

## **Appendix 2 (as supplied by the authors): Details of literature search**

Our previous literature search in OVID was on June 17, 2009: MEDLINE (1950 to week 2, June 2009), Embase (1980 to week 24, 2009) and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (second quarter 2009). We updated our literature search using the following search strategy.

### **MEDLINE (Jun 2009 – Aug 2013)**

1. (pron\$ adj4 position\$).mp.
2. exp Acute Lung Injury/
3. Respiratory Distress Syndrome, Adult/
4. exp Respiration, Artificial/
5. 2 or 3 or 4
6. 1 and 5
7. clinical trial.mp. or clinical trial.pt. or random:.mp. or tu.xs.
8. 6 and 7

### **Embase (2009 – current)**

1. (pron\$ adj4 position\$).mp.
2. exp adult respiratory distress syndrome/
3. exp artificial ventilation/
4. 2 or 3
5. 1 and 4
6. random:.tw. or clinical trial:.mp. or exp health care quality/
7. 5 and 6

### **Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (2009 – current)**

1. (pron\$ adj4 position\$).mp.

MEDLINE – 103 records

EMBASE – 130 records

CENTRAL – 5 records

Notes: '\$' retrieves unlimited suffix variations. The .mp. extension includes the title, original title and abstract fields in all databases, in addition to the subject heading of "prone position" in MEDLINE. Filters for MEDLINE<sup>1</sup> (line 7) and Embase<sup>2</sup> (line 6) are based on published strategies for retrieving randomized trials.

## **References**

1. Haynes RB, McKibbin KA, Wilczynski NL, et al. Optimal search strategies for retrieving scientifically strong studies of treatment from MEDLINE: analytical survey. *BMJ* 2005;330:1179.
2. Wong SS, Wilczynski NL, Haynes RB. Developing optimal search strategies for detecting clinically sound treatment studies in EMBASE. *J Med Libr Assoc* 2006;94:41-7.