**Supplementary Material 1. PubMed search terms**

(“nivolumab”[Supplementary Concept] OR “Nivolumab”[tiab] OR “Opdivo”[tiab] OR “MDX-1106”[tiab] OR “ONO-4538”[tiab] OR “BMS-936558”[tiab] OR “NIVO”[tiab] OR “pembrolizumab”[Supplementary Concept] OR “pembrolizumab”[tiab] OR “lambrolizumab”[tiab] OR “keytruda”[tiab] OR “MK-3475”[tiab] OR “SCH 900475”[tiab] OR “avelumab”[Supplementary Concept] OR “Avelumab”[tiab] OR “MSB0010718C”[tiab] OR “MPDL3280A”[Supplementary Concept] OR “MPDL3280A”[tiab] OR “atezolizumab”[tiab] OR “Tecentriq”[tiab] OR “RG7446”[tiab] OR “RO5541267”[tiab] OR “Durvalumab”[tiab] OR “MEDI4736”[tiab] OR “MEDI-4736”[tiab] OR checkpoint inhibitor\*[tiab] OR “PD-1”[tiab] OR “PDL1”[tiab] OR “immunotherapy”[tiab] OR “immune checkpoint”[tiab]) AND (“gastric cancer”[MeSH Terms] OR “gastric cancer”[tiab]  OR “gastric carcinoma”[tiab] OR “gastro-oesophageal”[tiab] OR “gastro-oesophageal junction”[tiab] OR “esophageal cancer”[MeSH Terms] OR “gastroesophageal junction”[tiab] OR “oesophageal squamous-cell carcinoma”[tiab] OR “esophageal carcinoma”[tiab] OR “esophageal cancer”[tiab]) AND (Clinical Trial, Phase III[ptyp] OR “phase 3 clinical trial”[tiab] OR “phase III clinical trial”[tiab] OR “phase 3 trial”[tiab] OR “phase III trial”[tiab] OR “phase 3 clinical study”[tiab] OR “phase III clinical study”[tiab] OR “phase 3 study”[tiab] OR “phase III study”[tiab] OR “phase 3 randomized trial”[tiab] OR “phase III randomized trial”[tiab] OR Clinical Trial, Phase II[ptyp] OR “phase 2 clinical trial”[tiab] OR “phase II clinical trial”[tiab] OR “phase 2 trial”[tiab] OR “phase II trial”[tiab] OR “phase 2 clinical study”[tiab] OR “phase II clinical study”[tiab] OR “phase 2 randomized trial”[tiab] OR “phase II randomized  trial”[tiab] OR “phase 2 study”[tiab] OR “phase II study”[tiab] OR “phase 2/3 clinical trial”[tiab] OR “phase II/III clinical trial”[tiab] OR “phase 2/3 trial”[tiab] OR “phase II/III trial”[tiab] OR “phase 2/3 clinical study”[tiab] OR “phase II/ III clinical study”[tiab] OR “phase 2/3 study”[tiab] OR “phase II/III study”[tiab] OR “phase 2/3 randomized trial”[tiab] OR “phase II/III randomized trial”[tiab] OR Randomized  Controlled Trial[ptyp] OR “randomized controlled trial”[tiab] OR “RCT”[tiab])

EMBASE search terms (n = 250)

('nivolumab':ab,ti OR 'pembrolizumab':ab,ti OR 'avelumab':ab,ti OR 'atezolizumab':ab,ti OR 'durvalumab':ab,ti OR 'checkpoint inhibitor':ab,ti OR 'pd-1':ab,ti OR 'pdl1':ab,ti OR 'immunotherapy':ab,ti OR 'immune checkpoint':ab,ti) AND (' stomach cancer ':ab,ti OR 'gastro-oesophageal:ab,ti OR ' gastro-oesophageal junction ':ab,ti OR ' esophagus cancer ':ab,ti OR 'gastroesophageal junction':ab,ti OR 'esophageal squamous cell carcinoma':ab,ti) AND ('phase 3 clinical trial'/exp OR 'phase 2 clinical trial'/exp OR 'randomized controlled trial'/exp) AND 'human'/de AND ('article'/it OR 'article in press'/it)

Web of Science (n = 288)

(“nivolumab”[Theme] OR  “pembrolizumab”[Theme] OR “avelumab”[Theme] OR “atezolizumab”[Theme]  OR “Durvalumab”[Theme] OR “checkpoint inhibitor”[Theme] OR “PD-1”[Theme] OR “PDL1”[Theme] OR “immunotherapy”[Theme] OR “immune checkpoint”[Theme]) AND (“gastric cancer”[Theme] OR “gastric carcinoma”[Theme] OR “gastro-oesophageal”[Theme] OR “gastro-oesophageal junction”[Theme] OR “esophageal cancer”[Theme] OR “gastroesophageal junction”[Theme] OR “oesophageal squamous-cell carcinoma”[Theme] OR “esophageal carcinoma”[Theme]) AND (“phase 3 clinical trial”[Theme] OR “phase III clinical trial”[Theme] OR “phase 3 trial”[Theme] OR “phase III trial”[Theme] OR “phase 3 clinical study”[Theme] OR “phase III clinical study”[Theme] OR “phase 3 study”[Theme] OR “phase III study”[Theme] OR “phase 3 randomized trial”[Theme] OR “phase III randomized trial”[Theme]  OR “phase 2 clinical trial”[Theme] OR “phase II clinical trial”[Theme] OR “phase 2 trial”[Theme] OR “phase II trial”[Theme] OR “phase 2 clinical study”[Theme] OR “phase II clinical study”[Theme] OR “phase 2 randomized trial”[Theme] OR “phase II randomized  trial”[Theme] OR “phase 2 study”[Theme] OR “phase II study”[Theme] OR “randomized controlled trial”[Theme] OR “RCT”[Theme]) AND (“ARTICLE”)