

Supplementary File 1: Details of the Search Strategy

Database	Keywords	Number of articles obtained
PubMed	("Inflammatory Bowel Diseases"[Mesh] OR ibd [tiab] OR "inflammatory bowel disease" OR "inflammatory bowel diseases" OR "ulcerative colitis" OR crohn* [tiab])) AND (adult [mh] OR adult* [tiab] OR elder* [tiab] OR older* [tiab] OR senior* [tiab] OR geriatric* [tiab])) AND ("Time-to-Treatment"[Mesh] OR "Time Factors"[Mesh] OR "time to appointment" OR timeliness [tiab] OR time [tiab] OR timely [tiab])) AND (((("Referral and Consultation"[Mesh]) OR "Appointments and Schedules"[Mesh] OR referral* [tiab] OR consultation* [tiab] OR "second opinion" OR schedule* [tiab] OR appointment* [tiab]))	258
CINAHL Plus	(MH "Inflammatory Bowel Diseases+") OR ("inflammatory bowel disease" OR "inflammatory bowel diseases" OR ibd OR colitis OR crohn*)AND (MH "Appointments and Schedules") OR (MH "Office Visits") OR (MH "Waiting Lists") OR (MH "Referral and Consultation+") OR (second N3 opinion*) OR appointment* OR schedul* AND (MH "Time Factors") OR ("time to appointment" OR timeliness OR timely OR time OR times) AND (MH "Adult+") OR (adult* OR older* OR senior* OR elder* OR geriatric*)	64
Embase	('inflammatory bowel disease'/exp OR colitis:ti,ab OR crohn*:ti,ab OR 'inflammatory bowel disease':ti,ab OR 'inflammatory bowel diseases':ti,ab) AND ('patient referral'/exp OR appointment*:ti,ab OR referral*:ti,ab OR consultation*:ti,ab) AND ('time factor'/exp OR time:ti,ab OR times:ti,ab OR timliness:ti,ab OR timely:ti,ab OR 'time to appointment') AND ('adult'/exp OR adult*:ti,ab OR elder*:ti,ab OR older*:ti,ab OR senior*:ti,ab OR geriatric*:ti,ab)	272