**Table S2 Queries in Embase**

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| Search | Queries | Items found |
| 1 | "laryngeal cancer".ab,kw,ti.  | 6823 |
| 2 | "laryngeal carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 3864 |
| 3 | "laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 2097 |
| 4 | exp larynx cancer/  | 20185 |
| 5 | exp larynx carcinoma/  | 10250 |
| 6 | exp larynx squamous cell carcinoma/  | 1731 |
| 7 | "larynx cancer".ab,kw,ti.  | 1125 |
| 8 | "larynx carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 491 |
| 9 | "larynx squamous cell carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 74 |
| 10 | 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9  | 23877 |
| 11 | exp hypopharynx cancer/  | 4982 |
| 12 | "hypopharyngeal cancer".ab,kw,ti.  | 1448 |
| 13 | exp hypopharynx carcinoma/  | 2260 |
| 14 | "hypopharynx carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 90 |
| 15 | "hypopharynx cancer".ab,kw,ti.  | 150 |
| 16 | "hypopharyngeal carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 821 |
| 17 | exp hypopharynx squamous cell carcinoma/  | 351 |
| 18 | "hypopharynx squamous cell carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 31 |
| 19 | "hypopharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma".ab,kw,ti.  | 442 |
| 20 | 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19  | 5936 |
| 21 | exp lymph node/  | 165146 |
| 22 | "lymph node".ab,kw,ti.  | 192414 |
| 23 | nodal.ab,kw,ti.  | 66830 |
| 24 | ratio.ab,kw,ti.  | 1309280 |
| 25 | density.ab,kw,ti.  | 661751 |
| 26 | 21 or 22 or 23  | 324785 |
| 27 | 24 or 25  | 1915032 |
| 28 | 26 and 27  | 26284 |
| 29 | "lymph node ratio".ab,kw,ti.  | 1772 |
| 30 | "lymph node density".ab,kw,ti.  | 255 |
| 31 | 28 or 29 or 30  | 26284 |
| 32 | 10 or 20  | 27039 |
| 33 | 31 and 32  | 260 |