National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Consultation draft

Depression in adults: treatment and management

Appendix M: Forest plots

NICE Guideline

Appendices

May 2018

Disclaimer

Healthcare professionals are expected to take NICE clinical guidelines fully into account when exercising their clinical judgement. However, the guidance does not override the responsibility of healthcare professionals to make decisions appropriate to the circumstances of each patient, in consultation with the patient and/or their guardian or carer.

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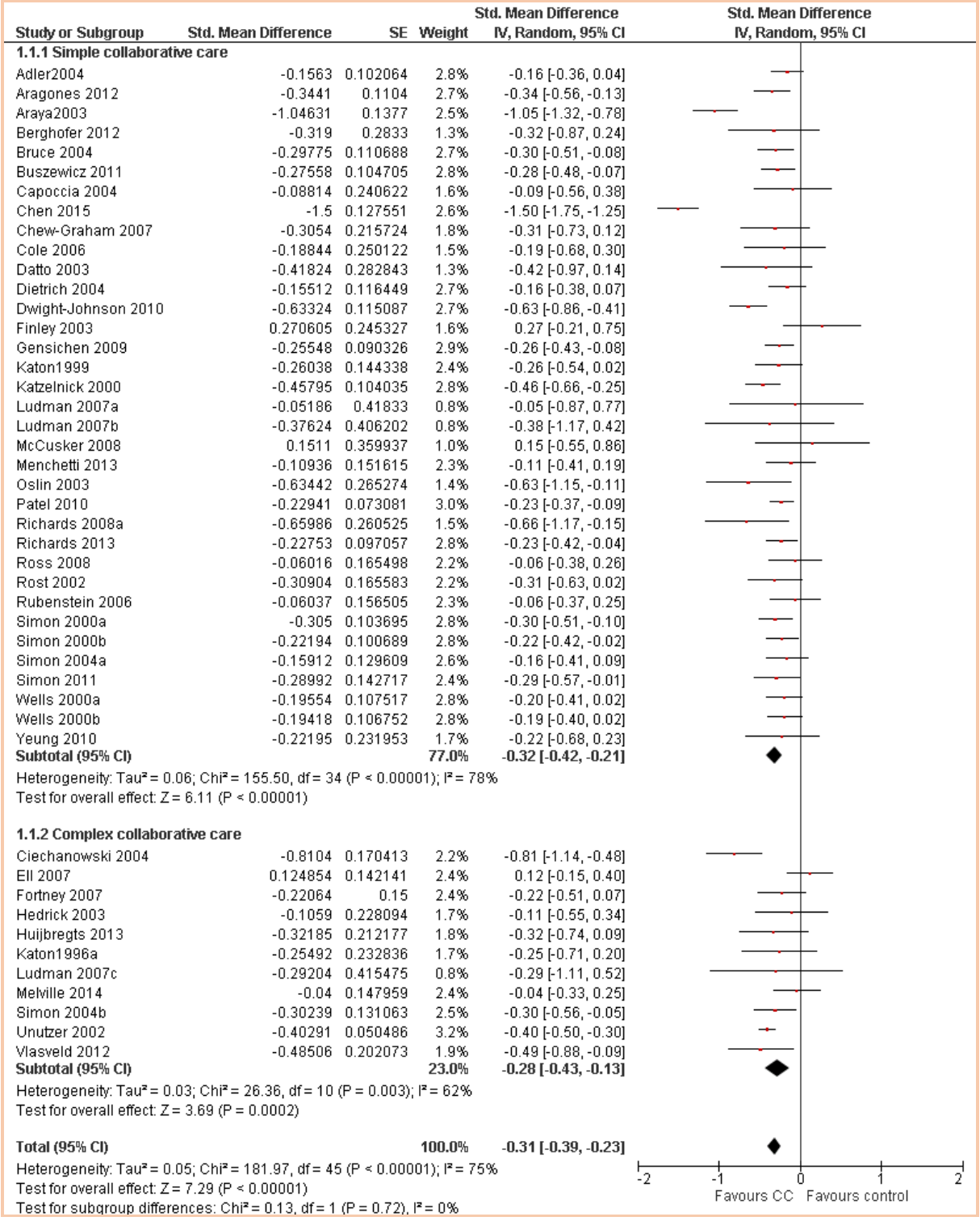
Organisation and delivery of services (chapter 5)

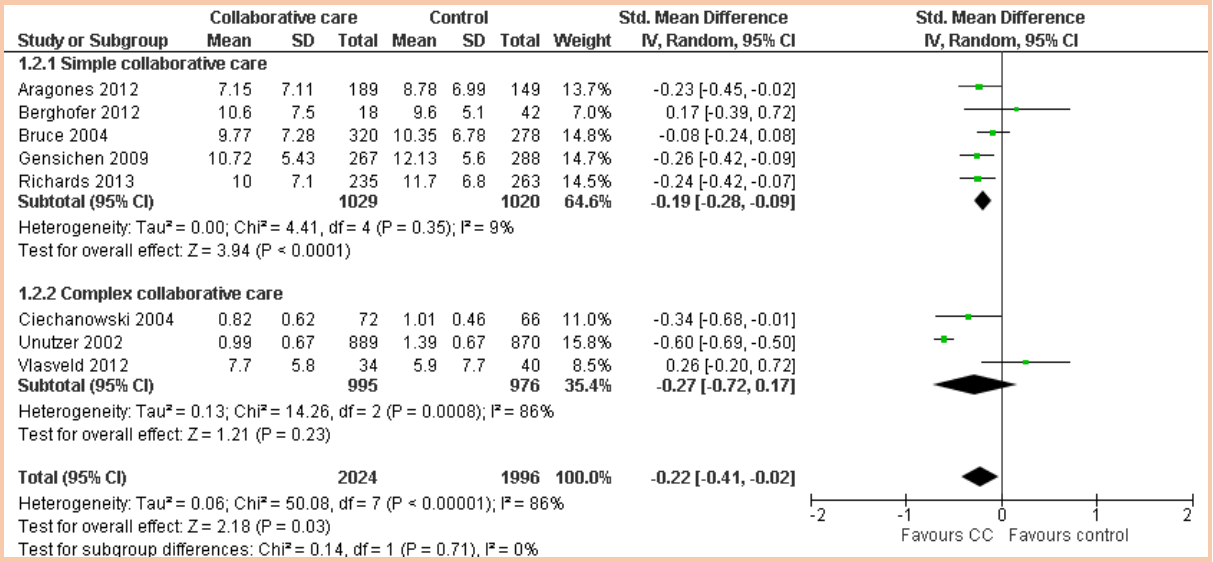
Service delivery models

Collaborative care versus control

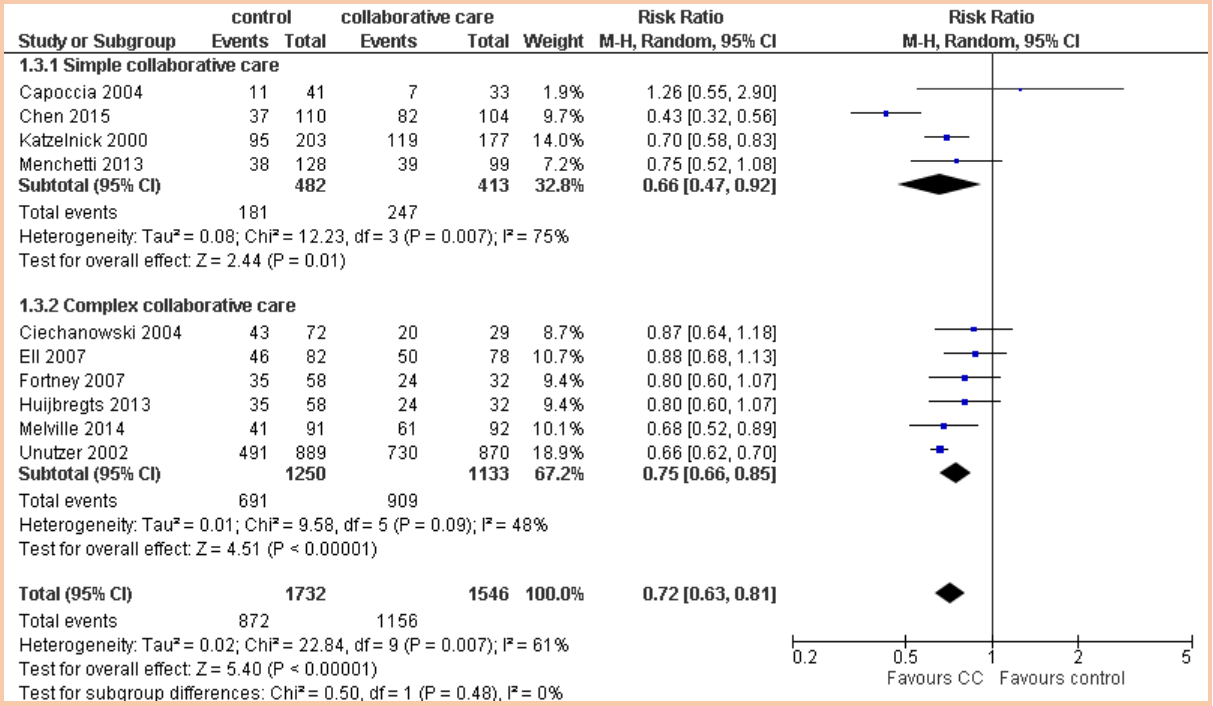
Depression symptoms at follow-up (6 months)



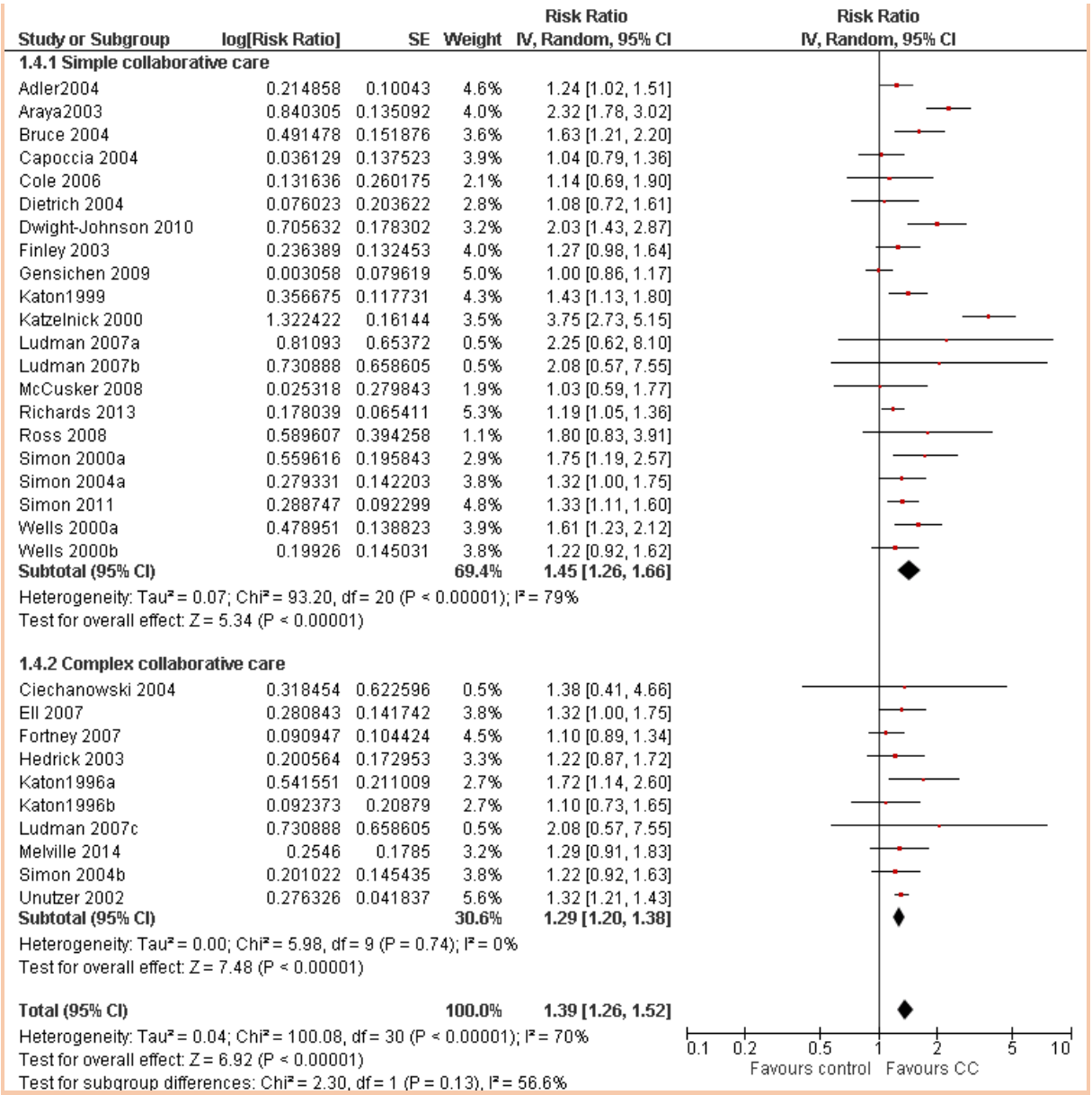
Depression symptoms at endpoint



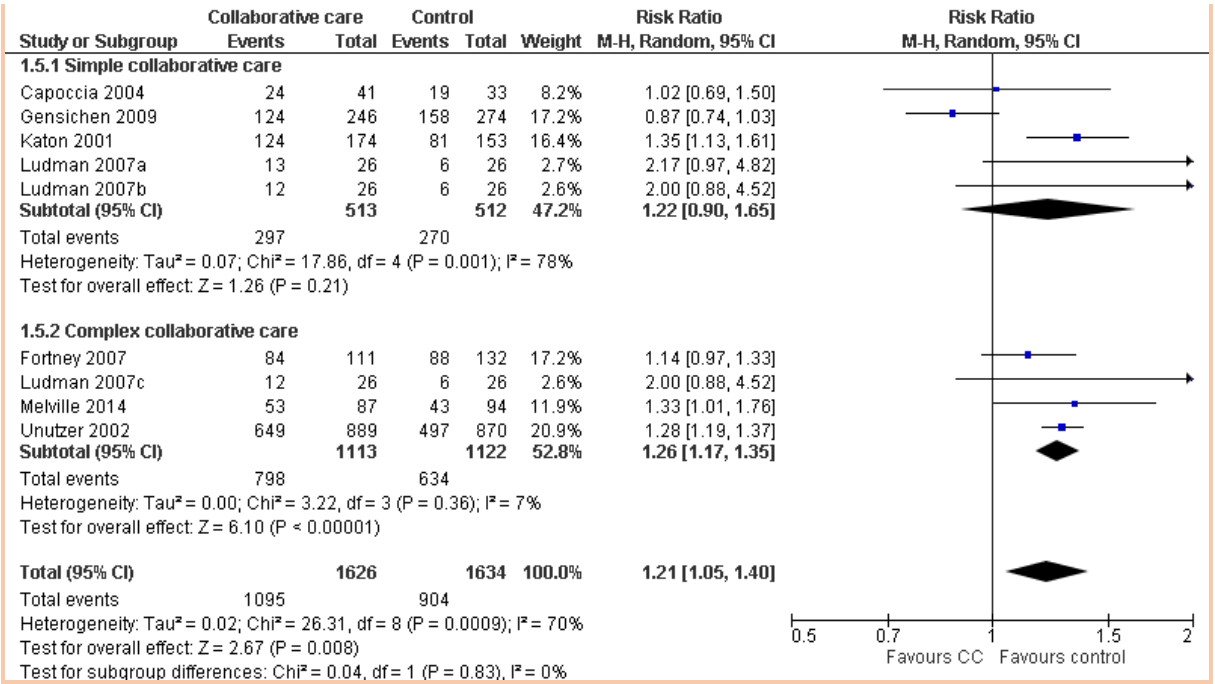
Non-response at endpoint



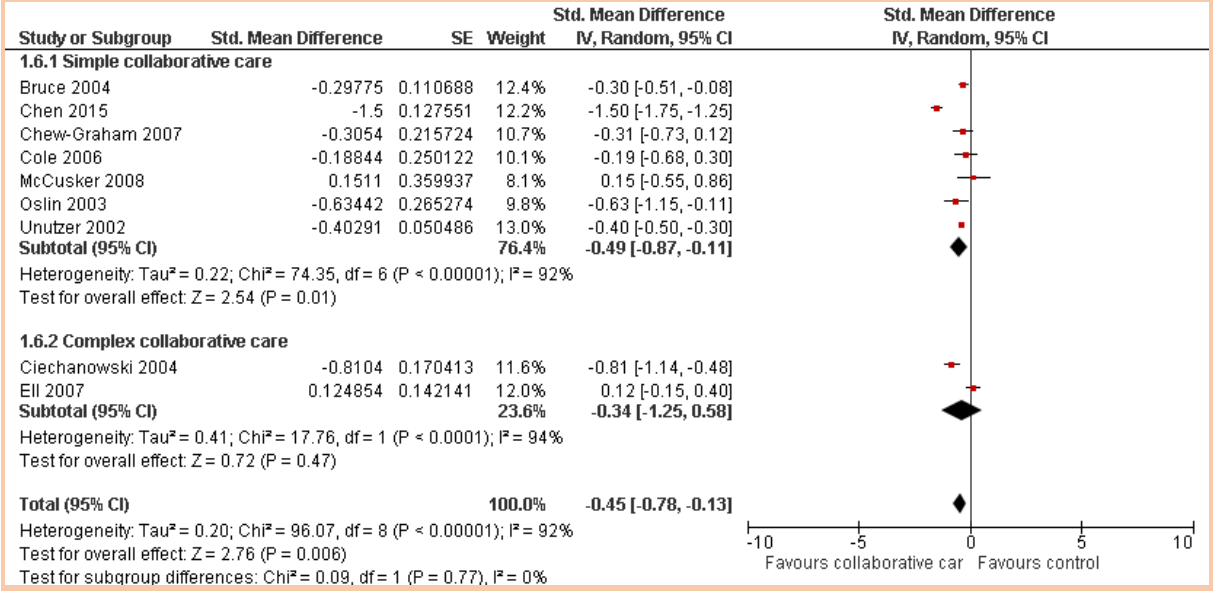
Antidepressant use at follow-up (6 months)



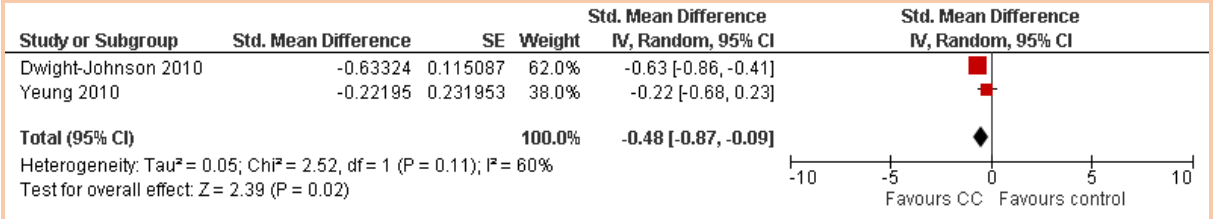
Antidepressant use at endpoint



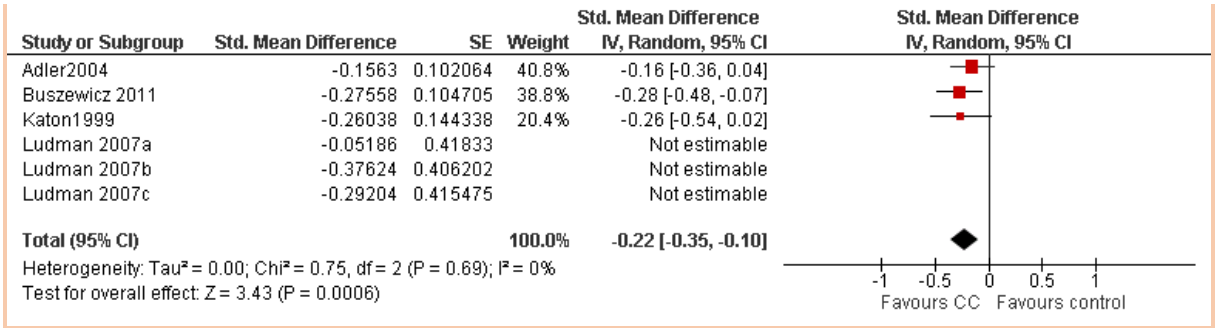
Sub-analysis: depression symptoms at follow-up (6months) in older people



Sub-analysis: depression symptoms at follow-up (6 months) in BME individuals



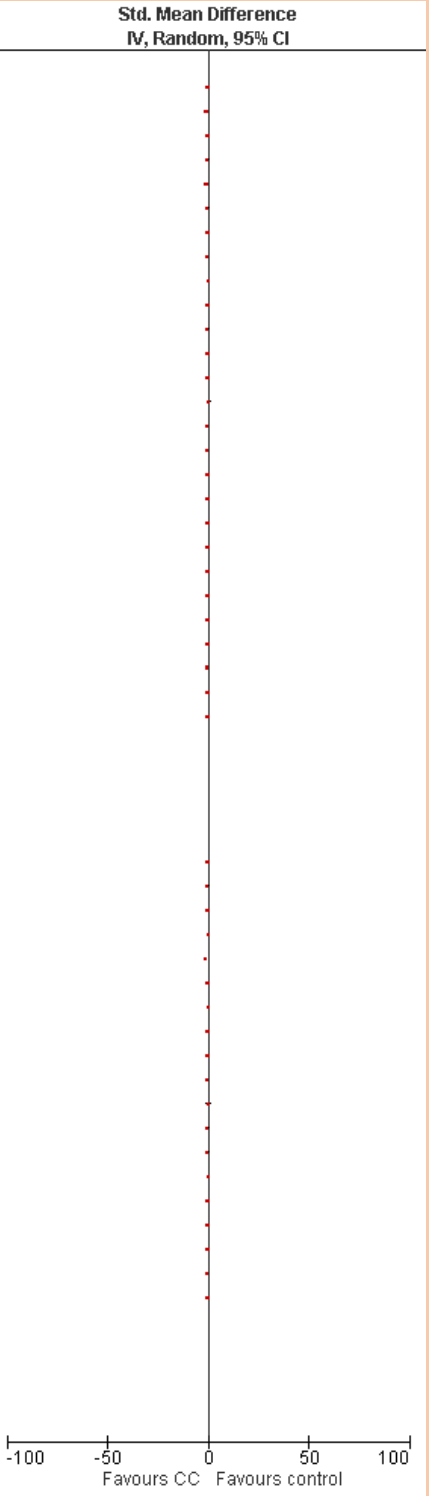
Sub-analysis: depression symptoms at follow-up (6 months) in chronic depression individuals


Study or Subgroup
Std. Mean Difference
SE
Weight
Std. Mean Difference
IV, Random, 95% CI
Std. Mean Difference
IV, Random, 95% CI
Adler2004 -0.1563 0.102064 40.8% -0.16 [-0.36, 0.04]
Buszewicz 2011 -0.27558 0.104705 38.8% -0.28 [-0.48, -0.07]
Katon1999 -0.26038 0.144338 20.4% -0.26 [-0.54, 0.02]
Ludman 2007a -0.05186 0.41833 Not estimable
Ludman 2007b -0.37624 0.406202 Not estimable
Ludman 2007c -0.29204 0.415475 Not estimable
Total (95% CI) 100.0% -0.22 [-0.35, -0.10]
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.75, df = 2 (P = 0.69); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.43 (P = 0.0006)
-1
-0.5
0
0.5
1
Favours CC
Favours control

