

## Additional file 2: Keywords and search string for effectiveness studies

Search question: *What characterizes interventions aimed at reducing risk of readmission in elderly patients discharged from an acute or emergency department?*

### Inclusion criteria:

P: Age 65+

I: Interventions at discharged aimed at reducing risk of readmission

C: No explicit criteria

O: Quantitatively measured between group differences assessed with validated instruments.

(c): Acute setting

### Exclusion criteria:

P: Diagnosis specific studies (one single diagnosis, e.g. stroke, dementia, cancer)

**Table S1.** Keywords used in literature search.

|                     | <b>Keyword</b>            | <b>Keyword 1</b> | <b>Keyword 2</b>       |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Population</b>   | Older (A1)*               | Elderly (A2)*    |                        |
| <b>Intervention</b> | Discharge (B1)            |                  |                        |
| <b>Comparator</b>   |                           |                  |                        |
| <b>Outcome</b>      | Readmission (C1)          | Re visit (C2)    | Rehospitalisation (C3) |
| <b>context</b>      | Emergency Department (D1) | Acute (D2)       |                        |

\*The keywords older and elderly were only used in Cochrane as no age limits exist.

**Table S2.** Search string

| <b>Database<br/>(Limits)</b> | <b>Search string</b>        | <b>Hits</b> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Embase</b>                | #1: B1                      | 5.234       |
| Age 65+                      | #2: C1 OR C2 OR C3          | 1.196       |
| Metaanalysis                 | #3: D1 OR D2                | 25.371      |
| Systematic reviews           | #4: #1 AND #2 AND #3        | 233         |
| Clinical trials              |                             |             |
| <b>Pubmed</b>                | #1: B1                      | 6.142       |
| Age 65+                      | #2: C1 OR C2 OR C3          | 1.213       |
| Clinical trials              | #3: D1 OR D2                | 40.057      |
| Reviews                      | #4: #1 AND #2 AND #3        | 200         |
| <b>Cinahl</b>                | #1: B1                      | 367         |
| Age 65+                      | #2: C1 OR C2 OR C3          | 108         |
| Clinical trials              | #3: D1 OR D2                | 1210        |
|                              | #4: #1 AND #2 AND #3        | 19          |
| <b>Cochrane</b>              | #1:A1 OR A2                 | 97.192      |
| Trials                       | #1: B1                      | 65.041      |
|                              | #2: C1 OR C2 OR C3          | 18.512      |
|                              | #3: D1 OR D2                | 3.937       |
|                              | #5: #1 AND #2 AND #3 AND #4 | 226         |