

Appendix 1:

Medline Search Profile

((("peginterferon alfa-2a"[Supplementary Concept] OR "peginterferon alfa-2a"[All Fields] OR "pegasys"[All Fields]) OR ("peginterferon alfa-2b"[Supplementary Concept] OR "peginterferon alfa-2b"[All Fields] OR "pegintron"[All Fields])) OR (((("Interferon-alpha"[Mesh] OR "Interferon-alpha-2a"[All Fields]) OR "Interferon-alpha-2b"[All Fields]) OR "peg-INF"[All Fields]) OR "peg-interferon"[All Fields])) AND (((("ribavirin"[MeSH Terms] OR "ribavirin"[MeSH Terms] OR "ribavirin"[All Fields])) OR copegus[All Fields]) OR ("ribavirin"[MeSH Terms] OR "ribavirin"[All Fields] OR "rebetol"[All Fields])) OR RBV[All Fields])) AND (((((((((((("chemokine cxcl10"[MeSH Terms] OR "CXCL-10"[All Fields]) OR CXCL10[All Fields]) OR IP10[All Fields]) OR IP-10[All Fields]) OR "IP-10"[All Fields]) OR "interferon inducible protein 10"[All Fields]) OR "interferon-inducible protein-10"[All Fields]) OR "interferon-inducible-protein-10"[All Fields]) OR "interferon gamma inducible protein-10"[All Fields]) OR "interferon-gamma-inducible-protein-10"[All Fields]) OR (interferon-gamma-inducible[All Fields] AND protein10[All Fields])) OR (("interferons"[MeSH Terms] OR "interferons"[All Fields] OR "interferon"[All Fields]) AND "Y"[Journal] AND inducible[All Fields] AND ("proteins"[MeSH Terms] OR "proteins"[All Fields] OR "protein"[All Fields]) AND 10[All Fields])) OR (((("interferons"[MeSH Terms] OR "interferons"[All Fields] OR "interferon"[All Fields]) AND "Y"[Journal] AND inducible[All Fields]) AND ("proteins"[MeSH Terms] OR "proteins"[All Fields] OR "protein"[All Fields]) AND 10[All Fields])) OR (((("interferons"[MeSH Terms] OR "interferons"[All Fields] OR "interferon"[All Fields]) AND "Y"[Journal] AND inducible[All Fields] AND ("proteins"[MeSH Terms] OR "proteins"[All Fields] OR "protein"[All Fields]) AND 10[All Fields])) OR (IFN[All Fields] AND ("chemokine cxcl10"[MeSH Terms] OR ("chemokine"[All Fields] AND "cxcl10"[All Fields]) OR "chemokine cxcl10"[All Fields] OR "interferon inducible protein 10"[All Fields])) OR ((IFN[All Fields] AND ("interferons"[MeSH Terms] OR "interferons"[All Fields] OR "interferon"[All Fields]) AND inducible[All Fields]) AND ("proteins"[MeSH Terms] OR "proteins"[All Fields] OR "protein"[All Fields]) AND 10[All Fields])) OR (IFN[All Fields] AND ("chemokine cxcl10"[MeSH Terms] OR ("chemokine"[All Fields] AND "cxcl10"[All Fields]) OR "chemokine cxcl10"[All Fields] OR "interferon inducible protein 10"[All Fields])) AND English[lang])) AND (((("hepatitis c, chronic"[MeSH Terms] OR "chronic hepatitis c"[All Fields]) OR CHC[All Fields]) OR HCV[All Fields]) OR "Chronic hepatitis c infection"[All Fields]) AND English[lang]

Figure 1 Medline search profil

1. hepatitis C/
2. Chronic hepatitis C.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
3. CHC.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
4. Chronic hepatitis C infection.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
5. HCV.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
6. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
7. gamma interferon inducible protein 10/
8. IP-10.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
9. cxcl 10.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
10. Interferon gamma inducible protein.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
11. Interferon γ inducible protein.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
12. IFN inducible protein 10.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
13. IFN gamma inducible protein 10.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
14. IFN γ inducible protein 10.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
15. 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14
16. ribavirin/
17. RBV.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
18. rebetol.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
19. copegus.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
20. ribavirin.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
21. 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20
22. pegasys.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
23. peginteron.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword]
24. peginterferon alpha2a.mp. [mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original

Figure 2 Search profile for Embase search

Appendix 2:

Table 1 Full overview of the 18 point checklist for Quality assessment

[illegible]

15. Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data analysis of relevant outcomes?								
Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
16. Are adverse events reported?								
Partially reported	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
17. Are the conclusions of the study supported by results?								
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Competing interests and sources of support								
18. Are both competing interests and sources of support for the study reported?								
Partially reported	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially reported	Partially reported	Partially reported