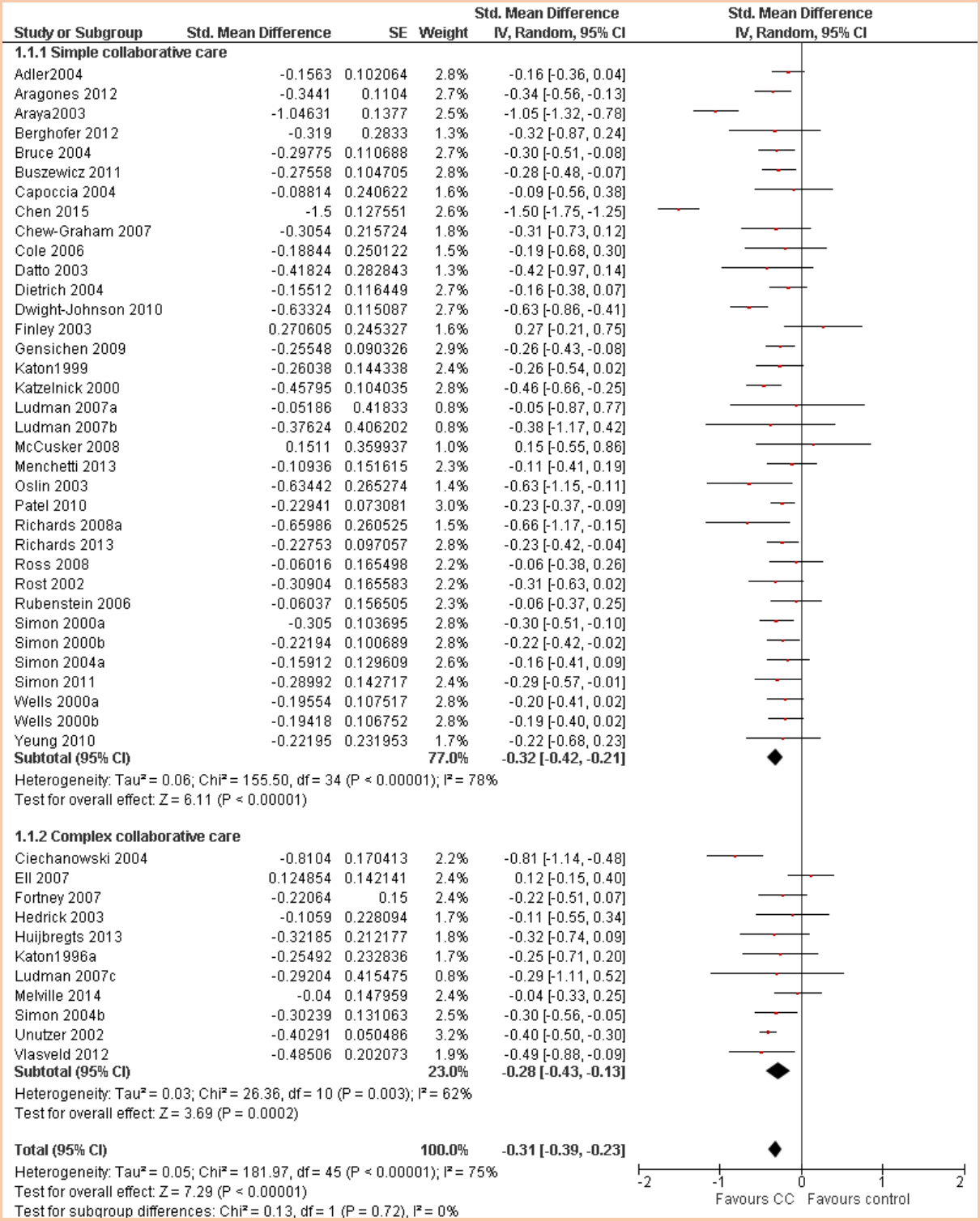
1

Sub-analysis: depression symptoms at endpoint by case-manager background

Study or Subgroup	Std. Mean Difference	SE	Weight	Std. Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI
1.9.1 Mental health background				
Aragones 2012	-0.3441	0.1104	2.7%	-0.34 [-0.56, -0.13]
Araya2003	-1.04631	0.1377	2.5%	-1.05 [-1.32, -0.78]
Bruce 2004	-0.29775	0.110688	2.7%	-0.30 [-0.51, -0.08]
Chew-Graham 2007	-0.3054	0.215724	1.8%	-0.31 [-0.73, 0.12]
Ciechanowski 2004	-0.8104	0.170413	2.2%	-0.81 [-1.14, -0.48]
Datto 2003	-0.41824	0.282843	1.3%	-0.42 [-0.97, 0.14]
Dietrich 2004	-0.15512	0.116449	2.7%	-0.16 [-0.38, 0.07]
Dwight-Johnson 2010	-0.63324	0.115087	2.7%	-0.63 [-0.86, -0.41]
Ell 2007	0.124854	0.142141	2.4%	0.12 [-0.15, 0.40]
Hedrick 2003	-0.1059	0.228094	1.7%	-0.11 [-0.55, 0.34]
Huijbregts 2013	-0.32185	0.212177	1.8%	-0.32 [-0.74, 0.09]
Katon1996a	-0.25492	0.232836	1.7%	-0.25 [-0.71, 0.20]
Katon1999	-0.26038	0.144338	2.4%	-0.26 [-0.54, 0.02]
McCusker 2008	0.1511	0.359937	1.0%	0.15 [-0.55, 0.86]
Oslin 2003	-0.63442	0.265274	1.4%	-0.63 [-1.15, -0.11]
Richards 2008a	-0.65986	0.260525	1.5%	-0.66 [-1.17, -0.15]
Richards 2013	-0.22753	0.097057	2.8%	-0.23 [-0.42, -0.04]
Ross 2008	-0.06016	0.165498	2.2%	-0.06 [-0.38, 0.26]
Rubenstein 2006	-0.06037	0.156505	2.3%	-0.06 [-0.37, 0.25]
Simon 2000a	-0.305	0.103695	2.8%	-0.30 [-0.51, -0.10]
Simon 2000b	-0.22194	0.100689	2.8%	-0.22 [-0.42, -0.02]
Simon 2004a	-0.15912	0.129609	2.6%	-0.16 [-0.41, 0.09]
Simon 2004b	-0.30239	0.131063	2.5%	-0.30 [-0.56, -0.05]
Simon 2011	-0.28992	0.142717	2.4%	-0.29 [-0.57, -0.01]
Unutzer 2002	-0.40291	0.050486	3.2%	-0.40 [-0.50, -0.30]
Wells 2000a	-0.19554	0.107517	2.8%	-0.20 [-0.41, 0.02]
Wells 2000b	-0.19418	0.106752	2.8%	-0.19 [-0.40, 0.02]
Subtotal (95% CI)			**61.8%**	**-0.31 [-0.40, -0.22]**
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.03; Chi² = 75.60, df = 26 (P < 0.00001); I² = 66%				
Test for overall effect: Z = 6.93 (P < 0.00001)				
1.9.2 Non-mental health background				
Adler2004	-0.1563	0.102064	2.8%	-0.16 [-0.36, 0.04]
Berghofer 2012	-0.319	0.2833	1.3%	-0.32 [-0.87, 0.24]
Buszewicz 2011	-0.27558	0.104705	2.8%	-0.28 [-0.48, -0.07]
Capoccia 2004	-0.08814	0.240622	1.6%	-0.09 [-0.56, 0.38]
Chen 2015	-1.5	0.127551	2.6%	-1.50 [-1.75, -1.25]
Cole 2006	-0.18844	0.250122	1.5%	-0.19 [-0.68, 0.30]
Finley 2003	0.270605	0.245327	1.6%	0.27 [-0.21, 0.75]
Fortney 2007	-0.22064	0.15	2.4%	-0.22 [-0.51, 0.07]
Gensichen 2009	-0.25548	0.090326	2.9%	-0.26 [-0.43, -0.08]
Katzelnick 2000	-0.45795	0.104035	2.8%	-0.46 [-0.66, -0.25]
Ludman 2007a	-0.05186	0.41833	0.8%	-0.05 [-0.87, 0.77]
Ludman 2007b	-0.37624	0.406202	0.8%	-0.38 [-1.17, 0.42]
Ludman 2007c	-0.29204	0.415475	0.8%	-0.29 [-1.11, 0.52]
Melville 2014	-0.04	0.147959	2.4%	-0.04 [-0.33, 0.25]
Menchetti 2013	-0.10936	0.151615	2.3%	-0.11 [-0.41, 0.19]
Patel 2010	-0.22941	0.073081	3.0%	-0.23 [-0.37, -0.09]
Rost 2002	-0.30904	0.165583	2.2%	-0.31 [-0.63, 0.02]
Vlasveld 2012	-0.48506	0.202073	1.9%	-0.49 [-0.88, -0.09]
Yeung 2010	-0.22195	0.231953	1.7%	-0.22 [-0.68, 0.23]
Subtotal (95% CI)			**38.2%**	**-0.30 [-0.47, -0.13]**
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.10; Chi² = 106.38, df = 18 (P < 0.00001); I² = 83%				
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.40 (P = 0.0007)				
Total (95% CI)			**100.0%**	**-0.31 [-0.39, -0.23]**
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.05; Chi² = 181.97, df = 45 (P < 0.00001); I² = 75%				
Test for overall effect: Z = 7.29 (P < 0.00001)				
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 0.02, df = 1 (P = 0.88), I² = 0%				



1 Sub-analysis: depression symptoms at endpoint by psychological intervention



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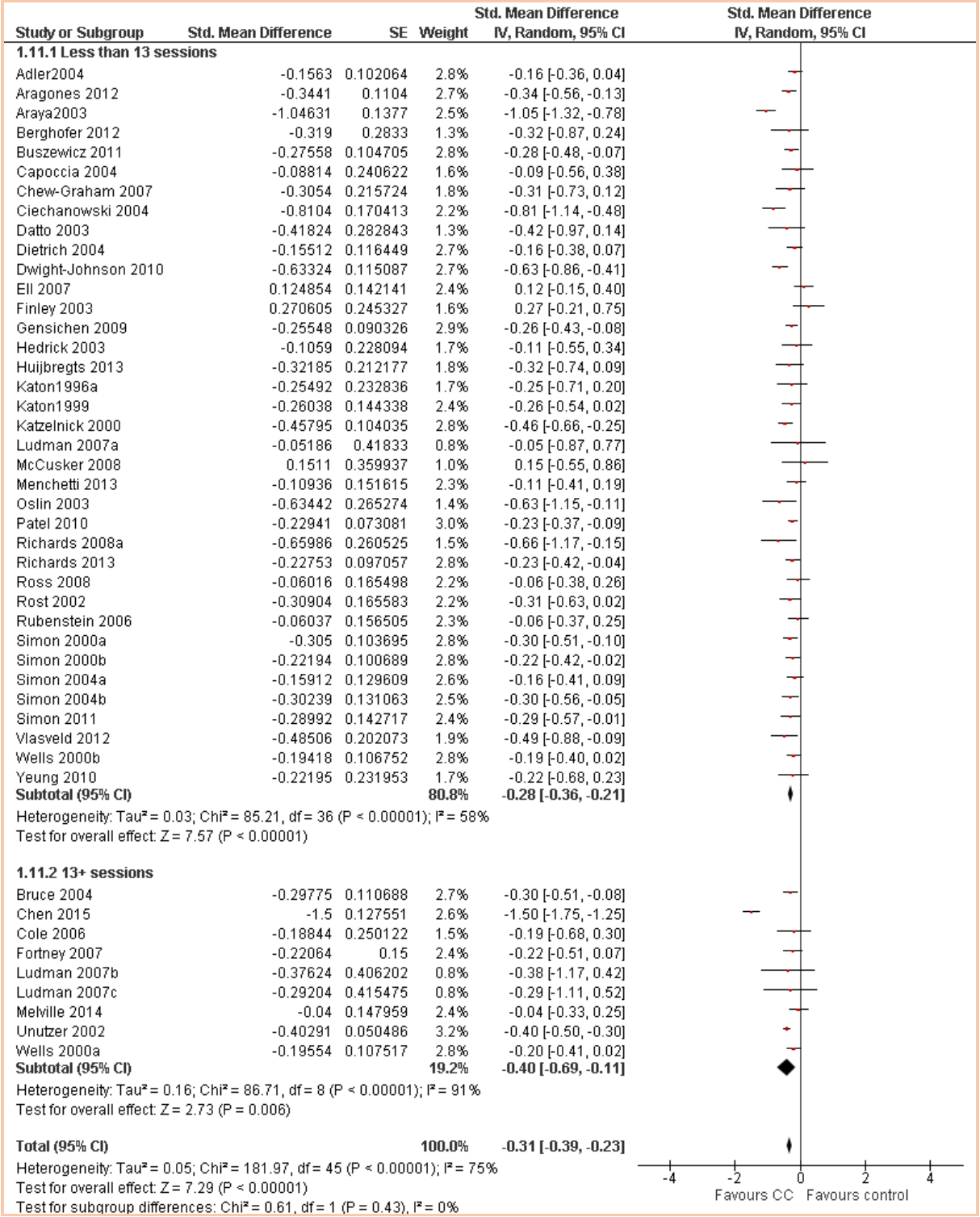
3

1 Sub-analysis: depression symptoms at endpoint by number of contacts



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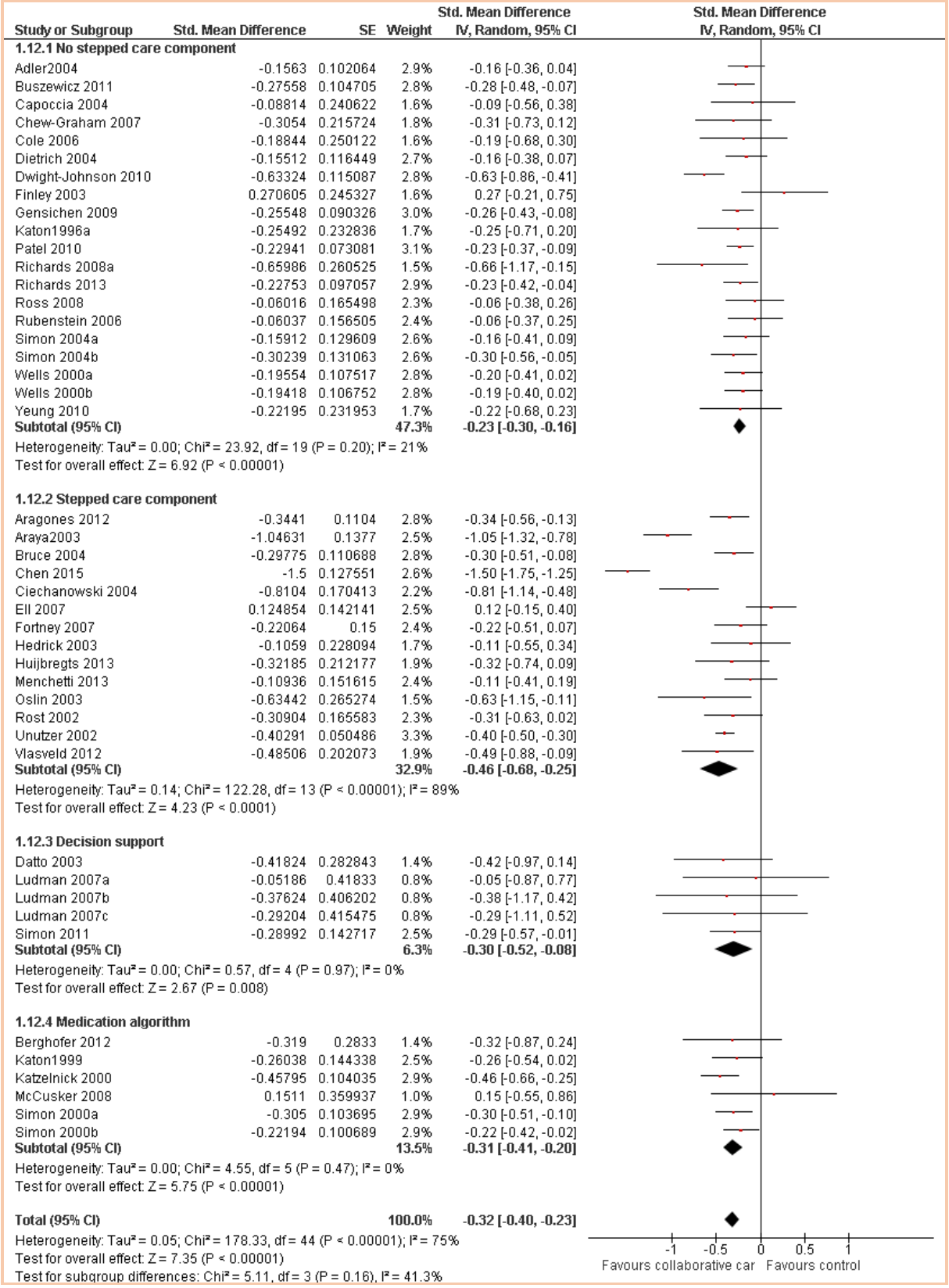
1 Sub-analysis: depression symptoms at endpoint by stepped care algorithm



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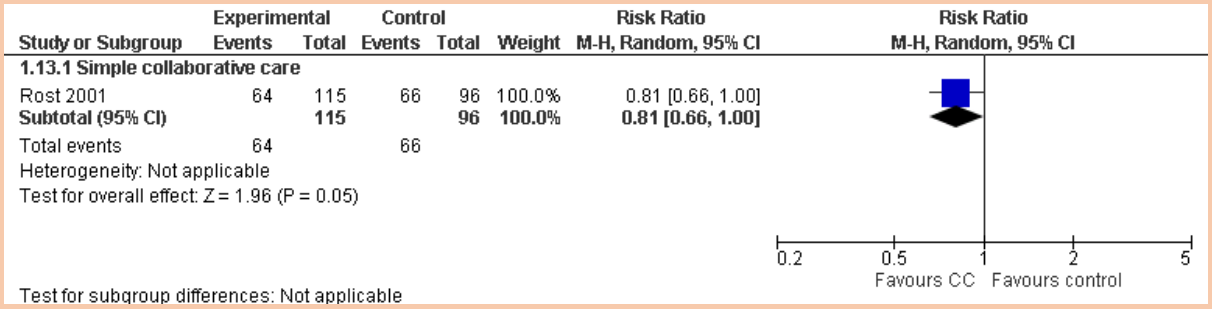
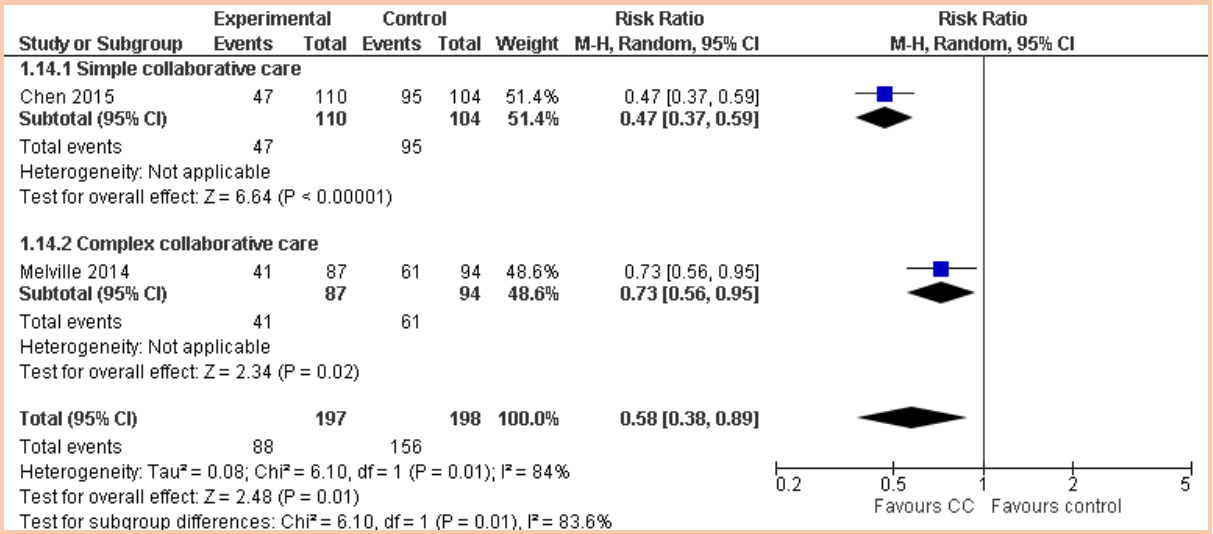
Non-remission at follow-up (6 months)

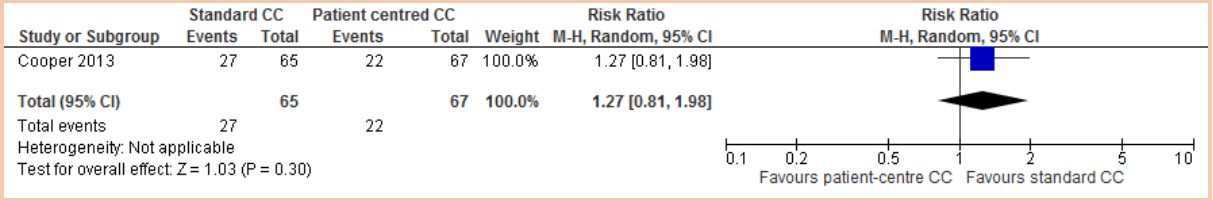


Non-remission at endpoint

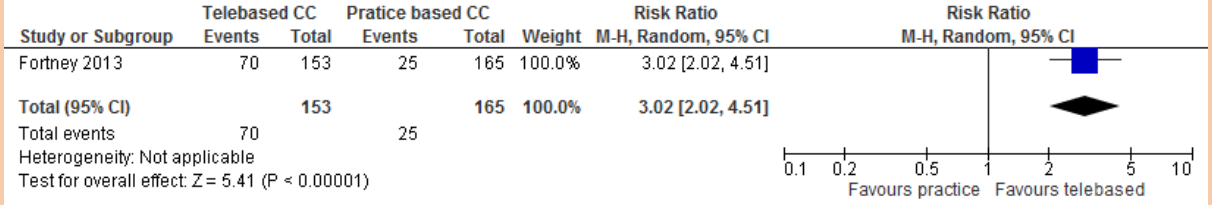


Collaborative care versus other active intervention

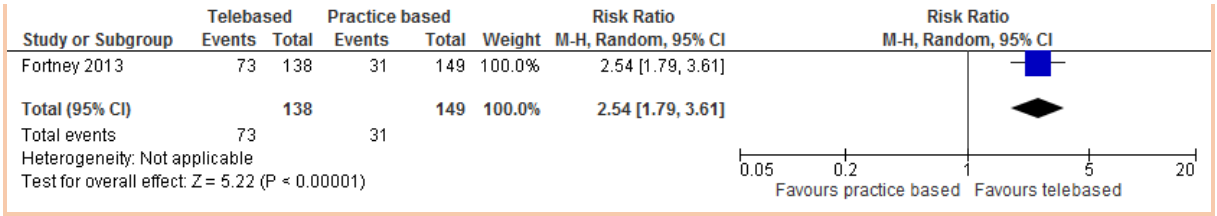
Simple collaborative care: standard versus patient-centred



Response at endpoint: tele-based versus practice based

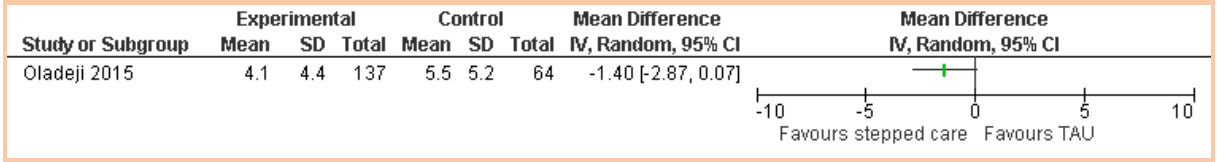


Response at follow-up: tele-based versus practice-based

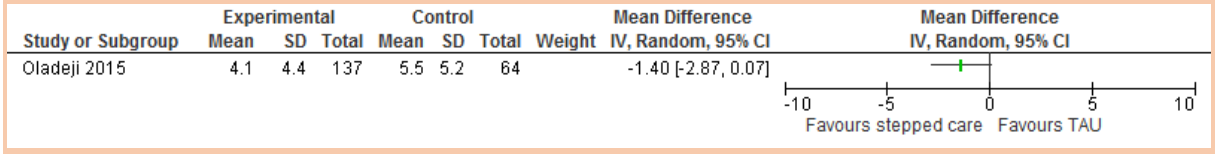


Stepped care versus control

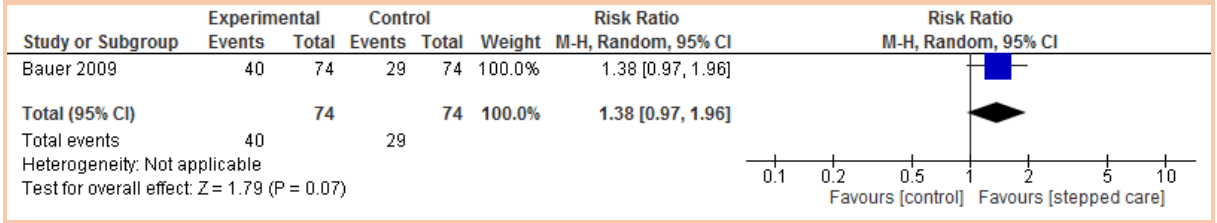
Depression symptoms at follow-up (6 months) (PHQ-9)



Depression symptoms at endpoint (PHQ-9)



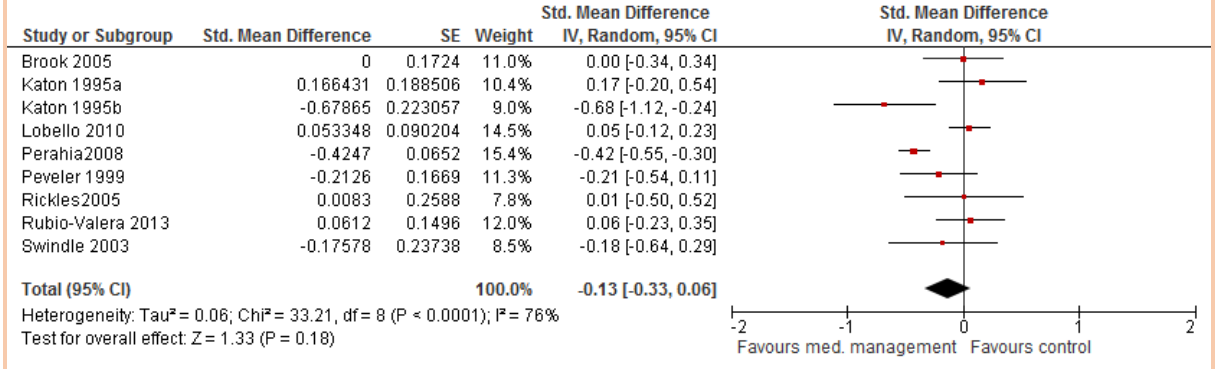
Remission at endpoint



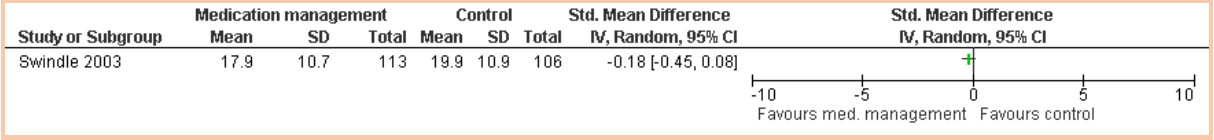
Antidepressant use

Medication management versus control

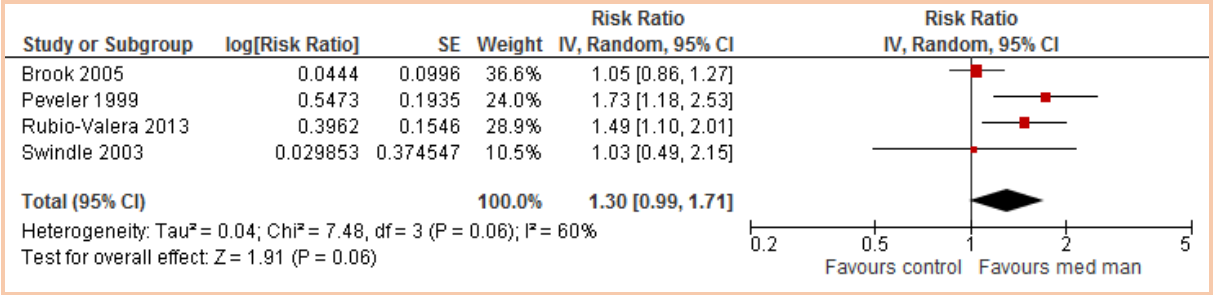
Mean change in depression scores at endpoint



