

# EULAR recommendations for cardiovascular risk management in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, including systemic lupus erythematosus and antiphospholipid syndrome

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## ABSTRACT

**Objective** To develop recommendations for cardiovascular risk (CVR) management in gout, vasculitis, systemic sclerosis (SSc), myositis, mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD), Sjögren's syndrome (SS), systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and antiphospholipid syndrome (APS).

**Methods** Following European League against Rheumatism (EULAR) standardised procedures, a multidisciplinary task force formulated recommendations for CVR prediction and management based on systematic literature reviews and expert opinion.

**Results** Four overarching principles emphasising the need of regular screening and management of modifiable CVR factors and patient education were endorsed. Nineteen recommendations (eleven for gout, vasculitis, SSc, MCTD, myositis, SS; eight for SLE, APS) were developed covering three topics: (1) CVR prediction tools; (2) interventions on traditional CVR factors and (3) interventions on disease-related CVR factors. Several statements relied on expert opinion because high-quality evidence was lacking. Use of generic CVR prediction tools is recommended due to lack of validated rheumatic diseases-specific tools. Diuretics should be avoided in gout and beta-blockers in SSc, and a blood pressure target <130/80 mm Hg should be considered in SLE. Lipid management should follow general population guidelines, and antiplatelet use in SLE, APS and large-vessel vasculitis should follow prior EULAR recommendations. A serum uric acid level <0.36 mmol/L (<6 mg/dL) in gout, and disease activity control and glucocorticoid dose minimisation in SLE and vasculitis, are recommended. Hydroxychloroquine is recommended in SLE because it may also reduce CVR, while no particular immunosuppressive treatment in SLE or urate-lowering therapy in gout has been associated with CVR lowering.

**Conclusion** These recommendations can guide clinical practice and future research for improving CVR management in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.

## INTRODUCTION

Patients with inflammatory rheumatic diseases have an increased risk of cardiovascular disease,<sup>1</sup> in comparison to the general population, which prompted the development (2010) and update (2015/16) of European League against Rheumatism (EULAR) recommendations for cardiovascular risk (CVR) management in patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), ankylosing spondylitis and psoriatic arthritis.<sup>2</sup> Accumulating evidence has shown elevated cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in other rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs) including gout, vasculitis, systemic sclerosis (SSc), myositis, mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD), Sjögren's syndrome (SS), systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and the antiphospholipid syndrome (APS).<sup>3–13</sup> Estimations of the incidence of cardiovascular events vary among the different disease groups (Supplementary systematic literature review (SLR) report, section II).

The higher CVR in patients with rheumatic diseases is not sufficiently explained by differences in the prevalence of traditional CVR factors,<sup>14–18</sup> suggesting that specific treatment recommendations tailored to patients with these conditions are needed. Chronic inflammation has been considered a key feature in cardiovascular disease pathogenesis in RMDs,<sup>19</sup> demonstrated also in the general population by associations with serum C-reactive protein (CRP) levels<sup>20–21</sup> and the efficacy of medications targeting inflammatory pathways,<sup>22–24</sup> while new links between inflammation, immunity and cardiometabolic factors are being researched.<sup>25</sup> Furthermore, patients with RMDs are often exposed to immunomodulators and glucocorticoids. Although better control of inflammation may reduce CVR in individual patients,<sup>23–24</sup> it is not known if some side effects of these medications might outweigh any anti-inflammatory benefit, thereby increasing the CVR.

## Recommendation

Therefore, a EULAR Task Force was formed to develop recommendations for the management of CVR in patients with SLE, APS, gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS based on an evidence-based approach and experts' consensus.

### METHODS

#### Task force

Two convenors (MTN and MGT) guided the task force together with two methodologists (GJM and MMW) and four fellows (DV, GCD, EH and LB), responsible for the SLRs. Furthermore, the task force included 20 members from 11 European countries: 12 rheumatologists, 2 cardiologists, 1 metabolic medicine physician, 1 healthcare professional, 2 patient representatives and 2 EMerging EULAR NETwork members (KS and SS). The process followed the updated EULAR standardised operating procedures<sup>26</sup> and the Appraisal of Guidelines for Research and Evaluation II instrument.<sup>27</sup>

At the initial task force meeting, a first set of research questions, prepared by the convenors, was discussed with the panel and formulated on four major topics: use of cardiovascular prediction tools; interventions targeting traditional CVR factors; interventions targeting disease-related CVR factors and prevalence/incidence of cardiovascular disease. Thereafter, final research questions were developed using the PICO format (P, population; I, intervention; C, comparator; O, outcomes).

#### Collection of evidence

A comprehensive SLR was performed by two groups working in parallel: the gout, vasculitis, SSc/myositis/MCTD/SS group (convenor: MTN; methodologist: GJM; fellows: DV, EH and LB), and the SLE and APS group (convenor: MGT; methodologist: MMW; fellow: GCD). The protocol for the literature search was based on the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses statement.<sup>28</sup> Search terms were developed with the help of experienced librarians of the VU Amsterdam, Northwest Clinics Alkmaar (for gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS SLRs) and the National Institutes of Health, USA (for SLE and APS SLRs). PubMed, Embase and the Cochrane Library were searched for full-length English-language published articles from their inception to March 2020, while searches for incidence and prevalence of cardiovascular events were extended up to November 2020. Exclusion criteria and the search terms for each disease separately are presented in the Supplementary SLR report (section IA). The outcome was cardiovascular events rather than surrogate markers of cardiovascular disease.

Data abstraction is described in Supplementary SLR report (section IB). Retrieved studies were screened by title and abstract and articles selected for full text review were then examined independently by two persons for each group (DV, EH, LB, MN, CM, and GCD, MGT and MMW) with consultation of other task force members. A number of individually searched articles (one for gout,<sup>29</sup> three for SLE/APS<sup>30–32</sup> published after the initial search periods were included due to their importance. Data extraction was performed by the fellows (DV, EH and LB) and CM under supervision of MN and GJM in the gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS group, and by GCD, MGT and MMW in the SLE and APS group. Quality assessment was performed using the Cochrane risk-of-bias tool<sup>33</sup> for randomised clinical trials and the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale<sup>34</sup> for observational studies. Formal pooling and meta-analysis of risks could not be performed due to the diversity of outcomes, exposures and measures of association reported in the primary studies.

Evidence summaries and draft recommendations were formulated for review by all task force members before the second meeting.

#### Consensus on statements

The virtual second task force meeting included the presentation of SLR results and discussion and editing of the first draft of recommendations. Recommendations were accepted when  $\geq 75\%$  of the task force members voted agreement. After additional discussions on wording changes and voting on text, a final set of recommendations and overarching principles was prepared, including the level of evidence (LoE) and grade of recommendation (GoR) according to the Oxford Centre for Evidence Based Medicine system.<sup>35</sup> All task force members indicated their level of agreement (LoA) for each recommendation (0, no agreement at all; 10, full agreement), and results were averaged. The manuscript was reviewed and approved by all task force members and the EULAR Executive Committee before submission.

### RESULTS

For gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS, 105 articles were included in the SLR, while for SLE and APS, 75 articles were included (figures 1 and 2). SLR results including the flow chart and evidence tables for each PICO are presented in Supplementary SLR report (section II); all articles included in the SLRs are shown in section III.

#### Overarching principles

The task force developed four overarching principles emphasising the need for increased awareness of elevated CVR in RMDs, regular CVR screening, assessment and management of modifiable CVR factors, and patient education about CVR, treatment adherence and lifestyle changes (table 1).

#### Recommendations

Gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS

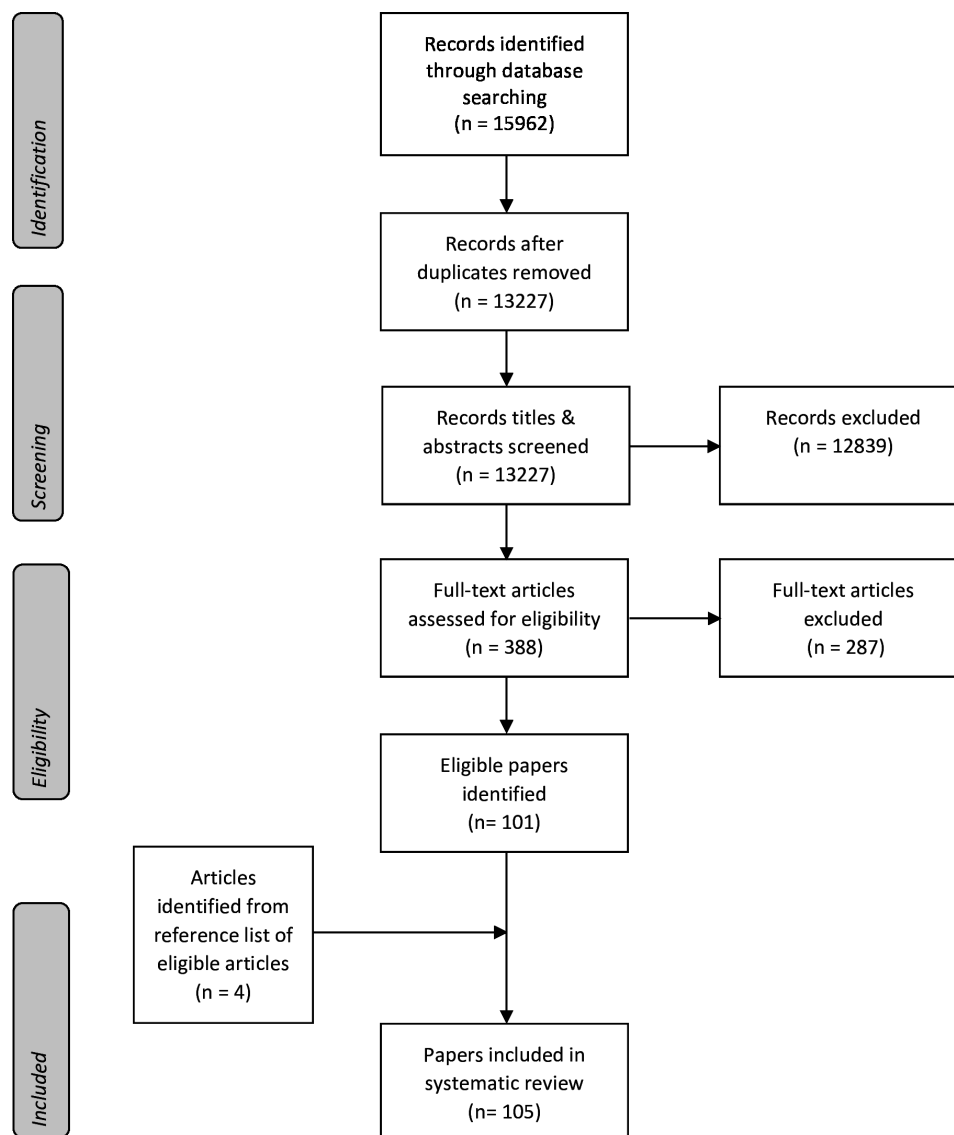
##### CVR prediction tools

*1. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS, we recommend thorough assessment of traditional CVR factors. The use of cardiovascular prediction tools as for the general population is recommended. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)*

No studies have investigated the accuracy of cardiovascular prediction tools in patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS. It is currently uncertain to what extent the elevated risk for cardiovascular disease is driven by an increased prevalence of traditional or disease-specific risk factors. Existing tools, such as the Framingham Risk Score (FRS), QRISK3 or Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation (SCORE) have been based on large general population cohorts with long follow-ups.<sup>36–38</sup> Therefore, for gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS, we recommend the use of prediction tools developed in the general population.

*2. For ANCA-associated vasculitis the Framingham score may underestimate the CVR. Information from the European Vasculitis Society (EUVAS) model may supplement modifiable Framingham risk factors and is recommended to take into account. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)*

In patients with ANCA-associated vasculitis the observed incidence of cardiovascular events exceeded Framingham predicted incidence in two studies.<sup>39 40</sup> Furthermore, one study on CVR in ANCA-associated vasculitis found a higher area under the curve (AUC) for the EUVAS model (AUC 0.73) based on age, diastolic



**Figure 1** Flow chart of systematic literature review for cardiovascular risk management in gout, vasculitis, systemic sclerosis, myositis, mixed connective tissue disease and Sjögren's syndrome. Articles on cardiovascular incidence and prevalence are also included.

hypertension, and PR3 ANCA status in comparison with the Framingham model (AUC 0.65).<sup>41</sup> Although this study was not designed for the evaluation of CVR, these disease-specific factors could be used for risk assessment in addition to Framingham risk factors but further work is needed to validate these findings.

#### Interventions targeting traditional CVR factors

3. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD, and SS, blood pressure (BP) management should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)

We found no trials that assessed the use of antihypertensive treatment in these patients. One small retrospective cohort study found an increase of severe cranial ischaemic events in patients with giant-cell arteritis (GCA) treated with beta blockers.<sup>42</sup> One large prospective cohort study in SSc found a protective effect of calcium channel blockers (CCB), ACE inhibitors (ACEI), and angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB) with ventricular arrhythmias.<sup>43</sup> Both studies did not control for confounding by indication. Altogether, currently, there is no evidence to modify the hypertension treatment target levels in patients with gout,

vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS from those used in the general population.

4. In patients with gout, diuretics should be avoided. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)

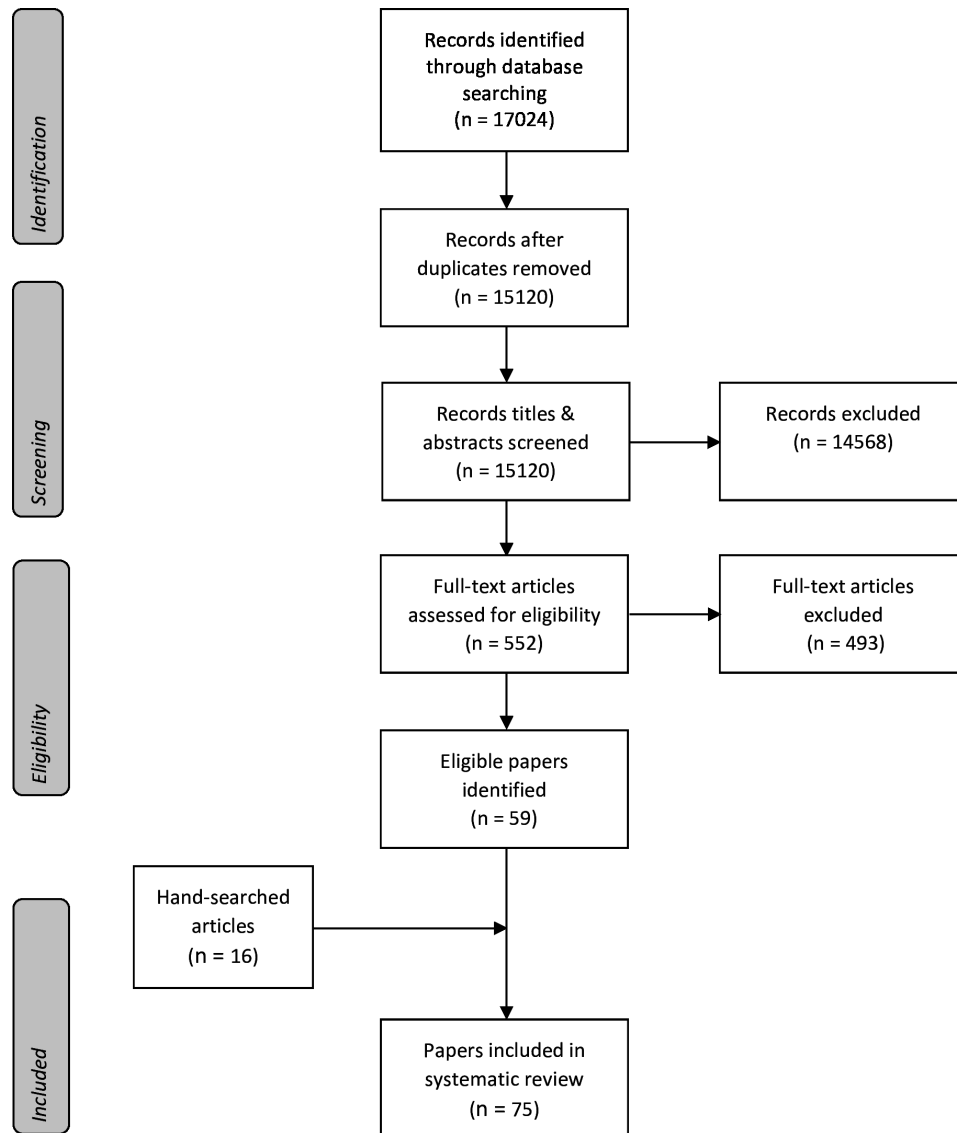
Following the EULAR recommendations on management of gout, use of thiazide and loop diuretics should be avoided, if possible, because of their effect to increase serum uric acid (SUA) levels.<sup>44</sup> Instead, the use of CCB or losartan could be considered. This topic was not updated as part of this guideline as the literature search focused on the effect of antihypertensives on cardiovascular outcomes and not on potential effect on SUA levels.

5. In patients with SSc beta blockers should be avoided. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)

Although large trials are lacking and therefore based on expert opinion, beta blockers are considered contraindicated due to their effect on Raynaud's phenomenon.

6. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD, and SS, lipid management should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)

## Recommendation



**Figure 2** Flow chart of systematic literature review for cardiovascular risk management in systemic lupus erythematosus and the antiphospholipid syndrome.

In gout patients, no studies evaluated the effect of statins on cardiovascular disease or mortality in comparison with the general population. Two retrospective cohort studies suggested a protective effect of statins on mortality in patients with gout after 5 and 10 years, relative to patients not using statins.<sup>45 46</sup> Because of the limited evidence, we recommend following guidelines on lipid management for the general population. Furthermore, myotoxicity as side effect of the combination of a statin and prophylactic colchicine (0.5 mg/day) is rare and routine discontinuation of the statin is not recommended.<sup>47</sup>

Three studies in patients with GCA did not find an association between statins and cardiovascular events,<sup>42 48 49</sup> but a fourth study of 103 patients with GCA, 28 of whom were treated with statins, reported a lower risk of cardiovascular hospitalisations with a longer cumulative duration of statin treatment (HR 0.993 per one additional daily dose).<sup>50</sup> No studies controlled for confounding by indication.

7. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD, and SS, standard use of low-dose aspirin for primary prevention is not recommended. Treatment with platelet inhibitors should follow

recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 2b/5, GoR: D)

In 2009 EULAR recommended the use of aspirin for prevention of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events in individuals with large vessel vasculitis (LoE: 3, GoR: C).<sup>51</sup> More recently the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) has used the same literature base to conditionally recommend the use of aspirin in flow critical large vessel vasculitis.<sup>52</sup> However, in 2020 an update of the 2009 EULAR recommendations reappraised this evidence and concluded that the risk–benefit analysis was not favourable, and blanket use of antiplatelets was not essential unless indicated for other reasons.<sup>53</sup> Based on newly published studies, we agree with the 2020 iteration.<sup>41 48 49</sup> In patients with gout, ANCA-associated vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS we did not find studies on this topic.

8. In patients with gout, we recommend a SUA level below 0.36 mmol/L (6 mg/dL) to potentially lower the risk of cardiovascular events and cardiovascular mortality. (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)

Retrospective cohort studies in patients with gout showed an association between an elevated SUA (per 0.06 mmol/L (1 mg/



**Table 1** EULAR overarching principles and recommendations for the management of CVR in gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD, SS, SLE, and APS

| Overarching principles  | LoA* (SD)   |
|---|-------------|
| A. Clinicians should be aware of increased CVR in patients with RMDs including gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD, SS, SLE and APS. For all RMDs, reduction of disease activity is likely to lessen CVR.   | 9.92 (0.39) |
| B. Rheumatologists are responsible for CVR assessment and management in collaboration with primary care providers, internists or cardiologists and other healthcare providers.  | 9.55 (1.12) |
| C. CVR factor screening should be performed regularly in all individuals with RMDs. Risk management should include screening for and strict control of CVR factors (smoking cessation, management of blood pressure, lipids and diabetes). CVR assessment is recommended within 6 months of diagnosis and repeated based on individual patient characteristics and risk levels.   | 9.55 (0.84) |
| D. Patient education and counselling on CVR, treatment adherence and lifestyle modifications, such as healthy diet and regular physical activity, are important in the management of CVR in these patients.   | 9.88 (0.42) |
| <b>Recommendations for gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS</b>   |             |
| 1. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS, we recommend thorough assessment of traditional CVR factors. The use of cardiovascular prediction tools for the general population is recommended. (LoE: 5, GoR†: D)  | 9.48 (0.84) |
| 2. For ANCA-associated vasculitis the Framingham score may underestimate the CVR. Information from the EUVAS model may supplement modifiable Framingham risk factors and is recommended to take into account. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)   | 8.59 (1.50) |
| 3. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS, blood pressure management should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)  | 9.66 (0.62) |
| 4. In patients with gout, diuretics should be avoided. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)   | 8.88 (2.06) |
| 5. In patients with SSc beta blockers should be avoided. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)   | 8.92 (2.11) |
| 6. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS, lipid management should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)   | 9.48 (1.08) |
| 7. In patients with gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD and SS, standard use of platelet inhibitors for primary prevention is not recommended. Treatment with platelet inhibitors should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 2b/5, GoR: D)   | 9.37 (1.14) |
| 8. In patients with gout, we recommend a serum uric acid level below 0.36 mmol/L (6 mg/dL) to potentially lower the risk on cardiovascular events and cardiovascular mortality. (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)   | 9.03 (1.34) |
| 9. In patients with gout there is no preference for a particular urate-lowering therapy from the cardiovascular point of view. (LoE: 1b, GoR: B)  | 9.14 (1.35) |
| 10. In patients with ANCA-associated vasculitis, remission induction and remission maintenance will also reduce CVR. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)  | 9.07 (1.35) |
| 11. In patients with giant-cell arteritis an optimal glucocorticoid regimen that balances the risk of relapse and glucocorticoid use side effects may also reduce CVR. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)  | 9.14 (1.06) |
| <b>Recommendations for SLE and the APS</b>  |             |
| 1. In patients with SLE and/or APS, a thorough assessment of traditional CVR factors and disease-related risk factors is recommended to guide risk factor modification. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)   | 9.88 (0.32) |
| 2A. In patients with SLE, lower levels of blood pressures are associated with lower rates of cardiovascular events and a blood pressure target of <130/80 mm Hg should be considered. (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)   | 9.70 (0.54) |
| 2B. In patients with lupus nephritis, ACE inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers are recommended for all patients with urine protein-to-creatinine ratio >500 mg/g or arterial hypertension. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)  | 9.51 (0.64) |
| 2C. In patients with APS, blood pressure management should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)  | 9.81 (0.39) |
| 3. In patients with SLE and/or APS, lipid treatment should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)  | 9.70 (0.54) |
| 4A. Patients with SLE may be candidates for preventative strategies as in the general population, including low-dose aspirin, based on their individual CVR profile. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)  | 9.29 (1.37) |
| 4B. In asymptomatic aPL carriers (not fulfilling any vascular or obstetric APS classification criteria) with a high-risk aPL profile with or without traditional risk factors, prophylactic treatment with low-dose aspirin (75–100 mg daily) is recommended. (LoE: 2a, GoR: B) In patients with SLE and no history of thrombosis or pregnancy complications: (1) with high-risk aPL profile, prophylactic treatment with low-dose aspirin is recommended (LoE: 2a, GoR: B); (2) with low-risk aPL profile, prophylactic treatment with low-dose aspirin may be considered. (LoE: 2b, GoR: C) | 9.44 (0.97) |
| 5. In patients with SLE, low disease activity should be maintained to also reduce CVR. (LoE: 2b, GoR: B)  | 9.59 (1.11) |
| 6. In patients with SLE, treatment with the lowest possible corticosteroid dose is recommended to minimise any potential cardiovascular harm. (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)   | 9.59 (0.79) |
| 7. In patients with SLE, no specific immunosuppressive medication can be recommended for the purpose of lowering the risk of cardiovascular events. (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)   | 9.44 (0.89) |
| 8. In patients with SLE, treatment with hydroxychloroquine (which is recommended for all patients unless contraindicated) should be considered to also reduce the risk of cardiovascular events. (LoE: 2b, GoR: B)  | 9.66 (0.73) |

\*LoA, level of agreement; numbers in column indicate the mean (SD) of the LoA among task force members.

†LoE, level of evidence: 1a: systematic review of RCTs; 1b: individual RCT; 2a: systematic review of cohort studies; 2b: individual cohort study (and low-quality RCT); 3a: systematic review of case-control studies; 3b: individual case-control study; 4: case series and poor-quality cohort and case-control studies; 5: expert opinion without explicit critical appraisal, or based on physiology, bench research or 'first principles'.

‡GoR, grade of recommendation: A: consistent level 1 studies; B: consistent level 2 or 3 studies, or extrapolations from level 1 studies; C: level 4 studies or extrapolations from level 2 or 3 studies; D: level 5 evidence or troublingly inconsistent or inconclusive studies of any level.

ACE, angiotensin-converting enzyme; ANCA, antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies; aPL, antiphospholipid antibodies; APS, antiphospholipid syndrome; CVR, cardiovascular risk; EULAR, European League against Rheumatism; EUVAS, European Vasculitis Society; MCTD, mixed connective tissue disease; RMDs, rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases; SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus; SS, Sjögren's syndrome; SSc, systemic sclerosis.

dL)) and cardiovascular events.<sup>54 55</sup> The association might be stronger in patients with SUA levels above 0.48 mmol/L (8 mg/dL),<sup>56</sup> than in patients with SUA levels higher than 0.36 mmol/L (6 mg/dL).<sup>57</sup> Studies on the effect of urate-lowering therapy

(ULT) showed conflicting results. Evidence originates predominantly from observational studies and often lacked data on treatment adherence and SUA levels during treatment. One study showed a linear dose response relation with a decline in the CVR

## Recommendation

in the group with the highest defined daily dose.<sup>58</sup> This suggests that adequate ULT possibly lowers the CVR. This possibility was supported by two studies that showed a protective association of respectively 'high dose' allopurinol and ULT resulting in SUA <0.36 mmol/L (<6 mg/dL) on cardiovascular events and cardiovascular mortality.<sup>59 60</sup> Altogether, although numbers of events were often low and associations were stronger for the highest SUA quartiles and higher dose ULT, it is possible that achieving lower SUA level decreases the risk on CV events. A cut-off value of 0.36 mmol/L (6 mg/dL) is used in the management of gout activity and could also benefit the risk of cardiovascular events. There is not sufficient evidence to support a threshold lower than 0.36 mmol/L (6 mg/dL) for CVR management.

**9. In patients with gout there is no preference for a particular ULT from the cardiovascular point of view. (LoE: 1b, GoR: B)**

Current guidelines recommend allopurinol as the first choice of ULT followed by febuxostat. Most studies on CVR compared these two xanthine oxidase inhibitors. Overall, regardless of the used dosage and duration of treatment, no difference was seen in number of cardiovascular events.<sup>61–63</sup> In 2018, the CARES trial reported a higher risk of cardiovascular mortality with febuxostat than allopurinol.<sup>62</sup> However, no difference was seen in the primary composite cardiovascular disease endpoint. Recently, the FAST trial showed no difference in CVR between patients using allopurinol or febuxostat.<sup>29</sup> Because of the limitations of the CARES trial (high number drop-outs, no difference in primary outcome, most events occurred after discontinuation of study) and the non-inferiority results of the FAST trial, we do not recommend the use of a specific ULT regarding cardiovascular outcomes.

### Interventions targeting disease-related CVR factors

**10. In patients with ANCA-associated vasculitis, remission induction and remission maintenance will also reduce CVR. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)**

In three of four included studies an association was found between high disease activity scores (Birmingham Vasculitis Activity Scores version 3) and a higher risk for cardiovascular events.<sup>64–66</sup>

**11. In patients with GCA an optimal glucocorticoid regimen that balances the risk of relapse and glucocorticoid use side effects may be considered to also reduce CVR. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)**

In patients with vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD, and SS the primary goal is disease control with the lowest possible dose of glucocorticoids. In GCA two studies found a higher CVR in patients with a higher (daily/cumulative) prednisone dose. One study found that the use of an immunosuppressant in addition to glucocorticoid was a protective factor against new cardiovascular events.<sup>67 68</sup> The increased CVR associated with glucocorticoids has to be balanced with the risk of relapse. Special attention and frequent evaluation of risks and benefits are warranted for patients with ongoing low dose glucocorticoids.

### SLE and/or APS

#### CVR prediction tools

**1. In patients with SLE and/or APS, a thorough assessment of traditional CVR factors and disease-related risk factors is recommended to guide risk factor modification. (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)**

The FRS underestimates CVR in SLE patients<sup>18 69–71</sup> with stroke, more often than myocardial infarction (MI), accounting for excess 'missed' risk by the FRS.<sup>69 70</sup> A modified version of the FRS that used a 2.0 multiplier was found, retrospectively,

to improve the measure's sensitivity from 0.13 to 0.31 while maintaining good specificity to identify patients with a moderate/high risk of coronary artery disease.<sup>72</sup> A study examining cardiovascular mortality in middle-aged patients with SLE found that SCORE predicted less than half the observed fatal cardiovascular events.<sup>73</sup> The QRISK3 tool included weights for SLE,<sup>38</sup> but validation studies in SLE populations have not yet been performed. Direct comparison of the performance of most commonly used generic risk assessment tools in SLE is currently lacking. A new SLE-specific risk score that included disease-related variables (SLEDAI, lupus anticoagulant and low C3) along with traditional risk factors found higher estimated risks than the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association risk equation, except among patients whose risk was already moderate/high from traditional risk factors.<sup>74</sup> This prediction equation requires more testing and independent validation. Given the limitations of the current evidence, the task force did not endorse use of any particular CVR assessment tool, but instead recommended a thorough assessment of traditional and disease-related risk factors to guide cardiovascular prevention interventions.

No studies were identified that examined generic CVR prediction scores in APS. The adjusted Global APS Score (aGAPSS), a clinical score including the three major antiphospholipid antibodies (aPL), hypertension and lipidaemia, was developed to predict thrombosis, though data on cardiovascular events were not reported separately.<sup>75</sup> Modification of the aGAPSS by adding points for diabetes mellitus, smoking, and obesity to create a score specific for cardiovascular disease, the aGAPSS<sub>CVD</sub> score, increased its discriminative ability and accuracy for CVR prediction in one study,<sup>76</sup> but further testing is needed.

### Interventions targeting traditional CVR factors

**2A. In patients with SLE, lower levels of BP are associated with lower rates of cardiovascular events and a BP target of <130/80 mm Hg should be considered. (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)**

**2B. In patients with lupus nephritis, ACEi or ARBs are recommended for all patients with urine protein-to-creatinine ratio >500 mg/g or arterial hypertension. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)**

**2C. In patients with APS, hypertension management should follow recommendations used in the general population. (LoE: 5, GoR: D)**

**A. SLE.** Hypertension is associated with a higher risk of both coronary artery disease events<sup>77</sup> and first ischaemic stroke<sup>78</sup> in SLE. It, therefore, follows that BP control with antihypertensive medications should reduce the risk of cardiovascular events.<sup>79</sup> Recent mean systolic BP ≥132 mm Hg was identified as a determinant of a higher risk of cardiovascular events, and systolic BP had a stronger association than diastolic BP.<sup>80</sup> A recent study of patients with SLE examining three BP categories (normotensive; systolic BP 130–139/diastolic BP 80–89; systolic BP ≥140/diastolic BP ≥90 mm Hg) reported an increased risk of cardiovascular events in both hypertensive groups compared with the normotensive group,<sup>30</sup> suggesting that a target BP of less than 130/80 should be used.

**B. Lupus nephritis.** Evidence specifically addressing the impact of antihypertensive treatment on cardiovascular events in lupus nephritis is scarce. In a retrospective cohort analysis,<sup>81</sup> risk of a cardiovascular event was not associated with treatment with ACEi/ARB, but 18% in the ACEi/ARB group had end-stage renal disease compared with 2.4% in the comparison group and this imbalance would be expected to affect the comparison of CVRs. The panel endorsed the current EULAR/ERA-EDTA

recommendation on the use of ACEI/ARB for patients with lupus nephritis with concomitant hypertension or high-level proteinuria.<sup>32</sup>

C. APS. No studies were identified on the use of specific anti-hypertensives for cardiovascular prevention in patients with APS. These patients should be managed according to recommendations for the general population.<sup>82</sup>

3. *In patients with SLE and/or APS, hyperlipidaemia treatment should follow recommendations used in the general population.* (LoE: 5, GoR: D)

Higher levels of total cholesterol and low-density lipoprotein cholesterol have been associated with a higher risk of MI and stroke in SLE.<sup>74 78 83</sup> One study using national administrative data found that patients with SLE treated with lipid-lowering agents had a significantly lower risk of coronary artery disease during follow-up (mean 8.4 years) than those not treated, while short-duration or long-duration statin use were both associated with a lower risk of stroke.<sup>84</sup> Several other observational studies included statin use as a covariate in prediction of cardiovascular events, and identified statin use as a risk factor for events, likely representing confounding by indication.<sup>71 85–88</sup> Diagnosis of SLE is not sufficient per se for prescribing lipid-lowering treatment for primary cardiovascular prevention.<sup>89</sup> In APS, no study was identified that examined the effect of lipid-lowering agents on cardiovascular events. The task force judged that hyperlipidaemia treatment should follow the recommendations used in the general population.<sup>89</sup>

4A. *Patients with SLE may be candidates for preventive strategies as in the general population, including low-dose aspirin, based on their individual CVR profile.* (LoE: 2b, GoR: D)

4B. *In asymptomatic aPL carriers with a high-risk profile with or without traditional risk factors, prophylactic treatment with low-dose aspirin (75–100 mg daily) is recommended.* (LoE: 2 a, GoR: B) *In patients with SLE and no history of thrombosis or pregnancy complications, prophylactic treatment with low-dose aspirin is recommended for those with a high-risk aPL profile* (LoE: 2a, GoR: B) *and may be considered for those with a low risk APL profile.* (LoE: 2b; GoR: C)

The panel agreed to include the corresponding statements (and LoE and GoR) about the prophylactic use of antiplatelets in SLE and APS from the recent EULAR recommendations for the management of SLE<sup>90</sup> and APS,<sup>91</sup> respectively. The LoA from our task force group is shown in [table 1](#). Use of low-dose aspirin for cardiovascular prevention in patients with SLE or APS should be individualised (particularly in the presence of a high-risk aPL profile) according to EULAR recommendations.

#### *Interventions targeting disease-related CVR factors*

5. *In patients with SLE, low disease activity should be maintained to also reduce CVR.* (LoE: 2b, GoR: B)

SLE activity has often been reported as a predictor of cardiovascular events. With the exception of two studies,<sup>86 92</sup> higher time-integrated SLEDAI levels were associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular events,<sup>69 77 79 93</sup> more so than baseline or single measurements.<sup>78 94 95</sup> In three studies,<sup>71 96 97</sup> baseline SLEDAI was found to be higher in patients with cardiovascular events, although it was not carried to multivariable analysis. Associations of SLEDAI with cardiovascular events was found to be stronger when considering categories of activity compared with per-unit increases,<sup>69</sup> suggesting a non-linear association of disease activity with cardiovascular events.

Many studies did not consider simultaneously the association of measures of disease activity and SLE medication use;

therefore, results may be confounded. In an analysis that adjusted for current prednisone dose, a 1-point increase in SLEDAI was marginally associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular events (relative risk 1.05, 95% CI 1.00 to 1.11).<sup>69</sup> Available evidence indicates that higher disease activity may be associated with a higher risk of cardiovascular events. Thus, in addition to its importance in general patient management,<sup>90</sup> a low-disease activity state may also have a beneficial effect on cardiovascular health.

6. *In patients with SLE, treatment with the lowest possible glucocorticoid dose is recommended to minimise any potential cardiovascular harm.* (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)

Mean dosage, cumulative exposure and duration of glucocorticoid treatment have all been investigated with reference to cardiovascular events in SLE. Higher current glucocorticoid dose was associated with a higher risk of atherothrombotic events, ischaemic heart disease, and/or stroke in two studies,<sup>69 98</sup> but was protective in one study<sup>79</sup> and not associated with stroke in the SLICC inception cohort.<sup>99</sup> Higher mean daily doses, greater cumulative doses, and ever-use of prednisone 30 mg/day or more were more consistently associated with increased risks of cardiovascular events in both cohort and case-control studies,<sup>71 92 100 101</sup> although glucocorticoid use was not significantly associated with cardiovascular events in two analyses of the Toronto cohort.<sup>95 97</sup> Not all studies adjusted for SLE activity. A retrospective study that adjusted for SLE activity<sup>98</sup> found that higher daily doses (prednisone >10 mg) administered continuously were significantly associated with both MI and stroke. In a retrospective and non-randomised study, patients treated at clinics following a glucocorticoid dose-minimisation strategy had lower prednisone exposures and markedly lower risks of cardiovascular damage by the SLICC measure, particularly for stroke.<sup>102</sup> Most evidence suggests that higher glucocorticoid exposure (cumulative and mean daily dose) increases CVR in SLE. The task force recommended treatment with the lowest possible corticosteroid dose to minimise risks of cardiovascular harm.

7. *In patients with SLE, no specific immunosuppressive medication can be recommended for the purpose of lowering the risk of cardiovascular events.* (LoE: 2b, GoR: C)

Use of immunosuppressants as a class in SLE have had largely null or conflicting associations with cardiovascular events.<sup>79 99 103</sup> Three studies from the Toronto lupus cohort reported either a protective<sup>96</sup> or null association,<sup>93 97</sup> while one study found that patients treated with immunosuppressants vs those not treated were more likely to develop a cardiovascular event in univariate but not multivariate analyses.<sup>95</sup> Immunosuppressive therapy was also associated to higher odds of ischaemic heart disease and cardiovascular events in the LUMINA<sup>104</sup> and Hopkins lupus cohort.<sup>69</sup>

Studies of individual medications suggest that use of methotrexate, mycophenolate, cyclosporine, or rituximab had neutral associations with cardiovascular events.<sup>88 92 105</sup> Conflicting results have been reported for cyclophosphamide<sup>71 106</sup> and azathioprine.<sup>71 88 106</sup>

A common limitation in many studies was the examination of ever use vs never use of immunosuppressants, which may be too crude an exposure. No studies considered issues of confounding by indication, and positive associations with cardiovascular disease may reflect risks due to associated disease activity or severity, or concomitant glucocorticoid use. Based on current evidence, the task force concluded that no specific immunosuppressive medication can be recommended for reducing the risk of cardiovascular events. Furthermore, the committee call for better quality pharmacoepidemiologic studies in future, using recent advances in this field.



## Recommendation

8. In patients with SLE, treatment with hydroxychloroquine (which is recommended for all SLE patients, unless contraindicated) should be considered to also reduce the risk of cardiovascular events. (LoE: 2b, GoR: B)

A large body of evidence has addressed the role of antimalarials in cardiovascular prevention in SLE. In six cohort studies, antimalarial use was associated with lower risk of either atherothrombotic events or coronary artery disease,<sup>69 77 79 88 94 107</sup> although in one study protection was only associated with current long-term use.<sup>69</sup> Several other studies reported null associations.<sup>85 87 92 93 95 103 106</sup> Two of seven case-control studies also reported less use of hydroxychloroquine or antimalarials among cases with cardiovascular events than controls,<sup>100 108</sup> with only one study reporting increased risk.<sup>97</sup> No associations with risk of stroke specifically have been reported.<sup>99 109</sup> Importantly, patients with less active disease are more often treated with antimalarials, while SLE activity may be the risk factor for cardiovascular disease; this possible selection bias was not addressed. Additionally, studies did not report results stratified by the presence of APS or aPL, therefore, it is unclear if any reduced risk is limited to patients with SLE and aPL. The task force endorsed treatment with hydroxychloroquine, as should be provided to all patients with SLE, as it may also reduce the risk of cardiovascular events.

## DISCUSSION

The 2021 EULAR recommendations for CVR management in RMDs comprise overarching principles and guidance informed by the currently available evidence on several potential interventions aiming to improve cardiovascular outcomes in these disorders. The LoA for most statements was high, indicating a coherent perspective on behalf of health professionals from different areas of care and patients alike for CVR reduction efforts.

The majority of the included RMDs are uncommon diseases limiting the ability to perform large observational studies to assess the impact of traditional and disease-specific risk factors on cardiovascular disease burden and clinical trials on the long-term cardiovascular effects of preventive treatments. One of the main challenges of these recommendations was the low LoE due to few studies on many of the research questions. Confounding by indication and lack of propensity adjustment was a common limitation in the included studies and therefore several statements relied on expert opinion. Future studies that better identify exposures and outcomes may help overcome these methodological issues.

There are several additional issues that need to be addressed in the future efforts for CVR management in RMDs. Systemic RMDs are complex diseases with a wide range of clinical manifestations of various severity that may affect cardiovascular health in diverse ways. Considering personalised patient care, the potential impact of individual patient clinical phenotype on cardiovascular prognosis also merits further investigation. In guidelines for cardiovascular prevention in the general population, risk stratification represents a prerequisite for CVR management (eg, BP targets or lipid-lowering therapy).<sup>82 89</sup> In this context, it is important to recognise that underperformance of clinical CVR prediction tools used in the general population may hamper CVR prevention and management in RMDs. The use of prediction tools that incorporate CRP<sup>110</sup> (eg, Reynolds risk score<sup>111</sup>), the presence of specific RMDs (RA, SLE) or anti-inflammatory agents (eg, QRISK3)<sup>38</sup> or multipliers of baseline risk (eg, modified SCORE)<sup>112</sup> has been suggested by some guideline committees for CVR stratification in the general population but their use in RMDs needs to be further tested and validated. Thus, studies on disease-specific tools for CVR assessment including disease-specific in addition to traditional CVR factors, as well as

## Box 1 Research agenda and future perspectives

1. Validation of existing generic and modified CVR prediction tools in large prospective studies, and development of new disease-specific equations.
2. Additive value of vascular imaging and/or circulating biomarkers in CVR assessment in RMDs.
3. Identification of patient subgroups with higher CVR.
4. Long-term effects of current and new drugs for RMDs on CVR factors and cardiovascular events.
5. Role of antithrombotic agents used in some RMDs (eg, aspirin, LMWH in SLE/APS) to reduce the overall CVR in these patients.
6. Need for large educational campaigns within the rheumatological and other medical specialties and patient associations to increase CVR awareness.
7. Best implementation methods for the CVR recommendations. APS, antiphospholipid syndrome; CVR, cardiovascular risk; LMWH, low-molecular weight heparin; RMDs, rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases; SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus.

risk qualifiers including the evaluation of the predictive value of nonclinical tools, are warranted. These issues, along with other relevant questions such as the pragmatic use of any risk score (simplicity often aids use) will hopefully inspire future research increasing the quality of evidence in CVR management in RMDs, are presented in the Research Agenda (box 1). One of future challenges is the better identification of patient subgroups at higher CVR including for example those with longer disease duration, and number of flares/relapses (eg, in SLE, vasculitis, gout)<sup>55 66 113–115</sup> or those with certain demographic (age, gender, race/ethnicity)<sup>116</sup> and disease characteristics (eg, aPL positivity in SLE, polyarticular or tophaceous phenotype in gout).<sup>55 113 117</sup>

Long-term effects of current and new drugs for RMDs on CVR need further investigation. The deleterious cardiometabolic effects of the excessive exposure to glucocorticoids are well known.<sup>118</sup> Current recommendations by the ACR<sup>119</sup> and the EULAR<sup>53 90 120 121</sup> for the management of RMDs emphasise the adverse effects and the need of the limited dose of glucocorticoids. Limiting glucocorticoid exposure to the lowest effective dose to control active disease for the shortest duration possible and eventually discontinuation, as well as weighting the benefits and risks before starting systemic glucocorticoids, can help reduce cardiovascular harm. Several anti-inflammatory agents (eg, colchicine,<sup>122</sup> anti-IL1b<sup>123</sup>) have been shown to lower cardiovascular outcomes in randomised controlled trials for secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease in the general population and other trials are ongoing (eg, hydroxychloroquine<sup>124</sup>) but further evidence is needed on the cardiovascular outcomes and safety of such immunoregulatory agents in RMDs. Although the role of hydroxychloroquine in APS, and of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) in SLE, was examined in our SLR (Supplementary SLR report, section II), the panel agreed that any statement on the use of these medications should be deferred until more robust evidence is available. More evidence is needed about the effect of glucocorticoids, NSAIDs and IL-1 antagonists, the dosage and duration of colchicine treatment, and the risk and benefits of the concomitant use of colchicine and statins in patients with gout.

Most of the recommendations of established low-cost clinical interventions may apply to both high-resource and low-resource countries worldwide. Implementation strategies for promoting



CVR management in RMDs include interactive educational workshops involving health professionals, patients and stakeholders with the support of healthcare professional societies and patient associations, social media dissemination and strategies customised to local and national policies such as academic detailing, audits and feedback techniques.

The panel believes that these recommendations will enable healthcare providers and patients to mutually engage in a long-term care pathway tailored to patients' needs and expectations for improving cardiovascular health in RMDs. As new data accumulate, this first set of 'best available' evidence on cardiovascular prevention in gout, vasculitis, SSc, myositis, MCTD, SS, SLE and APS will be timely updated.

