# Supplementary Fig. 1. Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses (PRISMA) flow diagram.

Records

identified from\*:

Databases (n = 14

71

)

Ovid MEDLINE: 344

EMBASE: 1120)

Add

itional records identified

from other sources

n =

(

7)

Records removed

*before screening*

:

Duplicate

records removed (n = 24

7

)

Records marked as ineligible by automation tools (n = 0)

Records removed for other reasons (n = 0)

Records

screened

= 1224)

(

n

Records excluded\*\*

(

n =

1150

)

162

 unrelated to variceal bleeding

224

 unrelated to NSBB treatment or prop

hylaxis of varices

1

50

no comparison between types of NSBB or with placebo

38

2

systematic review or meta

-

analysis, review articles,

conference abstract, guidelines

115

 non

-

English studies

4

 non

-

human studies

113

 no abstract

Re

p

or

t

s

sought for retrieval

(

= 74)

n

Re

p

or

t

s

not retrieved

No full text (n = 16)

Re

p

or

t

s

assessed for eligibility

= 58)

n

(

Re

p

or

t

s

excluded:

No comparison between types of NSBB

or with placebo

8)

n =

(

No number of patients reported for

outcomes

n

= 11)

(

Not RCT (n = 4)

Not original study (n = 1)

No desired NSBB (n = 1)

Studies included in review (n = 33)

**Identification of studies**

**via databases and registers**

**Identification**

**Screening**

**Included**