

## **Appendix 2. Search strategies**

We searched the Embase, Medline, EMBASE, Cochrane Library and *clinicaltrials.gov* by the end of March 2017. We provided below the search strategies of the five database.

### **Embase search strategy**

1. exp Central retinal vein occlusion/
2. exp Central vein occlusion/
3. exp Retinal vein occlusion/
4. exp Retinal vein/
5. ((vein\$ or occlu\$ or obstruct\$ or clos\$ or stricture\$ or steno\$ or block\$ or embolism\$) adj3 retina\$).tw.
6. (CRVO or CVO or RVO or VO).tw.
7. or/1-6
8. exp retina macula edema/
9. exp cystoid/
10. (macula\$ adj3 oedema).tw.
11. (macula\$ adj3 edema).tw.
12. (CME or CMO).tw.
13. or/8-12
14. exp Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors/
15. exp Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors/

16. exp anti-VEGF Agents/
17. exp Endothelial Growth Factors/
18. exp Angiogenesis Inducing Agents/
19. exp Angiogenesis Inhibitors/
20. (macugen\$ or pegaptanib\$ or lucentis\$ or rhufab\$ or ranibizumab\$ or bevacizumab\$ or vastin or aflibercept\$ or Eylea or VEGF-Trap).tw.
21. (anti adj2 VEGF\$).tw.
22. (endothelial adj2 growth adj2 factor\$).tw.
23. or/14-22
24. exp corticosteroids/
25. exp Glucocorticoid/
26. exp Steroids/
27. (dexamethasone\$ or Ozurdex or triamcinolone\$).tw.
28. or/24-27
29. exp randomized controlled trial/
30. exp controlled clinical trial/
31. exp randomized/
32. exp randomized/
33. or/29-32
34. exp Sham/
35. or/23, 28, 33, 34
36. 7 and 13 and 35

## **CENTRAL search strategy**

#1 MeSH descriptor Central Retinal Vein Occlusion

#2 MeSH descriptor Central Vein Occlusion

#3 MeSH descriptor Retinal Vein Occlusion

#4 MeSH descriptor Retinal Vein

#5 retina\* near/3 (vein\* or occlu\* or obstruct\* or clos\* or stricture\* or  
steno\* or block\* or embolism\*)

#6 CRVO or CVO or RVO or RV

#7 (#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6)

#8 MeSH descriptor Macular Edema

#9 MeSH descriptor Edema Oedema

#10 macula\* near/3 oedema

#11 macula\* near/3 edema

#12 CME or CMO

#13 (#8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12)

#14 MeSH descriptor Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors

#15 MeSH descriptor Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors

#16 MeSH descriptor anti-VEGF Agents

#17 MeSH descriptor Endothelial Growth Factors

#18 MeSH descriptor Angiogenesis Inducing Agents

#19 MeSH descriptor Angiogenesis Inhibitors

#20 macugen\* or pegaptanib\* or lucentis\* or rhufab\* or ranibizumab\* or  
bevacizumab\* or vistin or aflibercept\* or Eylea or VEGF-Trap

#21 anti near/2 VEGF\*

#22 endothelial near/2 growth near/2 factor\*

#23 (#14 OR #15 OR #16 OR #17 OR #18 OR #19 OR #20 OR #21 OR  
#22)

#24 MeSH descriptor corticosteroids

#25 MeSH descriptor Glucocorticoid

#26 MeSH descriptor Steroids

#27 dexamethasone\* or Ozurdex or triamcinolone\*

#28 (#24 OR #25 OR #26 OR #27)

#29 MeSH descriptor randomized controlled trial

#30 MeSH descriptor controlled clinical trial

#31 MeSH descriptor randomized

#32 MeSH descriptor randomised

#33 (#29 OR #30 OR #31 OR #32)

#34 Sham injection

#35 (#23 OR #28 OR #33 OR #34)

#36 (#7 AND #13 AND #35)

