

Low back pain and sciatica

NICE guideline: search strategies

NICE guideline NG59

Search strategies

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Draft for Consultation

*This guideline was developed by the
National Guideline Centre*

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1 Pharmacological management of sciatica search strategy A

2 This literature search strategy was used for the following review question:

- 3 • What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of pharmacological treatment in the
4 management of sciatica?

5 The literature searches for this review are detailed below and complied with the methodology
6 outlined in Developing NICE guidelines: the manual.¹

7 For more information, please see the Methodology review published as part of the
8 accompanying documents for this guideline.

A.4 Clinical search literature search strategy

10 Searches were constructed using a PICO framework where population (P) terms were
11 combined with Intervention (I) and in some cases Comparison (C) terms. Outcomes (O) are
12 rarely used in search strategies for interventions as these concepts may not be well
13 described in title, abstract or indexes and therefore difficult to retrieve. Search filters were
14 applied to the search where appropriate.

15 **Table 1: Database date parameters and filters used**

Database	Dates searched	Search filter used
Medline (OVID)	1946 – 20 February 2020	Exclusions Randomised controlled trials Systematic review studies Observational studies
Embase (OVID)	1974 – 20 February 2020	Exclusions Randomised controlled trials Systematic review studies Observational studies
The Cochrane Library (Wiley)	Cochrane Reviews to 2020 Issue 2 of 12 CENTRAL to 2020 Issue 2 of 12	None
Epistemonikos (The Epistemonikos Foundation)	Inception to 20 February 2020	

16 **Medline (Ovid) search terms**

1.	exp Sciatic Neuropathy/
2.	Radiculopathy/
3.	(lumbago or sciatic*).ti,ab.
4.	(radiculopathy or radiculitis or radicular pain* or radicular syndrome*).ti,ab.
5.	(nerve root* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
6.	(sacral nerve* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
7.	or/1-6
8.	letter/
9.	editorial/
10.	news/
11.	exp historical article/
12.	Anecdotes as Topic/

13.	comment/
14.	case report/
15.	(letter or comment*).ti.
16.	or/8-15
17.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
18.	16 not 17
19.	animals/ not humans/
20.	exp Animals, Laboratory/
21.	exp Animal Experimentation/
22.	exp Models, Animal/
23.	exp Rodentia/
24.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
25.	or/18-24
26.	7 not 25
27.	limit 26 to English language
28.	analgesics/
29.	analgesic*.ti,ab.
30.	exp cyclooxygenase 2 inhibitors/
31.	((cox2 or cox-2 or coxii or cox-ii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
32.	((cyclo-oxygenase2 or cyclo-oxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase2) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
33.	((cyclo-oxygenase-ii or cyclo-oxygenaseii or cyclooxygenase-ii or cyclooxygenaseii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
34.	exp anti-inflammatory agents, non-steroidal/
35.	(nsaid* or non-steroid* or non-narcotic* or pharmacolog*).ti,ab.
36.	(ibuprofen or aspirin or naproxen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ketoprofen or dexketoprofen or dexibuprofen or tiaprofenic acid or diclofenac or aceclofenac or indometacin or mefenamic acid or meloxicam or nabumetone or phenylbutazone or piroxicam or sulindac or tenoxicam or tolfenamic acid or ketorolac or celecoxib or etoricoxib or aceclofenac or acemetacin or diclofenac or etodolac).ti,ab.
37.	acetaminophen/
38.	(acetaminophen or paracetamol).ti,ab.
39.	exp analgesics, opioid/
40.	(fentanyl or hydrocodone or hydromorphone or levorphanol or meperidine or morphine or oxycodone or oxymorphone or pentazocine or propoxyphene or sufentanil or tramadol or codeine or tapentadol or acetylsalicyl* or carbasalate calcium or diflunisal or aceclofenac or alclofenac or diclofenac or indomethacin or sulindac or meloxicam or piroxicam or dexibuprofen or dexketoprofen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ibuprofen or ketoprofen or naproxen or tiapro* or metamizol or phenylbutazone or phenazone or propyphenazone or celecoxib or etoricoxib or nabumeton or parecoxib).ti,ab.
41.	exp muscle relaxants, central/
42.	exp benzodiazepines/
43.	(muscle relaxant* or benzodiazepine*).ti,ab.
44.	(diazepam or tetrazepam or cyclobenzaprine or carisoprodol or chlorzoxazone or meprobamate or methocarbamol or metaxalone or orphenadrine or tizanidine or flupirtine or baclofen or dantrolene).ti,ab.
45.	exp antidepressive agents/
46.	(antidepress* or anti-depress*).ti,ab.
47.	serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.

