

Appendix 1. Search strategy.

S.No	Search terms	Hits
1	exp osteoarthritis/	189311
2	osteoarthr\$.tw.	170288
3	osteoarthritis.mp.	228132
4	degenerative arthritis.tw.	2709
5	1 or 2 or 3 or 4	244731
6	hydroxychloroquine.mp.	30323
7	plaquenil.mp.	1398
8	6 or 7	30358
9	((randomized controlled trial or controlled clinical trial).pt. or randomized.ab. or placebo.ab. or drug therapy.fs. or randomly.ab. or trial.ab. or groups.ab.) not (exp animals/ not humans.sh.)	4639871
10	5 and 8 and 9	40
11	remove duplicates from 10	39

Osteoarthritis terms

Hydroxychloroquine terms

Study design terms

Final search hits