Articles retrieved from English databases
PubMed (n=43)
Web of Science (n=68)
Embase (n=93)

Articles retrieved from Chinese databases
CNKI (n=41)

Total (n=245) → 86 articles removed owing to duplicate

159 articles screened → 141 articles were excluded because of obvious irrelevance by reading the titles and abstracts

18 articles assessed for eligibility → 11 articles were excluded:
6 reviews
3 articles not about FOXP3 polymorphisms
1 meeting report
1 duplicate data

7 articles were included in this meta-analysis