

Appendix C: Search strategies and databases searched

This appendix details the search strategies used in the identification of relevant studies. Part 1 covers search strategies for the identification of clinical evidence. Part 2 details search strategies used in the identification of economic evidence.

Part 1: Search strategies for the identification of clinical evidence

The National Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Supportive Care (NCC-NSC) conducted all searches on the following databases: Medline, Embase, Cinahl and The Cochrane Library via both the SilverPlatter WebSPIRS 4 and OVID ERL WebSPIRS 5 interfaces.

For new reviews, searches were performed for articles published since 1990, except where noted below. Where appropriate, search strategies were arrived at in consultation with the Guideline Development Group (GDG).

For updates of existing reviews, searches were performed for articles published since the date last searched by the reviewers. Search strategies were based on those used in the initial reviews. Full details of the original search strategies can be found by referring to these reviews.

If appropriate, the Cochrane search strategy for randomised controlled trials (Higgins, 2005) was applied as a search filter.

The Medline search strategy for each review is reproduced below. Note that the search makes use of the controlled vocabulary which varies between databases and between search interfaces. Amendments to each search strategy were made to take these variations into account.

Searches were restricted to articles written in English. All searches were updated to January 2006.

Hand searching was not undertaken by the NCC-NSC following NICE advice that exhaustive searching on every guideline review topic is not practical (Mason et al., 2002). Reference lists of articles were checked for further articles of potential relevance.

- 1 **1. Preoperative showering**
 - 1 explode detergents/ all subheadings
 - 2 explode povidone-iodine/ all subheadings
 - 3 explode chlorhexidine/ all subheadings
 - 4 explode disinfection/ all subheadings
 - 5 detergent*
 - 6 Betadine
 - 7 chlorhexidine
 - 8 Povidone and iodine
 - 9 alcohol or alcohols or soap*
 - 10 explode anti-infective-agents-local/ all subheadings
 - 11 anti?septic*
 - 12 Iodophor*
 - 13 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12
 - 14 shower*
 - 15 bath*
 - 16 wash*
 - 17 clean*
 - 18 14 or 15 or 16 or 17
 - 19 13 and 18
 - 20 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
 - 21 surg* near infect*
 - 22 surg* near wound*
 - 23 wound* near infect*
 - 24 20 or 21 or 22 or 23
 - 25 19 and 24

2

1 **2. Preoperative hair removal**

2
3 *Kjonniksen et al search strategy:*

4 Scientific articles were identified by searches of the following electronic databases:

5 Cochrane Trial Register-Issue 3, 1999;

6 Medline-1966 to 1999;

7 Embase-1974 to 1999;

8 CINAHL-1982 to 1999;

9 Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness;

10 National Health Service Economic Evaluation Database; and

11 Health Technology Assessment Database.

12
13 Searches were terminated in December 1999. Search terms that were used included surgical site
14 infection/s or surgical wound infection/s and depilation, or hair, or shaving.

15 All articles dealing with conventional surgical procedures in ORs and that reported on the
16 relationship between preoperative hair removal and SSIs were included. Team members
17 considered both randomized and observational studies. All endoscopic, transurethral,
18 catheterization, and interventional radiology procedures were excluded-in accordance with the
19 CDC guideline-together with studies concerning pilonidal cysts. Two team members
20 independently read and evaluated all titles and summaries retrieved electronically for inclusion in
21 the study. The reference list of relevant articles published in the 1990s was hand searched, and
22 team members obtained articles thought to be relevant. These articles also were read
23 independently for inclusion. Team members also retrieved references cited in the CDC guideline
24 on preoperative hair removal. Each article was assessed and graded based on modified
25 recommendations provided by the US Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. All 10
26 members of the team assessed all included articles and decided in plenary the relevance and
27 quality of each article.

