

- Languages other than English
- Animal studies; ecological studies; human case studies
- Reviews, letters, or editorials
- Reports published before 1966
- Studies with no comparison group
- Studies with no measure of caries experience
- Studies with only hypoplasia as outcome (i.e., no caries)
- Studies with caries experience but no diagnostic criteria listed
- Birthweights not clearly stated
- Birthweights not linked to caries measures

## **Table 1: Exclusion criteria for papers on low birthweight and caries**

	<i><b>MEDLINE</b></i>	<i><b>EMBASE</b></i>	<i><b>TOTAL</b></i>
Initial Search	158	40	198
After Title and Abstract Assessment	37	0	37
After Reading	4	0	4

**Table 2: Progression of literature search for papers on low birthweight and caries.**

Clearly-stated research aims	12
Number of Controls	10
Nature of Controls	10
Stated inclusion/exclusion criteria for participants	7
Individual birthweights certified	8
Level of caries diagnosed (cavitated, noncavitated)	6
Nature of caries diagnosis (clinical, x-ray, FOTi etc.)	7
Examiner reliability quantified	8
Confounders accounted for?	12
Measure of risk stated?	8
Internally valid conclusions?	12
Total:	100

**Table 3: Scoring categories for quality of studies in low birthweight/caries reports.**