Supplementary Material

Side effects and acceptability measures for thermal ablation as a treatment for cervical precancer in low- and middle-income countries: Systematic review and meta-synthesis

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Search Strategy Example – Initial Ovid MEDLINE search in June 2020

Database: Ovid MEDLINE(R) ALL <1946 to June 29, 2020>
Search Strategy:
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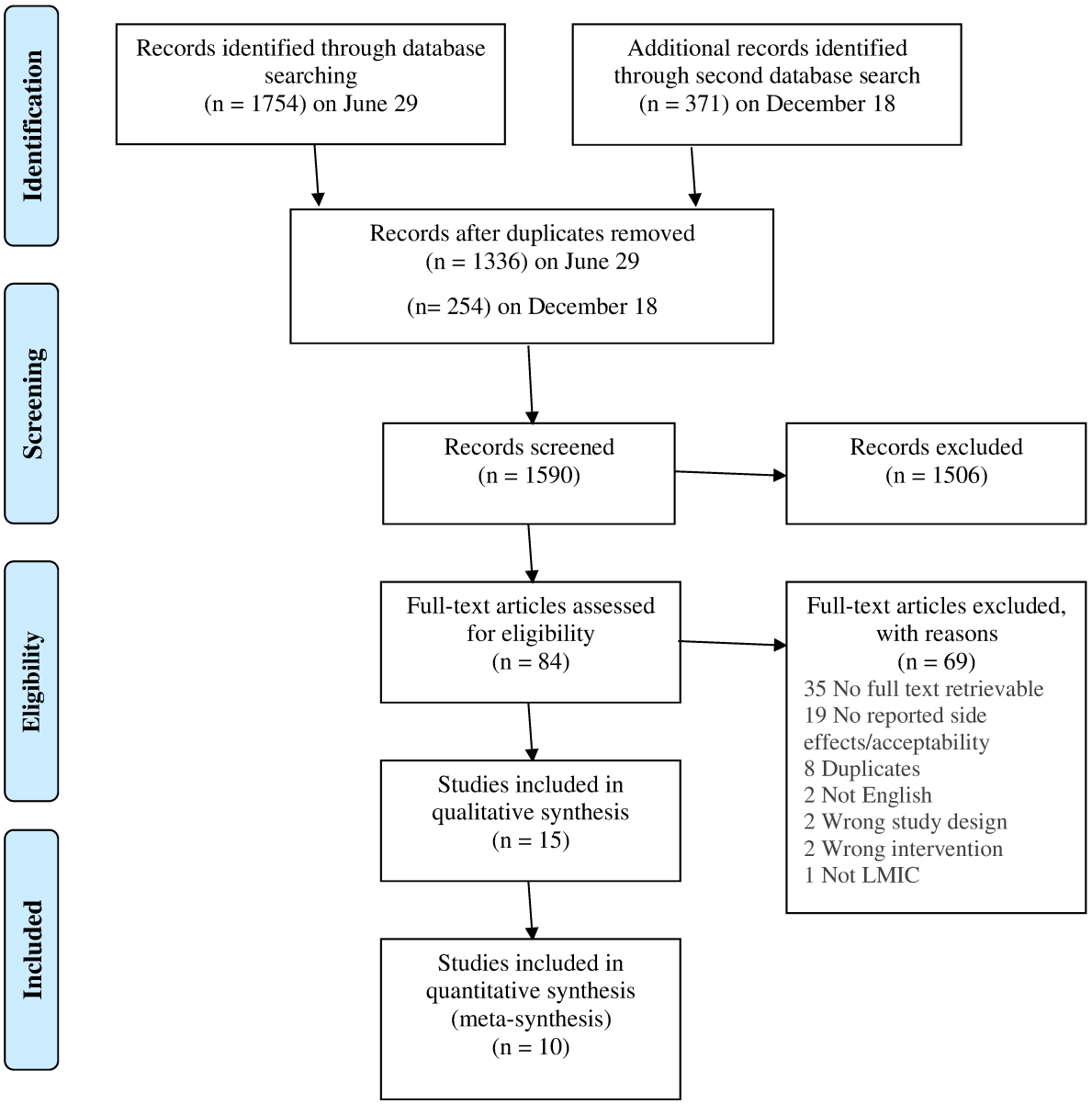
1 Uterine Cervical Neoplasms/ or Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia/ or Uterine Cervical Dysplasia/ (76613)
2 (cervi* adj4 lesion*).mp. (11379)
3 (cervi* adj4 neoplas*).mp. (79416)
4 (cervi* adj4 dysplasia).mp. (5271)
5 (cervi* adj4 carcinoma*).mp. (24485)
6 HPV.mp. or Papillomaviridae/ (49162)
7 (papilloma* adj4 virus*).mp. (8733)
8 (precancer* adj4 lesion*).mp. (6519)
9 (CIN or CIN1 or CIN2 or CIN3 or CIN2+ or CIN2-3).mp. (11922)
10 Papillomaviridae.mp. (24894)
11 thermal ablat*.mp. (3116)
12 (electrocoagulat* or electro coagulat* or electro-coagulat*).mp. (13259)
13 (thermocoagulat* or thermo coagulat*).mp. (1101)
14 cold coagulat*.mp. (80)
15 thermal coagulat*.mp. (404)
16 thermosurgery.mp. (9)
17 (intraepithelial adj4 lesion*).mp. (6449)
18 semm*.mp. (2051)
19 (cervi* adj4 (tumor* or tumour*)).mp. (6987)
20 (cervi* adj4 cancer*).mp. (57885)
21 (cervi* adj4 (intraepithelial or intra-epithelial)).mp. (14548)
22 (electrocauter* or electro cauter*).mp. (3720)
23 (malignan* adj4 cervi*).mp. (2720)
24 (cervi* adj4 (precancer* or pre cancer*)).mp. (1866)
25 papillomavirus.mp. (48136)
26 (cervi* adj4 cauter*).mp. (28)
27 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 17 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 23 or 24 or 25 (155334)
28 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 18 or 22 or 26 (21494)
29 27 and 28 (667)