28
29 *NCC-NSC search:*

30
1 hair removal/ all subheadings

2 hair near remov*

3 shav*

4 depilat*

5 epilata*

6 clipp*

7 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6

8 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings

9 surg* near infect*

10 surg* near wound*

11 wound* near infect*

12 8 or 9 or 10 or 11

13 7 and 12

31

1 **3. Mechanical bowel preparation for colorectal surgery**

2
3 *Cochrane review strategy:*

4 The studies were identified from the following sources: MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL, LILACS,
5 SCISEARCH, Controlled Clinical Trials Database, Trials Register of the Cochrane Colorectal
6 Cancer Group, and the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL). Reference
7 lists were checked; hand-searching was carried out, and through letters sent to study authors.
8 Conference proceedings from major gastrointestinal conferences (World Congress of
9 Gastroenterology, Annual Meetings of American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Annual
10 meetings of Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland, Tripartite meetings) were
11 scrutinised back to 1994 (last possible retrieval of abstract-material). There were no limits
12 regarding language, date, or other restrictions in the searches. All searches were performed up to
13 July 2004.

14
15 *NCC-NSC search:*

- 16
- 17 1 intestin* or bowel
 - 18 2 large or grosso or grueso
 - 19 3 1 and 2
 - 20 4 colo* or ceco*
 - 21 5 rect* or ret*
 - 22 6 3 or 4 or 5
 - 23 7 2 and 7
 - 24 8 prepara*
 - 25 9 surgery or surgical
 - 26 10 7 and 8 and 9

1 **4. Hand Hygiene**

2
3 **(a) Hand decontamination**

4
5 Recommendations on this topics were based on those in the NICE guideline on infection control
6 (National Institute for Clinical Excellence, 2003)

7
8 **(b) Removal of nail polish and finger rings**

9
10 *Cochrane review strategy:*

11 Potential studies were identified from the following sources: Cochrane Wounds Group
12 Specialised Trials Register, which has been compiled by searching the major health databases,
13 including MEDLINE, Cinahl, and EMBASE and is regularly updated through searching of the
14 Cochrane Controlled Trials Register; hand searching of wound care journals and relevant
15 conference proceedings.

16
17 The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CD ROM 2000 Issue 4) was also searched.
18 There was no restriction based on literature date, language or publication status. This search has
19 been further augmented by:

- 20 • Writing to manufacturers of surgical scrubbing agents for ongoing and unpublished research.
21 • Examining bibliographies of trials to identify further trials.
22 • Examining reference lists of all articles reviewed.
23 • Hand searching, of the journals AORN (American Operating Room Nurse), JHI (Journal of
24 Hospital Infection) and AJIC (American Journal of Infection Control) from January 1990 to
25 November 2000, resp. 2003.

26
27 All the above sources were searched up to November 2000. In March 2003, the update searches
28 were run using same databases.

29 *NCC-NSC search:*

- 30
- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
 - 2 surg* near infect*
 - 3 surg* near wound*
 - 4 wound* near infect*
 - 5 explode preoperative-care/ all subheadings
 - 6 explode infection-control/ all subheadings
 - 7 explode handwashing/ all subheadings
 - 8 explode operating-rooms/ all subheadings
 - 9 explode surgical-procedures-operative/ all subheadings
 - 10 surg* near scrub*
 - 11 hand* near wash*
 - 12 handwash*
 - 13 Cleansing
 - 14 hand* near clean*
 - 15 hand?wash*
 - 16 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14
or 15
 - 17 nail* near polish*
 - 18 remov* near nail*
 - 19 fingernail*
 - 20 finger* near ring*

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- 21 remov* near ring*
- 22 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21
- 23 16 and 22

1

2

At the request of the GDG an additional search for articles on false nails was performed for articles published since the inception of each database.

3

4

- 1 (false or fake or exten*) near (nail* or finger?nail*)
- 2 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 3 surg* near infect*
- 4 surg* near wound*
- 5 wound* near infect*
- 6 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
- 7 1 and 6

5

1 **5. Theatre wear**

2 (Refers to both sterile and non-sterile)

3

4 Searches were performed for articles published since 1994.

5

1. explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
2. surg* near wound*
3. surg* near infect*
4. wound* near infect*
5. explode clothing/ all subheadings
6. gown*
7. headwear or (head adj wear)
8. headgear or (head adj gear)
9. helmet*
10. shoe*
11. footwear or (foot adj wear)
12. (air or exhaust or scrub) adj suit*
13. hat or hats
14. cap or caps
15. greens
16. blues
17. scrubs
18. (surgical or theatre or operating room or protective) adj (wear or attire or clothes or clothing or apparel or suit*)
19. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4
20. 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18
21. 21 and 22

