

Inhaled analgesia for pain management in labour

Systematic review for Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Group

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Introduction

Labour pain and methods to relieve it are major concerns for women, healthcare workers and the general public (Caton 2002). These concerns have implications for the course of labour, for the quality of maternal and infant obstetric outcomes as well as for the costs of obstetric health care.

Objective

To explore the efficacy and safety of inhaled analgesia as pain relief for women in labour planning a vaginal delivery.

Methods

Randomized controlled trials only, including studies with a crossover design. We will not include results from quasi RCT's in the analyses but we may discuss them in the text if little other evidence is available.

This review is one in a series of Cochrane reviews examining pain management in labour. These reviews contribute to an overview of systematic reviews of pain management for women in labour (Jones, 2011),



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Results

Title registration in Cochrane database August 2010, protocol is accepted and will be published in October 2011 Nr. 0659

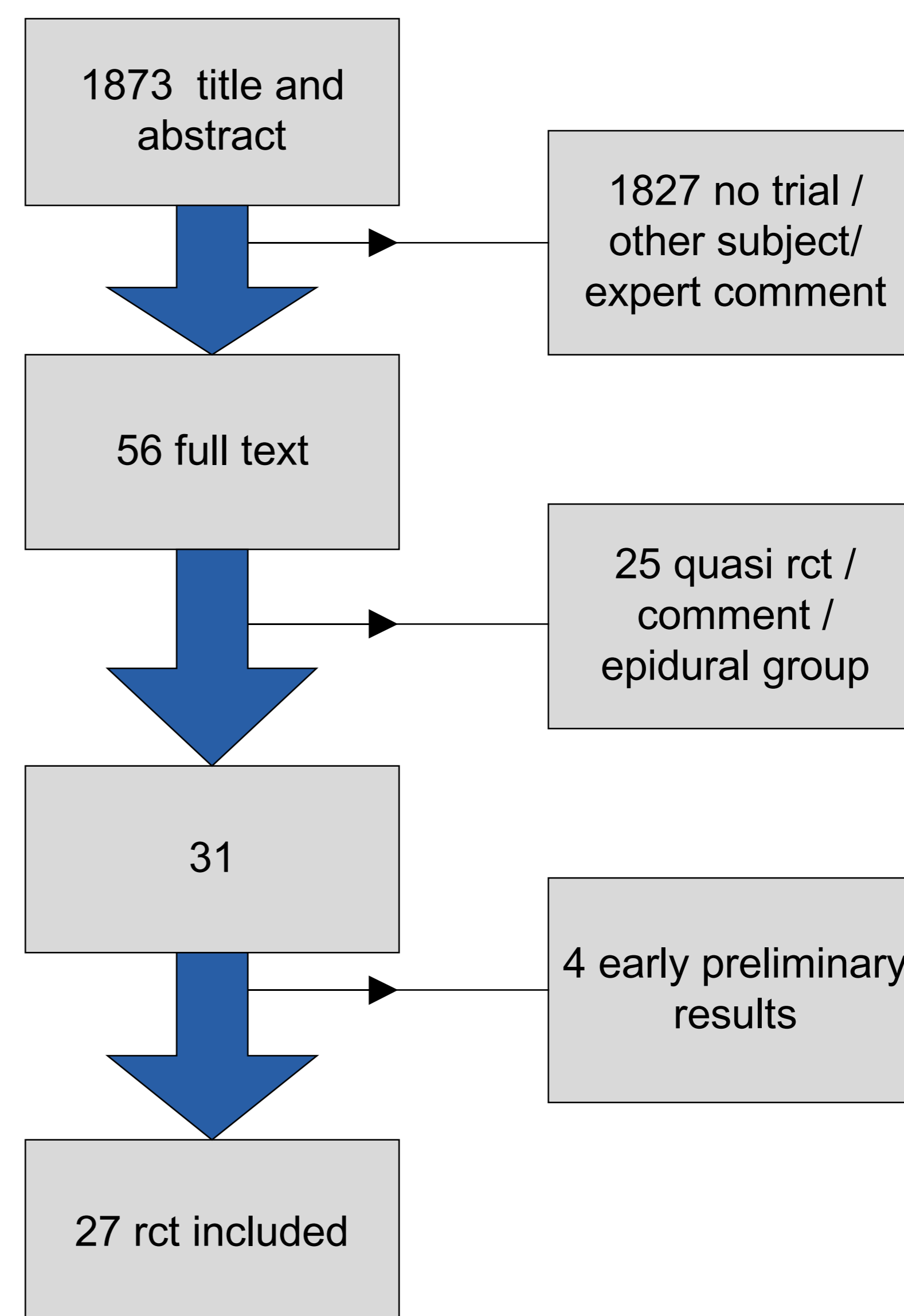


Fig. 1: flow chart article search

In progress

Next Stage Expected: 30 November 2011

Meta analysis in review manager

References

Caton D et al. The nature and management of labor pain. American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology 2002;186(5 Suppl Nature):S1-S15. Jones L et al. Pain management for women in labour: an overview of systematic reviews. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2011, Issue 7. Art. No.: CD009234 DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD009234.