Figure S1: PRISMA diagram



From: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). *P*referred *R*eporting *I*tems for *S*ystematic Reviews and *M*eta-*A*nalyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097

For more information, visit www.prisma-statement.org.

Table S1: Reported side effects at the time of treatment and at follow-up in included studies in meta-synthesis

Time period	Measure reported	Banerjee (2020)[1]	Chigbu (2020)[2]	Duan (2021)[3]	Joshi (2013)[4]	Mungo (2020)[5]	Naud (2016)[6]	Pinder (2020)[7]	Sandoval (2019)[8]	Viviano (2017)[9]	Zhao (2021)[10]
		N=136	N=511	N=74	N=124	N=293	N=52	N=250	N=319	N=110	N=170
At time of treatment	Any one or more side effect	83 (61.0%)	229 (44.8%)	-	33 (26.6%)	-	-	133 (53.2%)	-	-	-
	Pain (any)	83 (61.0%)	-	3.0 (+/- 2.4)**	31 (25.0%)	278 (94.9%)	-	133 (53.2%)	257 (80.6%)	105 (95.5%) Mean 3.0 (+/- 1.6)**	95 (55.9%)
	Mild pain	131 (96.3%)	-	-	-	231 (78.8%)	-	129 (51.6%)	168 (52.7%)	72 (65.5%) ***	90 (52.9%)
	Moderate pain	3 (2.2%)	-	-	-	42 (14.3%)	-	3 (1.2%)	73 (22.9%)	25 (22.7%) ***	-
	Severe pain	2 (1.5%)	-	-	-	5 (1.7%)	-	1 (0.4%)	16 (5.0%)	4 (3.6%) ***	5 (2.9%)
	Bleeding	0 (0.0%)	13 (2.5%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.8%)	-	-	-	32 (10.0%)	-	3 (1.8%)
At treatment Follow-up*	Follow-up complete	N=70	N=476	N=69	N=124	N=262	N=52	N=242	N=318	N=109	N=149
	Pain	-	22 (4.6%)	-	1 (0.8%)	46 (17.6%)	41 (78.8%)	15 (6.2%)	11 (3.5%)	34 (31.2%)	8 (5.4%)

	Pain duration (d)	-	-	-	-	7 [3-7]	-	-	4	2.1 (+/- 4.8)	-
	Bleeding	0 (0.0%)	-	54 (78.3%)	-	99 (37.8%)	1 (1.9%)	-	31 (9.7%)	-	49 (32.9%)
	Bleeding duration (d)	-	-	10.6 (+/- 5.8)	-	3.3 [2-3]	-	-	-	-	10
	Vaginal discharge	-	194 (40.8%)	69 (100%)	3 (2.4%)	258 (98.5%)	-	-	-	108 (99.1%)	29 (19.5%)
	Discharge duration (d)	-	-	17.2 (+/- 6.9)	-	14 [7-21]	-	-	-	16.2 (+/- 8.4)	15
	Other as noted	0 (0.0%) vasovagal response during treatment	-	No infection reported	1 (0.8%) vasovagal response after treatment	2 (0.8%) given antibiotics for foul-smelling vaginal discharge at follow-up	1 (1.9%) vasovagal response and 1 (1.9%) case of pelvic inflammatory disease reported at 6 months after treatment not requiring hospitalization	-	5 (1.6%) vasovagal response during treatment 0 (0.0%) reported fever	100 (91.7%) appeared fully healed at follow-up exam; 3 (2.8%) reported infection at follow-up	-

*see Table 2 for individual study follow-up details
**measured through the visual analog scale
***based on personal communication with author (Dr. Manuela Viviano, 2021)

Table S2: Reported acceptability measures in included studies in meta-synthesis

Measure reported	Banerjee (2020)[1]	Chigbu (2020)[2]	Mungo (2020)[5]	Pinder (2020)[7]	Sandoval (2019)[8]
Satisfied with treatment	135/136* (99.3%)	3.9/5** (+/-1.3)	260/262** (99.2%)	248/250* (99.2%)	-
Recommends treatment to others	136/136* (100%)	-	292/293* (99.7%)	250/250*** (100%)	318/318** (100%)
Other as noted	-	392/511* (76.7%) rated experience better than expected; 35/511 (6.8%) worse than expected	275/293* (93.9%) rated experience better than expected; 18/293 (6.1%) rated experience worse than expected	-	-

*taken immediately after treatment
**taken at follow-up
***taken both immediately after treatment and at follow-up

References - Supplemental

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