6

1 **6. Surgical scrubbing to reduce surgical site infection (including**
2 **solutions)**

3

- 1 handwashing/ all subheadings
- 2 hand* near wash*
- 3 handwash*
- 4 hand-wash*
- 5 hand-hygiene*
- 6 hand* near hygien*
- 7 hand* near prepar*
- 8 hand* near scrub*
- 9 hand* near brush*
- 10 hand* near clean*
- 11 surg* near scrub*
- 12 (anti?septic* or disinfec* or scrub* or alcohol*) near (solution* or soap*)
- 13 soap*
- 14 povidone-iodine/ all subheadings
- 15 PVP*
- 16 betadine*
- 17 iodine*
- 18 chlorhexidine/ all subheadings
- 19 disinfectants/ all subheadings
- 20 anti-infective-agents-local/ all subheadings
- 21 soaps/ all subheadings
- 22 alcohol* near rub*
- 23 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13
- 24 hand* or wash* or scrub*
- 25 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20
- 26 24 near 25
- 27 (anti?septic* or disinfec* or alcohol*) near 24
- 28 21 or 22 or 23 or 26 or 27
- 29 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 30 surg* near infect*
- 31 surg* near wound*
- 32 wound* near infect*
- 33 29 or 30 or 31 or 32
- 34 28 and 33

4

- 1 **7. Theatre wear – Sterile**
- 2
- 3
- 4 (*See 5. Theatre wear*)
- 5

1 **8. Double gloving**

2
3 *Cochrane review strategy:*

4 Studies selected for Tanner (2002) review were identified by systematic searches of Cochrane
5 Wounds Group Specialised Trials Register (database compiled through searching major health
6 databases including MEDLINE, CINAHL and EMBASE and regularly updated through hand
7 searching).

8
9 Details of the searching process, including search strategies, hand-searched journals and a list of
10 contacted glove manufacturers can be found in Tanner (2002).

11
12 *NCC-NSC search:*

- 13
- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
 - 2 surg* near infect*
 - 3 surg* near wound*
 - 4 wound* near infect*
 - 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4
 - 6 gloves-protective/ all subheadings
 - 7 gloves-surgical/ all subheadings
 - 8 glove* near liner*
 - 9 glove* near lining*
 - 10 glove or gloves
 - 11 puncture* near indicat*
 - 12 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11
 - 13 5 and 12

14

1 **9. Disposable surgical face masks for preventing surgical wound**
2 **infection in clean surgery**

3
4 *Cochrane review strategy:*

5 The Cochrane Wounds Group Specialised Trials Register was searched by the reviewers.
6 The bibliographies of all retrieved and relevant publications identified by these strategies were
7 searched for further studies. There was no specific date restriction placed upon study inclusion,
8 but only disposable surgical face masks were considered. Manufacturers and distributors of
9 disposable surgical masks as well as professional organisations including the National
10 Association of Theatre Nurses, the European Operating Room Nurses Association, the Australian
11 College of Operating Room Nurses and the American Operating Room Nurses Association were
12 contacted for details of unpublished and ongoing studies. There was no restriction on the
13 inclusion of reports based on language, or publication status.

14
15 *NCC-NSC search:*

- 16
- 1 explode masks/ all subheadings
 - 2 mask or masks
 - 3 facemask*
 - 4 face near2 masks
 - 5 face near2 mask
 - 6 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
 - 7 explode surgical wound infection/ all subheadings
 - 8 explode wound infection/ all subheadings
 - 9 explode antisepsis/ all subheadings
 - 10 wound* near infect*
 - 11 surg* near wound*
 - 12 surg* near infect*
 - 13 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12
 - 14 6 and 13

17

1 **10. Preoperative skin antiseptics for preventing surgical wound infections**

2
3 *Cochrane review strategy:*

4 The Cochrane Wounds Group Specialised Trials Register and the Cochrane Central Register of
5 Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) were searched in April 2004.

