Supplement 2. Search strategy for PubMed

Search step	Search terms
#1	"carotid stenosis"[MeSH Terms] AND ("carotid stenosis"[MeSH Terms] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "stenosis"[All Fields]) OR "carotid stenosis"[All Fields] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "artery"[All Fields] AND "stenosis"[All Fields]) OR "carotid artery stenosis"[All Fields])
#2	"endarterectomy, carotid"[MeSH Terms] OR (("carotid artery, common"[MeSH Terms] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "artery"[All Fields] AND "common"[All Fields]) OR "common carotid artery"[All Fields] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "artery"[All Fields]) OR "carotid artery"[All Fields] OR "carotid arteries"[MeSH Terms] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "arteries"[All Fields]) OR "carotid arteries"[All Fields] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "artery"[All Fields])) AND ("surgery"[Subheading] OR "surgery"[All Fields] OR "surgical procedures, operative"[MeSH Terms] OR ("surgical"[All Fields] AND "procedures"[All Fields] AND "operative"[All Fields]) OR "operative surgical procedures"[All Fields] OR "surgery"[All Fields] OR "general surgery"[MeSH Terms] OR ("general"[All Fields] AND "surgery"[All Fields]) OR "general surgery"[All Fields]))
#3	((((("carotid artery, common"[MeSH Terms] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "artery"[All Fields] AND "common"[All Fields]) OR "common carotid artery"[All Fields] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "artery"[All Fields]) OR "carotid artery"[All Fields] OR "carotid arteries"[MeSH Terms] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "arteries"[All Fields]) OR "carotid arteries"[All Fields] OR ("carotid"[All Fields] AND "artery"[All Fields])) AND ("stents"[MeSH Terms] OR "stents"[All Fields] OR "stenting"[All Fields])) OR CAS[All Fields]) OR (("methods"[MeSH Terms] OR "methods"[All Fields] OR "interventional"[All Fields]) AND ("therapy"[Subheading] OR "therapy"[All Fields] OR "therapeutics"[MeSH Terms] OR "therapeutics"[All Fields]))) OR ("angioplasty"[MeSH Terms] OR

	"angioplasty"[All Fields])) OR (endovascular[All Fields] AND ("therapy"[Subheading] OR "therapy"[All Fields] OR "therapeutics"[MeSH Terms] OR "therapeutics"[All Fields]))
#4	((("drug therapy"[MeSH Terms] OR "aspirin"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("clopidogrel"[MeSH Terms] OR "clopidogrel"[All Fields])) OR ("drug therapy"[MeSH Terms] OR ("drug"[All Fields] AND "therapy"[All Fields]) OR "drug therapy"[All Fields] OR ("medication"[All Fields] AND "therapy"[All Fields]) OR "medication therapy"[All Fields])) OR (medical[All Fields] AND ("therapy"[Subheading] OR "therapy"[All Fields] OR "therapeutics"[MeSH Terms] OR "therapeutics"[All Fields]))
#5	#1 AND #2 AND #3 AND #4
#6	#1 AND (#1 OR #2)
#7	#1 AND (#2 OR #3)
#8	#1 AND (#1 OR #3)
#9	Filters: Publication date from 2000/01/01; English
#10	(#5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8) AND #9