Mean change in depression scores at follow-up (12 months)

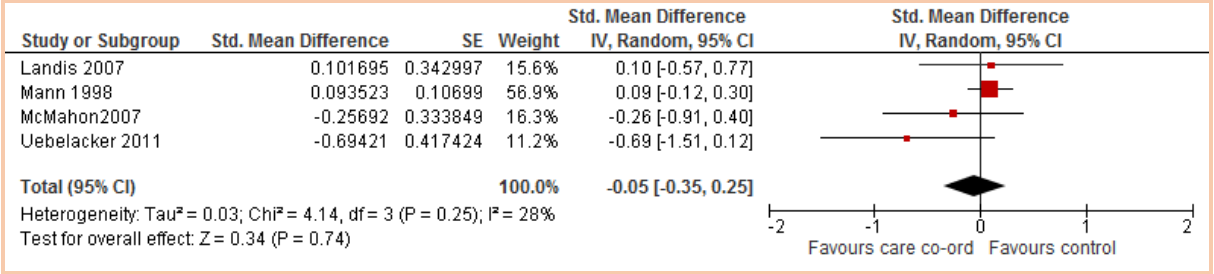


Antidepressant use at endpoint

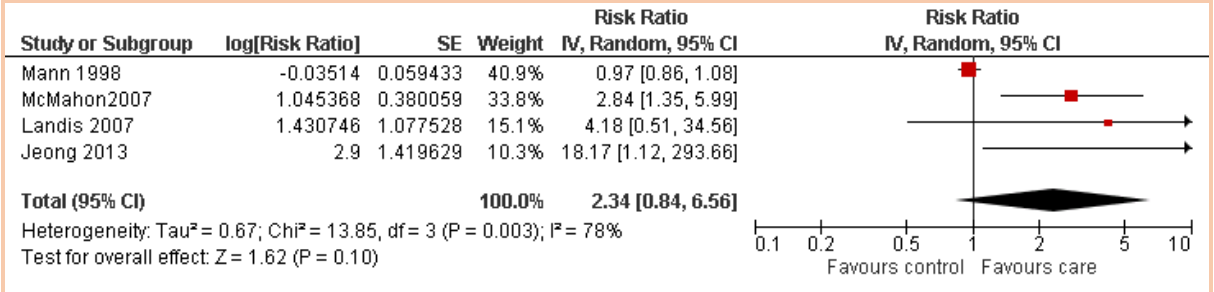


Care co-ordination versus control

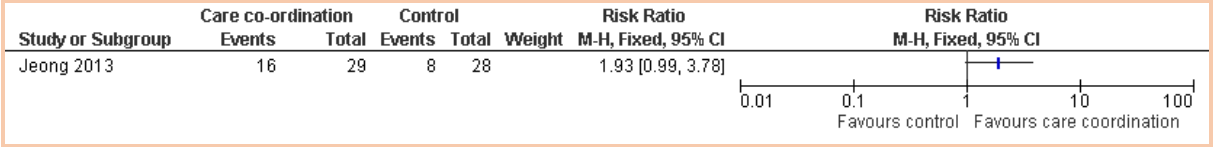
Mean change in depression scores at endpoint



Antidepressant adherence

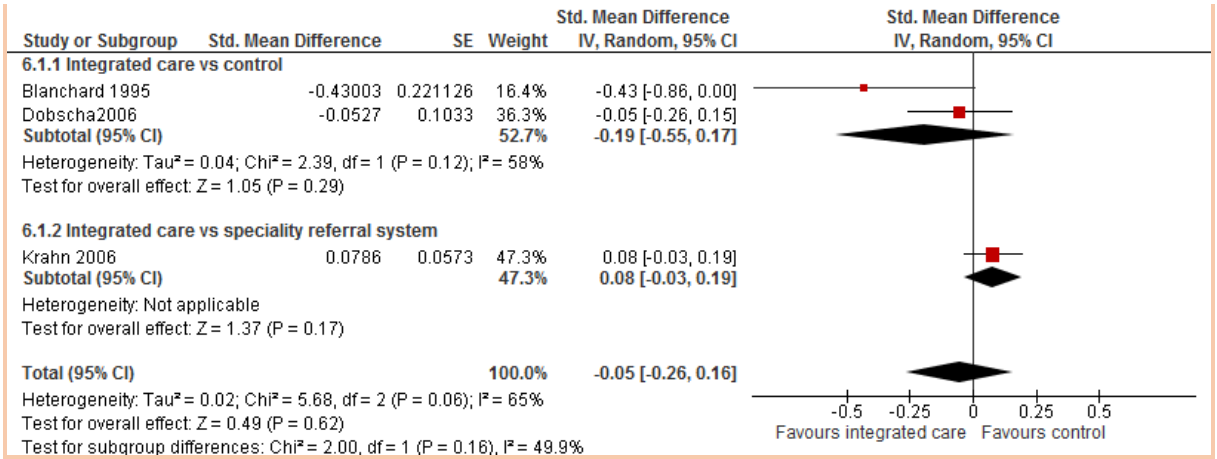


Remission (HAMD ≤ 7) at endpoint



Integrated care versus control

Mean change in depression scores at endpoint



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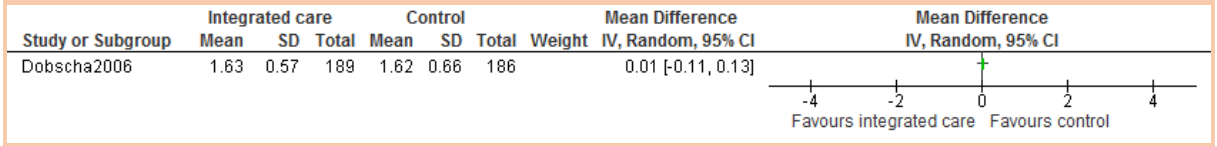
2 Mean change in depression scores at follow-up (12 months)



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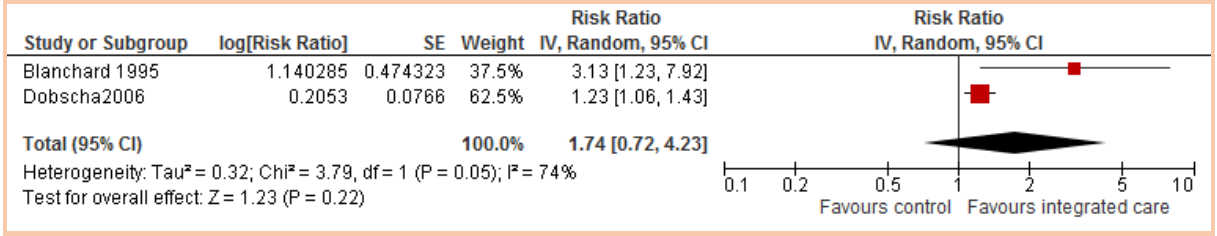
4 Antidepressant adherence



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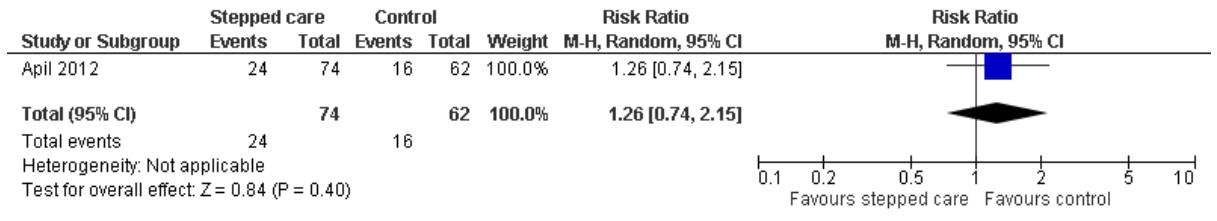
6 ## Measurement-based care versus control

7 Response at endpoint (HAMD ≥50% improvement)



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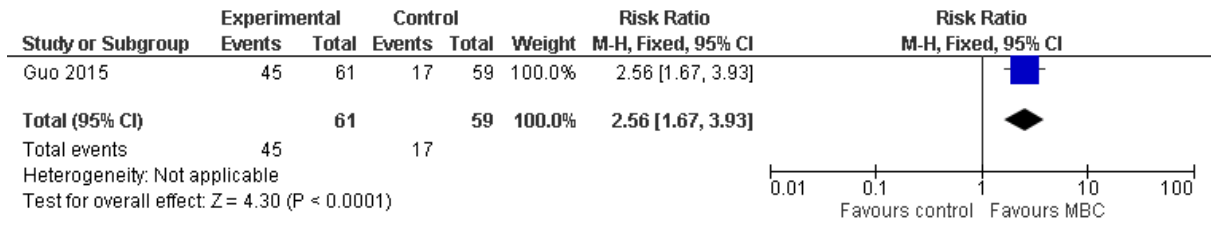
9 Remission at endpoint (HAMD ≤ 7)



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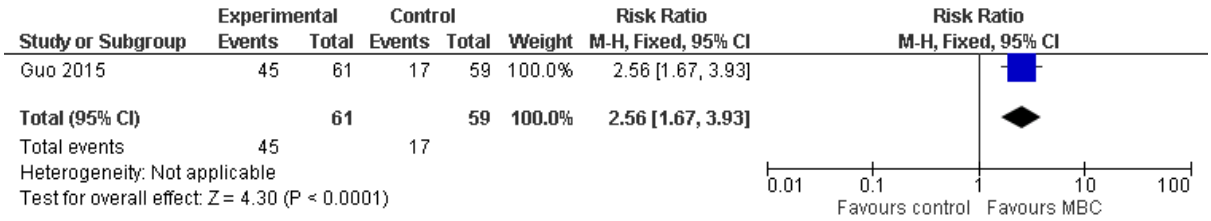
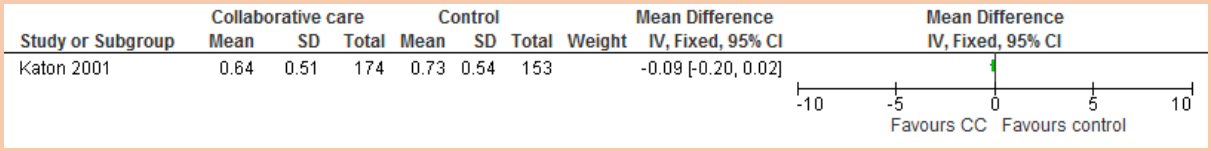
11 Depression symptoms at endpoint (HAMD change score)



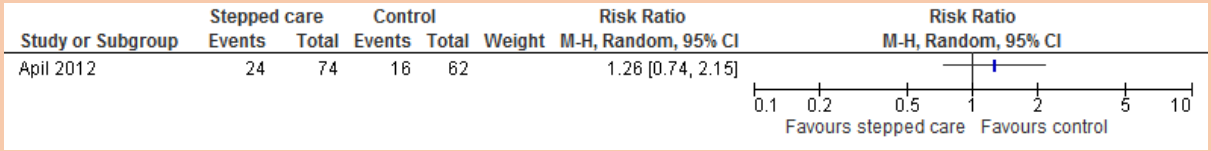
Service delivery models for relapse prevention

Depression symptoms (collaborative care)



Relapse (collaborative care)

Relapse (stepped care)

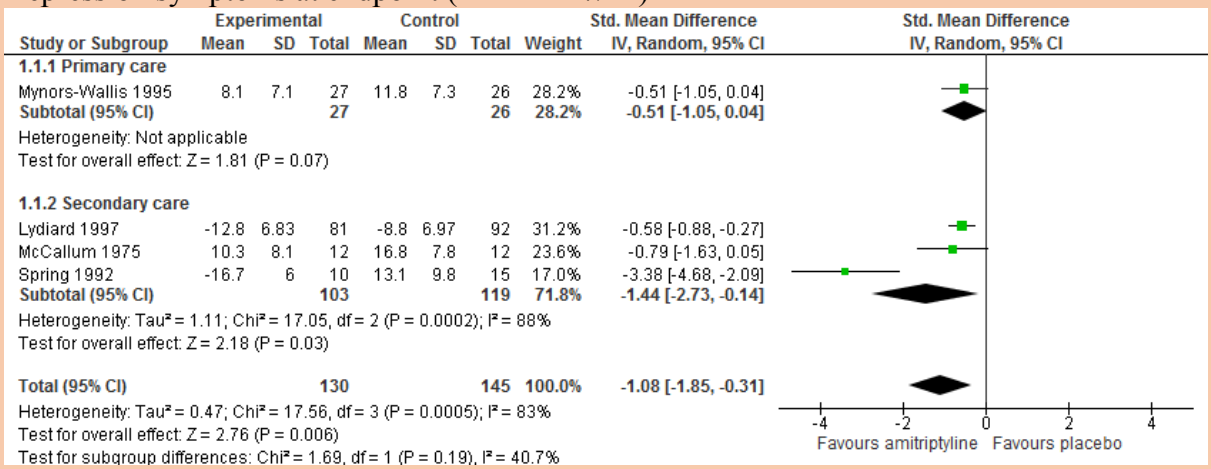


Settings of care

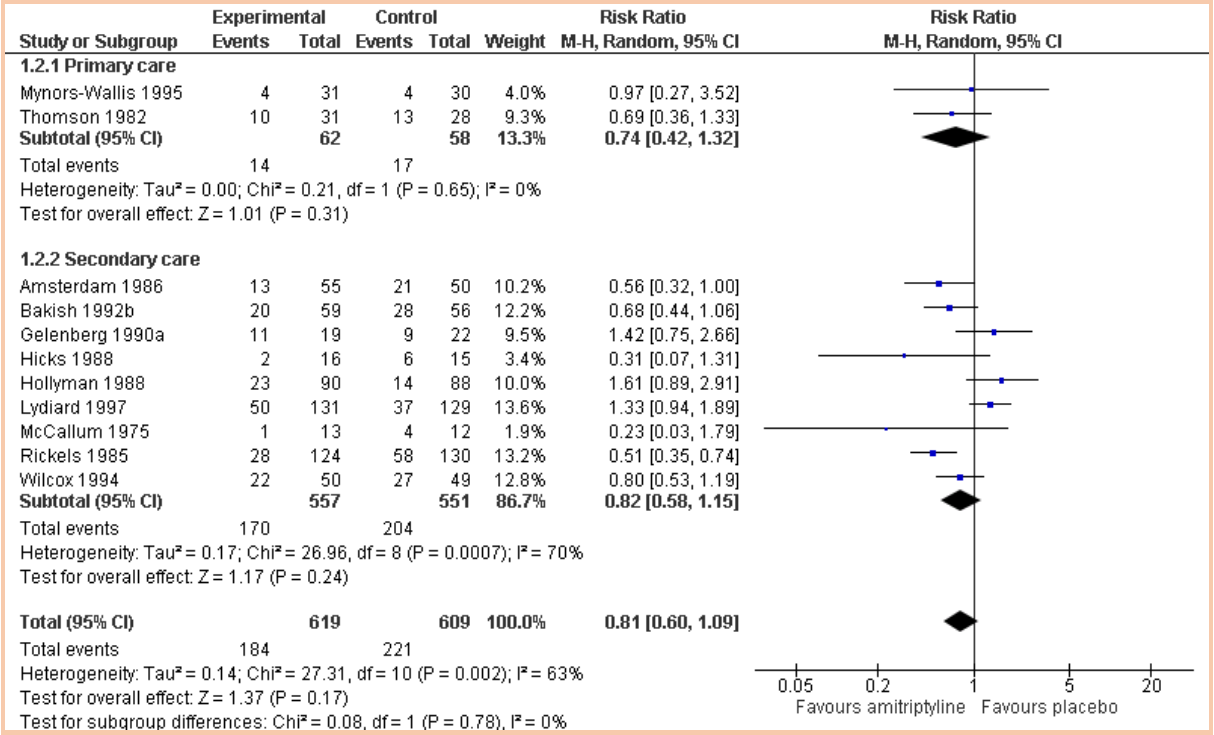
Primary care versus secondary care for acute treatment (NMA sub-analysis)

Amitriptyline versus placebo

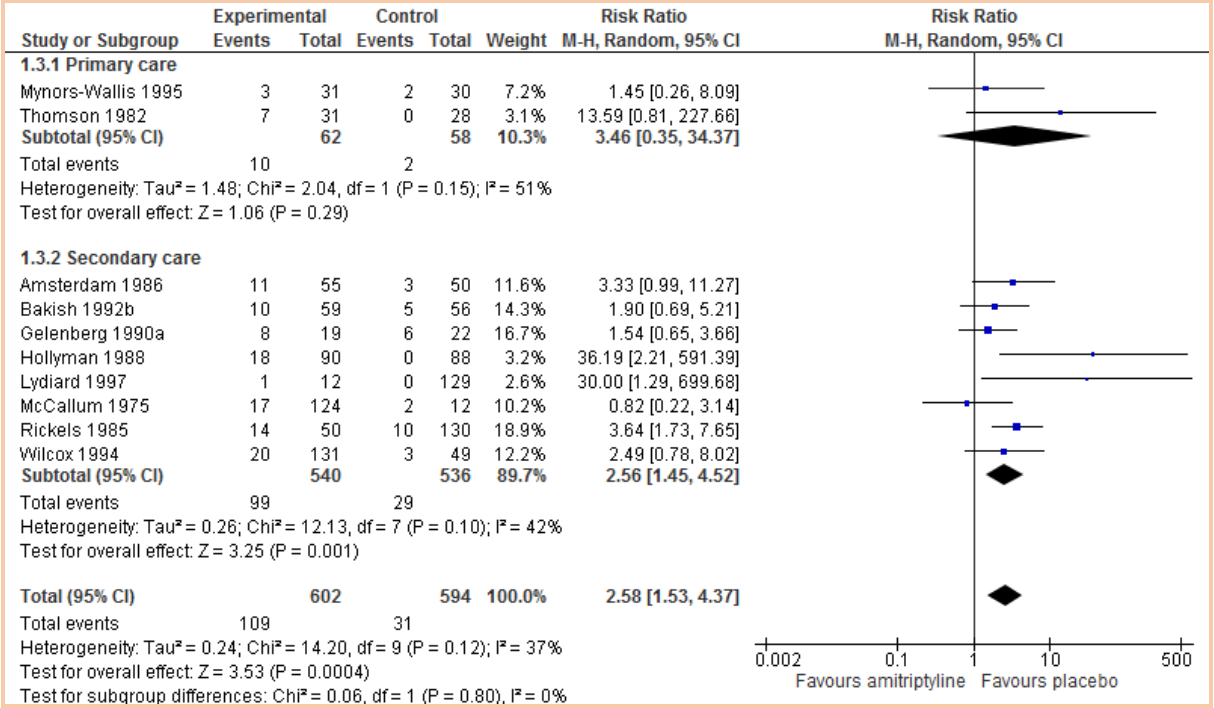
Depression symptoms at endpoint (HAMD-17/21)



Discontinuation

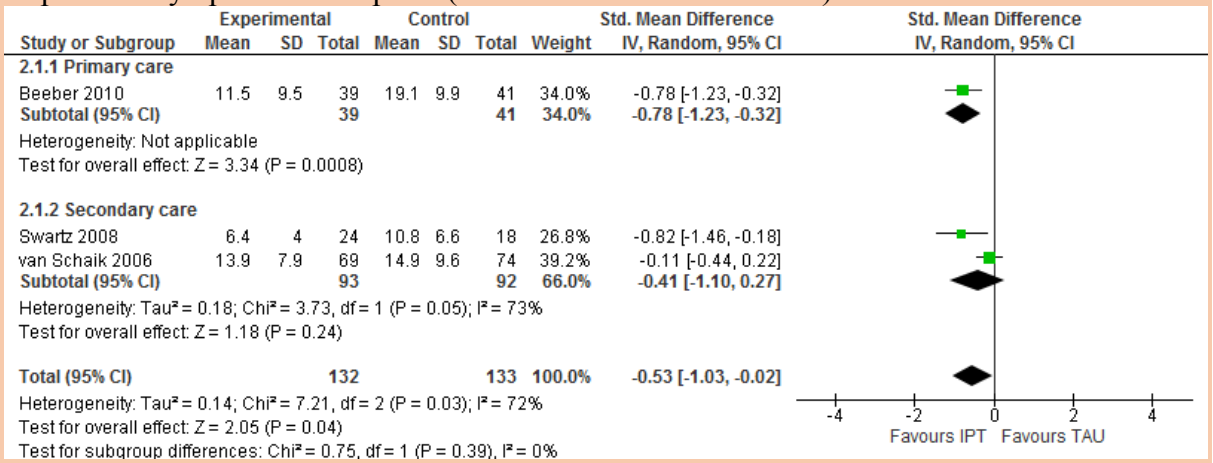


Discontinuation due to side effects

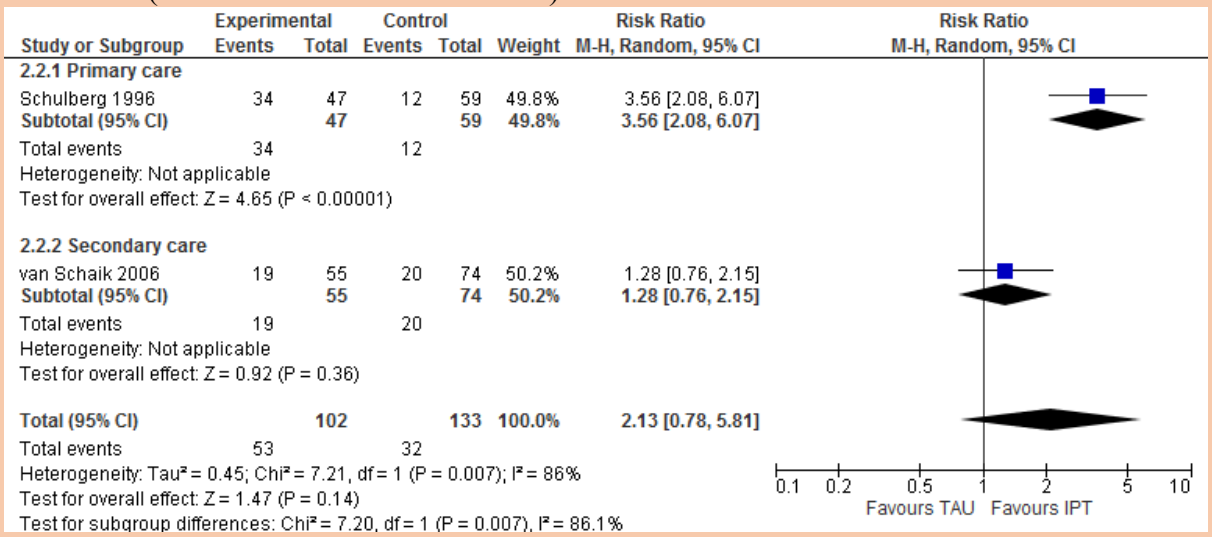


IPT versus TAU/waitlist

Depression symptoms at endpoint (CES-D/HAMD-17/MADRS)



Remission (HAMD-17 <=7/MADRS<=10)