6
7 In addition the bibliographies of all retrieved and relevant publications identified were searched for
8 further studies. We placed no specific date restriction upon study inclusion. Manufacturers and
9 distributors of antiseptic agents were also contacted as well as professional organisations for
10 example National Association of Theatre Nurses, AORN, Royal College of Surgeons of England,
11 The Association of Operating Department Practitioners for details of unpublished and ongoing
12 studies. We did not restrict the search by language or publication status.

13
14 *NCC-NSC search:*

15
1 explode detergents/ all subheadings
2 explode povidone-iodine/ all subheadings
3 explode chlorhexidine/ all subheadings
4 explode disinfection/ all subheadings
5 explode antisepsis/ all subheadings
6 detergent*
7 betadine
8 chlorhexidine
9 povidone near iodine
10 alcohol or alcohols
11 explode anti-infective-agents-local/ all subheadings
12 antiseptic*
13 iodophor*
14 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13
15 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
16 explode preoperative-care/ all subheadings
17 explode perioperative-care/ all subheadings
18 preoperative near care
19 perioperative near care
20 wound* near infect*
21 surg* near infect*
22 surg* near wound*
23 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22
24 14 and 23

16

1 **11. Drapes**

2

3

Searches were performed for articles published since 1994.

4

1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings

2 surg* near wound*

3 surg* near infect*

4 wound* near infect*

5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4

6 drape

7 drapes

8 6 or 7

9 5 and 8

5

1 **12. Perioperative warming**

2

- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 2 surg* near infect*
- 3 surg* near wound*
- 4 wound* near infect*
- 5 explode wound-healing/ all subheadings
- 6 surgical-wound-dehiscence/ all subheadings
- 7 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6
- 8 explode hyperthermia, induced/ all subheadings
- 9 warming
- 10 re?warming
- 11 heating
- 12 body near temperature
- 13 core adj temperature
- 14 hypertherm*
- 15 hypotherm*
- 16 normotherm*
- 17 thermoregulat*
- 18 vasoconstriction*
- 19 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18
- 20 7 and 19

3

1 **13. Perioperative oxygen**

- 2
- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
 - 2 surg* near infect*
 - 3 surg* near wound*
 - 4 wound* near infect*
 - 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4
 - 6 explode hyperoxia/ all subheadings
 - 7 explode oxygen/ all subheadings
 - 8 peri?operat* near (oxygen or hyper?ox*)
 - 9 hyper?ox*
 - 10 6 or 7 or 8 or 9
 - 11 5 and 10

3

1 **14. Intra-cavity solutions**

- 2
- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
 - 2 surg* near infect*
 - 3 surg* near wound*
 - 4 wound* near infect*
 - 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4
 - 6 explode irrigation/ all subheadings
 - 7 lavage
 - 8 6 or 7
 - 9 5 and 8

3

1 **15. Intra-operative skin antiseptics**

2

3

4 *(See 10. Preoperative skin antiseptics for preventing surgical wound infections)*

5

1 **16. Drains**

2

- 1 drain*
- 2 explode drainage/ all subheadings
- 3 Suction
- 4 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 5 surg* near infect*
- 6 surg* near wound*
- 7 wound* near infect*
- 8 4 or 5 or 6 or 7
- 9 1 or 2 or 3
- 10 8 and 9

3

1 **17. Techniques and methods of closure**

2
3 **(i) Sutures**

4 Searches were performed for articles published since 1985.

- 5
6
- 1 explode sutures/ all subheadings
 - 2 explode suture-techniques/ all subheadings
 - 3 surgical staplers/ all subheadings
 - 4 staple*
 - 5 tape*
 - 6 sutur*
 - 7 wound* near clos*
 - 8 skin* near clos*
 - 9 surg* near clos*
 - 10 explode surgical-mesh/ all subheadings
 - 11 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10
 - 12 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
 - 13 surg* near infect*
 - 14 surg* near wound*
 - 15 wound* near infect*
 - 16 12 or 13 or 14 or 15
 - 17 14 and 16