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**EULAR recommendations for cardiovascular risk management in Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases, including Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and Antiphospholipid Syndrome**

**Systematic literature review (SLR) report**

SLR for Gout, Vasculitis, and other Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal diseases: Daisy Vedder, Eline Houben, Laura Boekel, Chetan Mukhtyar, Gary J. MacFarlane, Michael T. Nurmohamed

SLR for Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and Antiphospholipid Syndrome: George C. Drosos, Michael M. Ward, Maria G. Tektonidou

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| IV. Abbreviations   |   |        |  |
| AA  | aortic aneurysm                                 | MI     | myocardial infarction  |
| AAV   | ANCA-associated vasculitis                      | MTX    | methotrexate   |
| ACC   | American College of Cardiology                  | NA     | not available  |
| ACEI  | angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors        | NSAID  | non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug                             |
| aGAPSS  | adjusted Global Antiphospholipid Syndrome Score | O/P    | observed/predicted   |
| AHA   | American Heart Association                      | OR     | odds ratio   |
| AP  | angina pectoris                                 | PAD    | peripheral arterial disease                                      |
| APS   | antiphospholipid syndrome                       | PICO   | patient; intervention; comparator; outcome                       |
| ARB   | angiotensin receptor blockers                   | py     | patient-years  |
| AUC   | area under the curve                            | RCT    | randomized clinical trial  |
| CAD   | coronary artery disease                         | RR     | risk ratio   |
| CCB   | calcium channel blockers                        | SCORE  | Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation                              |
| CHD   | coronary heart disease                          | SLAM   | Systemic Lupus Activity Measure                                  |
| CI  | confidence interval                             | SLE    | systemic lupus erythematosus                                     |
| CVA   | cerebrovascular accident                        | SLEDAI | Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Disease Activity Index              |
| CVD   | cardiovascular disease                          | SLICC  | Systemic Lupus Erythematosus International Collaborating Clinics |
| CYC   | cyclophosphamide                                | SLR    | systematic literature review                                     |
| DOI   | digital object identifier                       | SS     | Sjögren’s syndrome   |
| EUVAS   | European Vasculitis Society                     | SSc    | systemic sclerosis   |
| FRS   | Framingham risk score                           | SUA    | serum uric acid  |
| GCA   | giant cell arteritis                            | TE     | thrombotic event   |
| HCQ   | hydroxychloroquine                              | TIA    | transient ischemic attack  |
| HF  | heart failure                                   | ULT    | urate lowering therapy   |
| HR  | hazards ratio                                   | yrs    | years  |
| IHD   | ischemic heart disease                          |        |  |
| MCTD  | mixed connective tissue disease                 |        |  |

## I. Methods

### A. Search strategies

#### 1. Exclusion criteria

- Non-English language publications
- Animal studies
- Basic science studies
- Non-adult population studies
- Narrative review
- Case reports, case series
- Conference abstracts
- Not related to PICO questions (unrelated topic/outcome)
- Same cohort publications
- Other (study design, guidelines, updates from public health authorities, letters, comments)

#### 2. Search terms

##### a. Gout

##### 1) Gout (patient population)

###### *Medline/PubMed:*

"Gout"[Mesh] OR "Hyperuricemia"[Mesh] OR gout[tiab] OR "Arthritis, Gouty"[Mesh] OR gouty[tiab] OR hyperuricem\*[tiab] OR hyper-uricem\*[tiab] OR hyperuricaem\*[tiab] OR hyper-uricaem\*[tiab] OR hyperuricacid\*[tiab]

###### *Embase:*

'gout'/exp OR 'hyperuricemia'/exp OR gout: ti,ab,kw OR gouty:ti,ab,kw OR hyperuricem\*:ti,ab,kw OR 'hyper uricem\*':ti,ab,kw OR hyperuricaem\*:ti,ab,kw OR 'hyper uricaem\*':ti,ab,kw OR hyperuricacid\*:ti,ab,kw

###### *Cochrane:*

((gout OR gouty OR hyperuricem\* OR "hyper uricem\*" OR hyperuricaem\* OR "hyper uricaem\*" OR hyperuricacid\*))

##### 2) Cardiovascular disease (outcome)

###### *Medline/PubMed:*

"Arteriosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Cardiovascular Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Ischemia"[Mesh] OR "Stroke"[Mesh] OR angina pectoris[tiab] OR arrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arrythmi\*[tiab] OR dysrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arteriosclero\*[tiab] OR atherosclero\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR cardio-vascular event\*[tiab] OR cerebrovascular disease\*[tiab] OR coronary disease\*[tiab] OR cvd[tiab] OR cvds[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR heart failure\*[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral artery disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral vascular disease\*[tiab] OR stroke\*[tiab]



*Embase:*

'cardiovascular disease'/exp OR 'angina pectoris':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'dysrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arteriosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'atherosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardio-vascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cerebrovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'coronary disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvd':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvds':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart failure\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral arterial disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral artery disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral vascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'stroke\*':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

("angina pectoris" OR "arrhythmi\*" OR "arrythmi\*" OR "dysrhythmi\*" OR "arteriosclero\*" OR "atherosclero\*" OR "cardiovascular disease\*" OR "cardiovascular event\*" OR "cardio-vascular event\*" OR "cerebrovascular disease\*" OR "coronary disease\*" OR "cvd" OR "cvds" OR "heart disease\*" OR "heart failure\*" OR "peripheral arterial disease\*" OR "peripheral artery disease\*" OR "peripheral vascular disease\*" OR "stroke\*"):ti,ab,kw

## 3) cardiovascular risk prediction tools

*Medline/PubMed:*

"framingham" [tiab] OR "Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation"[tiab] OR "QRISK"[tiab] OR "Pooled Cohort Risk Equation"[tiab] OR "ASCVD"[tiab] OR "Reynolds Risk Score"[tiab] OR "RRS"[tiab] OR "Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study"[tiab] OR "PROCAM"[tiab]

*Embase:*

'Framingham risk score'/exp OR 'framingham':ti,ab,kw OR 'Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation'/exp OR 'Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation':ti,ab,kw OR 'QRISK':ti,ab,kw OR 'Pooled Cohort Risk Equation':ti,ab,kw OR 'ASCVD':ti,ab,kw OR 'Reynolds risk score'/exp OR 'Reynolds Risk Score':ti,ab,kw OR 'RRS':ti,ab,kw OR 'Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study':ti,ab,kw OR 'PROCAM':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

("framingham" OR "Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation" OR "QRISK" OR "Pooled Cohort Risk Equation" OR "ASCVD" OR "Reynolds Risk Score" OR "RRS" OR "Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study" OR "PROCAM")):ti,ab,kw

## 4) antihypertensives

*Medline/PubMed:*

"Antihypertensive Agents"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Antihypertensive Agents" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Calcium Channel Blockers"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Calcium Channel Blockers" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Spironolactone"[Mesh] OR "Eplerenone"[Mesh] OR "Clonidine"[Mesh] OR "Diuretics"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Diuretics" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Methyldopa"[Mesh] OR "Hydralazine"[Mesh] OR "aliskiren" [Supplementary Concept] OR antihypertensiv\*[tiab] OR anti-hypertensiv\*[tiab] OR blood pressure lowering drug\*[tiab] OR blood pressure lowering agent\*[tiab] OR blood pressure medicat\*[tiab] OR angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*[tiab] OR ACE inhibit\*[tiab] OR angiotensin receptor

block\*[tiab] OR angiotensin receptor antagon\*[tiab] OR calcium channel block\*[tiab] OR calcium channel antagon\*[tiab] OR beta block\*[tiab] OR alpha block\*[tiab] OR diuretic\*[tiab] OR spironolacton\*[tiab] OR eplerenon\*[tiab] OR clonidin\*[tiab] OR methyldopa[tiab] OR hydralazin\*[tiab] OR aliskiren\*[tiab]

*Embase:*

'antihypertensive agent'/de OR 'dipeptidyl carboxypeptidase inhibitor'/de OR 'calcium channel blocking agent'/de OR 'spironolactone'/exp OR 'eplerenone'/exp OR 'clonidine'/exp OR 'diuretic agent'/de OR 'methyldopa'/exp OR 'hydralazine'/exp OR 'aliskiren'/exp OR 'antihypertensiv\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'anti-hypertensiv\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure lowering drug\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure lowering agent\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure medicat\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'ACE inhibit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin receptor block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin receptor antagon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'calcium channel block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'calcium channel antagon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'beta block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'alpha block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'diuretic\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'spironolacton\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'eplerenon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'clonidin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'methyldopa':ti,ab,kw OR 'hydralazin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'aliskiren\*':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

("antihypertensiv\*" OR "anti-hypertensiv\*" OR "blood pressure lowering drug\*" OR "blood pressure lowering agent\*" OR "blood pressure medicat\*" OR "angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*" OR "ACE inhibit\*" OR "angiotensin receptor block\*" OR "angiotensin receptor antagon\*" OR "calcium channel block\*" OR "calcium channel antagon\*" OR "beta block\*" OR "alpha block\*" OR "diuretic\*" OR "spironolacton\*" OR "eplerenon\*" OR "clonidin\*" OR "methyldopa" OR "hydralazin\*" OR "aliskiren\*"):ti,ab,kw

5) Lipid lowering medication

*Medline/PubMed:*

"Hypolipidemic Agents"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Hypolipidemic Agents" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Ezetimibe"[Mesh] OR lipid lowering[tiab] OR statin\*[tiab] OR ezetimibe[tiab] OR PCSK9[tiab]

*Embase:*

'antilipemic agent'/de OR 'hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase inhibitor'/exp OR 'ezetimibe'/exp OR 'lipid lowering':ti,ab,kw OR 'statin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'ezetimibe':ti,ab,kw OR 'PCSK9':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

("lipid lowering" OR "statin\*" OR "ezetimibe" OR "PCSK9"):ti,ab,kw

6) Antiplatelet therapy

*Medline/PubMed:*

"Platelet Aggregation Inhibitors"[Mesh] OR "Salicylates"[Mesh] OR anti-platelet\*[tiab] OR antiplatelet\*[tiab] OR antithrombocytic\*[tiab] OR anti thrombocytic\*[tiab] OR aspirin[tiab] OR ascal[tiab] OR platelet aggregation inhibit\*[tiab]

*Embase:*

'antithrombocytic agent'/de OR 'salicylic acid derivative'/exp OR 'anti-platelet\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'antiplatelet\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'antithrombocytic\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'anti thrombocytic\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'aspirin':ti,ab,kw OR 'ascal':ti,ab,kw OR 'platelet aggregation inhibit\*':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

("anti-platelet\*" OR "antiplatelet\*" OR "antithrombocytic\*" OR "anti thrombocytic\*" OR "aspirin" OR "ascal" OR "platelet aggregation inhibit\*"):ti,ab,kw

7) Disease activity (*Medline/PubMed*):

"Chronic Disease"[Mesh] OR "Recurrence"[Mesh] OR "Disease Progression"[Mesh] OR "Uric Acid/blood"[Mesh] OR (disease\*[ti] AND (aggravati\*[ti] OR progressi\*[ti] OR exacerbati\*[ti] OR chronic[ti] OR durati\*[ti] OR recurren\*[ti] OR periodic\*[ti] OR relaps\*[ti] OR flare\*[ti])) OR "blood urate"[ti] OR "blood uric acid"[ti] OR "plasma urate"[ti] OR "plasma uric acid"[ti] OR "serum urate"[ti] OR "serum uric acid"[ti] OR "urate blood level"[ti] OR acute polyarthriti\*[ti] OR hamarthriti\*[ti] OR holarthriti\*[ti] OR polyarthropath\*[ti] OR polyarthros\*[ti] OR progressive chronic polyarthriti\*[ti] OR polyarticular\*[ti] OR tophus[ti] OR tophi[ti] OR tophaceous\*[ti] OR (disease\*[ot] AND (aggravati\*[ot] OR progressi\*[ot] OR exacerbati\*[ot] OR chronic[ot] OR durati\*[ot] OR recurren\*[ot] OR periodic\*[ot] OR relaps\*[ot] OR flare\*[ot])) OR "blood urate"[ot] OR "blood uric acid"[ot] OR "plasma urate"[ot] OR "plasma uric acid"[ot] OR "serum urate"[ot] OR "serum uric acid"[ot] OR "urate blood level"[ot] OR acute polyarthriti\*[ot] OR hamarthriti\*[ot] OR holarthriti\*[ot] OR polyarthropath\*[ot] OR polyarthros\*[ot] OR progressive chronic polyarthriti\*[ot] OR polyarticular\*[ot] OR tophus[ot] OR tophi[ot] OR tophaceous\*[ot]

*Embase:*

'disease activity'/mj OR 'chronic disease'/exp/mj OR 'disease duration'/exp/mj OR 'recurrent disease'/exp/mj OR 'disease exacerbation'/exp/mj OR 'uric acid blood level'/exp/mj OR 'tophus'/exp/mj OR 'tophaceous gout'/exp/mj OR 'polyarthriti'/exp/mj OR ((disease\* AND (aggravati\* OR progressi\* OR exacerbati\* OR chronic OR durati\* OR recurren\* OR periodic\* OR relaps\* OR flare\*)) OR 'blood urate' OR 'blood uric acid' OR 'plasma urate' OR 'plasma uric acid' OR 'serum urate' OR 'serum uric acid' OR 'urate blood level' OR 'acute polyarthriti\*' OR hamarthriti\* OR holarthriti\* OR polyarthropath\* OR polyarthros\* OR 'progressive chronic polyarthriti\*' OR polyarticular\* OR tophus OR tophi OR tophaceous\*):ti,kw

*Cochrane:*

((disease\* AND (aggravati\* OR progressi\* OR exacerbati\* OR chronic OR durati\* OR recurren\* OR periodic\* OR relaps\* OR flare\*)) OR "blood urate" OR "blood uric acid" OR "plasma urate" OR "plasma uric acid" OR "serum urate" OR "serum uric acid" OR "urate blood level" OR "acute polyarthriti\*" OR hamarthriti\* OR holarthriti\* OR polyarthropath\* OR polyarthros\* OR "progressive chronic polyarthriti\*" OR polyarticular\* OR tophus OR tophi OR tophaceous\*):ti,ab,kw

## 8) Disease specific medication

*Medline/PubMed:*

"Adrenal Cortex Hormones"[Mesh] OR "Glucocorticoids"[Mesh] OR "Glucocorticoids" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Methylprednisolone"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Prednisolone"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Prednisone"[Mesh] OR "Dexamethasone"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Allopurinol"[Mesh] OR "Colchicine"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Diclofenac"[Mesh] OR "Febuxostat"[Mesh] OR "Naproxen"[Mesh] OR "Pegloticase" [Supplementary Concept] OR "Uricosuric Agents"[Mesh] OR "Uricosuric Agents" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Benzbromarone"[Mesh] OR "Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal"[Mesh] OR "Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Celecoxib"[Mesh] OR "Etoricoxib"[Mesh] OR "Ibuprofen"[Mesh] OR "Interleukin-1"[Mesh] OR "Interleukin 1 Receptor Antagonist Protein"[Mesh] OR "canakinumab" [Supplementary Concept] OR "Urate Oxidase"[Mesh] OR "rasburicase" [Supplementary Concept] OR "adrenal cortex hormone"[ti] OR "adrenal cortical hormone"[ti] OR adrenal cortical steroid\*[ti] OR adrenal steroid\*[ti] OR adreno cortical steroid\*[ti] OR adreno corticosteroid\*[ti] OR adrenocortical hormone\*[ti] OR adrenocortical steroid\*[ti] OR adrenocorticosteroid\*[ti] OR cortical steroid\*[ti] OR cortico steroid\*[ti] OR corticoid\*[ti] OR corticosteroid\*[ti] OR glucocorticoid\*[ti] OR glucocorticoidsteroid\*[ti] OR glucocortoid\*[ti] OR glycocorticoid\*[ti] OR glycocorticosteroid\*[ti] OR methylprednisolon\*[ti] OR prednisolon\*[ti] OR prednison\*[ti] OR dexamethason\*[ti] OR colchicin\*[ti] OR colchin\*[ti] OR diclofen\*[ti] OR diclophen\*[ti] OR febuxostat[ti] OR naproxen[ti] OR pegloticase[ti] OR uricosuric\*[ti] OR benzbroma\*[ti] OR nsaid\*[ti] OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory"[ti] OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory"[ti] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory"[ti] OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory"[ti] OR celecoxib[ti] OR etoricoxib[ti] OR ibuprofen[ti] OR "interleukin 1"[ti] OR "il 1"[ti] OR anakinra[ti] OR canakinumab[ti] OR xanthine oxidase inhibit\*[ti] OR "urate oxydase"[ti] OR "urate oxygen oxidoreductase"[ti] OR "urate o2 oxidoreductase"[ti] OR "urate oxygen oxidoreductase"[ti] OR uratoxidase[ti] OR uricase[ti] OR rasburicase[ti] OR pegloticase[ti] OR "adrenal cortex hormone"[ot] OR "adrenal cortical hormone"[ot] OR adrenal cortical steroid\*[ot] OR adrenal steroid\*[ot] OR adreno cortical steroid\*[ot] OR adreno corticosteroid\*[ot] OR adrenocortical hormone\*[ot] OR adrenocortical steroid\*[ot] OR adrenocorticosteroid\*[ot] OR cortical steroid\*[ot] OR cortico steroid\*[ot] OR corticoid\*[ot] OR corticosteroid\*[ot] OR glucocorticoid\*[ot] OR glucocorticoidsteroid\*[ot] OR glucocortoid\*[ot] OR glycocorticoid\*[ot] OR glycocorticosteroid\*[ot] OR methylprednisolon\*[ot] OR prednisolon\*[ot] OR prednison\*[ot] OR dexamethason\*[ot] OR colchicin\*[ot] OR colchin\*[ot] OR diclofen\*[ot] OR diclophen\*[ot] OR febuxostat[ot] OR naproxen[ot] OR pegloticase[ot] OR uricosuric\*[ot] OR benzbroma\*[ot] OR nsaid\*[ot] OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory"[ot] OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory"[ot] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory"[ot] OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory"[ot] OR celecoxib[ot] OR etoricoxib[ot] OR ibuprofen[ot] OR "interleukin 1"[ot] OR "il 1"[ot] OR anakinra[ot] OR canakinumab[ot] OR xanthine oxidase inhibit\*[ot] OR "urate oxydase"[ot] OR "urate oxygen oxidoreductase"[ot] OR "urate o2 oxidoreductase"[ot] OR "urate oxygen oxidoreductase"[ot] OR uratoxidase[ot] OR uricase[ot] OR rasburicase[ot] OR pegloticase[ot]

*Embase:*

'corticosteroid'/mj OR 'glucocorticoid'/mj OR 'methylprednisolone'/exp/mj OR 'prednisolone'/exp/mj OR 'prednisone'/exp/mj OR 'dexamethasone'/exp/mj OR



'allopurinol'/exp/mj OR 'colchicine'/exp/mj OR 'diclofenac'/exp/mj OR 'febuxostat'/exp/mj OR 'naproxen'/exp/mj OR 'pegloticase'/exp/mj OR 'uricosuric agent'/mj OR 'benzbromarone'/exp/mj OR 'nonsteroid antiinflammatory agent'/mj OR 'celecoxib'/exp/mj OR 'etoricoxib'/exp/mj OR 'ibuprofen'/exp/mj OR 'interleukin 1'/exp/mj OR 'anakinra'/exp/mj OR 'canakinumab'/exp/mj OR 'interleukin 1 inhibitor'/exp/mj OR 'xanthine oxidase inhibitor'/mj OR 'urate oxidase'/exp/mj OR 'rasburicase'/exp/mj OR 'pegloticase'/exp/mj OR ('adrenal cortex hormone' OR 'adrenal cortical hormone' OR 'adrenal cortical steroid\*' OR 'adrenal steroid\*' OR 'adreno cortical steroid\*' OR 'adreno corticosteroid\*' OR 'adrenocortical hormone\*' OR 'adrenocortical steroid\*' OR 'adrenocorticosteroid\*' OR 'cortical steroid\*' OR 'cortico steroid\*' OR corticoid\* OR corticosteroid\* OR glucocorticoid\* OR glucocorticoidsteroid\* OR glucocortoid\* OR glycocorticoid\* OR glycocorticosteroid\* OR methylprednisolon\* OR prednisolon\* OR prednison\* OR dexamethason\* OR colchicin\* OR colchin\* OR diclofen\* OR diclophen\* OR febuxostat OR naproxen OR pegloticase OR uricosuric\* OR benzbroma\* OR nsaid\* OR 'non steroid\* anti inflammatory' OR 'nonsteroid\* anti inflammatory' OR 'non steroid\* antiinflammatory' OR 'nonsteroid\* antiinflammatory' OR celecoxib OR etoricoxib OR ibuprofen OR 'interleukin 1' OR 'il 1' OR anakinra OR canakinumab OR 'xanthine oxidase inhibit\*' OR 'urate oxydase' OR 'urate oxygen oxidoreductase' OR 'urate o2 oxidoreductase' OR 'urate oxygen oxidoreductase' OR uratoxidase OR uricase OR rasburicase OR pegloticase):ti,kw

#### *Cochrane:*

("adrenal cortex hormone" OR "adrenal cortical hormone" OR "adrenal cortical steroid\*" OR "adrenal steroid\*" OR "adreno cortical steroid\*" OR "adreno corticosteroid\*" OR "adrenocortical hormone\*" OR "adrenocortical steroid\*" OR adrenocorticosteroid\* OR "cortical steroid\*" OR "cortico steroid\*" OR corticoid\* OR corticosteroid\* OR glucocorticoid\* OR glucocorticoidsteroid\* OR glucocortoid\* OR glycocorticoid\* OR glycocorticosteroid\* OR methylprednisolon\* OR prednisolon\* OR prednison\* OR dexamethason\* OR colchicin\* OR colchin\* OR diclofen\* OR diclophen\* OR febuxostat OR naproxen OR pegloticase OR uricosuric\* OR benzbroma\* OR nsaid\* OR ("non steroid\*" AND "anti inflammatory") OR (nonsteroid\* AND "anti inflammatory") OR ("non steroid\*" AND antiinflammatory) OR (nonsteroid\* AND antiinflammatory) OR celecoxib OR etoricoxib OR ibuprofen OR "interleukin 1" OR "il 1" OR anakinra OR canakinumab OR "xanthine oxidase inhibit\*" OR "urate oxydase" OR "urate oxygen oxidoreductase" OR "urate o2 oxidoreductase" OR "urate oxygen oxidoreductase" OR uratoxidase OR uricase OR rasburicase OR pegloticase):ti,ab,kw

#### 9) Prevalence cardiovascular disease

##### *Medline/PubMed*

"Morbidity"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Incidence"[Mesh] OR "Prevalence"[Mesh] OR "epidemiology" [Subheading:NoExp] OR "Mortality"[Mesh] OR "mortality" [Subheading] OR frequenc\*[ti] OR morbidit\*[ti] OR occurenc\*[ti] OR prevalenc\*[ti] OR incidenc\*[ti] OR frequenc\*[ot] OR morbidit\*[ot] OR occurenc\*[ot] OR prevalenc\*[ot] OR incidenc\*[ot]

##### *Embase*

'morbidity'/mj OR 'incidence'/exp/mj OR 'prevalence'/mj OR 'epidemiology'/mj OR 'mortality'/exp/mj OR 'epidemiology'/lnk OR frequenc\*:ti,kw OR morbidit\*:ti,kw OR

occurenc\*:ti,kw OR prevalenc\*:ti,kw OR incidenc\*:ti,kw

*Cochrane*

(frequenc\* OR morbidit\* OR occurenc\* OR prevalenc\* OR incidenc\*):ab,ti,kw

**b. Vasculitis, systemic sclerosis, mixed connective tissue disease, myositis and Sjögren's syndrome**

**1) ANCA-associated vasculitis (patient population)**

*Medline/PubMed:*

(vasculiti\*[tiab] AND ANCA [tiab]) OR antineutrophil [tiab] OR pauci [tiab] OR churg strauss syndrome [tiab] OR "Churg-Strauss Syndrome"[Mesh] OR Churg-Strauss Vasculitis [tiab] OR Wegener [tiab] OR polyangiiti\*[tiab] OR polyarteriti\*[tiab] OR "Anti-Neutrophil Cytoplasmic Antibody-Associated Vasculitis"[Mesh] OR Granulomatosis [tiab] OR "Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis" [Mesh]

*Embase:*

('vasculiti\*':ti,ab,kw AND 'ANCA':ti,ab,kw) OR 'antineutrophil':ti,ab,kw OR 'pauci':ti,ab,kw OR 'churg strauss syndrome':ti,ab,kw OR 'Churg Strauss syndrome'/exp OR 'Churg-Strauss Vasculitis':ti,ab,kw OR 'Wegener':ti,ab,kw OR polyangiiti\*:ti,ab,kw OR polyarteriti\*:ti,ab,kw OR 'ANCA associated vasculitis'/exp OR Granulomatosis:ti,ab,kw OR 'Wegener granulomatosis'/exp OR 'anti neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody associated vasculitis':ti,ab,kw OR 'granulomatosis with polyangiitis':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

((('vasculiti\*' AND 'ANCA') OR 'antineutrophil' OR 'pauci' OR 'churg strauss syndrome' OR 'Churg-Strauss Vasculitis' OR 'Wegener' OR polyangiiti\* OR polyarteriti\* OR 'ANCA associated vasculitis' OR Granulomatosis OR 'Wegener granulomatosis' OR 'anti neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody associated vasculitis' OR 'granulomatosis with polyangiitis'))

**2) Giant cell arteritis (patient population)**

*Medline/PubMed:*

"Giant Cell Arteritis"[Mesh] OR Giant Cell Arteritid\* [tiab] OR Horton's Giant Cell Arteritis [tiab] OR Horton's Disease [tiab] OR Temporal Arterit\* [tiab] OR Giant Cell Aortit\* [tiab] OR Cranial Arterit\* [tiab]

*Embase:*

'giant cell arteritis'/exp OR 'Giant Cell Arteritid\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Horton\* Giant Cell Arteritis':ti,ab,kw OR 'Horton\* Disease':ti,ab,kw OR 'Temporal Arterit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Giant Cell Aortit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Cranial Arterit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'giant cell arteriitis':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

((('giant cell arteritis' OR 'Giant Cell Arteritid\*' OR 'Horton\* Giant Cell Arteritis' OR 'Horton\* Disease' OR 'Temporal Arterit\*' OR 'Giant Cell Aortit\*' OR 'Cranial Arterit\*' OR 'giant cell

arteriitis')

### 3) Systemic sclerosis (patient population)

#### *Medline/PubMed:*

"Scleroderma, Systemic"[Mesh] OR Systemic Sclerosis [tiab] OR Systemic Scleroderma [tiab] OR "Scleroderma, Diffuse"[Mesh] OR Progressive Scleroderma [tiab] OR Sudden Onset Scleroderma [tiab] OR Systemic Scleroses [tiab] OR Diffuse Scleroderma [tiab] OR Progressive Systemic Sclerosis [tiab]

#### *Embase:*

'systemic sclerosis'/exp OR 'Systemic Sclerosis':ti,ab,kw OR 'Systemic Scleroderm\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'diffuse scleroderma'/exp OR 'Progressive Scleroderm\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Sudden Onset Scleroderm\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Systemic Scleroses':ti,ab,kw OR 'Diffuse Scleroderm\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Progressive Systemic Sclerosis':ti,ab,kw

#### *Cochrane:*

((('Systemic Sclerosis' OR 'Systemic Scleroderm\*' OR 'Progressive Scleroderm\*' OR 'Sudden Onset Scleroderm\*' OR 'Systemic Scleroses' OR 'Diffuse Scleroderm\*' OR 'Progressive Systemic Sclerosis'))

### 4) Mixed connective tissue disease (patient population)

#### *Medline/PubMed:*

"Mixed Connective Tissue Disease"[Mesh] OR "Mixed Connective Tissue Disease" [tiab] OR Sharp Syndrome [tiab] OR MCTD [tiab] OR (mixed [tiab] AND connective[tiab] AND tissue[tiab] AND disease[tiab])

#### *Embase:*

'mixed connective tissue disease'/exp OR 'Mixed Connective Tissue Disease':ti,ab,kw OR 'Sharp Syndrome':ti,ab,kw OR MCTD:ti,ab,kw OR 'mixed collagen disease':ti,ab,kw

#### *Cochrane:*

((('Mixed Connective Tissue Disease' OR 'Sharp Syndrome' OR MCTD OR 'mixed collagen disease'))

### 5) Sjogren Syndrome (patient population)

#### *Medline/PubMed:*

"Sjogren's Syndrome"[Mesh] OR Sjogrens Syndrome [tiab] OR Sjogren's syndrome [tiab] OR Sjogren Syndrome [tiab] OR Sicca Syndrome [tiab]

#### *Embase:*

'Sjogren syndrome'/exp OR 'sjogren disease':ti,ab,kw OR 'sjogren disease':ti,ab,kw OR 'sjogren disease':ti,ab,kw OR 'sjogren syndrome':ti,ab,kw OR 'sjogrens syndrome':ti,ab,kw OR 'sicca syndrome':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

((Sjogren syndrome' OR 'sjogren disease' OR 'sjogren disease' OR 'sjogren disease' OR 'sjogren syndrome' OR 'sjogrens syndrome' OR 'sicca syndrome')

## 6) Myositis (patient population)

*Medline/PubMed:*

"Polymyositis"[Mesh] OR Polymyosit\* [tiab] OR Multiple Myosit\* [tiab] OR Idiopathic Polymyosit\* [tiab] OR Polymyositis Ossificans [tiab] OR "Dermatomyositis"[Mesh] OR Dermatomyositis [tiab] OR Dermatopolymyositis [tiab] OR (Polymyositis [tiab] AND Dermatomyositis [tiab]) OR Adult Type Dermatomyositis [tiab]

*Embase:*

'polymyositis'/exp OR 'Polymyosit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Multiple Myosit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Idiopathic Polymyosit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'Polymyositis Ossificans':ti,ab,kw OR 'dermatomyositis'/exp OR 'Dermatomyositis':ti,ab,kw OR 'Dermatopolymyositis':ti,ab,kw OR ('Polymyositis':ti,ab,kw AND 'Dermatomyositis':ti,ab,kw) OR 'Adult Type Dermatomyositis':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

(('Polymyosit\*' OR 'Multiple Myosit\*' OR 'Idiopathic Polymyosit\*' OR 'Polymyositis Ossificans' OR 'Dermatomyositis' OR 'Dermatopolymyositis' OR ('Polymyositis' AND 'Dermatomyositis' ) OR 'Adult Type Dermatomyositis')

## 7) Cardiovascular disease (outcome all PICO's)

*Medline/PubMed:*

"Arteriosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Cardiovascular Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Ischemia"[Mesh] OR "Stroke"[Mesh] OR angina pectoris[tiab] OR arrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arrythmi\*[tiab] OR dysrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arteriosclero\*[tiab] OR atherosclero\*[tiab] OR blood pressure[tiab] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR cardio-vascular event\*[tiab] OR cerebrovascular disease\*[tiab] OR coronary disease\*[tiab] OR cvd[tiab] OR cvds[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR heart failure\*[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral artery disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral vascular disease\*[tiab] OR stroke\*[tiab]

*Embase*

'cardiovascular disease'/exp OR 'angina pectoris':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'dysrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arteriosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'atherosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardio-vascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cerebrovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'coronary disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvd':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvds':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart failure\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral arterial disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral artery disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral vascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'stroke\*':ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane*

"Arteriosclerosis" OR "Cardiovascular Diseases" OR "Myocardial Ischemia" OR "Stroke" OR "angina pectoris" OR arrhythmi\* OR arrythmi\* OR dysrhythmi\* OR arteriosclero\* OR

atherosclero\* OR blood pressure OR cardiovascular disease\* OR cardiovascular event\* OR cardio-vascular event\* OR cerebrovascular disease\* OR coronary disease\* OR cvd OR cvds OR heart disease\* OR heart failure\* OR peripheral arterial disease\* OR peripheral artery disease\* OR peripheral vascular disease\* OR stroke\*

#### 8) Cardiovascular risk prediction tools

##### *Medline/PubMed:*

"framingham" [tiab] OR "Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation"[tiab] OR "QRISK"[tiab] OR "Pooled Cohort Risk Equation"[tiab] OR "ASCVD"[tiab] OR "Reynolds Risk Score"[tiab] OR "RRS"[tiab] OR "Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study"[tiab] OR "PROCAM"[tiab]

##### *Embase*

'Framingham risk score'/exp OR 'framingham':ti,ab,kw OR 'Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation'/exp OR 'Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation':ti,ab,kw OR 'QRISK':ti,ab,kw OR 'Pooled Cohort Risk Equation':ti,ab,kw OR 'ASCVD':ti,ab,kw OR 'Reynolds risk score'/exp OR 'Reynolds Risk Score':ti,ab,kw OR 'RRS':ti,ab,kw OR 'Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study':ti,ab,kw OR 'PROCAM':ti,ab,kw

##### *Cochrane*

("framingham" OR "Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation" OR "QRISK" OR "Pooled Cohort Risk Equation" OR "ASCVD" OR "Reynolds Risk Score" OR "RRS" OR "Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study" OR "PROCAM"))

#### 9) Antihypertensives *Medline/PubMed:*

"Antihypertensive Agents"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Antihypertensive Agents" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Calcium Channel Blockers"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Calcium Channel Blockers" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Spironolactone"[Mesh] OR "Eplerenone"[Mesh] OR "Clonidine"[Mesh] OR "Diuretics"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Diuretics" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Methyldopa"[Mesh] OR "Hydralazine"[Mesh] OR "aliskiren" [Supplementary Concept] OR antihypertensiv\*[tiab] OR anti-hypertensiv\*[tiab] OR blood pressure lowering drug\*[tiab] OR blood pressure lowering agent\*[tiab] OR blood pressure medicat\*[tiab] OR angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*[tiab] OR ACE inhibit\*[tiab] OR angiotensin receptor block\*[tiab] OR angiotensin receptor antagon\*[tiab] OR calcium channel block\*[tiab] OR calcium channel antagon\*[tiab] OR beta block\*[tiab] OR alpha block\*[tiab] OR diuretic\*[tiab] OR spironolacton\*[tiab] OR eplerenon\*[tiab] OR clonidin\*[tiab] OR methyldopa[tiab] OR hydralazin\*[tiab] OR aliskiren\*[tiab]

##### *Embase*

antihypertensive agent'/de OR 'dipeptidyl carboxypeptidase inhibitor'/de OR 'calcium channel blocking agent'/de OR 'spironolactone'/exp OR 'eplerenone'/exp OR 'clonidine'/exp OR 'diuretic agent'/de OR 'methyldopa'/exp OR 'hydralazine'/exp OR 'aliskiren'/exp OR 'antihypertensiv\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'anti-hypertensiv\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure lowering drug\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure lowering agent\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure medicat\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'ACE inhibit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin receptor block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin receptor antagon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'calcium channel block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'calcium channel antagon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'beta block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'alpha block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'diuretic\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'spironolacton\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'eplerenon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'clonidin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'methyldopa':ti,ab,kw OR 'hydralazin\*':ti,ab,kw OR



'aliskiren\*':ti,ab,kw

#### *Cochrane*

"Antihypertensive Agents" OR "Antihypertensive Agents" OR "Calcium Channel Blockers" OR "Calcium Channel Blockers" OR "Spironolactone" OR "Eplerenone" OR "Clonidine" OR "Diuretics" OR "Diuretics" OR "Methyldopa" OR "Hydralazine" OR "aliskiren" OR antihypertensiv\* OR anti-hypertensiv\* OR blood pressure lowering drug\* OR blood pressure lowering agent\* OR blood pressure medicat\* OR angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\* OR ACE inhibit\* OR angiotensin receptor block\* OR angiotensin receptor antagon\* OR calcium channel block\* OR calcium channel antagon\* OR beta block\* OR alpha block\* OR diuretic\* OR spironolacton\* OR eplerenon\* OR clonidin\* OR methyldopa OR hydralazin\* OR aliskiren\*

#### 10) Lipid lowering medication *Medline/PubMed*:

"Hypolipidemic Agents"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Hypolipidemic Agents" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Ezetimibe"[Mesh] OR lipid lowering[tiab] OR statin\*[tiab] OR ezetimibe[tiab] OR PCSK9[tiab]

#### *Embase*

'antilipemic agent'/de OR 'hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase inhibitor'/exp OR 'ezetimibe'/exp OR 'lipid lowering':ti,ab,kw OR 'statin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'ezetimibe':ti,ab,kw OR 'PCSK9':ti,ab,kw

#### *Cochrane*

"Hypolipidemic Agents" OR "Hypolipidemic Agents" OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors" OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors" OR "Ezetimibe" OR lipid lowering OR statin\* OR ezetimibe OR PCSK9

#### 11) antiplatelet therapy

##### *Medline/PubMed*:

"Platelet Aggregation Inhibitors"[Mesh] OR "Salicylates"[Mesh] OR anti-platelet\*[tiab] OR antiplatelet\*[tiab] OR antithrombocytic\*[tiab] OR anti thrombocytic\*[tiab] OR aspirin[tiab] OR ascal[tiab] OR platelet aggregation inhibit\*[tiab]

#### *Embase*

'antithrombocytic agent'/de OR 'salicylic acid derivative'/exp OR 'anti-platelet\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'antiplatelet\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'antithrombocytic\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'anti thrombocytic\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'aspirin':ti,ab,kw OR 'ascal':ti,ab,kw OR 'platelet aggregation inhibit\*':ti,ab,kw

#### *Cochrane*

"Platelet Aggregation Inhibitors" OR "Salicylates" OR anti-platelet\* OR antiplatelet\* OR antithrombocytic\* OR anti thrombocytic\* OR aspirin OR ascal OR platelet aggregation inhibit\*

#### 12) Disease related risk factors

##### *Medline/PubMed*:

"disease activity" [tiab] OR "disease activity score" [tiab] OR "disease duration" [tiab] OR

"clinical course" [tiab] OR "Birmingham vasculitis activity score" [tiab] OR BVAS [tiab]

#### *Embase*

- a. 'disease activity'/exp OR 'disease course'/exp OR 'disease activity score'/exp OR 'disease activity':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease course':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease activity score':ti,ab,kw OR 'Birmingham vasculitis activity score':ti,ab,kw OR 'BVAS':ti,ab,kw
- b. 'disease activity'/exp OR 'disease course'/exp OR 'disease activity score'/exp OR 'disease activity':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease course':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease activity score':ti,ab,kw OR 'Birmingham vasculitis activity score':ti,ab,kw OR 'BVAS':ti,ab,kw
- c. 'disease activity'/exp OR 'disease course'/exp OR 'disease activity score'/exp OR 'disease activity':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease course':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease activity score':ti,ab,kw OR 'European Scleroderma Study Group (EScSG) activity index':ti,ab,kw OR 'EScSG activity index':ti,ab,kw OR '12-point DAI':ti,ab,kw OR 'Combined Response Index for Systemic Sclerosis':ti,ab,kw OR 'CRISS':ti,ab,kw
- d. 'disease activity'/exp OR 'disease course'/exp OR 'disease activity score'/exp OR 'disease activity':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease course':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease activity score':ti,ab,kw
- e. 'disease activity'/exp OR 'disease course'/exp OR 'disease activity score'/exp OR 'disease activity':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease course':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease activity score':ti,ab,kw OR 'EULAR Sjögren's syndrome (SS) disease activity index':ti,ab,kw OR 'ESSDAI':ti,ab,kw OR 'EULAR SS Disease Activity Index':ti,ab,kw
- f. 'disease activity'/exp OR 'disease course'/exp OR 'disease activity score'/exp OR 'disease activity':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease course':ti,ab,kw OR 'disease activity score':ti,ab,kw OR 'Myositis disease activity assessment tool':tiabkw OR 'mdaat':ti,ab,kw

#### *Cochrane*

"disease activity" OR "disease activity score" OR "disease duration" OR "clinical course" OR "Birmingham vasculitis activity score" OR BVAS

#### 13) Disease related medication

##### *Medline/PubMed:*

"Glucocorticoids" [Mesh] OR prednisone\* [tiab] OR methylprednisone [tiab] OR glucocorticoid\* [tiab] OR corticosteroid\* [tiab] OR "methotrexate" [Mesh] OR methotrexate [tiab] OR "mycophenolic acid" [Mesh] OR mycophenolate mofetil [tiab] OR cellcept [tiab] OR mycophenolic acid [tiab] OR "azathioprine" [Mesh] OR azathioprine [tiab] or Imuran [tiab] OR immuran [tiab] OR "cyclophosphamide" [Mesh] OR cyclophosphamide [tiab] OR endoxan [tiab] OR "rituximab" [Mesh] OR rituximab [tiab] OR CD20 Antibody [tiab] OR "cyclosporin" [Mesh] OR cyclosporin [tiab] OR neoral [tiab] OR "hydroxychloroquine" [Mesh] OR hydroxychloroquine [tiab] OR plaquenil [tiab]

#### *Embase*

'glucocorticoid'/mj OR prednisone\*:ti,ab,kw OR methylprednisone:ti,ab,kw OR glucocorticoid\*:ti,ab,kw OR corticosteroid\*:ti,ab,kw OR 'methotrexate'/mj OR methotrexate:ti,ab,kw OR 'mycophenolic acid'/mj OR mycophenolate mofetil:ti,ab,kw OR

cellcept:ti,ab,kw OR mycophenolic acid:ti,ab,kw OR 'azathioprine'/mj OR  
 azathioprine:ti,ab,kw OR Imuran:ti,ab,kw OR immuran:ti,ab,kw OR 'cyclophosphamide'/mj OR  
 cyclophosphamide:ti,ab,kw OR endoxan:ti,ab,kw OR 'rituximab'/mj OR rituximab:ti,ab,kw OR  
 CD20 Antibody:ti,ab,kw OR 'cyclosporine'/mj OR cyclosporin:ti,ab,kw OR  
 cyclosporine:ti,ab,kw OR neoral:ti,ab,kw OR 'hydroxychloroquine'/mj OR  
 hydroxychloroquine:ti,ab,kw OR plaquenil:ti,ab,kw

#### *Cochrane*

glucocorticoid OR prednisone\* OR methylprednisone OR glucocorticoid\* OR corticosteroid\*  
 OR methotrexate OR mycophenolic NEXT acid OR mycophenolate NEXT mofetil OR cellcept  
 OR azathioprine OR Imuran OR immuran OR cyclophosphamide OR endoxan OR rituximab OR  
 CD20 NEXT Antibody OR cyclosporine OR cyclosporin OR neoral OR hydroxychloroquine OR  
 plaquenil:ti,ab,kw

#### 14) Prevalence cardiovascular disease *Medline/PubMed*

"Morbidity"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Incidence"[Mesh] OR "Prevalence"[Mesh] OR "epidemiology"  
 [Subheading:NoExp] OR "Mortality"[Mesh] OR "mortality" [Subheading] OR frequenc\*[ti] OR  
 morbidit\*[ti] OR occurenc\*[ti] OR prevalenc\*[ti] OR incidenc\*[ti] OR frequenc\*[ot] OR  
 morbidit\*[ot] OR occurenc\*[ot] OR prevalenc\*[ot] OR incidenc\*[ot]

#### *Embase*

'morbidity'/mj OR 'incidence'/exp/mj OR 'prevalence'/mj OR 'epidemiology'/mj OR  
 'mortality'/exp/mj OR 'epidemiology'/lnk OR frequenc\*:ti,kw OR morbidit\*:ti,kw OR  
 occurenc\*:ti,kw OR prevalenc\*:ti,kw OR incidenc\*:ti,kw

#### *Cochrane*

(frequenc\* OR morbidit\* OR occurenc\* OR prevalenc\* OR incidenc\*):ab,ti,kw

**c. Systemic lupus erythematosus and the antiphospholipid syndrome****1) Cardiovascular risk prediction tools***Medline/PubMed:*

(((((systemic lupus erythematosus[MeSH Terms]) OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[Title/Abstract])) AND (("framingham" [tiab] OR "Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation"[tiab] OR "QRISK"[tiab] OR "Pooled Cohort Risk Equation"[tiab] OR "ASCVD"[tiab] OR "Reynolds Risk Score"[tiab] OR "RRS"[tiab] OR "Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study"[tiab] OR "PROCAM"[tiab]))))  
 (((((antiphospholipid syndrome[MeSH Terms]) OR "antiphospholipid syndrome"[Title/Abstract])) AND (("framingham" [tiab] OR "Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation"[tiab] OR "QRISK"[tiab] OR "Pooled Cohort Risk Equation"[tiab] OR "ASCVD"[tiab] OR "Reynolds Risk Score"[tiab] OR "RRS"[tiab] OR "Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study"[tiab] OR "PROCAM"[tiab]))))

*Embase:*

'systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp  
 'systemic lupus erythematosus\*':ab,ti,kw  
 'antiphospholipid syndrome'/exp  
 'antiphospholipid syndrome\*':ab,ti,kw  
 'framingham risk score' 'framingham' 'systematic coronary risk evaluation' 'systematic coronary risk evaluation' 'qrisk' 'pooled cohort risk equation' 'ascvd' 'reynolds risk score' 'reynolds risk score' 'rrs' 'prospective cardiovascular münster study':ti,ab,kw OR :ti,ab,kw

