

Box 1. Electronic search strategy

PubMed, October 2015

Results:145 hits: (((("informal payments" OR "under-the-counter payments" OR "out-of-pocket payments", OR "under-the-table payments" OR "envelope payments" OR gifts OR "illicit payments" OR "solicited payments" OR "gratuities" OR "illegal payments" OR "unofficial payments" OR " Unofficial fees" OR bribes OR donations OR " in cash" OR " in kind" OR " gratitude money" OR " Unofficial healthcare fees" OR " unauthorized fee payments" OR " quasi-official payments" OR " grey payments" OR " gift-in-kind" OR "informal patient payments" OR "corruption in health care" OR "gratuity for doctors")))) AND (((("health care" OR " Healthcare services receivers "OR "healthcare services providers" OR " health system")))) AND (((reduction OR elimination OR decrease OR reduce OR decline OR rebate OR scale down OR diminution OR eradication OR policy strategies))))

Scopus, October 2015

Results: 193 hits (TITLE-ABS-KEY ("informal payments" OR "under-the-counter payments" OR "out-of-pocket payments", or "under-the-table payments" OR "envelope payments" OR gifts OR "illicit payments" OR "solicited payments") OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ("gratuities" OR "illegal payments" OR "unofficial payments" OR " Unofficial fees" OR bribes OR donations OR " in cash" OR " in kind" OR " gratitude money" OR " Unofficial healthcare fees" OR " unauthorized fee payments" OR " quasi-official payments") OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (" grey payments" OR " gift-in-kind" OR "informal patient payments" OR "corruption in health care" OR "gratuity for doctors") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("health care" OR " Healthcare services receivers" OR "healthcare services providers" OR " health system") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (reduction OR elimination OR decrease OR reduce OR decline OR rebate OR scale down OR diminution OR eradication OR policy)) AND SUBJAREA (mult OR medi OR nurs OR vete OR dent OR heal OR mult OR arts OR busi OR deci OR econ OR psyc OR soci) AND PUBYEAR > 1999

Cochrane Library,

Results: 106 hits: #1 "informal payments", #2"under-the-counter payments", #3"out-of-pocket payments", #4"under-the-table payments", #5"envelope payments",#6" gifts", #7"illicit payments", #8"solicited payments", #9"gratuities", #10"illegal payments", #11"unofficial payments", #12"Unofficial fees", #13"bribes", #14"donations", #15"in cash", #16,"in kind", #17 "gratitude money", #18 "Unofficial healthcare fees", #19 "unauthorized fee payments", #20 "quasi-official payments", #21" grey payments", #22"gift-in-kind", #23"informal patient payments", #24"corruption in health care", #25"gratitude for doctors",#26: #1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14 OR #15 OR #16 OR #17 OR #18 OR #19 OR #20 OR #21 OR #22 OR #23 OR #24 OR #25, #27 "health care", #28 "health care services receivers", #29 "health care services providers", #30 "health system", #31: #27 OR #28 OR #29 OR #30, #32 reduction ,#33 elimination, #34 decrease, #35 decline, #36 rebate, #37 scale down, #38 diminution, #39 eradication, #40 policy strategies, #41 reduce, #42:#32 OR #33 OR #34 OR #35 OR #36 OR #37 OR #38 OR #39 OR #40 OR #41 #43 #26 AND #31 AND #42