Supplementary Figure 1 Synthesis process mapped against the Narrative synthesis framework

Narrative synthesis framework
Centre for reviews and dissemination, University of York

Beginning of synthesis

Developing a theory

Developing a theory of how the intervention works, why and for whom?

Developing a preliminary synthesis

Tools and techniques used
- Tabulation
- Vote counting as a descriptive tool
- Transforming data: constructing a common measure

Exploring relationships within and between studies

Tools and techniques used
- Conceptual mapping
- Qualitative case descriptions

Assessing the robustness of the synthesis

Tools and techniques used
- Reflecting critically on the synthesis

Conclusions and recommendations (Final synthesis)

End of synthesis

Movement between stages

Synthesis process and outputs for the present systematic review and narrative review

Developing a theory

o Figure 2 – Purpose or intended benefit of indication documentation interventions

Developing a preliminary synthesis

o Grouping by medication types and groups
o Grouping by outcome measure
o Grouping by intervention categories
o Effect direction plot
o Intervention and implantation strategies categorised using Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care taxonomy

Exploring relationships within and between studies

o Results
o Table 1 - Summary table of all studies
o Participant perceptions – categorised as Barriers/Risks and Facilitators/Opportunities
o Analysis of participant insights using available qualitative quotes

Assessing the robustness of the synthesis

o Regular discussions and reflection
o Results and discussion, including strengths and limitations
o Peer review process

o Results and discussion, including recommendations for practice and future research

Movement between stages

Final presentation of systematic review and narrative synthesis

o Introduction
o Methods
o Results including-
 Presented grouped by outcome measure
  o Figure 1 PRISMA flow chart
  o Table 1 Summary of studies including effect direction of studies with effectiveness data
  o Figure 2 Intervention purpose

o Discussion
  o Table 2 Recommendations
o Conclusion
o Supplementary information
  o Search strategy
  o Inclusion/exclusion table
  o Overview of synthesis process
  o Detailed summary table
  o Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool scoring