

Records identified through database searching from inception to January 2013:

Medline 1489, EMBASE 2383, CINAHL 990, AMED 161

n=5023

Tiles and abstracts screened

n=5023

Records excluded

n=4869

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility:

Medline 92,
EMBASE 47 (+26 duplicates),
CINAHL 15 (+7 duplicates), AMED
(3 duplicates)

n=154

Full-text articles excluded

n=138 (primary reason for exclusion listed below)

Selection of clinical trials reviewed with no reference to prognosis in the abstract n=74.

RCTs or related papers in which one group of subjects received treatment other than physiotherapy and results for the physiotherapy group alone were not available n=7

Shoulder not distinct from other anatomical regions n=3

Retrospective collection of data n=13

Outcome or prognostic factors not within our protocol n=2

Other Treatment received, no or post-operative physiotherapy n=27

Prognostic factors not reported n=7

Unclear if Physiotherapist involved in treatment n=1

Predictors of baseline pain/function n=4

Controlled Studies

2 groups, different at baseline,
receive the same treatment

n=2

Aydogan 2003/4
Kim 2004

Randomised Controlled Trials

2 or more groups receive different
treatment

n=3

Conroy 1998
Engelbreton 2010
Tanaka 2012

Cohort Studies

n=11

Bhagwant 2012
Deutscher 2009
Griggs 2000
Hung 2010
Kennedy 2006
Mao 1997
Mintken 2010a&b
Ryall 2007
Tyler 2010
Virta 2009
Yang 2008