*Cochrane:*

("systemic lupus erythematosus"):ab,ti,kw  
 MeSH descriptor: [Lupus Erythematosus, Systemic] explode all trees  
 'antiphospholipid syndrome\*':ab,ti,kw  
 MeSH descriptor: [Antiphospholipid Syndrome] explode all trees  
 ("framingham" OR "Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation" OR "QRISK" OR "Pooled Cohort Risk Equation" OR "ASCVD" OR "Reynolds Risk Score" OR "RRS" OR "Prospective Cardiovascular Münster Study" OR "PROCAM"):ti,ab,kw

**2) Antihypertensives***Medline/PubMed:*

(systemic lupus erythematosus[MeSH Terms]) OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[Title/Abstract]  
 (antiphospholipid syndrome[MeSH Terms]) OR "antiphospholipid syndrome"[Title/Abstract]  
 ("Antihypertensive Agents"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Antihypertensive Agents" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Calcium Channel Blockers"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Calcium Channel Blockers" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Spironolactone"[Mesh] OR "Eplerenone"[Mesh] OR "Clonidine"[Mesh] OR "Diuretics"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Diuretics" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Methyldopa"[Mesh] OR "Hydralazine"[Mesh] OR "aliskiren" [Supplementary Concept] OR antihypertensiv\*[tiab] OR anti-hypertensiv\*[tiab] OR blood pressure lowering drug\*[tiab] OR blood pressure lowering agent\*[tiab] OR blood pressure medicat\*[tiab] OR angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*[tiab] OR ACE inhibit\*[tiab] OR angiotensin receptor block\*[tiab] OR angiotensin receptor antagon\*[tiab] OR calcium channel block\*[tiab] OR calcium channel antagon\*[tiab] OR beta block\*[tiab] OR alpha block\*[tiab] OR diuretic\*[tiab] OR

spironolacton\*[tiab] OR eplerenon\*[tiab] OR clonidin\*[tiab] OR methyldopa[tiab] OR hydralazin\*[tiab] OR aliskiren\*[tiab])  
 ("Arteriosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Cardiovascular Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Ischemia"[Mesh] OR "Stroke"[Mesh] OR angina pectoris[tiab] OR arrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arrythmi\*[tiab] OR dysrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arteriosclero\*[tiab] OR atherosclero\*[tiab] OR blood pressure[tiab] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR cardio-vascular event\*[tiab] OR cerebrovascular disease\*[tiab] OR coronary disease\*[tiab] OR cvd[tiab] OR cvds[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR heart failure\*[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral artery disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral vascular disease\*[tiab] OR stroke\*[tiab])

"lupus nephritis"[tiab] OR lupus nephritis[mh] OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"[tiab] OR "lupoid nephritis"[tiab] OR ((lupus erythematosus, systemic[mh] OR SLE[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "libman sacks"[tiab] OR "lupus vasculitis"[tiab]) AND (kidney diseases[mh] OR "kidney disease\*"[tiab] OR "kidney failure"[tiab] OR "renal failure"[tiab] OR "renal insufficiency"[tiab] OR "kidney insufficiency"[tiab] OR "kidney damage"[tiab] OR "renal damage"[tiab] OR "kidney impairment"[tiab] OR "renal impairment"[tiab])) )  
 Antihypertensive Agents[mh] OR antihypertensive\*[tiab] OR anti-hypertensive\*[tiab] OR adrenergic beta-antagonists[mh] OR adrenergic alpha antagonists[mh] OR angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors[mh] OR ace inhibitor\*[tiab] OR calcium channel blockers[mh] OR ganglionic blockers[mh] OR diuretics[mh] OR blood pressure lowering drug[tiab] OR blood pressure medicat\*[tiab] OR angiotensin coverting enzyme inhibitor\*[tiab] OR angiotensin receptor antagonist\*[tiab] OR calcium channel blocker\*[tiab] OR calcium channel antagonist\*[tiab] OR beta blocker\*[tiab] OR alpha blocker\*[tiab] OR diuretic\*[tiab] OR spironolactone[tiab] OR eplirone[tiab] OR clonidine[tiab] OR thiazide[tiab] OR methyldopa[tiab] OR hydralazine[tiab] OR aliskiren[tiab] OR antihypertensive agents[pa]

#### Embase:

'systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp OR 'systemic lupus erythematosus':ti,ab,kw  
 'antiphospholipid syndrome'/exp OR 'antiphospholipid syndrome':ti,ab,kw  
 'antihypertensive agent'/de OR 'dipeptidyl carboxypeptidase inhibitor'/de OR 'calcium channel blocking agent'/de OR 'spironolactone'/exp OR 'eplerenone'/exp OR 'clonidine'/exp OR 'diuretic agent'/de OR 'methyldopa'/exp OR 'hydralazine'/exp OR 'aliskiren'/exp OR 'antihypertensiv\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'anti-hypertensiv\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure lowering drug\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure lowering agent\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure medicat\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'ace inhibit\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin receptor block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'angiotensin receptor antagon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'calcium channel block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'calcium channel antagon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'beta block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'alpha block\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'diuretic\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'spironolacton\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'eplerenon\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'clonidin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'methyldopa':ti,ab,kw OR 'hydralazin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'aliskiren\*':ti,ab,kw  
 'cardiovascular disease'/exp OR 'angina pectoris':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'dysrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arteriosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'atherosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardio-vascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cerebrovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'coronary disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvd':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvds':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart failure\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral arterial disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral artery disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral vascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'stroke\*':ti,ab,kw



'lupus erythematosus nephritis'/exp OR 'lupus nephritis':ti,ab OR 'lupoid nephritis':ti,ab OR 'lupus nephropathy':ti,ab OR 'lupus glomerulonephritis':ti,ab OR ('systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp/mj OR 'systematic lupus erythematosus':ti,ab OR 'systemic lupus':ti,ab OR 'lupus erythematosus'/de OR 'lupus erythematosus':ti,ab OR 'disseminated lupus':ti,ab OR 'libman sacks':ti,ab OR 'lupus vasculitis':ti,ab) AND 'kidney disease'/exp/mj OR (((kidney\* OR renal) NEAR/4 (failure OR damage\* OR insufficiency OR impairment OR disease\*)):ti,ab) 'antihypertensive agent'/exp OR 'beta adrenergic receptor blocking agent'/exp OR 'alpha adrenergic receptor blocking agent'/exp OR 'dipeptidyl carboxypeptidase inhibitor'/exp OR 'calcium channel blocking agent'/exp OR 'ganglion blocking agent'/exp OR 'diuretic agent'/exp OR 'anti hypertensive\*':ti,ab OR 'ace inhibitor\*':ti,ab OR 'blood pressure lowering drug\*':ti,ab OR 'blood pressure medicat\*':ti,ab OR 'angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor\*':ti,ab OR 'angiotensin receptor antagonist\*':ti,ab OR 'calcium channel blocker\*':ti,ab OR 'calcium channel antagonist\*':ti,ab OR 'beta blocker\*':ti,ab OR 'alpha blocker\*':ti,ab OR diuretic\*:ti,ab OR spironolactone:ti,ab OR eplerone:ti,ab OR clonidine:ti,ab OR thiazide:ti,ab OR methyldopa:ti,ab OR hydralazine:ti,ab OR aliskiren:ti,ab 'hypertension'/exp/dm\_dt,dm\_th OR 'hypertension'/exp/mj OR 'blood pressure':ti,ab OR hypertens\*:ti

#### Cochrane:

("systemic lupus erythematosus"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("antiphospholipid syndrome"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("antihypertensiv\*" OR "anti-hypertensiv\*" OR "blood pressure lowering drug\*" OR "blood pressure lowering agent\*" OR "blood pressure medicat\*" OR "angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor\*" OR "ACE inhibit\*" OR "angiotensin receptor block\*" OR "angiotensin receptor antagon\*" OR "calcium channel block\*" OR "calcium channel antagon\*" OR "beta block\*" OR "alpha block\*" OR "diuretic\*" OR "spironolacton\*" OR "eplerenon\*" OR "clonidin\*" OR "methyldopa" OR "hydralazin\*" OR "aliskiren\*"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("angina pectoris" OR "arrhythmi\*" OR "arrythmi\*" OR "dysrhythmi\*" OR "arteriosclero\*" OR "atherosclero\*" OR "blood pressure" OR "cardiovascular disease\*" OR "cardiovascular event\*" OR "cardio-vascular event\*" OR "cerebrovascular disease\*" OR "coronary disease\*" OR "cvd" OR "cvds" OR "heart disease\*" OR "heart failure\*" OR "peripheral arterial disease\*" OR "peripheral artery disease\*" OR "peripheral vascular disease\*" OR "stroke\*"):ti,ab,kw

[mh "lupus nephritis"] OR "lupus nephritis" OR "lupus glomerulonephritis" OR "lupoid nephritis" OR "lupus nephropathy" OR ([mh "lupus erythematosus, systemic"] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus" OR "lupus erythematosus" OR "libman sacks" OR "lupus vasculitis" ) AND ([mh "kidney diseases"] OR ((kidney OR renal) NEAR/4 (damage OR insufficiency OR failure OR disease)))  
 [mh "Antihypertensive Agents"] OR anti-hypertensive\* OR antihypertensive\* OR [mh "adrenergic beta-antagonists"] OR [mh "adrenergic alpha antagonists"] OR [mh "angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors"] OR "ace inhibitor\*" OR [mh "calcium channel blockers"] OR [mh "ganglionic blockers"] OR [mh "diuretics"] OR "pressure lowering drug\*" OR "blood pressure medicat\*" OR "angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor\*" OR "angiotensin receptor antagonist"ti,ab OR "calcium channel blocker\*" OR "calcium channel antagonist\*" OR "beta blocker\*" OR "alpha blocker\*" OR diuretic\* OR spironolactone OR eplerone OR clonidine OR thiazide OR methyldopa

#### 3) Lipid-lowering medications

##### Medline/PubMed:

(systemic lupus erythematosus[MeSH Terms]) OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[Title/Abstract]  
 (antiphospholipid syndrome[MeSH Terms]) OR "antiphospholipid syndrome"[Title/Abstract]  
 ("Hypolipidemic Agents"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Hypolipidemic Agents" [Pharmacological Action]  
 OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors"[Mesh:NoExp] OR "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Ezetimibe"[Mesh] OR lipid lowering[tiab] OR statin\*[tiab] OR ezetimibe[tiab] OR PCSK9[tiab])  
 ("Arteriosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Cardiovascular Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Ischemia"[Mesh] OR "Stroke"[Mesh] OR angina pectoris[tiab] OR arrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arrythmi\*[tiab] OR dysrhythmi\*[tiab] OR arteriosclero\*[tiab] OR atherosclero\*[tiab] OR blood pressure[tiab] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR cardio-vascular event\*[tiab] OR cerebrovascular disease\*[tiab] OR coronary disease\*[tiab] OR cvd[tiab] OR cvds[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR heart failure\*[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral artery disease\*[tiab] OR peripheral vascular disease\*[tiab] OR stroke\*[tiab])

#### Embase:

'systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp OR 'systemic lupus erythematosus':ti,ab,kw  
 'antiphospholipid syndrome'/exp OR 'antiphospholipid syndrome':ti,ab,kw  
 'antilipemic agent'/de OR 'hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme a reductase inhibitor'/exp OR 'ezetimibe'/exp OR 'lipid lowering':ti,ab,kw OR 'statin\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'ezetimibe':ti,ab,kw OR 'pcsk9':ti,ab,kw  
 'cardiovascular disease'/exp OR 'angina pectoris':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arrythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'dysrhythmi\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'arteriosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'atherosclero\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'blood pressure':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardiovascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cardio-vascular event\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cerebrovascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'coronary disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvd':ti,ab,kw OR 'cvds':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'heart failure\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral arterial disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral artery disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'peripheral vascular disease\*':ti,ab,kw OR 'stroke\*':ti,ab,kw

#### Cochrane:

("systemic lupus erythematosus"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("antiphospholipid syndrome"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("lipid lowering" OR "statin\*" OR "ezetimibe" OR "PCSK9"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("angina pectoris" OR "arrhythmi\*" OR "arrythmi\*" OR "dysrhythmi\*" OR "arteriosclero\*" OR "atherosclero\*" OR "blood pressure" OR "cardiovascular disease\*" OR "cardiovascular event\*" OR "cardio-vascular event\*" OR "cerebrovascular disease\*" OR "coronary disease\*" OR "cvd" OR "cvds" OR "heart disease\*" OR "heart failure\*" OR "peripheral arterial disease\*" OR "peripheral artery disease\*" OR "peripheral vascular disease\*" OR "stroke\*"):ti,ab,kw

#### 4) Disease activity

##### Medline/PubMed:

(lupus erythematosus, systemic[mh] OR SLE[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "libman sacks"[tiab] OR "lupus nephritis"[tiab] OR "lupus vasculitis"[tiab] OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"[tiab])  
 ("disease activity"[tiab] OR "lupus activity"[tiab] OR sle disease activity index\*[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus disease activity"[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus

activity"[tiab] OR SLEDAI[tiab] OR "SLEDAI 2K"[tiab] OR "SELENA SLEDAI"[tiab] OR british isles lupus assessment\*[tiab] OR BILAG[tiab] OR ECLAM[tiab] OR "European consensus lupus activity"[tiab] OR systemic lupus activity measure\*[tiab] OR SLAM[tiab] OR systemic lupus activity questionnaire\*[tiab])  
 (cardiovascular diseases[mh] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR CVD[tiab] OR coronary[tiab] OR cardiovascular[tiab] OR cardiac[tiab] OR heart\*[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR cardiac disease\*[tiab] OR "heart failure"[tiab] OR CHF[tiab] OR ((cardiac[tiab] OR heart[tiab] OR atrial[tiab] OR ventricular[tiab] OR sinus[tiab]) AND (arrhythmia\*[tiab] OR flutter[tiab] OR block[tiab] OR tachycard\*[tiab] OR fibrillat\*[tiab] OR bradycard\*[tiab] OR premature complex\*[tiab])) OR myocardial infarct\*[tiab] OR angina\*[tiab] OR acute coronary syndrome\*[tiab] OR coronary artery disease\*[tiab] OR coronary stenosis\*[tiab] OR coronary thrombosis\*[tiab] OR (ischem\*[tiab] AND (heart[tiab] OR coronary[tiab])) OR "coronary vasospasm"[tiab] OR coronary artery spasm\*[tiab] OR myocardial stunned\*[tiab] OR stroke[mh] OR stroke[tiab] OR CVA[tiab] OR cerebrovascular accident\*[tiab] OR brain ischemia[mh] OR brain ischemia\*[tiab] OR brain infarct\*[tiab] OR "transient ischemic attack"[tiab] OR TIA[tiab] OR atherosclerosis[tiab] OR peripheral 3 arterial disease\*[tiab] OR coronary artery obstruction\*[tiab] OR coronary artery thrombosis\*[tiab] OR peripheral occlusive artery disease\*[tiab] OR "Coronary Stenosis"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Stunning"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Vasospasm"[Mesh] OR "Atherosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Peripheral Arterial Disease"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Thrombosis"[Mesh] OR "Brain Infarction"[Mesh] OR "Acute Coronary Syndrome"[Mesh] OR "Heart Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Infarction"[Mesh])

#### *Embase:*

('systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp OR SLE:ti,ab OR "systemic lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "libman sacks":ti,ab OR "lupus nephritis":ti,ab OR "lupus vasculitis":ti,ab OR "lupus glomerulonephritis":ti,ab)  
 ('disease activity'/exp OR 'disease activity index'/exp OR 'disease activity score'/exp OR 'SLEDAI'/exp OR 'british isles lupus assessment group index'/exp OR 'european consensus lupus activity measurement'/exp OR 'systemic lupus activity measure'/exp OR 'systemic lupus activity questionnaire'/exp OR "disease activity":ti,ab OR "lupus activity":ti,ab OR "sle disease activity index":ti,ab OR "sle disease activity indexes":ti,ab OR "systemic lupus erythematosus disease activity":ti,ab OR "systemic lupus erythematosus activity":ti,ab OR SLEDAI:ti,ab OR "SLEDAI 2K":ti,ab OR "SELENA SLEDAI":ti,ab OR "british isles lupus assessment":ti,ab OR "british isles lupus assessments":ti,ab OR BILAG:ti,ab OR ECLAM:ti,ab OR "European consensus lupus activity":ti,ab OR "systemic lupus activity measure":ti,ab OR "systemic lupus activity measures":ti,ab OR "systemic lupus activity measurement":ti,ab OR "systemic lupus activity measurements":ti,ab OR SLAM:ti,ab OR "systemic lupus activity questionnaire":ti,ab OR "systemic lupus activity questionnaires":ti,ab)  
 ('cardiovascular disease'/exp OR "cardiovascular disease":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular event":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular events":ti,ab OR CVD:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab OR cardiovascular:ti,ab OR cardiac:ti,ab OR heart\*:ti,ab OR "heart disease":ti,ab OR 'heart disease'/exp 5 OR "heart diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiac disease":ti,ab OR "cardiac diseases":ti,ab OR "heart failure":ti,ab OR "heart failures":ti,ab OR CHF:ti,ab OR ((cardiac:ti,ab OR heart:ti,ab OR atrial:ti,ab OR ventricular:ti,ab OR sinus:ti,ab) AND (arrhythmia\*:ti,ab OR flutter:ti,ab OR block:ti,ab OR tachycard\*:ti,ab OR fibrillat\*:ti,ab OR bradycard\*:ti,ab OR "premature complex":ti,ab OR "premature complexes":ti,ab)) OR "myocardial infarct":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarcts":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarction":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarctions":ti,ab OR 'angina pectoris'/exp OR angina\*:ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndrome":ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndromes":ti,ab OR 'acute coronary syndrome'/exp OR "coronary artery disease":ti,ab OR "coronary artery diseases":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery disease'/exp OR 'coronary artery obstruction'/exp OR "coronary stenosis":ti,ab OR "coronary

stenoses":ti,ab OR "coronary thrombosis":ti,ab OR "coronary thromboses":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery thrombosis'/exp OR (ischem\*:ti,ab AND (heart:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab)) OR "coronary vasospasm":ti,ab OR "coronary vasospasms":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery spasm'/exp OR "myocardial stunning":ti,ab OR stroke:ti,ab OR CVA:ti,ab OR 'cerebrovascular accident'/exp OR "cerebrovascular accident":ti,ab OR "cerebrovascular accidents":ti,ab OR "brain ischemia":ti,ab OR 'brain ischemia'/exp OR "brain infarct":ti,ab OR "brain infarcts":ti,ab OR "brain infarction":ti,ab OR "brain infarctions":ti,ab OR 'transient ischemic attack'/exp OR "transient ischemic attack":ti,ab OR "transient ischemic attacks":ti,ab OR TIA:ti,ab OR 'atherosclerosis'/exp OR atherosclerosis:ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial disease":ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial diseases":ti,ab OR 'peripheral occlusive artery disease'/exp)

#### Cochrane:

[mh "lupus erythematosus, systemic"]  
 (SLE OR "systemic lupus erythematosus" OR "lupus erythematosus" OR "libman sacks" OR "lupus nephritis" OR "lupus vasculitis" OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("disease activity" OR "lupus activity" OR "sle disease activity index" OR "sle disease activity indexes" OR "systemic lupus erythematosus disease activity" OR "systemic lupus erythematosus activity" OR SLEDAI OR "SLEDAI 2K" OR "SELENA SLEDAI" OR "british isles lupus assessment" OR "british isles lupus assessments" OR BILAG OR ECLAM OR "European consensus lupus activity" OR "systemic lupus activity measure" OR "systemic lupus activity measures" OR "systemic lupus activity measurement" OR "systemic lupus activity measurements" OR SLAM OR "systemic lupus activity questionnaire" OR "systemic lupus activity questionnaires"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("cardiovascular diseases" OR "cardiovascular disease" OR "cardiovascular event" OR "cardiovascular events" OR CVD OR coronary OR cardiovascular OR cardiac OR heart\* OR "heart disease" OR "heart diseases" OR "cardiac disease" OR "cardiac diseases" OR "heart failure" OR CHF OR ((cardiac OR heart OR atrial OR ventricular OR sinus) AND (arrhythmia\* OR flutter OR block OR tachycard\* OR fibrillat\* OR bradycard\* OR premature complex\*)) OR "myocardial infarct" OR "myocardial infarcts" OR "myocardial infarction" OR "myocardial infarctions" OR angina\* OR "acute coronary syndrome" OR "acute coronary syndromes" OR "coronary artery disease" OR "coronary artery diseases" OR "coronary stenosis" OR "coronary 7 stenoses" OR "coronary thrombosis" OR "coronary thromboses" OR (ischem\* AND (heart OR coronary)) OR "coronary vasospasm" OR "coronary vasospasms" OR "coronary artery spasm" OR "coronary artery spasms" OR "myocardial stunning" OR stroke OR CVA OR "cerebrovascular accident" OR "cerebrovascular accidents" OR "brain ischemia" OR "brain ischemias" OR "brain infarct" OR "brain infarcts" OR "brain infarction" OR "brain infarctions" OR "transient ischemic attack" OR TIA OR atherosclerosis OR "peripheral arterial disease" OR "peripheral arterial diseases" OR "coronary artery obstruction" OR "coronary artery obstructions" OR "coronary artery thrombosis" OR "coronary artery thromboses" OR "peripheral occlusive artery disease" OR "peripheral occlusive artery diseases"):ti,ab,kw  
 ([mh stroke] OR [mh "cardiovascular diseases"] OR [mh "Coronary Stenosis"] OR [mh "Myocardial Stunning"] OR [mh "Coronary Vasospasm"] OR [mh "Atherosclerosis"] OR [mh "Peripheral Arterial Disease"] OR [mh "Coronary Thrombosis"] OR [mh "Brain Infarction"] OR [mh "Acute Coronary Syndrome"] OR [mh "Heart Diseases"] OR [mh "Myocardial Infarction"] OR [mh "brain ischemia"])

#### 5) Glucocorticoids

*Medline/PubMed:*

(lupus erythematosus, systemic[mh] OR SLE[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "libman sacks"[tiab] OR "lupus nephritis"[tiab] OR "lupus vasculitis"[tiab] OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"[tiab])  
 (((low[tiab] OR lower\*[tiab] OR daily[tiab] OR mean[tiab] OR average[tiab] OR cumulative[tiab]) AND (dose\*[tiab] OR dosing[tiab] OR dosage\*[tiab] OR use\*[tiab])) AND (corticosteroid[tw] OR corticosteroids[tw] OR glucocorticoid[tw] OR glucocorticoids[tw] OR prednisone[tw] OR prednisolone[tw] OR methylprednisolone[tw] OR Metipred[tw] OR Urbason[tw] OR Medrol[tw] OR Predate[tw] OR Predonine[tw] OR Dehydrocortisone[tw] OR delta-Cortisone[tw] OR Rectodelt[tw] OR Prednison Hexal[tw] OR Sterapred[tw] OR Ultracorten[tw] OR Winpred[tw] OR Apo-Prednisone[tw] OR Cortan[tw] OR Cortancyl[tw] OR Panafcort[tw] OR Decortin[tw] OR Dacortin[tw] OR Decortisyl[tw] OR Deltasone[tw] OR Encortone[tw] OR Encorton[tw] OR "Liquid Pred"[tw] OR Meticorten[tw] OR Orasone[tw] OR Panasol[tw] OR Prednidib[tw] OR Pronisone[tw] OR Sone[tw] OR "Adrenal Cortex Hormones"[Mesh] OR "Glucocorticoids"[Mesh] OR "Prednisone"[Mesh] OR "Glucocorticoids"[Pharmacological Action] OR "Prednisolone"[Mesh] OR "Methylprednisolone"[Mesh])  
 (cumulative corticosteroid use\*[tiab] OR cumulative corticosteroid dos\*[tiab] OR cumulative corticosteroid exposure\*[tiab] OR cumulative glucocorticoid use\*[tiab] OR cumulative glucocorticoid dos\*[tiab] OR cumulative glucocorticoid exposure\*[tiab] OR daily corticosteroid dose\*[tiab] OR daily glucocorticoid dos\*[tiab] OR mean corticosteroid dos\*[tiab] OR mean glucocorticoid dos\*[tiab])  
 (cardiovascular diseases[mh] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR CVD[tiab] OR coronary[tiab] OR cardiovascular[tiab] OR cardiac[tiab] OR heart\*[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR cardiac disease\*[tiab] OR "heart failure"[tiab] OR CHF[tiab] OR ((cardiac[tiab] OR heart[tiab] OR atrial[tiab] OR ventricular[tiab] OR sinus[tiab]) AND (arrhythmia\*[tiab] OR flutter[tiab] OR block[tiab] OR tachycard\*[tiab] OR fibrillat\*[tiab] OR bradycard\*[tiab] OR premature complex\*[tiab])) OR myocardial infarct\*[tiab] OR angina\*[tiab] OR acute coronary syndrome\*[tiab] OR coronary artery disease\*[tiab] OR coronary stenosis\*[tiab] OR coronary thrombosis\*[tiab] OR (ischem\*[tiab] AND (heart[tiab] OR coronary[tiab])) OR "coronary vasospasm"[tiab] OR coronary artery spasm\*[tiab] OR myocardial stun\*[tiab] OR stroke[mh] OR stroke[tiab] OR CVA[tiab] OR cerebrovascular accident\*[tiab] OR brain ischemia[mh] OR brain ischemia\*[tiab] OR brain infarct\*[tiab] OR "transient ischemic attack"[tiab] OR TIA[tiab] OR atherosclerosis[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR coronary artery obstruction\*[tiab] OR coronary artery thrombosis\*[tiab] OR peripheral occlusive artery disease\*[tiab] OR "Coronary Stenosis"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Stunning"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Vasospasm"[Mesh] OR "Atherosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Peripheral Arterial Disease"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Thrombosis"[Mesh] OR "Brain Infarction"[Mesh] OR "Acute Coronary Syndrome"[Mesh] OR "Heart Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Infarction"[Mesh])

#### Embase:

('systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp OR SLE:ti,ab OR "systemic lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "libman sacks":ti,ab OR "lupus nephritis":ti,ab OR "lupus vasculitis":ti,ab OR "lupus glomerulonephritis":ti,ab)  
 ((low:ti,ab OR lower\*:ti,ab OR daily:ti,ab OR mean:ti,ab OR average:ti,ab OR cumulative:ti,ab) AND (dose\*:ti,ab OR dosing:ti,ab OR dosage\*:ti,ab OR use\*:ti,ab) AND (corticosteroid:ti,ab OR corticosteroids:ti,ab OR glucocorticoid:ti,ab OR glucocorticoids:ti,ab OR prednisone:ti,ab OR prednisolone:ti,ab OR methylprednisolone:ti,ab OR Metipred:ti,ab OR Urbason:ti,ab OR Medrol:ti,ab OR Predate:ti,ab OR Predonine:ti,ab OR Dehydrocortisone:ti,ab OR delta-Cortisone:ti,ab OR Rectodelt:ti,ab OR "Prednison Hexal":ti,ab OR Sterapred:ti,ab OR Ultracorten:ti,ab OR Winpred:ti,ab OR "Apo-Prednisone":ti,ab OR Cortan:ti,ab OR Cortancyl:ti,ab OR Panafcort:ti,ab OR Decortin:ti,ab OR Dacortin:ti,ab OR Decortisyl:ti,ab OR Deltasone:ti,ab OR Encortone:ti,ab OR Encorton:ti,ab OR "Liquid Pred":ti,ab OR



Meticorten:ti,ab OR Orasone:ti,ab OR Panasol:ti,ab OR Prednidib:ti,ab OR 6 Pronisone:ti,ab OR Sone:ti,ab OR 'glucocorticoid'/exp OR 'corticosteroid'/exp OR 'prednisone'/exp OR 'prednisolone'/exp OR 'methylprednisolone'/exp))  
 ("cumulative corticosteroid use":ti,ab OR "cumulative corticosteroid uses":ti,ab OR "cumulative corticosteroid dose":ti,ab OR "cumulative corticosteroid doses":ti,ab OR "cumulative corticosteroid exposure":ti,ab OR "cumulative corticosteroid exposures":ti,ab OR "cumulative glucocorticoid use":ti,ab OR "cumulative glucocorticoid uses":ti,ab OR "cumulative glucocorticoid dose":ti,ab OR "cumulative glucocorticoid doses":ti,ab OR "cumulative glucocorticoid exposure":ti,ab OR "cumulative glucocorticoid exposures":ti,ab OR "daily corticosteroid dose":ti,ab OR "daily corticosteroid doses":ti,ab OR "daily glucocorticoid dose":ti,ab OR "daily glucocorticoid doses":ti,ab OR "mean corticosteroid dose":ti,ab OR "mean corticosteroid doses":ti,ab OR "mean glucocorticoid dose":ti,ab OR "mean glucocorticoid doses":ti,ab)  
 ('cardiovascular disease'/exp OR "cardiovascular disease":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular event":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular events":ti,ab OR CVD:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab OR cardiovascular:ti,ab OR cardiac:ti,ab OR heart\*:ti,ab OR "heart disease":ti,ab OR "heart disease"/exp OR "heart diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiac disease":ti,ab OR "cardiac diseases":ti,ab OR "heart failure":ti,ab OR "heart failures":ti,ab OR CHF:ti,ab OR ((cardiac:ti,ab OR heart:ti,ab OR atrial:ti,ab OR ventricular:ti,ab OR sinus:ti,ab) AND (arrhythmia\*:ti,ab OR flutter:ti,ab OR block:ti,ab OR tachycardia\*:ti,ab OR fibrillat\*:ti,ab OR bradycardia\*:ti,ab OR "premature complex":ti,ab OR "premature complexes":ti,ab)) OR "myocardial infarct":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarcts":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarction":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarctions":ti,ab OR 'angina pectoris'/exp OR angina\*:ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndrome":ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndromes":ti,ab OR 'acute coronary syndrome'/exp OR "coronary artery disease":ti,ab OR "coronary artery diseases":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery disease'/exp OR 'coronary artery obstruction'/exp OR "coronary stenosis":ti,ab OR "coronary stenoses":ti,ab OR "coronary thrombosis":ti,ab OR "coronary thromboses":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery thrombosis'/exp OR (ischem\*:ti,ab AND (heart:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab)) OR "coronary vasospasm":ti,ab OR "coronary vasospasms":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery spasm'/exp OR "myocardial stunning":ti,ab OR stroke:ti,ab OR CVA:ti,ab OR 'cerebrovascular accident'/exp OR "cerebrovascular accident":ti,ab OR "cerebrovascular accidents":ti,ab OR "brain ischemia":ti,ab OR 'brain ischemia'/exp OR "brain infarct":ti,ab OR "brain infarcts":ti,ab OR "brain infarction":ti,ab OR "brain infarctions":ti,ab OR 'transient ischemic attack'/exp OR "transient ischemic attack":ti,ab OR "transient ischemic attacks":ti,ab OR TIA:ti,ab OR 'atherosclerosis'/exp OR atherosclerosis:ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial disease":ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial diseases":ti,ab OR 'peripheral occlusive artery disease'/exp)

#### Cochrane:

[mh "lupus erythematosus, systemic"]  
 (SLE OR "systemic lupus erythematosus" OR "lupus erythematosus" OR "libman sacks" OR "lupus nephritis" OR "lupus vasculitis" OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"):ti,ab,kw  
 (((low OR lower\* OR daily OR mean OR average OR cumulative) AND (dose\* OR dosing OR dosage\* OR use\*)) AND (corticosteroid OR corticosteroids OR glucocorticoid OR glucocorticoids OR prednisone OR prednisolone OR methylprednisolone)):ti,ab,kw  
 (Metipred OR Urbason OR Medrol OR Predate OR Predonine OR Dehydrocortisone OR deltaCortisone OR Rectodelt OR "Prednison Hexal" OR Sterapred OR Ultracorten OR Winpred OR Apo-Prednisone OR Cortan OR Cortancyl OR Panafcort OR Decortin OR Dacortin OR Decortisyl OR Deltasone OR Encortone OR Encorton OR "Liquid Pred" OR Meticorten OR Orasone OR Panasol OR Prednidib OR Pronisone OR Sone):ti,ab,kw  
 ([mh "Adrenal Cortex Hormones"] OR [mh "Glucocorticoids"] OR [mh "Prednisone"] OR [mh "Prednisolone"] OR [mh "Methylprednisolone"])

("cumulative corticosteroid use" OR "cumulative corticosteroid uses" OR "cumulative corticosteroid dose" OR "cumulative corticosteroid doses" OR "cumulative corticosteroid exposure" OR "cumulative corticosteroid exposures" OR "cumulative glucocorticoid use" OR "cumulative glucocorticoid uses" OR "cumulative glucocorticoid dose" OR "cumulative glucocorticoid doses" OR "cumulative glucocorticoid exposure" OR "cumulative glucocorticoid exposures" OR "daily corticosteroid dose" OR "daily corticosteroid doses" OR "daily glucocorticoid dose" OR "daily glucocorticoid doses" OR "mean corticosteroid dose" OR "mean corticosteroid doses" OR "mean glucocorticoid dose" OR "mean glucocorticoid doses"):ti,ab,kw

("cardiovascular diseases" OR "cardiovascular disease" OR "cardiovascular event" OR "cardiovascular events" OR CVD OR coronary OR cardiovascular OR cardiac OR heart\* OR "heart disease" OR "heart diseases" OR "cardiac disease" OR "cardiac diseases" OR "heart 9 failure" OR CHF OR ((cardiac OR heart OR atrial OR ventricular OR sinus) AND (arrhythmia\* OR flutter OR block OR tachycard\* OR fibrillat\* OR bradycard\* OR premature complex\*)) OR "myocardial infarct" OR "myocardial infarcts" OR "myocardial infarction" OR "myocardial infarctions" OR angina\* OR "acute coronary syndrome" OR "acute coronary syndromes" OR "coronary artery disease" OR "coronary artery diseases" OR "coronary stenosis" OR "coronary stenoses" OR "coronary thrombosis" OR "coronary thromboses" OR (ischem\* AND (heart OR coronary)) OR "coronary vasospasm" OR "coronary vasospasms" OR "coronary artery spasm" OR "coronary artery spasms" OR "myocardial stunning" OR stroke OR CVA OR "cerebrovascular accident" OR "cerebrovascular accidents" OR "brain ischemia" OR "brain ischemias" OR "brain infarct" OR "brain infarcts" OR "brain infarction" OR "brain infarctions" OR "transient ischemic attack" OR TIA OR atherosclerosis OR "peripheral arterial disease" OR "peripheral arterial diseases" OR "coronary artery obstruction" OR "coronary artery obstructions" OR "coronary artery thrombosis" OR "coronary artery thromboses" OR "peripheral occlusive artery disease" OR "peripheral occlusive artery diseases"):ti,ab,kw ([mh stroke] OR [mh "cardiovascular diseases"] OR [mh "Coronary Stenosis"] OR [mh "Myocardial Stunning"] OR [mh "Coronary Vasospasm"] OR [mh "Atherosclerosis"] OR [mh "Peripheral Arterial Disease"] OR [mh "Coronary Thrombosis"] OR [mh "Brain Infarction"] OR [mh "Acute Coronary Syndrome"] OR [mh "Heart Diseases"] OR [mh "Myocardial Infarction"] OR [mh "brain ischemia"])

## 6) Immunosuppressives

*Medline/PubMed:*

(lupus erythematosus, systemic[mh] OR SLE[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "libman sacks"[tiab] OR "lupus nephritis"[tiab] OR "lupus vasculitis"[tiab] OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"[tiab]) (antirheumatic drug\*[tiab] OR antirheumatic agent\*[tiab] OR anti rheumatic drug\*[tiab] OR anti rheumatic agent\*[tiab] OR immunosuppressant\*[tw] OR immunosuppressive\*[tiab] OR azathioprine[tw] OR Azothioprine[tw] OR Imurel[tw] OR Imuran[tw] OR Immuran[tw] OR methotrexate[tw] OR Amethopterin[tw] OR mycophenolate acid\*[tiab] OR "Mycophenolate Mofetil"[tw] OR Cellcept[tw] OR Myfortic[tw] OR "Mycophenolate Sodium"[tw] OR cyclophosphamide\*[tw] OR Sendoxan[tw] OR "Cyclophosphamide Anhydrous"[tw] OR Cytophosphane[tw] OR "Cyclophosphamide Monohydrate"[tw] OR Cytophosphan[tw] OR Cytosan[tw] OR Endoxan[tw] OR Neosar[tw] OR Procytox[tw] OR Cyclophosphane[tw] OR cyclosporine[tiab] OR Ciclosporin[tw] OR Cyclosporin[tw] OR Neoral[tw] OR Sandimmune[tw] OR Sandimmun[tw] OR rituximab[tiab] OR Rituxan[tw] OR Mabthera[tw] OR belimumab[tiab] OR Benlysta[tw] OR LymphoStat-B[tw] OR monoclonal antibod\*[tiab] OR "Antirheumatic Agents"[Mesh] OR "Immunosuppressive Agents"[Mesh] OR "Immunosuppressive Agents"[Pharmacological Action] OR "Azathioprine"[Mesh] OR "Methotrexate"[Mesh] OR

"Mycophenolic Acid"[Mesh] OR "Cyclophosphamide"[Mesh] OR "Cyclosporine"[Mesh] OR "Rituximab"[Mesh] OR "belimumab" [Supplementary Concept] OR "Antibodies, Monoclonal"[Mesh])  
 (cardiovascular diseases[mh] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR CVD[tiab] OR coronary[tiab] OR cardiovascular[tiab] OR cardiac[tiab] OR heart\*[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR cardiac disease\*[tiab] OR "heart failure"[tiab] OR CHF[tiab] OR ((cardiac[tiab] OR heart[tiab] OR atrial[tiab] OR ventricular[tiab] OR sinus[tiab]) AND (arrhythmia\*[tiab] OR flutter[tiab] OR block[tiab] OR tachycard\*[tiab] OR fibrillat\*[tiab] OR bradycard\*[tiab] OR premature complex\*[tiab])) OR myocardial infarct\*[tiab] OR angina\*[tiab] OR acute coronary syndrome\*[tiab] OR coronary artery disease\*[tiab] OR coronary stenosis\*[tiab] OR coronary thrombosis\*[tiab] OR (ischem\*[tiab] AND (heart[tiab] OR coronary[tiab])) OR "coronary vasospasm"[tiab] OR coronary artery spasm\*[tiab] OR myocardial stunning\*[tiab] OR stroke[mh] OR stroke[tiab] OR CVA[tiab] OR cerebrovascular accident\*[tiab] OR brain ischemia[mh] OR brain ischemia\*[tiab] OR brain infarct\*[tiab] OR "transient ischemic attack"[tiab] OR TIA[tiab] OR atherosclerosis[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR coronary artery obstruction\*[tiab] OR coronary artery thrombosis\*[tiab] OR peripheral occlusive artery disease\*[tiab] OR "Coronary Stenosis"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Stunning"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Vasospasm"[Mesh] OR "Atherosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Peripheral Arterial Disease"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Thrombosis"[Mesh] OR "Brain Infarction"[Mesh] OR "Acute Coronary Syndrome"[Mesh] OR "Heart Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Infarction"[Mesh])

#### Embase:

('systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp OR SLE:ti,ab OR "systemic lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "libman sacks":ti,ab OR "lupus nephritis":ti,ab OR "lupus vasculitis":ti,ab OR "lupus glomerulonephritis":ti,ab)  
 ('antirheumatic agent'/exp OR 'immunosuppressive agent'/exp OR 'azathioprine'/exp OR 'methotrexate'/exp OR 'mycophenolic acid'/exp OR 'cyclophosphamide'/exp OR 'cyclosporine'/exp OR 'rituximab'/exp OR 'mycophenolate mofetil'/exp OR 'belimumab'/exp OR 'monoclonal antibody'/exp OR "antirheumatic drug":ti,ab OR "antirheumatic drugs":ti,ab OR "anti rheumatic agent":ti,ab OR "anti rheumatic agents":ti,ab OR "anti rheumatic drug":ti,ab OR "anti rheumatic drugs":ti,ab OR "anti rheumatic agent":ti,ab OR "anti rheumatic agents":ti,ab OR immunosuppressant\*:ti,ab OR immunosuppressive\*:ti,ab OR azathioprine:ti,ab OR Azothioprine:ti,ab OR Imurel:ti,ab OR Imuran:ti,ab OR Immuran:ti,ab OR methotrexate:ti,ab OR Amethopterin:ti,ab OR "mycophenolate acid":ti,ab OR "mycophenolate acids":ti,ab OR "Mycophenolate Mofetil":ti,ab OR Cellcept:ti,ab OR Myfortic:ti,ab OR "Mycophenolate Sodium":ti,ab OR cyclophosphamide\*:ti,ab OR Sendoxan:ti,ab OR "Cyclophosphamide Anhydrous":ti,ab OR Cytophosphane:ti,ab OR "Cyclophosphamide Monohydrate":ti,ab OR Cytophosphan:ti,ab OR Cytoxan:ti,ab OR Endoxan:ti,ab OR Neosar:ti,ab OR Procytox:ti,ab OR Cyclophosphane:ti,ab OR cyclosporine:ti,ab OR Ciclosporin:ti,ab OR Cyclosporin:ti,ab OR Neoral:ti,ab OR Sandimmune:ti,ab OR Sandimmun:ti,ab OR rituximab:ti,ab OR Rituxan:ti,ab OR Mabthera:ti,ab OR belimumab:ti,ab OR Benlysta:ti,ab OR LymphoStat-B:ti,ab OR "monoclonal antibody":ti,ab OR "monoclonal antibodies":ti,ab)  
 ('cardiovascular disease'/exp OR "cardiovascular disease":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular event":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular events":ti,ab OR CVD:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab OR cardiovascular:ti,ab OR cardiac:ti,ab OR heart\*:ti,ab OR "heart disease":ti,ab OR "heart disease"/exp OR "heart diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiac disease":ti,ab OR "cardiac diseases":ti,ab OR "heart failure":ti,ab OR "heart failures":ti,ab OR CHF:ti,ab OR ((cardiac:ti,ab OR heart:ti,ab OR atrial:ti,ab OR ventricular:ti,ab OR sinus:ti,ab) AND (arrhythmia\*:ti,ab OR flutter:ti,ab OR block:ti,ab OR tachycard\*:ti,ab OR fibrillat\*:ti,ab OR bradycard\*:ti,ab OR "premature complex":ti,ab OR "premature complexes":ti,ab)) OR

"myocardial infarct":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarcts":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarction":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarctions":ti,ab OR 'angina pectoris'/exp OR angina\*:ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndrome":ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndromes":ti,ab OR 'acute coronary syndrome'/exp OR "coronary artery disease":ti,ab OR "coronary artery diseases":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery disease'/exp OR 'coronary artery obstruction'/exp OR "coronary stenosis":ti,ab OR "coronary stenoses":ti,ab OR "coronary thrombosis":ti,ab OR "coronary thromboses":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery thrombosis'/exp OR (ischem\*:ti,ab AND (heart:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab)) OR "coronary vasospasm":ti,ab OR "coronary vasospasms":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery spasm'/exp OR "myocardial stunning":ti,ab OR stroke:ti,ab OR CVA:ti,ab OR 'cerebrovascular accident'/exp OR "cerebrovascular accident":ti,ab OR "cerebrovascular accidents":ti,ab OR "brain ischemia":ti,ab OR 'brain ischemia'/exp OR "brain infarct":ti,ab OR "brain infarcts":ti,ab OR "brain infarction":ti,ab OR "brain infarctions":ti,ab OR 'transient ischemic attack'/exp OR "transient ischemic attack":ti,ab OR "transient ischemic attacks":ti,ab OR TIA:ti,ab OR 'atherosclerosis'/exp OR atherosclerosis:ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial disease":ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial diseases":ti,ab OR 'peripheral occlusive artery disease'/exp)

#### Cochrane:

[mh "lupus erythematosus, systemic"]  
 (SLE OR "systemic lupus erythematosus" OR "lupus erythematosus" OR "libman sacks" OR "lupus nephritis" OR "lupus vasculitis" OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("antirheumatic drug" OR "antirheumatic drugs" OR "antirheumatic agent" OR "antirheumatic agents" OR "anti rheumatic drug" OR "anti rheumatic drugs" OR "anti rheumatic agent" OR "anti rheumatic agents" OR immunosuppressant\* OR immunosuppressive\* OR azathioprine OR Azothioprine OR Imurel OR Imuran OR Immuran OR methotrexate OR Amethopterin OR "mycophenolate acid" OR "mycophenolate acids" OR "Mycophenolate Mofetil" OR Cellcept OR Myfortic OR "Mycophenolate Sodium" OR cyclophosphamide\* OR Sendoxan OR "Cyclophosphamide Anhydrous" OR Cytophosphane OR "Cyclophosphamide Monohydrate" OR Cytophosphan OR Cytoxan OR Endoxan OR Neosar OR Procytox OR Cyclophosphane OR cyclosporine OR Ciclosporin OR Cyclosporin OR Neoral OR Sandimmune OR Sandimmun OR rituximab OR Rituxan OR Mabthera OR belimumab OR Benlysta OR LymphoStat-B OR "monoclonal antibody" OR "monoclonal antibodies"):ti,ab,kw  
 ([mh "Antirheumatic Agents"] OR [mh "Immunosuppressive Agents"] OR [mh "Azathioprine"] OR [mh "Methotrexate"] OR [mh "Mycophenolic Acid"] OR [mh "Cyclophosphamide"] OR [mh "Cyclosporine"] OR [mh "Rituximab"] OR [mh "Antibodies, Monoclonal"]])  
 ("cardiovascular diseases" OR "cardiovascular disease" OR "cardiovascular event" OR "cardiovascular events" OR CVD OR coronary OR cardiovascular OR cardiac OR heart\* OR "heart disease" OR "heart diseases" OR "cardiac disease" OR "cardiac diseases" OR "heart failure" OR CHF OR ((cardiac OR heart OR atrial OR ventricular OR sinus) AND (arrhythmia\* OR flutter OR block OR tachycard\* OR fibrillat\* OR bradycard\* OR premature complex\*)) OR "myocardial infarct" OR "myocardial infarcts" OR "myocardial infarction" OR "myocardial infarctions" OR angina\* OR "acute coronary syndrome" OR "acute coronary syndromes" OR "coronary artery disease" OR "coronary artery diseases" OR "coronary stenosis" OR "coronary stenoses" OR "coronary thrombosis" OR "coronary thromboses" OR (ischem\* AND (heart OR coronary)) OR "coronary vasospasm" OR "coronary vasospasms" OR "coronary artery spasm" OR "coronary artery spasms" OR "myocardial stunning" OR stroke OR CVA OR "cerebrovascular accident" OR "cerebrovascular accidents" OR "brain ischemia" OR "brain ischemias" OR "brain infarct" OR "brain infarcts" OR "brain infarction" OR "brain infarctions" OR "transient ischemic attack" OR TIA OR atherosclerosis OR "peripheral arterial disease" OR "peripheral arterial diseases" OR "coronary artery obstruction" OR "coronary artery obstructions" OR "coronary artery thrombosis" OR "coronary artery thromboses" OR "peripheral occlusive artery disease" OR "peripheral occlusive artery diseases"):ti,ab,kw

