

Additional file 4: Search strategy from Web of Science database.

	Database: Web of Science Descriptors
#1	TS= (adult) OR TS=(adults) OR TS=(human) OR TS=(humans)
#2	TS=(“Transcutaneous Electric Nerve Stimulation”) OR TS=(“Electrical Stimulation, Transcutaneous”) OR TS=(“Stimulation, Transcutaneous Electrical”) OR TS=(“Transcutaneous Electrical Stimulation”) OR TS=(“Percutaneous Electric Nerve Stimulation”) OR TS=(“Transdermal Electrostimulation”) OR TS=(“Electrostimulation, Transdermal”) OR TS=(TENS) OR TS=(“Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation”) OR TS=(“Transcutaneous Nerve Stimulation”) OR TS=(“Nerve Stimulation, Transcutaneous”) OR TS=(“Stimulation, Transcutaneous Nerve”) OR TS=(“Electric Stimulation, Transcutaneous”) OR TS=(“Stimulation, Transcutaneous Electric”) OR TS=(“Transcutaneous Electric Stimulation”) OR TS=(“Percutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation”) OR TS=(“Analgesic Cutaneous Electrostimulation”) OR TS=(“Cutaneous Electrostimulation, Analgesic”) OR TS=(“Electrostimulation, Analgesic Cutaneous”) OR TS=(Electroanalgesia)
#3	TS=(“randomized controlled trial”) OR TS=(“controlled clinical trial”) OR TS=(“randomized controlled trials”) OR TS=(“random allocation”) OR TS=(“double blind method”) OR TS=(“single blind method”) OR TS=(“clinical trial”) OR TS=(“clinical trials”) OR (TS=(clinical*) AND TS=(trial*)) OR TS=(single) OR TS=(double) OR TS=(treble*) OR TS=(triple*) OR TS=(placebos) OR TS=(placebo*) OR TS=(random*) OR TS=(“research design”) OR TS=(“comparative study”) OR TS=(“evaluation studies”) OR TS=(follow-up stud*) OR TS=(prospective stud*) OR TS=(control*) OR TS=(prospectiv*) OR TS=(volunteer*) NOT TS=(animal) NOT TS=(human AND animal)
#4	TS= (Chemokines) OR TS= (“Cytokines, Chemotactic”) OR TS=(Interkrines) OR TS=(“Chemotactic Cytokines”) OR TS=(Cytokines) OR TS=(Cytokine)
#5	Search History (combine) #1 AND #2 AND #3 AND #4
#6	Limits: documents types (articles); without limitation of language or year of publication.