Appendix 1: Inclusion and exclusion criteria

	Include	Exclude
Types of review	Systematic review and/or meta- analysis	Non-systematic searches; clinical summaries; mechanism reviews; conceptual reviews; historical reviews; herbal monographs; opinions/editorials; reviews of qualitative studies. Reviews including case studies. Reviews only available as an abstract
Topic of review	Efficacy, effectiveness, cost- effectiveness, safety	Any other focus including prevalence, mechanisms
Intervention	Any under the MeSH term CAM, except those in the adjacent column (acupuncture (body or ear), acupressure, electroacupuncture, laser acupuncture, Alexander technique, aromatherapy, art therapy, anthroposophy, autogenic training, balneotherapy/ hydrotherapy, Bowen, chiropractic, craniosacral, emotional freedom technique, Feldenkrais, guided imagery, kinesiology, homeopathy, hypnosis, integrative medicine, massage, manual therapy or manipulation, meditation, mindfulness, moxibustion, music therapy, naturopathy, osteopathy, Pilates, qi gong, reflexology, relaxation therapy, reiki, shiatsu, spiritual therapies, spiritual healing, tai chi, therapeutic touch, traditional medicine (all types - including TCM approaches such as tuina and guasha), trager, yoga)	Those which are not considered CAM in a UK NHS setting: acoustic stimulation, bee venom acupuncture, biofeedback, breathing exercises, cell therapy, colour therapy, dance therapy, detoxification, deep transverse friction massage, diets, horticultural therapy, light therapy, leech therapy, lifestyle changes, laughter therapy, low level laser therapy (included laser acupuncture which is based on TCM acupuncture points), MBCT, mental healing, magnet therapy, NLP, neural therapy, prayer, play therapy, psychodrama, psychophysiology, prolotherapy, sensory art therapy, suggestion, transcranial magnetic stimulation, TENS rejuvenation, western medicine Herbal medicine/phytotherapy, as the majority of studies do not involve a practitioner Oral or topical CAM which are given to the patient without the input of a practitioner
Intervention details	Practitioner-based CAM only The CAM must be the main focus of	Over-the-counter, online, self-help only. CAM is only mentioned amongst a list of other
	the paper.	active interventions
MSK: muscular diseases	Muscular diseases	Carpal tunnel; compartment syndromes; contracture; craniomandibular disorders; esinophilia-myalgia syndrome; muscle cramp; muscular abnormalities; muscle neoplasms;

		mitochondrial myopathies; myositis; paralysis; rhabdomyolysis; spinal stenosis
MSK: bone diseases	Osteoarthropathy	All other bone diseases
MSK: rheumatic diseases	Arthritis, Fibromyalgia	Juvenile arthritis; rheumatic fever; sternocostoclavicular; hyperostosis; infectious arthritis; Reiter's disease; rheumatic fever
MSK: other	Musculoskeletal pain	Abdominal pain; cranial pain; ear ache; eye pain; facial pain; headache/migraine; jaw disorders; labour pain; nipple pain; neuralgia; neuropathic pain; pelvic pain; phantom limb pain; sprains
MH (as diagnoses or symptoms not just outcomes)	Anxiety; stress; bipolar; loneliness, low mood	Autism; Alzheimer's; ADHD; child/domestic abuse; delusions; dementia; delirium; eating disorders; learning/intellectual disorders; OCD; Parkinson's; personality disorders; psychotic conditions; psychological trauma; PTSD; quality of life; sexual/gender disorders; substance misuse/abuse; substance abuse; schizophrenia; serious mental health; suicide; sexual disorders;
	Somatoform disorders	Hypochondriasis
	Depression	Postpartum or premenstrual depression; postoperative depression; depressive psychosis; atypical depression
	Stress, stress management	Financial strain; oxidative stress; physiological stress; posttraumatic stress; stress incontinence
	Sleep problems, insomnia	Restless leg syndrome
Other multimorbidities/ populations: serious/long term conditions	Cardiovascular; diabetes; digestive issues; obesity; respiratory;	Asthma; brain injury; cancer chronic fatigue syndrome; cystic fibrosis; epilepsy; hepatitis; HIV/AIDS; kidney disease; multiple sclerosis, stroke/post stroke; sleep apnoea
Other multimorbidities/ populations: acute conditions	None	Injuries, infections
Other multimorbidities/ populations: settings	Carers	Critical illness; intensive care; military; nursing home; palliative care; prisons; surgery
Other multimorbidities/ populations: women's health	-	Endometriosis; infertility; labour/postpartum/pregnancy; PCOS; menopause; menstrual pain; pelvic pain
	-	Memory impairment

Other	-	Hearing loss/impairment
multimorbidities/	-	Vision loss/impairment
populations:		
disabilities		
Population	Adults only ≥ 18yrs (include if	Animal studies or laboratory studies
	children were included but reported	
	and analysed separately)	
	Need to be generalisable to GP	Healthy populations or specific occupations
	population	(e.g. nurses, teachers)
Language	English only	Any other language
Date of	2005 or later	Pre 2005
publication		
For trial registries	Only those which were completed	Currently recruiting or not recruiting
	and we had not picked up in other	
	searches	
Country	Reviews including studies from	Review of studies from only non-Western
	Western countries	countries