7
8 **(ii) Tissue adhesives**

9
10 *Cochrane review strategy:*

11 In order to identify studies to be considered for this review the following databases were
12 searched:

- 13
- 14 Cochrane Wounds Group Specialised Trials Register - November 2003
 - 15 The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL)
 - 16 The Cochrane Library Issue 3, 2003
 - 17 MEDLINE 1966 - November 2003
 - 18 EMBASE 1980 - November 2003

19
20 Search strategies were developed for Medline and EMBASE and these search strategies
21 combined a sensitive search strategy for RCTs revised from phases 1 and 2 of the Cochrane
22 Sensitive Search Strategy for RCTs (as published in Appendix 5c in the Cochrane Handbook).
23 The subject search used a combination of controlled vocabulary and free text terms based on the
24 search strategy for searching the Cochrane Wounds Group Specialised Trial Register.

25
26 There were no language restrictions. Authors of the identified RCTs were written to in order to
27 identify any unpublished or ongoing studies. In addition, wound care product manufacturers were
28 contacted. Trials for Wounds Group Specialised Trials Register are identified by systematically
29 handsearching specialised journals, relevant conference proceedings and abstracts. A list of
30 journals currently being handsearched by the group may be found at
31 <http://www.cochranewounds.org>

32
33
34 *NCC-NSC search:*

- 1 explode tissue-adhesives/ all subheadings
- 2 explode adhesives/ all subheadings
- 3 explode acrylates/ all subheadings

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- 4 tissue* and adhesive*
- 5 acr?late*
- 6 cyano?acr?late*
- 7 explode cyanoacrylates/ all subheadings
- 8 glu or glue or glues
- 9 explode fibrin-tissue-adhesive/ all subheadings
- 10 explode bucrylate/ all subheadings
- 11 bucr?late*
- 12 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11
- 13 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 14 surg* near infect*
- 15 surg* near wound*

- 16 wound* near infect*
- 17 13 or 14 or 15 or 16
- 18 12 and 17

1

1 **18. Wound dressings for surgical sites**

2

1 Explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings

2 surg* near infect*

3 surg* near wound*

4 wound* near infect*

5 Explode wound-healing/ all subheadings

6 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5

7 bandage* or dressing* or stocking* or wrap* or gauze* or tulle* or film* or hydrocol* or hydrogel* or alginat* or bead* or foam* or ointment* or lotion* or cream* or antibio* or antisept* or steroid* or estrogen* or enzym* or grow* or collagen*

8 Explode bandages/ all subheadings

9 Explode Anti-Infective-Agents-Local/ all subheadings

10 7 or 8 or 9

11 6 and 10

3

4

1 **19. Clean versus sterile techniques**

2

- 1 sterile
- 2 non sterile
- 3 non-sterile
- 4 nonsterile
- 5 asepsis
- 6 aseptic technique*
- 7 universal precaution*
- 8 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7
- 9 clean near surg*
- 10 8 or 9
- 11 explode asepsis/ all subheadings
- 12 10 or 11
- 13 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 14 surg* near infect*
- 15 surg* near wound*
- 16 wound* near infect*
- 17 13 or 14 or 15 or 16
- 18 12 and 17

3

20. Postoperative wound cleansing

Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) review strategy:

The search sought to identify both published and unpublished studies. Randomised controlled trials were identified from the Cochrane Library 2004 Issue 2. Additional searches of the Medline (1966–2004), CINAHL (1982–2004), Nursing Collection (1995–2000), and EMBASE (1980–2004) databases were undertaken using the strategy developed at the UK Cochrane Centre, Oxford. A high sensitivity, low precision search was also undertaken using the search strategy developed by the Cochrane Review Database (CRD). This strategy was used as it is known to have the highest sensitivity (recall) but low precision and would locate the majority of the articles on the Medline database. Due to advances in information technology over the past 3 years a new search strategy was developed in consultation with the librarian to validate the previous search strategy. The search was not restricted to reports only in the English language as this would increase the publication bias.

