Appendix S1. Database Search Strategy. Themes were combined with Boolean operator "and" and within-theme were combined with Boolean operator "or".

MEDLINE	
Pain	1. Pain, Postoperative/ 2. pain adj2 postoperati*.tw, kw 3. pain adj2 post-operati*.tw, kw 4. pain adj2 post operati*.tw, kw 5. pain adj1 operati*.tw, kw 6. post adj procedur* adj pain.tw, kw 7. surg* adj1 pain.tw,kw
Pain Measurement	1. Pain Measurement/ 2. Pain adj measurement*.tw,kw 3. Numeric adj rating adj scale.tw,kw 4. NRS.tw,kw 5. Visual adj analogue adj scale.tw,kw 6. VAS.tw,kw 7. Verbal adj rating adj scale.tw,kw 8. VRS.tw,kw
Surgery	1. EXP surgical procedures, operative/ 2. surger*.tw,kw 3. operative*.tw,kw 4. Surgical.tw,kw 5. Operation*.tw,kw
Predictors	1. predictor*.tw,kw 2. Protective factors/ or risk assessment/ or risk factors/ 3. Risk adj factor*.tw,kw 4. risk adj assessment*.tw,kw 5. protective adj factor*.tw,kw 6. Prevalence/ 7. Prevalence.tw,kw 8. Incidence/ 9. Incidence.tw,kw 10. Prognosis/ 11. Prognos*.tw,kw 12. correlati*.tw,kw
EMBASE	
Pain	1. Pain, Postoperative/ 2. Pain adj2 postoperati*.tw,kw 3. Pain adj2 post-operati*.tw,kw 4. Pain adj2 post operati*.tw,kw

	5. Pain adj1 operati*.tw,kw
	6. Post adj procedur* adj pain.tw,kw
	7. Surg* adj1 pain.tw,kw
Pain Measurement	1. Pain adj measurement*.tw,kw
	2. Numeric adj rating adj scale.tw,kw
	3. NRS.tw,kw
	4. Visual adj analogue adj scale.tw,kw
	5. VAS.tw,kw
	6. Verbal adj rating adj scale.tw,kw
	7. VRS.tw,kw
	8. Exp pain assessment/ or exp pain measurement/
Surgery	1. Exp surgery/
	2. Surger*.tw,kw
	3. Operative*.tw,kw
	4. Operation*.tw,kw
Predictors	1. Predictor*.tw,kw
	2. Risk adj factor*.tw,kw
	3. Prevalence/
	4. Prevalence.tw,kw
	5. Incidence/
	6. Incidence.tw,kw
	7. Prognosis/
	8. Prognos*.tw,kw
	9. Correlati*.tw,kw
	10. "Prediction and forecasting"/
	11. risk assessment/
	12. risk factor/
	13. protective adj factor*.tw,kw
	14. risk adj assessment.tw,kw
PsychInfo	
Pain	1. Pain adj2 postoperati*.tw
	2. Pain adj2 post-operati*.tw
	3. Pain adj2 post operati*.tw
	4. Pain adj1 operati*.tw
	5. Post adj procedur* adj pain.tw
	6. Surg* adj1 pain.tw
	7. Exp Pain
Pain Measurement	1. Pain Measurement/
	2. Pain adj measurement*.tw
	3. Numeric adj rating adj scale.tw

		4. NRS.tw
		5. Visual adj analogue adj scale.tw
		6. VAS.tw
		7. Verbal adj rating adj scale.tw
		8. VRS.tw

Surgery		1. surger*.tw
		2. operative*.tw
		3. Surgical.tw
		4. Operation*.tw
		5. Exp surgery/
Predictors		1. predictor*.tw
		2. Protective factors/ or risk assessment/ or risk factors/
		3. Risk adj factor*.tw
		4. risk adj assessment*.tw
		5. protective adj factor*.tw
		6. Prevalence.tw
		7. Incidence.tw
		8. Prognosis/
		9. Prognos*.tw
		10. correlati*.tw

CINAHL		
Pain		1. MH "postoperative pain"
		2. Postoperative pain
		3. Pain AND (surgery or surgical or operative or operative)"
Pain Measurement		1. MH "pain measurement"
		2. Pain measurement
		3. Pain assessment or pain scale or pain tool
		4. Nrs or numeric rating scale
		5. Vas or visual analogue scale OR visual analog scale
		6. Vrs or verbral rating scale
Surgery		1. MH "surgery, operative"
		2. Surgery or operation or surgical procedure
Predictors		1. MH "independent variable"

2. Predictors
3. MH "risk factors"
4. MH "risk assessment"
5. Risk factors
6. MH "prevalence"
7. Prevalence
8. Incidence
9. MH "incidence"
10. MH "prognosis"
11. Prognosis