([mh stroke] OR [mh "cardiovascular diseases"] OR [mh "Coronary Stenosis"] OR [mh "Myocardial Stunning"] OR [mh "Coronary Vasospasm"] OR [mh "Atherosclerosis"] OR [mh "Peripheral Arterial Disease"] OR [mh "Coronary Thrombosis"] OR [mh "Brain Infarction"] OR [mh "Acute Coronary Syndrome"] OR [mh "Heart Diseases"] OR [mh "Myocardial Infarction"] OR [mh "brain ischemia"])

## 7) Antimalarials

### *Medline/PubMed:*

(lupus erythematosus, systemic[mh] OR SLE[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "libman sacks"[tiab] OR "lupus nephritis"[tiab] OR "lupus vasculitis"[tiab] OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"[tiab])  
 (Antiphospholipid syndrome[mh] OR antibodies, antiphospholipid[mh] OR "hughes syndrome"[tiab] OR "antiphospholipid antibody syndrome"[tiab] OR "anti-phospholipid syndrome"[tiab] OR "antiphospholipid antibody syndrome"[tiab] OR antiphospholipid antibod\*[tiab])  
 ("Antimalarials"[Mesh] OR "Antimalarials"[Pharmacological Action] OR "Chloroquine"[Mesh] OR "Hydroxychloroquine"[Mesh] OR "Artemisinins"[Mesh] OR "artemisinine"[Supplementary Concept] OR antimalarial[tiab] OR "anti malarial"[tiab] OR antimalarials[tiab] OR "anti malarials"[tw] OR "Antimalarial Agents"[tiab] OR "antimalarial agent"[tiab] OR "anti malarial agents"[tiab] OR "anti malarial agent"[tiab] OR "Antimalarial Drugs"[tiab] OR "antimalarial drug"[tiab] OR "anti malarial drug"[tiab] OR "anti malarial drugs"[tiab] OR Chlorochin[tw] OR Chingamin[tw] OR Khingamin[tw] OR Nivaquine[tw] OR "Chloroquine Sulfate"[tw] OR Aralen[tw] OR Arechine[tw] OR Oxychloroquine[tw] OR Plaquenil[tw] OR "Hydroxychloroquine Sulfate"[tw] OR chloroquine[tiab] OR hydroxychloroquine[tiab] OR artemisinins[tiab] OR artemisinine[tw])  
 (cardiovascular diseases[mh] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR CVD[tiab] OR coronary[tiab] OR cardiovascular[tiab] OR cardiac[tiab] OR heart\*[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR cardiac disease\*[tiab] OR "heart failure"[tiab] OR CHF[tiab] OR ((cardiac[tiab] OR heart[tiab] OR atrial[tiab] OR ventricular[tiab] OR sinus[tiab]) AND (arrhythmia\*[tiab] OR flutter[tiab] OR block[tiab] OR tachycard\*[tiab] OR fibrillat\*[tiab] OR bradycard\*[tiab] OR premature complex\*[tiab])) OR myocardial infarct\*[tiab] OR angina\*[tiab] OR acute coronary syndrome\*[tiab] OR coronary artery disease\*[tiab] OR coronary stenosis\*[tiab] OR coronary thrombos\*[tiab] OR (ischem\*[tiab] AND (heart[tiab] OR coronary[tiab])) OR "coronary vasospasm"[tiab] OR coronary 3 artery spasm\*[tiab] OR myocardial stun\*[tiab] OR stroke[mh] OR stroke[tiab] OR CVA[tiab] OR cerebrovascular accident\*[tiab] OR brain ischemia[mh] OR brain ischemia\*[tiab] OR brain infarct\*[tiab] OR "transient ischemic attack"[tiab] OR TIA[tiab] OR atherosclerosis[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR coronary artery obstruction\*[tiab] OR coronary artery thrombos\*[tiab] OR peripheral occlusive artery disease\*[tiab] OR "Coronary Stenosis"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Stunning"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Vasospasm"[Mesh] OR "Atherosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Peripheral Arterial Disease"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Thrombosis"[Mesh] OR "Brain Infarction"[Mesh] OR "Acute Coronary Syndrome"[Mesh] OR "Heart Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Infarction"[Mesh])

### *Embase:*

('systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp OR SLE:ti,ab OR "systemic lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "libman sacks":ti,ab OR "lupus nephritis":ti,ab OR "lupus vasculitis":ti,ab OR "lupus glomerulonephritis":ti,ab)



('antiphospholipid syndrome'/exp OR 'phospholipid antibody'/exp OR 'antiphospholipid antibody syndrome'/exp OR "Antiphospholipid syndrome":ti,ab OR "hughes syndrome":ti,ab OR "antiphospholipid antibody syndrome":ti,ab OR "anti-phospholipid syndrome":ti,ab OR "antiphospholipid antibody syndrome":ti,ab OR "antiphospholipid antibody":ti,ab OR "antiphospholipid antibodies":ti,ab OR "phospholipid antibody":ti,ab OR "phospholipid antibodies":ti,ab)

('antimalarial agent'/exp OR 'chloroquine'/exp OR 'hydroxychloroquine'/exp OR 'artemisinin'/exp OR antimalarial:ti,ab OR "anti malarial":ti,ab OR antimalarials:ti,ab OR "anti malarials":ti,ab OR "Antimalarial Agents":ti,ab OR "antimalarial agent":ti,ab OR "anti malarial agents":ti,ab OR "anti malarial agent":ti,ab OR "Antimalarial Drugs":ti,ab OR "antimalarial drug":ti,ab OR "anti malarial drug":ti,ab OR "anti malarial drugs":ti,ab OR Chlorochin:ti,ab OR Chingamin:ti,ab OR Khingamin:ti,ab OR Nivaquine:ti,ab OR "Chloroquine Sulfate":ti,ab OR Aralen:ti,ab OR Arequin:ti,ab OR Arechine:ti,ab OR Oxychlorochin:ti,ab OR Oxychloroquine:ti,ab OR Hydroxychlorochin:ti,ab OR Plaquenil:ti,ab OR "Hydroxychloroquine Sulfate":ti,ab OR chloroquine:ti,ab OR hydroxychloroquine:ti,ab OR artemisinins:ti,ab OR artemisinine:ti,ab)

('cardiovascular disease'/exp OR "cardiovascular disease":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular event":ti,ab OR "cardiovascular events":ti,ab OR CVD:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab OR cardiovascular:ti,ab OR cardiac:ti,ab OR heart\*:ti,ab OR "heart disease":ti,ab OR 'heart disease'/exp OR "heart diseases":ti,ab OR "cardiac disease":ti,ab OR "cardiac diseases":ti,ab OR "heart 5 failure":ti,ab OR "heart failures":ti,ab OR CHF:ti,ab OR ((cardiac:ti,ab OR heart:ti,ab OR atrial:ti,ab OR ventricular:ti,ab OR sinus:ti,ab) AND (arrhythmia\*:ti,ab OR flutter:ti,ab OR block:ti,ab OR tachycard\*:ti,ab OR fibrillat\*:ti,ab OR bradycard\*:ti,ab OR "premature complex":ti,ab OR "premature complexes":ti,ab)) OR "myocardial infarct":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarcts":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarction":ti,ab OR "myocardial infarctions":ti,ab OR 'angina pectoris'/exp OR angina\*:ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndrome":ti,ab OR "acute coronary syndromes":ti,ab OR 'acute coronary syndrome'/exp OR "coronary artery disease":ti,ab OR "coronary artery diseases":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery disease'/exp OR 'coronary artery obstruction'/exp OR "coronary stenosis":ti,ab OR "coronary stenoses":ti,ab OR "coronary thrombosis":ti,ab OR "coronary thromboses":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery thrombosis'/exp OR (ischem\*:ti,ab AND (heart:ti,ab OR coronary:ti,ab)) OR "coronary vasospasm":ti,ab OR "coronary vasospasms":ti,ab OR 'coronary artery spasm'/exp OR "myocardial stunning":ti,ab OR stroke:ti,ab OR CVA:ti,ab OR 'cerebrovascular accident'/exp OR "cerebrovascular accident":ti,ab OR "cerebrovascular accidents":ti,ab OR "brain ischemia":ti,ab OR 'brain ischemia'/exp OR "brain infarct":ti,ab OR "brain infarcts":ti,ab OR "brain infarction":ti,ab OR "brain infarctions":ti,ab OR 'transient ischemic attack'/exp OR "transient ischemic attack":ti,ab OR "transient ischemic attacks":ti,ab OR TIA:ti,ab OR 'atherosclerosis'/exp OR atherosclerosis:ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial disease":ti,ab OR "peripheral arterial diseases":ti,ab OR 'peripheral occlusive artery disease'/exp)

#### Cochrane:

[mh "lupus erythematosus, systemic"]  
 (SLE OR "systemic lupus erythematosus" OR "lupus erythematosus" OR "libman sacks" OR "lupus nephritis" OR "lupus vasculitis" OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"):ti,ab,kw  
 ([mh "Antiphospholipid syndrome"] OR [mh "antibodies, antiphospholipid"])  
 ("hughes syndrome" OR "antiphospholipid antibody syndrome" OR "anti-phospholipid syndrome" OR "anti-phospholipid antibody syndrome" OR "antiphospholipid antibody" OR "antiphospholipid antibodies"):ti,ab,kw  
 (Arequin OR Oxychlorochin OR Hydroxychlorochin OR antimalarial OR "anti malarial" OR antimalarials OR "anti malarials" OR "Antimalarial Agents" OR "antimalarial agent" OR "anti malarial agents" OR "anti malarial agent" OR "Antimalarial Drugs" OR "antimalarial drug" OR "anti malarial drug" OR "anti malarial drugs" OR Chlorochin OR Chingamin OR Khingamin OR

Nivaquine OR "Chloroquine Sulfate" OR Aralen OR Arechine OR Oxychloroquine OR Plaquenil OR "Hydroxychloroquine Sulfate" OR chloroquine OR hydroxychloroquine OR artemisinins OR artemisinin):ti,ab,kw  
 ([mh "Antimalarials"] OR [mh "Chloroquine"] OR [mh "Hydroxychloroquine"] OR [mh "Artemisinins"])  
 ("cardiovascular diseases" OR "cardiovascular disease" OR "cardiovascular event" OR "cardiovascular events" OR CVD OR coronary OR cardiovascular OR cardiac OR heart\* OR "heart disease" OR "heart diseases" OR "cardiac disease" OR "cardiac diseases" OR "heart failure" OR CHF OR ((cardiac OR heart OR atrial OR ventricular OR sinus) AND (arrhythmia\* OR flutter OR block OR tachycard\* OR fibrillat\* OR bradycard\* OR premature complex\*)) OR 7 "myocardial infarct" OR "myocardial infarcts" OR "myocardial infarction" OR "myocardial infarctions" OR angina\* OR "acute coronary syndrome" OR "acute coronary syndromes" OR "coronary artery disease" OR "coronary artery diseases" OR "coronary stenosis" OR "coronary stenoses" OR "coronary thrombosis" OR "coronary thromboses" OR (ischem\* AND (heart OR coronary)) OR "coronary vasospasm" OR "coronary vasospasms" OR "coronary artery spasm" OR "coronary artery spasms" OR "myocardial stunning" OR stroke OR CVA OR "cerebrovascular accident" OR "cerebrovascular accidents" OR "brain ischemia" OR "brain ischemias" OR "brain infarct" OR "brain infarcts" OR "brain infarction" OR "brain infarctions" OR "transient ischemic attack" OR TIA OR atherosclerosis OR "peripheral arterial disease" OR "peripheral arterial diseases" OR "coronary artery obstruction" OR "coronary artery obstructions" OR "coronary artery thrombosis" OR "coronary artery thromboses" OR "peripheral occlusive artery disease" OR "peripheral occlusive artery diseases"):ti,ab,kw  
 ([mh stroke] OR [mh "cardiovascular diseases"] OR [mh "Coronary Stenosis"] OR [mh "Myocardial Stunning"] OR [mh "Coronary Vasospasm"] OR [mh "Atherosclerosis"] OR [mh "Peripheral Arterial Disease"] OR [mh "Coronary Thrombosis"] OR [mh "Brain Infarction"] OR [mh "Acute Coronary Syndrome"] OR [mh "Heart Diseases"] OR [mh "Myocardial Infarction"] OR [mh "brain ischemia"])

#### 8) NSAIDs

*Medline/PubMed:*

(lupus erythematosus, systemic[mh] OR SLE[tiab] OR "systemic lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "lupus erythematosus"[tiab] OR "libman sacks"[tiab] OR "lupus nephritis"[tiab] OR "lupus vasculitis"[tiab] OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"[tiab])  
 ("Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal"[Mesh] OR "Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal" [Pharmacological Action] OR "Anti-Inflammatory Analgesics"[tiab] OR "Anti-Inflammatory Analgesic"[tiab] OR "Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Agents"[tiab] OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory agent"[tiab] OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory drug"[tiab] OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs"[tiab] OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory analgesic"[tiab] OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory analgesics"[tiab] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory agent"[tiab] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory agents"[tiab] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory drug"[tiab] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory drugs"[tiab] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory analgesic"[tiab] OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory analgesics"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory agents"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory agent"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory analgesic"[tiab] OR "Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agents"[tiab] OR "Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agent"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory drug"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory drugs"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory analgesic"[tiab] OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory analgesics"[tiab] OR NSAIDs[tiab] OR ibuprofen[tw] OR naproxen[tw] OR Anaprox[tw] OR

Aleve[tw] OR Proxen[tw] OR Synflex[tw] OR Naprosin[tw] OR Naprosyn[tw] OR diclofenac[tw] OR voltaren[tw] OR Feloran[tw] OR Voltarol[tw] OR Novapirina[tw] OR Orthofen[tw] OR Ortofen[tw] OR Orthophen[tw] OR celecoxib[tw] OR Celebrex[tw] OR meloxicam[tw] OR Miloxicam[tw] OR Mobic[tw] OR Mobicox[tw] OR Mobec[tw] OR Movalis[tw] OR indomethacin[tw] OR Indometacin[tw] OR Osmosin[tw] OR Indocid[tw] OR Metindol[tw] OR Amuno[tw] OR Indocin[tw] OR ketoprofen[tw] OR Profenid[tw] OR Alrheumum[tw] OR Orudis[tw] OR Alrheumat[tw] OR nabumetone[tw] OR 3 Nabumeton[tw] OR Relifex[tw] OR Relif[tw] OR Mebutan[tw] OR Listran[tw] OR Relafen[tw] OR oxaprozin[tw] OR Daypro[tw] OR piroxicam[tw] OR feldene[tw] OR sulindac[tw] OR Clinoril[tw] OR Arthrocline[tw] OR Klinoril[tw] OR Chibret[tw] OR Aclin[tw] OR Copal[tw] OR salsalate[tw] OR "salicylsalicylic acid"[tw] OR Disalcid[tw] OR "salicyl salicylate"[tw] OR Saloxium[tw] OR tolmetin[tw] OR Tolectin[tw] OR diflunisal[tw] OR Dolobid[tw] OR Dolobis[tw] OR etoricoxib[tw] OR Arcoxia[tw] OR ketorolac[tw] OR flurbiprofen[tw] OR Flubiprofen[tw] OR Ocufen[tw] OR Strefen[tw] OR Flugalin[tw] OR Froben[tw] OR Ansaed[tw] OR "Froben SR"[tw] OR Ocuflur[tw] OR etodolac[tw] OR "Etodolic Acid"[tw] OR Ultradol[tw] OR Lodine[tw] OR Ramodar[tw] OR "Ibuprofen"[Mesh] OR "Naproxen"[Mesh] OR "Diclofenac"[Mesh] OR "Celecoxib"[Mesh] OR "Meloxicam"[Mesh] OR "Indomethacin"[Mesh] OR "Ketoprofen"[Mesh] OR "Nabumetone"[Mesh] OR "Oxaprozin"[Mesh] OR "Piroxicam"[Mesh] OR "Sulindac"[Mesh] OR "salicylsalicylic acid" [Supplementary Concept] OR "Tolmetin"[Mesh] OR "Diflunisal"[Mesh] OR "Etoricoxib"[Mesh] OR "Ketorolac"[Mesh] OR "Flurbiprofen"[Mesh] OR "Etodolac"[Mesh]) (cardiovascular diseases[mh] OR cardiovascular disease\*[tiab] OR cardiovascular event\*[tiab] OR CVD[tiab] OR coronary[tiab] OR cardiovascular[tiab] OR cardiac[tiab] OR heart\*[tiab] OR heart disease\*[tiab] OR cardiac disease\*[tiab] OR "heart failure"[tiab] OR CHF[tiab] OR ((cardiac[tiab] OR heart[tiab] OR atrial[tiab] OR ventricular[tiab] OR sinus[tiab]) AND (arrhythmia\*[tiab] OR flutter[tiab] OR block[tiab] OR tachycard\*[tiab] OR fibrillat\*[tiab] OR bradycard\*[tiab] OR premature complex\*[tiab])) OR myocardial infarct\*[tiab] OR angina\*[tiab] OR acute coronary syndrome\*[tiab] OR coronary artery disease\*[tiab] OR coronary stenosis\*[tiab] OR coronary thrombosis\*[tiab] OR (ischem\*[tiab] AND (heart[tiab] OR coronary[tiab])) OR "coronary vasospasm"[tiab] OR coronary artery spasm\*[tiab] OR myocardial stun\*[tiab] OR stroke[mh] OR stroke[tiab] OR CVA[tiab] OR cerebrovascular accident\*[tiab] OR brain ischemia[mh] OR brain ischemia\*[tiab] OR brain infarct\*[tiab] OR "transient ischemic attack"[tiab] OR TIA[tiab] OR atherosclerosis[tiab] OR peripheral arterial disease\*[tiab] OR coronary artery obstruction\*[tiab] OR coronary artery thrombosis\*[tiab] OR peripheral occlusive artery disease\*[tiab] OR "Coronary Stenosis"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Stunning"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Vasospasm"[Mesh] OR "Atherosclerosis"[Mesh] OR "Peripheral Arterial Disease"[Mesh] OR "Coronary Thrombosis"[Mesh] OR "Brain Infarction"[Mesh] OR "Acute Coronary Syndrome"[Mesh] OR "Heart Diseases"[Mesh] OR "Myocardial Infarction"[Mesh])

#### Embase:

('systemic lupus erythematosus'/exp OR SLE:ti,ab OR "systemic lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "lupus erythematosus":ti,ab OR "libman sacks":ti,ab OR "lupus nephritis":ti,ab OR "lupus vasculitis":ti,ab OR "lupus glomerulonephritis":ti,ab)  
 ('nonsteroid antiinflammatory agent'/exp OR 'ibuprofen'/exp OR 'naproxen'/exp OR 'diclofenac'/exp OR 'celecoxib'/exp OR 'meloxicam'/exp OR 'indometacin'/exp OR 'ketoprofen'/exp OR 'nabumetone'/exp OR 'oxaprozin'/exp OR 'piroxicam'/exp OR 'sulindac'/exp OR 'salsalate'/exp OR 'tolmetin'/exp OR 'diflunisal'/exp OR 'etoricoxib'/exp OR 'ketorolac'/exp OR 'flurbiprofen'/exp OR 'etodolac'/exp OR "Anti-Inflammatory Analgesics":ti,ab OR "Anti-Inflammatory Analgesic":ti,ab OR "Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Agents":ti,ab OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory agent":ti,ab OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory drug":ti,ab OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs":ti,ab OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory analgesic":ti,ab OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory analgesics":ti,ab OR

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Cochrane:

[mh "lupus erythematosus, systemic"]  
 (SLE OR "systemic lupus erythematosus" OR "lupus erythematosus" OR "libman sacks" OR "lupus nephritis" OR "lupus vasculitis" OR "lupus glomerulonephritis"):ti,ab,kw  
 ("Anti-Inflammatory Analgesics" OR "Anti-Inflammatory Analgesic" OR "Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Agents" OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory agent" OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory drug" OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs" OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory analgesic" OR "non steroidal anti inflammatory analgesics" OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory agent" OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory agents" OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory drug" OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory drugs" OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory analgesic" OR "non steroidal antiinflammatory analgesics" OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory agents" OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory agent" OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug" OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs" OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory analgesic" OR "nonsteroidal antiinflammatory analgesics" OR "Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agents" OR "Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agent" OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory drug" OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory drugs" OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory analgesic" OR "nonsteroidal anti inflammatory analgesics" OR NSAIDs OR ibuprofen OR naproxen OR Anaprox OR Aleve OR Proxen OR Synflex OR Naprosin OR Naprosyn OR diclofenac OR voltaren OR Feloran OR Voltarol OR Novapirina OR Orthofen OR Ortofen OR Orthophen OR celecoxib OR Celebrex OR meloxicam OR Miloxicam OR Mobic OR Mobicox OR Mobec OR Movalis OR indomethacin OR Indometacin OR Osmosin OR Indocid OR Metindol OR Amuno OR Indocin OR ketoprofen OR Profenid OR Alrheumum OR Orudis OR Alrheumat OR nabumetone OR Nabumeton OR Relifex OR Relif OR Mebutan OR Listran OR Relafen OR oxaprozin OR Daypro OR piroxicam OR feldene OR sulindac OR Clinoril OR Arthrocine OR Klinoril OR Chibret OR Aclin OR Copal OR salsalate OR "salicylsalicylic acid" OR Disalcid OR "salicyl salicylate" OR Saloxium OR tolmetin OR Tolectin 9 OR diflunisal OR Dolobid OR Dolobis OR etoricoxib OR Arcoxia OR ketorolac OR flurbiprofen OR Flubiprofen OR Ocufen OR Strefen OR Flugalin OR Froben OR Ansaid OR "Froben SR" OR Ocuflur OR etodolac OR "Etodolic Acid" OR Ultradol OR Lodine OR Ramodar ):ti,ab,kw  
 ([mh "Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal"] OR [mh "Ibuprofen"] OR [mh "Naproxen"] OR [mh "Diclofenac"] OR [mh "Celecoxib"] OR [mh "Meloxicam"] OR [mh "Indomethacin"] OR [mh "Ketoprofen"] OR [mh "Nabumetone"] OR [mh "Oxaprozin"] OR [mh "Piroxicam"] OR [mh "Sulindac"] OR [mh "salicylsalicylic acid"] OR [mh "Tolmetin"] OR [mh "Diflunisal"] OR [mh "Etoricoxib"] OR [mh "Ketorolac"] OR [mh "Flurbiprofen"] OR [mh "Etodolac"])  
 ("cardiovascular diseases" OR "cardiovascular disease" OR "cardiovascular event" OR "cardiovascular events" OR CVD OR coronary OR cardiovascular OR cardiac OR heart\* OR "heart disease" OR "heart diseases" OR "cardiac disease" OR "cardiac diseases" OR "heart failure" OR CHF OR ((cardiac OR heart OR atrial OR ventricular OR sinus) AND (arrhythmia\* OR flutter OR block OR tachycard\* OR fibrillat\* OR bradycard\* OR premature complex\*)) OR "myocardial infarct" OR "myocardial infarcts" OR "myocardial infarction" OR "myocardial infarctions" OR angina\* OR "acute coronary syndrome" OR "acute coronary syndromes" OR "coronary artery disease" OR "coronary artery diseases" OR "coronary stenosis" OR "coronary stenoses" OR "coronary thrombosis" OR "coronary thromboses" OR (ischem\* AND (heart OR coronary)) OR "coronary vasospasm" OR "coronary vasospasms" OR "coronary artery spasm" OR "coronary artery spasms" OR "myocardial stunning" OR stroke OR CVA OR "cerebrovascular accident" OR "cerebrovascular accidents" OR "brain ischemia" OR "brain ischemias" OR "brain infarct" OR "brain infarcts" OR "brain infarction" OR "brain infarctions" OR "transient ischemic attack" OR TIA OR atherosclerosis OR "peripheral arterial disease" OR "peripheral arterial diseases" OR "coronary artery obstruction" OR "coronary artery obstructions" OR "coronary artery thrombosis" OR "coronary artery thromboses" OR "peripheral occlusive artery disease" OR "peripheral occlusive artery diseases"):ti,ab,kw  
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[mh "Acute Coronary Syndrome"] OR [mh "Heart Diseases"] OR [mh "Myocardial Infarction"]  
OR [mh "brain ischemia"])

**B. Data abstraction**

Data were abstracted from published reports. Authors were not contacted for other data or clarifications.

When hazard ratios were provided, we used these values as the measure of effect.

For cohort studies, we used relative risks when these were reported. If relative risks were not reported but data were reported that permitted relative risks to be calculated, we did so. When data were reported for cohort studies as odds ratios, and the report did not allow calculation of relative risks, we included the odds ratio.

For case-control studies, we reported the odds ratio as the measure of effect.

$I^2$  is a measure of heterogeneity of effects among studies, with a range of 0% (no heterogeneity) to 100% (high heterogeneity).

For multiple published studies of the same clinical cohort, we describe all relevant studies.

Quality of randomized controlled trials was assessed with the Cochrane risk-of-bias tool.

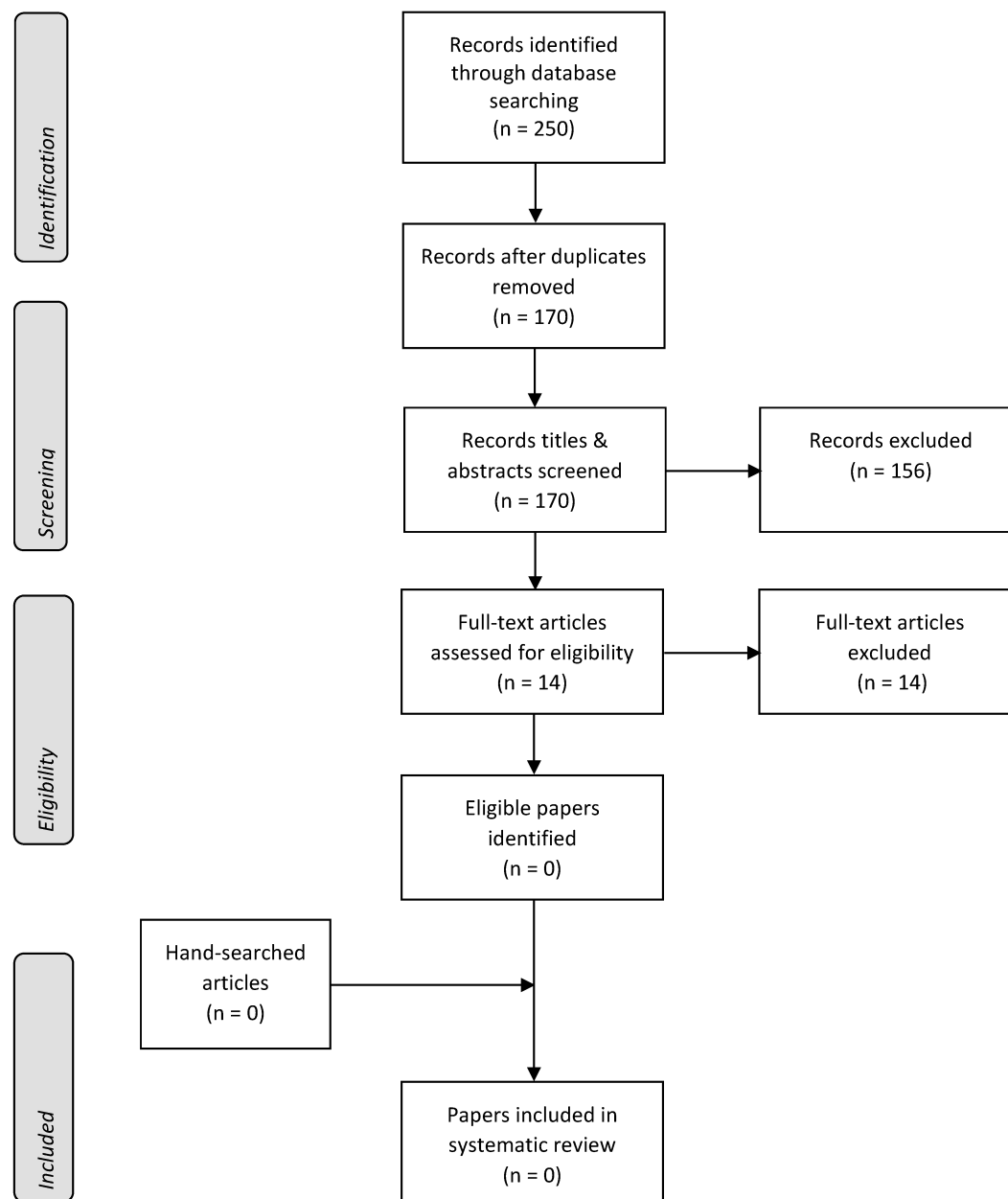
Quality of observational studies was assessed with the Newcastle-Ottawa scale; studies were classified as of low, intermediate or high quality based on a rating system of 0–3, 4–6, and 7–9 stars, respectively.

## II. Results

### A. Gout

#### 1. Cardiovascular risk prediction tools

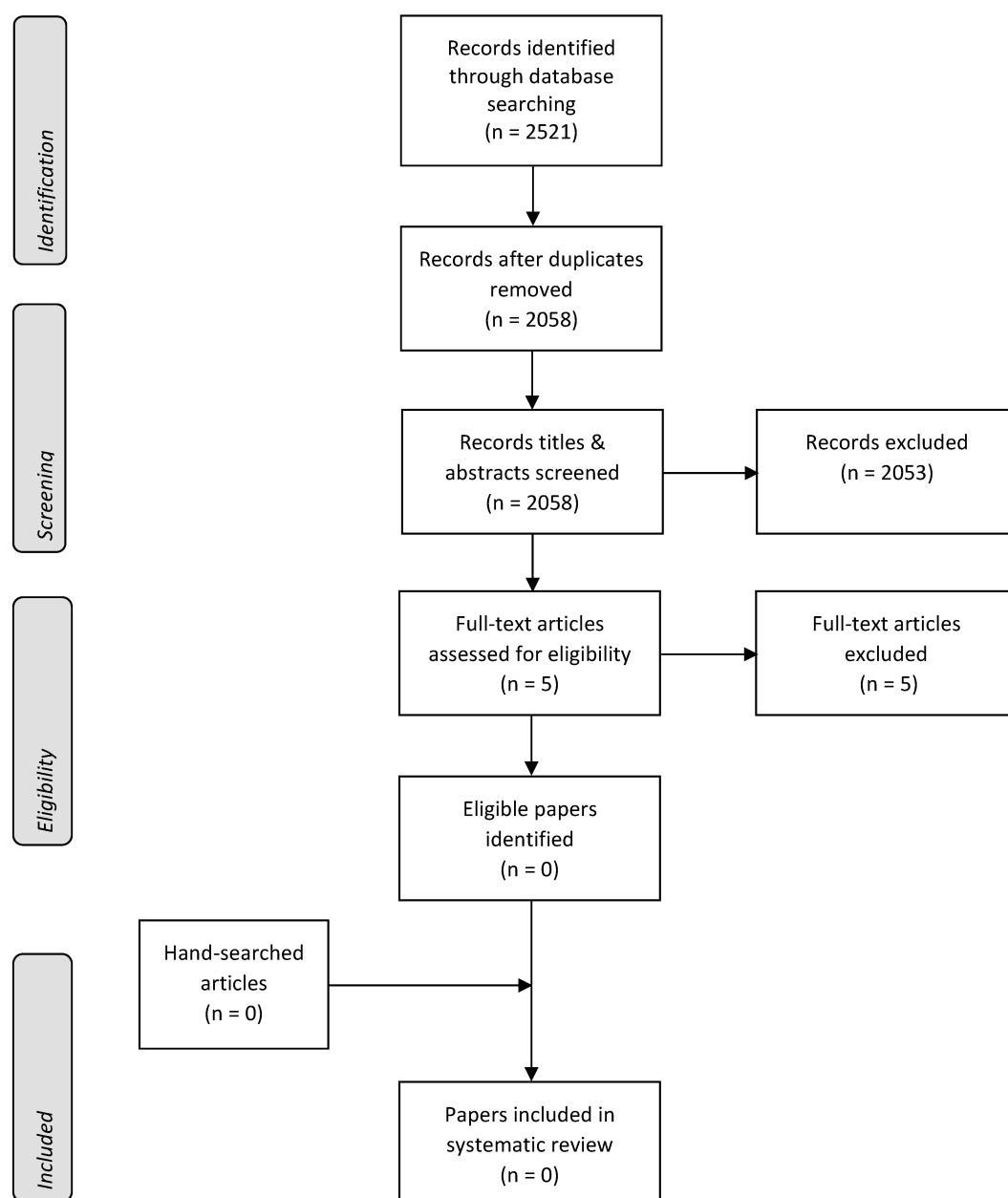
PICO: 'In patients with gout, what is the performance of risk prediction tools to predict cardiovascular risk?'



## 2. Interventions targeting traditional cardiovascular risk factors

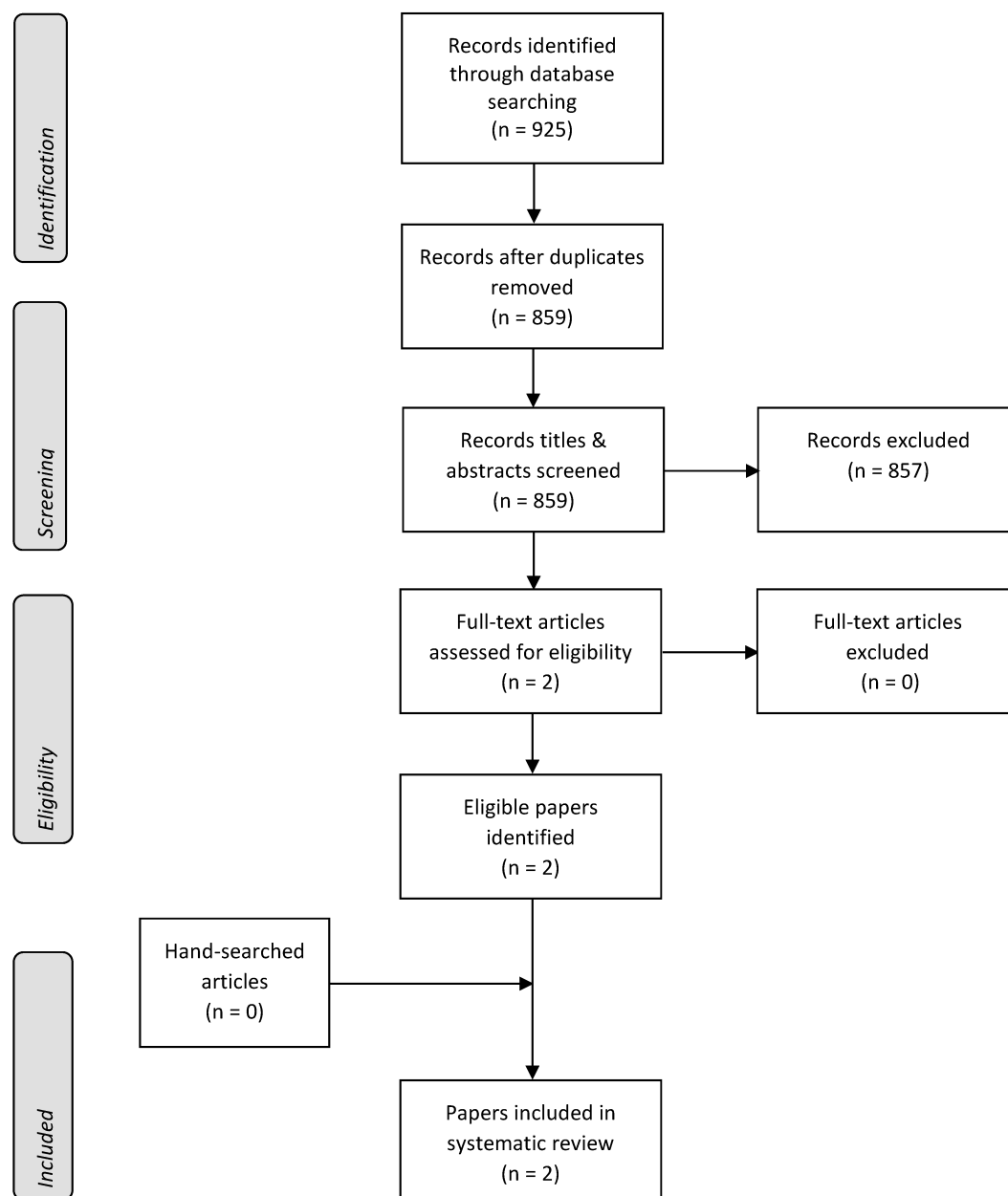
## a. Antihypertensives

PICO: 'In patients with gout, what is the effect of antihypertensives on cardiovascular outcomes, in comparison with the general population?'



## b. Lipid-lowering agents

PICO: 'In patients with gout, what is the effect of lipid lowering agents on cardiovascular outcomes, in comparison with the general population?'

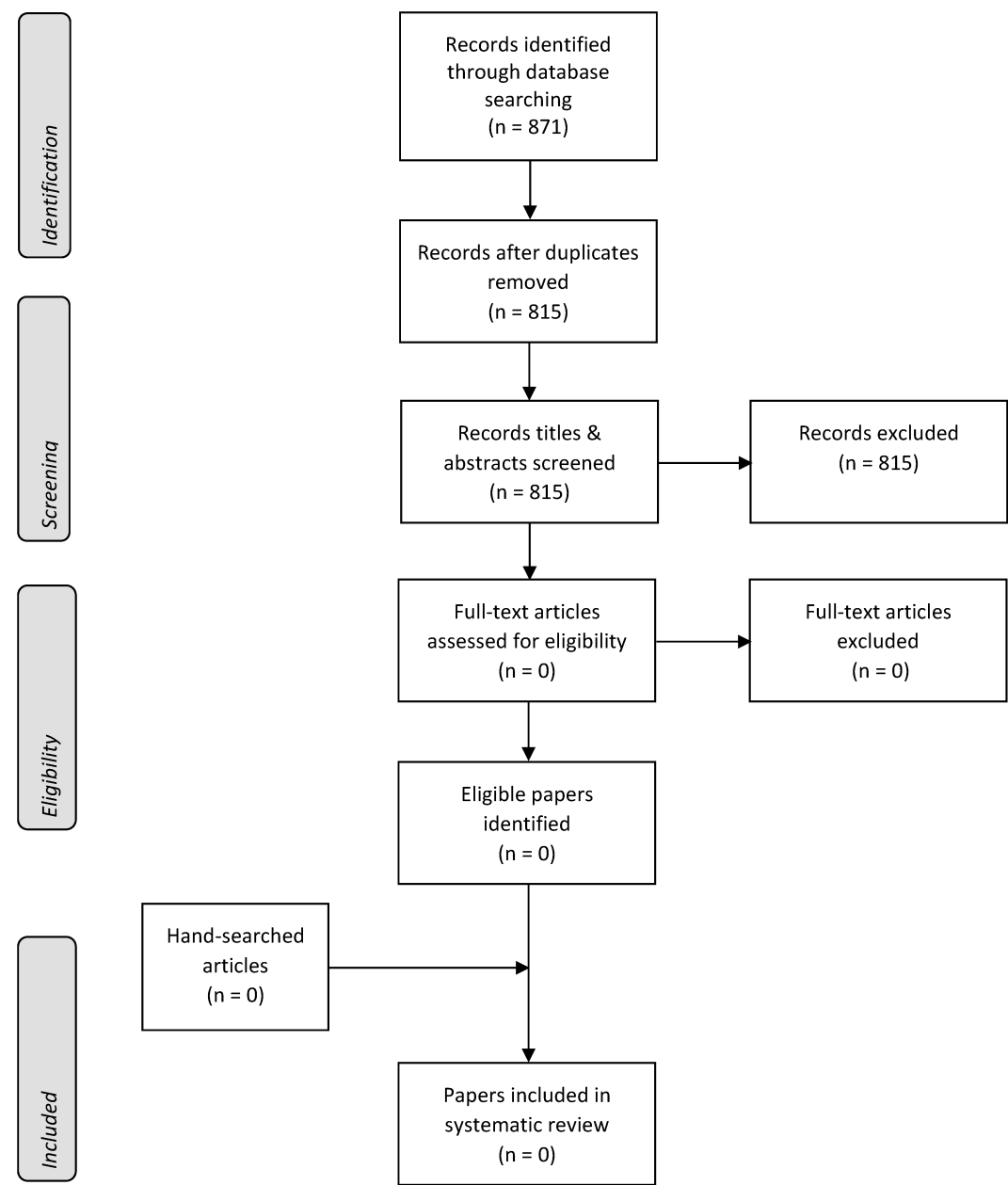


| Reference                                 | Design               | Intervention | Comparison   | Follow-up     | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|---|----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Coronary heart disease                    |                      |              |              |               |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Garcia-Gill, 2019                         | Retrospective cohort | Statin use   | No treatment | 9,8 years     | 736                              | 7782                           | 2025                 | 2503               | HR 0.84 (0.60, 1,19)     | High          |
| Cerebrovascular disease (ischemic stroke) |                      |              |              |               |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Garcia-Gill, 2019                         | Retrospective cohort | Statin use   | No treatment | 9,8 years     | 736                              | 7782                           | 30                   | 349                | HR 0.68 (0.44, 1,05)     | High          |
| All cause mortality                       |                      |              |              |               |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Garcia-Gill, 2019                         | Retrospective cohort | Statin use   | No treatment | 9,8 years     | 736                              | 7782                           | 86                   | 825                | HR 0.87 (0.67-1.12)      | High          |
| Keller, 2019                              | Retrospective cohort | Statin use   | No treatment | 5.0/4.6 years | 18007                            | 18007                          | 2025                 | 2503               | HR 0.84 (0.79-0.89)      | High          |



c. Antiplatelets

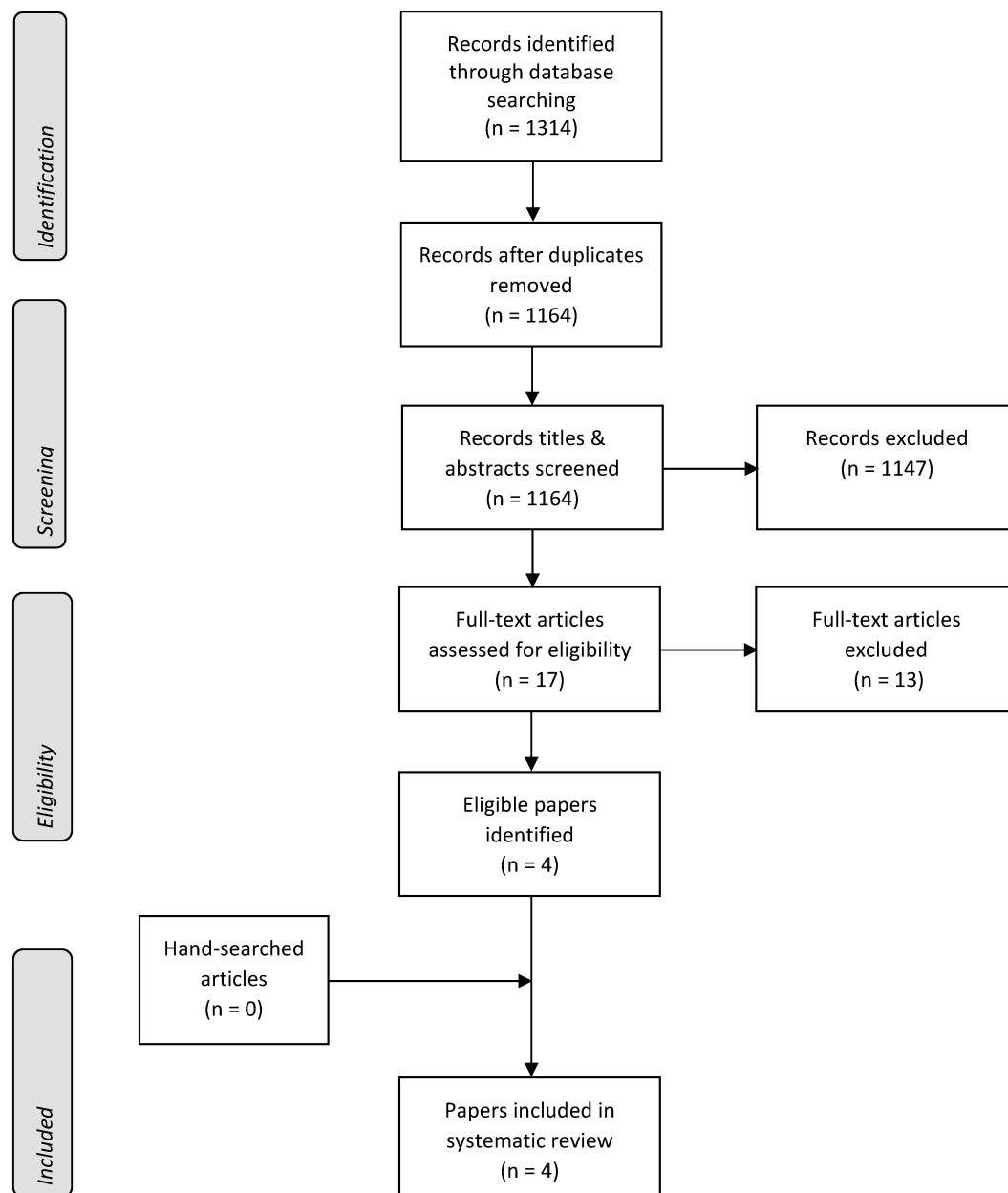
PICO: ‘In patients with gout, what is the effect of antiplatelets on cardiovascular outcomes, in comparison with the general population?’



