



3 Material and Methods

A literature search of The National Library of Medicine's PubMed database was first performed on December 01.2016 and conducted without time restrictions, to retrieve all available articles in the literature written in both English and German language. Key words used in this search were (craniomandibular disorder) AND (violin). This search yielded twelve articles, eight of which were included in this review. Similar articles were gathered and reference lists of all articles were screened for other papers that might also be relevant and fulfil the inclusion criteria for this review and were retrieved in full texts. Furthermore, citation tracking was performed and more information was gathered from books published in German language dealing with musician specific diseases.

Papers that are included in the analysis are articles handling any form of diagnostic investigations and/or treatments performed on the upper and lower jaws, Temporomandibular Joints (TMJ), masticatory, shoulder, and cervical spine muscles of violin players suffering from CMD. Articles that did not fit the inclusion criteria were those performed on violists only, or on whole orchestras with poor results for violinists. Studies handling pure biomechanical aspects of the instrument without referring to CMD in violinists were also excluded. Likewise reviews, scoping studies and papers with only preliminary report.