
4. (aceta OR actimin OR anacin OR apacet OR "aspirin free anacin" OR acamol OR acetalgin OR adol OR aldol OR alvedon OR apiretal OR atamel OR atasol OR benuron OR biogesic OR "biogesic kiddielets" OR buscapina OR banesin OR "ben u ron" OR calpol OR captin OR cemol OR coldex OR cotibin OR crocin OR dafalgan OR daleron OR "dawa ya magi" OR depon OR dexamol OR dolex OR dolgesic OR doliprane OR dolorol OR dolprone OR "duiyixian anjifen pian" OR dapa OR dolo OR datril OR duatrol OR dayquil OR efferalgan OR enelfa OR europain OR febrectal OR febricet OR febridol OR fensum OR feverall OR fibi OR "fibi plus" OR gelocatil OR gripin OR gestic OR genapap OR genebs OR hedex OR hedanol OR herron OR influbene OR kafa OR kitadol OR lekadol OR lupocet OR lemsip OR liquiprin OR pyrigesic OR mexalen OR milidon OR minoset OR momentum OR napa OR "neo kiddielets" OR neopap OR "oraphen pd" OR pyrigesic OR pacol OR pamol OR parol OR panado OR panadol OR panamax OR panda OR panodil OR pyrigesic OR paracet OR paracetamol OR paracitol OR paralen OR paramed OR paramol OR parol OR perdolan OR perfalgan OR pinex OR "pyongsu cetamol" OR pyrenol OR pyrigesic OR plicet OR panadrex OR paratabs OR paralgin OR phenaphen OR revanin OR rokamol OR rubophen OR redutemp OR sara OR scanol OR "sinpro n" OR "snaplets fr" OR suppap OR tachipirin OR tachipirina OR tafirol OR tapsin OR termalgin OR tempral OR thomapyrin OR tipol OR "togonal classic duo" OR treuphadol OR triaminic OR tylenol OR tamen OR tapanol OR tipol OR uphamol OR vermidon OR vitamol OR valorin OR xumadol OR zolben).tw.
5. OR (1-4)
6. osteoarthritis.mp. OR exp osteoarthritis/
7. exp low back pain/
8. exp back pain/
9. exp neck pain/
10. ("low back pain" OR "back pain" OR "neck pain" OR backache OR lumbago OR "neck ache" OR "spin* pain" OR "knee pain" OR "hip pain").mp.
11. OR (6-10)
12. 5 AND 11
13. randomized controlled trial.pt. OR exp randomized controlled trial/
14. "randomized controlled trial".mp.
15. exp random allocation/
16. placebo.mp. OR exp placebos/ OR exp placebo effect/
17. (random* adj3 trial).ab,ti.
18. "controlled clinical trial".mp. OR exp controlled clinical trial/
19. Random*.ab,ti.
20. OR (13-19)
21. 12 AND 20
22. limit 21 to humans

Amed

1. exp Acetaminophen/ OR acetaminophen.mp.
2. exp Analgesics/ OR Analgesics.mp.
3. exp Drug therapy/ OR drug therapy.mp.
4. analgesic*.ab,ti.
5. (aceta OR actimin OR anacin OR apacet OR "aspirin free anacin" OR acamol OR acetalgin OR adol OR aldolor OR alvedon OR apiretal OR atamel OR atasol OR benuron OR biogesic OR "biogesic kiddielets" OR buscapina OR banesin OR "ben u ron" OR calpol OR captin OR cemol OR coldex OR cotibin OR crocin OR dafalgan OR daleron OR "dawa ya magi" OR depon OR dexamol OR dolex OR dolgesic OR doliprane OR dolorol OR dolprone OR "duiyixian anjifen pian" OR dapa OR dolo OR datril OR duatrol OR dayquil OR efferalgan OR enelfa OR europain OR febrectal OR febricet OR febridol OR fensum OR feverall OR fibi OR

