



Appendix 2. Excluded studies

Myalgic encephalomyelitis and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS)

Excluded studies

Effects of treatment

Study	Main reason for exclusion
Antoni MH, Lattie E, Czaja S, Fletcher M, Dolores P, Nair S, et al. Remote-delivered vs. live group-based cognitive behavioral stress management in persons with CFS/ME: Effects on stress and symptoms. <i>Psychosomatic Medicine</i> , 2014; 76 (3): A-33.	Outside of specified population
Antoni MH, Lattie E, Fletcher MA, Sara C, Dolores P, Nair S, et al. Telephone-delivered cognitive behavioral stress management intervention for chronic fatigue syndrome: Effects on stress, symptoms, and neuroimmune processes. <i>Psychosomatic Medicine</i> , 2013; 75 (3): A-66.	Outside of specified population
Arnold LM, Blom TJ, Welge JA, Mariutto E, Heller A. A randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blinded trial of duloxetine in the treatment of general fatigue in patients with chronic fatigue syndrome. <i>Psychosomatics</i> , 2015; 56 (3): 242-53.	Outside of specified population
Arroll MA, Howard A. A preliminary prospective study of nutritional, psychological and combined therapies for myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) in a private care setting. <i>BMJ open</i> , 2012; 2 (6).	Outside of specified population
Burgess M, Andiappan M, Chalder T. Cognitive behaviour therapy for chronic fatigue syndrome in adults: face to face versus telephone treatment: a randomized controlled trial. <i>Behavioural and cognitive psychotherapy</i> , 2012; 40 (2): 175-91.	Outside of specified population
Castro-Marrero J, Cordero MD, Segundo MJ, Sáez-Francàs N, Calvo N, Román-Malo L, et al. Does oral coenzyme Q10 plus NADH supplementation improve fatigue and biochemical parameters in chronic fatigue syndrome? <i>Antioxidants and Redox Signaling</i> , 2015; 22 (8): 679-85.	Outside of specified population
Chan JSM, Ho RTH, Wang C-W, Yuen LP, Sham JST, Chan CLW. Effects of qigong exercise on fatigue, anxiety, and depressive symptoms of patients with chronic fatigue syndrome-like illness: a randomized controlled trial. <i>Evidence-based complementary and alternative medicine : eCAM</i> , 2013; 2013485341.	Outside of specified population

Clark LV, Pesola F, Thomas JM, Vergara-Williamson M, Beynon M, White PD. Guided graded exercise self-help plus specialist medical care versus specialist medical care alone for chronic fatigue syndrome (GETSET): a pragmatic randomised controlled trial. <i>Lancet (London, England)</i> , 2017; 390 (10092): 363-73.	Outside of specified population
Fernie BA, Murphy G, Wells A, Nikcevic AV, Spada MM. Treatment Outcome and Metacognitive Change in CBT and GET for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. <i>Behavioural and cognitive psychotherapy</i> , 2016; 44 (4): 397-409.	Outside of specified population
Fluge O, Bruland O, Risa K, Storstein A, Kristoffersen EK, Sapkota D, et al. Benefit from B-lymphocyte depletion using the anti-CD20 antibody rituximab in chronic fatigue syndrome. A double-blind and placebo-controlled study. <i>PLoS one</i> , 2011; 6 (10): e26358.	Outside of specified population
Friedberg F, Adamowicz J, Caikauskaitė I, Seva V, Napoli A. Efficacy of two delivery modes of behavioral self-management in severe chronic fatigue syndrome. <i>Fatigue: Biomedicine, Health and Behavior</i> , 2016; 4 (3): 158-74.	Outside of specified population
Fukuda S, Nojima J, Kajimoto O, Yamaguti K, Nakatomi Y, Kuratsune H, et al. Ubiquinol-10 supplementation improves autonomic nervous function and cognitive function in chronic fatigue syndrome. <i>BioFactors</i> , 2016; 42 (4): 431-40.	Outside of specified population
Guillamo E, Barbany JR, Blazquez A, Delicado MC, Ventura JL, Javierre C. Physical effects of a reconditioning program in a group of chronic fatigue syndrome patients. <i>The Journal of sports medicine and physical fitness</i> , 2016; 56 (5): 579-86.	Outside of specified population
Hall DL, Lattie EG, Milrad SF, Czaja S, Fletcher MA, Klimas N, et al. Telephone-administered versus live group cognitive behavioral stress management for adults with CFS. <i>Journal of psychosomatic research</i> , 2017; 93:41-47.	Outside of specified population
Hlavaty LE, Brown MM, Jason LA. The effect of homework compliance on treatment outcomes for participants with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome. <i>Rehabilitation psychology</i> , 2011; 56 (3): 212-8.	Outside of specified population
Janse A, Worm-Smeitink M, Bleijenberg G, Donders R, Knoop H. Efficacy of web-based cognitive-behavioural therapy for chronic fatigue syndrome: randomised controlled trial. <i>The British journal of psychiatry : the journal of mental science</i> , 2018; 212 (2): 112-18.	Outside of specified population
Jason LA, Roesner N, Porter N, Parenti B, Mortensen J, Till L. Provision of social support to individuals with chronic fatigue syndrome. <i>Journal of clinical psychology</i> , 2010; 66 (3): 249-58.	Outside of specified population
Kim HG, Cho JH, Yoo SR, Lee JS, Han JM, Lee NH, et al. Antifatigue Effects of Panax ginseng C.A. Meyer: A Randomised, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial. <i>PLoS ONE</i> , 2013; 8 (4).	Outside of specified population