In addition the reference lists and bibliographies of all possible trials and reviews were searched for further references. Extensive hand searches of relevant journals and conference proceedings were undertaken in order to identify any further trials. However, no new articles in addition to those identified through electronic database and reference list searching were found through hand searching. Experts and company representatives in the field of wound care were contacted; however, no further articles were elicited from these groups.

NCC-NSC search:

- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 2 surg* near wound*
- 3 surg* near infect*
- 4 wound* near infect*
- 5 explode wound-healing/ all subheadings
- 6 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
- 7 explode iodine/ all subheadings
- 8 explode iodine-compounds/ all subheadings
- 9 explode povidone-iodine/ all subheadings
- 10 iodine or betadine
- 11 7 or 8 or 9 or 10
- 12 explode chlorhexidine/ all subheadings
- 13 chlorhexidine
- 14 12 or 13
- 15 explode sodium-chloride/ all subheadings
- 16 saline
- 17 15 or 16
- 18 explode water/ all subheadings
- 19 water or h2o
- 20 18 or 19
- 21 explode hydrogen-peroxide/ all subheadings
- 22 hydrogen peroxide or h2o2
- 23 21 or 22
- 24 explode sodium-hypochlorite/ all subheadings
- 25 eusol
- 26 24 or 25
- 27 pluronic f68 or pluronic f 68 or shurclens
- 28 explode Anti-Infective-Agents-Local/ all subheadings
- 29 explode solutions/ all subheadings
- 30 28 and 29

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- 31 explode disinfectants/ all subheadings not (dental-disinfectants/ all subheadings or contact-lens-solutions/ all subheadings)
- 32 11 or 14 or 17 or 20 or 23 or 26 or 27 or 30 or 31
- 33 explode baths/ all subheadings
- 34 explode hydrotherapy/ all subheadings
- 35 explode irrigation/ all subheadings
- 36 clean* or shower* or scrub* or swab* or bath* or irrigat* or wash* or whirlpool* or whirl-pool* or hydrotherap* or hydro-therap* or soak*
- 37 33 or 34 or 35 or 36
- 38 explode pressure/ all subheadings
- 39 pressure*
- 40 38 or 39
- 41 wound* near clean*
- 42 32 or 37 or 40 or 41
- 43 6 and 42
- 44 ulcer*
- 45 43 not 44

1

1 **21. Dressings and topical agents for wounds healing by secondary**
2 **intention**

3
4 *Cochrane review strategy:*

5 SilverPlatter MEDLINE, CINAHL, EMBASE, the Wounds Group Specialised Trials Register and
6 the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials were last searched in March 2002. Searches
7 were not limited by language or publication status. Citations were searched within identified
8 studies. The reviewers did not write to manufacturers and distributors of wound dressings for
9 details of unpublished or ongoing trials.

10
11 *NCC-NSC search:*

- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
2 surg* near wound*
3 surg* near infect*
4 wound* near infect*
5 explode surgical-wound-dehiscence/ all subheadings
6 #1 or #2 or #3 or #4 or #5
7 (difficult* or complic* or problem* or delay* or second* or non-heal* or non heal* or
8 nonheal*) near wound*
9 #6 and #7
10 bandage* or dressing* or stocking* or wrap* or gauze* or tulle* or film* or hydrocol* or
11 hydrogel* or alginat* or bead* or foam* or ointment* or lotion* or cream* or antibio* or
12 antisept* or steroid* or estrogen* or enzym* or grow* or collagen*
13 explode bandages/ all subheadings
14 explode Anti-Infective-Agents-Local/ all subheadings
15 explode debridement/ all subheadings
debrid*
#9 or #10 or #11 or #12 or #13
#8 and #14

12

1 **22. Toenail avulsion**

2

3

Searches were performed without any date restriction.

4

- 1 nails-ingrown/ all subheadings
- 2 nails/ all subheadings
- 3 nail* or toenail*
- 4 1 or 2 or 3
- 5 explode surgical-wound-infection/all subheadings
- 6 surg* near wound*
- 7 surg* near infect*
- 8 wound* near infect*
- 9 5 or 6 or 7 or 8
- 10 4 and 9
- 11 toenail* near avulsion
- 12 nail* near avulsion
- 13 10 or 11 or 12

5

6

1 **23. Pin site care**

2
3 *Cochrane review strategy:*

4 The following electronic databases were searched:

5 MEDLINE from 1966, The Cochrane Wounds Group Specialised Trials Register (up to March
6 2003) and the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (issue 1 2003).