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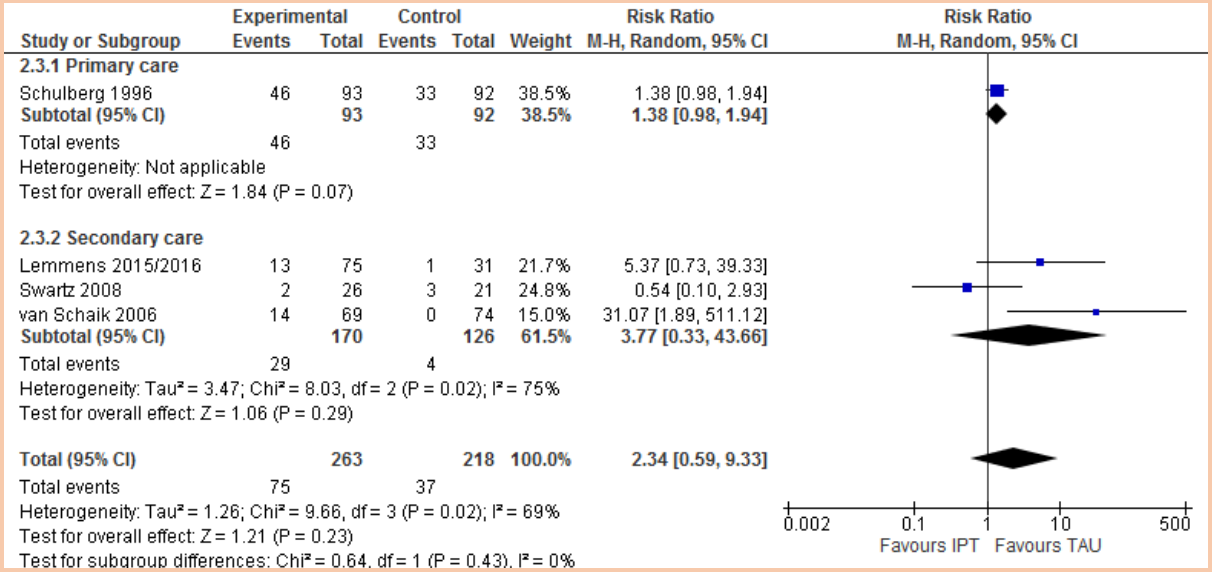
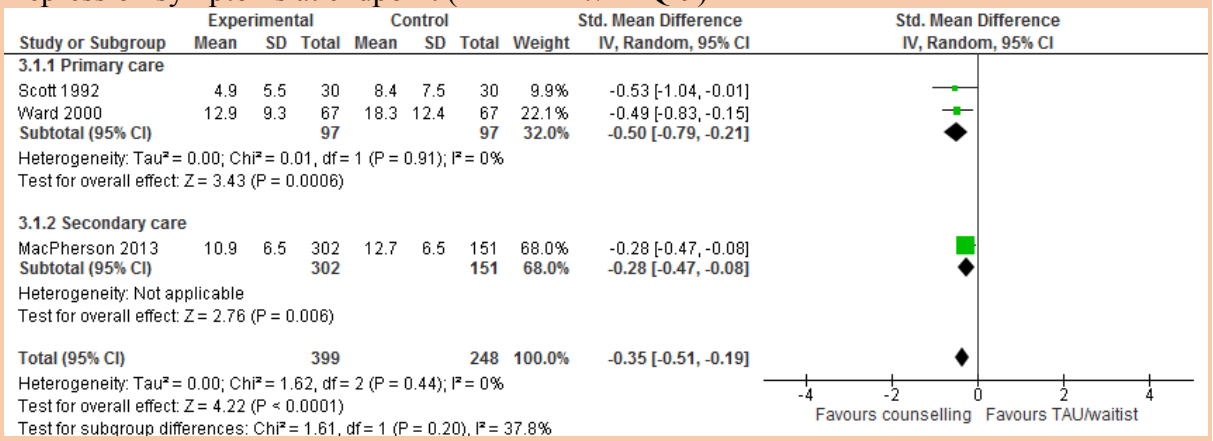


Counselling versus TAU

Depression symptoms at endpoint (HAMD-17/PHQ-9)



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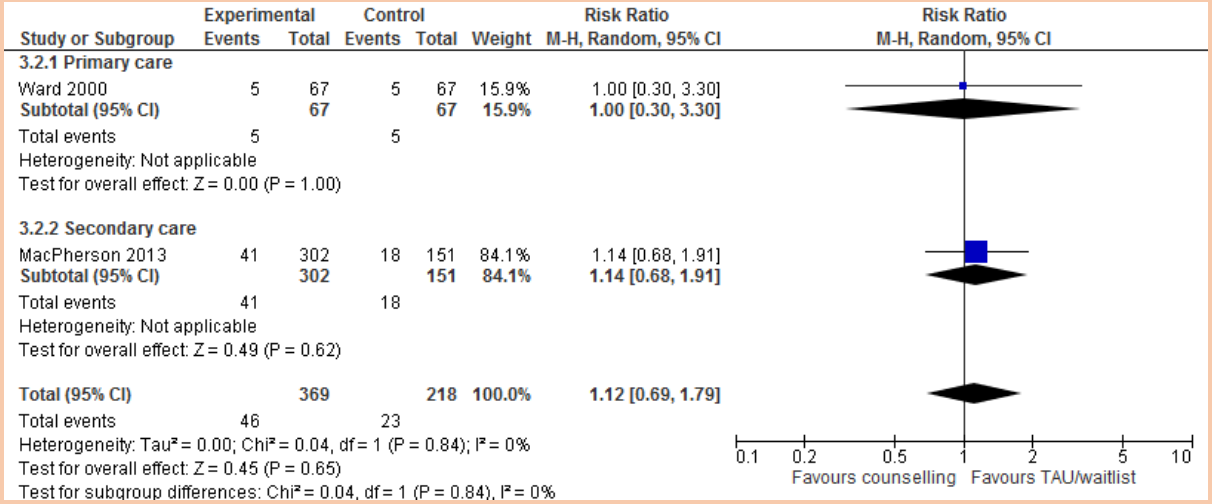
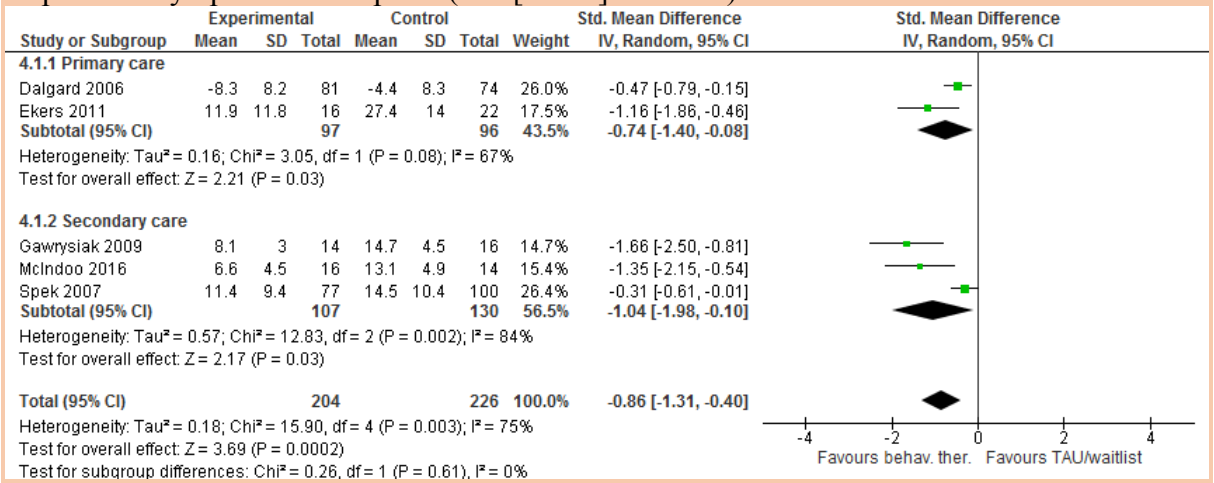
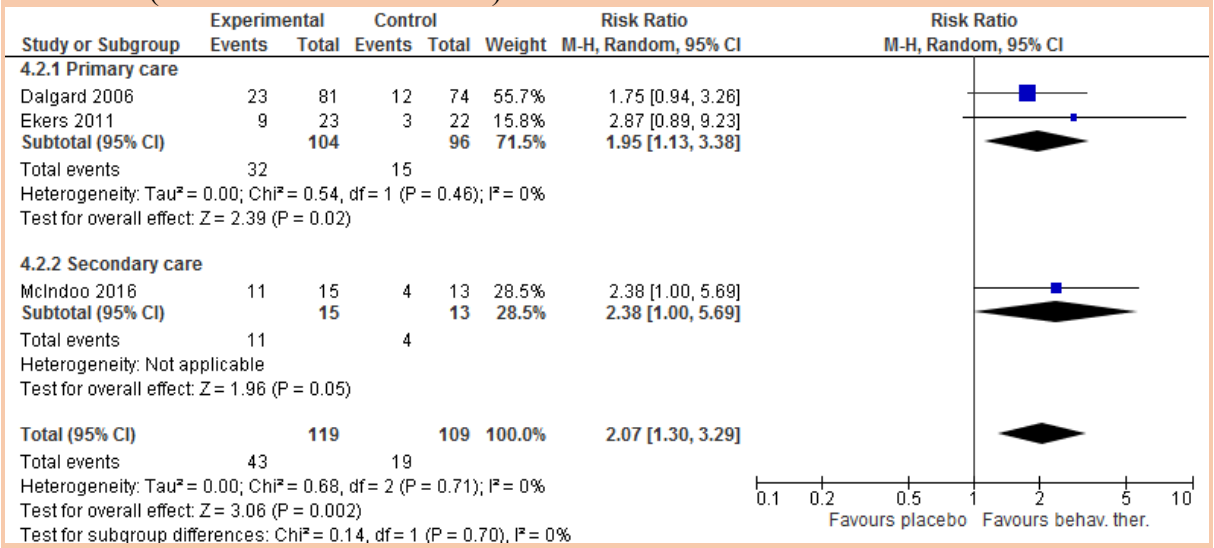


Behavioural therapies versus TAU/waitlist

Depression symptoms at endpoint (BDI[I or II]/HAM-D)



Remission (BDI <=10/HAMD-17<=7)



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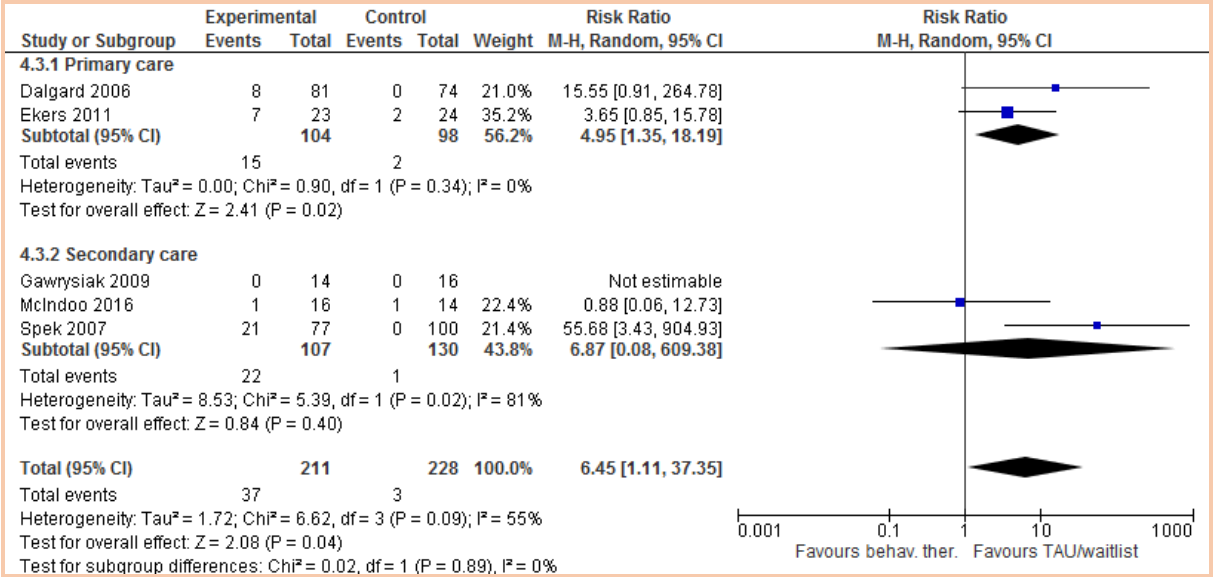
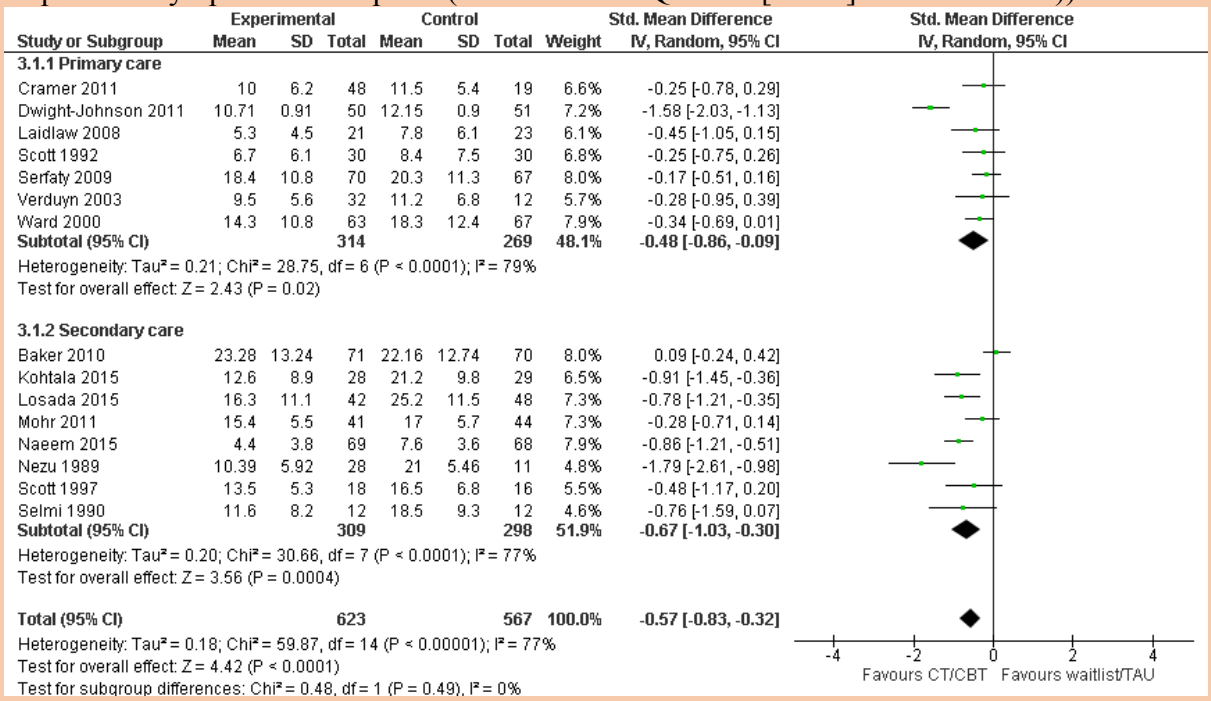
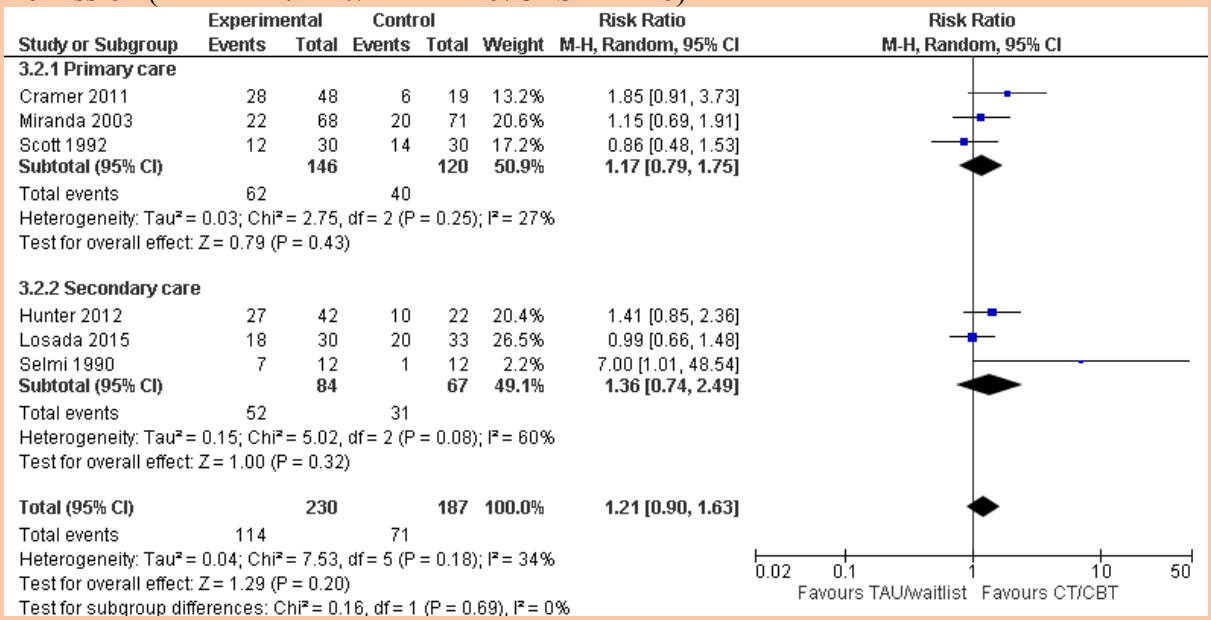


Cognitive and cognitive behavioural therapies versus TAU/waitlist

Depression symptoms at endpoint (HAMD-17/PHQ-9/BDI[I or II]/CES-D/HADS))



Remission (HAMD-17 <=7/BDI-II<=9/CES-D<=16)



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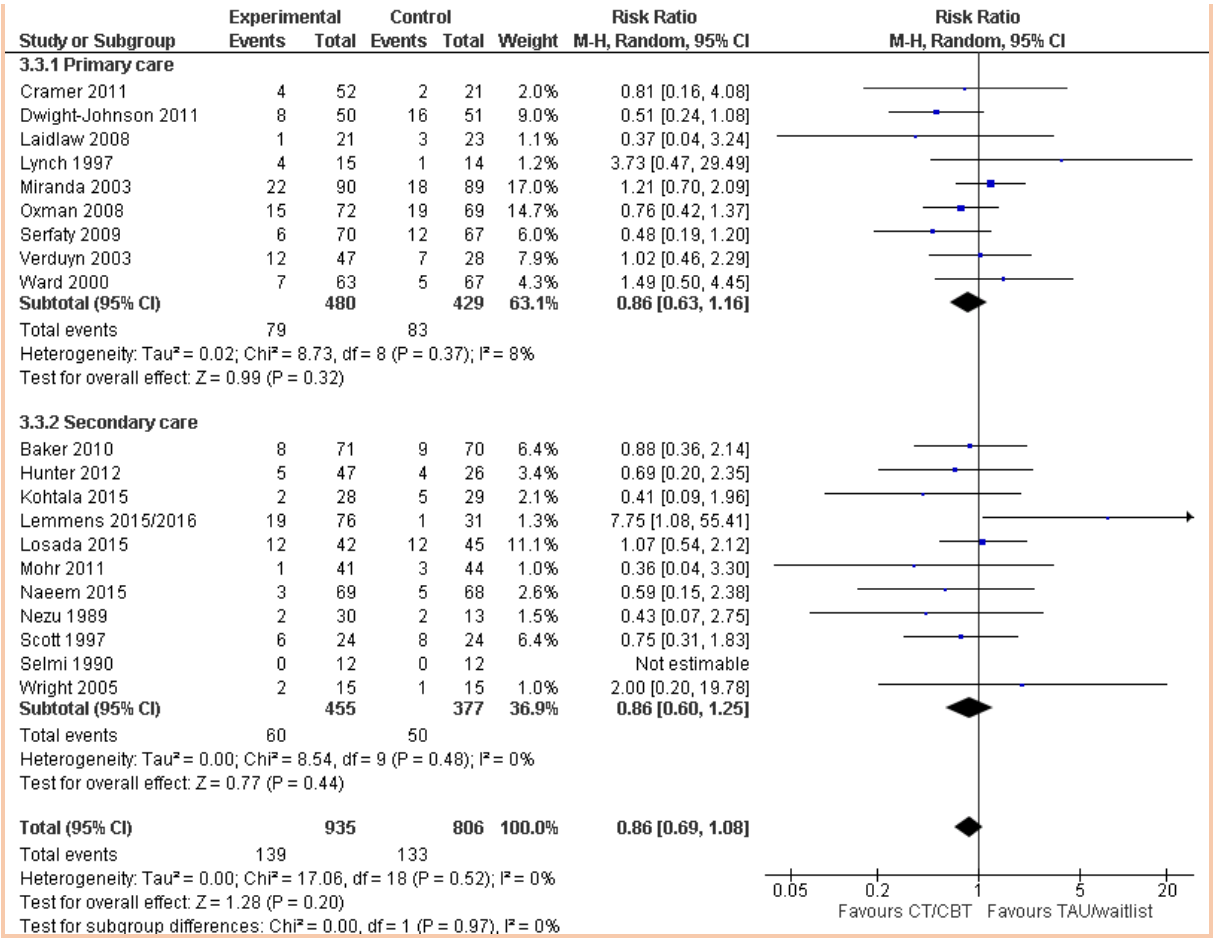
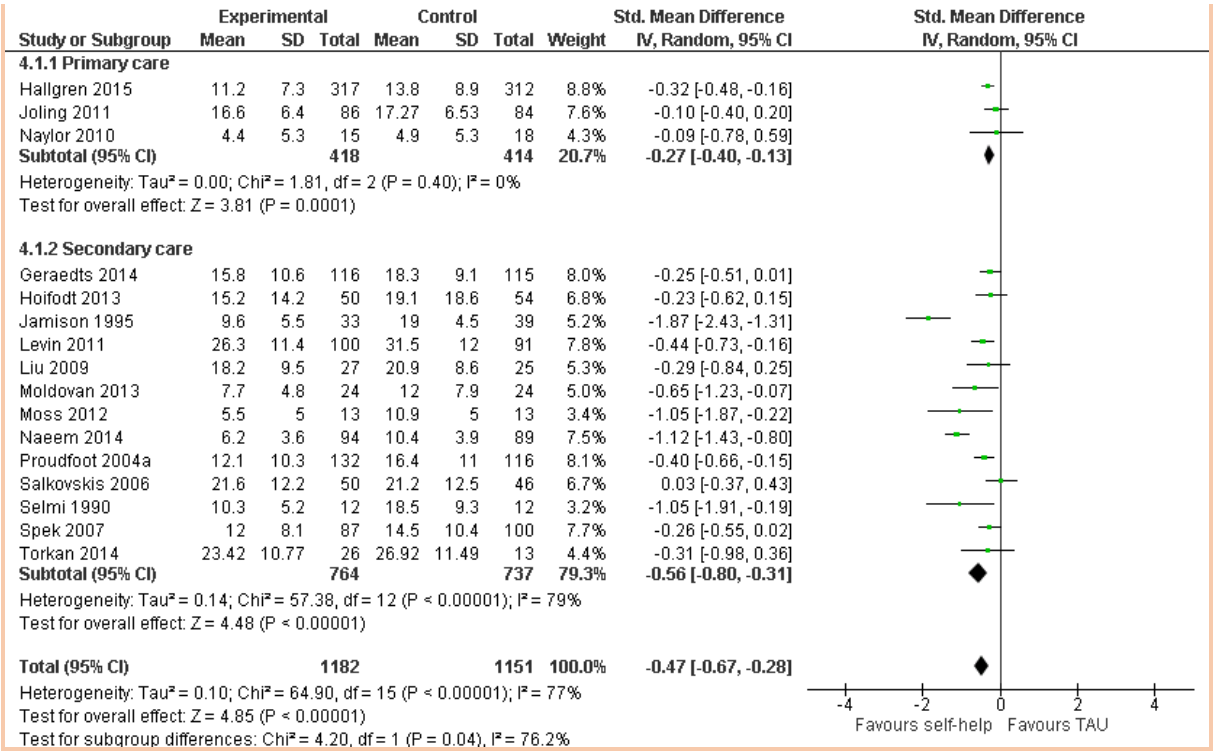
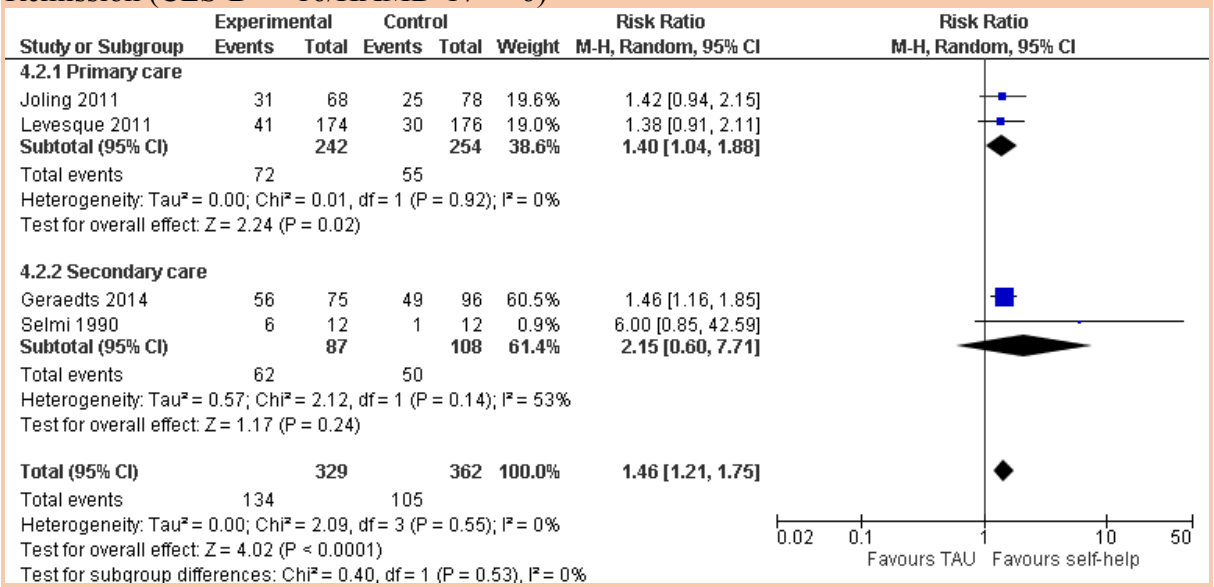


Self-help (without support) versus TAU/waitlist

Depression symptoms at endpoint (MADRS/CES-D/BDI[I or II]/HAMD[17 or 21]/HADS)



Remission (CES-D <=16/HAMD-17 <=6)