## **MEDLINE search strategy**

1. exp Central retinal vein occlusion/

2. exp Central vein occlusion/
3. exp Retinal vein occlusion/
4. exp Retinal vein/
5. ((vein\$ or occlu\$ or obstruct\$ or clos\$ or stricture\$ or steno\$ or block\$ or embolism\$) adj3 retina\$).tw.
6. (CRVO or CVO or RVO or VO).tw.
7. or/1-6
8. exp retina macula edema/
9. exp cystoid/
10. (macula\$ adj3 oedema).tw.
11. (macula\$ adj3 edema).tw.
12. (CME or CMO).tw.
13. or/8-12
14. exp Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors/
15. exp Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors/
16. exp anti-VEGF Agents/
17. exp Endothelial Growth Factors/
18. exp Angiogenesis Inducing Agents/
19. exp Angiogenesis Inhibitors/
20. (macugen\$ or pegaptanib\$ or lucentis\$ or rhufab\$ or ranibizumab\$ or bevacizumab\$ or vastin or aflibercept\$ or Eylea or VEGF-Trap).tw.
21. (anti adj2 VEGF\$).tw.

22. (endothelial adj2 growth adj2 factor\$).tw.
23. or/14-22
24. exp corticosteroids/
25. exp Glucocorticoid/
26. exp Steroids/
27. (dexamethasone\$ or Ozurdex or triamcinolone\$).tw.
28. or/24-27
29. randomized controlled trial.pt
30. controlled clinical trial.pt
31. randomized.ab,ti
32. randomized/ab.ti
33. or/29-32
34. exp Sham/
35. or/23, 28, 33, 34
36. 7 and 13 and 35

### **Cochrane Library search strategy**

- #1 MeSH descriptor: [Central Retinal Vein Occlusion] explode all trees
- #2 MeSH descriptor: [Central Vein Occlusion] explode all trees
- #3 MeSH descriptor: [Retinal Vein Occlusion] explode all trees
- #4 MeSH descriptor: [Retinal Vein] explode all trees
- #5 (retina\* near/3 (vein\* or occlu\* or obstruct\* or clos\* or stricture\* or

steno\* or block\* or embolism\*))

#6 MeSH descriptor: [CRVO or CVO or RVO or RV] explode all trees

#7 {or #1-#6}

#8 MeSH descriptor: [Macular Edema] explode all trees

#9 MeSH descriptor: [Edema Oedema] explode all trees

#10 (macula\* near/3 oedema)

#11 (macula\* near/3 edema)

#12 (CME or CMO)

#13 {or #8-#12}

#14 MeSH descriptor: [Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors] explode  
all trees

#15 MeSH descriptor: [Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors] explode all  
trees

#16 MeSH descriptor: [anti-VEGF Agents] explode all trees

#17 MeSH descriptor: [Endothelial Growth Factors] explode all trees

#18 MeSH descriptor: [Angiogenesis Inducing Agents] explode all trees

#19 MeSH descriptor: [Angiogenesis Inhibitors] explode all trees

#20 macugen\*

#21 pegaptanib\*

#22 lucentis\*

#23 rhufab\*

#24 ranibizumab\*

#25 bevacizumab\*

#26 vastin

#27 aflibercept\*

#28 Eylea

#29 VEGF-Trap

#30 (anti near/2 VEGF\*)

#31 (endothelial) near/2 (factor\*)

#32 {or #14-#31}

#33 MeSH descriptor: [corticosteroids] explode all trees

#34 MeSH descriptor: [Glucocorticoid] explode all trees

#35 MeSH descriptor: [Steroids] explode all trees

#36 (dexamethasone\* or Ozurdex or triamcinolone\*)

#37 {or #33-#36}

#38 MeSH descriptor: [randomized controlled trial] explode all trees

#39 MeSH descriptor: [controlled clinical trial] explode all trees

#40 MeSH descriptor: [randomized] explode all trees

#41 MeSH descriptor: [randomised] explode all trees

#42 {or #38-#41}

#43 MeSH descriptor: [Sham] explode all trees

#44 #32 or #37 or #42 or #43

#45 #7 AND #13 AND #44



### **ClinicalTrials.gov search strategy**

(Angiogenesis or Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors or Anti-VEGF or pegaptanib or lucentis or rhufab or ranibizumab or bevacizumab or vastin or aflibercept or Eylea or VEGF-Trap) OR (Steroids or dexamethasone or Ozurdex or triamcinolone ) AND (Macula Oedema or Macula Edema) AND (Central retinal vein occlusion or Retinal vein occlusion)