

### Appendix 1: Search strategy for relevant articles on the diagnosis of dementia\*

Initially, 1591 articles on all aspects of dementia diagnosis were identified. After 496 were rejected as clearly irrelevant, 1095 were scrutinized by 2 reviewers, and 620 of these were deemed to be of “good” or “fair” quality. This preliminary list of articles was submitted to the contributing authors, each of whom then performed further topic-specific searches.

For each topic-specific search, the following terms were used to search the MEDLINE and EMBASE databases:

- **Clinical:** dementia; clinical diagnosis; diagnostic criteria; other dementias; fronto-temporal dementia; cortico-basal degeneration; vascular dementia; Creutzfeldt-Jakob; normal pressure hydrocephalus
- **Laboratory:** dementia; elderly; cognition; vitamin B<sub>12</sub>; vitamin B<sub>12</sub> treatment; homocysteine; homocysteine treatment; folic acid fortification
- **Neuroimaging:** dementia; mild cognitive impairment; MRI or magnetic resonance imaging; CT or computed tomography; PET or positron emission tomography; SPECT or single photon emission computed tomography; fMRI or functional magnetic resonance imaging; MRS or magnetic resonance spectroscopy
- **Neuropsychology:** dementia; Alzheimer’s disease; mild cognitive impairment; diagnosis; cognitive tests; screening tests; neuropsychological tests
- **Biomarkers:** Alzheimer’s disease; biological markers; biomarkers

All empirical studies rated as “good” or “fair” that were published from January 1996 to February 2006 were included in the evidence review for each topic. Where necessary, older studies, review papers and position papers were consulted as well. Also, conference presentations, personal communications of unpublished results and ongoing research were reviewed when applicable.

\*The literature search was used to generate evidence on which the recommendations from the Third Canadian Consensus Conference on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Dementia were based.