

Appendix 1: Search strategy to identify relevant articles in Medline¹ [posted as supplied by author]

1. randomized controlled trial.pt.
2. controlled clinical trial.pt.
3. randomized.ab.
4. placebo.ab.
5. drug therapy.fs.
6. randomly.ab.
7. trial.ab.
8. groups.ab.
9. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8
10. exp animals/ not humans.sh.
11. 9 not 10
12. (varenicline or champix or chantix).af.
13. 11 and 12

¹ Search strategies were adapted for Embase and PyscINFO as required