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**Appendix 1**
Search strategies for systematic review

**Benchmark citations:** 19927067[uid] OR 9260614[uid]

**Complete Search Strategies (copy/paste):**

**Embase**

((‘brachial plexus'/exp OR 'axillary nerve'/exp OR 'median nerve'/exp OR 'musculocutaneous nerve'/exp OR 'radial nerve'/exp OR 'ulnar nerve'/exp) AND (‘surgery'/exp) OR ((‘brachial plexus’ OR ‘axillary plexus’ OR ‘brachial nerve plexus’ OR ‘plexus brachialis’ OR ‘axillary nerve’ OR ‘median nerve’ OR ‘musculocutaneous nerve’ OR ‘radial nerve’ OR ‘ulnar nerve’) NEAR/5 (surgery OR surgical OR operation* OR operative OR repair))) AND (‘employment'/exp OR 'unemployment'/exp OR employment OR employed OR unemployment OR unemployed OR underemployment OR occupation* OR ‘return to work’)

=440 results

**Ovid-Medline**

(((exp Brachial Plexus/ OR exp Median Nerve/ OR exp Musculocutaneous Nerve/ OR exp Radial Nerve/ OR exp Ulnar Nerve/) AND (su.fs OR surger*.mp.)) OR ((brachial plexus.mp. OR axillary plexus.mp. OR brachial nerve plexus.mp. OR plexus brachialis.mp. OR axillary nerve.mp. OR median nerve.mp. OR musculocutaneous nerve.mp. OR radial nerve.mp. OR ulnar nerve.mp.) adj5 (surgery.mp. OR surgical.mp. OR operation.mp. OR operative.mp. OR repair.mp.))) AND (exp Employment/ OR exp Unemployment/ OR exp Return to Work/ OR employment.mp. OR employed.mp. OR unemployment.mp. OR unemployed.mp. OR underemployment.mp. OR occupation*.mp. OR (return adj2 work))

= 257 results

**Scopus**

TITLE-ABS-KEY(“brachial plexus” OR “axillary plexus” OR “brachial nerve plexus” OR “plexus brachialis” OR “axillary nerve” OR “median nerve” OR “musculocutaneous nerve” OR “radial nerve” OR “ulnar nerve”) W/2 (surgery OR surgical OR operation OR operative OR repair) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (employment OR employed OR unemployment OR unemployed OR underemployment OR occupation* OR “return to work”)

= 120 results

**Cochrane Library**

(“brachial plexus” OR “axillary plexus” OR “brachial nerve plexus” OR “plexus brachialis” OR “axillary nerve” OR “median nerve” OR “musculocutaneous nerve” OR “radial nerve” OR “ulnar
nerve”) AND (surgery OR surgical OR operation OR operative OR repair)) AND (employment OR employed OR unemployment OR unemployed OR underemployment OR occupation* OR “return to work”)

((“brachial plexus” OR “axillary plexus” OR “brachial nerve plexus” OR “plexus brachialis” OR “axillary nerve” OR “median nerve” OR “musculocutaneous nerve” OR “radial nerve” OR “ulnar nerve”)) NEAR/5 (surgery OR surgical OR operation OR operative OR repair)) AND (employment OR employed OR unemployment OR unemployed OR underemployment OR occupation* OR “return to work”)

= 26 results (12 Cochrane Reviews, 3 DARE reviews, and 11 CENTRAL Trials)

**Dissertations & Theses**

T1,AB(“brachial plexus” OR “axillary plexus” OR “brachial nerve plexus” OR “plexus brachialis” OR “axillary nerve” OR “median nerve” OR “musculocutaneous nerve” OR “radial nerve” OR “ulnar nerve”) AND T1,AB(surgery OR surgical OR operation OR operative OR repair) AND T1,AB(employment OR employed OR unemployment OR unemployed OR underemployment OR occupation* OR “return to work”)

= 7 results

**Clinical Trials.Gov**

(brachial plexus OR axillary plexus OR axillary nerve) AND (surgery OR operation OR repair) AND (employment OR employed OR unemployment OR “return to work”)

= 4 results (results will be included in the Excel library, not the Endnote library)
Appendix 2

Literature Review - List of Included Articles:


18. Goubier JN, Teboul F. Transfer of the intercostal nerves to the nerve of the long head of the triceps to recover elbow extension in brachial plexus palsy. Techniques in hand & upper extremity surgery. 2007 Jun 1;11(2):139-41.


Appendix Figure 1. Histogram of age distribution for Monte Carlo simulation model.