48.	selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.
49.	(SSRI* or SNRI*).ti,ab.
50.	(amoxapine or bupropion or citalopram or fluoxetine or fluvoxamine or maprotiline or mianserin or paroxetine or quipazine or ritanserin or sulpiride or trazodone or tryptophan or viloxazine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
51.	(clomipramine or desipramine or dothiepin or doxepin or imipramine or iprindole or lofepramine or nortriptyline or opipramol or protriptyline or trimipramine or nortriptyline or duloxetine or mirtazapine or venlafaxine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
52.	exp anticonvulsants/
53.	(anticonvulsant* or anti convulsant* or gabapentin or pregabalin or carbamazepine or phenytoin or topiramate or lamotrigine or valproic acid or sodium valproate).ti,ab.
54.	exp steroids/
55.	(glucocorticosteroid* or corticosteroid* or glucocorticoid* or steroid*).ti,ab.
56.	(prednisone or prednisolone or methylprednisolone or dexamethasone or betamethasone or hydrocortisone).ti,ab.
57.	Nefopam/
58.	(nefopam or acupan).ti,ab.
59.	or/28-58
60.	27 and 59
61.	randomized controlled trial.pt.
62.	controlled clinical trial.pt.
63.	randomi#ed.ab.
64.	placebo.ab.
65.	randomly.ab.
66.	clinical trials as topic.sh.
67.	trial.ti.
68.	or/61-67
69.	Meta-Analysis/
70.	Meta-Analysis as Topic/
71.	(meta analy* or metanaly* or metaanaly* or meta regression).ti,ab.
72.	((systematic* or evidence*) adj3 (review* or overview*)).ti,ab.
73.	(reference list* or bibliograph* or hand search* or manual search* or relevant journals).ab.
74.	(search strategy or search criteria or systematic search or study selection or data extraction).ab.
75.	(search* adj4 literature).ab.
76.	(medline or pubmed or cochrane or embase or psychlit or psychlit or psychinfo or psycinfo or cinahl or science citation index or bids or cancerlit).ab.
77.	cochrane.jw.
78.	((multiple treatment* or indirect or mixed) adj2 comparison*).ti,ab.
79.	or/69-78
80.	Epidemiologic studies/
81.	Observational study/
82.	exp Cohort studies/
83.	(cohort adj (study or studies or analys* or data)).ti,ab.
84.	((follow up or observational or uncontrolled or non randomi#ed or epidemiologic*) adj (study or studies or data)).ti,ab.

85.	((longitudinal or retrospective or prospective or cross sectional) and (study or studies or review or analys* or cohort* or data)).ti,ab.
86.	Controlled Before-After Studies/
87.	Historically Controlled Study/
88.	Interrupted Time Series Analysis/
89.	(before adj2 after adj2 (study or studies or data)).ti,ab.
90.	exp case control study/
91.	case control*.ti,ab.
92.	Cross-sectional studies/
93.	(cross sectional and (study or studies or review or analys* or cohort* or data)).ti,ab.
94.	or/80-93
95.	60 and (68 or 79 or 94)

1 **Embase (Ovid) search terms**

1.	exp Sciatic Neuropathy/
2.	Radiculopathy/
3.	(lumbago or sciatic*).ti,ab.
4.	(radiculopathy or radiculitis or radicular pain* or radicular syndrome*).ti,ab.
5.	(nerve root* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
6.	(sacral nerve* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
7.	or/1-6
8.	letter.pt. or letter/
9.	note.pt.
10.	editorial.pt.
11.	case report/ or case study/
12.	(letter or comment*).ti.
13.	or/8-12
14.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
15.	13 not 14
16.	animal/ not human/
17.	nonhuman/
18.	exp Animal Experiment/
19.	exp Experimental Animal/
20.	animal model/
21.	exp Rodent/
22.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
23.	or/15-22
24.	7 not 23
25.	limit 24 to English language
26.	analgesics/
27.	analgesic*.ti,ab.
28.	exp cyclooxygenase 2 inhibitor/
29.	((cox2 or cox-2 or coxii or cox-ii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
30.	((cyclo-oxygenase2 or cyclo-oxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase2) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.

