Health technology assessment process for the development of health benefit package under Universal Health Coverage Scheme in Thailand

In brief, five process steps are performed for the universal benefit package development in Thailand. Firstly, the interventions are nominated by seven groups of stakeholders, which include health professionals, patients, policy-makers, academics, civil-society, industry, and lay-people. Each group can propose up to three topics, one of which must focus on health promotion or disease prevention. TAVI was one topic that was proposed by health professional in the year of 2017. Secondly, all nominated topics are prioritized by a selection working-group based on predefined criteria, which are burden of disease, severity of the health problem, effectiveness of intervention, variation in current practice, financial impact of the disease on households, and equity and ethical dimensions. After topic prioritization, the final list of those topics will undergo a full health technology assessment (HTA), especially cost-effectiveness analysis and budget impact analysis. The HTA can be conducted by independent research organizations including universities. The HTA study must comply with the Thai Health Technology Assessment Guideline. Next, the findings of the study are appraised by the external peer-review for quality assurance. Lastly, the output is presented to the Subcommittee for the Development of the Benefit Package and Service Delivery (SCBP), which comprises stakeholder groups such as patient groups, civil society organizations, providers, relevant government agencies, and subject experts. The SCBP then make a recommendation to the National Health Security Board (NHSB), which will make a final decision whether to include the intervention into the benefit package.
Figure S1  PRISMA Flow Diagram of the literature search and selection process.