## 3. Interventions targeting disease-related cardiovascular risk factors

## a. Serum uric acid

PICO: 'In gout patients, what is the effect of high disease activity on the risk of CVD?'

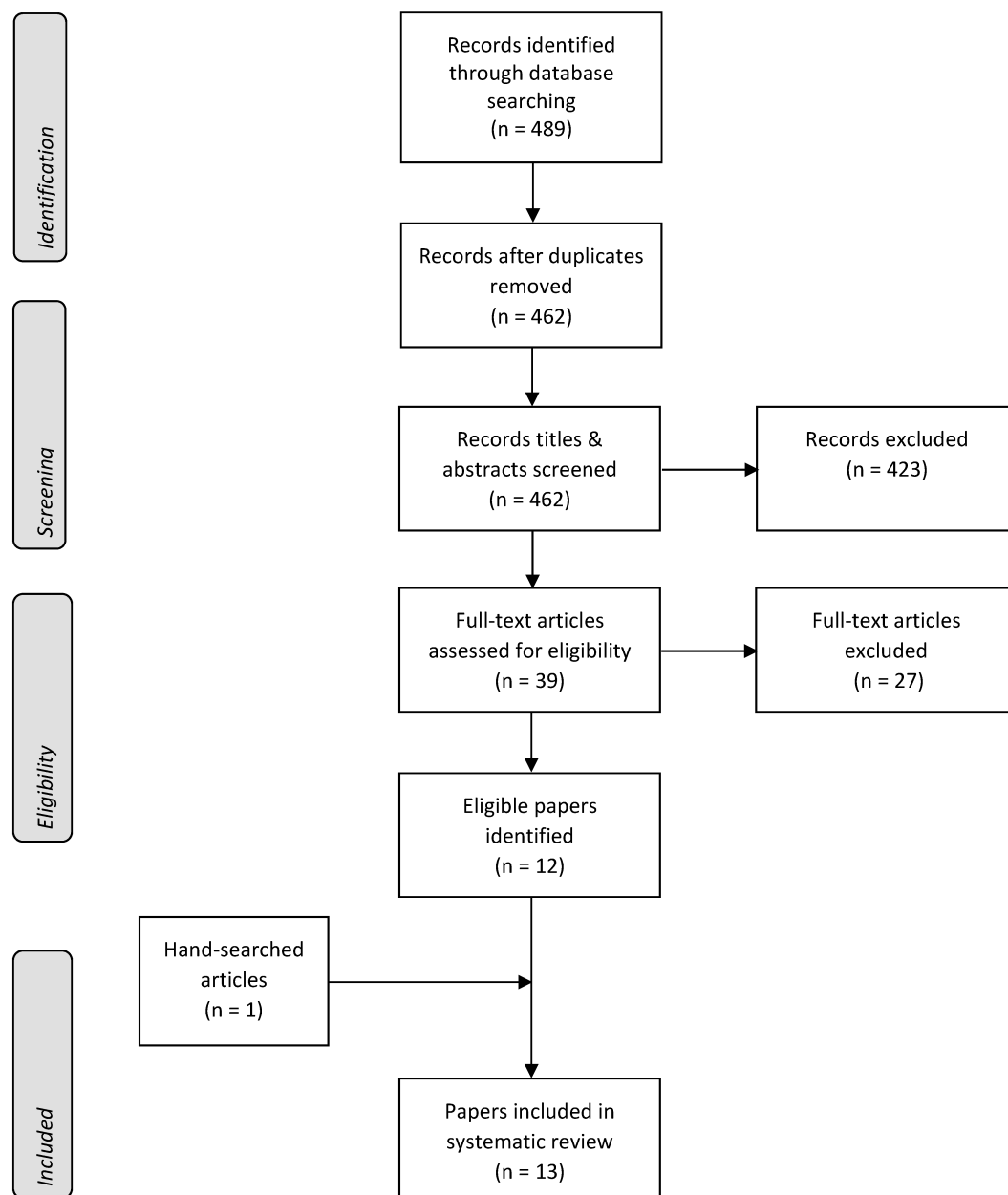


| Reference                  | Design                  | Exposure                | Control             | Follow-up (years) | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
|                            | Acute coronary syndrome |                         |                     |                   |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Noyes Essex, 2017          | Retrospective cohort    | SUA 6.0-8.0 mg/dL       | SUA <6.0/>8.0 mg/dL | 1                 | 23242                            | 40999                          | 385                  | 733                | HR 1.18 (1.03, 1.36)     | High          |
|                            |                         | SUA>8.0 mg/dL           | SUA<8.0 mg/dL       |                   | 15531                            | 48710                          | 347                  | 771                | HR 1.59 (1.38, 1.84)     |               |
|                            | Coronary artery disease |                         |                     |                   |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Noyes Essex, 2017          | Retrospective cohort    | SUA >8.0mg/dL           | SUA<8.0 mg/dL       | 1                 | 12841                            | 40464                          | 1605                 | 4155               | HR1.41 (1.33, 1.51)      | High          |
| Chronic heart failure      |                         |                         |                     |                   |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Noyes Essex, 2017          | Retrospective cohort    | SUA >8.0mg/dL           | SUA<8.0 mg/dL       | 1                 | 13880                            | 45434                          | 1208                 | 2327               | HR2.01 (1.86, 2.18)      | High          |
| (Cardiovascular) Mortality |                         |                         |                     |                   |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Disveld, 2019              | Prospective cohort      | SUA>9,33mg/dl)          | SUA≤ 9.33mg/dl      | 5                 | NA                               | NA                             | 32                   | 34                 | OR 2.17 (1.20, 3.89)     | High          |
|                            |                         | Tophaceous gout         | No tophi            |                   | NA                               | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | OR 1.96 (1.11, 3.47)     |               |
| Stack, 2013                | Retrospective cohort    | SUA 5,2-6,25mg/dl       | SUA <4,3mg/dl       | 10                | 4190                             | 3838                           | 725                  | 432                | HR1.33 (1.04, 1.70)      | High          |
|                            |                         | SUA >6,25 mg/dl         | SUA<4,3 mg/dl       |                   | 4093                             | 3838                           | 985                  | 432                | HR1.54 (1.17, 2.04)      |               |
| Perez-Ruiz, 2014           | Prospective cohort      | SUA per 1mg/dl increase | NA                  |                   | 706                              | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | HR1.16 (1.03-1.32)       | Intermediate  |
|                            |                         | Tophaceous gout         | No tophi            |                   | 215                              | 491                            | NA                   | NA                 | HR2.05 (1.29-3.28)       |               |

|  |  |                    |                |  |     |     |    |    |                    |  |
|--|--|--------------------|----------------|--|-----|-----|----|----|--------------------|--|
|  |  | ≥4 flares/year     | <4 flares      |  | 191 | 515 | NA | NA | HR1.05 (0.95-1.15) |  |
|  |  | Polyarticular gout | Mono articular |  | 244 | 462 | NA | NA | HR3.36 (0.44-4.66) |  |

## b. Urate lowering therapy

PICO: 'In gout patients, what is the effect of the use disease related medication on the risk of CVD?'



| Reference             | Design               | Therapy    | Control       | Follow-up (mean) | Number of patients, exposed | Number of patients, control | Event   | Events (N=) exposed/control | Relative effect (95% CI)                 | Study quality |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|---------------|
| Cardiovascular events |                      |            |               |                  |                             |                             |   |                             |  |               |
| Crittenden, 2012      | Cross sectional      | colchicine | No colchicine | NA               | 576                         | 712                         | MI  | 7 / 18                      | RR0.46                                   | Intermediate  |
| Solomon, 2015         | Retrospective cohort | Colchicine | No colchicine | 1,5 years        | 501                         | 501                         | Composite: MI, CVA/TIA<br>All-cause mortality | 28 / 82<br>43 / 103         | HR0.51 (0.30-0.88)<br>HR0.27 (0.17-0.43) | Intermediate  |

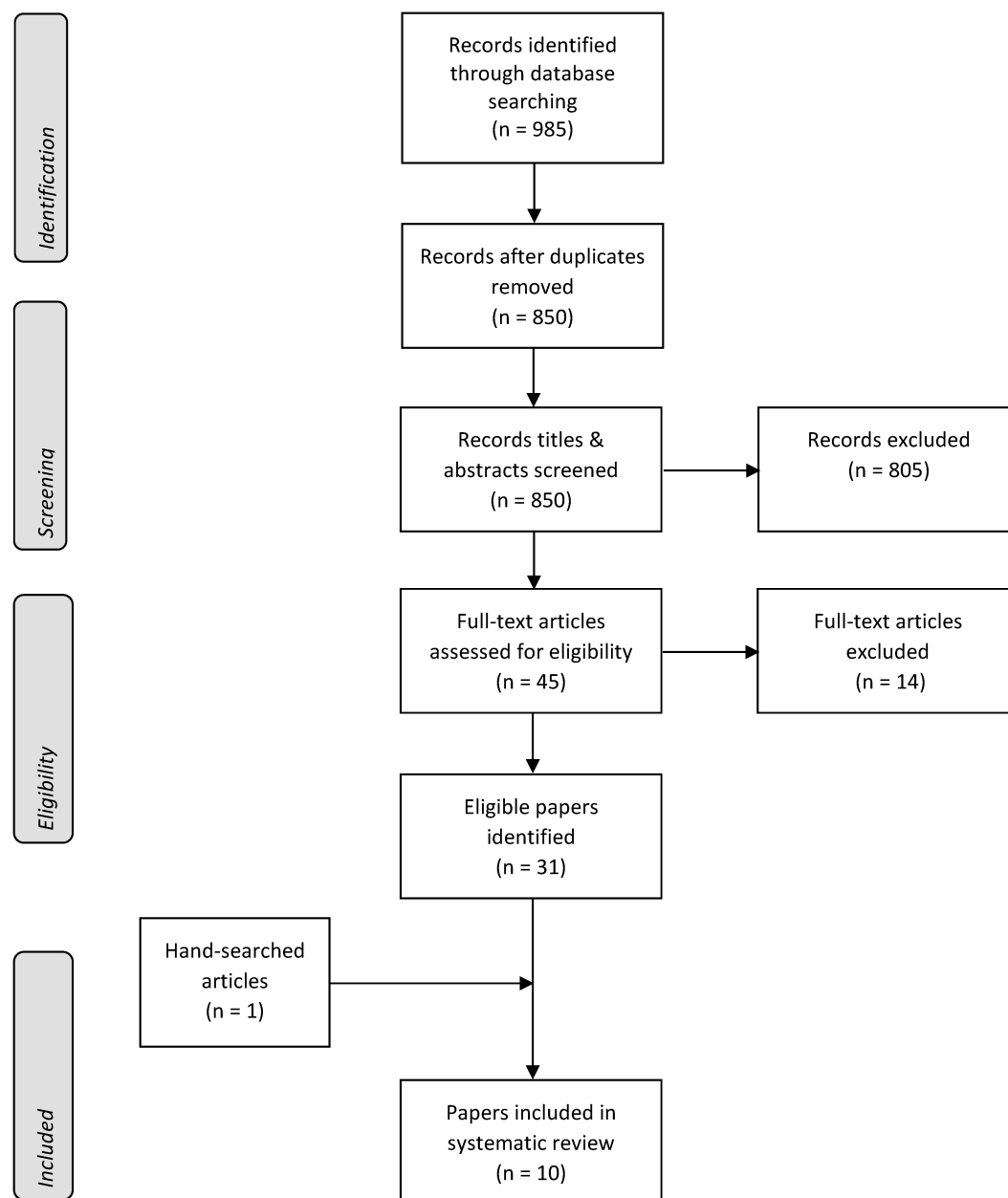
| Reference                                   | Design                     | Therapy                    | Control                       | Follow-up (mean) | Number of patients, exposed | Number of patients, control | Event                        | Events (N=) exposed/control | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality                   |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cardiovascular events (composite endpoints) |                            |                            |                               |                  |                             |                             |                              |                             |                          |                                 |
| Foody, 2017                                 | Retrospective cohort       | Febuxostat 40-60mg         | Allopurinol Median: 150mg     | 0,75 years       | 370 (gout +CKD 3-4_)        | 2056 (gout + CKD3-4)        | Major event: (CAD, CVA, PAD) | 14 / 138                    | HR0.52 (0.30-0.91)       | Intermediate                    |
| Kang, 2019                                  | Retrospective cohort       | Allopurinol <300mg         | Febuxostat <80mg              | 0,8 years        | 39640                       | 9910                        | CVD: MI, TIA, cor. Revasc.   | 648 / 125                   | HR1.09 (0.90-1.32)       | Intermediate                    |
| Zhang, 2018                                 | Retrospective cohort study | Febuxostat >40mg.          | Allopurinol 300mg             | 1,15 years       | 24936                       | 74808                       | CV event: MI, CVA.           | 935 / 3105                  | HR1.01 (0.94-1.08)       | Intermediate                    |
| White, 2018                                 | RCT                        | Febuxostat 40-80mg         | Allopurinol 200-600mg         | 2,6 years        | 3098                        | 3092                        | CV death, MI, CVA, revasc    | 335 / 321                   | HR1.03 (0.87-1.23)       | High<br>Low level of bias (RCT) |
| Joo, 2014                                   | Retrospective cohort       | >3 years ULT<br>SUA<6mg/dL | >3 years ULT,<br>SUA>6.0mg/dL | 7.6 years        | 53                          | 147                         | CVD: MI, HF, CVA, angina     | 3 / 9                       | NA.                      | Intermediate                    |



|                 |                      |                                    |                                  |                |                      |                      |   |                               |  |                                 |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Kim, 2015       | Retrospective cohort | XOI (allopurinol / febuxostat)     | No XOI, SUA>6.8mg/dL             | 1.3-1.4 years. | 32505PY              | 29305PY              | CVD: MI, CVA, HF, revasc.                     | 788/628                       | HR1.16 (0.99-1.34)   | Intermediate                    |
| Lin, 2017       | Retrospective cohort | Allopurinol<br>Benzbromaron<br>A+B | No ULT therapy                   | NA             | 1422<br>4141<br>2484 | 1422<br>4141<br>2484 | CAD   | 196/151<br>507/387<br>304/204 | HR1.07 (0.86-1.33)<br>HR1.05 (0.92-1.21)<br>HR0.94 (0.71-1.03) | High                            |
| Kim, 2018       | Retrospective cohort | Probenecid<br>500-1000mg           | Allopurinol<br>100-300mg         | 1 year         | 8611PY               | 41816PY              | MI, CVA                                       | 203/1182                      | HR0.80 (0.69-0.93)   | Intermediate                    |
| Kok, 2014       | Retrospective cohort | Allopurinol<br>Median: 100mg.      | Non-allopurinol (69% uricosuric) | 5 years        | 2483                 | 2483                 | CV event: CHD, HHD, HF, CVA, 'other CVD'      | 566/470                       | HR1.25 (1.10-1.41)   | High                            |
| Mackenzie, 2020 | RCT                  | Allopurinol<br>mean: 278 mg        | Febuxostat<br>Mean: 274 mg       | 4 years        | 3065                 | 3063                 | CVD: CVD mortality, non-fatal MI, ACS, stroke | 241/ 222                      | HR0.85 (0.70-1.03)   | High<br>(low risk of bias, RCT) |
| Mortality       |                      |                                    |                                  |                |                      |                      |   |                               |  |                                 |
| Chen, 2015      | Prospective cohort   | ULT (allopurinol / benzbromaron)   | no ULT                           | 6,5 years      | 764                  | 764                  | CVD mortality                                 | 5 / 21                        | HR0.29 (0.11-0.80)   | Intermediate                    |
| Kang, 2019      | Retrospective cohort | Allopurinol <300mg                 | Febuxostat <80mg                 | 0,8 years      | 39640                | 9910                 | All-cause mortality                           | 545 / 135                     | HR0.96 (0.79-1.16)   | Intermediate                    |
| Kim, 2018       | Retrospective cohort | Probenecid<br>500-1000mg           | Allopurinol<br>100-300mg         | 1 year         | 8753PY               | 42719PY              | All-cause mortality                           | 255 / 1387                    | HR0.87 (0.76-1.00)   | Intermediate                    |
| Kok, 2012       | Retrospective cohort | Allopurinol ≥300mg.                | Allopurinol 100mg.               | 5 years        | 395                  | 1262                 | CVD Mortality                                 | NA                            | HR0.75 (0.59-0.94)   | High                            |

|                 |                            |                          |                         |            |       |       |                     |            |                    |                               |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-------|-------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Zhang, 2018     | Retrospective cohort study | Febuxostat               | Allopurinol             | 1,15 years | 24936 | 74808 | All cause mortality | 1144/ 4022 | HR0.95 (0.89-1.02) | Intermediate                  |
| White, 2018     | RCT                        | Febuxostat 40-80mg       | Allopurinol 200-600mg   | 2,6 years  | 3098  | 3092  | CVD mortality       | 134 / 100  | HR1.34 (1.03-1.73) | High (low level of bias, RCT) |
| Mackenzie, 2020 | RCT                        | Allopurinol mean: 278 mg | Febuxostat Mean: 274 mg | 4 years    | 3065  | 3063  | CVD mortality       | 82 / 62    | HR0.91 (0.66-1.27) |                               |

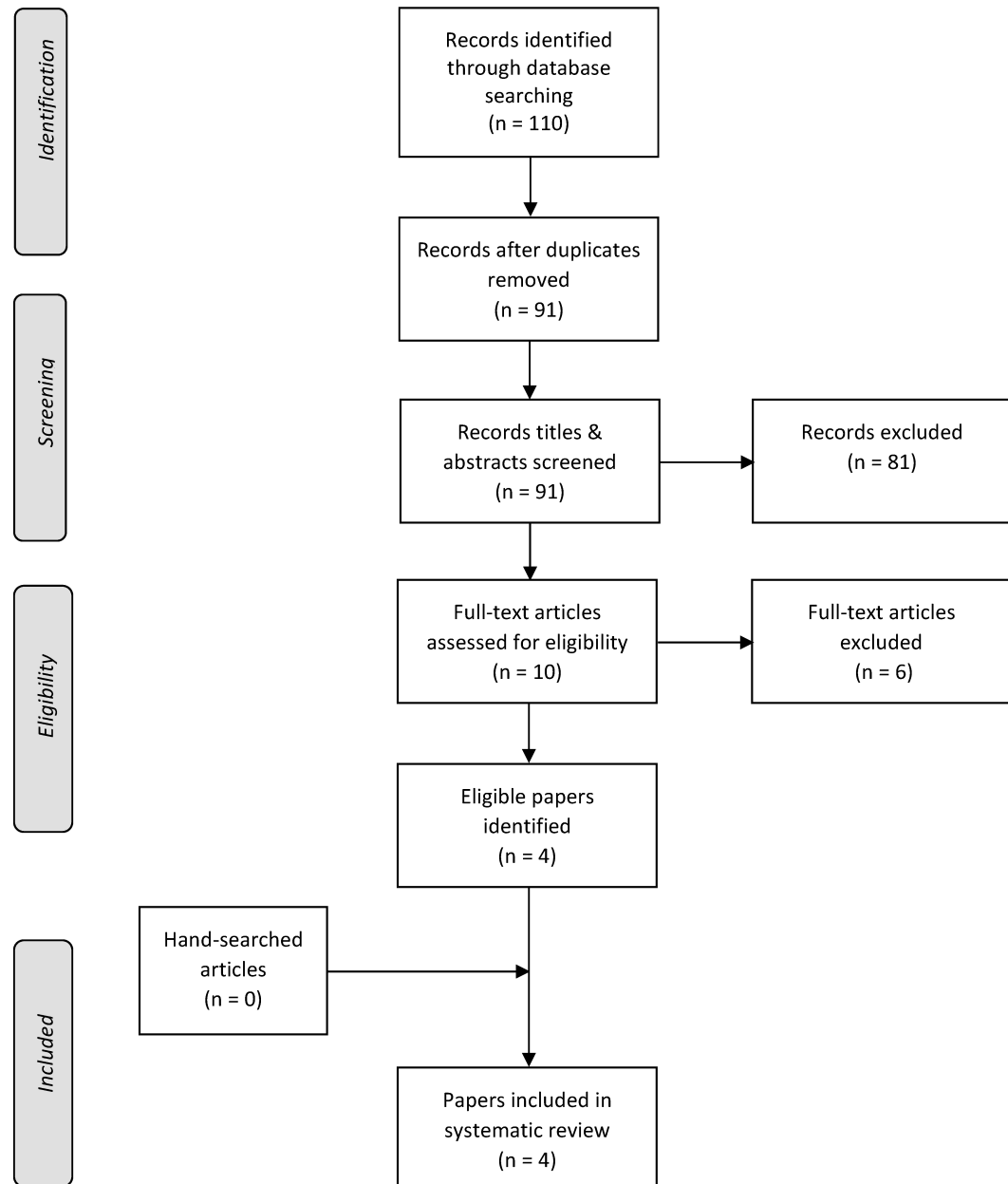
## 4. Prevalence and incidence of cardiovascular disease



| Reference      | Cohort                                    | Number of patients | Follow up (years) | Event  | Relative effect (95% CI)                   |
|----------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| CVD            |   |                    |                   |  |  |
| Abbott, 1988   | Framingham Study                          | 5209               | 32                | Coronary heart disease                       | RR 1.60 (1.1-2.5)                          |
| DeVera, 2010   | British Columbia linked Health Database   | 57852              | 7                 | Acute MI men:<br>Acute MI women:             | RR 1.11 (0.99-1.23)<br>RR 1.39 (1.20-1.61) |
| Clarson, 2015  | UK Clinical Practice Research Datalink    | 48152              | 10                | Vascular event men:<br>Vascular event women: | RR 1.06 (1.01-1.12)<br>RR 1.25 (1.12-1.25) |
| Janssens, 2016 | General practitioner database Netherlands | 1859               | 2,5               | CVD composite (AP, MI, HF, TIA/CVA, PAD, AA) | HR 1.44 (1.18-1.76)                        |
| Kuo, 2013      | Taiwan National Health Insurance Research | 26556              | 8                 | Myocardial infarction                        | HR 1.23 (1.11-1.36)                        |
| Seminog, 2013  | England National Health service database  | 202033             | 3,8               | Myocardial infarction<br>Stroke              | RR 1.82 (1.78-1.85)<br>RR 1.71 (1.68-1.75) |
| Singh, 2018    | Medicare database >65 years.              | 94809              | 6                 | Myocardial infarction                        | HR2.08 (1.95-2.21)                         |
| CVD Mortality  |   |                    |                   |  |  |
| Krishnan, 2008 | MRFIT                                     | 9105               | 17                | HR1.35 (1.06-1.72)                           |  |
| Choi, 2007     | Health Professionals Follow up            | 51297              | 12                | HR1.38 (1.15-1.66)                           |  |
| Teng, 2012     | Singapore Chinese Health Study            | 47035              | 10                | HR1.23 (0.97-1.56)                           |  |

**B. Vasculitis, systemic sclerosis (SSc), mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD), myositis and Sjögren's syndrome (SS)****1. Cardiovascular risk prediction tools**

PICO: 'In patients with vasculitis, SSc, MCTD, myositis and SS, what's the performance of risk prediction tools to predict cardiovascular risk?'



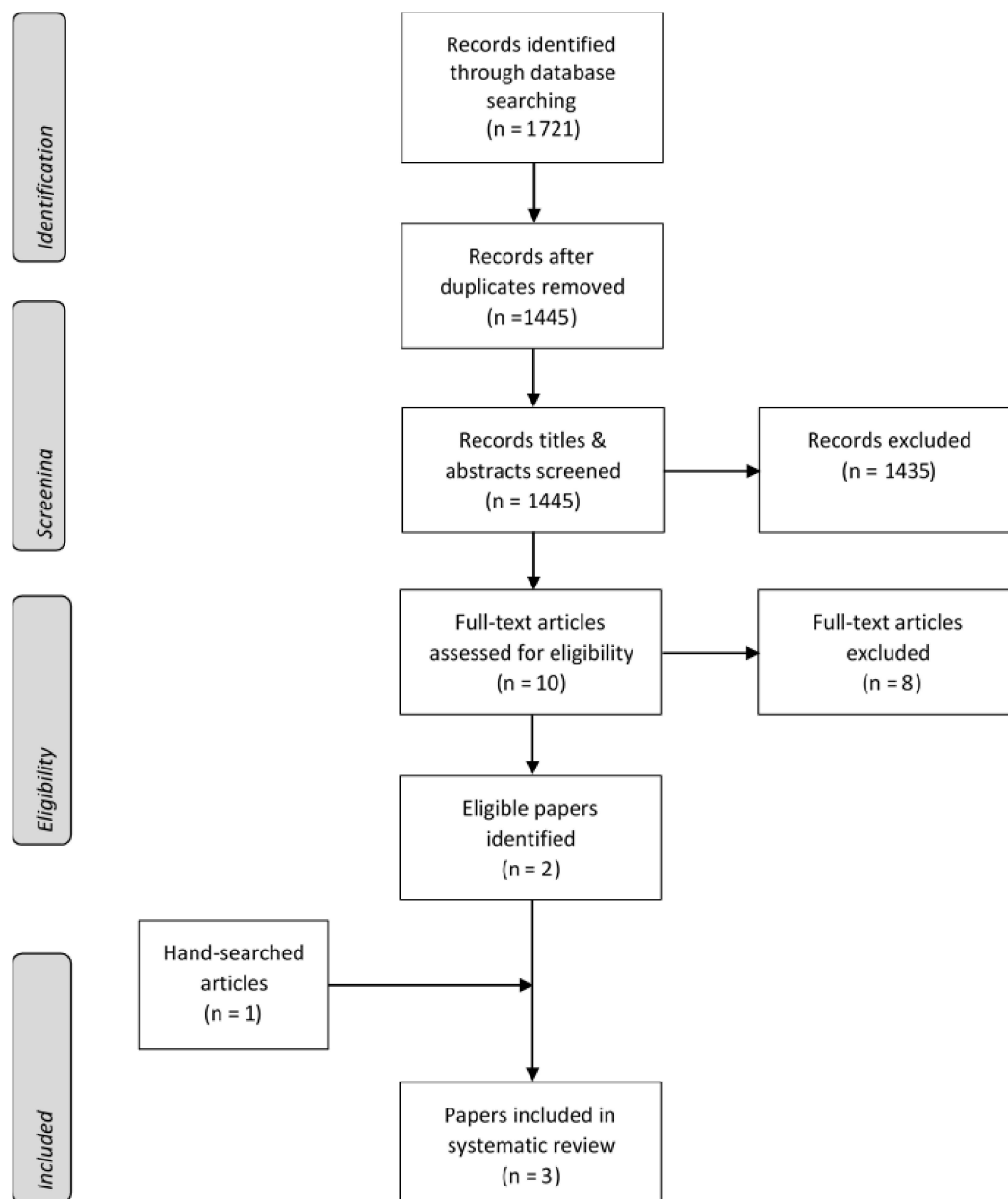
| Reference       | Design               | Risk tool                 | Follow-up | Performance  | Study quality score |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------|--|---------------------|
| Berti 2018      | Retrospective cohort | Office based Framingham   | 10 yrs    | 10yr Framingham: 20%<br>Observed 10yr incidence: 40%                           | intermediate        |
| Terrier 2013    | Prospective cohort   | Framingham (type unknown) | 7.1 yrs   | 10yr Framingham: 9%<br>Observed events 5 and 10 yr: 10% and 27%.               | intermediate        |
| Suppiah 2011    | Prospective cohort   | Office based Framingham   | 5 yrs     | AUC EUVAS Model: 0,73<br>AUC Framingham: 0,65                                  | intermediate        |
| Udayakumar 2015 | Retrospective cohort | Office based Framingham   | 10 yrs    | 10yr Framingham: 30% (all CV events)<br>Observed 10yr incidence: 8% (only CHD) | intermediate        |



## 2. Interventions targeting traditional cardiovascular risk factors

## a. Antihypertensives

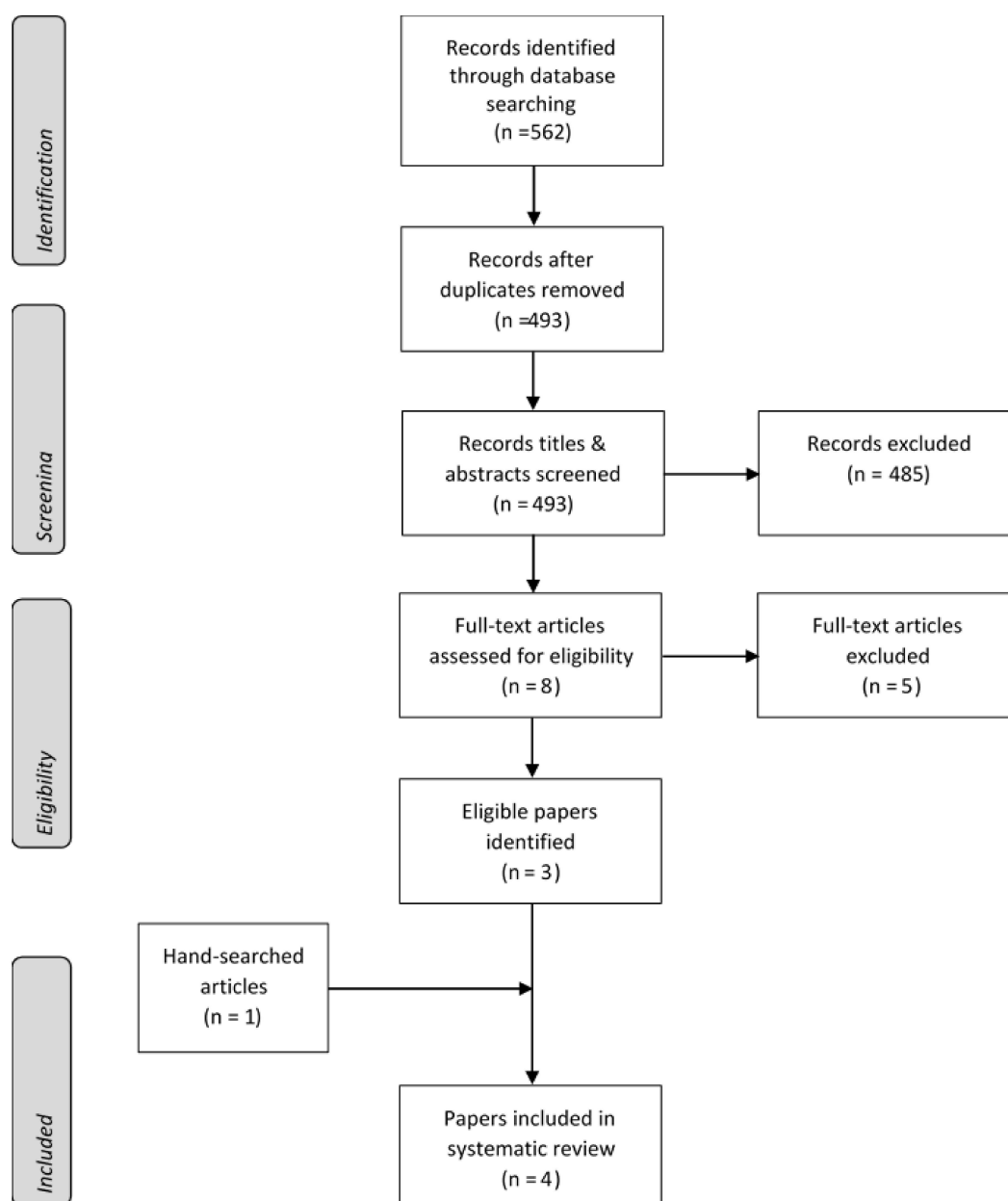
PICO: 'In patients with vasculitis, SSc, MCTD, myositis and SS, does treatment with antihypertensives result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with antihypertensives?'



| Reference      | Design               | Intervention  | Control          | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients control | Events, intervention             | Events, control                | Relative effect (95% CI) | Quality score |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Alba 2014      | Prospective cohort   | ACE/ARB       | No ACE/ARB       | 27 GCA                           | 79 GCA                     | 1 TIA                            | 5 strokes/TIA.                 | RR 0.59 (0.07 – 4.79)    | intermediate  |
| Grossman 2017  | Retrospective cohort | Beta blockers | No beta blockers | 23 GCA                           | 60 GCA                     | 11 (48%) cranial ischemic events | 12 (20%)                       | RR 4.35 (1.33–14.2)      | intermediate  |
| Valentini 2019 | Prospective cohort   | CCB/ACEi/ARB  | No CCB/ACE/ARB   | 448 SSc                          | 153 SSC                    | 7 Ventricular arrhythmias (2%)   | 5 ventricular arrhythmias (5%) | HR 0.28 (0.09 to 0.90)   | intermediate  |

## b. Lipid-lowering agents

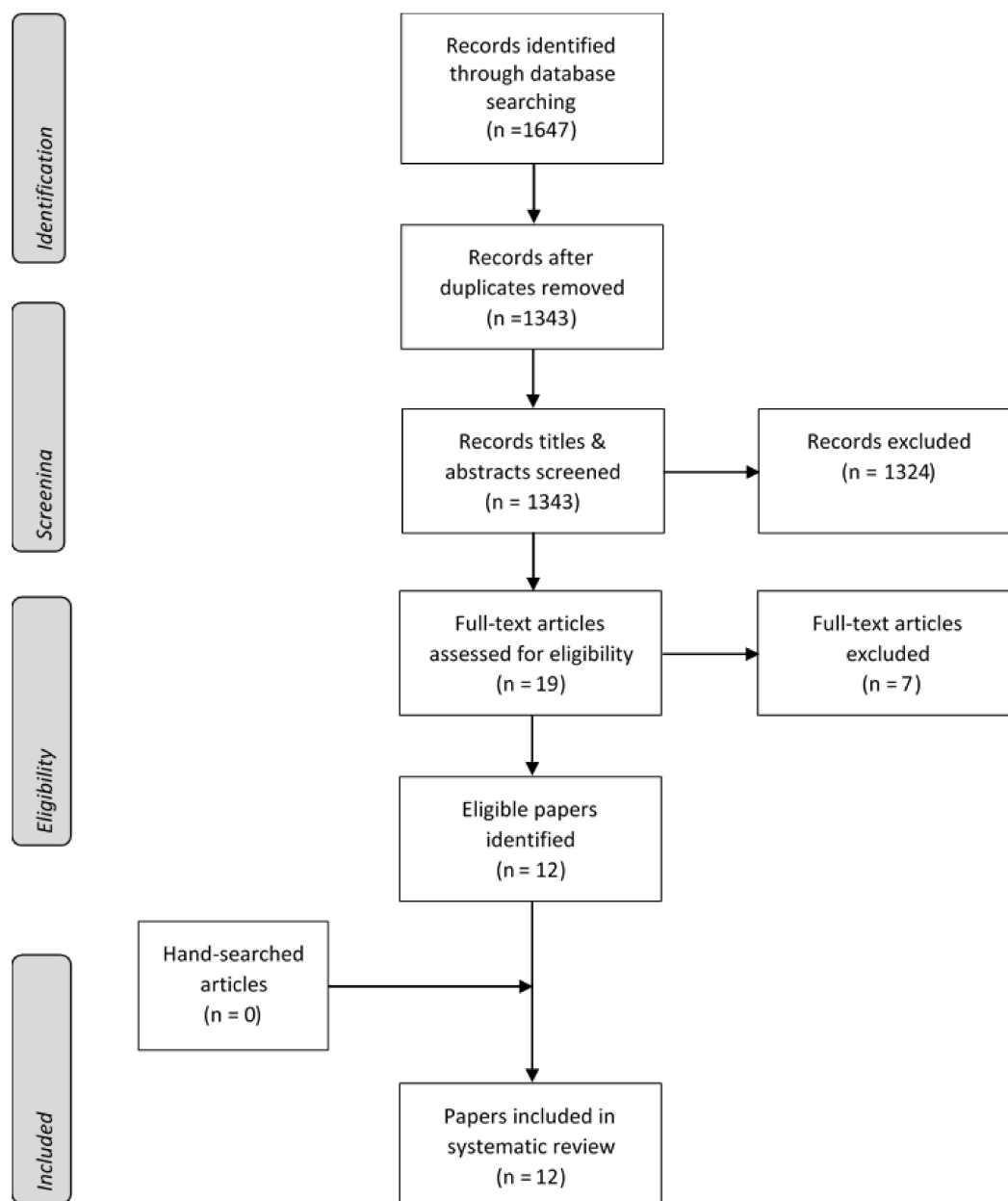
PICO: 'In patients with vasculitis, SSc, MCTD, myositis and SS, does treatment with lipid lowering-medications result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with these medications?'



| Reference     | Design               | intervention | Control    | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, control | Events, intervention                   | Events, control                        | Relative effect (95% CI)  | Study quality score |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------|
| Grossman 2017 | Retrospective cohort | Statins      | No statins | 21 GCA                           | 62 GCA                      | 5 (24%)                                | 19 (31%)                               | RR 0.78 (0.33 – 1.82)   | Inter mediate       |
| Pugnet 2016   | Retrospective cohort | Statins      | No statins | 28 GCA                           | 75 GCA                      | unknown                                | unknown                                | HR 0.993 (0.986–0.999)<br>Statins in cumulative DDD<br>Per year:<br>HR 0.48 (CI 0.33- 0.69) | Inter mediate       |
| Navraez 2007  | Retrospective cohort | Statins      | No statins | 30 GCA                           | 91 GCA                      | CVA 2 (7%)<br>IHD 1 (3%)<br>PAD 0 (0%) | CVA 3 (3%)<br>IHD 1 (1%)<br>PAD 5 (5%) | P = 0.60<br>P = 0.43<br>P = 0.19  | Inter mediate       |
| Pariente 2019 | Retrospective cohort | Statins      | No statins | 21 GCA                           | 108 GCA                     | 5 (24%)                                | 13 (12%)                               | RR 1.98 (0.79 – 4.96)   | Inter mediate       |

## c. Antiplatelets

PICO: 'In patients with vasculitis, SSc, MCTD, myositis and SS, does treatment with antiplatelets result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with antiplatelets?'



| Reference      | Design               | Intervention        | Control                | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, control | Events, intervention | Events, control | Relative effect (95% CI)                                    | Quality score |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| Grossman 2017  | Retrospective cohort | Platelet inhibitors | No platelet inhibitors | 24 GCA                           | 59 no GCA                   | 7 (29%)              | 17 (29%)        | 1.01 (0.48 – 2.12)  | intermediate  |
| Pariente 2019  | Retrospective cohort | Platelet inhibitors | No platelet inhibitors | 31 GCA                           | 98 GCA                      | 9 (29%)              | 9 (9%)          | 3.16 (1.34 – 7.26)  | intermediate  |
| Pugnet 2016    | Retrospective cohort | Platelet inhibitors | No platelet inhibitors | 16 GCA                           | 87 GCA                      | 0 (0%)               | 18 (21%)        | NA  | intermediate  |
| Valentini 2019 | Prospective cohort   | Platelet inhibitors | No platelet inhibitors | 161 SSc                          | 182                         | 17 (10%)             | 29 (16%)        | 0.41 ( 1.98 16.56)<br>Frailty analysis:<br>0.53 (0.26–1.08) | intermediate  |

For GCA, the panel agreed to update the SLR of the 2018 EULAR recommendation for the management of large vessel vasculitis\*. Therefore, only articles that were published after 2015 are included in the table.

\*Hellmich B., Agueda A., Monti S. et. al. 2018 Update of the EULAR recommendations for the management of large vessel vasculitis, Ann Rheum Dis. 2020 Jan;79(1):19-30. doi: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2019-215672.

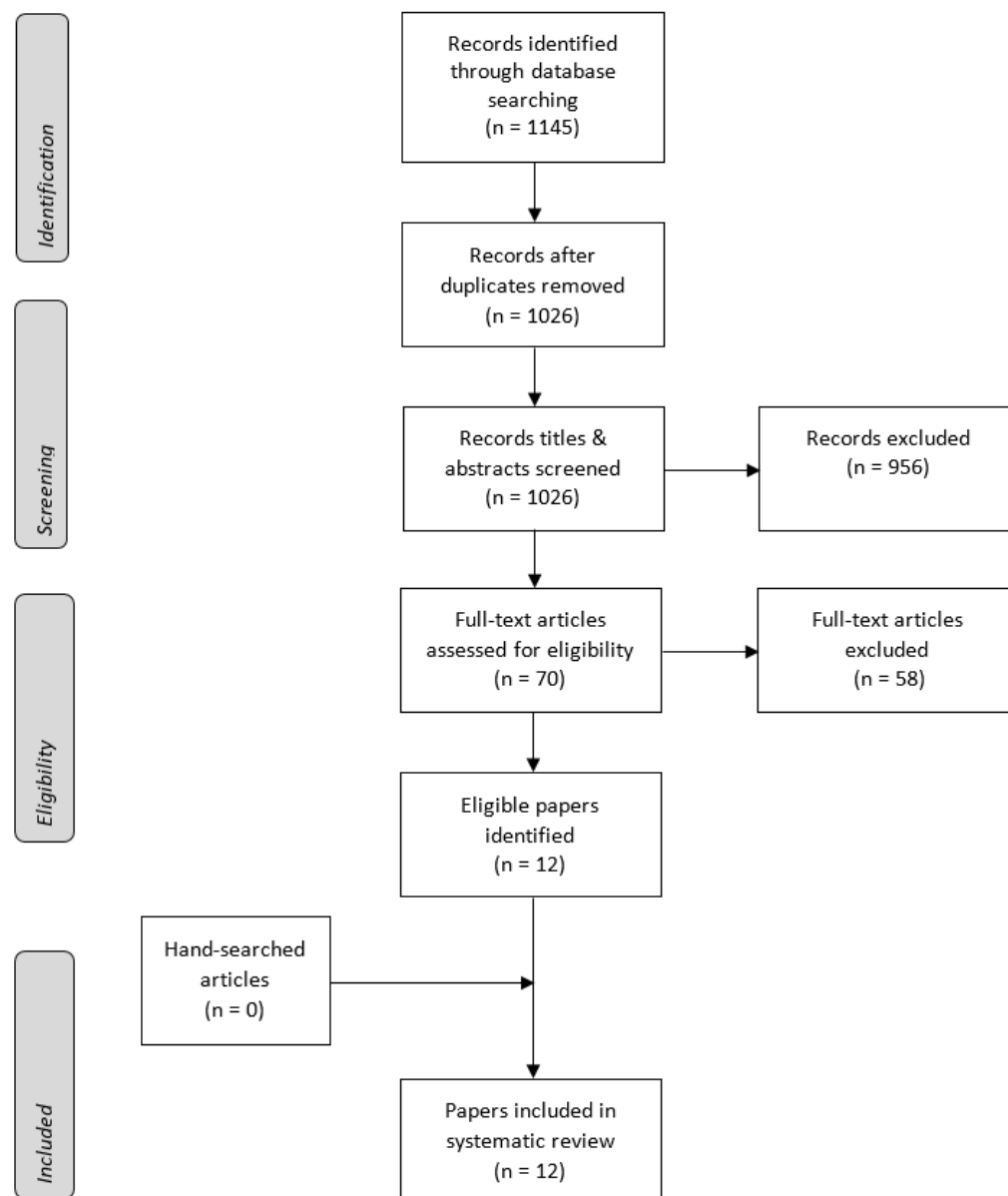


## 3. Interventions targeting disease-related cardiovascular risk factors

## a. Disease features

PICO: 'What is the effect of high disease activity on the risk of CVD?'

