

Appendix 9: search strategies for the identification of clinical studies

The search strategies should be referred to in conjunction with information set out in Chapter 3, Section 3.2.9.

For standard mainstream bibliographic databases (AMED, CINAHL, EMBASE, MEDLINE and PsycINFO) search terms on alcohol dependence and harmful alcohol use were combined with study design filters for systematic reviews, RCTs and qualitative research. For searches generated in databases with collections of study designs at their focus (DARE, CDSR, CENTRAL and HTA) search terms on alcohol dependence and harmful alcohol use were used without a filter. For focused searches, terms for case management and assertive community treatment (ACT) were combined with terms for alcohol dependence and harmful alcohol use, and filters for observational and quasi-experimental studies. The search strategies were initially developed for MEDLINE before being translated for use in other databases/interfaces.

A condensed version of the strategies constructed for use with the main databases searched follows.

1. Guideline topic search strategy

a. MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsycINFO - Ovid SP interface

1. exp alcohol abuse/ or (alcohol-related disorders or alcohol-induced disorders or sobriety).sh.
2. (alcoholi\$ or (alcohol\$ and (abstinence or detoxification or intoxicat\$ or rehabilit\$ or withdraw\$))).hw.
3. *abuse/ or *addiction/ or *drug abuse/ or *substance related disorders/
4. alcoholi\$.ti,ab.
5. (drinker\$1 or (drink\$ adj2 use\$1) or ((alcohol\$ or drink\$) adj5 (abstinen\$ or abstain\$ or abus\$ or addict\$ or attenuat\$ or binge\$ or crav\$ or dependen\$ or detox\$ or disease\$ or disorder\$ or excessiv\$ or harm\$ or hazard\$ or heavy or high risk or intoxicat\$ or misus\$ or overdos\$ or (over adj dos\$) or problem\$ or rehab\$ or reliance or reliant or relaps\$ or withdraw\$))).ti,ab.
6. (control\$ adj2 drink\$).tw.
7. sobriet\$.ti,ab,hw.
8. or/1-7

* Search request #3 was used to search for evidence of systematic reviews only.

