

Online Resource 1 Search strategies

MEDLINE (Ovid Medline)

Patient	1. exp Pain
	2. exp Pain Management
	3. exp Analgesia
	4. (pain* or analgesi* or ache* or suffering* or discomfort).mp.
	5. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4
Intervention	6. ((catgut or thread or needle or acupunctur* or acupoint*) adj3 (implantation or embed*)).mp.
	7. embedding therapy.mp.
	8. 6 or 7
	9. 5 and 8

Chinese Database (CNKI)

Intervention (meaning: TEA)	1. 埋线 OR 埋针 OR 埋藏疗法
Patient (meaning: pain)	2. 痛
Study design (meaning: randomised)	3. 随机
	4. 1 AND 2 AND 3

Korean Databases (KAMJE, KMBASE, KISS, NDSL, DBpia, KNADL, OASIS and KTKP)

Intervention (meaning: TEA)	1. 매선 OR 매침 OR 매장요법
Patient (meaning: pain)	2. 통증 OR 진통
	3. 1 AND 2

URLs of databases

MEDLINE	http://gateway.ovid.com/autologin
CENTRAL	http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/
EMBASE	https://www.embase.com
CINAHL	http://search.ebscohost.com/login.asp?profile=ehost&defaultdb=rzh
AMED	http://gateway.ovid.com/autologin
CNKI	www.cnki.net
VIP	www.cqvip.com
The Wanfang database	www.wanfangdata.com
KMBASE	http://kmbase.medic.or.kr/
KAMJE	https://kamje.or.kr/
KISS	http://kiss.kstudy.com/
KNADL	http://www.nanet.go.kr/
NDSL	http://www.ndsl.kr/index.do
OASIS	https://oasis.kiom.re.kr/
DBpia	http://www.dbpia.co.kr/
KTKP	http://www.koreantk.com
ICTRP	http://apps.who.int/trialsearch/