31.	((cyclo-oxygenase-ii or cyclo-oxygenaseii or cyclooxygenase-ii or cyclooxygenaseii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
32.	exp nonsteroid antiinflammatory agent/
33.	(nsaid* or non-steroid* or non-narcotic* or pharmacolog*).ti,ab.
34.	(ibuprofen or aspirin or naproxen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ketoprofen or dexketoprofen or dexibuprofen or tiaprofenic acid or diclofenac or aceclofenac or indometacin or mefenamic acid or meloxicam or nabumetone or phenylbutazone or piroxicam or sulindac or tenoxicam or tolfenamic acid or ketorolac or celecoxib or etoricoxib or aceclofenac or acemetacin or diclofenac or etodolac).ti,ab.
35.	paracetamol/
36.	(acetaminophen or paracetamol).ti,ab.
37.	exp narcotic analgesic agent/
38.	(fentanyl or hydrocodone or hydromorphone or levorphanol or meperidine or morphine or oxycodone or oxymorphone or pentazocine or propoxyphene or sufentanil or tramadol or codeine or tapentadol or acetylsalicyl* or carbasalate calcium or diflunisal or aceclofenac or alclofenac or diclofenac or indomethacin or sulindac or meloxicam or piroxicam or dexibuprofen or dexketoprofen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ibuprofen or ketoprofen or naproxen or tiapro* or metamizol or phenylbutazone or phenazone or propyphenazone or celecoxib or etoricoxib or nabumeton or parecoxib).ti,ab.
39.	exp central muscle relaxant/
40.	exp benzodiazepine derivative/
41.	(muscle relaxant* or benzodiazepine*).ti,ab.
42.	(diazepam or tetrazepam or cyclobenzaprine or carisoprodol or chlorzoxazone or meprobramate or methocarbamol or metaxalone or orphenadrine or tizanidine or flupirtine or baclofen or dantrolene).ti,ab.
43.	exp antidepressant agent/
44.	(antidepress* or anti-depress*).ti,ab.
45.	serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.
46.	selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.
47.	(SSRI* or SNRI*).ti,ab.
48.	(amoxapine or bupropion or citalopram or fluoxetine or fluvoxamine or maprotiline or mianserin or paroxetine or quipazine or ritanserin or sulpiride or trazodone or tryptophan or viloxazine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
49.	(clomipramine or desipramine or dothiepin or doxepin or imipramine or iprindole or lofepramine or nortriptyline or opipramol or protriptyline or trimipramine or nortriptyline or duloxetine or mirtazapine or venlafaxine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
50.	exp anticonvulsive agent/
51.	(anticonvulsant* or anti convulsant* or gabapentin or pregabalin or carbamazepine or phenytoin or topiramate or lamotrigine or valproic acid or sodium valproate).ti,ab.
52.	exp steroid/
53.	(glucocorticosteroid* or corticosteroid* or glucocorticoid* or steroid*).ti,ab.
54.	(prednisone or prednisolone or methylprednisolone or dexamethasone or betamethasone or hydrocortisone).ti,ab.
55.	Nefopam/
56.	(nefopam or acupan).ti,ab.
57.	or/26-56
58.	25 and 57
59.	random*.ti,ab.
60.	factorial*.ti,ab.
61.	(crossover* or cross over*).ti,ab.