- "fibi plus" OR gelocatil OR gripin OR gestic OR genapap OR genebs OR hedex OR hedanol OR herron OR influbene OR kafa OR kitadol OR lekadol OR lupocet OR lemsip OR liquiprin OR pyrigesic OR mexalen OR milidon OR minoset OR momentum OR napa OR "neo kiddielets" OR neopap OR "oraphen pd" OR pyrigesic OR pacol OR pamol OR parol OR panado OR panadol OR panamax OR panda OR panodil OR pyrigesic OR paracet OR paracetamol OR paracitol OR paralen OR paramed OR paramol OR parol OR perdolan OR perfalgan OR pinex OR "pyongsu cetamol" OR pyrenol OR pyrigesic OR plicet OR panadrex OR paratabs OR paralgin OR phenaphen OR revanin OR rokamol OR rubophen OR redutemp OR sara OR scanol OR "sinpro n" OR "snaplets fr" OR suppap OR tachipirin OR tachipirina OR tafirol OR tapsin OR termalgin OR tempru OR thomapyrin OR tipol OR "total classic duo" OR treuphadol OR triaminic OR tylenol OR tamen OR tapanol OR tipol OR uphamol OR vermidon OR vitamol OR valorin OR xumadol OR zolben).tw.
6. OR (1-5)
 7. exp Osteoarthritis/ OR osteoarthritis.mp.
 8. exp Low back pain/ OR low back pain.mp.
 9. back pain.mp. OR exp Backache/
 10. exp Neck pain/ OR neck pain.mp.
 11. ("low back pain" OR "back pain" OR "neck pain" OR backache OR lumbago OR "neck ache" OR "spin* pain" OR "knee pain" OR "hip pain").mp.
 12. OR (7-11)
 13. 6 AND 12
 14. exp Randomized controlled trials/ OR randomized controlled trial.mp.
 15. randomized controlled trial.pt.
 16. exp Random allocation/ OR random allocation.mp.
 17. exp Placebos/ OR placebo.mp.
 18. (random* adj3 trial).ab,ti.
 19. Random*.ab,ti.
 20. OR (14-19)
 21. 13 AND 20

Embase

1. 'acetaminophen'/exp OR 'acetaminophen'
2. (aceta OR actimin OR anacin OR apacet OR "aspirin free anacin" OR acamol OR acetalgin OR adol OR aldol OR alvedon OR apiretal OR atamel OR atasal OR benuron OR biogesic OR "biogesic kiddielets" OR buscapina OR banesin OR "ben u ron" OR calpol OR captin OR cemol OR coldex OR cotibin OR crocin OR dafalgan OR daleron OR "dawa ya magi" OR depon OR dexamol OR dolex OR dolgesic OR doliprane OR dolorol OR dolprone OR "duiyixian anjifen pian" OR dapa OR dolo OR datril OR duatrol OR dayquil OR efferalgan OR enelfa OR europain OR febrectal OR febricet OR febridol OR fensum OR feverall OR fibi OR "fibi plus" OR gelocatil OR gripin OR gestic OR genapap OR genebs OR hedex OR hedanol OR herron OR influbene OR kafa OR kitadol OR lekadol OR lupocet OR lemsip OR liquiprin OR pyrigesic OR mexalen OR milidon OR minoset OR momentum OR napa OR "neo kiddielets" OR neopap OR "oraphen pd" OR pyrigesic OR pacol OR pamol OR parol OR panado OR panadol OR panamax OR panda OR panodil OR pyrigesic OR paracet OR paracetamol OR paracitol OR paralen OR paramed OR paramol OR parol OR perdolan OR perfalgan OR pinex OR "pyongsu cetamol" OR pyrenol OR pyrigesic OR plicet OR panadrex OR paratabs OR paralgin OR phenaphen OR revanin OR rokamol OR rubophen OR redutemp OR sara OR scanol OR "sinpro n" OR "snaplets fr" OR suppap OR tachipirin OR tachipirina OR tafirol OR tapsin OR termalgin OR tempru OR thomapyrin OR tipol OR "total classic duo" OR treuphadol OR triaminic OR tylenol OR tamen OR tapanol OR tipol OR uphamol OR vermidon OR vitamol OR valorin OR xumadol OR zolben)
3. 1 OR 2
4. 'osteoarthritis'/exp OR 'osteoarthritis'
5. 'low back pain'/exp OR 'low back pain'
6. 'backache'/exp OR 'backache'
7. 'neck pain'/exp OR 'neck pain'
8. 'low back pain' OR 'back pain' OR 'neck pain' OR backache OR lumbago OR 'neck ache' OR 'spin\$ pain' OR 'knee pain' OR 'hip pain'
9. OR (4-8)

10. 3 AND 9
11. 'randomized controlled trial (topic)'/exp OR 'randomized controlled trial (topic)'
12. 'randomization'/exp OR 'randomization'
13. 'placebo'/exp OR 'placebo'
14. randomized:ab
15. placebo:ab
16. randomly:ab
17. OR (11-16)
18. 10 AND 17

