Appendix E: Review flow charts

E.1 Flow chart question 1

Clinical Literature Review

Full text review

Title/abstract sift

Removal of duplicates

Literature search

Health Economic Literature Review

Full literature search and initial sifts combined for questions 1 and 2

Full literature search

Initial sift (title/abstract)

Cost–utility analyses
E.2 Flow chart question 2

Clinical Literature Review

- Literature search: 6312 retrieved
- Removal of duplicates: 4838 After duplicates removed, 1474 duplicates
- Title/abstract sift: 310 included, 4078 excluded
- Full text review: 23 included, 287 excluded

Health Economic Literature Review

Full literature search and initial sifts combined for questions 1 and 2

- Full literature search: 914 retrieved
- Initial sift (title/abstract): 16 included, 898 excluded
- Cost–utility analyses: 2 included, 14 excluded
E.3 Flow chart question 3

**Clinical Literature Review**

- Literature search: 12256 retrieved
- Removal of duplicates: 9842 after duplicates removed, 2414 duplicates
- Title/abstract sift: 56 included, 9786 excluded
- Full text review: 1 included, 55 excluded

**Health Economic Literature Review**

- Full literature search: 1004 retrieved
- Initial sift (title/abstract): 9 included, 995 excluded
- Cost-utility analyses: 0 included, 9 excluded
E.4 Flow chart questions 4 & 5

Clinical Literature Review

- Literature search: 10976 retrieved from search & 6 identified from other sources
- Removal of duplicates: 8204 after duplicates removed, 2766 duplicates
- Title/abstract sift: 210 included, 7994 excluded
- Full text review: 47 included, 163 excluded

- Q4a Asymptomatic gallbladder stones: 0 studies
- Q4b Symptomatic gallbladder stones: 15 studies
- Q4c Common bile duct stones: 24 studies
- Q5 Timing of surgery: 8 studies

Health Economic Literature Review (Q4 and Q5 Combined)

- Full literature search: 1396 retrieved
- Initial sift (title/abstract): 50 included, 1346 excluded
- Cost–utility analyses: 2 included, 48 excluded
E.5 Flow chart question 6

Clinical Literature Review

- Literature search: 7862 retrieved
- Removal of duplicates: 6296 after duplicates removed, 1566 duplicates excluded
- Title/abstract sift: 61 included, 6235 excluded
- Full text review: 5 included, 56 excluded

Health Economic Literature Review

- Full literature search: 504 retrieved
- Initial sift (title/abstract): 0 included, 504 excluded
- Cost–utility analyses: - included, - excluded