

Appendix 1. Search strategy in each database

Database	Search strategy
PubMed	(Colitis, Ulcerative [MeSH] OR Ulcerative colitis [Ti/Ab] OR Idiopathic Proctocolitis [Ti/Ab] OR Colitis Gravis [Ti/Ab] OR Inflammatory Bowel Disease [Ti/Ab]) AND (Moxibustion [MeSH] OR Artemisia [MeSH] OR Moxibustion [Ti/Ab] OR Artemisia [Ti/Ab] OR Moxa [Ti/Ab] OR Mugwort [Ti/Ab]) AND (Randomized Controlled Trial [Publication Type] OR Controlled Clinical Trial [Publication Type] OR Clinical Trial [Publication Type] OR Random* [Title/Abstract] OR Trial [Title/Abstract])
Embase	(ulcerative colitis /exp OR ulcerative colitis: ti,ab OR Idiopathic Proctocolitis: ti,ab OR Colitis Gravis: ti,ab OR Inflammatory Bowel Disease: ti,ab) AND (Moxibustion /exp OR Artemisia /exp OR Moxibustion: ti,ab OR Artemisia: ti,ab OR Moxa: ti,ab OR Mugwort: ti,ab) AND (Randomized Controlled Trial /exp OR Controlled Clinical Trial /exp OR Clinical Trial: ti,ab OR Randomized: ti,ab OR Trial: ti,ab)
The Cochrane Library	1. MeSH descriptor: [ulcerative colitis] explode all trees 2. ulcerative colitis: ti,ab OR Idiopathic Proctocolitis: ti,ab OR Colitis Gravis: ti,ab OR Inflammatory Bowel Disease: ti,ab 3. #1 OR #2 4. MeSH descriptor: [Moxibustion] explode all trees 5. MeSH descriptor: [Artemisia] explode all trees 6. Moxibustion: ti,ab OR Artemisia: ti,ab OR Moxa: ti,ab OR Mugwort: ti,ab 7. #4 OR #5 OR #6 8. MeSH descriptor: [Randomized Controlled Trial] explode all trees 9. Randomized Controlled Trial: ti,ab OR Controlled Clinical Trial: ti,ab OR Clinical Trial: ti,ab OR Trial: ti,ab 10. #8 OR #9 11. #3 OR #7 OR #10
CNKI	(SU%'溃疡性结肠炎'+ '炎症性肠病'+ '腹泻'+ '结肠炎') and (SU%'艾灸'+ '灸法'+ '灸')
WanfangData	主题= (溃疡性结肠炎 OR 炎症性肠病 OR 腹泻 OR 结肠炎) AND 主题= (艾灸 OR 灸法 OR 灸)
VIP	U=(溃疡性结肠炎 OR 炎症性肠病 OR 腹泻 OR 结肠炎) AND U=(艾灸 OR 灸法 OR 灸)
SinoMed	(溃疡性结肠炎[标题] OR 炎症性肠病[标题] OR 腹泻[标题] OR 结肠炎[标题]) AND (艾灸[标题] OR 灸法[标题] OR 灸[标题])