Kim J-E, Seo B-K, Choi J-B, Kim H-J, Kim T-H, Lee M-H, et al. Acupuncture for chronic fatigue syndrome and idiopathic chronic fatigue: a multicenter, nonblinded, randomized controlled trial. <i>Trials</i> , 2015; 16314.	Outside of specified population
Knoop H, Van Der Meer JWM, Bleijenberg G. Guided self-instructions for people with chronic fatigue syndrome: Randomised controlled trial. <i>British Journal of Psychiatry</i> , 2008; 193 (4): 340-41.	Outside of specified population
Kos D, van Eupen I, Meirte J, Van Cauwenbergh D, Moorkens G, Meeus M, et al. Activity Pacing Self-Management in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: A Randomized Controlled Trial. <i>The American journal of occupational therapy : official publication of the American Occupational Therapy Association</i> , 2015; 69 (5): 6905290020.	Outside of specified population
Li D, Li Z, Dai Z. Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor combined with dengzhanshengmai capsule improves the fatigue symptoms: a 12-week open-label pilot study. <i>International journal of clinical and experimental medicine</i> , 2015; 8 (7): 11811-17.	Outside of specified population
Marques MM, de Gucht V, Leal I, Maes S. Efficacy of a randomized controlled self-regulation based physical activity intervention for chronic fatigue: Mediation effects of physical activity progress and self-regulation skills. <i>Journal of Psychosomatic Research</i> , 2017; 9424-31.	Outside of specified population
Meeus M, Nijs J, Van Oosterwijck J, Van Alsenoy V, Truijen S. Pain physiology education improves pain beliefs in patients with chronic fatigue syndrome compared with pacing and self-management education: a double-blind randomized controlled trial. <i>Archives of physical medicine and rehabilitation</i> , 2010; 91 (8): 1153-9.	Outside of specified population
Montoya JG, Anderson JN, Adolphs DL, Bateman L, Klimas N, Levine SM, et al. KPAX002 as a treatment for myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS): A prospective, randomized trial. <i>International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Medicine</i> , 2018; 11 (3): 2890-900.	Outside of specified population
Montoya JG, Kogelnik AM, Bhangoo M, Lunn MR, Flamand L, Merrihew LE, et al. Randomized clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of valganciclovir in a subset of patients with chronic fatigue syndrome. <i>Journal of medical virology</i> , 2013; 85 (12): 2101-9.	Outside of specified population
Moss-Morris R, Sharon C, Tobin R, Baldi JC. A randomized controlled graded exercise trial for chronic fatigue syndrome: outcomes and mechanisms of change. <i>Journal of health psychology</i> , 2005; 10 (2): 245-59.	Outside of specified population
Ng S-M, Yiu Y-M. Acupuncture for chronic fatigue syndrome: a randomized, sham-controlled trial with single-blinded design. <i>Alternative therapies in health and medicine</i> , 2013; 19 (4): 21-6.	Outside of specified population
O'Dowd H, Gladwell P, Rogers CA, Hollinghurst S, Gregory A. Cognitive behavioural therapy in chronic fatigue syndrome: A randomised controlled	Outside of specified population

