

13. Appendix

13.1 Search parameter

The full search parameter used, as described in detail in section 4.4.2:

"Neuroma, Acoustic"[Majr:noexp] AND ("natural history" OR (growth AND rate) OR (growth AND dynamics) OR (growth AND model*) OR (growth AND pattern*) OR "volume change") AND ((conservative* AND (treat* OR manage*)) OR untreated OR wait-and-see OR wait-and-scan) AND (English[lang] AND "last 10 years"[PDat])

The search was also repeated by excluding papers about NF-2 instead of avoiding exploding the “Acoustic Neuroma” term:

"Neuroma, Acoustic"[Majr] NOT "Neurofibromatosis 2"[Mesh] AND ("natural history" OR (growth AND rate) OR (growth AND dynamics) OR (growth AND model*) OR (growth AND pattern*) OR "volume change") AND ((conservative* AND (treat* OR manage*)) OR untreated OR wait-and-see OR wait-and-scan) AND (English[lang] AND "last 10 years"[PDat])

The second search found the most appropriate results.

13.2 Excluded papers

Here is a list of the papers found in the search that were excluded:

- Duplicates: Raut et al, 2004; Walsh et al, 2000; Shin et al, 2000
- Letter to editor: Smouha et al, 2005
- Inappropriate study population, focused on patients treated by GKRS rather than conservatively treated patients: Abram et al, 2008; Chopra et al, 2007; Flickinger et al, 2004
- Inappropriate study population, had particularly selected patients with known regression of their tumors: Penido et al, 2007
- Inappropriate study parameters: Sughrue et al, 2010; Artz et al, 2009; Beenstock et al, 2002