**Figure 1.** PRISMA Flow chart of study inclusion process.

Excluded (n=17)

Reasons:

* Not available data on clinically N0 patients
* Authors contacted but unable to provide data requested
* Secondary data

Cochrane

(n=47)

Web of Science

(n=120)

Embase

(n=342)

Scopus

(n=345)

PubMed Medline

(n=180)

Excluded (n=1008)

Reasons:

* Other topics
* Duplicated studies
* Non-English
* Reviews
* Case reports
* Editorials

Full text articles eligible (n= 9)

INCLUDED

Full text articles assessed for eligibility

(n=26)

ELIGIBILITY

Titles and abstracts of the papers screened (n=1034)

(

(n=1998)

SCREENING

IDENTIFICATION