

Articles identified from electronic searches  
from inception to June 2013 (n = 2649)

Duplicates removed (n = 368)

Potentially relevant articles screened by title and abstract (n = 2281)

Articles excluded on title and abstract (n = 2211)

Papers ordered for detailed review (n = 73)

Identified from electronic search (n = 70)

Identified from manual checking of reference list (n = 3)

Articles excluded following perusal of full text (n = 64)

Not a PIC intervention, (n = 24)

No or inappropriate comparator (n = 2)

Non-included outcomes (n = 5)

Not a long term chronic or recurrent condition (n = 2)

Narrative review, letter, editorial (n = 10)

Uncontrolled study (n = 12)

Systematic review (n = 1)

Duplicates (n = 8)

Articles selected for inclusion (n = 9)