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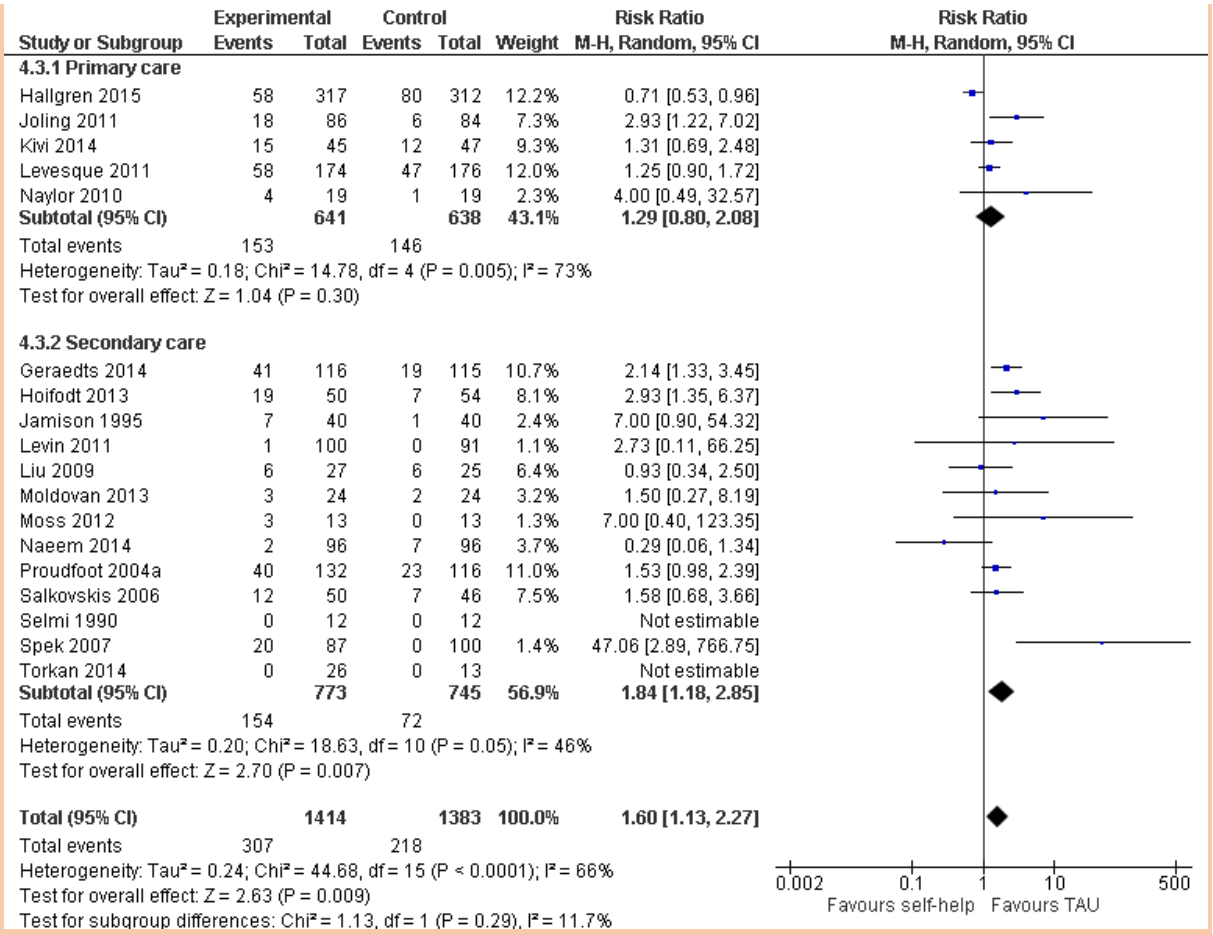
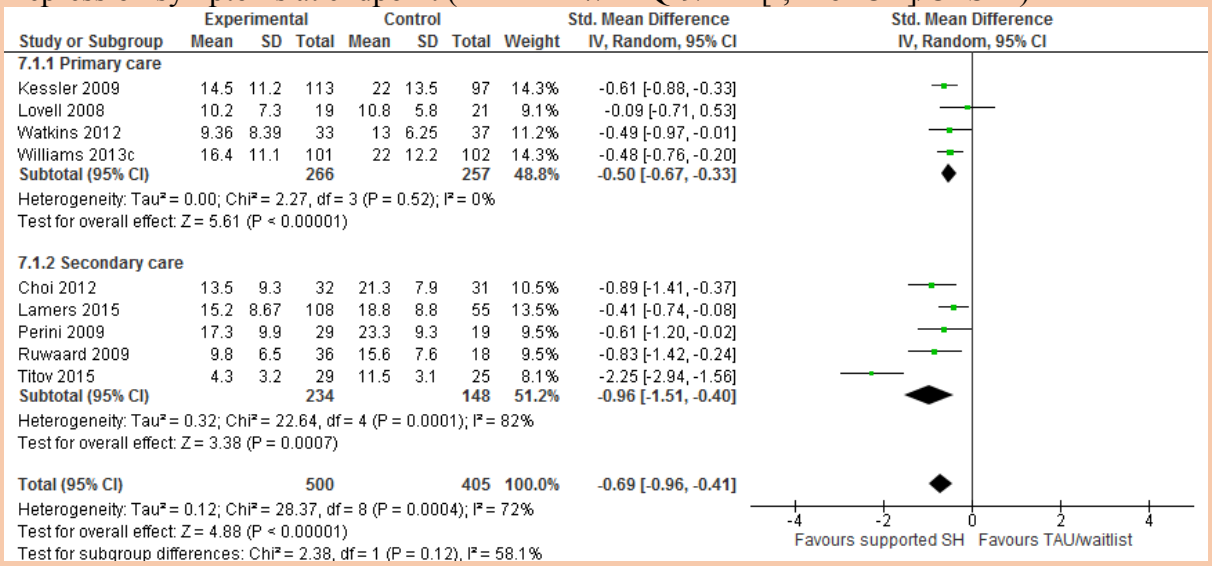
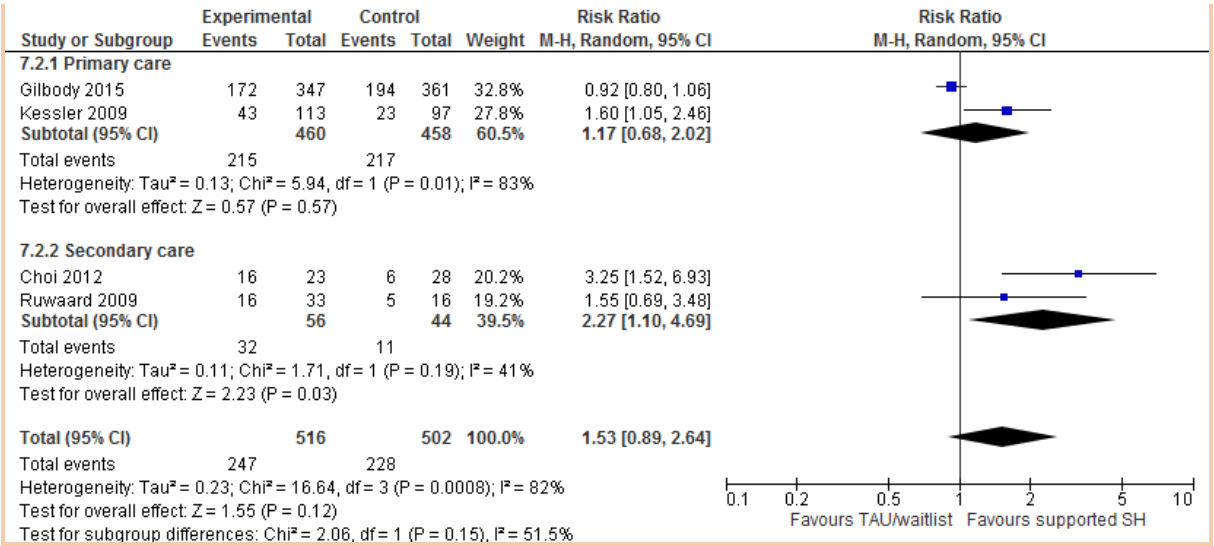


Self-help with support versus TAU/waitlist

Depression symptoms at endpoint (HAMD-17/PHQ-9/BDI[I, II or CH]/CES-D)



Remission (PHQ-9/BDI <=9/<=16/<=10)



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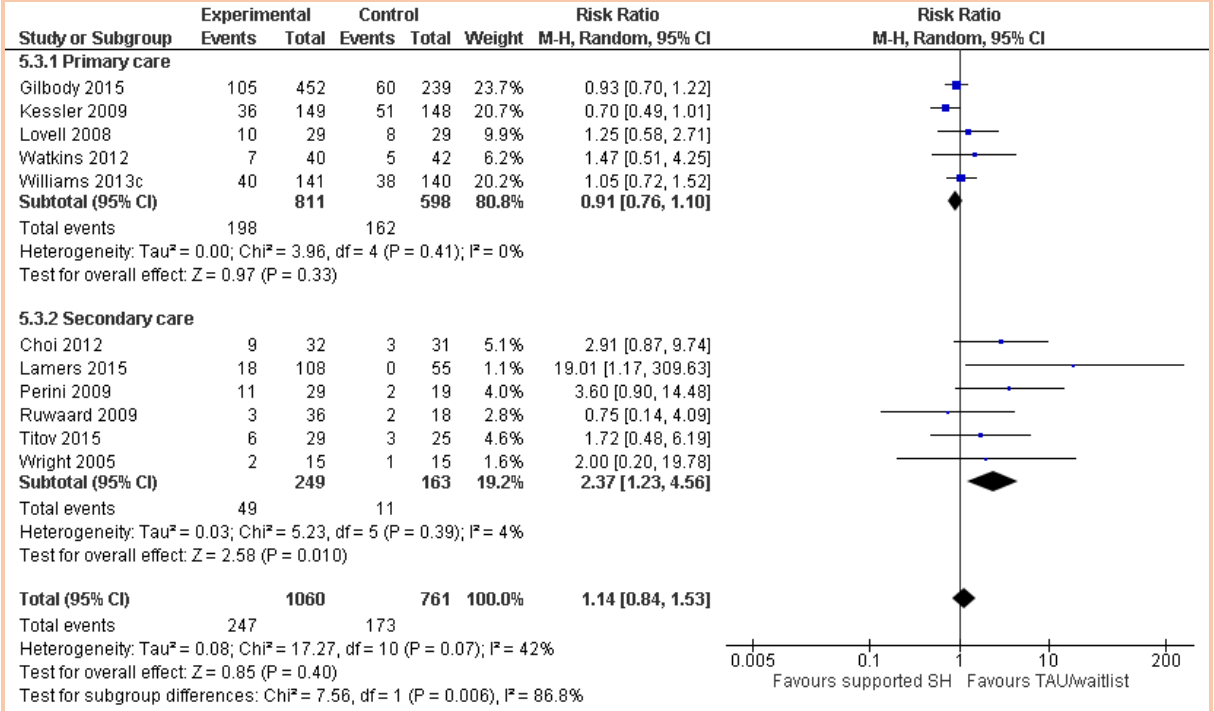
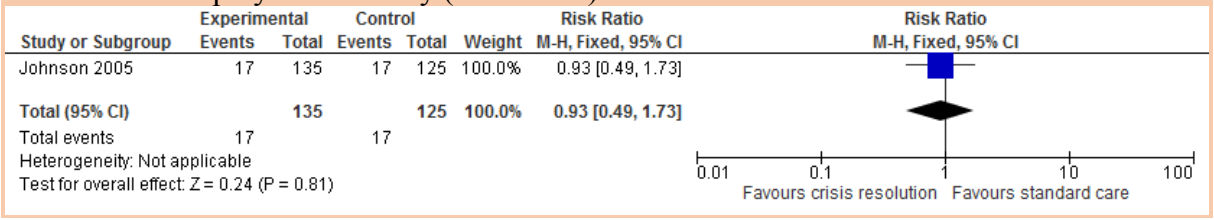
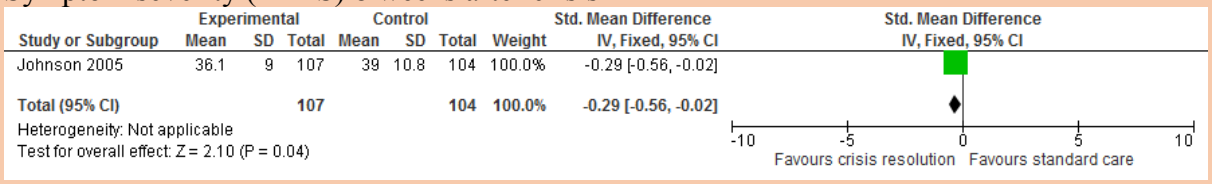


Crisis resolution team care versus standard care

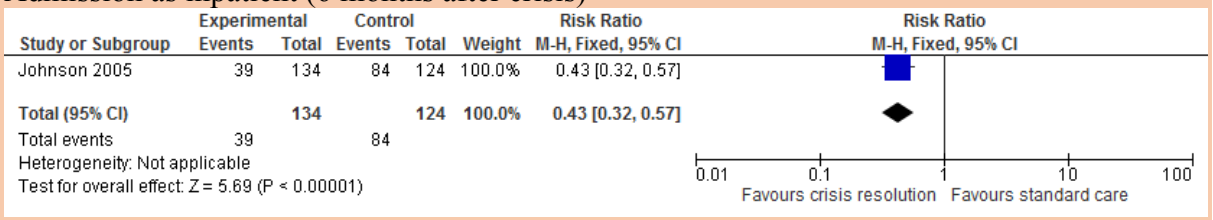
Lost to follow-up by end of study (12 months)



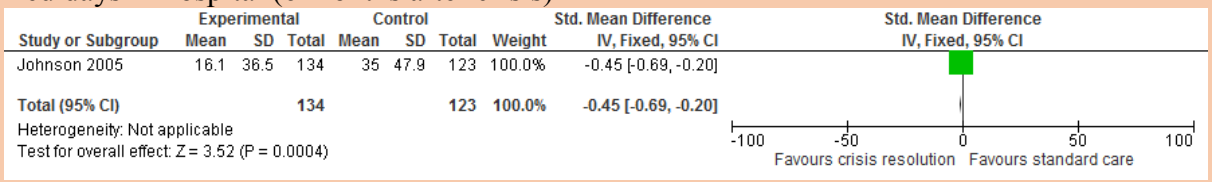
Symptom severity (BPRS) 8 weeks after crisis



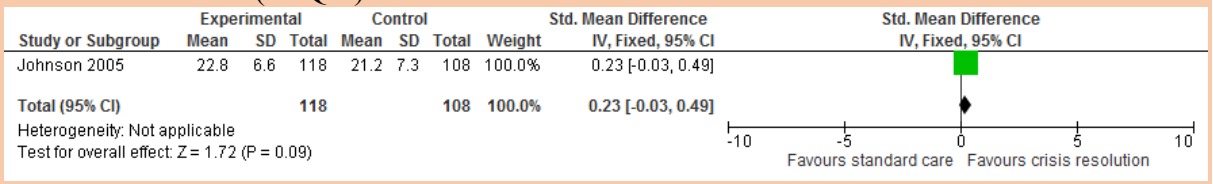
Admission as inpatient (6 months after crisis)



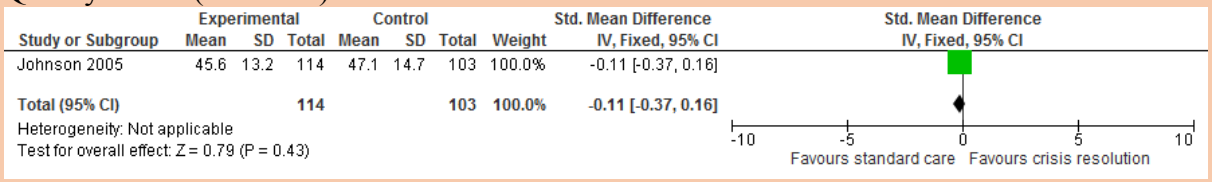
Bed days in hospital (6 months after crisis)



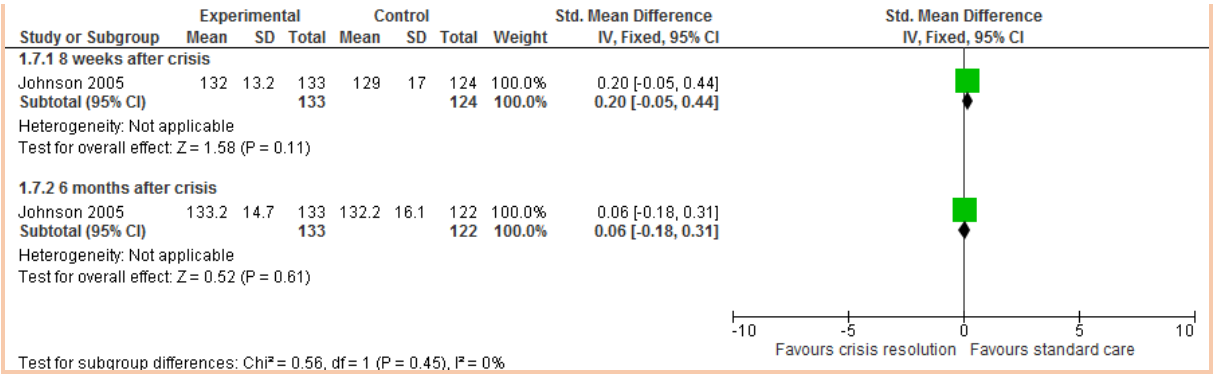
Patient satisfaction (CSQ-8) 8 weeks after crisis



Quality of life (MANSA) 8 weeks after crisis

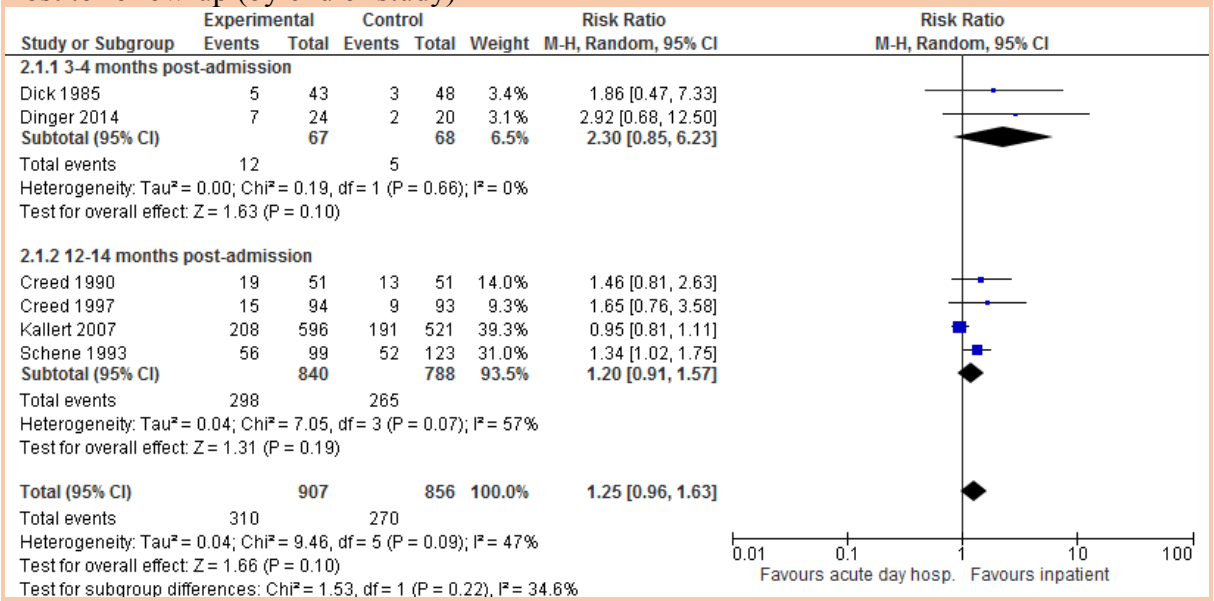


Social functioning (LSP)

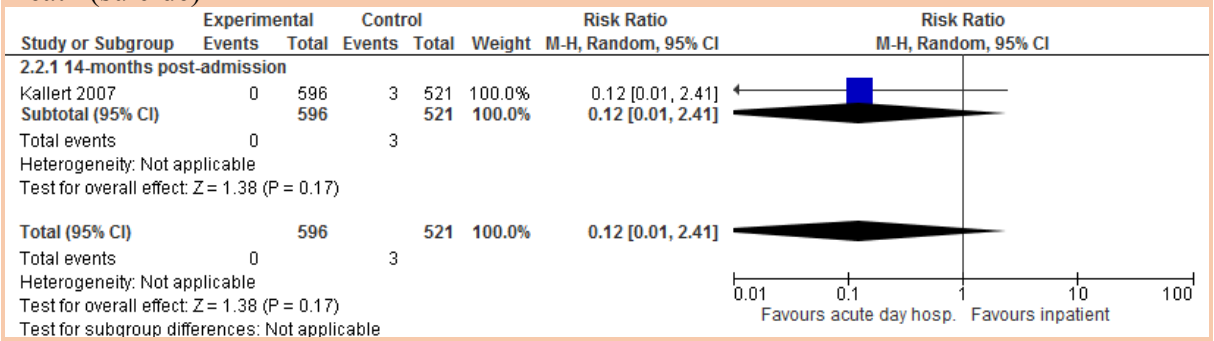


Acute day hospital care versus inpatient care

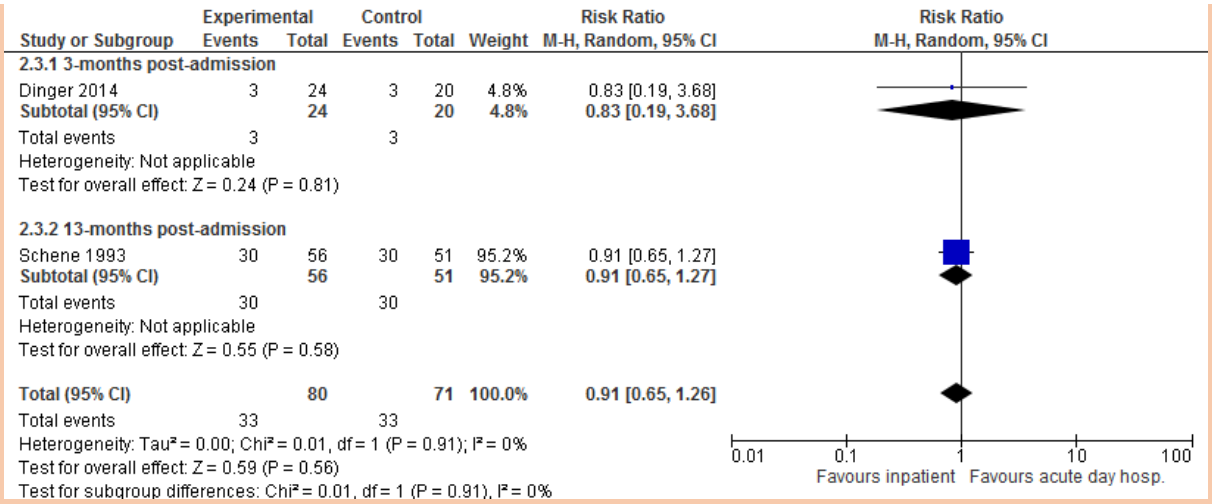
Lost to follow-up (by end of study)



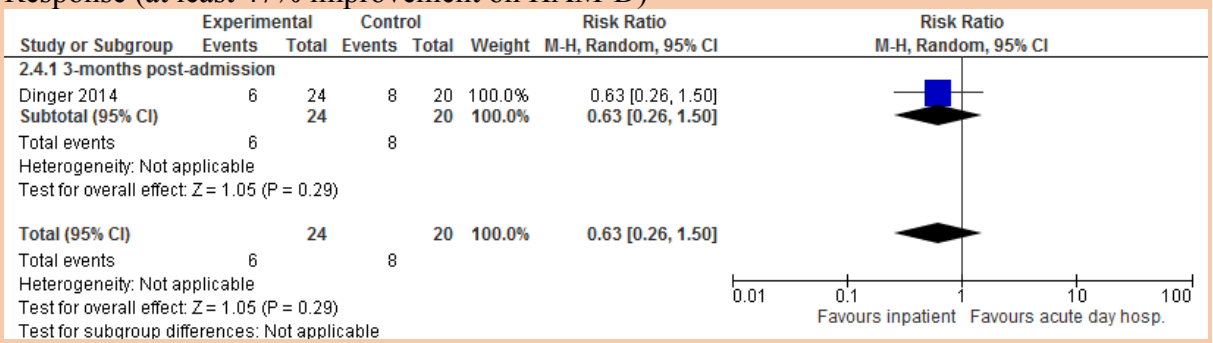
Death (suicide)



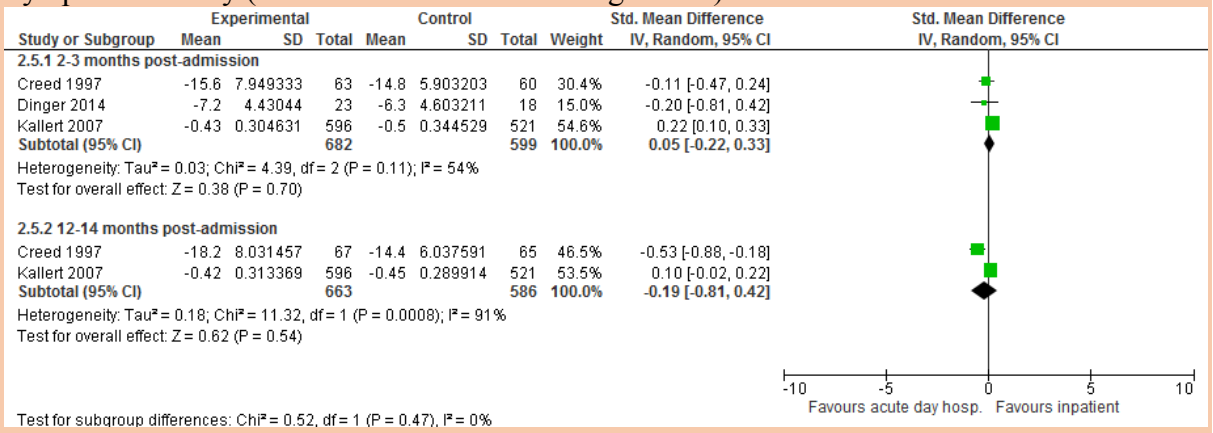
Remission (HAM-D<7/Present State Examination: Index of Definition ≤4)



