

Supplementary file 1. Search strategy

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A. Search strategy

PubMed

((("Critical Care"[Mesh] OR "Critical Illness"[Mesh] OR "Intensive Care Units"[Mesh] OR ICU[tiab] OR ICUs[tiab] OR intensive care[tiab] OR critical care[tiab] OR critically ill*[tiab] OR critical ill*[tiab] OR mechanical ventilat*[tiab] OR artificial ventilat*[tiab] OR ventilated[tiab]) AND ("Diet, High-Protein"[Mesh] OR "Dietary Proteins"[Mesh] OR "Amino Acids, Essential"[Mesh] OR protein*[tiab] OR amino acid[tiab]) AND ("Nutritional Support"[Mesh] OR intravenous[tiab] OR tube feeding[tiab] OR nutrition*[tiab] OR nitrogen balance[tiab]) AND ("Randomized Controlled Trial" [Publication Type] OR "Controlled Clinical Trial" [Publication Type] OR "Cohort Studies"[Mesh] OR "Observational Study" [Publication Type] OR ((randomized[tiab] OR randomised[tiab]) AND trial*[tiab]) OR cohort[tiab] OR retrospective*[tiab] OR prospective*[tiab] OR observational stud*[tiab])) NOT (("Child"[Mesh] OR "Infant"[Mesh] OR child*[tiab] OR infan*[tiab] OR newborn*[tiab] OR neonat*[tiab] OR baby[tiab] OR babies[tiab]) NOT ("Adult"[Mesh] OR adult*[tiab])) AND English[lang])

EMBASE (OVID):

| # | Searches |
|----|--|
| 1 | exp intensive care/ or critical illness/ or critically ill patient/ or intensive care unit/ |
| 2 | (ICU or ICUs or intensive care or critical care or critically ill* or critical ill* or mechanical ventilat* or artificial ventilat* or ventilated).ti,ab,kw. |
| 3 | 1 or 2 |
| 4 | exp *protein diet/ or *protein intake/ or exp *essential amino acid/ |
| 5 | ((protein* or amino acid) and (intake or diet* or therap*)).ti,ab,kw. |
| 6 | 4 or 5 |
| 7 | nutritional support/ |
| 8 | (intravenous or tube feeding or nutrition* or nitrogen balance).ti,ab,kw. |
| 9 | 7 or 8 |
| 10 | 3 and 6 and 9 |
| 11 | randomized controlled trial/ or controlled clinical trial/ or cohort analysis/ or observational study/ |
| 12 | ((randomized or randomised) adj3 trial*).ti,ab,kw. |
| 13 | (cohort or retrospective* or prospective* or observational stud*).ti,ab,kw. |
| 14 | 11 or 12 or 13 |
| 15 | 10 and 14 |
| 16 | (exp child/ or (child* or infan* or newborn* or neonat* or baby or babies).ti,ab,kw.) not (exp adult/ or adult*.ti,ab,kw.) |
| 17 | 15 not 16 |
| 18 | limit 17 to english language |
| 19 | limit 18 to conference abstract status |
| 20 | 18 not 19 |

Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials

| ID | SearchHits |
|----|---|
| #1 | (ICU or ICUs or intensive care or critical care or critically ill* or critical ill* or mechanical ventilat* or artificial ventilat* or ventilated):ti,ab,kw |
| #2 | ((protein* or amino acid) and (intake or diet* or therap*)):ti,ab,kw |
| #3 | (intravenous or tube feeding or nutrition* or nitrogen balance):ti,ab,kw |
| #4 | #1 and #2 and #3 |
| #5 | ((child* or infan* or newborn* or neonat* or baby or babies) not adult*):ti,ab,kw |
| #6 | #4 not #5 in Trials |

B. Flow diagram of included studies