Cinahl

1. (MH "Acetaminophen") OR "acetaminophen"
2. (MH "Analgesics+/TU")
3. "analgesic\$"
4. "paracetamol"
5. "tylenol"
6. "panadol"
7. OR (1-6)
8. (MH "Osteoarthritis+") OR "osteoarthritis" OR (MH "Osteoarthritis, Spine+") OR (MH "Osteoarthritis, Knee") OR (MH "Osteoarthritis, Hip")
9. (MH "Low Back Pain") OR "low back pain" OR (MH "Back Pain+")
10. (MH "Neck Pain") OR "neck pain"
11. (MH "Knee Pain+") OR "knee pain"
12. "hip pain"
13. "backache"
14. OR (8-13)
15. 7 AND 14

Web of Science

1. acetaminophen
2. Paracetamol OR tylenol OR panadol
3. OR (1-2)
4. osteoarthritis
5. back pain
6. neck pain
7. (spin* pain" OR "knee pain" OR "hip pain")
8. OR (4-7)
9. 3 AND 8
10. randomized controlled trial
11. random allocation
12. placebo
13. controlled clinical trial
14. Random*
15. OR (10-14)
16. 9 AND 15

LILACS

((Acetaminophen OR paracetamol OR tylenol OR panadol) AND (osteoarthritis OR back pain OR lumbago OR backache OR neck

International Pharmaceutical Abstracts

1. acetaminophen.mp.
2. (aceta or actimin or anacin or apacet or "aspirin free anacin" or acamol or acetalgin or adol or aldolOR or alvedon or apiretal or atamel or atasol or benuron or biogesic or "biogesic kiddielets" or buscapina or banesin or "ben u ron" or calpol or captin or cemol or coldex or cotibin or crocin or

dafalgan or daleron or "dawa ya magi" or depon or dexamol or dolex or dolgesic or doliprane or dolorol or dolprone or "duiyixian anjifen pian" or dapa or dolo or datril or duatrol or dayquil or efferalgan or enelfa or europain or febrectal or febricet or febridol or fensum or feverall or fibi or "fibi plus" or gelocatil or gripin or gestic or genapap or genebs or hedex or hedanol or herron or influbene or kafa or kitadol or lekadol or lupocet or lemsip or liquiprin or pyrigesic or mexalen or milidon or minoset or momentum or napa or "neo kiddielets" or neopap or "oraphen pd" or pyrigesic or pacol or pamol or parol or panado or panadol or panamax or panda or panodil or pyrigesic or paracet or paracetamol or paracitol or paralen or paramed or paramol or parol or perdolan or perfalgan or pinex or "pyongsu cetamol" or pyrenol or pyrigesic or plicet or panadrex or paratabs or paralgin or phenaphen or revanin or rokamol or rubophen or redutemp or sara or scanol or "sinpro n" or "snaplets fr" or suppap or tachipirin or tachipirina or tafirol or tapsin or termalgin or tempru or thomapyrin or tipol or "tocal classic duo" or treuphadol or triaminic or tylenol or tamen or tapanol or tipol or uphamol or vermidon or vitamol or valorin or xumadol or zolben).tw.

3. 1 OR 2
4. osteoarthritis.mp.
5. low back pain.mp.
6. back pain.mp.
7. neck pain.mp.
8. ("low back pain" or "back pain" or "neck pain" or backache or lumbago or "neck ache" or "spin* pain" or "knee pain" or "hip pain").mp.
9. OR (4-8)
10. 3 AND 9

CENTRAL

1. acetaminophen.mp. or exp Acetaminophen/
2. Analgesics, Non-Narcotic/tu [Therapeutic Use]
3. (paracetamol or tylenol or panadol).mp.
4. 1 or 2 or 3
5. exp Osteoarthritis, Hip/ or exp Osteoarthritis/ or exp Osteoarthritis, Spine/ or exp Osteoarthritis, Knee/
6. Low back pain.mp. or exp Low Back Pain/
7. Neck pain.mp. or exp Neck Pain/
8. ("low back pain" or "back pain" or "neck pain" or backache or lumbago or "neck ache" or "spin* pain" or "knee pain" or "hip pain").mp.
9. 5 or 6 or 7 or 8
10. 4 and 9