- i. Disease activity
- ii. Disease duration



| Reference             | Design                     | Exposure               | Control | Number of patients, exposed                | Number of patients, control | Events, intervention                             | Events, control                                  | Relative effect (95% CI)   | Quality score |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------|--|-----------------------------|--|--|--|---------------|
| Disease activity      |                            |                        |         |  |                             |  |  |  |               |
| Houben E. et al. 2020 | Prospective cohort study   | Disease activity: BVAS | -       | 231 GPA, 105 EGPA (newly diagnosed)        | -                           | 20 non-fatal, 3 fatal CV events                  | -  | Higher BVAS (per point)<br>HR: 1.09 (1.03-1.16)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.09 (1.02-1.16)   | High          |
| Bai et al. 2018       | Retrospective cohort study | Disease activity: BVAS | -       | 349 MPA, 119 GPA, 36 RLV (newly diagnosed) | -                           | CVE: 117<br>MI: 77 (65.8%)<br>Stroke: 40 (34.2%) | CVE: 117<br>MI: 77 (65.8%)<br>Stroke: 40 (34.2%) | Predictive value BVAS for CVE:<br>HR 1.039 (1.011 – 1.067)<br>Predictive value of BVAS for CVD-related mortality: HR: 1.064 (1.018 – 1.113)<br>Predictive value of BVAS for CVE after 2 years since diagnosis: HR: 1.067 (1.021-1.115)<br>Predictive value of BVAS for CVD-related mortality after 2 years of diagnosis: HR: 1.104 (1.033 – 1.180) | High          |
| Robson et al. 2014    | Prospective cohort study   | Disease activity: BVAS | -       | 535 patients MPA, n = 254<br>GPA, n = 281  | -                           | ACS, iCVA, MI, no numbers mentioned              | -  | Significant relationship between iCVA and entry BVAS: adjusted OR: 1.77 (1.01 – 3.10)<br>No significant relationship between entry BVAS and other CVD.   | High          |

|                      |                             |                        |                                      |  |      |  |   |   |              |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------|--|---|---|--------------|
| Suppiah et al. 2015  | Prospective cohort study    | Disease activity: BVAS | -                                    | 427 patients WG, n = 237 MPA, n = 190            | -    | CV event: 78<br>CV deaths: 32<br>Non-fatal MI: 42<br>Non-fatal stroke: 25                          | - | BVAS score was not associated with cardiovascular events.   | High         |
| Disease duration     |                             |                        |                                      |  |      |  |   |   |              |
| Albrecht et al. 2017 | Prospective cohort study    | Disease duration       | -                                    | 1858 patients (1420 PMR, 177 GCA, 261 PMR & GCA) | -    | No longitudinal data on frequency of outcome variable described (only cross-sectional at baseline) | - | The frequency of cardiac disease was not increased in patients with longstanding disease, even in patients with more active disease.  | Intermediate |
| Amiri et al. 2015    | Prospective cohort study    | Disease duration       | Healthy age and sex matched subjects | 809 GCA patients                                 | 8577 | MI: 83<br>Stroke: 60<br>Both: 123  |   | Risk of CV events highest in first year after diagnosis; risk decreases in subsequent years but remains statistically significant for over the first 5 years.<br>HR < 1y MI: 4.76 (3.29-6.88)<br>HR < 1y Stroke: 3.20 (2.11-4.87)<br>HR < 1y Both: 3.92 (3.91-5.28) | High         |
| Bartoloni et al.     | Restrospective cohort study | Disease duration       | -                                    | 408 pSS patients                                 | -    | HF: 8<br>TIA: 6<br>Stroke: 4<br>Angina: 4  | - | Cardiac events and peripheral obliterative arteriopathy appear to   | Intermediate |

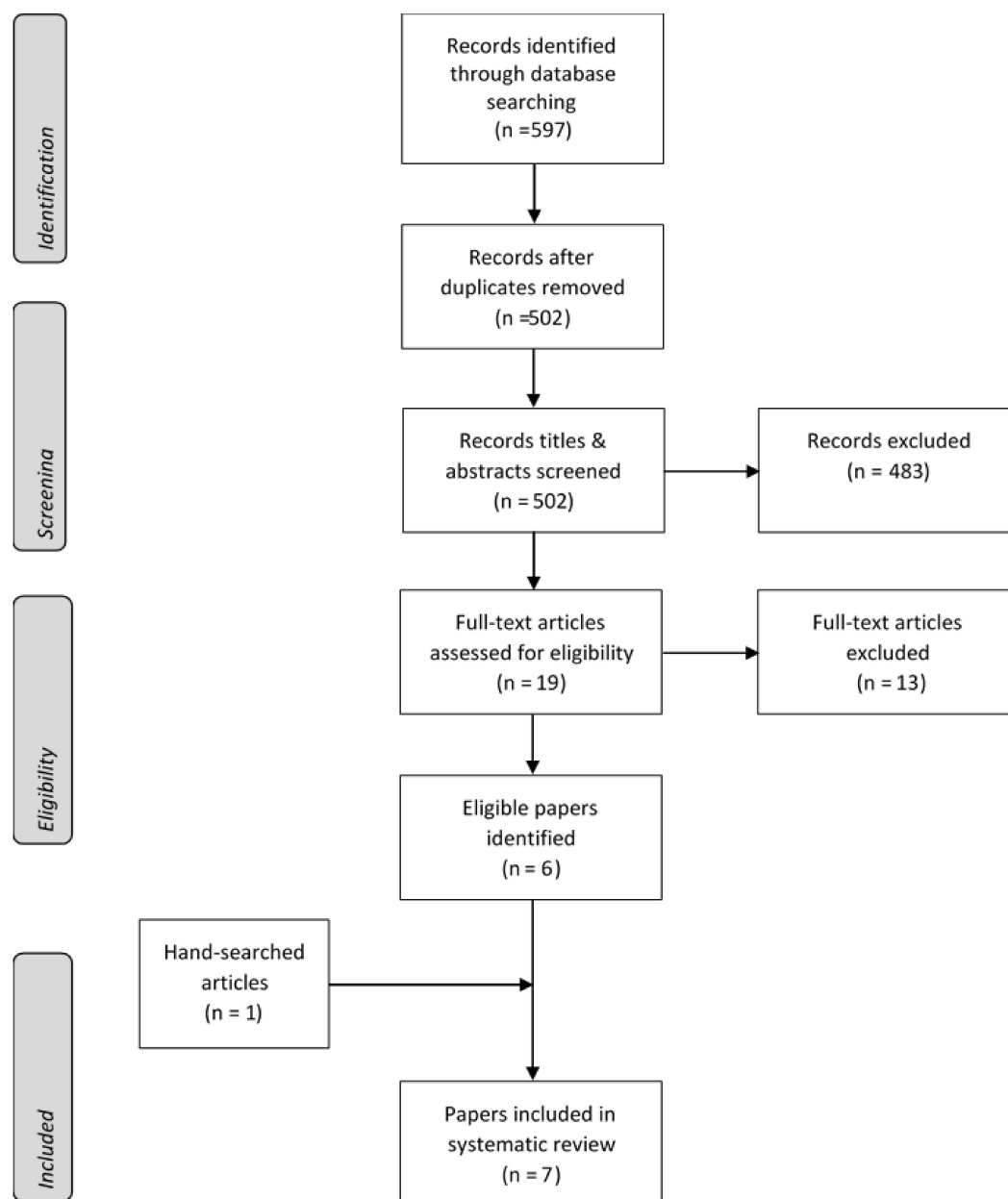
|                        |   |                     |  |                     |      |   |   |  |              |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|--|---------------------|------|---|---|--|--------------|
|                        |   |                     |  |                     |      | MI: 3<br>Obliterative<br>arteriopathy:<br>2   |   | be associated with<br>longer disease duration.   |              |
| Mofors et al.<br>2019  | Prospective<br>cohort study                   | Disease<br>duration | Sex, age<br>and<br>region of<br>residency<br>matched<br>controls | 960 pSS<br>patients | 9600 | MI: 53<br>CI: 34<br>VTE: 50                   | - | MI:<br>First 5 years after<br>diagnosis: HR 0.9, (0.4-<br>1.8)<br>5-10 years after<br>diagnosis: HR 1.8 (1.1-2.9<br>and >10 years after<br>diagnosis: HR 1.9 (1.3-<br>3.0)<br>Cerebral infarction:<br>No increased risk for CI<br>first 5 and 5-10 years<br>after diagnosis.<br>110 years after diagnosis:<br>HR 1.6 (1.0-2.7)<br>Thromboembolism:<br>1st 5 years (HR: 2.1, CI<br>1.2-3.5)<br>5-10y: HR: 2.8 (1.6-4.)<br>>10y: HR: 1.8 (1.1-2.9) | High         |
| Lescoat et al.<br>2019 | Observational<br>cross-<br>sectional<br>study | Disease<br>duration | -  | 204 SSc<br>patients | -    | Unilateral<br>UAO: 76<br>Bilateral<br>UAO: 49 | - | Unilateral, bilateral or<br>both UAO:<br>Unadjusted OR: 1.66<br>(1.23-2.24)<br>Adjusted OR not<br>significant, but no values<br>described  | Intermediate |

## b. Medications

PICO: *'In patients with vasculitis, SSc, MCTD, myositis and SS, is the use of immunosuppressive treatment related to cardiovascular outcome?'*

Immunosuppressives:

- *Glucocorticoids*
- *Methotrexate*
- *Mycophenolate mofetil*
- *Azathioprine*
- *Cyclophosphamide*
- *Rituximab*
- *Cyclosporin*
- *Hydroxychloroquine*

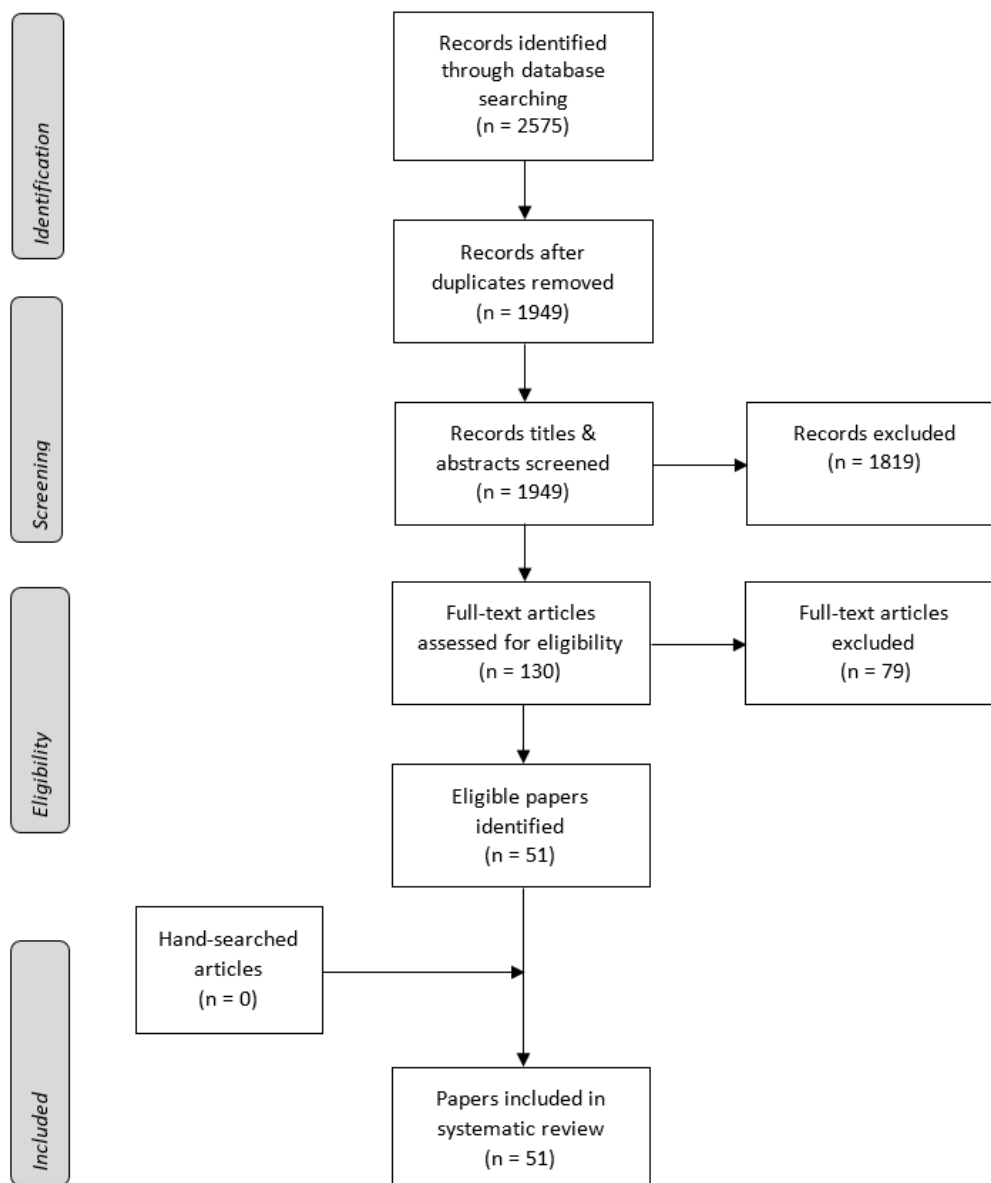


| Reference     | Design               | intervention  | Control  | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, control   | Events, intervention | Events, control | Relative effect (95% CI)  | Quality score |
|---------------|----------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| Albrecht 2018 | Retrospective cohort | Glucocorticoids   | No glucocorticoids                               | 286 GCA                          | 152 GCA                       | unknown              | unknown         | NA  | Intermediate  |
| Boysson 2019  | Retrospective cohort | Glucocorticoids<br>Other: MTX, tocilizumab, dapsone, a-TNF-alfa, anakinra | No glucocorticoids<br>No other immunosuppressors | GCA, GC unknown<br>Other: 73     | GCA, GC unknown<br>Other: 215 | unknown              | unknown         | Glucocorticoid: 1.57 (0.03–12.95), month<br>Other: 0.44 (0.29–0.66)                                     | Intermediate  |
| Gale 2018     | Retrospective cohort | Risk per 1 gram increase in cumulative glucocorticoid dose over 52 weeks  | Lowest glucocorticoid dose                       | GCA<br>NA                        | GCA<br>NA                     | NA                   | NA              | CVA USA cohort 1.01 (0.98, 1.04) UK 1.00 (0.99, 1.02)<br>IHD USA 1.01 (0.99, 1.04) UK 1.01 (0.99, 1.03) | High          |



|                      |                      |   |  |  |   |  |  |   |              |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|--------------|
| Faurshou 2009        | Prospective cohort   | CYC   | No CYC   | AAV 129 (44%) 1-36 g<br>76 (26%) >36 g                           | No CYC 41 (14%)<br>Unknown 47 (16%) → excluded                          | 18 (14%) in 1-36g<br>23 (30%) in >36g        | 8 (20%) no CYC                                   | No CYC RR 1.8 (0.8 – 3.6)<br>CYC 1-36 RR 1.4 (0.8 – 2.2)<br>CYC > 36 RR 2.0 (1.3 p 3.0)                           | High         |
| Tisseverasinghe 2009 | Prospective cohort   | Glucocorticoids, NSAIDs, non steroidal immunomodulator (MTX, AZA, antimalarial agents, CYC) | NO Glucocorticoids, NSAIDs, immunomodulators,    | Dermatomyositis/polymyositis<br>Immunomodulators: 154<br>AZA: 83 | Dermatomyositis/polymyositis<br>No immunomodulators: 275<br>No AZA: 328 | Immunomodulators:<br>24 (16%)<br>AZA 9 (11%) | No immunomodulators:<br>56 (20%)<br>AZA 71 (22%) | Immunomodulators RR of 0.5 (0.2 - 1.0)<br>AZA RR 0.3 (0.1-0.8)<br>No relation between events and other medication | Intermediate |
| Wu 2018              | Retrospective cohort | Glucocorticoids<br>NSAIDs<br>DMARDs (HCQ, MTX, Sulfasalazine)                               | No glucocorticoids<br>NSAIDs<br>DMARDs           | pSS unknown  | pSS unknown   | unknown                                      | unknown  | Glucocorticoids RR 1.45 (1.07–1.97)<br>NSAID RR 1.31 (1.05–1.65)<br>DMARDs RR 0.92(0.66–1.27)                     | High         |
| Chu 2013             | Prospective cohort   | Glucocorticoids<br>Other immunosuppressors:<br>AZA, MTX, CYC, Cyclosporin                   | No glucocorticoids<br>No other immunosuppressors | Frequent users:<br>325 SSc<br>171 SSc                            | 1019 SSc<br>1173 SSc  | 9 (3%)<br>2 (1%)                             | 22 (2%)<br>29 (2%)                               | Glucocorticoids (HR 1.41 (0.64-3.09)<br>other immunosuppressors HR 0.83 (0.33-2.11)                               | High         |

## 4. Prevalence and incidence of cardiovascular disease



## a. Mixed connective tissue disease

|                      | Cohort | Number of patients   | Follow up | Event  | Relative effect (95% CI)   |
|----------------------|--------|--|-----------|--|--|
| CVD                  |        |  |           |  |  |
| Alenghat et al. 2016 | USA    | African Americans:<br>202 isolated UCTD/MCTD<br>White Americans:<br>457 isolated UCTD/MCTD | N.A.      | ASCVD (Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease) | African Americans:<br>Prevalence ratio: 2.3 (1.7-2.9)<br>White Americans:<br>Prevalence ratio: 1.0 (0.7-1.3) |

## b. Sjögren's syndrome

|                      | Cohort        | Number of patients                                   | Follow up | Event  | Relative effect (95% CI)   |
|----------------------|---------------|--|-----------|--|--|
| CVD                  |               |  |           |  |  |
| Alenghat et al. 2016 | USA           | African Americans:<br>424<br>White Americans:<br>699 | N.A.      | ASCVD (Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease) | African Americans:<br>Isolated Sjögren;<br>Prevalence ratio: 1.7 (1.1-2.5)<br>All Sjögren:<br>Prevalence ratio: 2.9 (2.5-3.4)<br>White Americans:<br>Isolated Sjögren;<br>Prevalence ratio: 0.5 (0.3-0.9)<br>All Sjögren:<br>Prevalence ratio: 1.5 (1.3-1.9) |
| Luni et al 2017      | United States | 13086 Sjögren  |           | IHD  | Adjusted HR: 0.898 (0.844-0.955)   |

|                  |                                     |                    |  |                              |  |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Wu et al. 2018   | China                               | 365 pSS patients   | Observation period: 256883 person-months for patents, 1043101 person-months for controls | CHD (coronary heart disease) | All patients:<br>HR: 1.24 (CI: 1.10-1.40)<br>Low risk patients:<br>HR: 1.52 (1.21 – 1.92)    |
| Yong et al. 2018 | Systematic review and meta-analysis | 9 studies included | N.A.   | CVD + CVA, CVD, CVA          | Pooled OR CVD + CVA: 1.28 (0.11-1.46)<br>CVA: 1.31 (0.96 – 1.79)<br>CVD: 1.30 (1.09-1.55)    |
| Zöller 2012      | Sweden                              | -                  | -  | Stroke                       | hCVA:<br>Standardized IR: 0.81 (0.26 – 1.90)<br>iCVA:<br>Standardized IR: 1.31 (1.02 – 1.67) |
| Zöller 2012      | Sweden                              | -                  | -  | CHD                          | Standardized IR: 1.63 (1.42 – 1.87)  |

## c. Systemic sclerosis

|     | Cohort | Number of patients | Follow up | Event | Relative effect (95% CI) |
|-----|--------|--------------------|-----------|-------|--------------------------|
| CVD |        |                    |           |       |                          |

|                      |                   |  |   |   |  |
|----------------------|-------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Alenghat et al. 2016 | USA               | African Americans:<br>391<br>White Americans:<br>451                     | N.A.  | ASCVD<br>(Atherosclerotic<br>cardiovascular<br>disease) | African Americans:<br>Isolated SSc;<br>Prevalence ratio: 2.7 (2.1-3.6)<br>All SSc:<br>Prevalence ratio: 3.8 (3.3-4.3)<br>White Americans:<br>Isolated SSc;<br>Prevalence ratio: 2.2 (1.7-2.9)<br>All SSc:<br>Prevalence ratio: 2.6 (2.1-3.1)   |
| Ali et al. 2015      | Systematic review | 5 included studies with<br>control group and RR/OR/HR<br>reported effect | -   | CAD (coronary<br>artery disease)                        | RR 1.7 (0.8-3.7)<br>OR: 3.2 (2.3-4.5)<br>HR: 1.8 (1.1-3.1)<br>OR 3.3 (1.1-10.6)<br>HR: 2.5 (1.6-3.8)   |
| Chiang et al. 2013   | Taiwan            | 1238   | Median<br>4.7y, max<br>10y                  | ischemic stroke   | Unadjusted HR: 1.44 (CI: 1.15-1.80)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.43 (CI: 1.12-1.83)   |
| Hu et al. 2018       | Canada            | 78   | Mean 9.8<br>years (9.2y<br>for<br>controls) | Any CV, CAD, MI,<br>Angina, PVD, CHF                    | Any CV:<br>HR: 2.38 (CI: 1.28 – 4.43)<br>Adjusted HR: 2.66 (1.39 – 5.11)<br>CAD: (MI + angina)<br>HR: 2.35 (CI: 1.17 – 4.71)<br>HR adjusted: 2.60 (1.25 – 5.41)<br>MI:<br>HR: 3.14 (CI: 0.97 – 10.14)<br>Adjusted HR: 4.88 (CI: 1.21 – 19.72)<br>Angina:<br>HR: 2.37 (0.97 – 7.10)<br>Adjusted HR: 2.11 (0.68 – 6.56)<br>PVD (PAD + AAA)<br>HR: 3.88 (CI: 0.91-16.33)<br>CHF<br>HR 2.10 (CI: 0.90 – 4.89)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.92 (0.69 – 5.32) |

|             |        |   |   |        |   |
|-------------|--------|---|---|--------|---|
| Zöller 2012 | Sweden | - | - | Stroke | hCVA: Standardized IR: 2.87 (1.48 – 5.03)<br>iCVA: Standardized IR: 1.21 (0.9 – 1.58) |
| Zöller 2012 | Sweden | - | - | CHD    | Standardized IR: 1.46 (1.37 – 1.55)   |

## d. ANCA-associated vasculitis

|                    | Cohort        | Number of patients      | Follow up | Event  | Relative effect (95% CI)   |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|--|
| CVD                |               |                         |           |  |  |
| Berti et al. 2018  | Canada        | Newly diagnosed AAV: 58 | N.A.      | CAD = AF, HF, CVA, PVD (incl. VTE, DVT and PE) | Any CVD: HR 3.15 (1.51-6.57)<br>CAD: HR 0.87 (0.29-2.60)<br>CHF: HR 2.62 (1.05-6.51)<br>AF: HR 1.65 (0.78-3.48)<br>CAD, HF or AF: HR 2.96 (1.42-6.15)<br>CVA: HR 8.49 (2.54-28.30)<br>PVD: HR 0.70 (0.08-6.40)<br>VTE: HR 3.26 (0.84-12.60)<br>PE: HR 1.33 (0.23-7.54) |
| Houben et al. 2017 | Meta-analysis | 7 included studies      | N.A.      | total CVE, IHD and CV                          | Pooled RR for total CVE: 1.65 (1.23-2.22)<br>Pooled RR for IHD: 1.60 (1.39 – 1.84)<br>Pooled RR for CVA: 1.20 (0.98 0 1.48)  |
| Li et al. 2017     | UK            | 570 newly diagnosed GPA | N.A.      | Stroke/Tia, PVD, VTE, HF, IHD                  | IHD: HR: 0.91 (0.60-1.38)<br>Stroke/TIA: HR: 1.08 (0.70-1.67)<br>PVD: HR: 0.96 (0.45 – 2.09)<br>HF: HR: 1.46 (0.93-2.30)<br>HRs stratified for follow-up length: VTE:<br>≥3y: 2.56 (1.44-4.54)<br><3y: 5.24 (2.83-9.71)  |

|                      |   |  |   |                           |  |
|----------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------|--|
| Mourguet et al. 2019 | France                                    | 99 GPA, 26 MPA                                       | Mean: 88.4<br>+- 78.3<br>months                       | CAD, Stroke (only<br>CVA) | CAD:<br>Incidence rate (age adjusted): 8.5 per 1000ptY<br>Cumulative event incidence at 1, 5 and 10y:<br>2% (CI 1-4)<br>8% (5-10)<br>12% (CI 8-18)<br>Stroke:<br>Incidence rate (age adjusted): 10.2 per<br>1000ptY<br>Cumulative event incidence at 1, 5 and 10y:<br>2% (CI 1-4)<br>3% (2-5)<br>11% (CI 6-15) |
| Wallace et al. 2019  | USA                                       | Newly diagnosed AAV patients<br>313 MPO+<br>171 PR3+ | Mean and<br>SD: 7.0 +-<br>4.1y                        | CVD                       | Cumulative incidence for CVD: 0.8% (CI: 0.3 –<br>2.0)<br>Increased cumulative incidence of death for<br>CVD by 5 and 10 years after treatment<br>initiation:<br>3.4% (CI: 2.0-5.4)<br>7.1% (CI: 4.5-10.4)<br>Standardized mortality ratio: 2.3 (1.9-2.8)   |
| Romeu et al. 2014    | French REIN registry<br>from 2002 to 2011 | 425 AAV on dialysis<br>259 GPA<br>166 MPA            | Median<br>follow-up<br>of 23<br>months<br>(IQR: 8-44) | CVA, PVD                  | Prevalence in AAV vs. non-AAV:<br>CVA: 11% vs. 5.0% (p < 0.0001)<br>PVD: 5% vs. 14% (p < 0.0001)   |

For AAV, the panel agreed to update the SLR of a 2016 meta-analysis.\* Therefore, only articles that were published after janurary 2016 are included in the table.

\* Houben E, Penne EL, Voskuyl AE, van der Heijden JW, Otten RHJ, Boers M, et al. Cardiovascular events in anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody-associated vasculitis: a meta-analysis of observational studies. *Rheumatology (Oxford)* 2018;57:555-562.

e. Giant Cell Arteritis

|                         | Cohort | Number of patients | Follow up                     | Event              | Relative effect (95% CI)  |
|-------------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| CVD                     |        |                    |                               |                    |   |
| Amiri N et al 2016      | Canada | 809 GCA            | N.A.                          | MI or stroke event | MI<br>HR: 2.75 (2.16-3.5)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.77 (1.29-2.43)<br><br>Stroke<br>HR: 2.21 (1.68-2.91)<br>Adjusted: 2.04 (1.43-2.93)                  |
| Aouba et al. 2018       | France | 6313 GCA           | N.A.                          | IHD and CVD        | Standardized Mortality Odds Ratio (SMOR)<br>IHD:1.45 (1.35-1.64)<br>CVD: 1.23 (1.09-1.39)   |
| Chazal et al 2018       | France | 4628 GCA           | N.A.                          | CVA and IHD        | SMOR: GCA as UCD (65-85y)<br>CVA: 1.2 (0.8—1.8)<br>IHD: 1.7 (1.3-2.3)<br>SMOR: GCA as NUCD (65-85y)<br>CVA: 2.4 (2.0—2.8)<br>IHD: 0.9 (0.7-1.1) |
| Gonzalez-Gay et al 2005 | Spain  | 210 GCA            | January 1981 to December 2001 | IHD                | Standardized Mortality Ratio (SMR): 1.62 (0.7-3.2)  |



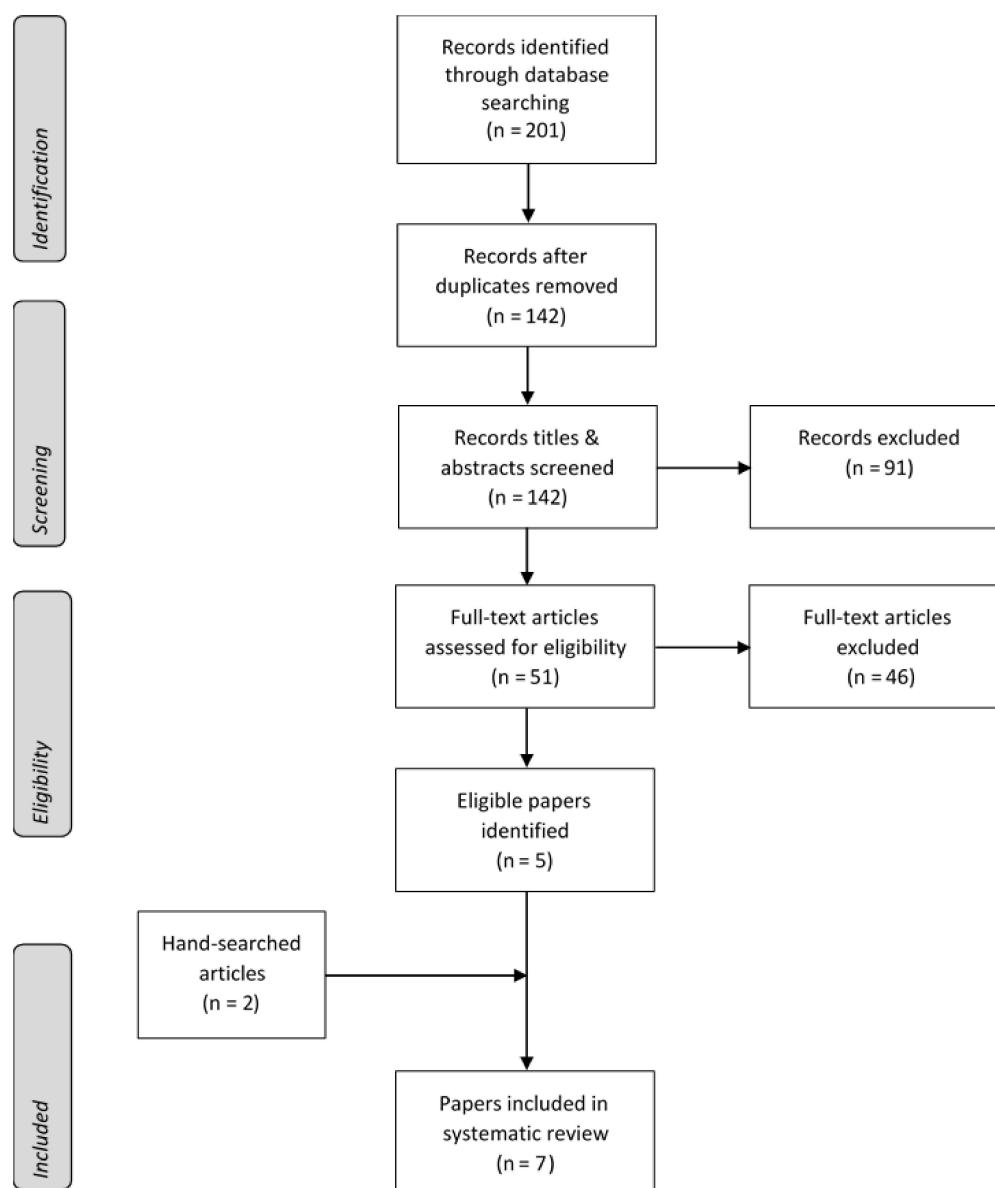
|                       |                                    |   | prevalent diagnosis |   |  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|--|
| Kermani T et al. 2013 | USA                                | 204 GCA   | Median 8.8 years    | Cause specific mortality (CHD)                      | RR: 1.3 (0.95, 1.8)  |
| Lee YH et al. 2018    | Meta-analysis                      | 7 studies; but only 4 had cardiovascular specific information | N.A.                | CVD   | SMR 1.312 (1.136-1.516)  |
| Li L et al. 2017      | UK                                 | 6796 GCA  | N.A.                | MI, AP, IHD, Stroke/TIA, PVD, HF                    | MI:<br>HR: 1.65 (1.43-1.89)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.57 (1.36-1.82)<br>AP:<br>HR: 1.39 (1.21-1.61)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.36 (1.17-1.58)<br>IHD:<br>HR: 1.41 (1.22-1.62)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.37 (1.18-1.59)<br>Stroke/TIA:<br>HR: 1.43 (1.31-1.57)<br>Adjusted HR: 1.41 (1.29-1.55)<br>PVD:<br>HR: 1.98 (1.70-2.31)<br>Adjusted: 1.75 (1.49-2.06)<br>HF:<br>HR: 1.45 (1.29-1.63)<br>Adjusted: 1.46 (1.29-1.65) |
| Lo Gullo et al 2016   | Olmsted County, MN, USA            | 244 GCA   | N.A.                | Stroke (iCVA, hCVA, TIA, amourosis fugax) or any CV | No significant differences in incidence of Stroke or any CV event between patients and controls  |
| Mohammed A et al 2017 | Skane Healthcare Register – Sweden | 768 GCA   | N.A.                | First IHD or CVA                                    | CVA: RR: 1.40 (1.12–1.74)<br>IHD: RR: 1.20 (1.00–1.44)   |
| Pugnet, G et al 2016  | France                             | 103 GCA   | N.A.                | Any CV hospitalization, CAD, HF                     | Any CV: IR: 3.3 (1.9-6.2)<br>CAD: IR: 5.0 (1.3-26.7)<br>HF: IR: 2.4 (0.9-6.0)  |

|                                |                                      |  |                              |   |  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|--|
| Ungprasert et al 2015          | Meta-analysis                        | 6 included studies - GCA                             | N.A.                         | CAD   | Pooled RR : 1.51 (0.88-2.61)   |
| Ungprasert et al 2016          | Meta-analysis                        | 4 included studies - GCA                             | N.A.                         | PVD   | Pooled RR : 1,88 (1.04-3.41)   |
| Ungprasert et al 2018          | Meta-analysis                        | 7 included studies - GCA                             | N.A.                         | CVA   | Pooled RR: 1.4 (1.27, 1.56)  |
| Alenghat et al. 2016           | USA                                  | African Americans:<br>340<br>White Americans:<br>265 | N.A.                         | ASCVD<br>(Atherosclerotic<br>cardiovascular<br>disease) | African Americans:<br>Isolated DM/DP<br>Prevalence ratio: 3.2 (2.6-4.1)<br>All DM/DP<br>Prevalence ratio: 3.5 (3.0-4.0)<br>White Americans:<br>Isolated DM/DP<br>Prevalence ratio: 1.8 (1.2-2.6)<br>All DM/DP<br>Prevalence ratio: 2.2 (1.7-2.8) |
| De Moraes et al. 2013          | Brazil                               | 84 DM<br>105 Healthy controls                        | N.A.                         | MI and Stroke   | Chi-square test:<br>MI: p 0.112<br>Stroke: p 0.024   |
| Lin et al. 2015                | Taiwan                               | 2029 with DM/PM<br>81166 controls                    | N.A.                         | newly diagnosed<br>ACS                                  | HR after adjusting for age, sex and<br>comorbidities to develop ACS: 1.98 (1.17-3.35)<br>RR after 5 year follow-up period: 4.35 (1.78-<br>10.6)<br>RR shorter than 5y follow up: 1.30 (0.66-2.58)  |
| Rai et al. 2016                | Canada                               | 424 PM, 350 DM                                       | N.A.                         | MI and Stroke   | MI:<br>PM: HR: 3.89 (2.28-6.65)<br>DM: HR: 2.92 (0.54 – 3.331)<br>Stroke:<br>PM: HR: 1.76 (0.91 – 3.40)<br>DM: HR: 1.33 (0.54 – 3.31)  |
| Tisseverasinghe et al.<br>2009 | Canada                               | 607 inflammatory myopathy<br>patients                | Mean and<br>SD: 4 +-<br>3.7y | MI  | RR 1.95 (1.35 – 2.72)  |
| Ungprasert et al. 2015         | Systematic review &<br>meta-analysis | 3 included studies                                   | -                            | Ischemic Stroke   | Pooled Risk Ratio: 1.61 (CI: 1.28-2.02)<br>PM/DM vs. controls  |

|                        |                                   |                    |   |        |  |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|--------|--|
| Ungprasert et al. 2014 | Systematic review & meta-analysis | 4 included studies | - | CAD    | Pooled risk ratio: 2.24 (CI: 1.02-4.92)<br>After excluding the only case-control study: 2.99 (CI: 1.80-4.97) |
| Zöller 2012            | Sweden                            | -                  | - | Stroke | hCVA: Standardized IR: 1.85 (0.66 – 4.04)<br>iCVA: Standardized IR: 1.52 (1.05 – 2.13)                       |
| Zöller 2012            | Sweden                            | -                  | - | CHD    | Standardized IR: 1.92 (1.67 – 2.19)  |

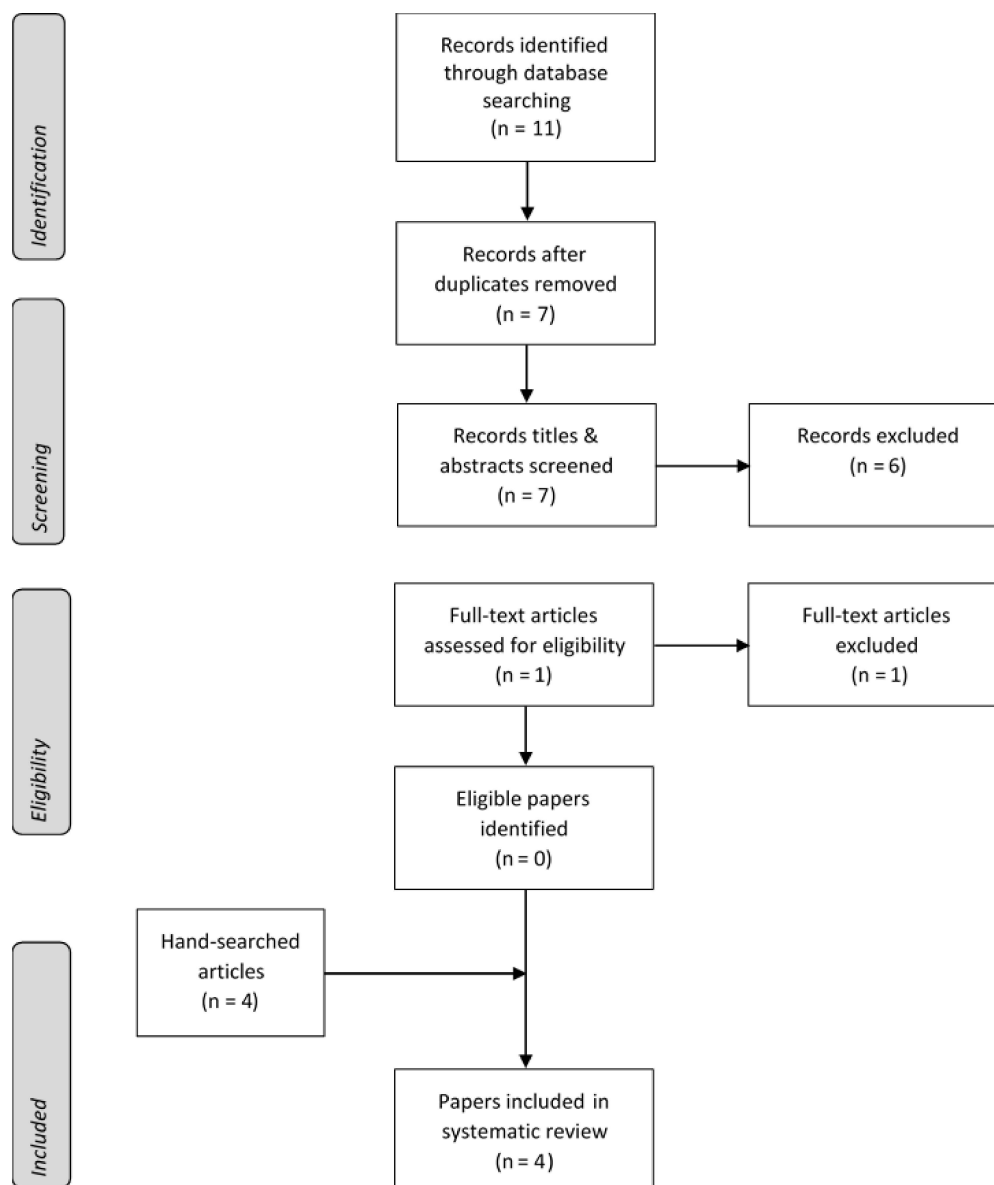
**B. Systemic lupus erythematosus and the antiphospholipid syndrome****1. Cardiovascular risk prediction tools**

PICO: 'In patients with SLE, what's the performance of risk prediction tools to predict cardiovascular risk?'



| Reference                              | Design               | Risk tool                        | Population   | Follow-up  | Performance  | Study quality |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------|--|---------------|
| General risk prediction tools          |                      |                                  |  |            |  |               |
| Esdaile, 2001                          | Prospective cohort   | Framingham risk score            | 263  | 8.6 yrs    | MI – observed/predicted 17/1.7; O/P ratio 10.1 (5.8-15.6)<br>Stroke – observed/predicted 16/2; O/P ratio 7.9 (4.0-13.6)  | Intermediate  |
| Bessant, 2004                          | Prospective cohort   | Framingham risk score            | 47   | 10 yrs     | CHD events – observed/predicted 8.5%/1.4%<br>Stroke – observed/predicted 10.6%/0.6%  | Intermediate  |
| Magder, 2012                           | Prospective cohort   | Framingham risk score            | 1179   | 9500 p-y   | CVD events – observed/predicted 109/41; O/P ratio 2.66 (2.16-3.16)<br>Stroke – observed/predicted 62/10; RR 6.2<br>Cardiac events – observed/predicted 51/29; RR 1.8   | Intermediate  |
| Haque, 2018                            | Prospective cohort   | Framingham risk score            | 112  | 5.8 yrs    | CVD events – observed/predicted 8/1  | Intermediate  |
| Gustafsson, 2012                       | Prospective cohort   | SCORE                            | 124  | 10 yrs     | CVD deaths – observed/predicted 9/4  | High          |
| Modified general risk prediction tools |                      |                                  |  |            |  |               |
| Urowitz, 2016                          | Retrospective cohort | Modified Framingham risk score   | 1013   | 6.7 yrs    | CVD events N=95<br>Original FRS – Sensitivity/Specificity 0.13/0.98<br>Modified FRS – Sensitivity/Specificity 0.31/0.809   | Intermediate  |
| Disease-specific risk prediction tools |                      |                                  |  |            |  |               |
| Petri, 2019                            | Prospective cohort   | SLE cardiovascular risk equation | 1721 [Overall CVD events];<br>1777 ['Hard' CVD events] | 66% >5 yrs | [1] Overall CVD events formula:<br>- CVD events N=168<br>- AUC: 0.78<br>- Estimated risk higher than FRS <sup>a,b</sup><br>[2] 'Hard' CVD events formula:<br>- CVD events N=121<br>- AUC: 0.77<br>- Estimated risk higher than ACC/AHA score <sup>a</sup><br><sup>a</sup> Except patients with moderately high risk from traditional CVD risk factors and <sup>b</sup> no SLE-related risk factors | High          |

PICO: 'In patients with APS, what's the performance of risk prediction tools to predict cardiovascular risk?'