b. CINAHL – Ebsco interface

- S11 S1 or S2 or S3 or S4 or S5 or S6 or S7 or S8 or S9 or S10
- S10 TI sobriet* or AB sobriet*
- S9 (TI control* N2 drink*) or (AB control* N2 drink*)
- S8 (TI drink* N5 abstinen* or AB drink* N5 abstinen*) or (TI drink* N5 abstain* or AB drink* N5 abstain*) or (TI drink* N5 abus* or AB drink* N5 abus*) or (TI drink* N5 addict* or AB drink* N5 addict*) or (TI drink* N5 attenuat* or AB drink* N5 attenuat*) or (TI drink* N5 binge* or AB drink* N5 binge*) or (TI drink* N5 crav* or AB drink* N5 crav*) or (TI drink* N5 dependen* or AB drink* N5 dependen*) or (TI drink* N5 detox* or AB drink* N5 detox*) or (TI drink* N5 disease* or AB drink* N5 disease*) or (TI drink* N5 disorder* or AB drink* N5 disorder*) or (TI drink* N5 excessiv* or AB drink* N5 excessiv*) or (TI drink* N5 harm* or AB drink* N5 harm*) or (TI drink* N5 hazard* or AB drink* N5 hazard*) or (TI drink* N5 heavy or AB drink* N5 heavy) or (TI drink* N5 high risk or AB drink* N5 high risk) or (TI drink* N5 intoxicat* or AB drink* N5 intoxicat*) or (TI drink* N5 misus* or AB drink* N5 misus*) or (TI drink* N5 overdos* or AB drink* N5 overdos*) or (TI drink* N5 over dos* or AB drink* N5 over dos*) or (TI drink* N5 problem* or AB drink* N5 problem*) or (TI drink* N5 rehab* or AB drink* N5 rehab*) or (TI drink* N5 reliance or AB drink* N5 reliance) or (TI drink* N5 reliant or AB drink* N5 reliant) or (TI drink* N5 relaps* or AB drink* N5 relaps*) or (TI drink* N5 withdraw* or AB drink* N5 withdraw*)
- S7 (TI alcohol* N5 abstinen* or AB alcohol* N5 abstinen*) or (TI alcohol* N5 abstain* or AB alcohol* N5 abstain*) or (TI alcohol* N5 abus* or AB alcohol* N5 abus*) or (TI alcohol* N5 addict* or AB alcohol* N5 addict*) or (TI alcohol* N5 attenuat* or AB alcohol* N5 attenuat*) or (TI alcohol* N5 binge* or AB alcohol* N5 binge*) or (TI alcohol* N5 crav* or AB alcohol* N5 crav*) or (TI alcohol* N5 dependen* or AB alcohol* N5 dependen*) or (TI alcohol* N5 detox* or AB alcohol* N5 detox*) or (TI alcohol* N5 disease* or AB alcohol* N5 disease*) or (TI alcohol* N5 disorder* or AB alcohol* N5 disorder*) or (TI alcohol* N5 excessiv* or AB alcohol* N5 excessiv*) or (TI alcohol* N5 harm* or AB alcohol* N5 harm*) or (TI alcohol* N5 hazard* or AB alcohol* N5 hazard*) or (TI alcohol* N5 heavy or AB alcohol* N5 heavy) or (TI alcohol* N5 high risk or AB alcohol* N5 high risk) or (TI alcohol* N5 intoxicat* or AB alcohol* N5 intoxicat*) or (TI alcohol* N5 misus* or AB alcohol* N5 misus*) or (TI alcohol* N5 overdos* or AB alcohol* N5 overdos*) or (TI alcohol* N5 over dos* or AB alcohol* N5 over dos*) or (TI alcohol* N5 problem* or AB alcohol* N5 problem*) or (TI alcohol* N5 rehab* or AB alcohol* N5 rehab*) or (TI alcohol* N5 reliance or AB alcohol* N5 reliance) or (TI alcohol* N5 reliant or AB alcohol* N5 reliant) or (TI alcohol* N5 relaps* or AB alcohol* N5 relaps*) or (TI alcohol* N5 withdraw* or AB alcohol* N5 withdraw*)
- S6 (TI drink* N2 use*) or (AB drink* N2 use*)
- S5 TI drinker* or AB drinker*

- S4 (MM "Substance Use Disorders") or (MM "Behavior, Addictive") or (MM "Substance Abuse")
- S3 MW alcoholi*
- S2 MW alcohol* and (abstinence or detoxification or intoxicat* or rehabilit* or withdraw*)
- S1 (MH "Alcohol Abuse") or (MH "Alcoholic Intoxication") or (MH "Alcoholism") or (MH "Alcohol-Related Disorders") or (MH "Alcohol Abuse Control (Saba CCC)") or (MH "Alcohol Abuse (Saba CCC)")

* Search request #4 was used to search for evidence of systematic reviews only.

c. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials – Wiley Interscience interface

