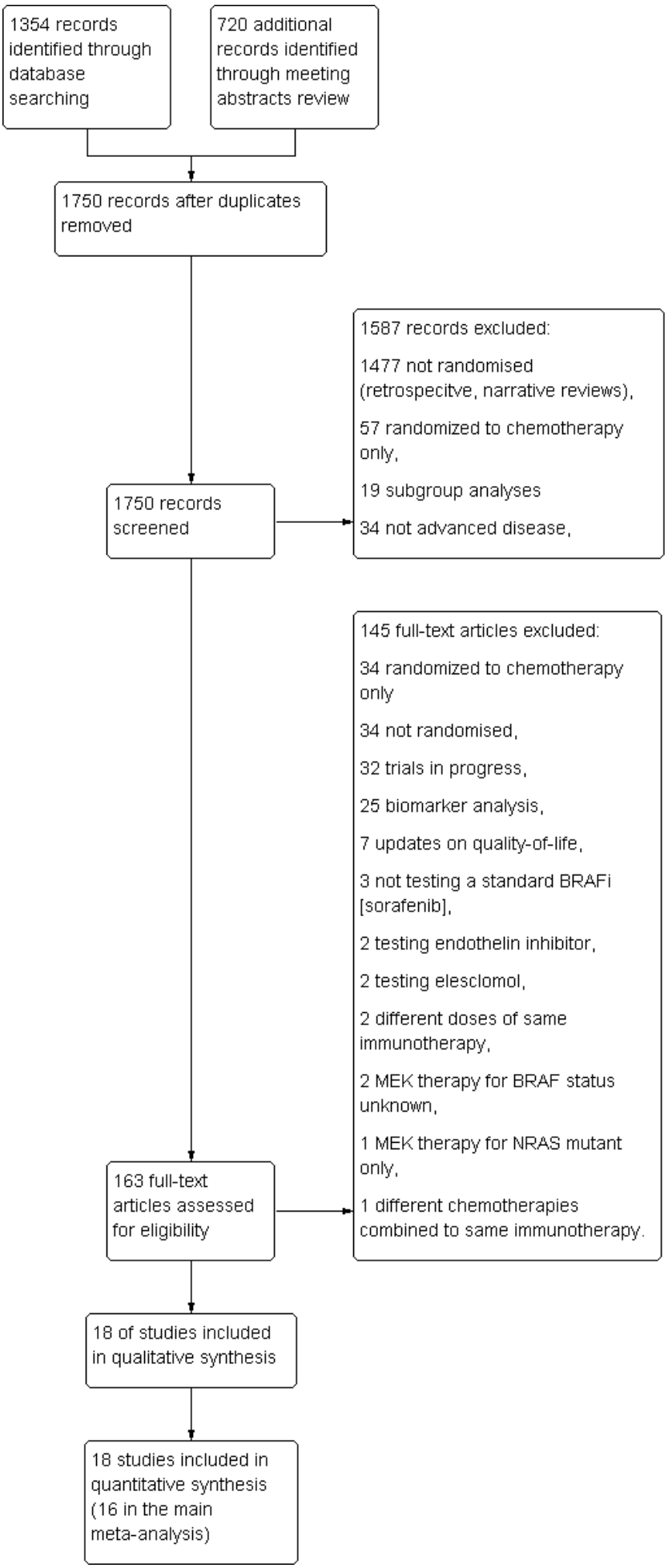
1354 records identified through database searching
720 additional records identified through meeting abstracts review
1750 records after duplicates removed
1750 records screened
1587 records excluded:
1477 not randomised (retrospecitve, narrative reviews),
57 randomized to chemotherapy only,
19 subgroup analyses
34 not advanced disease,
163 full-text articles assessed for eligibility
145 full-text articles excluded:
34 randomized to chemotherapy only
34 not randomised,
32 trials in progress,
25 biomarker analysis,
7 updates on quality-of-life,
3 not testing a standard BRAFi [sorafenib],
2 testing endothelin inhibitor,
2 testing elesclomol,
2 different doses of same immunotherapy,
2 MEK therapy for BRAF status unknown,
1 MEK therapy for NRAS mutant only,
1 different chemotherapies combined to same immunotherapy.
18 of studies included in qualitative synthesis
18 studies included in quantitative synthesis (16 in the main meta-analysis)