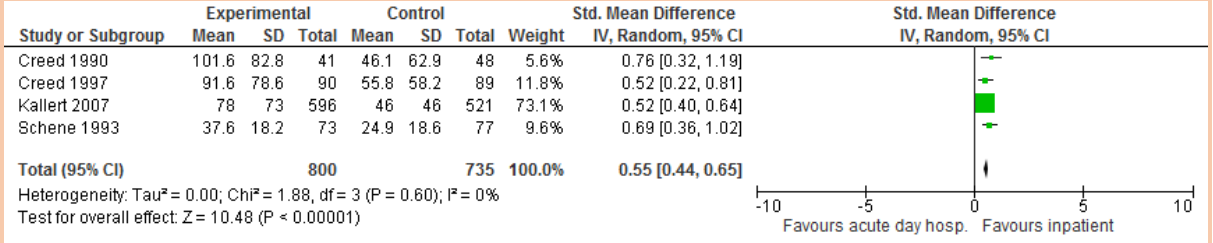
Response (at least 47% improvement on HAM-D)



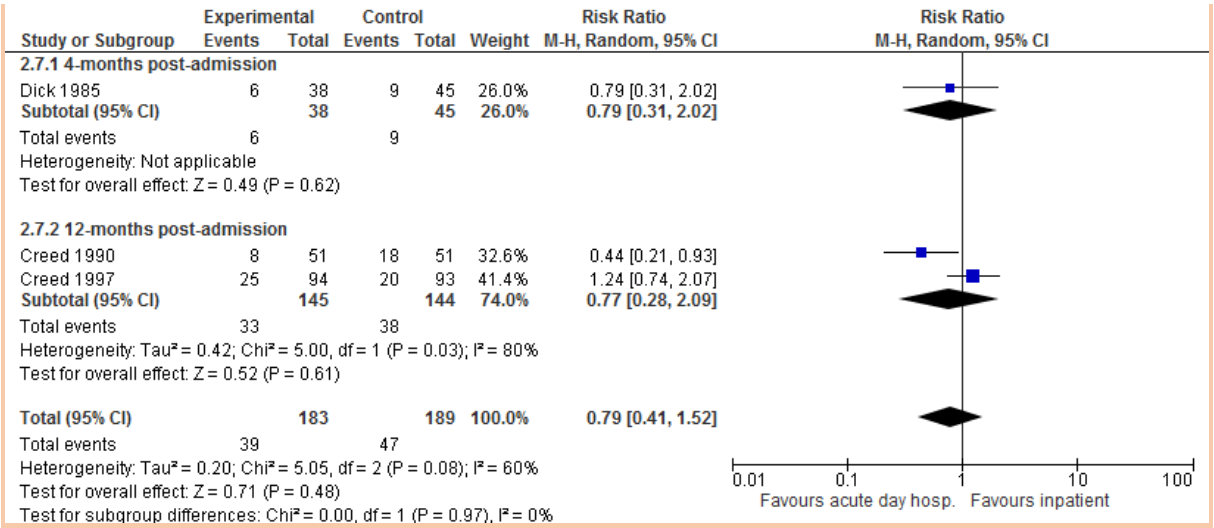
Symptom severity (BPRS/CPRS/HAM-D change score)



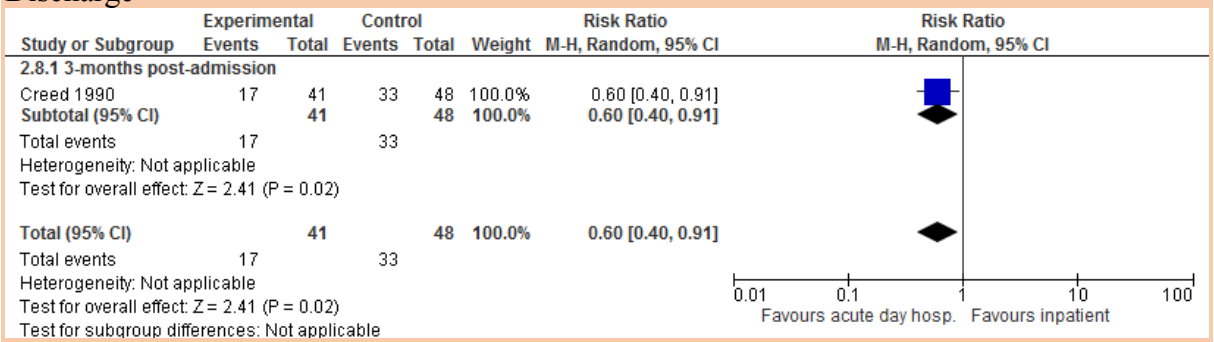
Duration of index admission



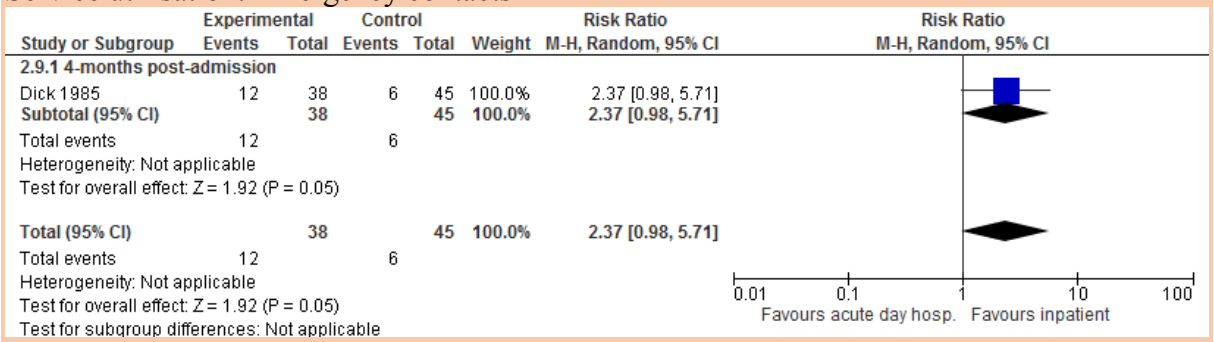
Readmission



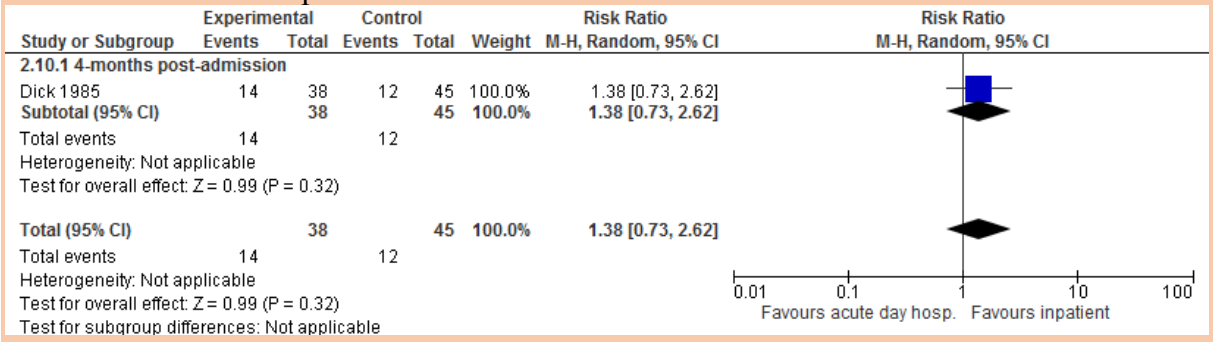
Discharge



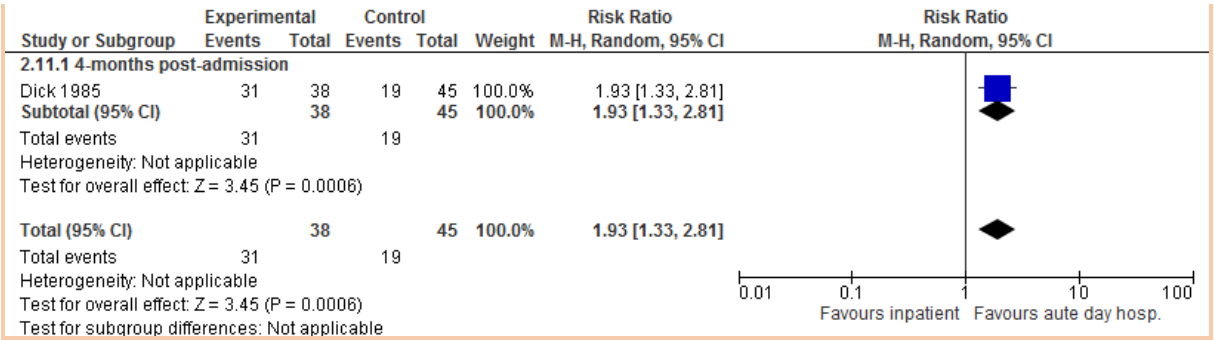
Service utilisation: Emergency contacts



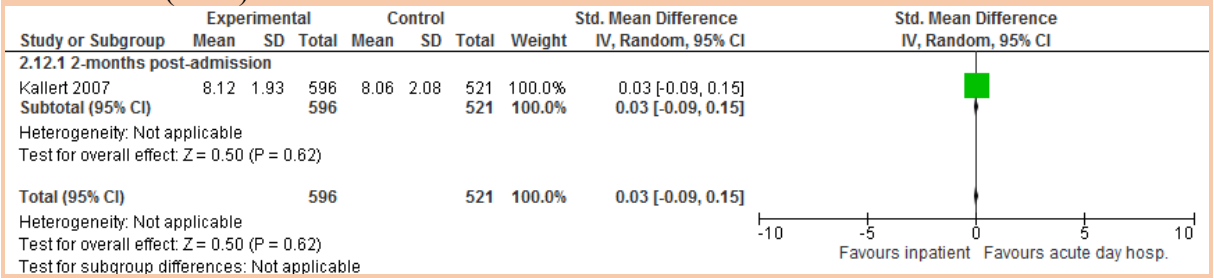
Service utilisation: Outpatient contact



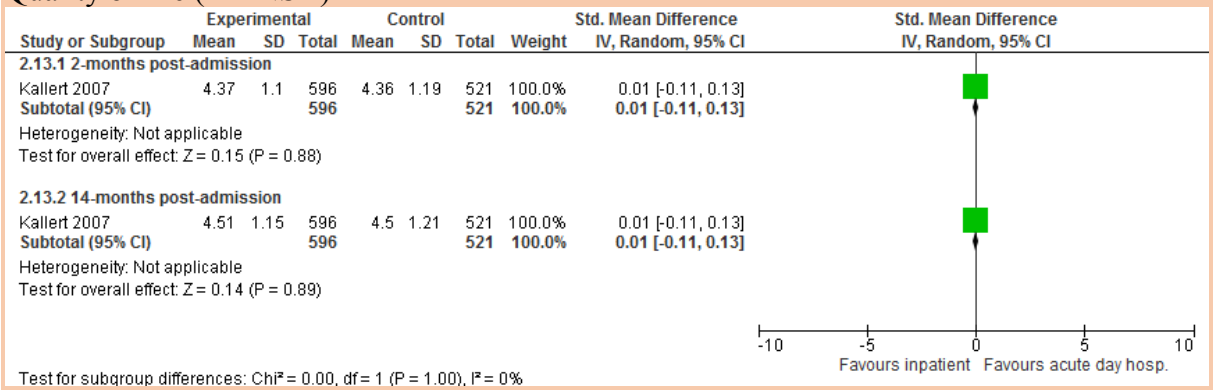
Satisfaction (number of participants satisfied or very satisfied with their treatment)



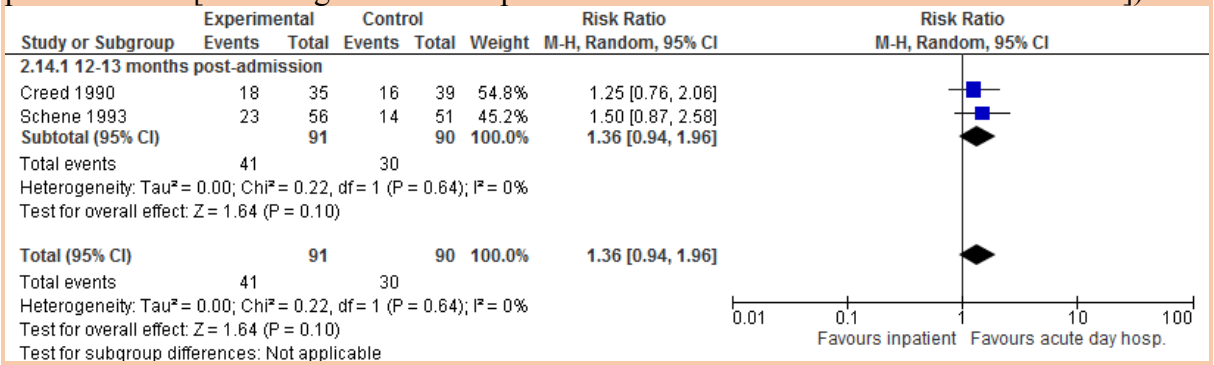
Satisfaction (CAT)



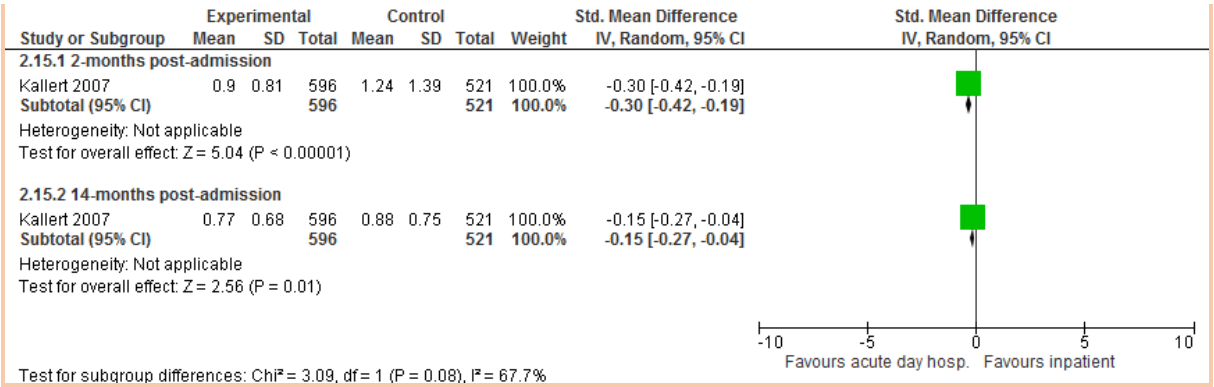
Quality of life (MANSA)



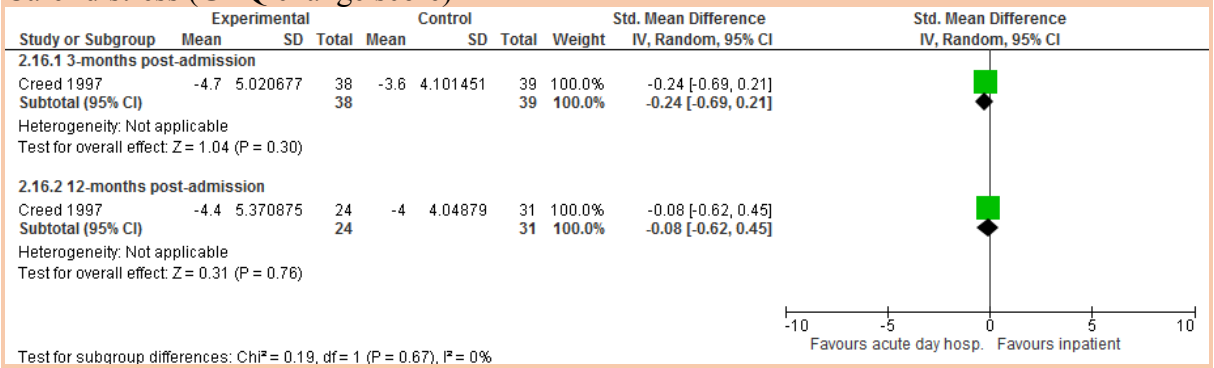
Social functioning response (2 role disabilities or less on Groningen Social Disabilities Schedule [GSDS]/number of participants living in the community and social functioning at previous level [according to the social performance and behaviour assessment schedule])



Social functioning impairment (GSDS-II)

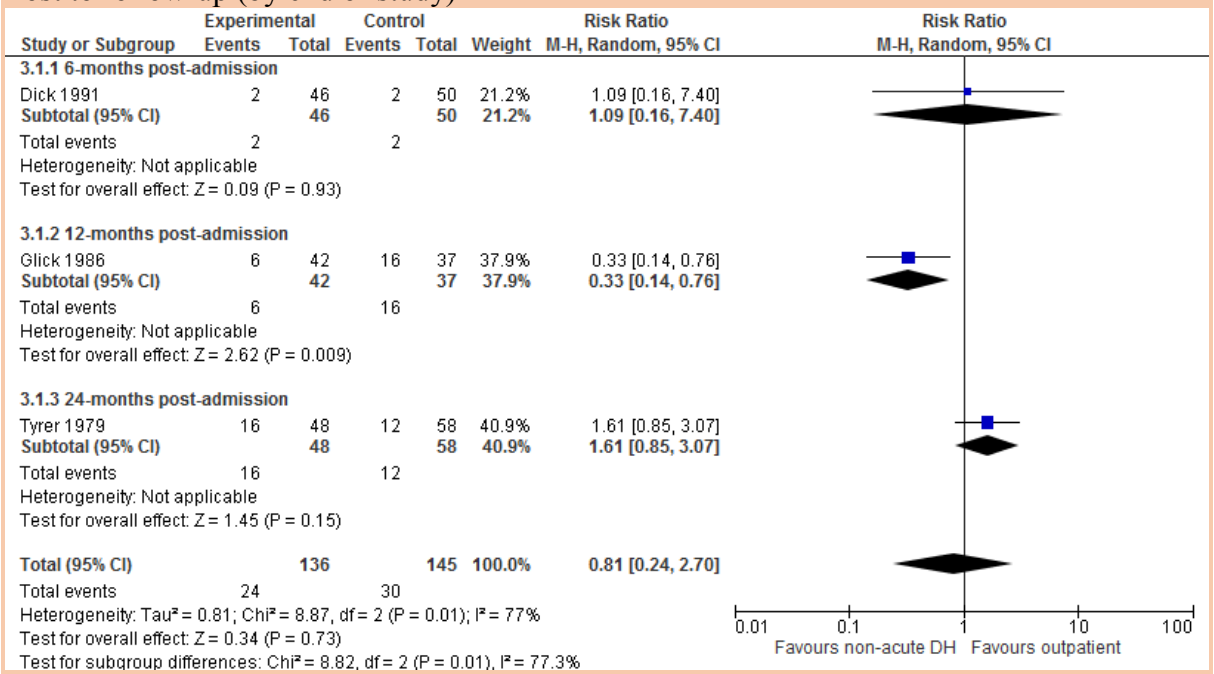


Carer distress (GHQ change score)

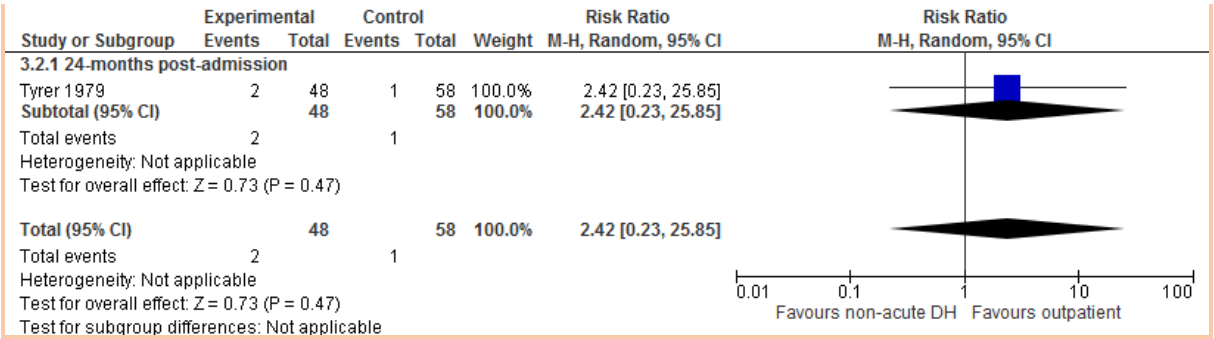


Non-acute day hospital care versus outpatient care

Lost to follow-up (by end of study)



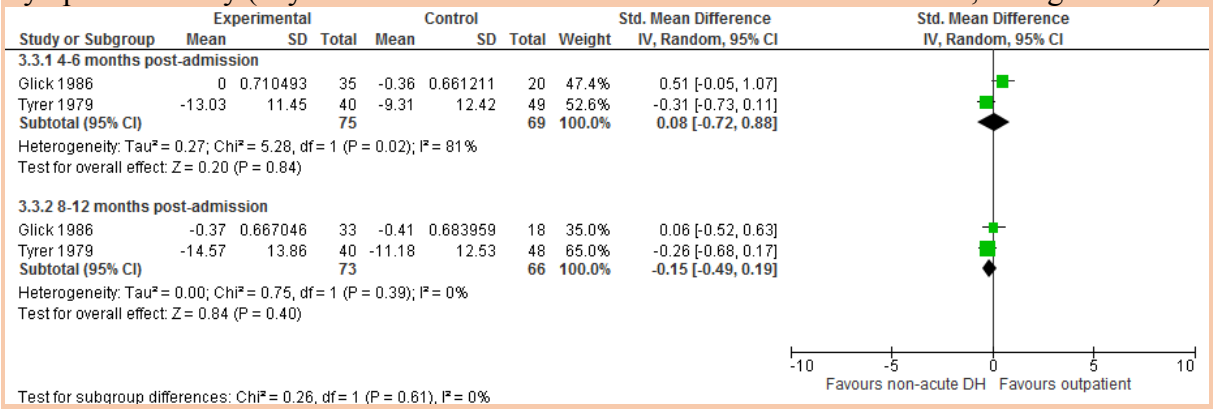
Death (all causes)



1

2

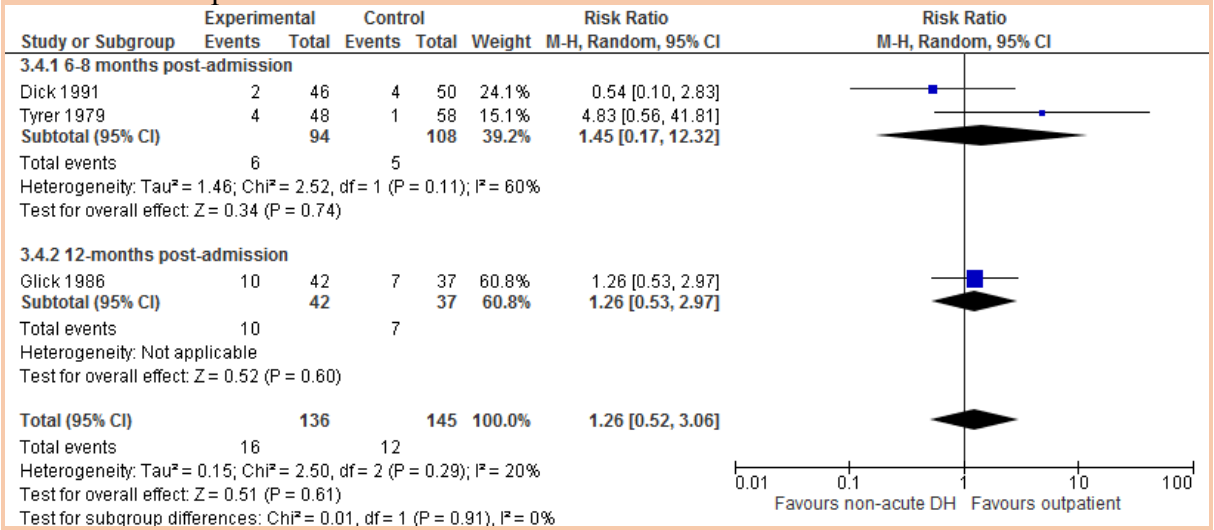
3 Symptom severity (Psychiatric Evaluation Form/Present State Examination; change score)



