



## Narrative search request

A search with a wide scope but a non-standardised methodology. This is suitable for scoping research, answering more complex clinical queries, and supporting developments in services, or guidelines and protocols.

<b>Requester's name*</b>	
<b>Email address*</b>	
<b>RCS Membership number*</b>	
<b>Reason for search request*</b> (please select only the most relevant option if possible)	<input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Patient care <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge sharing (publication/presentation) <input type="checkbox"/> Guideline development <input type="checkbox"/> Service planning <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing professional development <input type="checkbox"/> General research
<b>Where did you hear about the literature search service?*</b>	
<b>Title of search*</b>	
<b>Population</b> age group, condition, disease or treatment stage, etc.	
<b>Intervention</b> please include as much detail as possible	
<b>Comparators</b> where appropriate	
<b>Outcomes</b> where appropriate	
<b>Exclusion criteria</b> e.g. non-English language	

papers, no animal/cadaveric studies	
<b>Search period</b> e.g. last ten years	
<b>Types of studies to be included</b> e.g. systematic reviews, RCTs, observational studies, etc.	
<b>Suggested databases and sources to be searched</b> we search Medline and Embase as standard but can also include Cochrane	
<b>Do you require us to search grey literature?</b> if this is required please specify likely sources e.g. specialty association websites, grey literature databases, etc.	
<b>Supporting information</b> research question, context, suggested search terms, etc.	
<b>Requirements for results format*</b> select as many as applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> Word document <input type="checkbox"/> PDF <input type="checkbox"/> Reference manager (.ris) file for use with citation management software please also specify the software you will be using:
<b>Suggested deadline for results*</b> usual turnaround time is two weeks	
<b>Disclaimer: Any results sets with over 250 references will need to be sent as a reference manager (.ris) file as they will be too large to export into a document.</b>	

Please save this editable PDF to your own device *before* you edit and e-mail to [library@rcseng.ac.uk](mailto:library@rcseng.ac.uk) once completed.

**We will acknowledge receipt of your request within two business days and suggest a delivery date for our search results.** Our search results will include links to full text articles where covered by RCS e-journal subscriptions and accessible to you with your RCS login.

**What we do with your information:**

The information you have given on this form will be held by the Library and Archives Department of the Royal College of Surgeons of England on a compartmented secure server for four years in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and will be used only in connection with the purposes that you originally contacted us for. The information is kept by The Royal College of Surgeons of England and will be available to all members of staff within the same department, and will not be shared throughout the wider organisation unless instructed otherwise. Should you wish to find out more about how we handle your information, or to discuss other services provided by the Royal College of Surgeons of England, please contact [library@rcseng.ac.uk](mailto:library@rcseng.ac.uk)