# Appendix 1: Search strategy

## MEDLINE

## 1 Menisci, Tibial/

## 2 (tear\* adj3 medial\*).ti,ab.

## 3 (menisc\* adj3 tear\*).ti,ab.

## 4 (menisc\* adj3 injur\*).ti,ab.

## 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4

## 6 Arthroscopy/

## 7 arthroscop\*.ti,ab.

## 8 meniscectom\*.mp.

## 9 6 or 7 or 8

## 10 (random$ or placebo$ or single blind$ or double blind$ or triple blind$).ti,ab.

## 11 Randomized controlled trial.pt.

## 12 Controlled clinical trial.pt.

## 13 Clinical trials as topic/

## 14 trial.ti.

## 15 Comparative Study/

## 16 cohort\*.ti,ab.

## 17 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16

## 18 5 and 9 and 17

## Embase

1 knee meniscus/

2 (tear\* adj3 medial\*).ti,ab.

3 (menisc\* adj3 tear\*).ti,ab.

4 (menisc\* adj3 injur\*).ti,ab.

5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4

6 Arthroscopy/

7 arthroscop\*.ti,ab.

8 meniscectom\*.mp.

9 8 or 6 or 7

10 exp Randomized Controlled Trial/ or exp Single Blind Procedure/ or exp Double Blind Procedure/ or Crossover Procedure/

11 (random\* or RCT or placebo or allocat\* or crossover\* or 'cross over' or trial or (doubl\* adj1 blind\*) or (singl\* adj1 blind\*)).ti,ab.

12 Comparative Study/

13 cohort\*.ti,ab.

14 10 or 11 or 12 or 13

15 5 and 9 and 14

## CENTRAL

1 MeSH descriptor: [Menisci, Tibial] this term only
2 menisc\*:ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)
3 knee or tibia\* (Word variations have been searched)
4 2 and 3
5 1 or 4
6 MeSH descriptor: [Sprains and Strains] this term only
7 MeSH descriptor: [Athletic Injuries] this term only
8 MeSH descriptor: [Knee Injuries] this term only
9 tear\* or injur\* or lesion\*:ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)
10 Any MeSH descriptor with qualifier(s): [Injuries - IN, Surgery - SU]
11 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10
12 5 and 11

## Scopus

1 ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( tear\* W/3 medial\* ) ) OR ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( menisc\* W/3 tear\* ) ) OR ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( menisc\* W/3 injur\* ) ) ) AND ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( arthroscop\* OR meniscectom\* ) ) AND ( ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( ( random\* OR rct OR placebo OR allocat\* OR crossover\* OR "cross over" OR trial OR ( doubl\* W/1 blind\* ) OR ( singl\* W/1 blind\* ) ) ) ) OR ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( control\* W/1 trial\* ) ) OR ( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( cohort\* ) ) )

## Web of Science Core Collection

1 TOPIC: (tear\* near/3 medial\*) OR TITLE: (tear\* near/3 medial\*)

2 TOPIC: (menisc\* near/3 tear\*) OR TITLE: (menisc\* near/3 tear\*)

3 TOPIC: (menisc\* near/3 injur\*) OR TITLE: (menisc\* near/3 injur\*)

4 OR/1-3

5 TOPIC: (arthroscop\* OR meniscectom\*) OR TITLE: (arthroscop\* OR meniscectom\*)

6 TOPIC: (random\* OR rct OR placebo OR allocat\* OR crossover\* OR "cross over" OR trial OR (doubl\* near/1 blind\*) OR (singl\* near/1 blind\*)) OR TITLE: (random\* OR rct OR placebo OR allocat\* OR crossover\* OR "cross over" OR trial OR (doubl\* near/1 blind\*) OR (singl\* near/1 blind\*))

7 TOPIC: (control\* near/1 trial\*) OR TITLE: (control\* near/1 trial\*)

8 TOPIC: (cohort\*) OR TITLE: (cohort\*)

9 OR/6-8

10 4 AND 5 AND 9