- #1 MeSH descriptor Alcohol-Related Disorders, this term only
- #2 MeSH descriptor Alcohol-Induced Disorders, this term only
- #3 MeSH descriptor Alcoholic Intoxication, this term only
- #4 MeSH descriptor Alcoholism, this term only
- #5 (alcoholi*):ti or (alcoholi*):ab
- #6 (abstinence or detoxification or intoxicat* or rehabilit* or withdraw*):kw and (alcohol*):kw
- #7 MeSH descriptor Substance-Related Disorders, this term only
- #8 (drinker* or (drink* NEAR/2 use*) or ((alcohol* or drink*) NEAR/5 (abstinen* or abstain* or abus* or addict* or attenuat* or binge* or crav* or dependen* or detox* or disease* or disorder* or excessiv* or harm* or hazard* or heavy or high risk or intoxicat* or misus* or overdos* or over dose or over dosing or over doses or problem* or rehab* or reliance or reliant or relaps* or withdraw*)):ti or (drinker* or (drink* NEAR/2 use*) or ((alcohol* or drink*) NEAR/5 (abstinen* or abstain* or abus* or addict* or attenuat* or binge* or crav* or dependen* or detox* or disease* or disorder* or excessiv* or harm* or hazard* or heavy or high risk or intoxicat* or misus* or overdos* or over dose or over dosing or over doses or problem* or rehab* or reliance or reliant or relaps* or withdraw*)):ab
- #9 (control* NEAR/2 drink*):ti or (control* NEAR/2 drink*):ab
- #10 (sobriet*):ti or (sobriet*):ab
- #11 (#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10)

2. Focused search strategies [generated post-consultation]

Case management and assertive community treatment (ACT)

a. MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsycINFO - Ovid SP interface

1. (assertive community treatment or case management).sh.
2. (act program\$ or (assertive adj2 (communit\$ or outreach\$)) or ((case or care) adj3 management) or (care adj2 program\$ adj2 approach\$) or ((community or outreach) adj (program\$ or support\$ or therap\$ or treat\$)) or cpa or (madison adj4 model\$) or pact or tcl or (training adj5 (community adj2 living))).tw.
3. or/1-2

b. CINAHL - Ebsco interface

1. S1 or S2
2. (mh "case management") or (mh "case managers") or (mh "case management (omaha)") or (mh "case management society of america") or (mh "american case management association")
3. "act program*" or (assertive n2 communit*) or (assertive n2 outreach*) or (care n3 management) or (care n2 program* n2 approach*) or (case n3 management) or "community program*" or "community support*" or "community therap*" or "community treat*" or cpa or (madison n4 model*) or "outreach program*" or "outreach support*" or "outreach therap*" or "outreach treat*" or pact or tcl or (training n5 community n2 living)

3. Systematic review search filter - this is an adaptation of a filter designed by the Health Information Research Unit of the McMaster University, Ontario.

a. MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsycINFO - Ovid SP interface

- 1 (literature review or systematic review\$ or meta anal\$.sh,id. or "review literature as topic" /
- 2 ((analy\$ or evidence\$ or methodol\$ or quantativ\$ or systematic\$) adj5 (overview\$ or review\$)).tw. or ((analy\$ or assessment\$ or evidence\$ or methodol\$ or quantativ\$ or qualitativ\$ or systematic\$).ti. and review\$.ti,pt.) or (systematic\$ adj5 search\$).ti,ab.
- 3 ((electronic database\$ or bibliographic database\$ or computeri?ed database\$ or online database\$).tw,sh. or (bids or cochrane or embase or index medicus or isi citation or medline or psyclit or psychlit or scisearch or science citation or (web adj2 science)).tw. or cochrane\$.sh.) and (review\$.ti,ab,sh,pt. or systematic\$.ti,ab.)

- 4 (metaanal\$ or meta anal\$ or metasynthes\$ or meta synethes\$).ti,ab.
- 5 (research adj (review\$ or integration)).ti,ab.
- 6 reference list\$.ab.
- 7 bibliograph\$.ab.
- 8 published studies.ab.
- 9 relevant journals.ab.
- 10 selection criteria.ab.
- 11 (data adj (extraction or synthesis)).ab.
- 12 (handsearch\$ or ((hand or manual) adj search\$)).ti,ab.
- 13 (mantel haenszel or peto or dersimonian or der simonian).ti,ab.
- 14 (fixed effect\$ or random effect\$).ti,ab.
- 15 meta\$.pt. or (literature review or meta analysis or systematic review).md.
- 16 ((pool\$ or combined or combining) adj2 (data or trials or studies or results)).ti,ab.
- 17 or/1-16