trial of an outpatient group programme. Health Technology Assessment, 2006; 10 (37): iii-51.	
Oka T. Isometric yoga reduces fatigue and pain in patients with chronic fatigue syndrome who are resistant to conventional therapy: A randomized, controlled trial. Psychosomatic Medicine, 2015; 77 (3): A9.	Outside of specified population
Ostojic SM, Stojanovic M, Drid P, Hoffman JR, Sekulic D, Zenic N. Supplementation with Guanidinoacetic Acid in Women with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Nutrients, 2016; 8 (2): 72.	Outside of specified population
Pardini M, Guida S, Primavera A, Krueger F, Cocito L, Gialloreti LE. Amisulpride vs. fluoxetine treatment of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: A pilot study. European Neuropsychopharmacology, 2011; 21 (3): 282-86.	Outside of specified population
Regland B, Forsmark S, Halaouate L, Matousek M, Peilot B, Zachrisson O, et al. Response to vitamin B12 and folic acid in myalgic encephalomyelitis and fibromyalgia. PloS one, 2015; 10 (4): e0124648.	Outside of specified population
Rimes K, Wingrove J. Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy for people with chronic fatigue syndrome still experiencing excessive fatigue after cognitive behaviour therapy: a pilot randomized study. Clinical psychology & psychotherapy, 2013; 20 (2): 107-17.	Outside of specified population
Roerink ME, Bredie SJH, Heijnen M, Dinarello CA, Knoop H, Van der Meer JWM. Cytokine Inhibition in Patients With Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: A Randomized Trial. Annals of internal medicine, 2017; 166 (8): 557-64.	Outside of specified population
Staud R, Boissoneault J, Price D, Robinson M. Effects of lidocaine injections on overall fatigue in patients with chronic fatigue syndrome. Journal of Pain, 2016; 17 (4): S91-S92.	Outside of specified population
Strayer DR, Carter WA, Stouch BC, Stevens SR, Bateman L, Cimoch PJ, et al. A double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized, clinical trial of the TLR-3 agonist rintatolimod in severe cases of chronic fatigue syndrome. PloS one, 2012; 7 (3): e31334.	Outside of specified population
Stubhaug B, Lie SA, Ursin H, Eriksen HR. Cognitive-behavioural therapy v. mirtazapine for chronic fatigue and neurasthenia: Randomised placebo-controlled trial. British Journal of Psychiatry, 2008; 192 (3): 217-23.	Outside of specified population
Sutcliffe K, Gray J, Tan MP, Pairman J, Wilton K, Parry SW, et al. Home orthostatic training in chronic fatigue syndrome--a randomized, placebo-controlled feasibility study. European journal of clinical investigation, 2010; 40 (1): 18-24.	Outside of specified population
Wallman KE, Morton AR, Goodman C, Grove R, Guilfoyle AM. Randomised controlled trial of graded exercise in chronic fatigue syndrome. The Medical journal of Australia, 2004; 180 (9): 444-8.	Outside of specified population
Wearden AJ, Dowrick C, Chew-Graham C, Bentall RP, Morriss RK, Peters S, et al. Nurse led, home based self help treatment for patients in primary care with	Outside of specified population

chronic fatigue syndrome: Randomised controlled trial. BMJ (Online), 2010; 340 (7753): 959.	
White P, Chalder T, Sharpe M. The PACE trial: Results of a large trial of nonpharmacological treatments. Journal of Psychosomatic Research, 2011; 70 (6): 622.	Outside of specified population
Wiborg JF, van Bussel J, van Dijk A, Bleijenberg G, Knoop H. Randomised controlled trial of cognitive behaviour therapy delivered in groups of patients with chronic fatigue syndrome. Psychotherapy and psychosomatics, 2015; 84 (6): 368-76.	Outside of specified population
Windthorst P, Mazurak N, Kuske M, Hipp A, Giel KE, Enck P, et al. Heart rate variability biofeedback therapy and graded exercise training in management of chronic fatigue syndrome: An exploratory pilot study. Journal of psychosomatic research, 2017; 936-13.	Outside of specified population
Vos-Vromans DCWM, Smeets RJEM, Huijnen IPJ, Köke AJA, Hitters WMGC, Rijnders LJM, et al. Multidisciplinary rehabilitation treatment versus cognitive behavioural therapy for patients with chronic fatigue syndrome: A randomized controlled trial. Journal of Internal Medicine, 2016; 279 (3): 268-82.	Outside of specified population

