Full text articles excluded, n= 159

Trial registry: results included in screen (n=50)

Trial registry: trial ongoing (n=32)

Wrong patient population (n=25)

Wrong intervention (n=22)

Trial protocol: results included in screen (n=7)

Sub-study: results of trial included in screen (n=9)

Trial withdrawn/terminated (n=4)

Wrong study design (n=4)

Trial protocol: trial not completed (n=3)

Trial registry: not yet recruiting (n=2)

Commentary, not primary article (n=2)

Conference abstract: full results included in screen (n=2)

Wrong comparator (n=1)

Abstract only (n=1)

Trail completed but not published (n=1)

Neuro-

protective agents

(n= 19)

Supportive drug therapies

(n= 6)

Anti-inflammatory / antioxidants

(n= 16)

Studies included

(n=45)

Full text studies assessed for eligibility

(n=207)

Individual records screened

(n=2562)

Duplicates manually excluded

(n=49)

Total number of records identified

(n=2662)

Duplicates automatically excluded

(n=140)

Additional studies identified from trial registries, protocol papers and reference lists

(n=40)

Individual records

(n=2522)

ICTRP

(n=257)

CENTRAL

(n=205)

Embase

(n=1662)

Medline

(n=538)