

---

## **e-Appendix 1: Database search strategies**

---

For searches conducted in EMBASE, MEDLINE, HealthSTAR, CINAHL and BIOETHICSLINE, all search terms were subject headings unless otherwise stated. The \* indicates the term was restricted in focus and "exp" indicates the subject heading was "exploded." In Wilson Business Abstracts, EconLit, Cochrane Library and Dissertation Abstracts Ondisc, the \* is a wildcard to search for terms that begin with the given string. In ABI/Inform and NTIS the ? is the wildcard.

EMBASE (1980–Week 24 2001) search strategy: Search 1 (profit or nonprofit or privatisation or privatization or investor [keywords in title]); Search 2 \*profit/ or (ownership or profits or investors [keywords in title]) or non profit hospital/ or non profit organization/ or private hospital/ AND health care cost/ or health care financing/ or exp hospital cost/ or managed care/ or exp health maintenance organization/ or exp managed care organization/ or health care management/ or hospital management/ or health care organization/ or health care industry/ or health maintenance organization/ or managed care organization/ or exp health care system/ or health care quality/ or public health/ or health care planning/ or health care facility/ or health economics/ or treatment outcome/ or treatment failure/ or health care delivery/ or exp health care system/; Search 3 profit/ AND \*health care cost/ or \*health care financing/ or exp \*hospital cost/ or \*managed care/ or exp \*health maintenance organization/ or exp \*managed care organization/ or \*health care management/ or \*hospital management/ or \*health care organization/ or \*health care industry/ or \*health maintenance organization/ or \*managed care organization/ or exp \*health care system/ or \*health care quality/ or \*public health/ or \*health care planning/ or \*health care facility/ or \*health economics/ or \*treatment outcome/ or \*treatment failure/ or \*health care delivery/ or exp \*health care system/

MEDLINE (1966–June Week 4 2001) Database: HealthSTAR/Ovid Healthstar (1975–June 2001) search strategy: Search 1 exp Health Facilities, Proprietary/ or hospitals proprietary/ AND Hospitals, Voluntary/; Search 2 ownership/ or renal dialysis/ or (profit: or nonprofit: [keywords in title]) AND exp health facilities proprietary/ or hospitals voluntary/ or hospitals private/ OR privatization AND (ownership/ or renal dialysis/ or (profit: or nonprofit: [keywords in title]) or (exp health facilities proprietary/ or hospitals voluntary/ or hospitals private/)) OR renal dialysis/ AND (ownership/ or (profit: or nonprofit: [keywords in title]) OR (exp Health Facilities, Proprietary/ or private hospitals/ or hospitals voluntary/ or ownership/ or (profit: or nonprofit: [keywords in title]) or Privatization/)) AND ("Outcome Assessment (Health Care)" or Quality of Health Care/ or treatment outcome/ or Quality Assurance, Health Care/ or hospital costs/ or Uncompensated Care/ or exp \*"Costs and Cost Analysis"/ ) Search 2 is limited to subheadings: economics, organization & administration, or standards. HealthSTAR search results excluded MEDLINE references.

CINAHL (1982–Aug. Week 4 2001) search strategy: exp Organizations, for profit/ or exp Organizations, Nonprofit/ or exp private sector/ or (profit: or ownership or nonprofit: or privatization: or investor: [keywords in title]) AND exp \*quality assurance/ or exp \*quality of health care/ or exp \*hospitals/ or \*"Economic and Social Security"/ or \*economic competition/ or \*national health programs/ or exp \*health care delivery/ or exp \*"Outcomes (Health Care)" or \*"costs and cost analysis"/ or \*Health Care Industry/ or (\*dialysis/ or \*dialysis patients/ or \*hemodialysis/ ) or \*dialysis/ or \*dialysis patients/ or \*hemodialysis/ or \*Health Care

## Industry/

BIOETHICSLINE (1973–Dec. 2000) CLOSED FILE search strategy: Search 1 (ownership or profits or investors or profit or nonprofit) [keywords in title]; Search 2 exp \*hospitals proprietary or exp \*health facilities, proprietary or (privatization [keyword]) AND exp \*delivery of health care/ or exp \*quality of health care/ or \*economics/ or \*private sector/

Wilson Business Abstracts (Jan. 1997–July 2001) search strategy: (profit\* or nonprofit\* or ownership or private or privatisation or privatization) [keywords in title] AND healthcare or health or hospital\* or dialysis or surgical or surgery or clinic\* or medical [keywords in title or subject] OR (nonprofit hospitals not taxation) [keywords in subject]

EconLit (1969–Aug. 2001) search strategy: (profit\* or nonprofit\* or ownership or privatization or privatisation) [keywords in title] AND (healthcare or health or hospital\* or dialysis or surgical or surgery or clinic\* or medical) [keywords in title or subject]

Cochrane Library (2001, issue 3) search strategy: (profit\* or nonprofit\* or private or ownership or privatization or privatisation) [keywords in title]

Dissertation Abstracts Ondisc (1861–June 2001) search strategy: (private or privatization or privatisation or profit\* or nonprofit\* or ownership) [keywords in title] AND (hospitals or hospital or health or healthcare or dialysis or clinic\* or surgery or surgical or medical)

ABI/Inform (1970–Oct. 2001) search strategy: Search 1 (private or privatization or privatisation or profit? or nonprofit? or ownership or investors) [keywords in title] AND (hospitals or hospital or health or healthcare or health service? or dialysis or surgery) [keywords anywhere]; Search 2 nonprofit hospitals [subject]

NTIS (National Technical Information Service) (1964–Jan. Week 3 2002) search strategy: (private or privatization or privatisation or profit? or nonprofit? [keywords in title] AND (hospitals or hospital or private health or health care or healthcare or health service? or dialysis or surgery or surgical or for profit health or non profit health)[keywords in title] NOT health insurance [keyword in title]

---