

**Appendix 1:** Comprehensive search plan based on population, intervention, comparator and outcomes (PICO) with sample search terms employed in Medline Ovid

Details	This search is required for the following systematic review: Surgical and radiological interventions for treating symptomatic cervical artery dissection.
Population	Participants with a clinical diagnosis of symptomatic extracranial carotid artery and/or vertebral artery dissections will be included if associated with active neurological symptoms.
Intervention and Comparison	Radiological intervention plus medical therapy versus medical therapy alone Surgical interventional plus medical therapy versus medical therapy alone
Outcomes	Not required for search
Search terms	Search terms employed in Medline Ovid: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. carotid artery injuries/ or carotid artery, internal, dissection/</li> <li>2. vertebral artery dissection/</li> <li>3. vertebral artery/in or exp neck injuries/</li> <li>4. ((carotid or vertebr\$ or cervical) adj2 arter\$ adj3 (dissect\$ or damag\$ or injur\$ or lesion\$ or laceration\$ or trauma\$ or ruptur\$ or wound)).tw.</li> <li>5. or/1-4</li> <li>6. exp carotid arteries/ or carotid artery diseases/ or carotid artery thrombosis/ or vertebral artery/</li> <li>7. (carotid\$ or vertebr\$ or cervical\$).tw.</li> <li>8. 6 or 7</li> <li>9. aneurysm, dissecting/ or aneurysm, false/ or aneurysm, ruptured/</li> <li>10. exp wounds, nonpenetrating/</li> <li>11. (traumatic adj5 (dissection or aneurysm or pseudoaneurysm)).tw.</li> <li>12. (blunt adj5 (injur\$ or trauma)).tw.</li> <li>13. dissecting aneurysm.tw.</li> <li>14. rupture, spontaneous/ or rupture/</li> <li>15. spontaneous dissection.tw.</li> <li>16. or/9-15</li> <li>17. 16 and 8</li> <li>18. 5 or 17</li> <li>19. randomized controlled trial.pt.</li> <li>20. controlled clinical trial.pt.</li> <li>21. randomized.ab.</li> <li>22. placebo.ab.</li> <li>23. randomly.ab.</li> <li>24. trial.ab.</li> <li>25. groups.ab.</li> <li>26. or/19-25</li> <li>27. 18 and 26</li> </ol>
Thesauri to be checked	MeSH for CENTRAL and Medline, and Emtree for Embase.
Databases, websites and registries	Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (Cochrane Library; latest issue) in the Cochrane Library; MEDLINE Ovid (from 1946) Embase Ongoing trials registers: US National Institutes of Health Ongoing Trials Register ClinicalTrials.gov ( <a href="http://www.clinicaltrials.gov/">www.clinicaltrials.gov/</a> ); World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Registry Platform ( <a href="http://who.int/ictrp/en/">who.int/ictrp/en/</a> ); Stroke Trials Registry ( <a href="http://www.strokecenter.org/trials/">www.strokecenter.org/trials/</a> ).
Database coverage dates	To be recorded
Dates of searches	To be recorded
Limits/filters	Stated in protocol: "All search strategies deployed will be combined with subject strategy adaptations of the highly sensitive search strategy designed by the Cochrane Collaboration for identifying randomised controlled trials and controlled clinical trials (as described in the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Chapter 6, Lefebvre 2011)." Please note that this is not possible for all search strategies.
Records retrieved from each source	To be recorded
Reference management software	Endnote X8.2 and Covidence