

**Table SI.** MEDLINE search strategy

| Syntax  | Number of hits |   |         |
|---|----------------|---|---------|
| 1 (frozen adj6 shoulder\$.ti.   | 555            | 61 56 or 57 or 58 or 59 or 60   | 25,959  |
| 2 (stiff\$ adj3 shoulder\$.ti.  | 177            | 62 19 and 61  | 431     |
| 3 (adhesive adj (capsulitis or capsulitides)).ti.   | 384            | 63 (TENS or ALTENS).ab,ti.  | 13,065  |
| 4 ((bursitis or bursitides) adj6 shoulder\$.ti.   | 44             | 64 ((electric\$ adj2 stimulat\$) or (transcutaneous adj2 stimulat\$) or (transdermal adj2 electrostimulat\$) or (cutaneous adj2 electrostimulat\$) or electroanalgesia or electroanalgesia).ab,ti.  | 60,861  |
| 5 ((capsulitis or capsulitides) adj6 shoulder\$.ti.   | 81             | 65 (muscle adj2 stimulat\$).ab,ti.  | 6,332   |
| 6 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5   | 1,148          | 66 (neuromodulation or neuro modulation or neurostimulation or neuro stimulation).ab,ti.  | 6,060   |
| 7 (frozen adj6 shoulder\$.ab.   | 998            | 67 interferential.ab,ti.  | 450     |
| 8 (stiff\$ adj3 shoulder\$.ab.  | 574            | 68 63 or 64 or 65 or 66 or 67   | 83,082  |
| 9 exp bursitis/   | 4,562          | 69 19 and 68  | 174     |
| 10 (adhesive adj (capsulitis or capsulitides)).ab.  | 653            | 70 biofeedback.ab,ti.   | 6,004   |
| 11 ((bursitis or bursitides) adj6 shoulder\$.ab.  | 83             | 71 Biofeedback, Psychology/   | 6,966   |
| 12 ((capsulitis or capsulitides) adj6 shoulder\$.ab.  | 329            | 72 70 or 71   | 9,356   |
| 13 ((periarthritis or periarthritis or periarthritides or periarthritides or pericapsulitis or pericapsulitis) adj6 shoulder\$.ab,ti. | 305            | 73 19 and 72  | 39      |
| 14 shoulder pain/   | 4,044          | 74 cryotherapy/   | 4,545   |
| 15 (shoulder\$ adj3 (pain or pains or painful or complain\$)).ab,ti.  | 8,153          | 75 ice/   | 4,110   |
| 16 Shoulder Impingement Syndrome/   | 1,669          | 76 diathermy/   | 3,451   |
| 17 (shoulder\$ adj6 impinge\$).ab,ti.   | 944            | 77 hyperthermia, induced/   | 14,936  |
| 18 subacromial impingement syndrome.ab,ti.  | 339            | 78 hot temperature/   | 110,777 |
| 19 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18  | 16,441         | 79 ((cold or ice or heat or hot) adj (pack\$ or therap\$ or treat\$)).ab,ti.  | 17,203  |
| 20 Arthrography/  | 4,968          | 80 (thermograph\$ or thermotherap\$ or thermo therap\$ or hypertherm\$ or hyper therm\$ or diatherm\$ or cryotherap\$ or cryo therap\$).ab,ti.  | 48,634  |
| 21 (arthrograph\$ adj6 (distension\$ or distention\$)).ab,ti.   | 59             | 81 74 or 75 or 76 or 77 or 78 or 79 or 80   | 17,6572 |
| 22 (arthrogram\$ adj6 (distension\$ or distention\$)).ab,ti.  | 4              | 82 19 and 81  | 183     |
| 23 (glenohumeral adj6 (distension\$ or distention\$)).ab,ti.  | 12             | 83 exp Laser Therapy/   | 55,847  |
| 24 Dilatation/  | 10,336         | 84 ultrasonic therapy/  | 9,300   |
| 25 (dilatation or hydrodilata\$).ab,ti.   | 48,773         | 85 ultrasound.ab,ti.  | 199,378 |
| 26 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25   | 60,704         | 86 Ultrasonography, Interventional/   | 18,487  |
| 27 19 and 26  | 286            | 87 (electrotherapeutic adj (intervention\$ or treat\$)).ab,ti.  | 10      |
| 28 Arthroscopy/   | 20,279         | 88 83 or 84 or 85 or 86 or 87 2   | 65,114  |
| 29 (arthroscop\$ adj6 (releas\$ or decompress\$ or capsulotom\$)).ab,ti.  | 1,135          | 89 19 and 88  | 916     |
| 30 ((capsular adj2 releas\$) or interventional microadhesiolysis or capsulotomy).ab,ti.   | 2,956          | 90 magnetic field therapy/  | 917     |
