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| **Supplementary Table S1.** Ovid MEDLINE search strategy |
| **#** | **Searches** | **Results** |
| 1 | acute traumatic spinal cord injury.mp. | 181 |
| 2 | traumatic spinal cord injury.mp. | 2166 |
| 3 | spinal cord injury.mp. | 33200 |
| 4 | spinal cord lesion.mp. | 1284 |
| 5 | spinal injury.mp. | 3813 |
| 6 | spinal cord dysfunction.mp. | 453 |
| 7 | cervical injury.mp. | 500 |
| 8 | cervical spinal injury.mp. | 132 |
| 9 | cervical spine injury.mp. | 1370 |
| 10 | exp Spinal Cord Injuries/ | 47037 |
| 11 | exp Spinal Injuries/ | 22427 |
| 12 | exp Spinal Fractures/ | 14316 |
| 13 | exp Neck Injuries/ | 7859 |
| 14 | tracheostomy.mp. | 14755 |
| 15 | tracheotomy.mp. | 11195 |
| 16 | open tracheo\*.mp. | 145 |
| 17 | surgical tracheo\*.mp. | 419 |
| 18 | percutaneous tracheo\*.mp. | 789 |
| 19 | dilational percutaneous tracheo\*.mp. | 2 |
| 20 | cricothyrotomy.mp. | 404 |
| 21 | open cricothyrotomy.mp. | 9 |
| 22 | surgical cricothyrotomy.mp. | 49 |
| 23 | percutaneous cricothyrotomy.mp. | 9 |
| 24 | trache\*.mp. | 111454 |
| 25 | exp Tracheostomy/ | 7132 |
| 26 | exp Tracheotomy/ | 8298 |
| 27 | 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 | 37855 |
| 28 | 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 | 74184 |
| 29 | 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 | 111641 |
| 30 | 25 or 26 | 15179 |
| 31 | 27 or 28 | 86142 |
| 32 | 29 or 30 | 111641 |
| 33 | 31 and 32 | 930 |
| 34 | limit 33 to (human and english language and (adult <18 to 64 years> or aged <65+ years>)) [Limit not valid in Ovid MEDLINE(R),Ovid MEDLINE(R) Daily Update,Ovid MEDLINE(R) In-Process,Ovid MEDLINE(R) Publisher; records were retained] | 690 |