Supplementary material 1. Flowchart in the PRISMA format

Identification of new studies via databases and registers

Records identified from:
MEDLINE (n=916)
EMBASE (n=1564)

→ Records removed before screening:
Duplicate records removed (n=106)
Records removed for other reasons (n=0)

Records screened (n=2244) → Records excluded (n=2049)

Reports sought for retrieval (n=190) → Reports not retrieved (n=0)

Reports assessed for eligibility (n=190) → Reports excluded:
unable to islolate lung cancer (n=70)
unable to isolate spine metastasis (n=32)
others (n=30)

New studies included in Review (n=58)

Total studies included in Review (n=62)

Identification of new studies via other methods

Records identified from:
GoogleScholars (n=65)
Institute data (n=1)

Reports sought for retrieval (n=6) → Reports not retrieved (n=0)

Reports assessed for eligibility (n=6) → Reports excluded
Unable to isolate lung cancer (n=2)