b. CINAHL - Ebsco interface

- S32 S1 or S2 or S3 or S4 or S5 or S6 or S7 or S8 or S9 or S10 or S11 or S12 or S13 or S14 or S15 or S16 or S22 or S23 or S26 or S27 or S28 or S29 or S30 or S31
- S31 TI (analy* N5 review* or evidence* N5 review* or methodol* N5 review* or quantativ* N5 review* or systematic* N5 review*) or AB (analy* N5 review* or assessment* N5 review* or evidence* N5 review* or methodol* N5 review* or qualitativ* N5 review* or quantativ* N5 review* or systematic* N5 review*)
- S30 TI (pool* N2 results or combined N2 results or combining N2 results) or AB (pool* N2 results or combined N2 results or combining N2 results)
- S29 TI (pool* N2 studies or combined N2 studies or combining N2 studies) or AB (pool* N2 studies or combined N2 studies or combining N2 studies)
- S28 TI (pool* N2 trials or combined N2 trials or combining N2 trials) or AB (pool* N2 trials or combined N2 trials or combining N2 trials)
- S27 TI (pool* N2 data or combined N2 data or combining N2 data) or AB (pool* N2 data or combined N2 data or combining N2 data)
- S26 S24 and S25
- S25 TI review* or PT review*
- S24 TI analy* or assessment* or evidence* or methodol* or quantativ* or qualitativ* or systematic*
- S23 TI "systematic* N5 search*" or AB "systematic* N5 search"
- S22 (S17 or S18 or S19) and (S20 or S21)
- S21 TI systematic* or AB systematic*
- S20 TX review* or MW review* or PT review*
- S19 (MH "Cochrane Library")

- S18 TI (bids or cochrane or embase or "index medicus" or "isi citation" or medline or psyclit or psychlit or scisearch or "science citation" or web N2 science) or AB (bids or cochrane or "index medicus" or "isi citation" or psyclit or psychlit or scisearch or "science citation" or web N2 science)
- S17 TI ("electronic database*" or "bibliographic database*" or "computeri?ed database*" or "online database*") or AB ("electronic database*" or "bibliographic database*" or "computeri?ed database*" or "online database*")
- S16 (MH "Literature Review")
- S15 PT systematic* or PT meta*
- S14 TI ("fixed effect*" or "random effect*") or AB ("fixed effect*" or "random effect*")
- S13 TI ("mantel haenszel" or peto or dersimonian or "der simonian") or AB ("mantel haenszel" or peto or dersimonian or "der simonian")
- S12 TI (handsearch* or "hand search*" or "manual search*") or AB (handsearch* or "hand search*" or "manual search*")
- S11 AB "data extraction" or "data synthesis"
- S10 AB "selection criteria"
- S9 AB "relevant journals"
- S8 AB "published studies"
- S7 AB bibliograph*
- S6 AB "reference list*"
- S5 TI ("research review*" or "research integration") or AB ("research review*" or "research integration")
- S4 TI (metaanal* or "meta anal*" or metasyntes* or "meta syntes*") or AB (metaanal* or "meta anal*" or metasyntes* or "meta syntes*")
- S3 (MH "Meta Analysis")
- S2 (MH "Systematic Review")
- S1 (MH "Literature Searching+")

4. RCT search filter - this is an adaptation of a filter designed by the Health Information Research Unit of the McMaster University, Ontario

a. MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsycINFO - Ovid SP interface

- 1 exp clinical trials/ or (crossover procedure or double blind procedure or placebo\$ or randomization or random sample or single blind procedure).sh.
- 2 exp clinical trial/ or cross-over studies/ or double-blind method/ or random allocation/ or randomized controlled trials as topic/ or single-blind method/
- 3 exp clinical trials/ or (placebo or random sampling).sh,id.
- 4 (clinical adj2 trial\$).tw.
- 5 (crossover or cross over).tw.