62.	((doubl* or singl*) adj blind*).ti,ab.
63.	(assign* or allocat* or volunteer* or placebo*).ti,ab.
64.	crossover procedure/
65.	single blind procedure/
66.	randomized controlled trial/
67.	double blind procedure/
68.	or/59-67
69.	systematic review/
70.	Meta-Analysis/
71.	(meta analy* or metanaly* or metaanaly* or meta regression).ti,ab.
72.	((systematic* or evidence*) adj3 (review* or overview*)).ti,ab.
73.	(reference list* or bibliograph* or hand search* or manual search* or relevant journals).ab.
74.	(search strategy or search criteria or systematic search or study selection or data extraction).ab.
75.	(search* adj4 literature).ab.
76.	(medline or pubmed or cochrane or embase or psychlit or psyclit or psychinfo or psycinfo or cinahl or science citation index or bids or cancerlit).ab.
77.	cochrane.jw.
78.	((multiple treatment* or indirect or mixed) adj2 comparison*).ti,ab.
79.	or/69-78
80.	Clinical study/
81.	Observational study/
82.	family study/
83.	longitudinal study/
84.	retrospective study/
85.	prospective study/
86.	cohort analysis/
87.	follow-up/
88.	cohort*.ti,ab.
89.	87 and 88
90.	(cohort adj (study or studies or analys* or data)).ti,ab.
91.	((follow up or observational or uncontrolled or non randomi#ed or epidemiologic*) adj (study or studies or data)).ti,ab.
92.	((longitudinal or retrospective or prospective or cross sectional) and (study or studies or review or analys* or cohort* or data)).ti,ab.
93.	(before adj2 after adj2 (study or studies or data)).ti,ab.
94.	exp case control study/
95.	case control*.ti,ab.
96.	cross-sectional study/
97.	(cross sectional and (study or studies or review or analys* or cohort* or data)).ti,ab.
98.	or/80-86,89-97
99.	58 and (68 or 79 or 98)

1 **Cochrane Library (Wiley) search terms**

#1.	MeSH descriptor: [Sciatic Neuropathy] explode all trees
#2.	MeSH descriptor: [Radiculopathy] explode all trees

#3.	(lumbago or sciatic*):ti,ab
#4.	(radiculopathy or radiculitis or radicular pain* or radicular syndrome*):ti,ab
#5.	(nerve root* near/5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)):ti,ab
#6.	(sacral nerve* near/5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)):ti,ab
#7.	[or #1-#6]
#8.	MeSH descriptor: [Analgesics] explode all trees
#9.	analgesic*:ti,ab
#10.	MeSH descriptor: [Cyclooxygenase 2 Inhibitors] explode all trees
#11.	((cox2 or cox-2 or coxii or cox-ii) near/2 inhibitor*):ti,ab
#12.	((cyclo-oxygenase2 or cyclo-oxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase2) near/2 inhibitor*):ti,ab
#13.	((cyclo-oxygenase-ii or cyclo-oxygenaseii or cyclooxygenase-ii or cyclooxygenaseii) near/2 inhibitor*):ti,ab
#14.	MeSH descriptor: [Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal] explode all trees
#15.	(nsaid* or non-steroid* or non-narcotic* or pharmacolog*):ti,ab
#16.	(ibuprofen or aspirin or naproxen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ketoprofen or dexketoprofen or dexibuprofen or tiaprofenic acid or diclofenac or aceclofenac or indometacin or mefenamic acid or meloxicam or nabumetone or phenylbutazone or piroxicam or sulindac or tenoxicam or tolfenamic acid or ketorolac or celecoxib or etoricoxib or aceclofenac or acemetacin or diclofenac or etodolac):ti,ab
#17.	MeSH descriptor: [Acetaminophen] explode all trees
#18.	(acetaminophen or paracetamol):ti,ab
#19.	MeSH descriptor: [Analgesics, Opioid] explode all trees
#20.	(fentanyl or hydrocodone or hydromorphone or levorphanol or meperidine or morphine or oxycodone or oxymorphone or pentazocine or propoxyphene or sufentanil or tramadol or codeine or tapentadol or acetylsalicyl* or carbasalate calcium or diflunisal or aceclofenac or alclofenac or diclofenac or indomethacin or sulindac or meloxicam or piroxicam or dexibuprofen or dexketoprofen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ibuprofen or ketoprofen or naproxen or tiapro* or metamizol or phenylbutazone or phenazone or propyphenazone or celecoxib or etoricoxib or nabumeton or parecoxib):ti,ab
#21.	MeSH descriptor: [Muscle Relaxants, Central] explode all trees
#22.	MeSH descriptor: [Benzodiazepines] explode all trees
#23.	(muscle relaxant* or benzodiazepine*):ti,ab
#24.	(diazepam or tetrazepam or cyclobenzaprine or carisoprodol or chlorzoxazone or meprobramate or methocarbamol or metaxalone or orphenadrine or tizanidine or flupirtine or baclofen or dantrolene):ti,ab
#25.	MeSH descriptor: [Antidepressive Agents] explode all trees
#26.	(antidepress* or anti-depress*):ti,ab
#27.	serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor*:ti,ab
#28.	selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor*:ti,ab
#29.	(SSRI* or SNRI*):ti,ab
#30.	(amoxapine or bupropion or citalopram or fluoxetine or fluvoxamine or maprotiline or mianserin or paroxetine or quipazine or ritanserin or sulpiride or trazodone or tryptophan or viloxazine or amitriptyline):ti,ab
#31.	(clomipramine or desipramine or dothiepin or doxepin or imipramine or iprindole or lofepramine or nortriptyline or opipramol or protriptyline or trimipramine or nortriptyline or duloxetine or mirtazapine or venlafaxine or amitriptyline):ti,ab
#32.	MeSH descriptor: [Anticonvulsants] explode all trees

