

## Supplementary material 1: search strategy

### Databases searched

Database and platform	Database coverage	Date of final search
MEDLINE(R) ALL	1946 to December 16, 2022	20 December 2022
EMBASE	1974 to 2022 December 16	20 December 2022
Ovid Emcare	1995 to 2022 Week 49	20 December 2022
Web of Science	Core Collection	20 December 2022

Results were collected in an EndNote Library

### Search limits or filters

No search limits or filters were applied.

### Grey literature and background on the Delphi technique generally

A Google search was done to identify publications from plastic surgery associations and all authors contributed citations.

### Citation searching

A limited amount of citation searching was done.

### Peer review

Search strategies were peer reviewed by a senior information specialist throughout the search period. A separate (undocumented) strategy was used to identify citations that discussed the Delphi methodology in general for context and background that included grey literature from plastic surgery associations and societies. All authors contributed to this coalition. A separate EndNote Library was created to store the citations separate to those being analysed in the systematic review.

### Search strategies

#### Medline search strategy: MEDLINE ALL <1946 to December 16, 2022>

1.	exp reconstructive surgical procedures/ or surgery, plastic/ or exp "wounds and injuries"/ or ("plastic surger*" or "plastic and reconstructive surger*" or "reconstructive surger*").ti,ab,kf. or exp burns/ or (burn*1 or "burn*1 surger*").ti,ab,kf. or exp cold injury/ or "cold injur*".ti,ab,kf. or Hand/su or ("hand*1 surger*" or "micro surger*" or "micro surgic*" or microsurger* or microsurgic*).ti,ab,kf. or exp Surgery, Oral/ or (craniofacial* or maxillofacial* or "aesthetic surger*" or "esthetic surger*").ti,ab,kf.	1,323,127
2.	delphi technique/ or delphi.ti,ab,kf.	16,925
3.	exp research/ or research.ti,ab,kf. or resource allocation/ or priorit*.ti,ab,kf. or uncertainty/ or health priorities/	2,532,079
4.	1 and 2 and 3	345

#### Embase search strategy: Embase <1974 to 2022 December 16>

1.	exp reconstructive surgery/ or exp plastic surgery/ or ("plastic surger*" or "plastic and reconstructive surger*" or "reconstructive surger*").ti,ab,kf. or exp burn/ or (burn*1 or "burn*1 surger*").ti,ab,kf. or exp cold injury/ or "cold injur*".ti,ab,kf. or exp hand surgery/ or exp microsurgery/ or exp oral surgery/ or exp face surgery/ or exp esthetic surgery/ or ("hand*1 surger*" or "micro surger*" or "micro surgic*" or microsurger* or microsurgic* or craniofacial* or maxillofacial* or "aesthetic surger*" or "esthetic surger*").ti,ab,kf.	579,355
2.	delphi study/ or delphi.ti,ab,kf.	22,943
3.	exp research/ or research.ti,ab,kf. or resource allocation/ or (research or priorit*).ti,ab,kf. or uncertainty/	3,243,443
4.	1 and 2 and 3	127

**Emcare search strategy: Ovid Emcare <1995 to 2022 Week 49>**

1.	exp reconstructive surgery/ or exp plastic surgery/ or ("plastic surger*" or "plastic and reconstructive surger*" or "reconstructive surger*").ti,ab,kf. or exp burn/ or (burn*1 or "burn*1 surger*").ti,ab,kf. or exp cold injury/ or "cold injur*":ti,ab,kf. or exp hand surgery/ or exp microsurgery/ or exp oral surgery/ or exp face surgery/ or exp esthetic surgery/ or ("hand*1 surger*" or "micro surger*" or "micro surgic*" or microsurger* or microsurgic* or craniofacial* or maxillofacial* or "aesthetic surger*" or "esthetic surger*").ti,ab,kf.	114,208
2.	delphi study/ or delphi.ti,ab,kf.	9975
3.	exp research/ or resource allocation/ or uncertainty/ or exp health care planning/ or (research or priorit*).ti,ab,kf.	1,107,775
4.	1 and 2 and 3	39

**Web of Science search strategy**

1.	TS = (plastic NEAR surg*) or TS = (reconstructive NEAR surg*) or TS = (burn* NEAR surg*) or TS = (face* NEAR surg*)	52,557
2.	TS = (delphi)	22,669
3.	TS = (research)	3,545,320
4.	1 and 2 and 3	37

TS = topic: searches title, abstract, author keywords, and keywords plus