Records identified through database searching n = 2532 Additional records identified through other sources Total records imported n = 2532 Records removed as duplicates n = 350 Records screened in 1st sift
Screening on title and abstract
n = 2182 Records excluded n = 2137 Records excluded n = 25
- 1: More recent systematic review included that covers the same topic
- 1: Comparator in study does not match that specified in this review protocol - 2 : Review article but not a systematic review - 3 : Study design not relevant to this 3: Study design not relevant to this review protocol
2: Full text paper not available
1: Study not reported in English
4: Data not reported in an extractable format or a format that can be analysed
1: Protocol only
1: Cochrane review - included interventions in the pooled analysis Records screened in 2nd sift Screening on full text n = 38 - 1 : Cochrane review - included interventions in the pooled analysis that are not included in our analysis (assessment techniques), included outcomes that the committee did not think were relevant for their analysis, included studies with a smaller proportion of participants with stroke than 80% (as agreed in the protocol for this guideline)
 - 7 : Population not relevant to this review protocol review protocol
- 2 : Conference abstract Records included in review

Figure 1: Flow chart of clinical study selection for the review of oral hygiene interventions for people after a first or recurrent stroke