Definition of recurrent carpal tunnel syndrome
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Introduction
- Carpal tunnel syndrome = most common peripheral neuropathy (upper extremity)
- Epidemiology: ♀ > ♂, multifactorial genesis

In literature NO common definition of RECURRENCE

Methods
PROSPERO-registered (International prospective register of systematic reviews) systematic literature review:
- Search terms: “carpal tunnel syndrome” + “recurrence”
- Standardized questionnaire assessment by two reviewers

INCLUSION CRITERIA:
- Definition of recurrence clearly stated
- Level of evidence I-V (no reviews)

Evaluation yield: 6.7 % (12 out of 177 publications)

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Records identified through database searching (n = 177)</th>
<th>Additional records identified through other sources (n = 0)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Records after duplicates removed (n = 177)</td>
<td>Records excluded (n = 153)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Records screened (n = 24)</td>
<td>Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n = 12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-text articles excluded, with reasons (n = 12)</td>
<td>Studies included in qualitative synthesis (n = 12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studies included in quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis) (n = 12)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Time until recurrence: majority >3 months (42 %)

SYMPTOMS
- No consensus/no uniform criteria across literature

Summary
- Need for uniform definition based on above criteria
- Prospective evaluation of term in clinical study

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