**Appendix A:** MEDLINE Search Strategy

1 exp Thoracic Nerves/ (2111)

2 exp Pectoralis Muscles/ (3600)

3 PECS 2.mp. (5)

4 PECs ii.mp. (23)

5 pectoral muscle.mp. (989)

6 PECs block.mp. (33)

7 exp Nerve Block/ (19962)

8 exp Autonomic Nerve Block/ (3370)

9 paravertebral block.mp. (644)

10 thoracic block.mp. (15)

11 pecs\*.mp. (1386)

12 block\*.mp. (767947)

13 (pecs\* adj10 block\*).mp. (78)

14 paravertebral.mp. (4449)

15 (paravertebral adj10 block\*).mp. (1028)

16 thoracic.mp. (226295)

17 (thoracic adj10 block\*).mp. (1794)

18 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 (994563)

19 exp MASTECTOMY/ (28589)

20 exp \*BREAST/ (28884)

21 exp Mastectomy, Segmental/ (7664)

22 breast surgery.mp. (3557)

23 exp MASTECTOMY, RADICAL/ (2915)

24 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 (56473)

25 18 and 24 (2225)

26 limit 25 to (english language and humans) (1737)

27 Randomized Controlled Trial/ (467803)

28 Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic/ (118270)

29 rct.mp. (17805)

30 Controlled Clinical Trial/ (92620)

31 exp Clinical Trial/ (806593)

32 exp Clinical Trials as Topic/ (317301)

33 clinical trial\*.mp. or clinical trial.pt. (938936)

34 experimental trial\*.mp. (2550)

35 Single-Blind Method/ (25635)

36 (singl\* or double\* or tripl\* or trebl\*).mp. (2114818)

37 Meta-Analysis/ (92068)

38 rt.fs. (179938)

39 in-process.st. (236672)

40 case reports.pt. (1894169)

41 Core Clinical Journals AIM.sb. (2184154)

42 Meta-Analysis as Topic/ (16422)

43 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32 or 33 or 34 or 35 or 36 or 37 or 38 or 39 or 40 or 41 or 42 (6904618)

44 26 and 43 (970)

45 limit 44 to (english language and humans and yr="2012 -Current") (292)