**Appendix:** Excluded studies

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| **First author** | **Reference** | **Reason for exclusion** |
| Abdelhamid | Eg J Anaesth 2013;29:25-29 | Inappropriate comparator: Infiltration |
| Adam | Anesth Analg 2006;103:1278 –82 | Inappropriate intervention: Oral gabapentin |
| Beaudot | Reg Anesth Pain Med 2008;33:134-38 | Inappropriate comparator: Intra-articular injection |
| Bishop | J Shoulder Elbow Surg 2006;15:567-70 | Design: Retrospective |
| Blaivas | Acad Emerg Med 2011;18:922–7 | Population: Closed reduction |
| Boezaart | Best Pract Res Clin Anaesthesiol. 2002;16:295-310 | Design: Descriptive |
| Borgeat | Anesthesiology 1997;87:1343-7 | Inappropriate comparator: Continuous block |
| Borgeat | Br J Anaesth 1998;81:603-5 | Inappropriate comparator: Continuous block |
| Borgeat | Anesthesiology 2000;92:102–8 | Inappropriate comparator: Continuous block |
| Borgeat | Anesth Analg 2001;92:218–23 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Borgeat | Anesthesiology 2001;95:875–80 | Design: Cohort |
| Borgeat | Best Pract Res Clin Anaesthesiol. 2002;16:211-25 | Design: Review |
| Borgeat | Anesthesiology 2003;99:436–42 | Design: Cohort |
| Borghi | Eur J Anaesth 2006; 23:1005–9 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Brown | Arthroscopy 1993;9:295-300. | Design: Retrospective |
| Casati | Anesth Analg 2003;96:253–9 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Casati | Acta Anaesthesiol Scand. 2003;47:355-60 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Chelly | Minerva Anestesiol. 2001;67:613-9. | Design: Cohort |
| Contreras-Domínguez | Rev Esp Anestesiol Reanim 2008;55:475-80 | Inappropriate comparator: Intra-articular injection |
| Delaunay | Anesth Pain Med 2005;30:117-22. | Inappropriate comparator: Continuous block |
| Di Donato | Pain Clin 2006;18:19–24 | Inappropriate comparator: Single-shot block in both groups |
| Eroglu | Reg Anesth Pain Med 2004;29:539-43 | Inappropriate comparator: Single-shot block in both groups |
| Fahmi | Analg Resusc: Curr Res 2013; 2:2-5 | Inappropriate comparator: Suprascapular |
| Fanelli | Eur J Anaesth 2001;18:51-8 | Inappropriate comparator: Single-shot block in both groups |
| Faryniarz | J Shoulder Elbow Surg 2006;15:686-90 | Design: Cohort |
| Fredrickson | Reg Anesth Pain Med 2008;33:122-28 | Design: Cohort |
| Fredrickson | Anesth Analg 2009;108:1695–700 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Fredrickson | Br J Anaesth 2009;103:434–9 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Fredrickson | Reg Anesth Pain Med 2009;34: 590-4 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Fredrickson | Anesthesiology 2010;112:1374–81 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Grossi | Anaesthesia 1998;53:20-1 | Design: Cohort |
| Hartrick | BMC Anesthesiology 2012,12:6 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Kim | Korean J Anesthesiol 2009;57:302-7 | Inappropriate comparator: Single-shot block in both groups |
| Koh | J Shoulder Elbow Surg 2013;22:1325-31 | Missing analgesic outcomes |
| Krone | Reg Anesth Pain Med 2001;26:439-43 | Inappropriate comparator: Single-shot block in both groups |
| Laurila | Acta Anaesthesiol Scand 2002;46:1031–6 | Inappropriate comparator: Subacromial injection |
| McNaught | Br J Anaesth 2011;106:124–30 | Design: Dose-sparing |
| Misamore | J Shoulder Elbow Surg 2011; 20:308-14 | Design: Cohort |
| Sandefo | Anesth Analg 2005;100:1496–8 | Design: Cohort |
| Singelyn | Anesth Analg 1999;89:1216–20 | Inappropriate intervention: Continuous block in both groups |
| Terrazas | Acta Ortopédica Mexicana 2012;26:358-61 | Design: Cohort |
| Tuncer | Eur J Plast Surg 2002;25:149–51 | Population: Non-shoulder surgery |
| Webb | Arthroscopy 2007;23:1006-11 | Inappropriate comparator: Subacromial injection |
| Winkler | J Shoulder Elbow Surg 2009;18,566-72 | Inappropriate comparator: Subacromial injection |
| Wu | Orthopedics 2002; 25,45-8 | Design: Retrospective |
| Wurm | Anesth Analg 2003;97:1620–6) | Inappropriate comparator: Single-shot block in both groups |