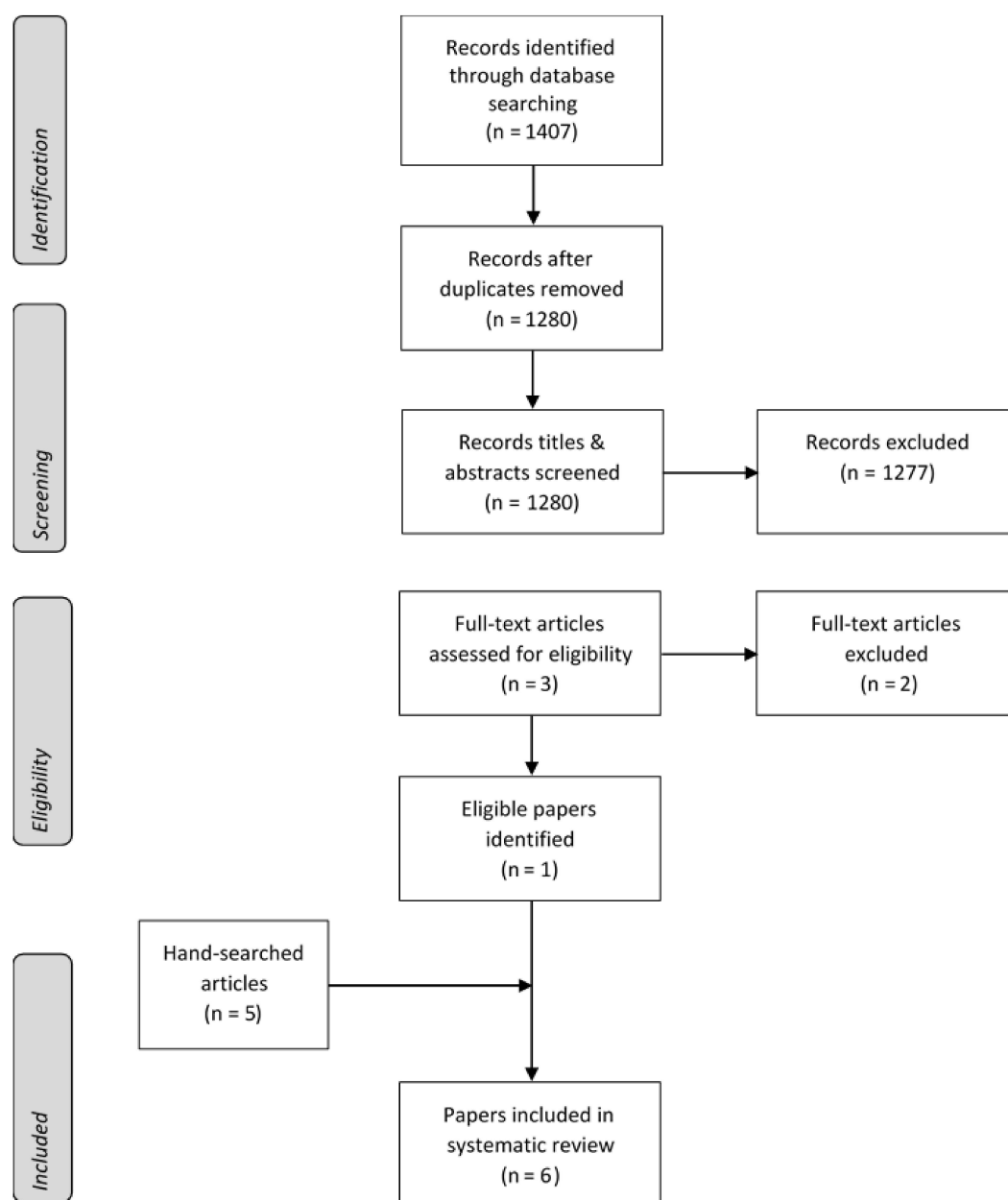


| Reference                              | Design               | Risk tool                        | Population | Follow-up | Performance  | Study quality |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------|-----------|--|---------------|
| Disease-specific risk prediction tools |                      |                                  |            |           |  |               |
| Di Minno, 2018                         | Retrospective cohort | aGAPSS;<br>aGAPSS <sub>CVD</sub> | 192 aPL+   | na        | Events (CAD, stroke) N=52<br>[1] aGAPSS:<br>- AUC: 0.58<br>- Sensitivity/Specificity 0.52/0.67 <sup>a</sup><br>- Positive predictive value 0.369 <sup>a</sup><br>[2] aGAPSS <sub>CVD</sub> :<br>- AUC: 0.65<br>- Sensitivity/Specificity 0.67/0.72 <sup>a</sup><br>- Positive predictive value 0.479 <sup>a</sup><br><sup>a</sup> High-risk cutoff $\geq 11$ | Intermediate  |
| Radin, 2019                            | Retrospective cohort | aGAPSS                           | 397        | na        | Events (recurrent arterial and/or venous thrombosis) N=111<br>Risk cut-off $\geq 7$ :<br>- Sensitivity/Specificity 0.51/0.50<br>- Positive predictive value 0.38   | Intermediate  |

## 2. Interventions targeting traditional cardiovascular risk factors

## a. Antihypertensives

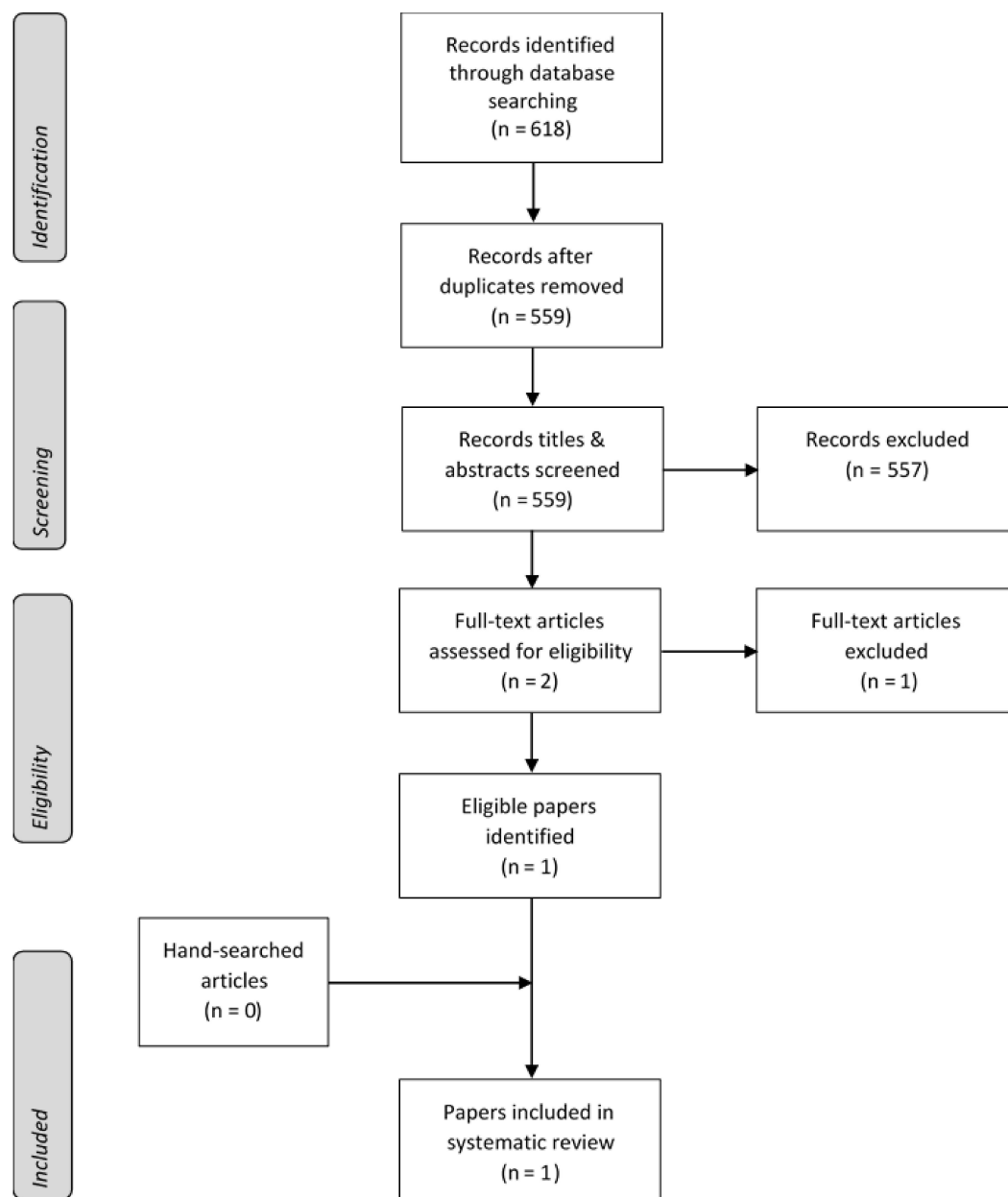
PICO: 'In patients with SLE, does treatment with antihypertensives result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with antihypertensives?'





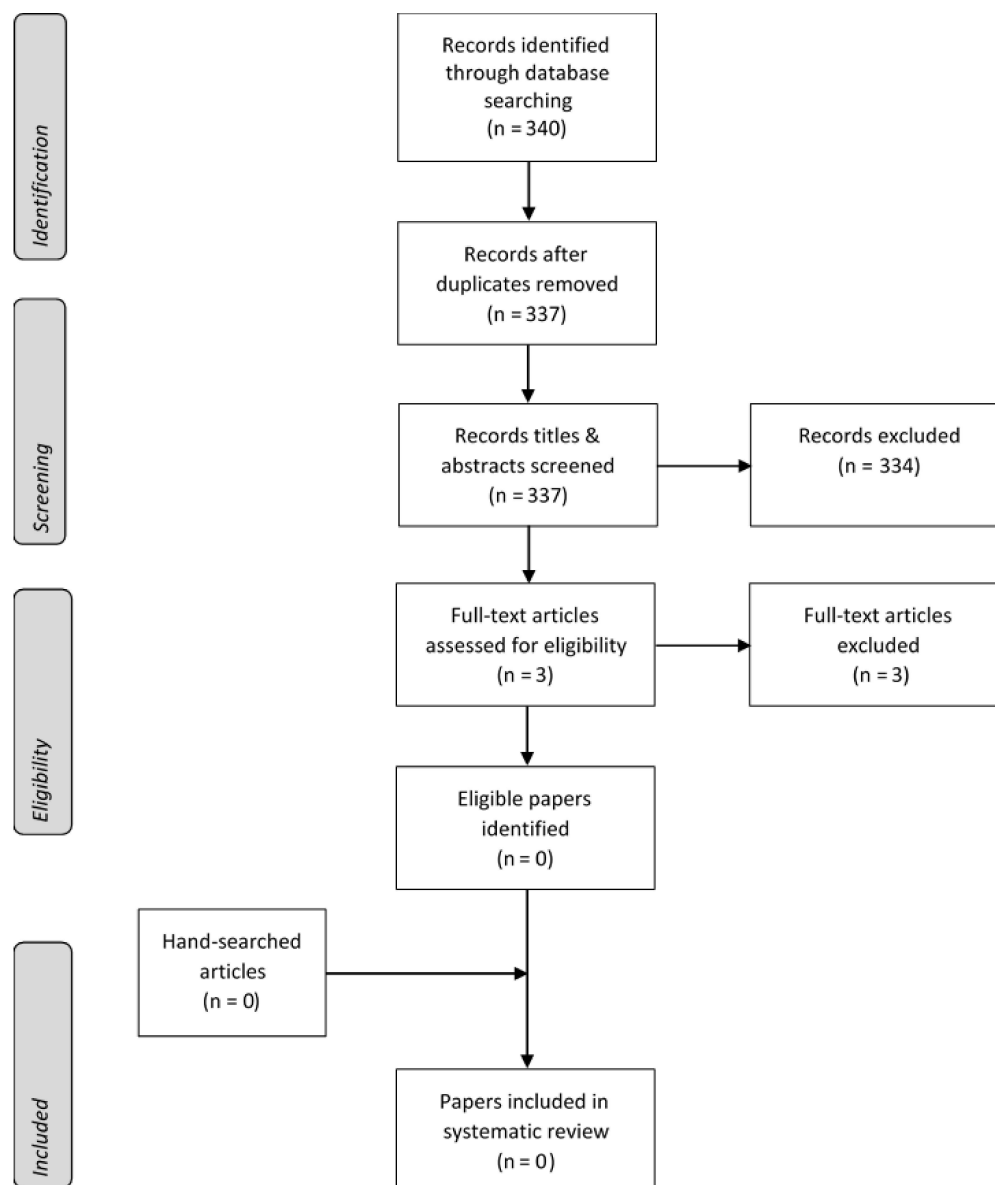
| Reference               | Design             | Intervention           | Control        | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, control | Events, intervention | Events, control | Relative effect (95% CI)   | Study quality |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Vascular events         |                    |                        |                |                                  |                             |                      |                 |                            |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009      | Prospective cohort | Antihypertensives      | NA             | NA                               | NA                          | 41 (25.9%)           | NA              | OR 0.19 (0.06, 0.67)       | High          |
| Atherothrombotic events |                    |                        |                |                                  |                             |                      |                 |                            |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009      | Prospective cohort | Antihypertensives      | NA             | 158                              | NA                          | 30 (19%)             | NA              | OR 0.21 (0.05, 0.94)       | High          |
| Coronary artery disease |                    |                        |                |                                  |                             |                      |                 |                            |               |
| Nikpour, 2011           | Prospective cohort | Systolic BP, per mmHg  | NA             | 991                              | NA                          | 94                   | NA              | HR 1.02 (1.01, 1.04)       | High          |
|                         |                    | Diastolic BP, per mmHg | NA             | 991                              | NA                          | 94                   | NA              | HR 1.04 (1.01, 1.07)       |               |
| CVD events              |                    |                        |                |                                  |                             |                      |                 |                            |               |
| Stojan, 2020            | Prospective cohort | SBP ≥ 132 mmHg         | SBP < 114 mmHg | 2156 py                          | 1969 py                     | 26/1000 py           | 4.6/1000 py     | RR 2.5 (1.1, 5.5), p = .03 | High          |
|                         |                    | SBP 122-131 mmHg       | SBP < 114 mmHg | 2144 py                          | 1969 py                     | 12.6/1000 py         | 4.6/1000 py     | RR 1.6 (0.7, 3.8)          |               |
|                         |                    | SBP 114-121 mmHg       | SBP < 114 mmHg | 2021 py                          | 1969 py                     | 6.4/1000 py          | 4.6/1000 py     | RR 1.2 (0.5, 2.9)          |               |
| Tselios, 2020           | Prospective cohort | BP > 140/90            | Normotensive   | 155                              | 1061                        | 18.9/1000 py         | 4.5/1000 py     | HR 1.65 (1.01, 2.69)       | High          |
|                         |                    | BP 130-139/80-89       | Normotensive   | 316                              | 1061                        | 11.5/1000 py         | 4.5/1000 py     | HR 1.73 (1.13, 2.65)       |               |

PICO: 'In patients with lupus nephritis, does treatment with antihypertensives result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with antihypertensives?'



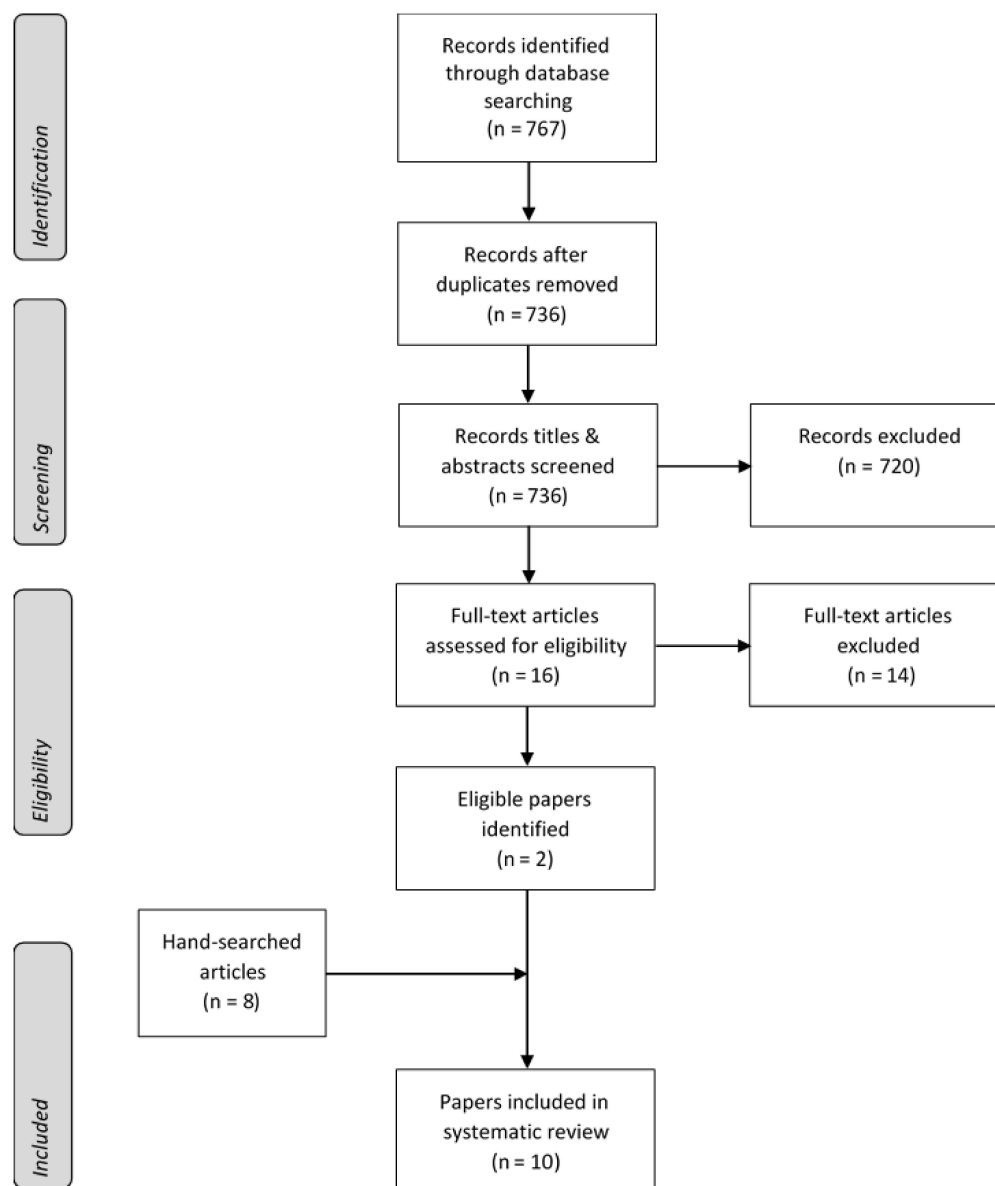
| Reference     | Design             | Intervention | Control     | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, control | Events, intervention | Events, control | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| CVD events    |                    |              |             |                                  |                             |                      |                 |                          |               |
| Tselios, 2016 | Prospective cohort | ACEI/ARB     | No ACEI/ARB | 144                              | 301                         | 14 (9.7%)            | 26 (8.6%)       | HR 0.94 (0.48, 1.79)     | Intermediate  |

PICO: 'In patients with APS, does treatment with antihypertensives result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with antihypertensives?'



## b. Lipid-lowering agents

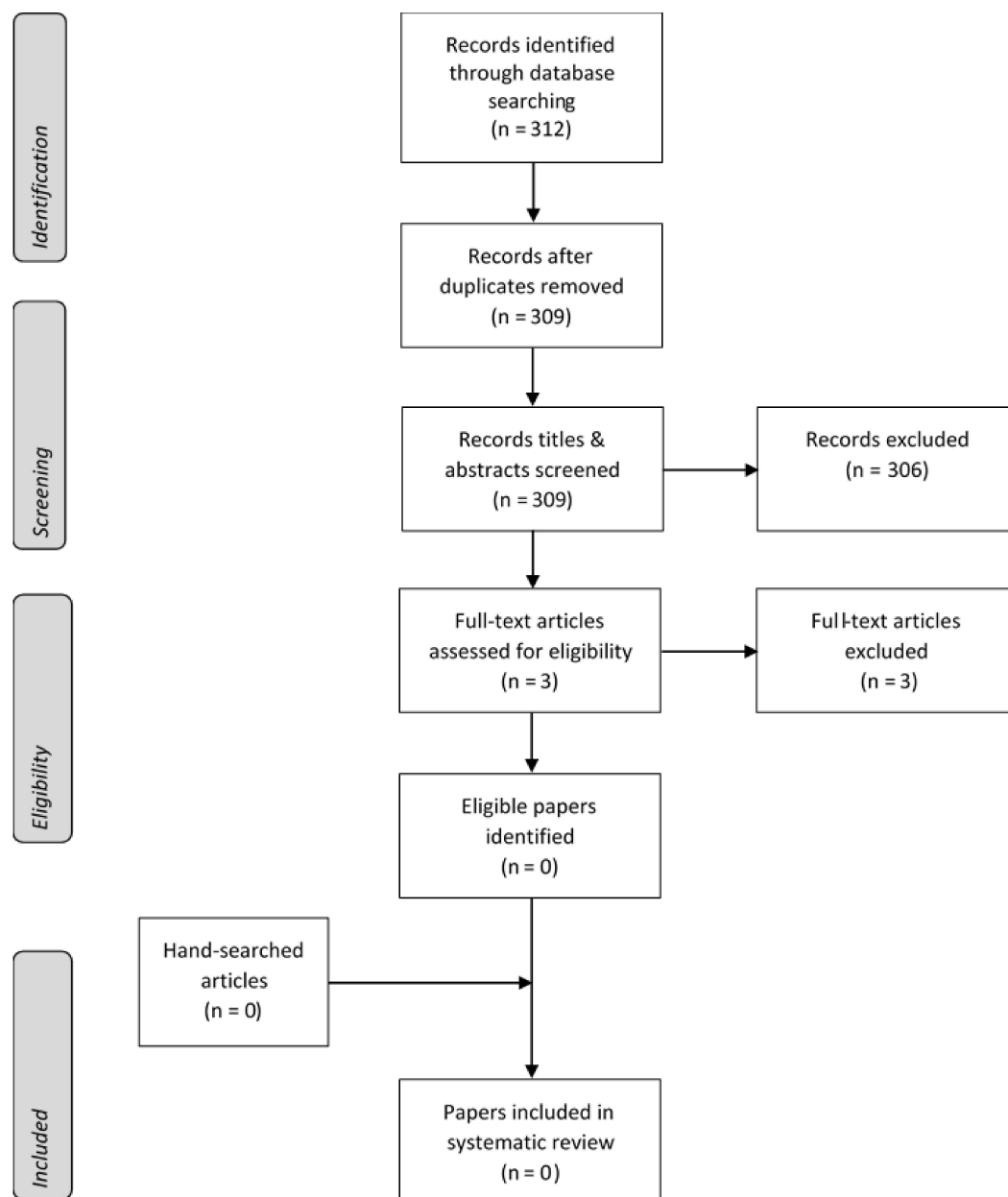
PICO: 'In patients with SLE, does treatment with lipid lowering-medications result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with these medications?'



| Reference               | Design               | Intervention                               | Comparison                   | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| CAD events              |                      |  |                              |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Yu, 2015                | Retrospective cohort | Long duration statin                       | No treatment                 | 777                              | 1317                           | 27                   | 192                | HR 0.20 (0.13, 0.31)     | Intermediate  |
|                         |                      | Short duration statin                      | No treatment                 | 1673                             | 1317                           | 107                  | 192                | HR 0.41 (0.32, 0.53)     |               |
|                         |                      | Lipid lowering treatment other than statin | No treatment                 | 328                              | 1317                           | 35                   | 192                | HR 0.57 (0.39, 0.82)     |               |
| Cerebrovascular disease |                      |  |                              |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Yu, 2015                | Retrospective cohort | Long duration statin                       | No treatment                 | 777                              | 1317                           | 13                   | 105                | HR 0.14 (0.08, 0.25)     | Intermediate  |
|                         |                      | Short duration statin                      | No treatment                 | 1673                             | 1317                           | 44                   | 105                | HR 0.27 (0.19, 0.39)     |               |
|                         |                      | Lipid lowering treatment other than statin | No treatment                 | 328                              | 1317                           | 23                   | 105                | HR 0.67 (0.42, 1.06)     |               |
| Mikdashi, 2007          | Prospective cohort   | Total cholesterol increase 10 mg/dL        | NA                           | 232                              | NA                             | 44                   | NA                 | HR 1.09 (1.02, 1.16)     | High          |
| CVD events              |                      |  |                              |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Kao, 2013               | Prospective cohort   | Lipid lowering medication                  | No lipid lowering medication | 18                               | 370                            | 3 (17%)              | 15 (4%)            | HR 3.70 (1.01, 13.54)    | High          |
| Iudici, 2016            | Prospective cohort   | Statin                                     | No statin                    | NA                               | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | HR 2.09 (0.43, 10.02)    | High          |
| Fernandez-Nebro, 2015   | Retrospective cohort | Statin ever                                | No statin ever               | 843                              | 2806                           | 149 (17.6%)          | 120 (4.3%)         | RR 4.13 (3.29, 5.19)     | Intermediate  |
| Haque, 2018             | Prospective cohort   | Statin                                     | No statin                    | NA                               | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | OR 1.83 (0.52, 6.48)     | Intermediate  |
| Petri, 2019             | Prospective cohort   | Total cholesterol increase 25 mg/dL        | NA                           | 1777                             | NA                             | 121                  | NA                 | HR 1.08 (0.99, 1.16)     | High          |

|                            |                    |              |                 |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| CVD damage                 |                    |              |                 |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Pons-Estel, 2009           | Prospective cohort | Statin       | No statin       | 43                        | 594                          | 12 (27.9%)     | 83 (14%)          | RR 1.99 (1.18, 3.36)     | High          |
| Reference                  | Design             | Case         | Control         | Number of patients, cases | Number of patients, controls | Exposed, cases | Exposed, controls | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
| Statin Use                 |                    |              |                 |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Smrzova, 2014              | Case control       | SLE with CAD | SLE without CAD | 21                        | 42                           | 9 (42.3%)      | 4 (9.5%)          | OR 7.12 (1.85, 27.34)    | Low           |
| LDL > 3.2 mmol/L           |                    |              |                 |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Nikpour, 2013              | Case control       | SLE with CAD | SLE without CAD | 21                        | 363                          | 12 (57%)       | 119 (32.8%)       | OR 2.73 (1.12, 6.66)     | Intermediate  |
| Triglycerides > 2.0 mmol/L |                    |              |                 |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Nikpour, 2013              | Case control       | SLE with CAD | SLE without CAD | 21                        | 363                          | 8 (38%)        | 98 (27%)          | OR 1.66 (0.66, 4.13)     | Intermediate  |

PICO: 'In patients with APS, does treatment with lipid lowering-medications result in better cardiovascular outcomes than no treatment with these medications?'





c. Antiplatelets

No separate SLR was performed because the task force panel agreed that current EULAR recommendations about the use of antiplatelets in SLE\* and APS† should be included in the recommendations for cardiovascular risk management of these diseases.

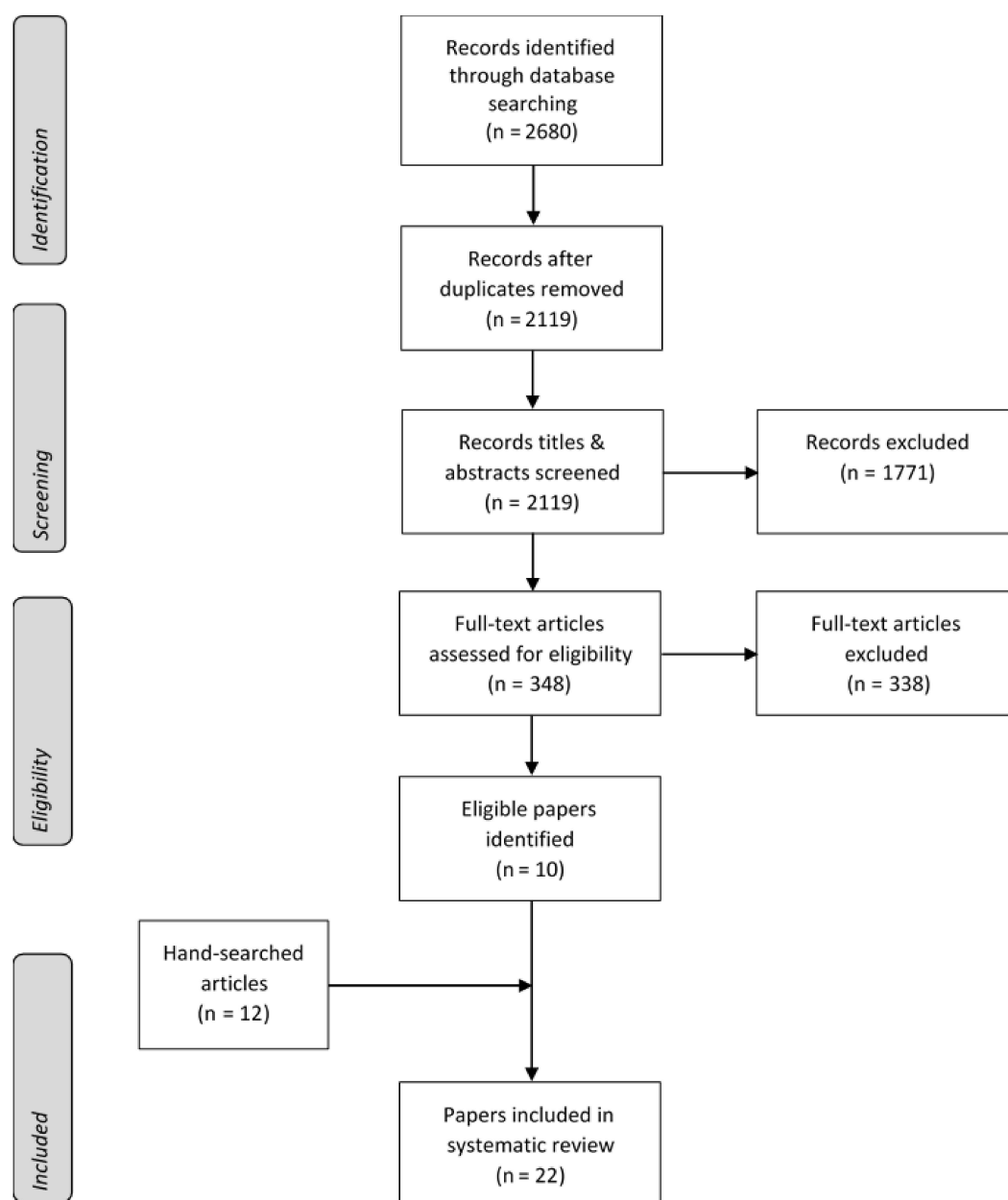
\*Fanouriakis A, Kostopoulou M, Alunno A, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2019;78:7367-7345. DOI: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2019-215089

†Tektonidou MG, Andreoli L, Limper M, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2019;78:1296-1304. DOI: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2019-215213

## 3. Interventions targeting disease-related cardiovascular risk factors

## a. Disease activity

PICO: 'In patients with SLE, is a history of less disease activity associated with better cardiovascular outcomes than more disease activity?'



| Reference                             | Design               | Exposure                                 | Control                     | Number of patients, exposed | Number of patients, control | Events, intervention | Events, control | Relative effect (95% CI)                 | Study quality |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--|---------------|
| Vascular events (arterial and venous) |                      |  |                             |                             |                             |                      |                 |  |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009                    | Prospective cohort   | Weighted average SLEDAI > 3              | Weighted average SLEDAI ≤ 3 | NA                          | NA                          | NA                   | NA              | OR 2.67 (1.19, 6.02)                     | High          |
| Atherothrombotic events               |                      |  |                             |                             |                             |                      |                 |  |               |
| Bengtsson, 2012                       | Prospective cohort   | SLEDAI, per unit increase                | NA                          | NA                          | 269                         | NA                   | 25              | HR 1.06 (0.97, 1.15)                     | Intermediate  |
| Fasano 2018                           | Prospective cohort   | SLEDAI, per unit increase                | NA                          | NA                          | 507                         | NA                   | 37              | HR 1.05 (0.99, 1.12)                     | High          |
| Magder, 2012                          | Prospective cohort   | SLEDAI, per unit increase                | NA                          | NA                          | 1874                        | NA                   | 135             | RR 1.05 (1.00, 1.11)                     | Intermediate  |
|                                       |                      | Mean SLEDAI ≥ 5                          | Mean SLEDAI 0-1             | 1393 py                     | 2125 py                     | 19.4/1000 py         | 10.8/1000 py    | RR 2.78 (1.57, 4.91)                     |               |
|                                       |                      | Mean SLEDAI 2.5-5                        | Mean SLEDAI 0-1             | 3091 py                     | 2125 py                     | 15.9/1000 py         | 10.8/1000 py    | RR 1.79 (1.09, 2.94)                     |               |
|                                       |                      | Mean SLEDAI 1-2.5                        | Mean SLEDAI 0-1             | 2875 py                     | 2125 py                     | 12.2/1000 py         | 10.8/1000 py    | RR 1.23 (0.72, 2.09)                     |               |
| Romero-Diaz, 2008                     | Retrospective cohort | SLEDAI, per unit increase                | NA                          | NA                          | 241                         | NA                   | 24              | HR 1.1 (1.0, 1.2)                        | Intermediate  |
| Rivest, 2000                          | Retrospective cohort | SLAM per unit increase                   | NA                          | NA                          | 200                         | NA                   | 23              | No association in multivariable analysis | Intermediate  |
| Gustafsson, 2009                      | Retrospective cohort | SLAM > 6 at baseline                     | SLAM ≤ 6 at baseline        | 82                          | 100                         | 12 (14.6%)           | 12 (12%)        | RR 1.22 (0.57, 2.57)                     | Intermediate  |
| Iudici, 2016                          | Prospective cohort   | Mean SLEDAI over time, per unit increase | NA                          | NA                          | 167                         | NA                   | 9               | HR 1.04 (0.78, 1.26)                     | High          |
| Nikpour, 2011                         | Prospective cohort   | Time-varying SLEDAI, per unit increase   | NA                          | NA                          | 991                         | NA                   | 94              | HR 1.09 (1.05, 1.13)                     | High          |

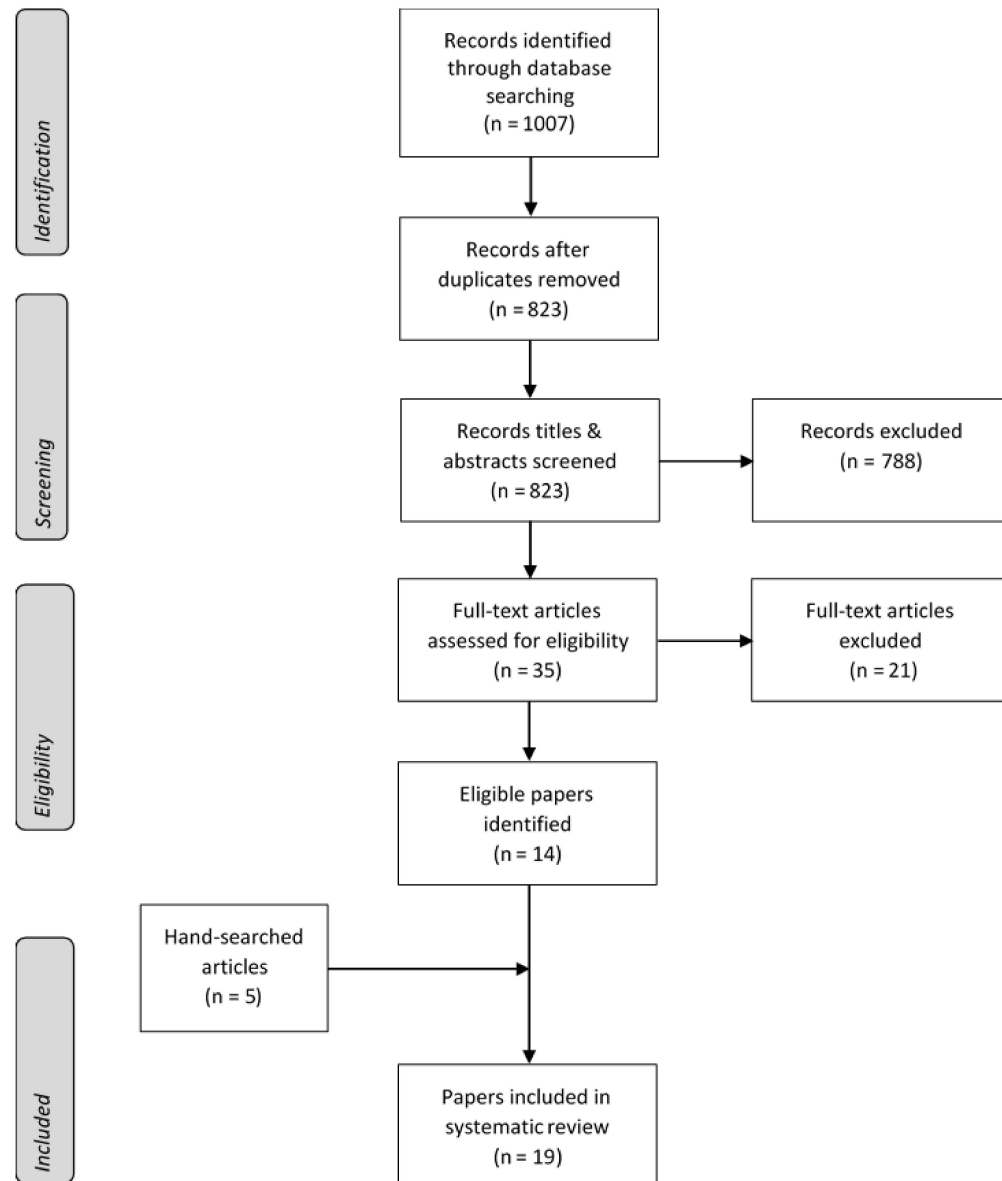
|                  |                    |   |         |    |     |    |    |                      |              |
|------------------|--------------------|---|---------|----|-----|----|----|----------------------|--------------|
| Ibanez, 2005     | Prospective cohort | Time-varying mean SLEDAI, per unit increase | NA      | NA | 575 | NA | 55 | HR 1.08 (1.00, 1.16) | High         |
| Haque, 2018      | Prospective cohort | SLEDAI at baseline, per unit increase       | NA      | NA | 124 | NA | 12 | OR 1.77 (1.15, 2.62) | Intermediate |
| Ischemic stroke  |                    |   |         |    |     |    |    |                      |              |
| Mikdashi, 2007   | Prospective cohort | SLEDAI ≥ 16                                 | Unclear | NA | NA  | NA | NA | HR 1.31 (0.40, 4.31) | High         |
|                  |                    | SLEDAI 6-15                                 | Unclear | NA | NA  | NA | NA | HR 1.36 (0.45, 4.13) |              |
|                  |                    | SLEDAI < 6                                  | Unclear | NA | NA  | NA | NA | HR 1.77 (0.79, 3.97) |              |
| CVD damage       |                    |   |         |    |     |    |    |                      |              |
| Pons-Estel, 2009 | Prospective cohort | SLAM at baseline                            | NA      | NA | 637 | NA | 43 | OR 1.01 (0.94, 1.09) | High         |

| Reference                     | Design             | Case                         | Control                | Number of patients, cases | Number of patients, controls | Exposed, cases                      | Exposed, controls                   | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| “SLEDAI Activity” (undefined) |                    |                              |                        |                           |                              |                                     |                                     |                          |               |
| Pullmann, 2004                | Case control       | SLE with CAD                 | SLE without CAD        | 74                        | 71                           | NA                                  | NA                                  | OR 2.57 (1.3, 5.09)      | Low           |
| SLEDAI                        |                    |                              |                        |                           |                              |                                     |                                     |                          |               |
| Goldberg, 2009                | Case control       | SLE with CAD                 | SLE without CAD        | 17                        | 224                          | 6.0 (median)                        | 4.0 (median)                        | P = .19                  | Intermediate  |
| Tselios, 2017                 | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event           | SLE without CVD event  | 41                        | 169                          | 3.98 $\pm$ 4.16                     | 4.04 $\pm$ 4.21                     | P = .93                  | High          |
| Urowtiz, 2007                 | Case control       | SLE with CVD event           | SLE without CVD event  | 118                       | 118                          | 6.2 $\pm$ 3.6                       | 5.5 $\pm$ 3.8                       | P = .12                  | Intermediate  |
| Hinojosa-Azaola, 2016         | Prospective cohort | SLE with arterial thrombosis | SLE without thrombosis | 8                         | 184                          | 5.4 (median of longitudinal values) | 4.2 (median of longitudinal values) | P = .53                  | Intermediate  |

|           |                    |                     |                        |    |     |                      |                      |         |      |
|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----|-----|----------------------|----------------------|---------|------|
| SLAM      |                    |                     |                        |    |     |                      |                      |         |      |
| Kao, 2013 | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD events | SLE without CVD events | 17 | 375 | 6.3 ± 4.0 (mean, SD) | 6.5 ± 3.6 (mean, SD) | P = .63 | High |

## b. Glucocorticoids

PICO: 'In patients with SLE, is use of lower doses of glucocorticoids associated with better cardiovascular outcomes than use of higher doses?'



| Reference                       | Design               | Intervention                           | Comparison                        | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| CVD damage (SLICC damage index) |                      |  |                                   |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Al Sawah, 2015                  | Prospective cohort   | Mean prednisone $\geq$ 7.5 mg/d        | Mean prednisone < 7.5 mg/d        | 884                              | 1315                           | NA                   | NA                 | HR 1.54 (1.01, 2.34)     | High          |
| Ruiz-Arruza, 2018               | Retrospective cohort | Corticosteroid minimization group      | Usual care group                  | 74                               | 213                            | 4 (5.4%)             | 21 (9.8%)          | HR 0.28 (0.08, 0.95)     | High          |
| Vascular events                 |                      |  |                                   |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009              | Prospective cohort   | Prednisolone dose (continuous)         | NA                                | 158                              | NA                             | 41 (25.9%)           | NA                 | OR 0.38 (0.17, 0.84)     | High          |
| Atherothrombotic events         |                      |  |                                   |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009              | Prospective cohort   | Prednisolone dose (continuous)         | NA                                | 158                              | NA                             | 30 (19%)             | NA                 | OR 0.30 (0.12, 0.75)     | High          |
| Fasano, 2019                    | Prospective cohort   | Cumulative corticosteroids $\geq$ 40 g | Cumulative corticosteroids < 40 g | 131                              | 163                            | NA                   | NA                 | HR 1.89 (0.80, 4.47)     | High          |
| Magder, 2012                    | Prospective cohort   | Current prednisone dose $\geq$ 20 mg/d | No prednisone                     | 707 py                           | 4640 py                        | 35.4/100 py          | 9.9/100 py         | RR 5.1 (3.1, 8.3)        | Intermediate  |
|                                 |                      | Current prednisone dose 10-19 mg/d     | No prednisone                     | 1538 py                          | 4640 py                        | 20.2/100 py          | 9.9/100 py         | RR 2.4 (1.5, 3.8)        |               |
|                                 |                      | Current prednisone dose 1-9 mg/d       | No prednisone                     | 2600 py                          | 4640 py                        | 12.3/100 py          | 9.9/100 py         | RR 1.3 (0.8, 2.0)        |               |
| Fernandez-Nebro, 2005           | Retrospective cohort | Prednisone > 30 mg/d ever              | Never prednisone > 30 mg/d        | 794                              | 2855                           | 108 (13.6%)          | 161 (5.6%)         | RR 2.41 (1.91, 3.04)     | Intermediate  |
| Haque, 2018                     | Prospective cohort   | Mean steroid dose (continuous)         | NA                                | 124                              | NA                             | 12 (10%)             | NA                 | HR 1.14 (1.03, 1.26)     | Intermediate  |

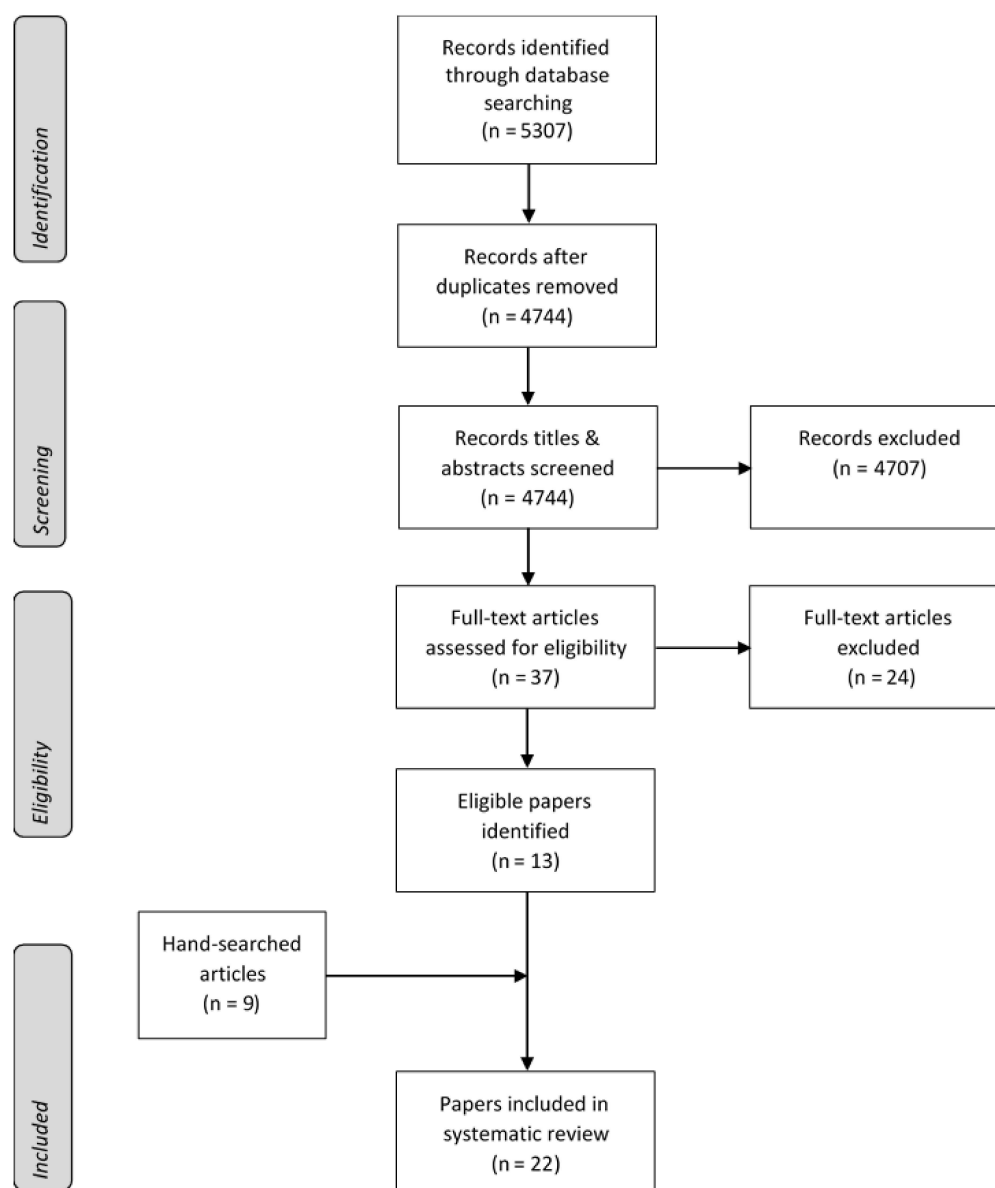
| Ischemic heart disease |                      |                                     |                   |    |    |    |    |                      |              |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----------------------|--------------|
| Chen, 2017             | Retrospective cohort | Prednisone ≤ 10mg/d, intermittent   | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 0.97 (0.59, 1.61) | Intermediate |
|                        |                      | Prednisone ≤ 10 mg/d, continuous    | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 0.87 (0.54, 1.39) |              |
|                        |                      | Prednisone > 10 md/d, intermittent  | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 1.74 (1.15, 2.64) |              |
|                        |                      | Prednisone > 10 mg/d, continuous    | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 2.09 (1.26, 3.48) |              |
| Zonana-Nacach, 2000    | Retrospective cohort | Cumulative prednisone ≥ 36.5 g      | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | RR 1.7 (1.2, 2.3)    | Intermediate |
| Stroke                 |                      |                                     |                   |    |    |    |    |                      |              |
| Chen, 2017             | Retrospective cohort | Prednisone ≤ 10mg/d, intermittent   | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 2.10 (1.37, 3.22) | Intermediate |
|                        |                      | Prednisone ≤ 10 mg/d, continuous    | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 1.48 (0.93, 2.34) |              |
|                        |                      | Prednisone > 10 md/d, intermittent  | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 3.36 (2.26, 5.00) |              |
|                        |                      | Prednisone > 10 mg/d, continuous    | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR 5.48 (3.46, 8.65) |              |
| Zonana-Nacach, 2000    | Retrospective cohort | Cumulative prednisone dose ≥ 36.5 g | No corticosteroid | NA | NA | NA | NA | RR 1.3 (0.9, 1.8)    | Intermediate |
| Hanly, 2018            | Prospective cohort   | Corticosteroid                      | NA                | NA | NA | NA | NA | HR Not significant   | Intermediate |



| Reference                  | Design             | Case                    | Control                    | Number of patients, cases | Number of patients, controls | Exposed, cases | Exposed, controls | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Prednisone > 7.5mg/d       |                    |                         |                            |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Bessant, 2006              | Case control       | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 28                        | 29                           | 11 (39.3%)     | 4 (13.8%)         | OR 8.0 (1.07, 355)       | Intermediate  |
| Cumulative prednisone dose |                    |                         |                            |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Hinojosa-Azaola, 2016      | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 8                         | 184                          | 17.3 g         | 11.8 g            | P = .04                  | Intermediate  |
| Svenungsson, 2001          | Case control       | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 26                        | 26                           | 38.2 g         | 25.6 g            | P = .05                  | Intermediate  |
| Urowitz, 2007              | Case control       | SLE with arterial event | SLE without arterial event | 118                       | 118                          | 39.9 g         | 34.8 g            | P = .34                  | Intermediate  |
| Tselios, 2017              | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 41                        | 169                          | 43.0 g         | 28.4 g            | P = .10                  | High          |
| Mean daily prednisone dose |                    |                         |                            |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Siricheepchaiyan, 2016     | Case control       | SLE with event          | SLE without event          | 10                        | 149                          | 13 mg/d        | 8.5 mg/d          | P = 0.04                 | Intermediate  |
| Urowitz, 1976              | Prospective cohort | SLE with AMI            | Entire SLE cohort          | 6                         | 81                           | 10.4 mg/d      | 18.1 mg/d         | NA                       | Low           |
| Tselios, 2017              | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 41                        | 169                          | 9.7 mg/d       | 11.7 mg/d         | 0.33                     | High          |

