

**Table 1.** The number of ethics reviewed RCTs versus total of 'RCTs'. (Wu *et al.*)

Year	Total of articles mentioned ethics generated from the search terms: (clinical trial AND RCT AND ethics review) <b>A</b>	Ethics reviewed trials in <b>A</b> scanned by the investigators <b>B</b>	Total of 'RCTs' generated from the search terms: (clinical trial AND RCT) <b>C</b>	Total of claimed "RCTs" in <b>C</b> scanned by the investigators <b>D</b>	Percentage of reviewed trials (( <b>B/D</b> ) × 100%)
1980	2	0	638	163	0
1981	0	0	924	237	0
1982	2	0	1116	285	0
1983	2	0	1108	337	0
1984	0	0	1324	406	0
1985	4	0	1629	479	0
1986	10	0	1942	682	0
1987	6	0	2281	836	0
1988	10	0	2416	794	0
1989	15	1	2917	985	0.001
1990	10	0	3006	1272	0
1991	26	0	3286	1162	0
1992	18	0	3682	1094	0
1993	14	0	4151	1325	0
1994	22	0	3291	1127	0
1995	33	4	3877	1163	0.004
1996	36	0	4365	1484	0
1997	49	0	5182	2259	0
1998	55	10	5881	2648	0.004
1999	101	34	7360	3264	0.011
2000	142	56	9192	4269	0.013
2001	188	83	11598	5738	0.015
2002	281	127	14053	7483	0.017
2003	442	139	17295	9365	0.015
2004	632	287	21615	11836	0.024
2005	953	425	27624	15284	0.028
<b>Total</b>		<b>1166</b>		<b>71758</b>	<b>Average 1.6%</b>