#33.	(anticonvulsant* or anti convulsant* or gabapentin or pregabalin or carbamazepine or phenytoin or topiramate or lamotrigine or valproic acid or sodium valproate):ti,ab
#34.	MeSH descriptor: [Steroids] explode all trees
#35.	(glucocorticosteroid* or corticosteroid* or glucocorticoid* or steroid*):ti,ab
#36.	(prednisone or prednisolone or methylprednisolone or dexamethasone or betamethasone or hydrocortisone):ti,ab
#37.	MeSH descriptor: [Nefopam] explode all trees
#38.	(Nefopam or acupan):ti,ab
#39.	[or #8-#38]
#40.	#7 and #39

1 **Epistemonikos search terms**

1.	sciatic* or radiculopathy or radiculitis or radicular pain* or lumbago
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A.2 Health Economics literature search strategy

3 Health economic evidence was identified by conducting a broad search relating to low back
 4 pain and sciatica population in NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHS EED – this ceased
 5 to be updated after March 2015) and the Health Technology Assessment database (HTA)
 6 with no date restrictions. NHS EED and HTA databases are hosted by the Centre for
 7 Research and Dissemination (CRD). Additional searches were run on Medline and Embase.

8 **Table 2: Database date parameters and filters used**

Database	Dates searched	Search filter used
Medline	2014 – 20 February 2020	Exclusions Health economics studies
Embase	2014 – 20 February 2020	Exclusions Health economics studies
Centre for Research and Dissemination (CRD)	HTA - Inception – 20 February 2020 NHSEED - Inception to March 2015	None

9 **Medline (Ovid) search terms**

1.	exp Sciatic Neuropathy/
2.	Radiculopathy/
3.	(lumbago or sciatic*).ti,ab.
4.	(radiculopathy or radiculitis or radicular pain* or radicular syndrome*).ti,ab.
5.	(nerve root* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
6.	(sacral nerve* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
7.	or/1-6
8.	letter/
9.	editorial/
10.	news/
11.	exp historical article/
12.	Anecdotes as Topic/
13.	comment/