## c. Immunosuppressives

PICO: 'In patients with SLE, is use of immunosuppressive medications associated with better cardiovascular outcomes than no use of immunosuppressive medications?'



| Reference                             | Design               | Intervention             | Comparison                  | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Vascular events (arterial and venous) |                      |                          |                             |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009                    | Prospective cohort   | Immunosuppressive        | NA                          | NA                               | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | OR 0.44 (0.20, 0.94)     | High          |
| Atherothrombotic events               |                      |                          |                             |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009                    | Prospective cohort   | Immunosuppressive        | NA                          | NA                               | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | OR 0.39 (0.15, 0.99)     | High          |
| Fernandez-Nebro, 2015                 | Retrospective cohort | Methotrexate ever        | No methotrexate             | 576                              | 3073                           | 46 (8%)              | 530 (15.6%)        | RR 1.10 (0.81, 1.50)     | Intermediate  |
|                                       |                      | Azathioprine ever        | No azathioprine             | 1139                             | 2510                           | 124 (10.8%)          | 145 (5.7%)         | RR 1.88 (1.49, 2.37)     |               |
|                                       |                      | Cyclophosphamide ever    | No cyclophosphamide         | 775                              | 2874                           | 86 (11.1%)           | 183 (6.3%)         | RR 1.74 (1.36, 2.23)     |               |
|                                       |                      | Mycophenolate Ever       | No mycophenolate            | 522                              | 3127                           | 58 (11.1%)           | 211 (6.7%)         | RR 1.60 (1.21, 2.12)     |               |
|                                       |                      | Rituximab ever           | No rituximab                | 226                              | 3423                           | 26 (11.5%)           | 243 (7.1%)         | RR 1.62 (1.10, 2.38)     |               |
| Haque, 2018                           | Prospective cohort   | Cyclophosphamide ever    | No cyclophosphamide         | 12                               | 112                            | NA                   | NA                 | OR 4.2 (1.77, 35)        | Intermediate  |
|                                       |                      | Azathioprine ever        | No azathioprine             | NA                               | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | OR 3.3 (0.94, 11.58)     |               |
| Tselios, 2017                         | Prospective cohort   | Immunosuppressive ever   | No immunosuppressive        | 64                               | 146                            | 16 (25%)             | 25 (17.1%)         | RR 1.46 (0.83, 2.54)     | High          |
| Wang, 2012                            | Retrospective cohort | Cyclophosphamide ever    | No cyclophosphamide         | 678                              | 394                            | 43 (6.3%)            | 28 (7.1%)          | RR 0.89 (0.56, 1.41)     | Intermediate  |
|                                       |                      | Other immunosuppressives | No other immunosuppressives | 543                              | 529                            | 30 (5.5%)            | 41 (7.7%)          | RR 0.71 (0.45, 1.12)     |               |
| Kao, 2013                             | Prospective cohort   | Immunosuppressives       | No immunosuppressives       | 82                               | 310                            | 2 (2.4%)             | 15 (4.8%)          | RR 0.50 (0.11, 2.16)     | High          |

|                        |                       |                                      |   |         |         |              |              |                      |              |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------|---------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Magder, 2012           | Prospective cohort    | Immunosuppressive use                | No immunosuppressive use                | 4535 py | 4646 py | 16/1/1000 py | 12.1/1000 py | RR 1.43 (1.01, 2.03) | Intermediate |
| Bertoli, 2009          | Prospective cohort    | Azathioprine use                     | No azathioprine use                     | 335     | 979     | 47 (14%)     | 75 (7.6%)    | HR 1.53 (1.07, 2.20) | Intermediate |
|                        |                       | Methotrexate use                     | No methotrexate use                     | 249     | 1105    | 23 (9.2)     | 95 (8.6%)    | HR 1.31 (0.90, 1.97) |              |
|                        |                       | Cyclophosphamide use                 | No cyclophosphamide use                 | 273     | 1041    | 35 (12.8%)   | 87 (8.3%)    | HR 1.33 (0.97, 1.97) |              |
|                        |                       | Mycophenolate mofetil use            | No mycophenolate use                    | 249     | 1065    | 23 (9.2%)    | 99 (9.3%)    | HR 0.87 (0.55, 1.39) |              |
| Gustafsson, 2009       | Retrospectivce cohort | Azathioprine use                     | No azathioprine use                     | 69      | 113     | 1 (1.4%)     | 23 (20%)     | HR 0.51 (0.03, 2.47) | Intermediate |
|                        |                       | Cyclophosphamide use                 | No cyclophosphamide use                 | 27      | 155     | 2 (7.4%)     | 22 (14.2%)   | HR 0.60 (0.01, 2.03) |              |
| Mok, 2007              | Retrospective cohort  | Cyclophosphamide use > 3 months      | No cyclophosphamide use > 3 months      | 78      | 84      | NA           | NA           | HR 0.81 (0.39, 1.68) | High         |
|                        |                       | Azathioprine use > 3 months          | No azathioprine use > 3 months          | 121     | 41      | NA           | NA           | HR 0.95 (0.50, 1.82) |              |
|                        |                       | Mycophenolate use > 3 months         | No mycophenolate use > 3 months         | 32      | 130     | NA           | NA           | HR 0.59 (0.21, 1.67) |              |
|                        |                       | Calcineurin inhibitor use > 3 months | No calcineurin inhibitor use > 3 months | 32      | 130     | NA           | NA           | HR 0.86 (0.38, 1.98) |              |
| Ischemic heart disease |                       |                                      |   |         |         |              |              |                      |              |
| Ibanez, 2005           | Prospective cohort    | Immunosuppressives ever              | No immunesuppressives                   | 278     | 297     | 31 (10.8%)   | 24 (8.1%)    | HR 1.93 (1.05, 3.56) | High         |
| Cardiovascular damage  |                       |                                      |   |         |         |              |              |                      |              |
| Pons-Estel, 2009       | Prospective cohort    | Cyclophosphamide ever                | No cyclophosphamide                     | 168     | 469     | 14 (8.3)     | 29 (6.2%)    | RR 1.34 (0.73, 2.49) | Intermediate |
|                        |                       | Azathioprine ever                    | No azathioprine                         | 191     | 446     | 16 (8.3)     | 27 (6.0%)    | RR 1.38 (0.76, 2.51) |              |

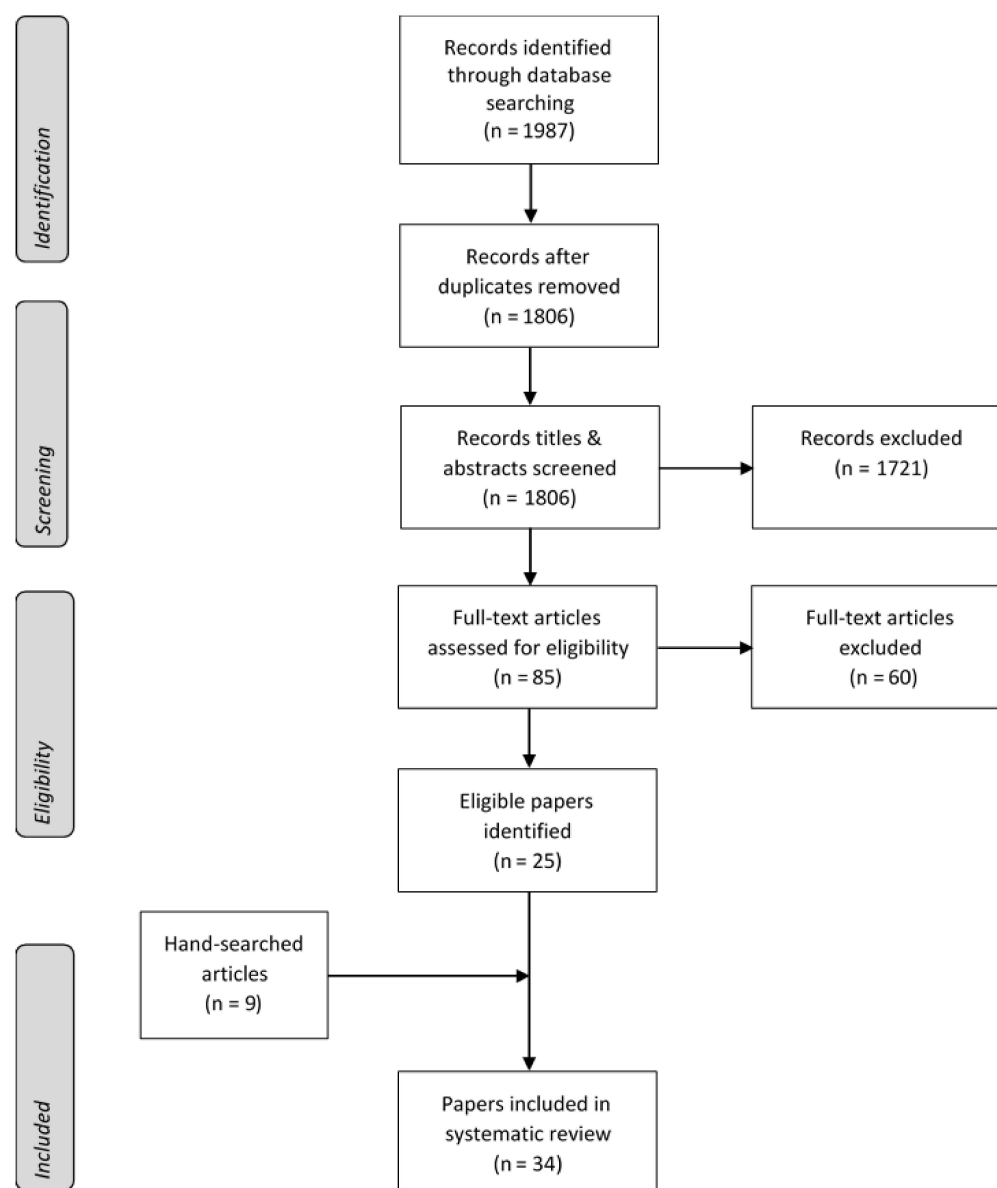
|             |                    |                            |                          |     |      |          |           |                      |              |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|------|----------|-----------|----------------------|--------------|
|             |                    | Mycophenolate mofetil ever | No mycophenolate         | 66  | 571  | 2 (3.0%) | 41 (7.2%) | RR 0.42 (0.10, 1.71) |              |
| Stroke      |                    |                            |                          |     |      |          |           |                      |              |
| Hanly, 2018 | Prospective cohort | Immunosuppressive use      | No immunosuppressive use | 732 | 1094 | NA       | NA        | "no association"     | Intermediate |

| Reference              | Design             | Case                      | Control                      | Number of patients, cases | Number of patients, controls | Exposed, cases | Exposed, controls | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Azathioprine           |                    |                           |                              |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Haque, 2010            | Case control       | SLE with MI or angina     | SLE without CAD              | 53                        | 96                           | NA             | NA                | OR 2.33 (1.16, 4.67)     | Intermediate  |
| Hinojosa-Azaola, 2016  | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 8                         | 184                          | 8 (100%)       | 135 (73%)         | OR 6.2 (0.3, 109.6)      | Intermediate  |
| Bessant, 2006          | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 29                        | 29                           | NA             | NA                | "Not significant"        | Intermediate  |
| Smrzova, 2014          | Case control       | SLE with MI, stroke or TE | SLE without MI, stroke or TE | 21                        | 42                           | 50.3 g         | 44.0 g            | "Not significant"        | Low           |
| Siricheepchaiyan, 2016 | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 10                        | 149                          | 1 (10%)        | 37 (24.8%)        | OR 0.32 (0.04, 2.68)     | Intermediate  |
| Methotrexate           |                    |                           |                              |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Haque, 2010            | Case control       | SLE with MI or angina     | SLE without CAD              | 53                        | 96                           | NA             | NA                | OR 1.35 (0.51, 3.62)     | Intermediate  |
| Hinojosa-Azaola, 2016  | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 8                         | 184                          | 1 (13%)        | 22 (12%)          | OR 1.05 (0.12, 8.96)     | Intermediate  |
| Siricheepchaiyan, 2016 | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 10                        | 149                          | 1 (10%)        | 15 (10.1%)        | OR 1.00 (0.11, 8.39)     | Intermediate  |
| Cyclophosphamide       |                    |                           |                              |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Haque, 2010            | Case control       | SLE with MI or angina     | SLE without CAD              | 53                        | 96                           | NA             | NA                | OR 0.92 (0.30, 2.87)     | Intermediate  |
| Hinojosa-Azaola, 2016  | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 8                         | 184                          | 4 (50%)        | 50 (37.3%)        | OR 2.68 (0.6, 11.1)      | Intermediate  |
| Bessant, 2006          | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 29                        | 29                           | NA             | NA                | "Not significant"        | Intermediate  |

|                        |                    |                           |                              |     |     |            |             |                       |              |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----|-----|------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Demir, 2016            | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 49  | 257 | 29 (59.2%) | 112 (43.6%) | OR 1.88 (1.01, 3.49)  | Intermediate |
| Smrzova, 2014          | Case control       | SLE with MI, stroke or TE | SLE without MI, stroke or TE | 21  | 42  | 3.6 g      | 1.76 g      | P = .03               | Low          |
| Siricheepchaiyan, 2016 | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 10  | 149 | 4 (40%)    | 20 (13.4%)  | OR 4.30 (1.11, 16.59) | Intermediate |
| Cyclosporine           |                    |                           |                              |     |     |            |             |                       |              |
| Haque, 2010            | Case control       | SLE with MI or angina     | SLE without CAD              | 53  | 96  | NA         | NA          | OR 0.75 (0.19, 3.05)  | Intermediate |
| Smrzova, 2014          | Case control       | SLE with MI, stroke or TE | SLE without MI, stroke or TE | 21  | 42  | 76.6 g     | 75.2 g      | "Not significant"     | Low          |
| Mycophenolate          |                    |                           |                              |     |     |            |             |                       |              |
| Hinojosa-Azaola, 2016  | Prospective cohort | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 8   | 184 | 0          | 18 (9.8%)   | OR 0                  | Intermediate |
| Smrzova, 2014          | Case control       | SLE with MI, stroke or TE | SLE without MI, stroke or TE | 21  | 42  | 122.8 g    | 28.7 g      | "Not significant"     | Low          |
| Siricheepchaiyan, 2016 | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 10  | 149 | 3 (30%)    | 32 (21.5%)  | OR 1.56 (0.38, 6.41)  | Intermediate |
| Immunosuppressives     |                    |                           |                              |     |     |            |             |                       |              |
| Szalai, 2005           | Case control       | SLE with arterial event   | SLE without arterial event   | 25  | 32  | 7 (28%)    | 6 (19%)     | OR 1.68 (0.48, 5.83)  | Intermediate |
| Urowitz, 2007          | Case control       | SLE with CVD event        | SLE without CVD event        | 118 | 118 | 55 (46.6%) | 35 (29.6%)  | OR 2.07 (1.21, 3.53)  | High         |
| Goldberg, 2009         | Case control       | SLE with CAD              | SLE without CAD              | 17  | 224 | 4 (23.5%)  | 70 (31.4%)  | OR 0.68 (0.21, 2.15)  | Intermediate |

## d. Antimalarials

PICO: 'In patients with SLE, is use of antimalarials associated with better cardiovascular outcomes than no use of antimalarials?'



| Reference                            | Design               | Intervention                                | Comparison                             | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Vascular events (arterial or venous) |                      |   |  |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009                   | Prospective cohort   | HCQ   | No HCQ                                 | NA                               | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | OR 0.20 (0.09, 0.43)     | High          |
| Choojitrom, 2008                     | Retrospective cohort | Antimalarials                               | No Antimalarials                       | 24                               | 43                             | 4 (16.7%)            | 22 (51.1%)         | RR 0.32 (0.12, 0.83)     | Intermediate  |
| Kaiser, 2009                         | Retrospective cohort | HCQ   | No HCQ                                 | 1534                             | 396                            | NA                   | NA                 | OR 0.63 (0.48, 0.83)     | Intermediate  |
| Atherothrombotic events              |                      |   |  |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Becker-Merok, 2009                   | Prospective cohort   | HCQ   | No HCQ                                 | 158                              | NA                             | NA                   | NA                 | OR 0.19 (0.08, 0.47)     | High          |
| Fasano, 2018                         | Retrospective cohort | HCQ   | No HCQ                                 | 431                              | 76                             | 26 (6.0%)            | 11 (14.4%)         | HR 0.32 (0.16, 0.66)     | High          |
| Hinojosa-Azaola, 2016                | Prospective cohort   | HCQ   | No HCQ                                 | 128                              | 64                             | 5 (3.9%)             | 3 (4.7%)           | RR 0.83 (0.20, 3.38)     | Intermediate  |
| Kao, 2013                            | Prospective cohort   | HCQ   | No HCQ                                 | 228                              | 164                            | 7 (3%)               | 10 (6.1%)          | RR 0.50 (0.19, 1.30)     | High          |
| Martinez-Berriotxo, 2007             | Prospective cohort   | Antimalarials                               | No antimalarials                       | 165                              | 74                             | 15 (9.1%)            | 15 (20.2%)         | RR 0.44 (0.23, 0.87)     | High          |
| Mok, 2005                            | Prospective cohort   | HCQ ever                                    | No HCQ                                 | 418                              | 207                            | 32 (7.6%)            | 16 (7.7%)          | RR 0.99 (0.55, 1.77)     | Intermediate  |
| Romero-Diaz, 2009                    | Retrospective cohort | Chloroquine ever                            | No Chloroquine                         | 66                               | 150                            | 3 (4.5%)             | 21 (14%)           | RR 0.33 (0.10, 1.05)     | Intermediate  |
| Siso, 2008                           | Retrospective cohort | Antimalarial use prior to nephritis         | No antimalarial use prior to nephritis | 56                               | 150                            | 5 (9%)               | 23 (15.3%)         | RR 0.61 (0.24, 1.51)     | Intermediate  |
| Tselios, 2017                        | Prospective cohort   | Antimalarial use                            | No antimalarial use                    | 113                              | 97                             | 23 (20.3%)           | 18 (18.5%)         | RR 1.09 (0.63, 1.91)     | High          |
| Magder, 2012                         | Prospective cohort   | Current HCQ use $\geq$ 6 consecutive months | No HCQ                                 | 5104 py                          | 2570 py                        | 10.6/1000 py         | 17.9/1000 py       | RR 0.54 (0.36, 0.79)     | Intermediate  |

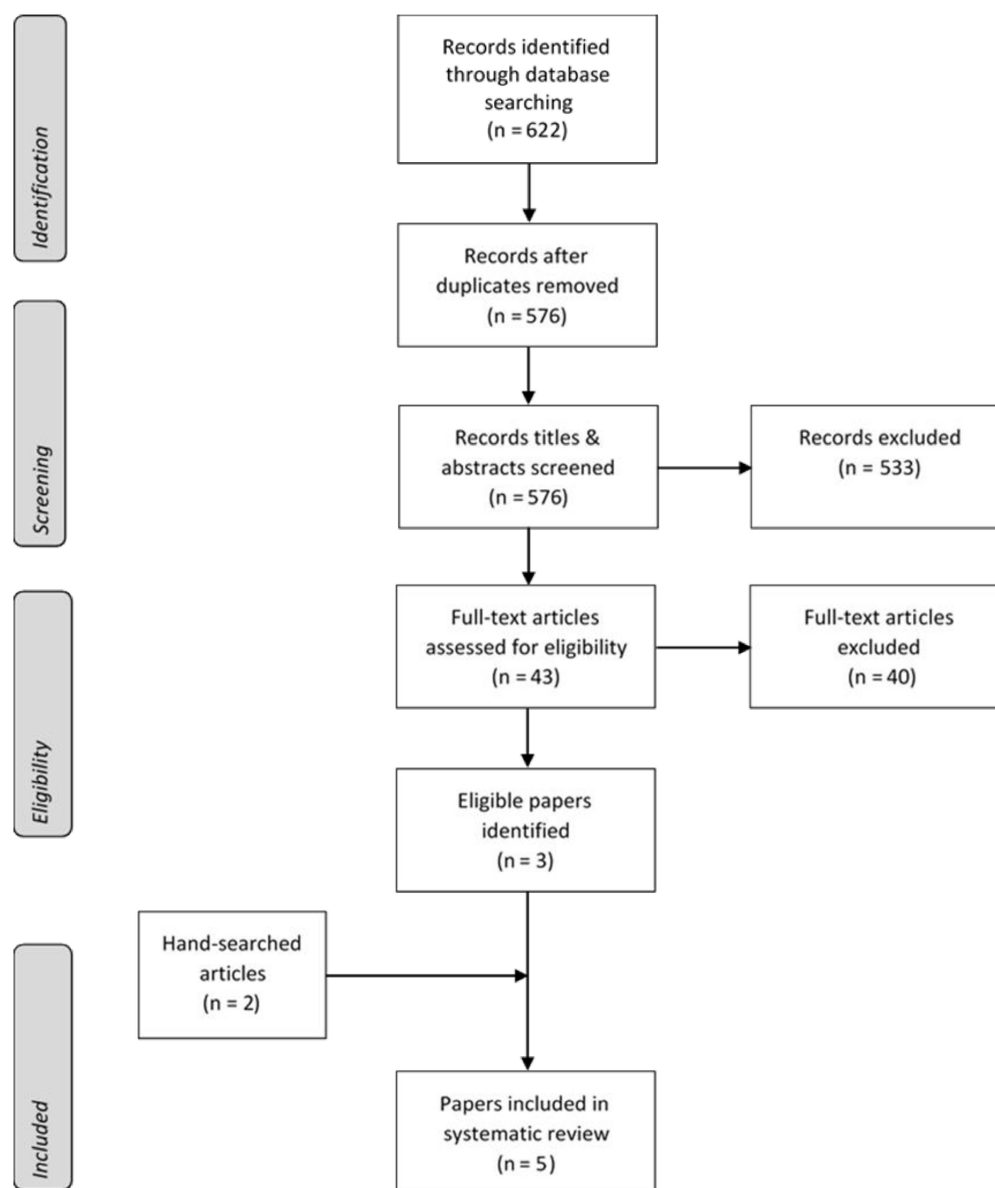


|  |                      |                                   |                                    |        |         |              |              |                      |              |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|---------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
|  |                      | Current HCQ use < 6 months        | No HCQ                             | 827 py | 2570 py | 16.9/1000 py | 17.9/1000 py | RR 1.02 (0.56, 1.86) |              |
|  |                      | Past HCQ use                      | No HCQ                             | 984 py | 2570 py | 20.3/1000 py | 17.9/1000 py | RR 1.13 (0.67, 1.91) |              |
| Bertoli, 2009                            | Prospective cohort   | HCQ use ever                      | No HCQ use                         | 1111   | 203     | 106 (9.5%)   | 16 (7.9%)    | HR 0.96 (0.57, 1.62) | Intermediate |
| Mok, 2007                                | Retrospective cohort | HCQ use > 3 months                | No HCQ use > 3 months              | 59     | 93      | NA           | NA           | HR 1.08 (0.47, 2.46) | High         |
| Gustafsson, 2009                         | Retrospective cohort | Antimalarial use at study entry   | No antimalarial use at study entry | 52     | 130     | 5 (9.6%)     | 19 (14.6%)   | HR 1.01 (0.32, 2.67) | Intermediate |
| Fernandez-Nebro, 2015                    | Retrospective cohort | Antimalarial use ever             | No antimalarial use                | 2878   | 771     | 195 (6.8%)   | 74 (9.6%)    | RR 0.70 (0.54, 0.92) | Intermediate |
| Haque, 2018                              | Prospective cohort   | Antimalarial use ever             | No antimalarial use                | 107    | 17      | 12 (11.2%)   | 0            | RR undefined         | Intermediate |
| Coronary artery disease                  |                      |                                   |                                    |        |         |              |              |                      |              |
| Hochman, 2009                            | Prospective cohort   | Antimalarials ever                | No antimalarials                   | NA     | NA      | NA           | NA           | HR 1.30 (0.64, 2.66) | Intermediate |
| Nikpour, 2011                            | Prospective cohort   | HCQ ever                          | No HCQ                             | 673    | 318     | 51 (7.5%)    | 43 (13.5%)   | HR 0.50 (0.31, 0.79) | High         |
| Ibanez, 2005                             | Prospective cohort   | Antimalarials ever                | No antimalarials                   | 385    | 176     | 36 (9.3%)    | 19 (10.8%)   | RR 0.87 (0.51, 1.47) | High         |
| Petri, 1992                              | Prospective cohort   | HCQ                               | No HCQ                             | 104    | 125     | 6 (5.7%)     | 13 (10.4%)   | RR 0.55 (0.21, 1.41) | Intermediate |
| Acute coronary events                    |                      |                                   |                                    |        |         |              |              |                      |              |
| Hsu, 2017                                | Retrospective cohort | Antimalarial use (high adherence) | No antimalarial use                | 1946   | 1946    | 0.9/1000 py  | 1.5/1000 py  | RR 0.58 (0.29, 1.15) | High         |
| Coronary artery disease or heart failure |                      |                                   |                                    |        |         |              |              |                      |              |
| Pons-Estel, 2009                         | Prospective cohort   | HCQ ever                          | No HCQ                             | 545    | 92      | 38 (7.0%)    | 5 (5.4%)     | RR 1.28 (0.51, 3.18) | Intermediate |
| Stroke                                   |                      |                                   |                                    |        |         |              |              |                      |              |
| Hsu, 2017                                | Retrospective cohort | Antimalarial use (high adherence) | No antimalarial use                | 1946   | 1946    | 4.5/1000 py  | 4.4/1000 py  | RR 1.03 (0.73, 1.45) | High         |

|                                 |                    |                  |                     |      |     |    |    |                      |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|------|-----|----|----|----------------------|--------------|
| Hanly, 2018                     | Prospective cohort | Antimalarial use | No antimalarial use | 1231 | 595 | NA | NA | “no association”     | Intermediate |
| CVD Damage (SLICC damage index) |                    |                  |                     |      |     |    |    |                      |              |
| Al Sawah 2015                   | Prospective cohort | Antimalarial use | No antimalarial use | NA   | NA  | NA | NA | HR 0.90 (0.60, 1.34) | Intermediate |

| Reference             | Design       | Case                    | Control                    | Number of patients, cases | Number of patients, controls | Exposed, cases | Exposed, controls | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| HCQ                   |              |                         |                            |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Bessant, 2006         | Case control | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 29                        | 29                           | 6 (20.7%)      | 13 (44.8%)        | OR 0.36 (0.08, 1.23)     | Intermediate  |
| Demir 2016            | Case control | SLE with CVD            | SLE without CVD            | 49                        | 257                          | 35 (73.5%)     | 229 (89.1%)       | OR 0.30 (0.14, 0.64)     | Intermediate  |
| Haque 2010            | Case control | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 53                        | 96                           | NA             | NA                | OR 1.13 (0.54, 2.39)     | Intermediate  |
| Jung 2010             | Case control | SLE with arterial event | SLE without arterial event | 32                        | 64                           | NA             | NA                | OR 0.34 (0.12, 0.99)     | Intermediate  |
| Urowitz, 2007         | Case control | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 118                       | 118                          | 79 (66.9%)     | 64 (54.2%)        | OR 1.70 (1.00, 2.90)     | Intermediate  |
| Antimalarial          |              |                         |                            |                           |                              |                |                   |                          |               |
| Siricheepchaiyan 2016 | Case control | SLE with CVD            | SLE without CVD            | 10                        | 141                          | 7 (70%)        | 114 (76.5%)       | OR 0.56 (0.13, 2.28)     | Intermediate  |
| Goldberg, 2009        | Case control | SLE with CVD event      | SLE without CVD event      | 17                        | 224                          | 11 (64.7%)     | 119 (53.4%)       | OR 1.21 (0.47, 3.13)     | Intermediate  |

PICO: 'In patients with APS, is use of antimalarials associated with better cardiovascular outcomes than no use of antimalarials?'

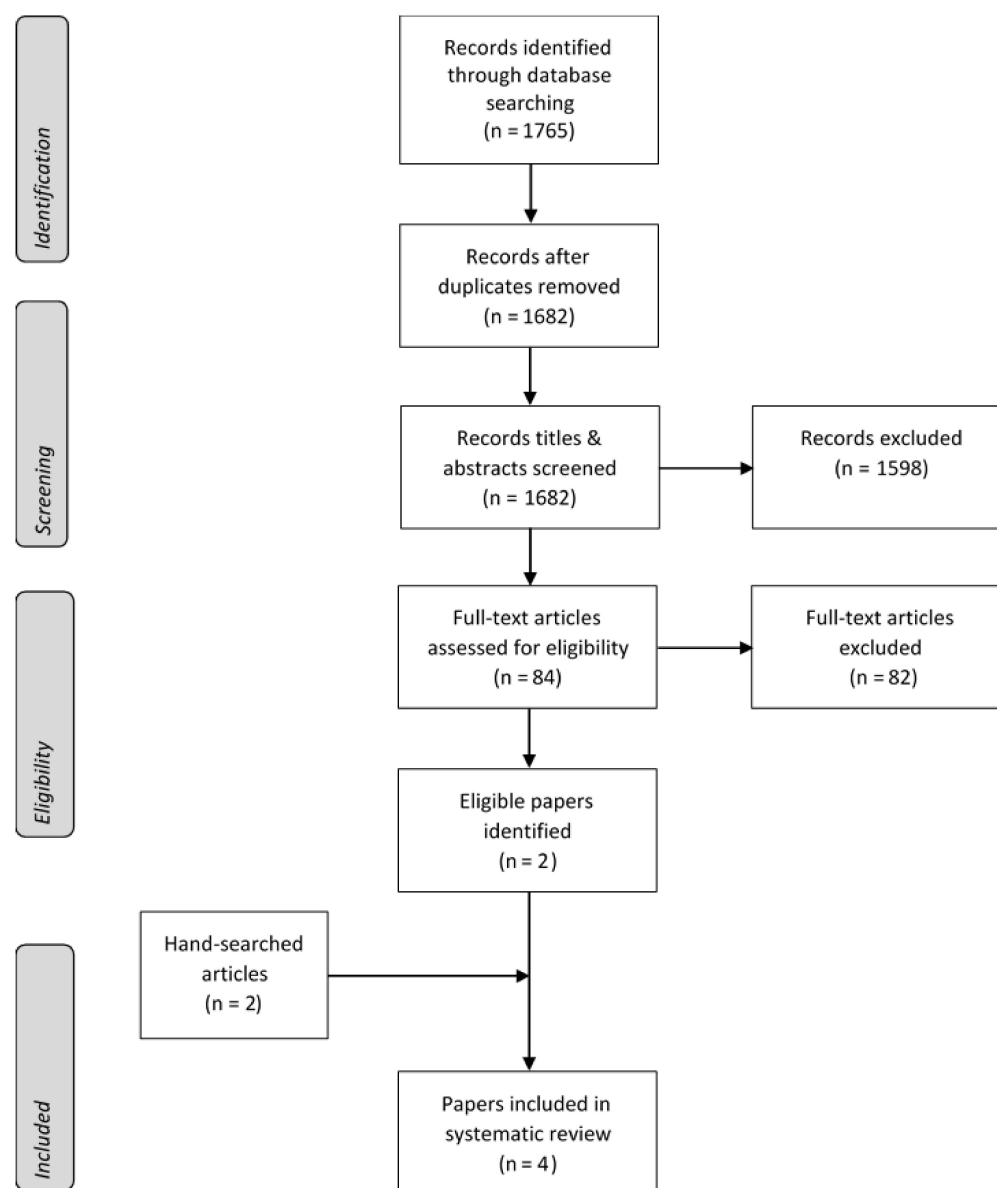


| Reference            | Design               | Intervention                     | Comparison             | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality        |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Recurrent thrombosis |                      |                                  |                        |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |                      |
| Kravvariti 2020      | Randomized trial     | HCQ 200-400 mg/d + standard care | Standard care          | 25                               | 25                             | 1 (4%)               | 6 (24%)            | HR 0.09 (0.01, 1.26)     | Unclear risk-of-bias |
| Mustonen, 2014       | Retrospective cohort | HCQ                              | No HCQ                 | 26                               | 46                             | 3 (11.5%)            | 6 (13%)            | RR 0.88 (0.24, 3.25)     | Intermediate         |
| Nuri 2016            | Retrospective cohort | HCQ                              | No HCQ                 | 57                               | 57                             | 7 (12.2%)            | 7 (12.2%)          | RR 1.00                  | High                 |
| Reference            | Design               | Case                             | Control                | Number of patients, cases        | Number of patients, controls   | Exposed, cases       | Exposed, controls  | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality        |
| Antimalarials        |                      |                                  |                        |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |                      |
| Erkan, 2002          | Case control         | Thrombotic APS                   | APL without thrombosis | 77                               | 56                             | 4 (5.2%)             | 21 (37.5%)         | OR 0.09 (0.02, 0.29)     | Intermediate         |

\*Evidence was inconclusive and, therefore, the task force panel judged no statement can be offered about the use of these medications.

## e. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

PICO: 'In patients with SLE, is use of NSAIDs associated with worse cardiovascular outcomes than no use of NSAIDs?'



| Reference             | Design               | Intervention      | Comparison     | Number of patients, intervention | Number of patients, comparison | Events, intervention | Events, comparison | Relative effect (95% CI) | Study quality |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| CVD events            |                      |                   |                |                                  |                                |                      |                    |                          |               |
| Kao, 2013             | Prospective cohort   | NSAID             | No NSAID       | 137                              | 258                            | 8 (5.8%)             | 9 (3.5%)           | RR 1.67 (0.66, 4.24)     | High          |
| Fernandez-Nebro, 2015 | Retrospective cohort | NSAIDs ever       | No NSAIDs ever | 2460                             | 1159                           | 176 (7.1%)           | 93 (8.0%)          | RR 0.91 (0.71, 1.17)     | Intermediate  |
| Magder, 2012          | Prospective cohort   | Current NSAID use | No NSAID use   | 2616 py                          | 4106 py                        | 13.8/1000 py         | 12.7/1000 py       | RR 0.94 (0.70, 1.60)     | Intermediate  |
|                       |                      | Past NSAID use    | No NSAID use   | 2761 py                          | 4106 py                        | 16.7/1000 py         | 12.7/1000 py       | RR 1.17 (0.69, 1.56)     |               |

\*Evidence was inconclusive and, therefore, the task force panel judged no statement can be offered about the use of these medications.

## 4. Prevalence and incidence of cardiovascular disease

## a. Systemic lupus erythematosus

No separate SLR was performed about the incidence and prevalence of CVD events in SLE relative to the general population because we used the results of a very recent systematic review and meta-analysis\* of high methodological quality on this question.

Evidence supporting publication bias was present for ischemic stroke, but not for composite stroke or myocardial infarction. Subgroup analysis suggested effect modification by age in the risk of stroke, with much higher relative risks in SLE at younger ages, and no increased risk of stroke in SLE among the elderly. Data did not allow for a similar analysis for myocardial infarction.

| Risk of cardiovascular events in systemic lupus erythematosus |                   |                               |                |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Outcome   | Number of studies | Pooled Relative Risk (95% CI) | I <sup>2</sup> |
| Composite stroke  | 11                | 2.13 (1.73, 2.61)             | 88%            |
| Ischemic stroke   | 5                 | 2.18 (1.78, 2.67)             | 75.4%          |
| Myocardial infarction   | 8                 | 2.99 (2.34, 3.82)             | 85.7%          |

\*Yazdany J, Pooley N, Langham J, et al. *RMD Open* 2020;6. DOI: 10.1136/rmdopen-2020-001247

## b. Antiphospholipid syndrome

No studies were identified that directly addressed incidence and prevalence of CVD events in APS relative to the general population, likely because thrombotic events including stroke and myocardial infarction comprise part of the definition of APS. We compared data about the incidence and prevalence of stroke and myocardial infarction in APS from the Euro-Phospholipid cohort\* with those in the general population, using data from the UK statistics about similar age and gender populations and the same time period.†

| Risk of cardiovascular events in the antiphospholipid syndrome |                          |               |
|--|--------------------------|---------------|
| Outcome  | Euro-Phospholipid cohort | UK statistics |
|  | Incidence                |               |
| Myocardial infarction  | 1.8/1000 py              | NA            |
| Stroke   | 4.8/1000 py              | NA            |
|  | Prevalence               |               |
| Myocardial infarction  | 5.5%                     | 0.29%         |
| Stroke   | 19.8%                    | 0.79%         |

\*Cervera R, Serrano R, Pons-Estel GJ, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2015;74:1011-1018. DOI: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2013-204838

†Bhatnagar P, Wickramasinghe K, Williams J, Rayner M, Townsend N. *Heart* 2015;101:1182-1189. DOI: 10.1136/heartjnl-2015-307516

### III. Articles included in the systematic literature review

#### A. Gout

Abbott RD, Br FN, Kannel WB, Castelli WP. Gout and coronary heart disease: the Framingham Study. *J Clin Epidemiol*. 1988;41(3):237-42. [Incidence/Prevalence CVD]

Chen JH, Lan JL, Cheng CF, Liang WM, Lin HY, Tsay GJ, et al. Effect of urate-lowering therapy on the risk of cardiovascular disease and all-cause mortality in patients with gout: A Case-matched Cohort Study. *Journal of Rheumatology*. 2015;42(9):1694-701. [Disease Medication]

Chen SY, Chen CL, Shen ML. Severity of gouty arthritis is associated with Q-wave myocardial infarction: a large-scale, cross-sectional study. *Clin Rheumatol*. 2007;26(3):308-13. [Disease activity]

Choi HK, Curhan G. Independent impact of gout on mortality and risk for coronary heart disease. *Circulation*. 2007;116(8):894-900. [Incidence/Prevalence CVD]

Clarson LE, Hider SL, Belcher J, Heneghan C, Roddy E, Mallen CD. Increased risk of vascular disease associated with gout: a retrospective, matched cohort study in the UK clinical practice research datalink. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2015;74(4):642-7. [Incidence/Prevalence CVD]

Crittenden DB, Lehmann RA, Schneck L, Keenan RT, Shah B, Greenberg JD, et al. Colchicine use is associated with decreased prevalence of myocardial infarction in patients with gout. *Journal of Rheumatology*. 2012;39(7):1458-64. [Disease Medication]

De Vera MA, Rahman MM, Bhole V, Kopec JA, Choi HK. Independent impact of gout on the risk of acute myocardial infarction among elderly women: a population-based study. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2010;69(6):1162-4. [Incidence/Prevalence CVD]

Disveld IJM, Zoakman S, Jansen TLTA, Rongen GA, Kienhorst LBE, Janssens HJEM, et al. Crystal-proven gout patients have an increased mortality due to cardiovascular diseases, cancer, and infectious diseases especially when having tophi and/or high serum uric acid levels: a prospective cohort study. *Clinical Rheumatology*. 2019. [Disease activity]

Essex MN, Hopps M, Bienen EJ, Udall M, Mardekian J, Makinson GT. Evaluation of the Relationship between Serum Uric Acid Levels and Cardiovascular Events in Patients with Gout: A Retrospective Analysis Using Electronic Medical Record Data. *Journal of Clinical Rheumatology*. 2017;23(3):160-6. [Disease activity]

Foody J, Turpin RS, Tidwell BA, Lawrence D, Schulman KL. Major cardiovascular events in patients with gout and associated cardiovascular disease or heart failure and chronic kidney disease initiating a xanthine oxidase inhibitor. *American Health and Drug Benefits*. 2017;10(8):393-400. [Disease Medication]

Garcia-Gil M, Comas-Cufí M, Ramos R, Martí R, Alves-Cabratosa L, Parramon D, et al. Effectiveness of Statins as Primary Prevention in People With Gout: A Population-Based Cohort Study. *Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. 2019. [Lipid-lowering agents]



- Janssens HJ, Arts PG, Schalk BW, Biernans MC. Gout and rheumatoid arthritis, both to keep in mind in cardiovascular risk management: A primary care retrospective cohort study. *Joint Bone Spine*. 2017;84(1):59-64. [Incidence/Prevalence CVD]
- Joo K, Kwon SR, Lim MJ, Jung KH, Joo H, Park W. Prevention of comorbidity and acute attack of gout by uric acid lowering therapy. *J Korean Med Sci*. 2014;29(5):657-61. [Disease Medication]
- Kang EH, Choi HK, Shin A, Lee YJ, Lee EB, Song YW, et al. Comparative cardiovascular risk of allopurinol versus febuxostat in patients with gout: a nation-wide cohort study. *Rheumatology (Oxford, England)*. 2019. [Disease Medication]
- Keller SF, Rai SK, Lu N, Oza A, Jorge AM, Zhang Y, et al. Statin use and mortality in gout: A general population-based cohort study. *Seminars in Arthritis and Rheumatism*. 2018;48(3):449-55. [Lipid-lowering agents]
- Kim SC, Neogi T, Kang EH, Liu J, Desai RJ, Zhang M, et al. Cardiovascular Risks of Probenecid Versus Allopurinol in Older Patients With Gout. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. 2018;71(9):994-1004. [Disease Medication]
- Kim SC, Schneeweiss S, Choudhry N, Liu J, Glynn RJ, Solomon DH. Effects of xanthine oxidase inhibitors on cardiovascular disease in patients with gout: A cohort study. *American Journal of Medicine*. 2015;128(6):653.e7-.e16. [Disease Medication]
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- Mackenzie IS, Ford I, Nuki G, Hallas J, Hawkey CJ, Webster J, et al. Long-term cardiovascular safety of febuxostat compared with allopurinol in patients with gout (FAST): a multicentre, prospective, randomised, open-label, non-inferiority trial. *Lancet*. 2020;396(10264):1745-57. [Disease Medication]
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Zhang T, Pope JE. Cardiovascular effects of urate-lowering therapies in patients with chronic gout: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Rheumatology (United Kingdom)*. 2017;56(7):1144-53. [Disease Medication]

## **B. Vasculitis, systemic sclerosis, mixed connective tissue disease, myositis and Sjögren's syndrome**

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Alenghat FJ. The Prevalence of Atherosclerosis in Those with Inflammatory Connective Tissue Disease by Race, Age, and Traditional Risk Factors. *Sci Rep*. 2016;6:20303. [Incidence/Prevalence CVD]

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*Studies that were included in the SLR for the use of NSAIDs in SLE (\*) and antimalarials in APS (†). Evidence was inconclusive and, therefore, the task force panel judged no statement can be offered about the use of these medications.*