Online supplementary material

Appendix 1. Search Strategies

Search strategy for **Centre for Reviews and Dissemination**

#1 MeSH descriptor: [preoperative care] explode all trees
#2 MeSH descriptor: [referral and consultation] explode all trees
#3 (#1 AND #2)

Search strategy for **PubMed**

#1 preoperative[All Fields]
#2 medical[All Fields]
#3 ("referral and consultation"[MeSH Terms] OR ("referral"[All Fields] AND "consultation"[All Fields]) OR "referral and consultation"[All Fields] OR "consultation"[All Fields])
#4 ("surgical procedures, elective"[MeSH Terms] OR ("surgical"[All Fields] AND "procedures"[All Fields] AND "elective"[All Fields]) OR "elective surgical procedures"[All Fields] OR ("elective"[All Fields] AND "surgery"[All Fields]) OR "elective surgery"[All Fields])
#5 (#1 AND #2 AND #3 AND #4)
#6 preoperative[Title]
#7 "medical consultation"[Title]
#8 (#6 AND #7)
#9 "preoperative evaluation"[All Fields]
#10 "internal medicine"[All Fields]
#11 (#9 AND #10)

#12 ("Hospitalists"[MeSH] OR "internal medicine"[MeSH]) AND "preoperative evaluation"[All Fields]

Search strategy for **EMBASE (Elsevier)**

#1 'preoperative care'/exp OR 'preoperative care'
#2 'elective surgery'/exp OR 'elective surgery'
#3 'referral and consultation'/exp OR 'referral and consultation'
#4 (#1 AND #2 AND #3)

Search strategy for **CINAHL (EBSCO host)**

S1 MW 'preoperative care'
S2 MW 'elective surgery'
S3 MW medical OR MW 'referral and consultation'
S4 (S1 AND S2 AND S3)

Search strategy for **Current Contents Connect (Web of Science)**

#1 TOPIC: 'preoperative care'
#2 TOPIC: 'elective surgery'
#3 TOPIC: 'referral and consultation'
#4 (#1 AND #2 AND #3)

Search strategy for **MEDLINE (Ovid)**

#1 exp "preoperative care"/

#2 exp "surgical procedures, elective"/
#3 exp "referral and consultation"/
#4 (#1 AND #2 AND #3)