14.	case report/
15.	(letter or comment*).ti.
16.	or/8-15
17.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
18.	16 not 17
19.	animals/ not humans/
20.	exp Animals, Laboratory/
21.	exp Animal Experimentation/
22.	exp Models, Animal/
23.	exp Rodentia/
24.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
25.	or/18-24
26.	7 not 25
27.	limit 26 to English language
28.	analgesics/
29.	analgesic*.ti,ab.
30.	exp cyclooxygenase 2 inhibitors/
31.	((cox2 or cox-2 or coxii or cox-ii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
32.	((cyclo-oxygenase2 or cyclo-oxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase2) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
33.	((cyclo-oxygenase-ii or cyclo-oxygenaseii or cyclooxygenase-ii or cyclooxygenaseii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
34.	exp anti-inflammatory agents, non-steroidal/
35.	(nsaid* or non-steroid* or non-narcotic* or pharmacolog*).ti,ab.
36.	(ibuprofen or aspirin or naproxen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ketoprofen or dexketoprofen or dexibuprofen or tiaprofenic acid or diclofenac or aceclofenac or indometacin or mefenamic acid or meloxicam or nabumetone or phenylbutazone or piroxicam or sulindac or tenoxicam or tolfenamic acid or ketorolac or celecoxib or etoricoxib or aceclofenac or acemetacin or diclofenac or etodolac).ti,ab.
37.	acetaminophen/
38.	(acetaminophen or paracetamol).ti,ab.
39.	exp analgesics, opioid/
40.	(fentanyl or hydrocodone or hydromorphone or levorphanol or meperidine or morphine or oxycodone or oxymorphone or pentazocine or propoxyphene or sufentanil or tramadol or codeine or tapentadol or acetylsalicyl* or carbasalate calcium or diflunisal or aceclofenac or alclofenac or diclofenac or indomethacin or sulindac or meloxicam or piroxicam or dexibuprofen or dexketoprofen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ibuprofen or ketoprofen or naproxen or tiapro* or metamizol or phenylbutazone or phenazone or propyphenazone or celecoxib or etoricoxib or nabumeton or parecoxib).ti,ab.
41.	exp muscle relaxants, central/
42.	exp benzodiazepines/
43.	(muscle relaxant* or benzodiazepine*).ti,ab.
44.	(diazepam or tetrazepam or cyclobenzaprine or carisoprodol or chlorzoxazone or meprobamate or methocarbamol or metaxalone or orphenadrine or tizanidine or flupirtine or baclofen or dantrolene).ti,ab.
45.	exp antidepressive agents/
46.	(antidepress* or anti-depress*).ti,ab.
47.	serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.
48.	selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.

49.	(SSRI* or SNRI*).ti,ab.
50.	(amoxapine or bupropion or citalopram or fluoxetine or fluvoxamine or maprotiline or mianserin or paroxetine or quipazine or ritanserin or sulpiride or trazodone or tryptophan or viloxazine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
51.	(clomipramine or desipramine or dothiepin or doxepin or imipramine or iprindole or lofepramine or nortriptyline or opipramol or protriptyline or trimipramine or nortriptyline or duloxetine or mirtazapine or venlafaxine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
52.	exp anticonvulsants/
53.	(anticonvulsant* or anti convulsant* or gabapentin or pregabalin or carbamazepine or phenytoin or topiramate or lamotrigine or valproic acid or sodium valproate).ti,ab.
54.	exp steroids/
55.	(glucocorticosteroid* or corticosteroid* or glucocorticoid* or steroid*).ti,ab.
56.	(prednisone or prednisolone or methylprednisolone or dexamethasone or betamethasone or hydrocortisone).ti,ab.
57.	Nefopam/
58.	(nefopam or acupan).ti,ab.
59.	or/28-58
60.	27 and 59
61.	economics/
62.	value of life/
63.	exp "costs and cost analysis"/
64.	exp Economics, Hospital/
65.	exp Economics, medical/
66.	Economics, nursing/
67.	economics, pharmaceutical/
68.	exp "Fees and Charges"/
69.	exp budgets/
70.	budget*.ti,ab.
71.	cost*.ti.
72.	(economic* or pharmaco?economic*).ti.
73.	(price* or pricing*).ti,ab.
74.	(cost* adj2 (effectiv* or utilit* or benefit* or minimi* or unit* or estimat* or variable*)).ab.
75.	(financ* or fee or fees).ti,ab.
76.	(value adj2 (money or monetary)).ti,ab.
77.	or/61-76
78.	60 and 77

1 **Embase (Ovid) search terms**

1.	exp Sciatic Neuropathy/
2.	Radiculopathy/
3.	(lumbago or sciatic*).ti,ab.
4.	(radiculopathy or radiculitis or radicular pain* or radicular syndrome*).ti,ab.
5.	(nerve root* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
6.	(sacral nerve* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*)).ti,ab.
7.	or/1-6