7
8 The following journals were handsearched: Orthopaedic Clinics of North America July 2000, Oct
9 2000, April 2001; Current Orthopaedics 1999-2000; Orthopaedic Nursing January 2000 to June
10 2001. The handsearching produced no additional studies and was not continued. Citations within
11 obtained reviews and papers were scrutinised to identify additional studies.

12
13 *NCC-NSC search:*

1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings

2 surg* near infect*

3 surg* near wound*

4 wound* near infect*

5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4

6 explode external-fixators/ all subheadings

7 explode bone-nails/ all subheadings

8 explode bone-wires/ all subheadings

9 explode bone-screws/ all subheadings

10 explode bone-plates/ all subheadings

11 explode fracture-fixation/ all subheadings

12 external near fix*

13 bone near fix*

14 bone near pin*

bone near wire*

15

16 fracture* and fix*

17 orthop*dic* and pin*

18 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17

19 5 and 18

14

1 **24. Treatments of infection for surgical sites**

2
3 The searches for this review were split into three separate strategies: antibiotics, dressings and
4 "other treatments" (those not included in the first two).

5
6 Antibiotics search:

- 1 explode anti-bacterial-agents/ all subheadings
- 2 anti?biotic*
- 3 1 or 2
- 4 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 5 surg* near infect*
- 6 surg* near wound*
- 7 wound* near infect*
- 8 explode wound-healing/ all subheadings
- 9 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8
- 10 3 and 9

7
8 Dressings search:

- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 2 surg* near infect*
- 3 surg* near wound*
- 4 wound* near infect*
- 5 explode wound-healing/ all subheadings
- 6 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
- 7 bandage* or dressing* or stocking* or wrap* or gauze* or tulle* or film*
or hydrocol* or hydrogel* or alginat* or bead* or foam* or impregnat*
- 8 explode bandages/ all subheadings
- 9 7 or 8
- 10 6 and 9

9
10 Other treatments search:

- 1 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 2 surg* near infect*
- 3 surg* near wound*
- 4 wound* near infect*
- 5 explode wound-healing/ all subheadings
- 6 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
- 7 explode honey/ all subheadings
- 8 honey*
- 9 debrisan*
- 10 dextranomer*
- 11 dextrans/ all subheadings
- 12 aloe/ all subheadings
- 13 aloe*
- 14 silver/ all subheadings
- 15 silver-sulfadiazine/ all subheadings
- 16 flomazine*
- 17 silvadene*
- 18 sulfa*diazine*
- 19 povidone-iodine/ all subheadings
- 20 PVP*
- 21 betadine*

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- 22 iodine*
- 23 tea-tree-oil/ all subheadings
- 24 tea adj tree
- 25 teatree
- 26 melaleuca*
- 27 drainage/ all subheadings
- 28 open near2 drain*
- 29 vac* near clos*
- 30 maggot*
- 31 bio?surg*
- 32 larva*
- 33 irrigation/ all subheadings
- 34 irrigat*
- 35 douch*
- 36 lavage*
- 37 suction/ all subheadings
- 38 drain*
- 39 aspirat*
- 40 ultrasonic-therapy/ all subheadings
- 41 ultra?sound*
- 42 ultra?son*
- 43 LLLT*
- 44 laser-therapy-low-level/ all subheadings
- 45 (laser* or light*) near4 (bio?stimulat* or stimulat* or irradiat*)
- 46 lasers/therapeutic-use
- 47 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or
22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32 or 33 or 34 or 35 or 36
or 37 or 38 or 39 or 40 or 41 or 42 or 43 or 44 or 45 or 46
- 48 6 and 47

1

1 **25. Patients' information needs, experiences and quality of life issues**

2

3 Two searches were performed for this review: a general search for patient view, experiences and
4 information needs; and a quality of life search. Searches were performed for articles published
5 since 1995.

