**Randomized Controlled Trials / Controlled Clinical Trials: A Cut and Paste Cochrane Highly Sensitive Search Strategy for OVID Embase**

Last edited: December 09, 2020

**Copy and paste into the Advanced Search box in Embase:**

(Randomized controlled trial/ or Controlled clinical study/ or random\*.ti,ab. or randomization/ or intermethod comparison/ or placebo.ti,ab. or (compare or compared or comparison).ti. or ((evaluated or evaluate or evaluating or assessed or assess) and (compare or compared or comparing or comparison)).ab. or (open adj label).ti,ab. or ((double or single or doubly or singly) adj (blind or blinded or blindly)).ti,ab. or double blind procedure/ or parallel group\*1.ti,ab. or (crossover or cross over).ti,ab. or ((assign\* or match or matched or allocation) adj5 (alternate or group\*1 or intervention\*1 or patient\*1 or subject\*1 or participant\*1)).ti,ab. or (assigned or allocated).ti,ab. or (controlled adj7 (study or design or trial)).ti,ab. or (volunteer or volunteers).ti,ab. or human experiment/ or trial.ti.) not (((random\* adj sampl\* adj7 ("cross section\*" or questionnaire\*1 or survey\* or database\*1)).ti,ab. not (comparative study/ or controlled study/ or randomi?ed controlled.ti,ab. or randomly assigned.ti,ab.)) or (Cross-sectional study/ not (randomized controlled trial/ or controlled clinical study/ or controlled study/ or randomi?ed controlled.ti,ab. or control group\*1.ti,ab.)) or (((case adj control\*) and random\*) not randomi?ed controlled).ti,ab. or (Systematic review not (trial or study)).ti. or (nonrandom\* not random\*).ti,ab. or "Random field\*".ti,ab. or (random cluster adj3 sampl\*).ti,ab. or ((review.ab. and review.pt.) not trial.ti.) or ("we searched".ab. and (review.ti. or review.pt.)) or "update review".ab. or (databases adj4 searched).ab. or ((rat or rats or mouse or mice or swine or porcine or murine or sheep or lambs or pigs or piglets or rabbit or rabbits or cat or cats or dog or dogs or cattle or bovine or monkey or monkeys or trout or marmoset\*1).ti. and animal experiment/) or (Animal experiment/ not (human experiment/ or human/)))

**Direct Link to Cochrane Strategy:**

Box 3.e Cochrane Highly Sensitive Search Strategy for identifying controlled trials in Embase: (2018 revision); Ovid format <https://training.cochrane.org/handbook/current/chapter-04-technical-supplement-searching-and-selecting-studies#_Ref19195422>

**Cite as:**

Lefebvre C, Glanville J, Briscoe S, Littlewood A, Marshall C, Metzendorf M-I, Noel-Storr A, Rader T, Shokraneh F, Thomas J, Wieland LS. Technical Supplement to [Chapter 4](https://training.cochrane.org/handbook/current/chapter-04): Searching for and selecting studies. In: Higgins JPT, Thomas J, Chandler J, Cumpston MS, Li T, Page MJ, Welch VA (eds). Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 6.1 (updated September 2020). Cochrane, 2020. Available from: [www.training.cochrane.org/handbook](http://www.training.cochrane.org/handbook).

**For questions or comments:**

Lisa Tjosvold
John W. Scott Health Sciences Library
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB
lisa.tjosvold@ualberta.ca