

APPENDIX SI. Ovid MEDLINE search strategy: one of the updates

Key words	n
1 stroke.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	135,249
2 hemiplegia.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	11,685
3 stroke.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	135,249
4 limit 3 to yr="2008 - 2010"	29,730
5 hemiplegia.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	11,685
6 limit 5 to yr="2008 - 2010"	877
7 cerebrovascular disorders.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	42,065
8 limit 7 to yr="2008 - 2010"	1,616
9 brain ischemia.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	31,855
10 limit 9 to yr="2008 - 2010"	5,561
11 walking.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	36,567
12 limit 11 to yr="2008 - 2010"	8,889
13 gait.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	26,287
14 limit 13 to yr="2008 - 2010"	5,950
15 ambulation.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	7,225
16 limit 15 to yr="2008 - 2010"	1,143
17 physiotherapy.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	8,276
17 physiotherapy.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	8,276
18 limit 17 to yr="2008 - 2010"	1,661
19 physical therapy.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	28,180
20 limit 19 to yr="2008 - 2010"	4,242
21 exercise therapy.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	21,548
22 limit 21 to yr="2008 - 2010"	3,959
23 functional therapy.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	264
24 limit 23 to yr="2008 - 2010"	22
25 4 or 6 or 8 or 10	33,618
26 12 or 14 or 16	13,398
27 18 or 20 or 22 or 24	8,666
28 25 and 26 and 27	208
29 limit 28 to (english language and male and female and humans and ("young adult (19 to 24 years)" or "adult (19 to 44 years)" or "young adult and adult (19-24 and 19-44)" or "middle age (45 to 64 years)" or "middle aged (45 plus years)" or "all aged (65 and over)" or "aged (80 and over)"))	125
30 randomized controlled trial.mp. [mp=protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word, unique identifier]	315,369