| 31 28 or 29 or 30   | 23,307         | 91 pulsed electromagnetic field therapy.ab,ti.  | 67      |
| 32 19 and 31  | 1,471          | 92 ((electromagnetic\$ or magnetic\$) adj3 field\$).ab,ti.  | 47,567  |
| 33 Injections, IntraArticular/  | 6,934          | 93 (biomagnetic\$ or bio magnetic\$ or pulsed signal).ab,ti.  | 528     |
| 34 19 and 33  | 497            | 94 PEMF.ab,ti.  | 511     |
| 35 Injections/  | 41,091         | 95 90 or 91 or 92 or 93 or 94   | 48,373  |
| 36 19 and 35  | 124            | 96 19 and 95  | 25      |
| 37 ((bursa\$ or intrabursa\$ or intra bursa\$ or periartic\$ or peri artic\$ or intraartic\$ or intraartic\$) adj3 inject\$).ab,ti.   | 5,691          | 97 nerve block/   | 15,657  |
| 38 19 and 37  | 290            | 98 neuromuscular blockade/  | 1,898   |
| 39 ((subacromial or acromioclavicular or glenohumeral) adj3 inject\$).ab,ti.  | 404            | 99 (nerve adj2 block\$).ab,ti.  | 10,509  |
| 40 ((extra articular or extraarticular or shoulder\$) adj3 inject\$).ab,ti.   | 346            | 100 97 or 98 or 99  | 22,414  |
| 41 34 or 36 or 38 or 39 or 40   | 1,193          | 101 19 and 100  | 278     |
| 42 exp Physical Therapy Modalities/   | 135,697        | 102 exp Acupuncture Therapy/  | 24,201  |
| 43 (physiotherapy or physiotherapies or physical therap\$ or manual therap\$).ab,ti.  | 33,359         | 103 acupuncture\$.ab,ti.  | 20,305  |
| 44 (passive adj (motion or movement)).ab,ti.  | 2,241          | 104 (electroacupuncture\$ or electro acupuncture\$).ab,ti.  | 4,808   |
| 45 CPM.ab,ti.   | 5,471          | 105 (osteopuncture\$ or osteo puncture\$).ab,ti.  | 2       |
| 46 muscle stretching exercises/   | 1,457          | 106 (perioste\$ adj3 (stimulat\$ or therap\$ or needling)).ab,ti.   | 198     |
| 47 (stretching or stretches).ab,ti.   | 31,495         | 107 102 or 103 or 104 or 105 or 106   | 29,318  |
| 48 (mobilisation or mobilization).ab,ti.  | 52,891         | 108 19 and 107  | 287     |
| 49 (exercise\$ adj2 (program\$ or strength\$ or intervention\$ or training or prescription\$ or prescrib\$)).ab,ti.                   | 34,246         | 109 massage/  | 5,803   |
| 50 (exercise\$ adj2 (therap\$ or therapeutic)).ab,ti.   | 5,604          | 110 (massag\$ or acupressure or shiatsu or shiatzu or zhi ya or chih ya).ab,ti.   | 10,222  |
| 51 ((home or supervis\$) adj2 exercis\$).ab,ti.   | 4,119          | 111 109 or 110  | 12,593  |
| 52 ((pendular or pendulum) adj exercis\$).ab,ti.  | 29             | 112 19 and 111  | 116     |
| 53 ((isokinetic or resist\$) adj2 exercis\$).ab,ti.   | 6,352          | 113 (rehabilitat\$ adj2 (program\$ or protocol\$)).ab,ti.   | 16,498  |
| 54 42 or 43 or 44 or 45 or 46 or 47 or 48 or 49 or 50 or 51 or 52 or 53   | 266,713        | 114 19 and 113  | 218     |
| 55 19 and 54  | 2,472          | 115 (watch\$ adj2 wait\$).mp. or (conservative adj2 treat\$).ab,ti. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier] | 35,235  |
| 56 exp Musculoskeletal Manipulations/   | 15,189         | 116 19 and 115  | 451     |
| 57 chiropractic\$.ab,ti.  | 4,571          | 117 (management adj2 (decision\$ or option\$ or choice\$)).ab,ti.   | 14,656  |
| 58 osteopath\$.ab,ti.   | 4,884          | 118 19 and 117  | 26      |
| 59 (manipulat\$ adj3 (anesthesia or anaesthesia or anesthetic\$ or anaesthetic\$)).ab,ti.   | 636            | 119 114 or 116 or 118   | 670     |
| 60 MUA.ab,ti.   | 2,898          | 120 6 or 27 or 32 or 41 or 55 or 62 or 69 or 73 or 82 or 89 or 96 or 101 or 108 or 112 or 119   | 6,499   |
|   |                | 121 limit 120 to yr="2010 Current"  | 2,724   |