

Supplementary Table 1. Detailed search strategies for each database included in the literature search

	Term	Number of results	Limits
OVID MEDLINE 1946 to October Week 4 2022			
1	menorrhagia	5,863	
2	menorrhag\$	5,894	
3	(menstrua\$ adj5 (bleed\$ or blood))	50,094	
4	(heavy adj5 menstrua\$)	1,244	
5	(dysfunctional adj5 uter\$)	987	
6	hypermenorrh\$	285	
7	or/1-6	10,642	
8	exp hysterectomy/ or hysterectomy, vaginal/	33,257	
9	hysterectom\$	48,131	
10	(uter\$ adj5 excis\$)	655	
11	or/8-10	48,638	
12	7 and 11	1,710	
13	exp Electrocoagulation/	12,492	
14	exp Endometrium/su	1,369	
15	Laser Coagulation/	8,113	
16	(endometri\$ adj5 (ablat\$ or excis\$ or laser or electrocautery or destruct\$ or radiofrequency))	2,619	
17	(endometri\$ adj5 resect\$)	1,440	
18	(electrosurgery or thermal balloon or hypertherm\$ or thermotherapy or photodynamic therapy or phototherapy or cryoablation or microwave ablation)	90,888	
19	(Thermachoice or rollerball)	180	
20	or/13-19	114,055	
21	12 and 20	658	
22	randomized controlled trial.pt.	578,422	
23	controlled clinical trial.pt.	95,042	
24	randomized.ab.	508,760	
25	placebo	219,752	
26	clinical trials as topic.sh.	200,455	
27	randomly.ab.	335,207	
28	trial.ti.	239,606	
29	or/22-28	1,341,236	
30	exp animals/ not humans.sh.	5,055,496	
31	29 not 30	116,001	
32	21 and 31	139	
Embase 1988 to 2022 Week 43			
1	menorrhagia/	11,285	
2	menorrhag\$.tw.	5,802	
3	(menstrua\$ adj5 (bleed\$ or blood)).tw.	7,438	

Obstetrics & Gynecology Science

Clare Deehan, et al. Treatments for heavy menstrual bleeding

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	Term	Number of results	Limits
4	(heavy adj5 menstrea\$.tw.	2,428	
5	(dysfunctional adj5 uter\$.tw.	1,192	
6	hypermenorrh\$.tw.	435	
7	or/1-6	18,150	
8	exp hysterectomy/ or hysterectomy, vaginal/	79,061	
9	hysterectom\$.tw.	59,902	
10	(uter\$ adj5 excis\$.tw.	730	
11	or/8-10	88,443	
12	7 and 11	4,119	
13	electrosurgery/ or exp electrocoagulation/ or laser surgery/	40,309	
14	exp laser coagulation/	20,378	
15	endometrium ablation/	2,836	
16	(endometri\$ adj5 (ablat\$ or excis\$ or laser or electrocautery or destruct\$ or radiofrequency)).tw.	4,949	
17	(endometri\$ adj5 resect\$.tw.	2,761	
18	(electrosurgery or thermal balloon or hypertherm\$ or thermotherapy or photodynamic therapy or phototherapy or cryoablation or microwave ablation).tw.	95,613	
19	(Thermachoice or rollerball).tw.	332	
20	or/13-19	159,043	
21	12 and 20	1,263	
22	Clinical Trial/	1,013,185	
23	Randomized Controlled Trial/	718,550	
24	exp randomization/	93,163	
25	Single Blind Procedure/	47,944	
26	Double Blind Procedure/	190,658	
27	Crossover Procedure/	71,688	
28	Placebo/	348,294	
29	Randomi?ed controlled trial\$.	1,024,548	
30	Rct	51,948	
31	random allocation	2,463	
32	randomly allocated	41,230	
33	allocated randomly	2,698	
34	(allocated adj2 random)	659	
35	Single blind\$	58,764	
36	Double blind\$	262,526	
37	((treble or triple) adj blind\$)	1,706	
38	placebo\$	458,786	

Supplementary Table 1. Detailed search strategies for each database included in the literature search (Continued)

	Term	Number of results	Limits
39	prospective study/	799,876	
40	or/22-39	2,656,074	
41	case study/	87,333	
42	case report	2,407,310	
43	abstract report/ or letter/	1,070,362	
44	or/41-43	3,338,340	
45	40 not 44	187,931	
46	21 and 45	344	
Cochrane Library (trials)			
1	MESH DESCRIPTOR menorrhagia EXPLODE ALL TREES		
2	menorrhag*:TI,AB,KY		
3	(menstrua* adj5 (bleed* or blood)):TI,AB,KY		
4	(heavy adj5 menstrua*):TI,AB,KY		
5	(dysfunctional adj5 uter*):TI,AB,KY		
6	hypermenorrh*:TI,AB,KY		
7	#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6		
8	MESH DESCRIPTOR Hysterectomy EXPLODE ALL TREES		
9	hysterectom*:TI,AB,KY		
10	(uter* adj5 excis*):TI,AB,KY		
11	#8 OR #9 OR #10		
12	#7 AND #11	235	
PubMed			
	((hysterectomy OR uterus removal)) AND ((((((endometrial ablation) OR thermal ablation) OR ablation) OR microwave ablation OR rollerball OR hysteroscopic surgery OR resection OR endometrial destruction) AND ((dysfunctional uterine bleeding) OR bleeding) OR heavy menstrual bleeding) OR menstrual bleeding)	127	Randomised controlled trial
Clinicaltrialsregister.eu			
1	(+Hysterectomy OR partial hysterectomy OR total hysterectomy)		
2	(+Ablation OR balloon ablation OR rollerball ablation OR microwave ablation OR thermal ablation)		
3	(+Menorrhagia OR heavy menstrual bleeding OR bleeding OR dysfunctional uterine bleeding OR menstrual bleeding)		
4	AND/1-3		
5	Limit to Female Gender	2	
Clinicaltrials.gov			
1	Condition: Menorrhagia OR Heavy Menstrual Bleeding		
2	Other terms: (hysterectomy) AND (endometrial ablation)		
3	Limits: Female, Interventional Studies, Adult (18-64)	11	