4

5

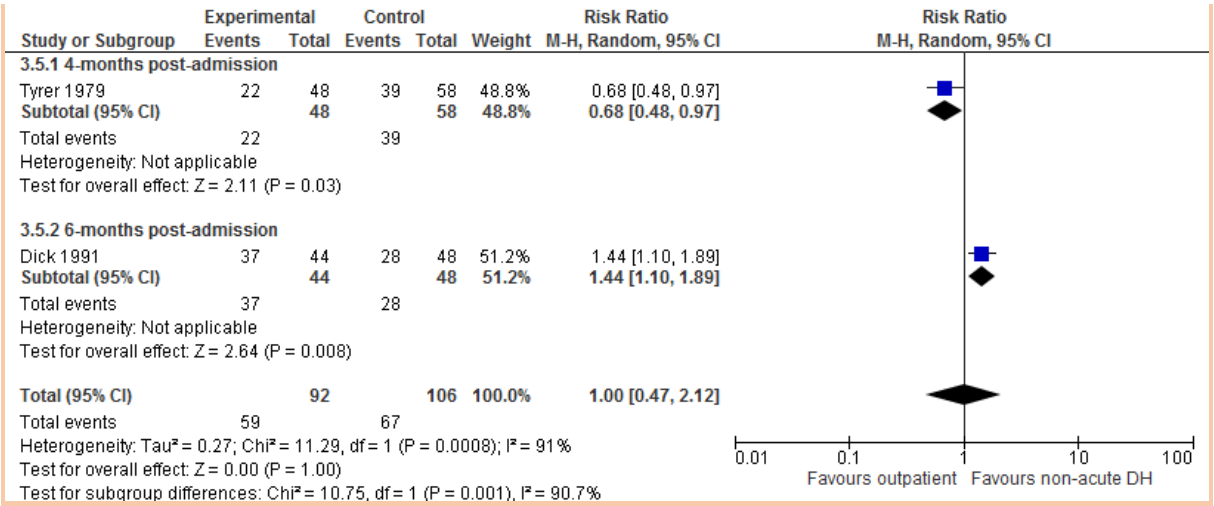
6 Admission as inpatient



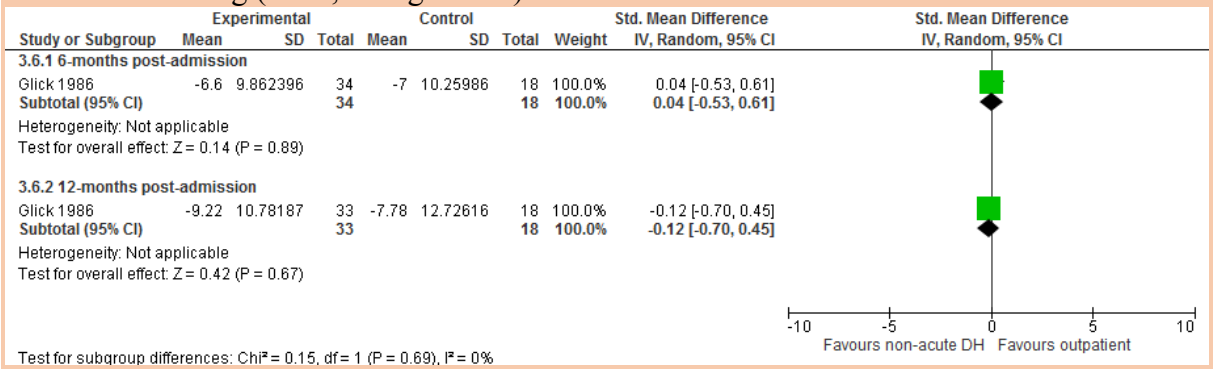
7

8

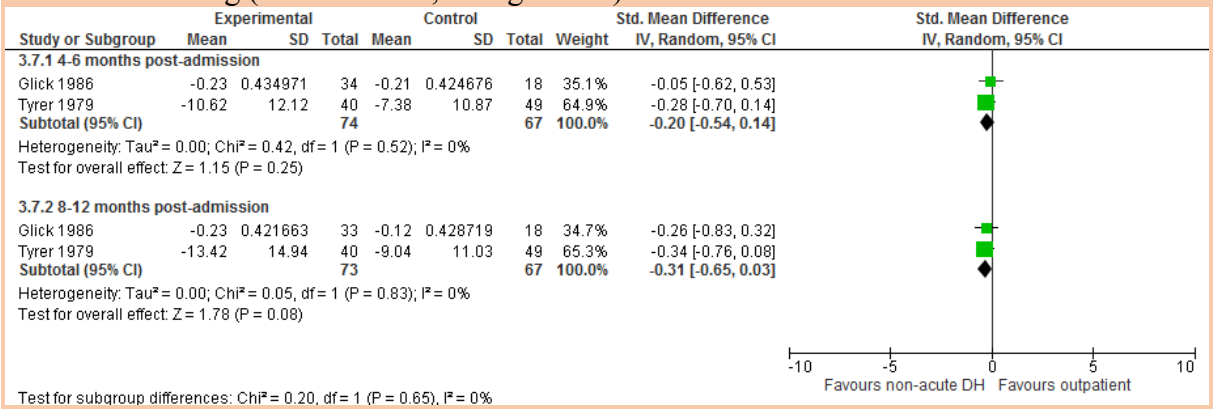
9 Satisfaction (number of participants satisfied or very satisfied with their treatment)



Global functioning (GAS; change score)

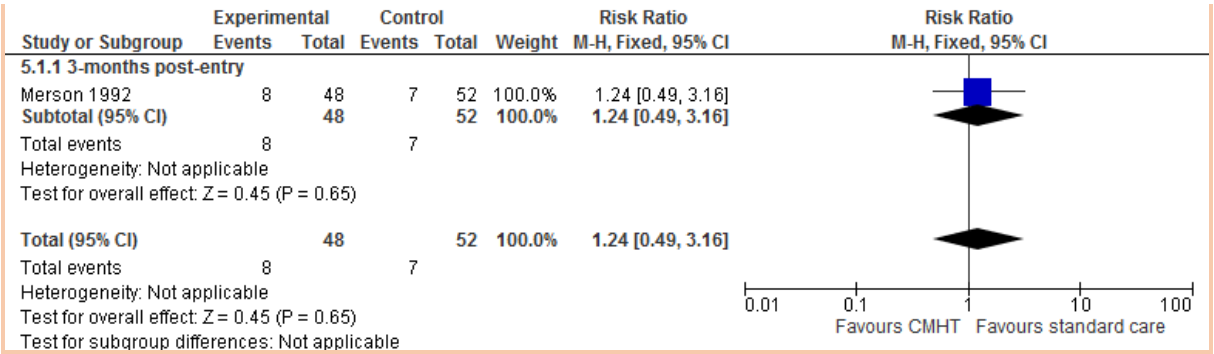


Social functioning (SAS-SR/SFS; change score)

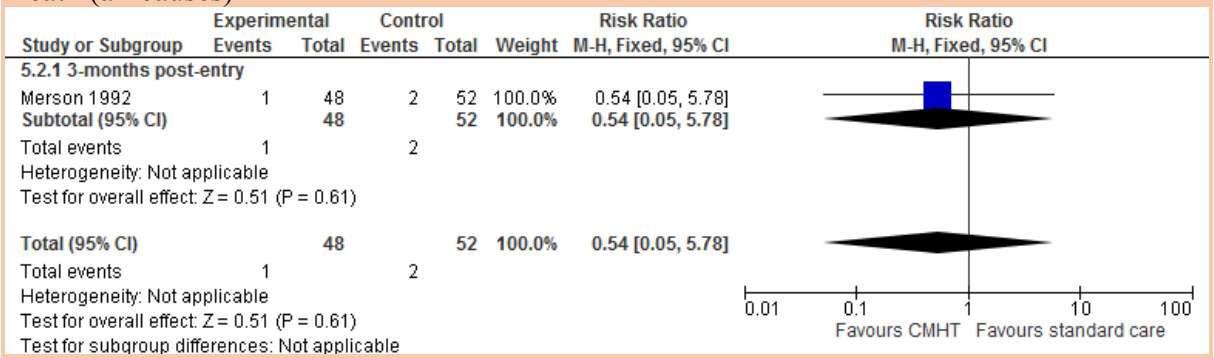


Community mental health teams (CMHTs) versus standard care

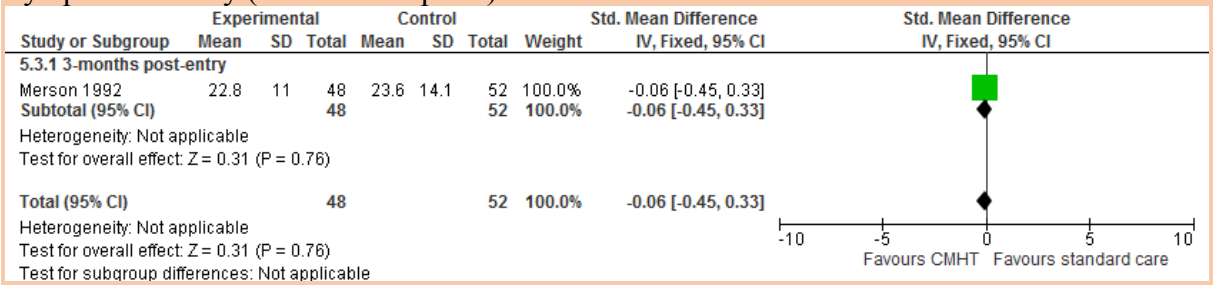
Lost to follow-up (by end of study)



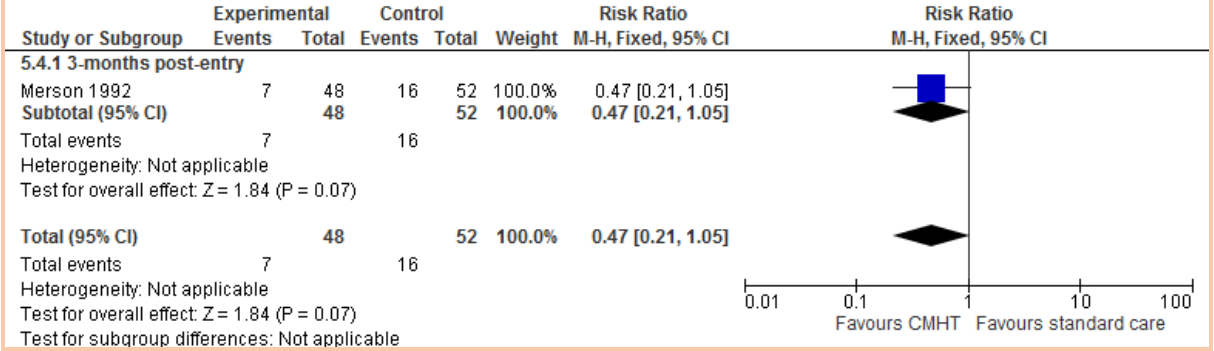
Death (all causes)



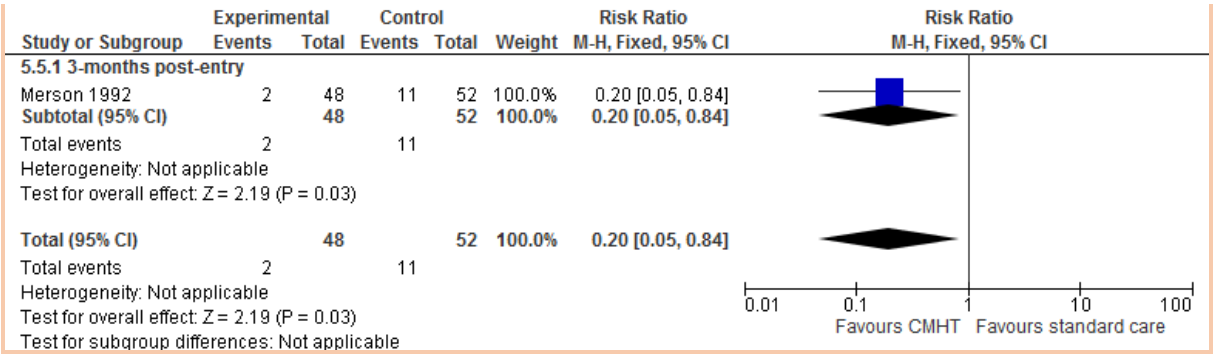
Symptom severity (CPRS at endpoint)



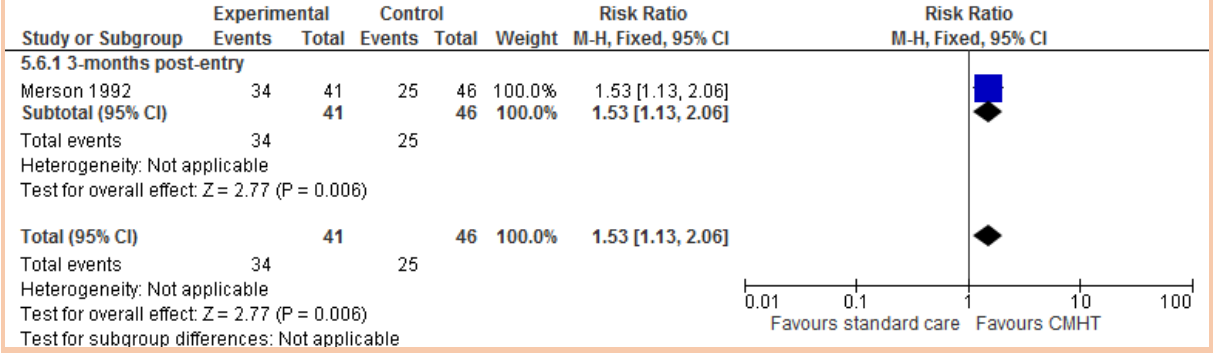
Admission as inpatient



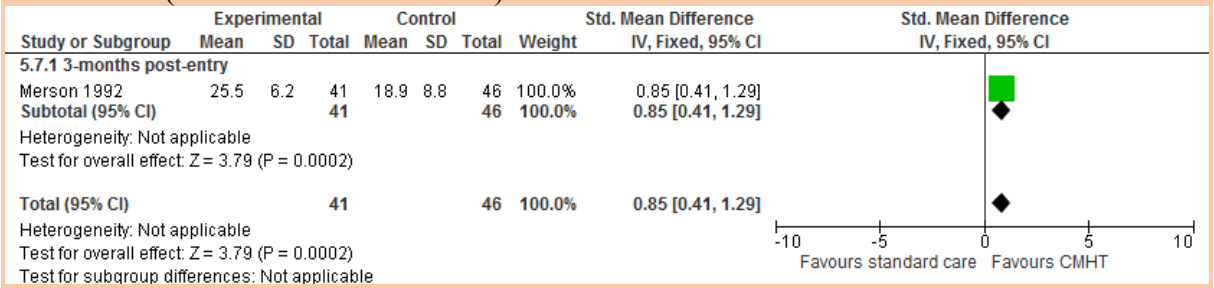
Admission as inpatient for >10 days



Satisfaction (number of participants satisfied with their treatment)



Satisfaction (service satisfaction score)

