Titles and abstracts n=5691

Full paper n=494

Inclusion n=47

Excluded 5197

- Age n=1093

- Animals/bacteria n=64

- Specific population N=163

- Vitamin B12 and folic acid not primary treatment n=1998

- Multivitamin, combination vitamin B12/folic acid n=398

- No vitamin B12/folic acid n=660

- No placebo n=300

- Review/methods paper n=523

Excluded n=447

- Age n=68

- Specific population N=256

- Multivitamin, combination vitamin B12/folic acid n=20

- No vitamin B12/folic acid n=18

- No placebo n=28

- No randomisation n=1

- Review/methods paper n=37

- Other n=19

Folic acid n=26

Vitamin B12 n=21

IPD n=10

 (n=4 individual studies, 3 Hb, 1 Ht)

Excluded n=11

- No hematological data (during follow-up) n=8

- No response/no contact n=3

IPD n=22

(n=3 individual studies)

Excluded n=4

- No response n=4

Records identified through

database searching

n=11.384

Records after duplicates removed

n=5.691