

Table 1s. Summary of search terms and results for each SLR/question.

QUESTION	Main search termsⁱ	Articles retrieved	Articles after title and abstract selection	Articles selected after detailed review	ACR/EULAR meeting abstracts selected	Hand search references selected
Question 1: Diagnosis	sensitiv*[Title/Abstract] sensitivity and specificity[MeSH] diagnos*[Title/Abstract] diagnosis[MeSH:noexp] diagnostic*[MeSH:noexp] diagnosis,differential[MeSH:noexp] diagnosis[Subheading:noexp]	5,558	48	20 ⁱⁱ	0	6
Question 2: Comorbidity screening	exp Kidney Diseases/ cardiovascular disease/ exp Heart Diseases/ exp Hypertension/ exp Atherosclerosis/ exp Carotid Artery Diseases/ Pre-Eclampsia/ exp Dementia, Vascular/ Metabolic Syndrome X/ Comorbidity/	8,918	97	66	2	20
Question 3: Acute gout	exp Glucocorticoids/ exp Adrenal Cortex Hormones/ exp Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal/ exp Cyclooxygenase 2 Inhibitors/ exp Cyclooxygenase Inhibitors/ Interleukin-1/ exp Colchicine/	565	65	32 ⁱⁱⁱ	0	2

<p>Question 4: Lifestyle</p>	<p>exp Ethanol/ exp Alcohol Drinking/ exp Alcohol-Related Disorders/ exp Exercise Therapy/ exp Exercise Movement Techniques/ exp "Physical Education and Training"/ exp Physical Fitness/ exp Physical Exertion/ exp sports/ exp Tobacco/ exp smoking/ exp "Tobacco Use Cessation"/ exp weight Loss/ or weight loss.mp exp anti-obesity agents exp diet therapy/ exp nutrition therapy/ exp fasting/ exp milk/ or milk.mp. exp cultured milk products exp sucrose/ exp fructose/ exp coffee/or coffee.mp. exp caffeine/or exp Dietary Supplements/ exp Food, fortified/ exp Antioxidants/ exp amino acids/ exp Vitamins/ exp Fatty acids, unsaturated/</p>	893	2	2	1	3
<p>Question 5: ULT^{iv}</p>	<p>Allopurinol/ Gout Suppressants/ Thiazoles/ exp Polyethylene Glycols/ Urate Oxidase/ Probenecid/ Benzbromarone/ Sulfinpyrazone/</p>	1,594	472	26	13	0
<p>Question 6: Flare prophylaxis</p>	<p>exp Glucocorticoids/ exp Adrenal Cortex Hormones/ exp Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal/ exp Cyclooxygenase 2 Inhibitors/ exp Cyclooxygenase Inhibitors/ Interleukin-1/ exp Colchicine/ Allopurinol/</p>	8,168	236	4	0	0

	Gout Suppressants/ Thiazoles/ exp Polyethylene Glycols/ Urate Oxidase/ Probenecid/ Benzbromarone/ Sulfinpyrazone/					
Question 7: Effect of comorbidities on drug choice	exp Drug Interactions/ Gastrointestinal Diseases/ Dyspepsia/ exp Peptic Ulcer/ Peptic Ulcer Hemorrhage/ Duodenogastric Reflux/ exp Liver Diseases/ exp Kidney Diseases/ cardiovascular disease/ exp Myocardial Ischemia/ exp Heart Failure/ exp Hypertension/ Hematologic Diseases/ exp Precursor Cell Lymphoblastic Leukemia-Lymphoma/ exp Leukemia, Myeloid, Acute/ exp leukopenia/ Pancytopenia/ exp Myelodysplastic Syndromes/ exp Thrombocytopenia/ exp Insulin Resistance/ exp Diabetes Mellitus/	5,644	114	7	1	1
Question 8: Monitoring	Uric Acid/ exp Acute-Phase Proteins/ Blood Sedimentation/ Serum Albumin/ Pain Measurement/ Diagnostic Imaging/ Radiography/ exp Magnetic Resonance Imaging/ exp Ultrasonography/ exp Tomography, X-Ray Computed/ exp Contrast Media/ Radionuclide Imaging/ exp Patient Compliance/ exp treatment refusal/	4,575	120	54	0	2
Question 9: Tophi	gout\$.tw. AND co.fs Tophus.tw Tophi.tw Tophaceous.tw Exp GOUT/co[Complications]	3,205	90	71 ^y	1	0

Question 10: Asymptomatic hyperuricaemia	Uric Acid/ uric acid.tw. ((sodium or monosodium or potassium or ammonium) adj2 urate).tw. urate crystal\$.tw. Hyperuricemia/ Hyperuric?emi\$.tw.	1,683	5	3	0	0
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Note: Numbers of articles presented in this table may vary slightly as some questions were tackled with several systematic literature reviews.

ACR: American College of Rheumatology. EULAR: European League Against Rheumatism. NSAID: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug. RCT: Randomised controlled trial. CCT: Controlled clinical trial. SLR: systematic literature review. ULT: urate lowering therapy.

ⁱA list of MeSH terms used in the search is given as an example of the whole search strategy. ⁱⁱ19 studies were finally selected, as results from a same study were published in two different papers. ⁱⁱⁱ30 studies were finally selected, as results from two studies were published in four different papers. ^{iv}Question no 5 was split into three different systematic literature reviews, with different PICO and search terms; data from the review on ULT “efficacy” is shown in the table. ^v72 studies were finally selected, as one paper pooled the results from two trials.