8.	letter.pt. or letter/
9.	note.pt.
10.	editorial.pt.
11.	case report/ or case study/
12.	(letter or comment*).ti.
13.	or/8-12
14.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
15.	13 not 14
16.	animal/ not human/
17.	nonhuman/
18.	exp Animal Experiment/
19.	exp Experimental Animal/
20.	animal model/
21.	exp Rodent/
22.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
23.	or/15-22
24.	7 not 23
25.	limit 24 to English language
26.	analgesics/
27.	analgesic*.ti,ab.
28.	exp cyclooxygenase 2 inhibitor/
29.	((cox2 or cox-2 or coxii or cox-ii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
30.	((cyclo-oxygenase2 or cyclo-oxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase2) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
31.	((cyclo-oxygenase-ii or cyclo-oxygenaseii or cyclooxygenase-ii or cyclooxygenaseii) adj2 inhibitor*).ti,ab.
32.	exp nonsteroid antiinflammatory agent/
33.	(nsaid* or non-steroid* or non-narcotic* or pharmacolog*).ti,ab.
34.	(ibuprofen or aspirin or naproxen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ketoprofen or dexketoprofen or dexibuprofen or tiaprofenic acid or diclofenac or aceclofenac or indometacin or mefenamic acid or meloxicam or nabumetone or phenylbutazone or piroxicam or sulindac or tenoxicam or tolfenamic acid or ketorolac or celecoxib or etoricoxib or aceclofenac or acemetacin or diclofenac or etodolac).ti,ab.
35.	paracetamol/
36.	(acetaminophen or paracetamol).ti,ab.
37.	exp narcotic analgesic agent/
38.	(fentanyl or hydrocodone or hydromorphone or levorphanol or meperidine or morphine or oxycodone or oxymorphone or pentazocine or propoxyphene or sufentanil or tramadol or codeine or tapentadol or acetylsalicyl* or carbasalate calcium or diflunisal or aceclofenac or alclofenac or diclofenac or indomethacin or sulindac or meloxicam or piroxicam or dexibuprofen or dexketoprofen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ibuprofen or ketoprofen or naproxen or tiapro* or metamizol or phenylbutazone or phenazone or propyphenazone or celecoxib or etoricoxib or nabumeton or parecoxib).ti,ab.
39.	exp central muscle relaxant/
40.	exp benzodiazepine derivative/
41.	(muscle relaxant* or benzodiazepine*).ti,ab.
42.	(diazepam or tetrazepam or cyclobenzaprine or carisoprodol or chlorzoxazone or meprobamate or methocarbamol or metaxalone or orphenadrine or tizanidine or flupirtine or baclofen or dantrolene).ti,ab.

43.	exp antidepressant agent/
44.	(antidepress* or anti-depress*).ti,ab.
45.	serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.
46.	selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor*.ti,ab.
47.	(SSRI* or SNRI*).ti,ab.
48.	(amoxapine or bupropion or citalopram or fluoxetine or fluvoxamine or maprotiline or mianserin or paroxetine or quipazine or ritanserin or sulpiride or trazodone or tryptophan or viloxazine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
49.	(clomipramine or desipramine or dothiepin or doxepin or imipramine or iprindole or lofepramine or nortriptyline or opipramol or protriptyline or trimipramine or nortriptyline or duloxetine or mirtazapine or venlafaxine or amitriptyline).ti,ab.
50.	exp anticonvulsive agent/
51.	(anticonvulsant* or anti convulsant* or gabapentin or pregabalin or carbamazepine or phenytoin or topiramate or lamotrigine or valproic acid or sodium valproate).ti,ab.
52.	exp steroid/
53.	(glucocorticosteroid* or corticosteroid* or glucocorticoid* or steroid*).ti,ab.
54.	(prednisone or prednisolone or methylprednisolone or dexamethasone or betamethasone or hydrocortisone).ti,ab.
55.	Nefopam/
56.	(nefopam or acupan).ti,ab.
57.	or/26-56
58.	25 and 57
59.	health economics/
60.	exp economic evaluation/
61.	exp health care cost/
62.	exp fee/
63.	budget/
64.	funding/
65.	budget*.ti,ab.
66.	cost*.ti.
67.	(economic* or pharmaco?economic*).ti.
68.	(price* or pricing*).ti,ab.
69.	(cost* adj2 (effectiv* or utilit* or benefit* or minimi* or unit* or estimat* or variable*)).ab.
70.	(financ* or fee or fees).ti,ab.
71.	(value adj2 (money or monetary)).ti,ab.
72.	or/59-71
73.	58 and 72

