

Appendix 3 (as supplied by authors). Additional analyses

Table A3-1. Performance of physician searches aided by eight search filter combinations when compared to primary studies referenced in UpToDate (“highly relevant” primary studies)

Clinical Queries Therapy Filter		Nephrology Filter		Search Performance		Difference in performance between filtered and non-filtered searches*	
<i>Broad</i>	<i>Narrow</i>	<i>Broad</i>	<i>Narrow</i>	<i>E: Efficiency^a</i> <i>C: Comprehensiveness^b</i>	<i>Mean %</i>	<i>Mean % (99% CI)</i>	<i>p-value</i>
<i>No filter (physician-provided searches)</i>				E	2.9		
				C	57.0		
x				E	2.6	-0.3 (-2.4 to 1.9)	0.694
				C	56.8	-0.2 (-1.4 to 1.1)	0.655
	x			E	13.0	10.1 (4.7 to 15.5)	0.000
				C	49.7	-7.3 (-14.0 to -0.6)	0.001
		x		E	2.3	-0.6 (-1.2 to 0.0)	0.004
				C	63.7	6.7 (-1.2 to 14.6)	0.011
			x	E	2.6	-0.3 (-0.8 to 0.3)	0.103
				C	62.3	5.3 (-2.9 to 13.6)	0.050
x		x		E	2.0	-0.9 (-3.1 to 1.2)	0.186
				C	63.5	6.5 (-1.4 to 14.5)	0.014
x			x	E	2.4	-0.5 (-2.7 to 1.6)	0.440
				C	62.2	5.2 (-3.1 to 13.4)	0.059
	x	x		E	10.8	7.9 (3.0 to 12.8)	0.000
				C	56.6	-0.4 (-10.7 to 9.9)	0.907
	x		x	E	12.0	9.1 (3.7 to 14.6)	0.000
				C	55.5	-1.4 (-11.9 to 9.0)	0.674

*Bonferroni-adjusted alpha=0.003; CI: Confidence Interval

^aEfficiency is defined as the proportion of articles retrieved by the search query that are relevant to the search question (also known as search precision or positive predictive value) (Table 1).

^bComprehensiveness is defined as the proportion of all relevant articles that are retrieved by the search query (also known as search recall or sensitivity) (Table 1).

Table A3-2. Performance of physician searches aided by eight search filter combinations when compared to the “highly-cited” primary studies

Clinical Queries Therapy Filter		Nephrology Filter		Search Performance		Difference in performance between filtered and non-filtered searches*	
Broad	Narrow	Broad	Narrow	E: Efficiency ^a C: Comprehensiveness ^b	Mean %	Mean % (99% CI)	p-value
No filter (physician-provided searches)				E	4.1		
				C	44.7		
x				E	4.2	0.1 (-1.2 to 1.3)	0.895
				C	44.3	-0.4 (-2.6 to 1.7)	0.555
	x			E	15.6	11.5 (6.1 to 16.8)	0.000
				C	37.8	-6.9 (-12.4 to -1.3)	0.000
		x		E	3.5	-0.6 (-1.7 to 0.6)	0.119
				C	53.9	9.2 (2.0 to 16.4)	0.000
			x	E	4.4	0.3 (-1.6 to 2.2)	0.611
				C	52.2	7.5 (0.6 to 14.4)	0.001
x		x		E	3.4	-0.7 (-1.9 to 0.6)	0.109
				C	53.8	9.1 (1.2 to 17.0)	0.001
x			x	E	4.4	0.3 (-1.7 to 2.3)	0.648
				C	52.1	7.4 (-0.3 to 15.0)	0.004
	x	x		E	13.9	9.8 (4.9 to 14.7)	0.000
				C	46.8	2.1 (-7.1 to 11.4)	0.483
	x		x	E	15.1	11.0 (5.9 to 16.0)	0.000
				C	45.2	0.5 (-8.5 to 9.5)	0.863

*Bonferroni-adjusted alpha=0.003; CI: Confidence Interval

^aEfficiency is defined as the proportion of articles retrieved by the search query that are relevant to the search question (also known as search precision or positive predictive value) (Table 1).

^bComprehensiveness is defined as the proportion of all relevant articles that are retrieved by the search query (also known as search recall or sensitivity) (Table 1).