

WEB APPENDIX 1 DETAILS OF DATABASE SEARCH

<i>Database</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Search Strategy</i>	<i>Number of references</i>
Medline	June 4, 2017	"Zinc"[Mesh] OR "Zinc Sulfate"[Mesh] OR "Zinc Compounds"[Mesh]) AND ("Clinical Trial" or "Controlled Clinical Trial" or "Randomized Controlled Trial" or "Pragmatic Clinical Trial"[MeSH Terms]) AND (((("Child, Preschool" or "Infant"[MeSH Terms])) OR (Child[Text Word] OR Children[Text Word] OR Infant[Text Word] OR Under-5 Children[Text Word])))	664
Web of Science (including BIOSIS Previews)	June 8, 2017	TOPIC: ("Zinc" OR "Zinc Supplement*") AND TOPIC: ("Child" OR "Children") AND TOPIC: ("Clinical Trial" or "Controlled Clinical Trial" or "Randomized Controlled Trial"); Timespan: All years; Search language=Auto	731
Cochrane Controlled Trials Register	June 8, 2017	"zinc compound" in Title, Abstract, Keywords or zinc in Title, Abstract, Keywords and "Clinical Trial" or "Controlled Clinical Trial" or "Randomized Controlled Trial" in Publication Type and "Child" OR "Children" in Title, Abstract, Keywords	798
Embase	June 8, 2017	"Zinc OR "Zinc Sulfate" OR "Zinc Compounds" (all fields): 206513 limit 1 to (controlled clinical trial and preschool child <1 to 6 years>): 241	241
IBIDS	June 9, 2017	("zinc"[MeSH Terms] OR "zinc"[All Fields]) AND "Child"[All Fields] AND dietsuppl[<i>sb</i>]:	1319

WEB APPENDIX 2 ASSUMPTIONS AND CALCULATIONS FOR IMPUTATION/INTERPRETATION OF DATA FROM STUDIES INCLUDED IN THE SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Locks, *et al.* [57]

SDs derived from SEM

Means and SDs of Zn and Zn+MV combined as intervention, that for placebo and MV combined as control

Sampaio, *et al.* [83]

Data given as median and IQR; mean assumed to be the same as median

IQR=1.35 SD

Mozaraffi-Khosravi, *et al.* [64]

Data for boys and girls given separately. The means and SDs were combined for analysis

Brown, *et al.* [23]

Data for medicinal zinc and fortified zinc group combined for comparison with control

Garenne, *et al.* [43]

SDs calculated from means and *P* value

Means for boys and girls given separately, which were combined for analyses

de Romana, *et al.* [31]

Data for 3 mg and 9 mg zinc group combined as intervention

Lind, *et al.* [53]

Data for Fe+ Zn and Zn groups combined as intervention group; and placebo and Fe groups as control

Sur, *et al.* [91]

Change in weight and length for intervention and control groups mentioned in text without SD with *P* < 0.001. *P* value was assumed to be equal to 0.001 and SD estimated accordingly

Yang, *et al.* [99]

Means for Zn and ZnCaVa combined as intervention; control and CaVa as control

Rosado, *et al.* [79]

SE converted to SD

Data for Fe+ Zn and Zn groups combined as intervention group; and placebo and Fe groups as control

GERA *et al.*

ZINC SUPPLEMENTATION AND GROWTH

Lira, *et al.* [55]

Data from 1 mg and 5 mg zinc combined as intervention group

Vasudevan, *et al.* [97]

P mentioned as >0.1, assumed to be 0.11 and SDs calculated from that.

Ruz, *et al.* [82]

For change in length means and SDs of children with different baseline HAZ given, which were combined to estimate the ones for the entire intervention and control group

Change in HAZ, WAZ and WLZ given as figures with exact *P* values. The means were estimated from the figures and then the SDs calculated from the *P* value

Dirren, *et al.* [37]

Data given as means and SEM from which SDs were derived

Data given separately for boys and girls, which was combined

Hong, *et al.* [51]

Data for boys and girls given separately; combined for analysis.