Supplementary 1. Search strategies

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| Database | Search terms |
| PubMed | Search ((primary dysmenorrhea) OR (dysmenorrhea[Title/Abstract]) OR (dysmenorrhoea[Title/Abstract]) OR (menstrual disorder[Title/Abstract]) OR (Menstruation Disorders[Title/Abstract]) OR (menstrual pain[Title/Abstract]) OR (painful menstruation[Title/Abstract]) OR (painful period[Title/Abstract]) OR (cramps[Title/Abstract]) OR (primary dysmenorrhea[MeSH Terms])) AND ((Oriental medicine) OR (medicinal herb\*[Title/Abstract]) OR (herbal medicine[Title/Abstract]) OR (Plant Extracts[Title/Abstract]) OR (herbal\*[Title/Abstract]) OR (Herbal formula[Title/Abstract]) OR (TCM) OR (decoction[Title/Abstract]) OR (Chinese medicine[Title/Abstract]) OR (Kampo medicine[Title/Abstract]) OR (Kampo) OR (Traditional Korean medicine[Title/Abstract]) OR (Traditional medicine[Title/Abstract]) OR (Dangguijagyag-san) OR (Danggwijagyaksan) OR (Dangguijagyagsan) OR (Tokishakuyakusan) OR (Tokisyakuyakusanryo) OR (TJ-23) OR (Dang gui shao yao san)) |
| EMBASE | 1. primary AND ('dysmenorrhea'/exp OR dysmenorrhea) 2. (menstrua\* NEAR/3 disorder\*):ti,ab,kw 3. dysmenorrh\*:ti,ab,kw4. (menstrual NEAR/3 pain\*):ti,ab,kw5. (painful NEAR/3 menstr\*):ti,ab,kw5. (painful NEAR/3 menstr\*):ti,ab,kw6. 'painful period':ti,ab,kw7. (menstrual NEAR/3 cramps):ti,ab,kw8. #1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #79. 'oriental medicine':ti,ab,kw10. (medicin\* NEAR/3 herb\*):ti,ab,kw11. herbal\*:ti,ab,kw12. tcm:ti,ab,kw13. decoction:ti,ab,kw14. 'chinese medicine':ti,ab,kw OR kampo:ti,ab,kw OR 'traditional korean medicine':ti,ab,kw OR ((traditional NEAR/3 medicine):ti,ab,kw)15. 'dangguijagyag san':ti,ab,kw OR danggwijagyaksan:ti,ab,kw OR tokishakuyakusan\*:ti,ab,kw OR 'tj 23':ti,ab,kw OR 'dang gui shao yao san':ti,ab,kw16. #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14 OR #1517. #8 AND #16 |
| CENTRAL | 1. primary dysmenorrhea2. dysmenorrh\*3. menstrua\* disorder\*4. menstrual pain\*5. (painful menstruation):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)6. (painful period):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)7. (menstrual cramp\*):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)8. {OR #1-#7}9. (Oriental medicine):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)10. (medicin\* herb\*):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)11. (Plant Extract\*):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)12. (herbal\*):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)13. (TCM):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)14. (decoction):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)15. (Chinese medicine):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)16. (Kampo):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)17. (Traditional Korean medicine):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)18. (Traditional medicine):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)19. (Dangguijagyag-san):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)20. (Danggwijagyaksan):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)21. (Tokishakuyakusan\*):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)22. (TJ-23):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)23. (Tokisyakuyakusan\*):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)24. (Dangguishaoyaosan):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)25. {OR #9-#24}26. #8 AND #25 |
| CNKI | 1. 原发性痛经 OR 痛经 OR dysmenorrhea OR menstrual pain2. 中药 OR 当归芍药散3. #1 AND #2 (’结果中检索’ was used) |

CENTRAL = Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, CNKI = China National Knowledge Infrastructure.