1 **NHS EED and HTA (CRD) search terms**

#1.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Sciatic Neuropathy EXPLODE ALL TREES
#2.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Radiculopathy EXPLODE ALL TREES
#3.	(lumbago or sciatic*)
#4.	((radiculopathy or radiculitis or radicular pain* or radicular syndrome*))
#5.	(nerve root* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*))
#6.	(sacral nerve* adj5 (pain* or avulsion or compress* or disorder* or pinch* or inflam* or imping* or irritat* or entrap* or trap*))
#7.	#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6

#8.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Analgesics EXPLODE ALL TREES
#9.	(analgesic*)
#10.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Cyclooxygenase 2 Inhibitors EXPLODE ALL TREES
#11.	((cox2 or cox-2 or coxii or cox-ii) adj2 inhibitor*)
#12.	((cyclo-oxygenase2 or cyclo-oxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase-2 or cyclooxygenase2) adj2 inhibitor*)
#13.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal EXPLODE ALL TREES
#14.	((nsaid* or non-steroid* or non-narcotic* or pharmacolog*))
#15.	((ibuprofen or aspirin or naproxen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ketoprofen or dexketoprofen or dexibuprofen or tiaprofenic acid or diclofenac or aceclofenac or indometacin or mefenamic acid or meloxicam or nabumetone or phenylbutazone or piroxicam or sulindac or tenoxicam or tolfenamic acid or ketorolac or celecoxib or etoricoxib or aceclofenac or acemetacin or diclofenac or etodolac))
#16.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Acetaminophen EXPLODE ALL TREES
#17.	((acetaminophen or paracetamol))
#18.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Analgesics, Opioid EXPLODE ALL TREES
#19.	((fentanyl or hydrocodone or hydromorphone or levorphanol or meperidine or morphine or oxycodone or oxymorphone or pentazocine or propoxyphene or sufentanil or tramadol or codeine or tapentadol or acetylsalicyl* or carbasalate calcium or diflunisal or aceclofenac or alclofenac or diclofenac or indomethacin or sulindac or meloxicam or piroxicam or dexibuprofen or dexketoprofen or fenoprofen or flurbiprofen or ibuprofen or ketoprofen or naproxen or tiapro* or metamizol or phenylbutazone or phenazone or propyphenazone or celecoxib or etoricoxib or nabumeton or parecoxib))
#20.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Muscle Relaxants, Central EXPLODE ALL TREES
#21.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Benzodiazepines EXPLODE ALL TREES
#22.	((muscle relaxant* or benzodiazepine*))
#23.	((diazepam or tetrazepam or cyclobenzaprine or carisoprodol or chlorzoxazone or meprobamate or methocarbamol or metaxalone or orphenadrine or tizanidine or flupirtine or baclofen or dantrolene))
#24.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Antidepressive Agents EXPLODE ALL TREES
#25.	((antidepress* or anti-depress*))
#26.	(serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor*)
#27.	(selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor*)
#28.	((SSRI* or SNRI*))
#29.	((amoxapine or bupropion or citalopram or fluoxetine or fluvoxamine or maprotiline or mianserin or paroxetine or quipazine or ritanserin or sulpiride or trazodone or tryptophan or viloxazine or amitriptyline))
#30.	((clomipramine or desipramine or dothiepin or doxepin or imipramine or iprindole or lofepramine or nortriptyline or opipramol or protriptyline or trimipramine or nortriptyline or duloxetine or mirtazapine or venlafaxine or amitriptyline))
#31.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Anticonvulsants EXPLODE ALL TREES
#32.	((anticonvulsant* or anti convulsant* or gabapentin or pregabalin or carbamazepine or phenytoin or topiramate or lamotrigine or valproic acid or sodium valproate))
#33.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Steroids EXPLODE ALL TREES
#34.	((glucocorticosteroid* or corticosteroid* or glucocorticoid* or steroid*))
#35.	((prednisone or prednisolone or methylprednisolone or dexamethasone or betamethasone or hydrocortisone))
#36.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Nefopam EXPLODE ALL TREES
#37.	((nefopam or acupan))

#38.	#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 OR #26 OR #27 OR #28 OR #29 OR #30 OR #31 OR #32 OR #33 OR #34 OR #35 OR #36 OR #37
#39.	#7 AND #38

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1. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. Developing NICE guidelines: the manual. [Updated 2018]. London. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, 2014. Available from:
<http://www.nice.org.uk/article/PMG20/chapter/1%20Introduction%20and%20overview>

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