Additional file 2 Search strategy for PubMed

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| #1 | Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis[MeSH Terms] |
| #2 | Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis[Title/Abstract] |
| #3 | Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibroses[Title/Abstract] |
| #4 | Pulmonary Fibroses, Idiopathic[Title/Abstract] |
| #5 | Pulmonary Fibrosis, Idiopathic[Title/Abstract] |
| #6 | Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis[Title/Abstract] |
| #7 | #1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 |
| #8 | Medicine, Chinese Traditional[Mesh] |
| #9 | Herbal medicine[Title/Abstract] |
| #10 | Chinese Medicine[Title/Abstract] |
| #11 | Chinese Traditional Medicine[Title/Abstract] |
| #12 | Traditional Medicine[Title/Abstract] |
| #13 | Traditional Chinese Medicine[Title/Abstract] |
| #14 | Prepared Chinese medicines[Title/Abstract] |
| #15 | Proprietary Chinese Medicine[Title/Abstract] |
| #16 | Chinese patent medicine[Title/Abstract] |
| #17 | #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14 OR#15 OR #16 |
| #18 | randomized controlled trial[Publication Type] OR randomized[Title/Abstract] OR placebo[Title/Abstract] |
| #19 | #7 AND #17 AND #18 |