Prognosis and prognostic factors for work and functional capacity

Study	Main reason for exclusion
Collin SM, Crawley E, May MT, Sterne JAC, Hollingworth W, Database UCMNO. The impact of CFS/ME on employment and productivity in the UK: a cross-sectional study based on the CFS/ME national outcomes database. BMC health services research 2011;11:217.	Outside of specified outcome
Flo E, Chalder T. Prevalence and predictors of recovery from chronic fatigue syndrome in a routine clinical practice. Behaviour research and therapy 2014;63:1-8.	Outside of specified population
Houlton A, Christie MM, Smith B, Gardiner E. Long-term follow-up of multi-disciplinary outpatient treatment for chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalopathy. Fatigue: Biomedicine, Health and Behavior 2015;3:47-58.	Too great drop-out frequency
Huibers MJH, Beurskens AJHM, Van Schayck CP, Bazelmans E, Metsemakers JFM, Knottnerus JA, et al. Efficacy of cognitive-behavioural therapy by general practitioners for unexplained fatigue among employees: Randomised controlled trial. The British Journal of Psychiatry 2004;184:240-246.	Outside of specified population
Huibers MJH, Bultmann U, Kasl SV, Kant I, van Amelsvoort LGPM, van Schayck CP, et al. Predicting the two-year course of unexplained fatigue and the onset of long-term sickness absence in fatigued employees: results from the Maastricht Cohort Study. Journal of occupational and environmental medicine 2004;46:1041-7.	Outside of specified population
Meeus M, Nijls J, Van Mol E, Truijen S, De Meirleir K. Role of psychological aspects in both chronic pain and in daily functioning in chronic fatigue syndrome: a prospective longitudinal study. Clinical rheumatology 2012;31:921-9.	Too great drop-out frequency
Roche R TR. Coping and Occupational Participation in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Occupation, Participation and Health 2005;25.	Outside of specified outcome
Tritt K, Nickel M, Mitterlehner F, Nickel C, Forthuber P, Leiberich P, et al. Chronic fatigue and indicators of long-term employment disability in psychosomatic inpatients. Wien Klin Wochenschr 2004;116:182-9.	Outside of specified outcome

Experiences of treatment and care

Study	Main reason for exclusion
Childs N, Robinson L, Chowdhury S, Ogden C, Newton JL. Consulting patients in setting priorities in Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (M.E.) research: findings from a national on-line survey. <i>Research involvement and engagement</i> , 2015; 111.	Outside of specified outcome
Cornes O. Chronic fatigue syndrome: a patient's perspective. <i>The British journal of general practice : the journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners</i> , 2013; 63 (617): 648.	Outside of specified outcome
Guise J, McVittie C, McKinlay A. A discourse analytic study of ME/CFS (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome) sufferers' experiences of interactions with doctors. <i>Journal of health psychology</i> , 2010; 15 (3): 426-35.	Outside of specified outcome
Hansen AH, Lian OS. Experiences of general practitioner continuity among women with chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis: a cross-sectional study. <i>BMC health services research</i> , 2016; 16 (1): 650.	Outside of specified outcome
Hansen AH, Lian OS. How do women with chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis rate quality and coordination of healthcare services? A cross-sectional study. <i>BMJ open</i> , 2016; 6 (4): e010277.	Outside of specified outcome
Lian OS, Hansen AH. Factors facilitating patient satisfaction among women with medically unexplained long-term fatigue: A relational perspective. <i>Health (London, England : 1997)</i> , 2016; 20 (3): 308-26.	Outside of specified outcome
Lian OS, Robson C. "It's incredible how much I've had to fight." Negotiating medical uncertainty in clinical encounters. <i>International journal of qualitative studies on health and well-being</i> , 2017; 12 (sup2): 1392219.	Outside of specified outcome
Pemberton S, Cox DL. Experiences of daily activity in chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME) and their implications for rehabilitation programmes. <i>Disability and rehabilitation</i> , 2014; 36 (21): 1790-7.	Outside of specified outcome
Picariello F, Ali S, Foubister C, Chalder T. 'It feels sometimes like my house has burnt down, but I can see the sky': A qualitative study exploring patients' views of cognitive behavioural therapy for chronic fatigue syndrome. <i>British journal of health psychology</i> , 2017; 22 (3): 383-413.	Outside of specified outcome
Son H-M, Park EY, Kim DH, Kim E, Shin M-S, Kim T-H. Experiences with, perceptions of and attitudes towards traditional Korean medicine (TKM) in patients with chronic fatigue: a qualitative, one-on-one, in-depth interview study. <i>BMJ open</i> , 2015; 5 (9): e006178.	Outside of specified outcome
Van Hoof E. The doctor-patient relationship in chronic fatigue syndrome: survey of patient perspectives. <i>Quality in primary care</i> , 2009; 17 (4): 263-70.	Outside of specified outcome