

Online Appendix: Search Strategy

Ovid MEDLINE(R) 1946 to May Week 3 2012 # Searches Results Search Type

1 *pulmonary embolism/di 3432 Advanced

2 venous thrombosis/ or venous thromboembolism/ 18329 Advanced

3 2 and ("pe" or (pulmonary adj emboli*)).mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, unique identifier] 4704 Advanced

4 1 or 3 7817 Advanced

5 4 and (perc or (rul* adj "out")).mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, unique identifier] 206 Advanced

6 4 and (exp emergency medical services/ or triag*.mp. or emergencies.mp. or emergency medicine/) [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, unique identifier] 251 Advanced

7 4 and (decision support systems, clinical/ or diagnosis, differential/ or decision support techniques/ or diagnosis, computer assisted/ or algorithms/) 1216 Advanced

8 7 and (risk factors/ or risk assessment/) 182 Advanced

9 5 or 6 or 8 571 Advanced

10 7 and ("sensitivity and specificity"/ or validat*.mp. or probability/ or likelihood*.mp. or low.mp.) [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, protocol supplementary concept, rare disease supplementary concept, unique identifier] 367 Advanced

11 9 or 10 784 Advanced

12 limit 11 to (clinical trial, all or clinical trial, phase i or clinical trial, phase ii or clinical trial, phase iii or clinical trial, phase iv or clinical trial or comparative study or controlled clinical trial or evaluation studies or meta analysis or multicenter study or practice guideline or randomized controlled trial or "review" or validation studies) 408 Advanced

13 exp cohort studies/ 1173673 Advanced

14 case series.mp. 25278 Advanced

15 11 and (13 or 14) 242 Advanced

16 6 or 10 or 12 or 15 719 Advanced

Embase 1988 to 2012 Week 21 # Searches Results Search Type

1 *pulmonary embolism/di 6978 Advanced

2 venous thrombosis/ or venous thromboembolism/ 33324 Advanced

3 2 and ("pe" or (pulmonary adj emboli*)).mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword] 4594 Advanced

4 1 or 3 11018 Advanced

5 4 and (perc or (rul* adj "out")).mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword] 320 Advanced

6 4 and (exp emergency medical services/ or triag*.mp. or emergencies.mp. or emergency medicine/) [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword] 143 Advanced

7 4 and (decision support systems, clinical/ or diagnosis, differential/ or decision support techniques/ or diagnosis, computer assisted/ or algorithms/) 973 Advanced

8 7 and (risk factors/ or risk assessment/) 177 Advanced

9 5 or 6 or 8 603 Advanced

10 7 and ("sensitivity and specificity"/ or validat*.mp. or probability/ or likelihood*.mp. or low.mp.) [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword] 353 Advanced

11 9 or 10 816 Advanced

12 exp case control study/ or exp case study/ or exp clinical trial/ or exp intervention study/ or exp longitudinal study/ or exp major clinical study/ or exp prospective study/ or exp retrospective study/ 2422658 Advanced

13 follow up/ 571234 Advanced

14 comparative study/ or systematic review/ or meta-analysis/ or cohort*.mp. 875054 Advanced

15 11 and (12 or 13 or 14) 374 Advanced

16 11 and diagnostic accuracy/ 177 Advanced

17 15 or 16 442 Advanced

WoS/Scopus

1 966 TS=("pulmonary embolism*" AND (PERC OR "rule out" OR "clinical rule" OR "clinical predict* rule" OR "clinical probability" OR "low risk" OR "low probability" OR "no risk"))

2 217,228 TS=(ed OR emergenc* OR triage*)

3 281 #2 AND #1

SCOPUS

(TITLE-ABS-KEY(ed OR emergenc* OR triage*) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY("pulmonary embolism*" AND (perc OR "rule out" OR "clinical rule" OR "clinical predict* rule" OR "clinical probability" OR "low risk" OR "low probability" OR "no risk")))) = 243