6

7 Patient experiences search:

1 (client* or patient* or user* or carer* or consumer* or customer*) near3 (attitud* or priorit* or
perception* or preferen* or expectation* or choice* or perspective* or view* or satisfact* or
inform*)

2 information adj need*

3 information adj requirement*

4 information adj support*

5 service* near2 attribute*

6 service* near2 acceptab*

7 service* near2 unacceptab*

8 impact*

9 psycholog*

10 psycho?social

11 emotion*

12 experience*

13 subjective*

14 status

15 perception*

16 consequence*

17 sequelae

18 meaning*

19 rating*

20 complian*

21 adheren*

22 concordan*

23 patient-education/ all subheadings

24 explode attitude-to-health/ all subheadings

25 explode patient-acceptance-of-health-care/ all subheadings

26 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings

27 surg* near infect*

28 surg* near wound*

29 wound* near infect*

30 26 or 27 or 28 or 29

31 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18
or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25

32 30 and 31

8

9 Quality Of Life search:

1 quality near3 life

2 utility

3 utilities

4 rosset*

5 ihql

6 euro?qol

7 eq?5d

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- 8 12d
- 9 15d
- 10 (12 or 5) near4 dimension*
- 11 qwb
- 12 life near4 table*
- 13 health near related near quality
- 14 qol
- 15 ql
- 16 hrqol
- 17 hrql
- 18 well?being
- 19 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18
- 20 explode surgical-wound-infection/ all subheadings
- 21 surg* near infect*
- 22 surg* near wound*
- 23 wound* near infect*
- 24 20 or 21 or 22 or 23
- 25 19 and 24

1

1 **Part 2: Search strategies for the identification of economic evidence**

2
3 Searches were conducted on the following health economic databases: NHS EED (NHS
4 Economic Evaluation Database), OHE HEED (Office of Health Economic Evaluations Database),
5 HTA (Health Technology Assessment), and DARE (Database of Abstracts of Reviews of
6 Effectiveness).

7
8 A general search strategy (reproduced below) was used on each of the above databases in order
9 to retrieve all studies relevant to SSI. No date restrictions were imposed.

10
11 Searches were also carried out on Medline, Embase and Cinahl alongside each of the clinical
12 searches detailed in part 1 of this appendix. A specially developed health economics search filter
13 was combined with the clinical search terms for each topic assessed in the guideline. These
14 searches were not restricted by study design. The same search dates used in searching for the
15 clinical evidence were applied to these searches.

16
17 The Medline version of the search filter is reproduced below. Once again, note that the search
18 makes use of the controlled vocabulary which varies between databases and between search
19 interfaces. Amendments to the search filter were made to take these variations into account.
20 Searches were restricted to articles in English.

21
22 All economics searches were updated to January 2006.

23

1 **1. General search strategy used on health economics databases:**

2

1 surgical wound infection? OR (wound? adj infection?) OR (surg? adj
infect?) OR (surg? adj wound?) OR (wound? AND infect?)

3

4

5

6

2. Health economics search filter

1 burden near2 illness

2 burden near2 disease

3 Cost* near2 evaluat*

4 Cost* near2 benefit*

5 Cost* near2 utilit*

6 cost* near2 minimi*

7 cost* near2 illness

-8 cost* near2 disease

9 cost* near2 analys*

10 cost* near2 assess*

11 cost* near2 study

12 cost* near2 studies

13 cost* near2 allocation

14 cost* near2 outcome*

15 cost* near2 consequence*

16 cost* near2 effect*

17 cost* near2 treatment*

18 economic near2 evaluat*

19 economic near2 analys*

20 economic near2 study

21 economic near2 studies

22 economic near2 assess*

23 economic near2 consequence*

24 economic near2 outcome*

25 resource* near2 allocation*

26 resource* near2 utili*

27 expenditure*

28 explode 'economics-' / all subheadings

29 explode 'costs-and-cost-analysis' / all subheadings

30 health near2 economics

31 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or
15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or
27 or 28 or 29 or 30

7