**Additional file 2 MEDLINE Search Strategy**

1 exp Spinal Stenosis/

2 spinal stenos\*.mp.

3 (lumbar adj5 stenos\*).mp.

4 (spin\* adj5 stenos\*).mp.

5 neurogenic claudication.mp.

6 lumbar radicular pain.mp.

7 exp Cauda Equina/

8 cauda equina.mp.

9 exp Spinal Osteophytosis/

10 spinal osteophytosis.mp.

11 exp Spondylosis/

12 spondylosis.mp.

13 exp Spondylolisthesis/

14 spondylolisthesis.mp.

15 exp Low Back Pain/

16 (low\* adj5 back adj5 pain).mp.

17 or/1-16

18 exp Osteoarthritis/

19 osteoarthr\*.mp.

20 (degenerative adj2 arthritis).mp.

21 arthros\*.mp.

22 or/18-21

23 Knee/

24 exp Knee Joint/

25 knee.mp.

26 or/23-25

27 Hip/

28 exp Hip Joint/

29 hip\*.mp.

30 or/27-29

31 (26 or 30) and 22

32 17 and 31