- 6 (((single\$ or doubl\$ or trebl\$ or tripl\$) adj5 blind\$) or mask\$ or dummy or singleblind\$ or doubleblind\$ or trebleblind\$ or tripleblind\$.tw.
- 7 (placebo\$ or random\$.mp.
- 8 (clinical trial\$ or controlled clinical trial\$ or random\$.pt. or treatment outcome\$.md.
- 9 animals/ not human\$.mp.
- 10 animal\$/ not human\$ /
- 11 (animal not human).po.
- 12 (or/1-8) not (or/9-11)

b. CINAHL - Ebsco interface

- S11 S9 not S10
- S10 (MH "Animals") not (MH "Human")
- S9 S1 or S2 or S3 or S4 or S5 or S6 or S7 or S8
- S8 (PT "Clinical Trial")
- S7 TI (placebo* or random*) or AB (placebo* or random*)
- S6 TI (single blind* or double blind* or treble blind* or mask* or dummy* or singleblind* or doubleblind* or trebleblind* or tripleblind*) or AB (single blind* or double blind* or treble blind* or mask* or dummy* or singleblind* or doubleblind* or trebleblind* or tripleblind*)
- S5 TI (crossover or cross over) or AB (crossover or cross over)
- S4 TI clinical N2 trial* or AB clinical N2 trial*
- S3 (MH "Crossover Design") or (MH "Placebos") or (MH "Random Assignment") or (MH "Random Sample")
- S2 MW double blind* or single blind* or triple blind*
- S1 (MH "Clinical Trials+")

5. Observational study filter - developed in-house.

a. MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsycINFO - Ovid SP interface

1. (case control study or case report or case reports or case study or case control studies or clinical study or cohort analysis or cohort studies or correlational study or cross sectional studies or cross sectional study or epidemiologic studies or family study or follow up or followup studies or follow up studies or hospital based case control study or longitudinal studies or longitudinal study or observational study or population based case control study or prospective studies or prospective study or retrospective studies or retrospective study).sh.
2. (((case or crosssectional or cross sectional or epidemiologic\$ or observational) adj (study or studies)) or (case adj (control\$ or report\$)) or cohort\$1 or cross sectional or followup\$ or follow up\$ or followed or longitudinal\$ or prospective\$ or retrospective\$.tw.

3. case reports.pt.
4. or/1-3

b. CINAHL - Ebsco interface

- S4 S1 or S2 or S3
 S3 pt case study
 S2 ((case or crosssectional or "cross sectional" or epidemiologic* or observational) and (study or studies)) or "case control*" or "case report*" or cohort* or "cross sectional" or followup* or "follow up*" or followed or longitudinal* or prospective* or retrospective* (mh "case control studies+") or (mh "prospective studies+") or (mh "cross sectional studies") or (mh "case studies") or (mh "epidemiological research")
 S1 (mh "case control studies+") or (mh "prospective studies+") or (mh "cross sectional studies") or (mh "case studies") or (mh "epidemiological research")

6. Quasi-experimental design filter - developed in-house.

a. MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsycINFO - Ovid SP interface

1. (nonequivalent control group or posttesting or pretesting or pretest posttest design or pretest posttest control group design or quasi experimental methods or quasi experimental study or time series or time series analysis).sh.
2. (((nonequivalent or non equivalent) adj3 control\$) or posttest\$ or post test\$ or pre test\$ or pretest\$ or quasi experiment\$ or quasiexperiment\$ or timeseries or time series).tw.
3. or/1-2

b. CINAHL - Ebsco interface

- S3 S1 or S2
 S2 (mh "quasi experimental studies+") or (mh "pretest posttest design+")
 S1 (non equivalent n3 control*) or (nonequivalent n3 control*) or posttest* or "post test*" or "pre test*" or pretest or "quasi experiment*" or quasiexperiment* or timeseries or "time series"

Details of additional searches undertaken to support the development of this guideline are available on request.