SEARCH STRATEGY

Inclusion and exclusion criteria for studies.

PICO	Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
Population	• Infants (0 to 24 months of age) with infantile spasms	• Older children (> 24 months) • Studies only on specific subgroups (only Down syndrome, only tuberous sclerosis complex, etc.)
Intervention	• Oral prednisone or prednisolone	• Other steroids
Comparison	• Intramuscular ACTH	• Other steroids
Outcomes	• Cessation of clinical spasms at 14 days after initiation of treatment	• Lack of information on clinical outcome

Systematic search of the literature. Our search strategy was registered at PROSPERO

(https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPEROFILES/152181_STRATEGY_20191129.pdf) [1] and performed

on November, 29, 2019. The search strategy included:

-PubMed ("Spasms, Infantile"[mesh] OR infantile spasm*[tiab] OR west syndrome[tiab] OR

neonatal spasm*[tiab]) AND ("Adrenocorticotropic Hormone"[Mesh] OR corticotrophin[tiab] OR

corticotropin[tiab] OR adrenocroticotrophic hormone[tiab] OR adrenocorticotropin[tiab] OR

adrenocorticotrophin[tiab] OR acth[tiab] OR "Prednisolone"[Mesh:noexp] OR "Prednisone"[Mesh] OR

Predniso*[tiab] OR dacortin[tiab])

-Embase ('infantile spasm'/exp OR 'infantile spasm*':ab,ti OR 'west syndrome':ab,ti OR 'neonatal

spasm*':ab,ti) AND ('prednisolone'/exp OR 'corticotropin'/exp OR 'prednisone'/exp OR

corticotrophin:ab,ti OR corticotropin:ab,ti OR 'adrenocroticotrophic hormone':ab,ti OR

adrenocorticotropin:ab,ti OR adrenocorticotrophin:ab,ti OR acth:ab,ti OR predniso*:ab,ti OR

dacortin:ab,ti)

-Web of Science (TS=("infantile spasm*" OR "west syndrome" OR "neonatal spasm*") AND

TS=("corticotrophin" OR "corticotropin" OR "adrenocroticotrophic hormone" OR "adrenocorticotropin"

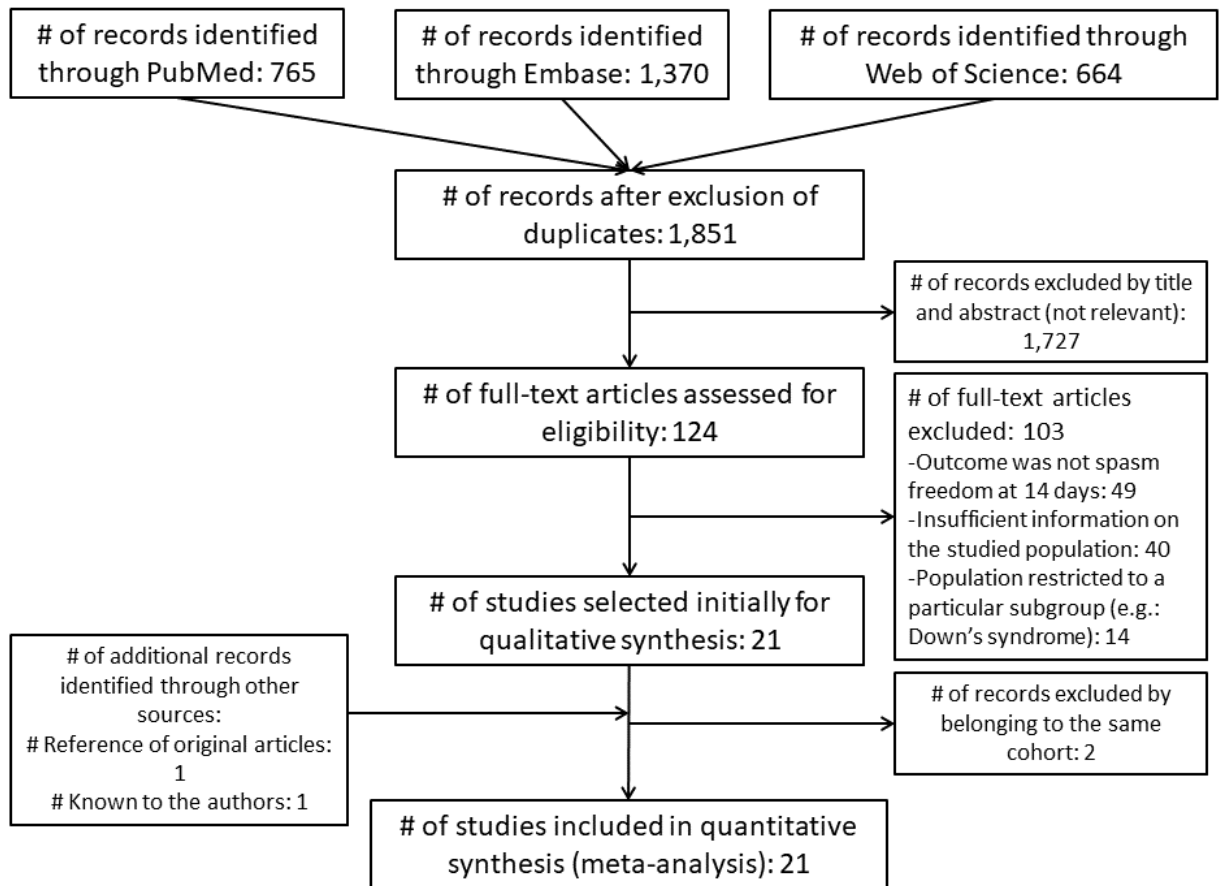OR "adrenocorticotrophin" OR "acth" OR "predniso*" OR "dacortin"))

Figure. Search strategy.

REFERENCES

1.	PROSPERO. International prospective register of systematic reviews. URL for our search strategy: https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPEROFILES/152181_STRATEGY_20191129.pdf [database on the Internet]. 2019.