Appendix III – Search strategy

Database: Embase Classic+Embase <1947 to 2020 March 05>, Ovid MEDLINE(R) ALL <1946 to March 05, 2020>, EBM Reviews - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials <January 2020>

Search Strategy:

1. Frail Elderly/ (21613)
2. Frailty/ (11653)
3. frail*.tw,kw. (57182)
4. or 1 or 2 or 3 (65667)
5. Emergencies/ or emergency treatment/ (114987)
6. Emergency Service, Hospital/ (72282)
7. emergenc*.tw,kw. (908260)
8. or/5-7 (959742)
9. exp Cholecystectomy/ (83048)
10. Laparotomy/ (103812)
11. exp Intestinal Obstruction/su (30149)
12. exp Peptic Ulcer/su (27498)
13. Tissue Adhesions/su (2251)
14. exp hernia/su (73921)
15. General Surgery/ (55360)
16. Colectomy/ (49075)
17. (general surg* or unplanned surg* or unschedul* surg*).tw,kw. (43872)
18. Appendectomy/ or appendicitis/su (37763)
19. or/9-18 (458952)
20. 8 and 19 (30159)
21. ((emergenc* or urgent or expedit*) and (appendectom* or hernia* or colectom* or cholecystectom* or Laparotom* or bowel* or intestin* or ulcer* or surg* or obstruction* or rupture* or drainage*)).tw. (226027)
22. ((emergenc* or urgent or expedit*) and (appendectom* or hernia* or colectom* or cholecystectom* or Laparotom* or bowel* or intestin* or ulcer* or surg* or obstruction* or rupture* or drainage*)).kf. (1514)
23. 20 or 21 or 22 (229948)
24. 4 and 23 (852)
25. 24 use medall (278) Medline
26. 24 use cctr (31) Cochrane
27. frail elderly/ (21613)
28. frailty/ (11653)
29. frail*.tw. (54785)
30. 27 or 28 or 29 (63739)
31. emergency treatment/ (28203)
32. emergency ward/ (208978)
33. emergency medicine/ or emergency care/ or emergency/ (232746)
34. emergenc*.tw. (896464)
35. or/31-34 (1030428)
36. exp cholecystectomy/ (83048)
37. laparotomy/ (103812)
38. exp gastrointestinal obstruction/su [Surgery] (16567)
39. exp peptic ulcer/su [Surgery] (27498)
40. tissue adhesion/su [Surgery] (2417)
41. exp hernia/su [Surgery] (73921)
42. general surgery/ (55360)
43. exp colon resection/ (44952)
44. (general surg* or unplanned surg* or unschedul* surg*).tw. (42243)
45. appendectomy/ (33404)
46. exp appendicitis/su [Surgery] (16468)
47. or/36-46 (441789)
48. 35 and 47 (30428)
emergency surgery/ (25839)

((emergenc* or urgent or expedit*) and (appendectom* or hernia* or colectom* or cholecystectom* or Laparotom* or bowel* or intestin* or ulcer* or surg* or obstruction* or rupture* or drainage*).tw. (226027)

48 or 49 or 50 (241057)

30 and 51 (872)

52 use emczd (570) Embase

25 or 26 or 53 (879)

54 use medall (278)

54 use emczd (570) Embase

54 use cctr (31)

Scopus – 2020-03-06

(TITLE-ABS-KEY ( surg*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( appendectom*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( hernia*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( colectom*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( cholecystectom*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( laparotom*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( obstruction*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( peptic AND ulcer*) ) AND (( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( emergenc*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( urgent ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( expedited ))) AND ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( frail* ))

Web of Science – 2020-03-06

# 336 #4 AND #3

Indexes=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI, CPCI-S, CPCI-SSH, ESCI Timespan=All years

# 2,238, TOPIC: (surg*) OR TOPIC: (Cholecystectomy) OR TOPIC: (appendectom*) OR TOPIC: (hernia*) OR TOPIC: (obstruction*) OR TOPIC: (peptic ulcer*) OR TOPIC: (colectom*) OR TOPIC: (laparotom*) OR TOPIC: (drainage*) OR TOPIC: (rupture*)

Indexes=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI, CPCI-S, CPCI-SSH, ESCI Timespan=All years

# 1,359 #2 AND #1

Indexes=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI, CPCI-S, CPCI-SSH, ESCI Timespan=All years

# 29.25 TOPIC: (frail*)

Indexes=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI, CPCI-S, CPCI-SSH, ESCI Timespan=All years

# 647.9 TOPIC: (emergenc*) OR TOPIC: (urgent) OR TOPIC: (expedited)

Indexes=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI, CPCI-S, CPCI-SSH, ESCI Timespan=All years