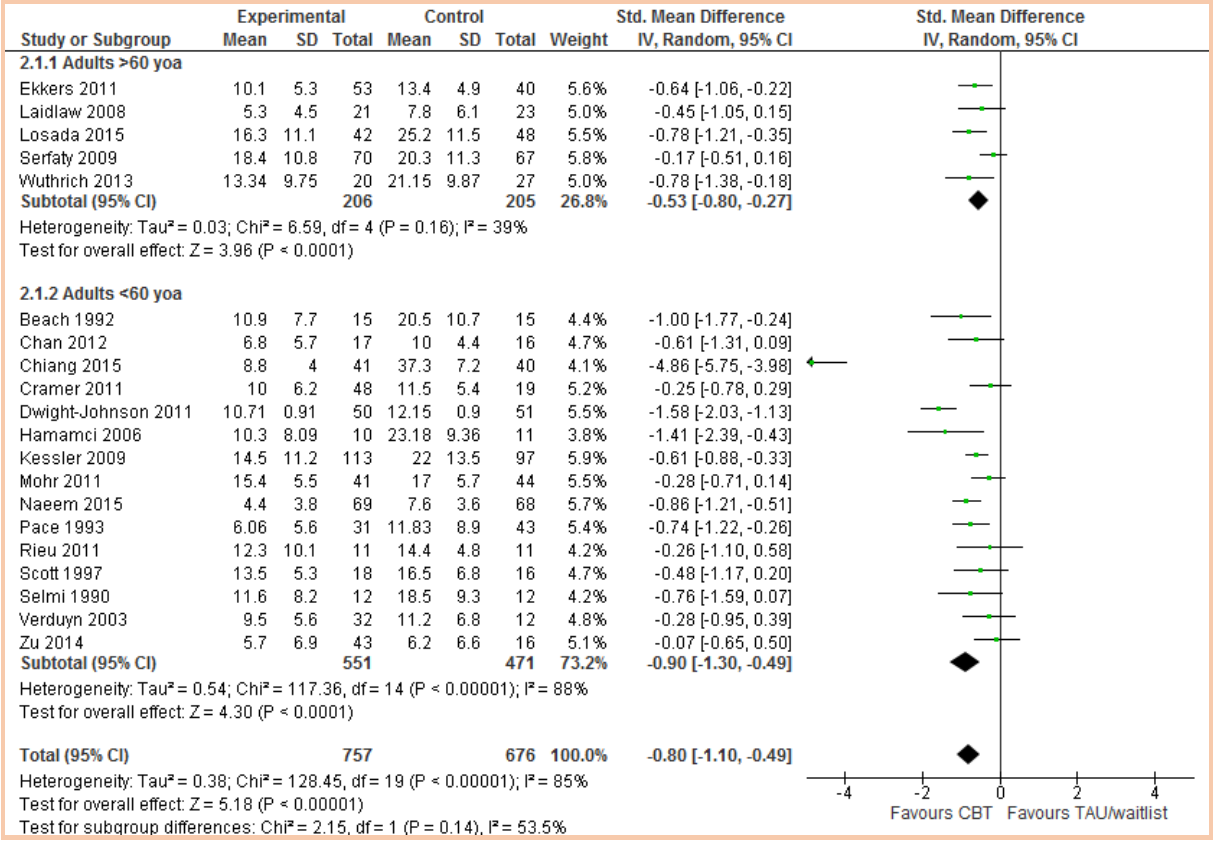


First-line treatment (chapter 7) - NMA subgroup analysis for special populations

Older adults

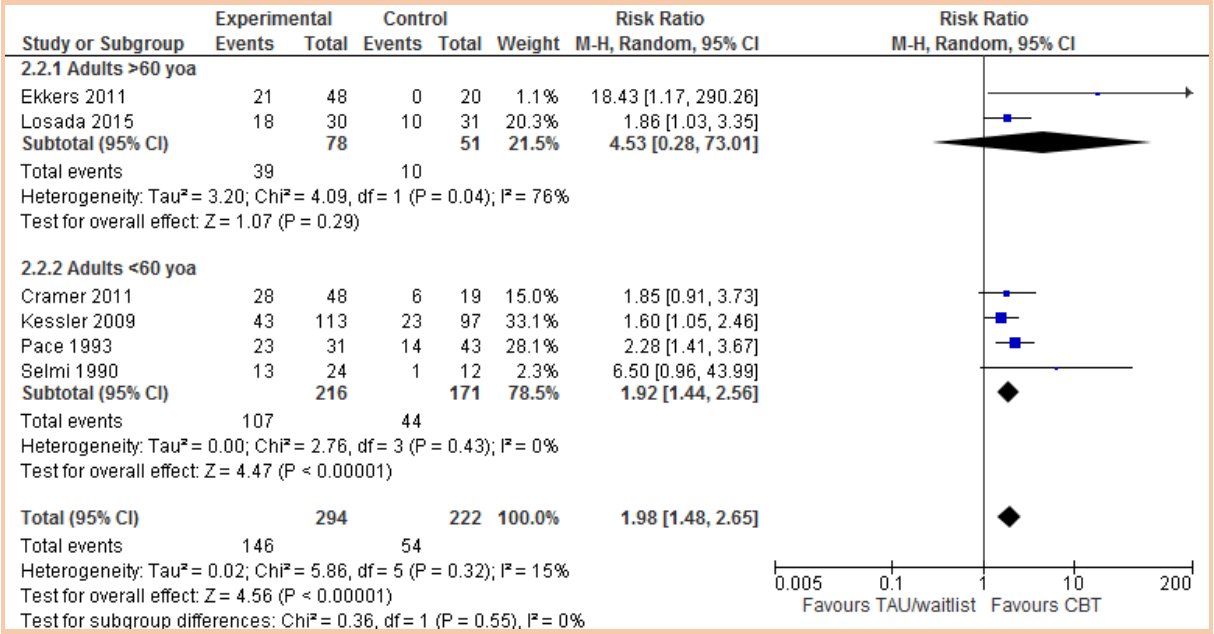
CBT versus TAU/waitlist

Depression symptomatology at endpoint



1 Remission at endpoint

2

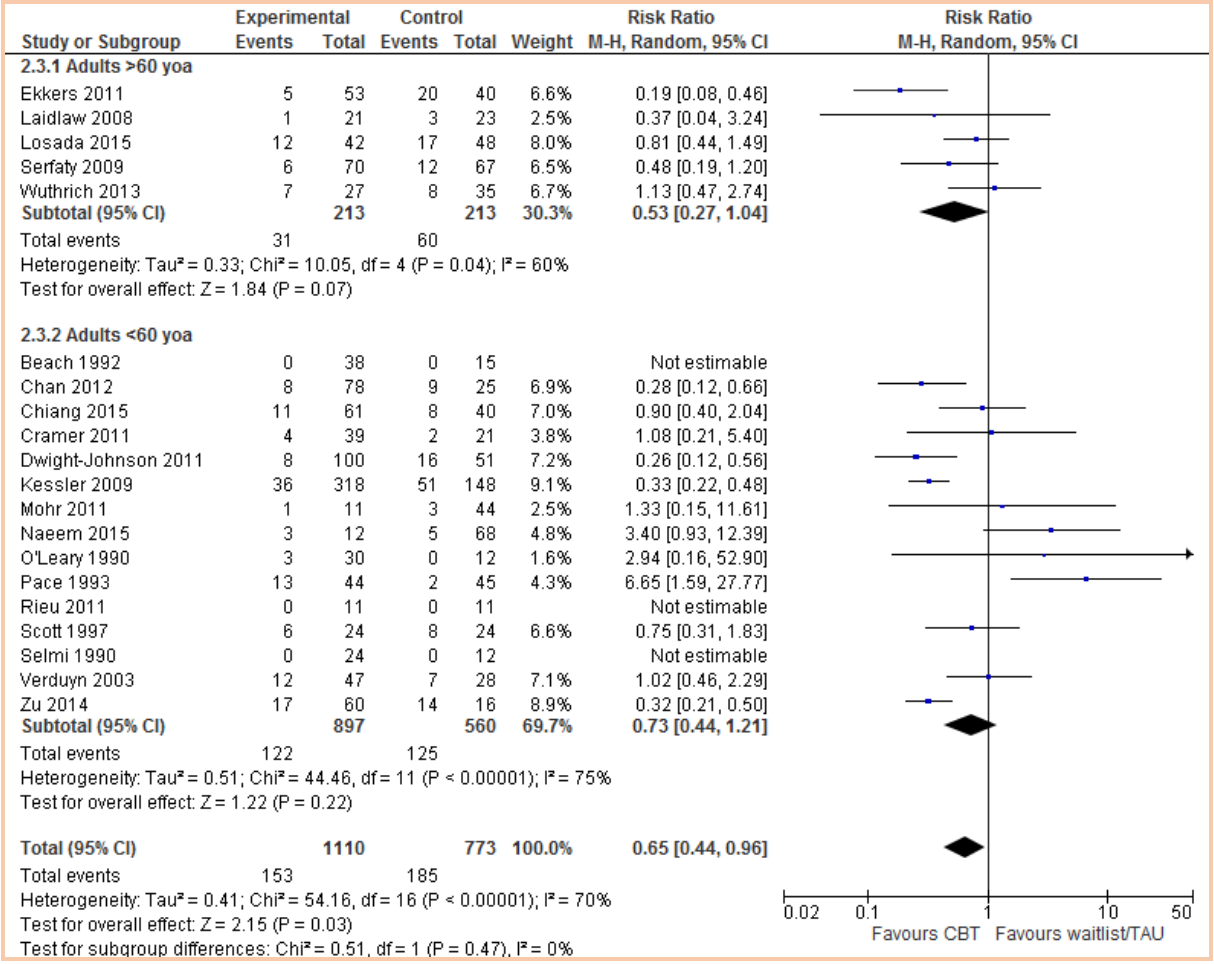


3

4

5 Discontinuation any reason

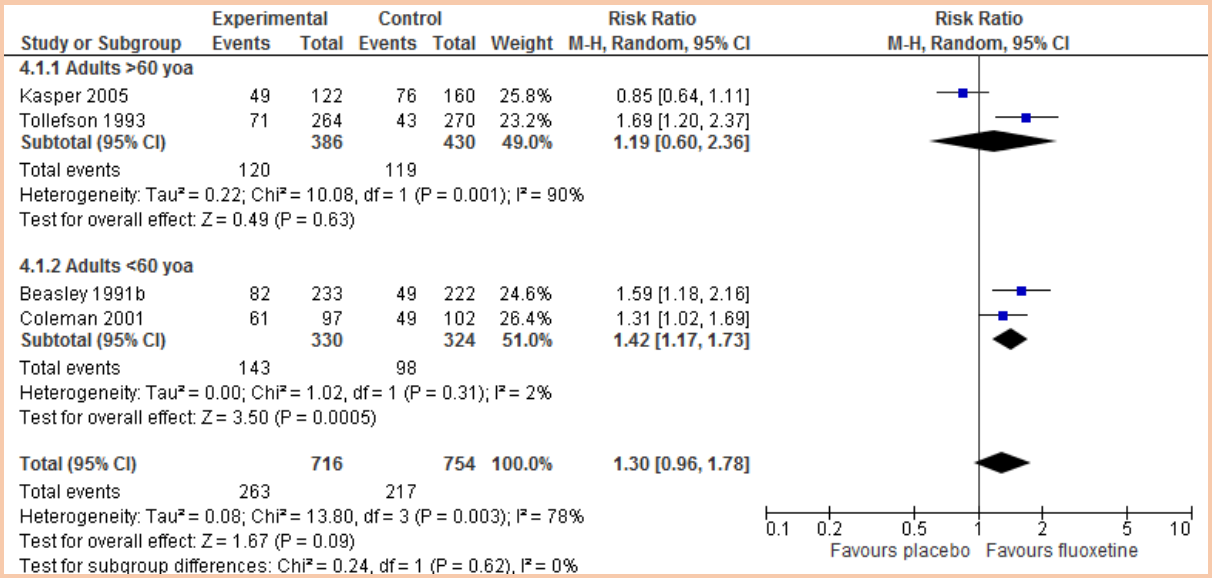
6



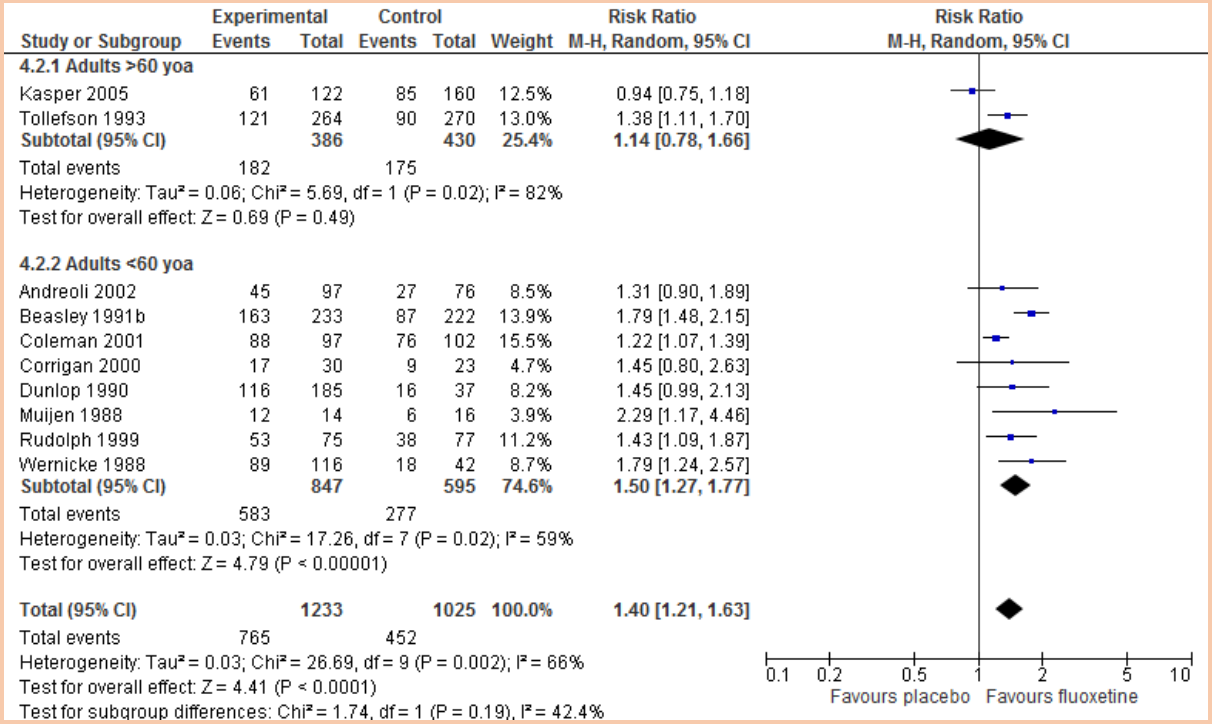
7

Fluoxetine versus placebo

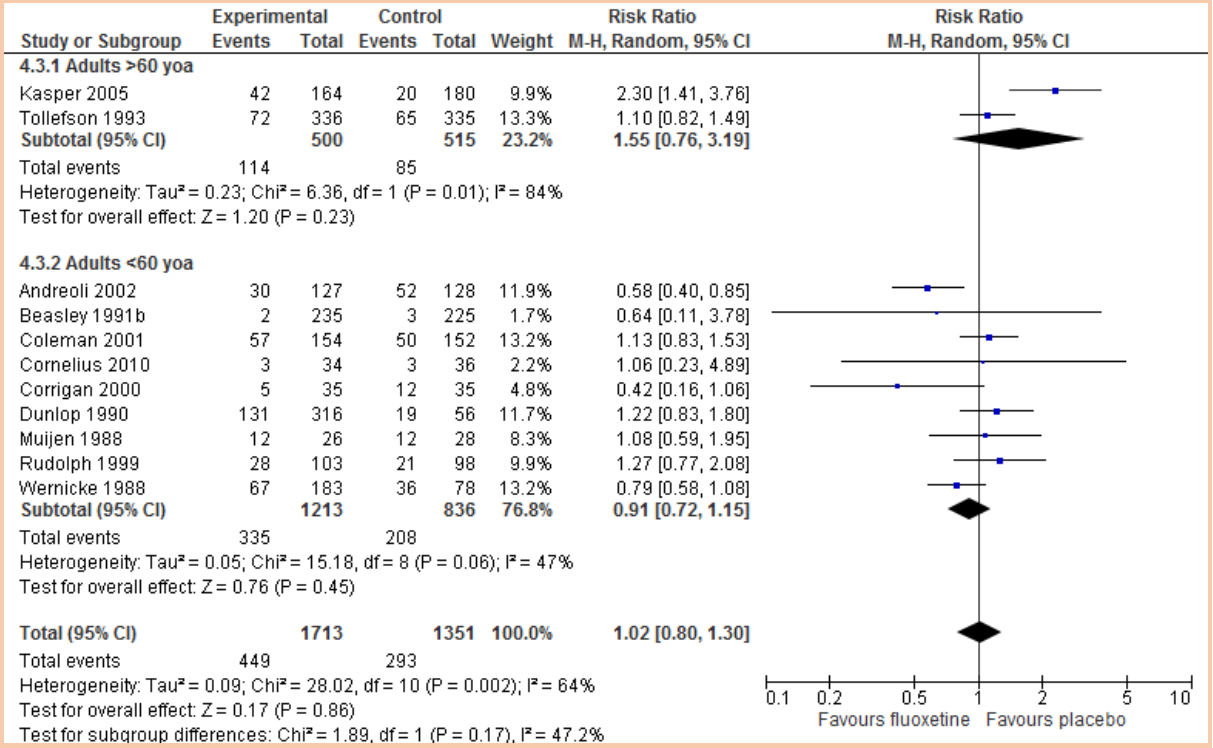
Remission at endpoint



Response at endpoint

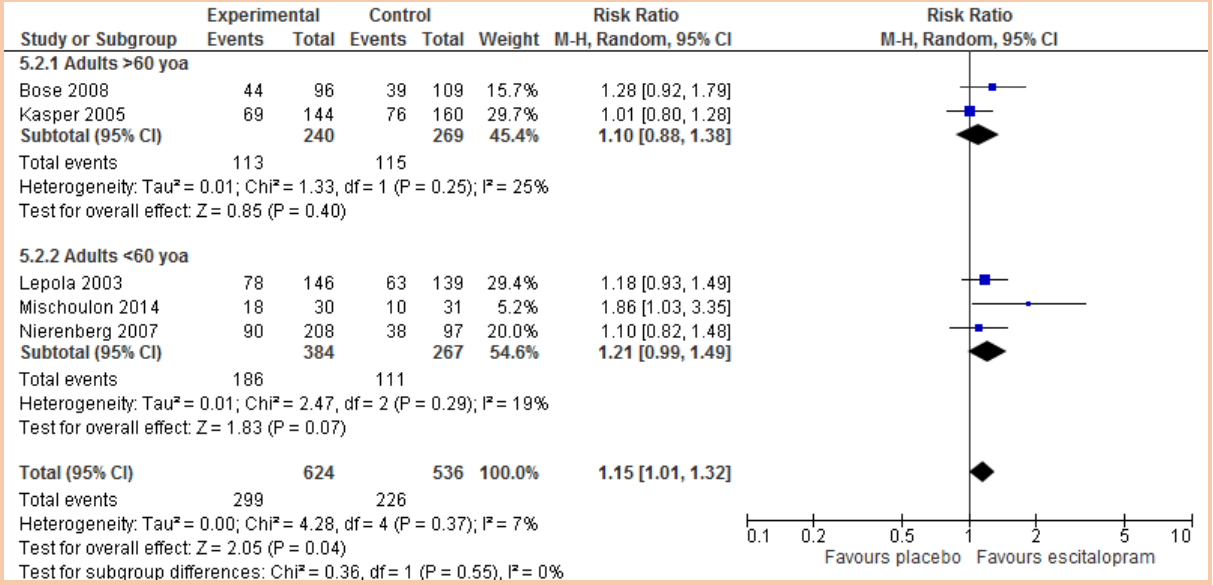


Discontinuation any reason

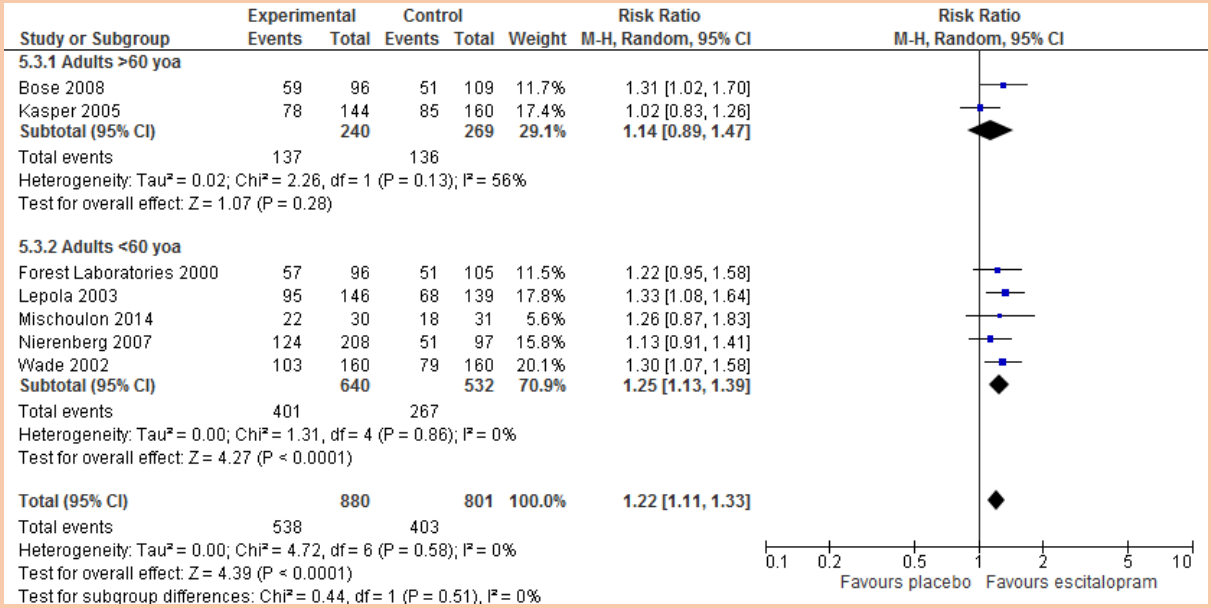


Escitalopram versus placebo

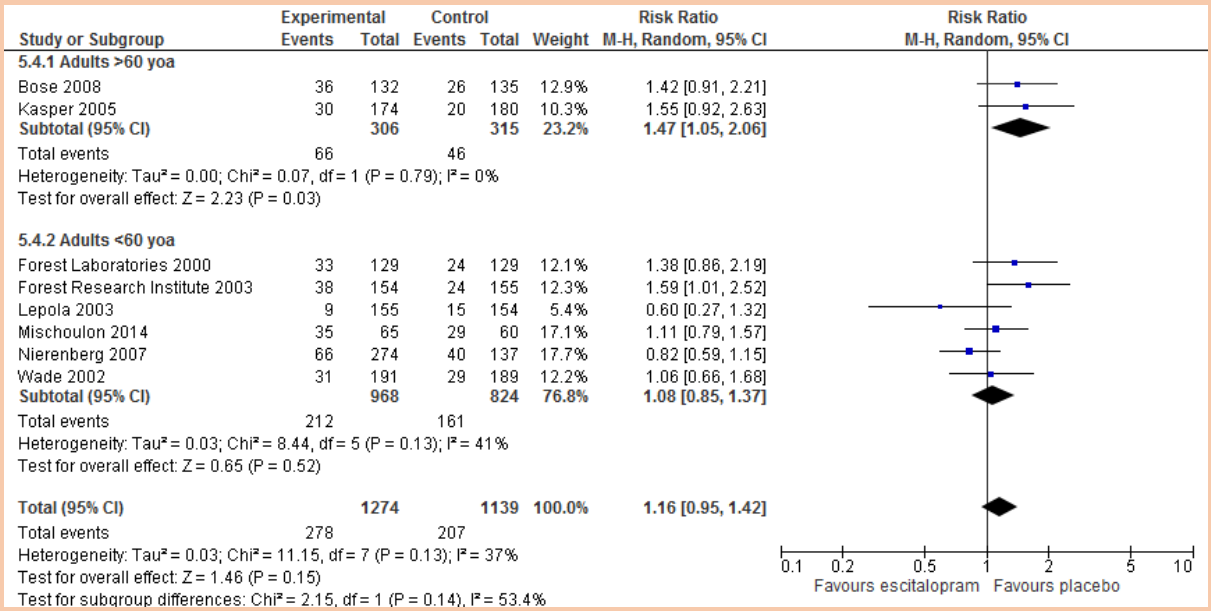
Remission at endpoint



Response at endpoint



Discontinuation any reason

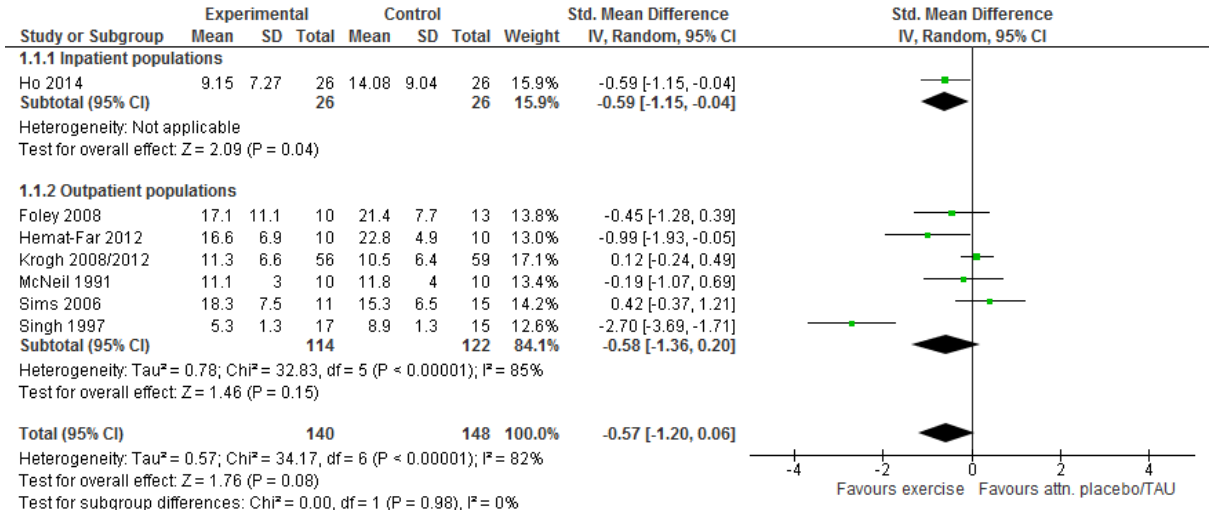


Inpatients

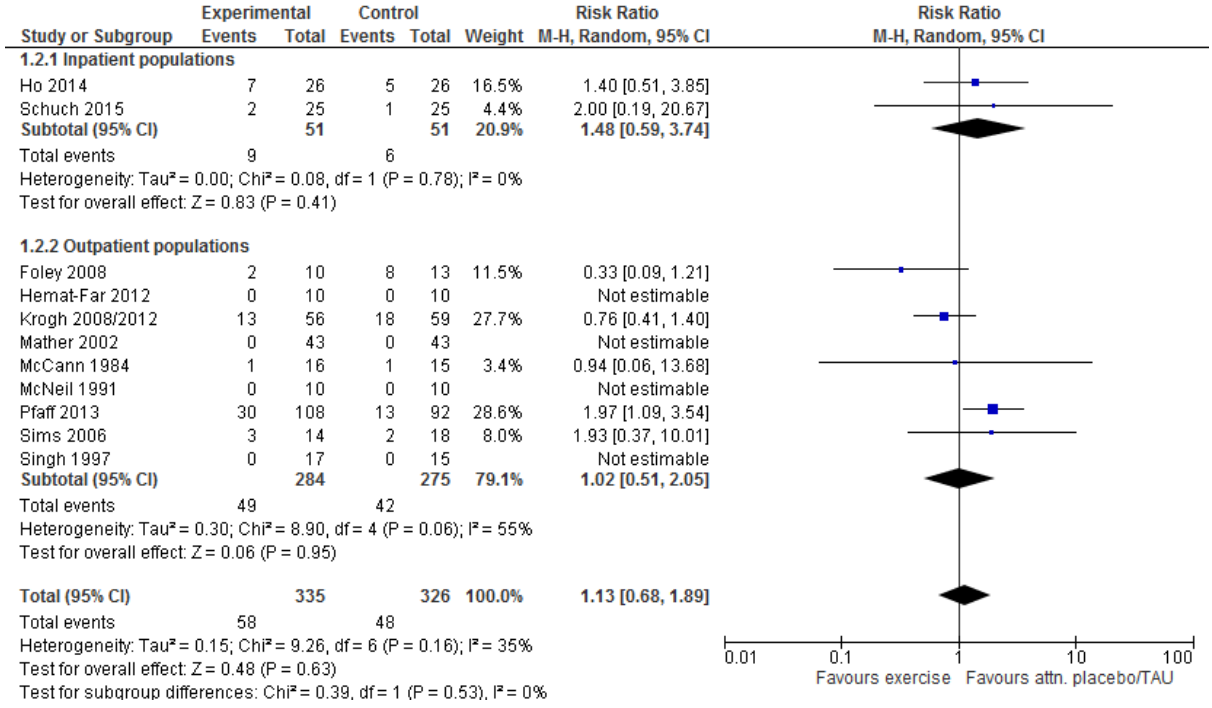
Exercise versus attention placebo/TAU

Depression symptomatology at endpoint

Forest plots

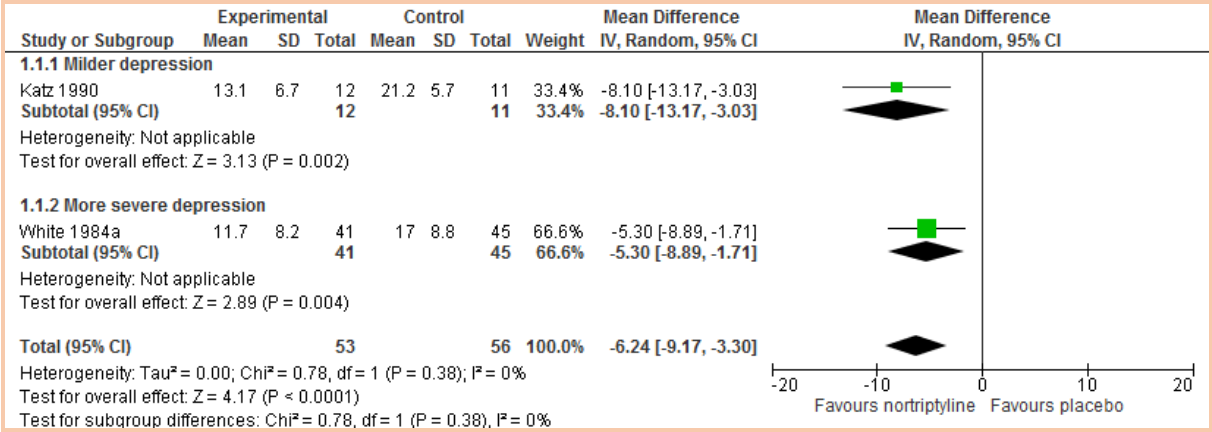


Discontinuation any reason

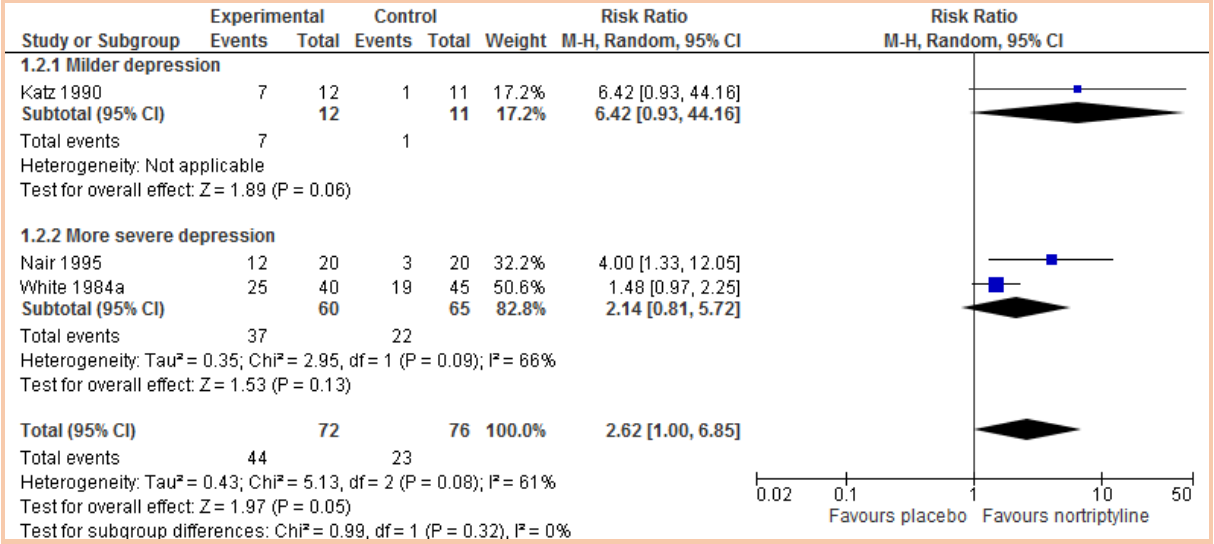


Nortriptyline in older adults

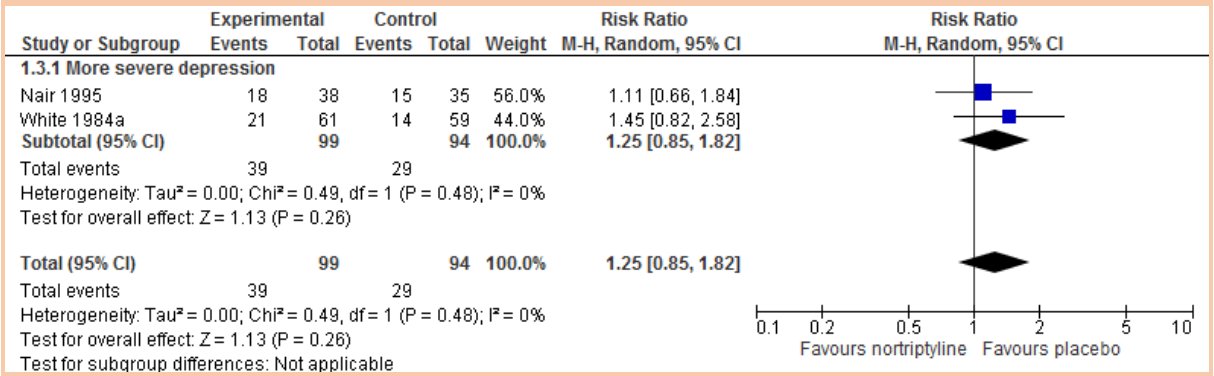
Depressive symptoms at endpoint (HAMD)



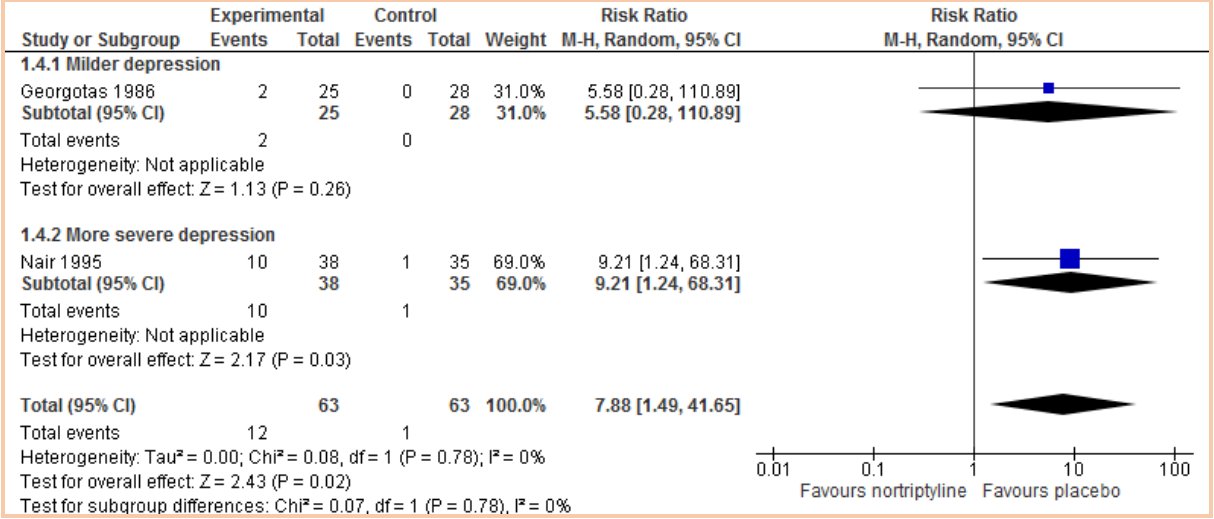
Remission (CGI/HAMD) at endpoint



Discontinuation



Discontinuation due to side effects

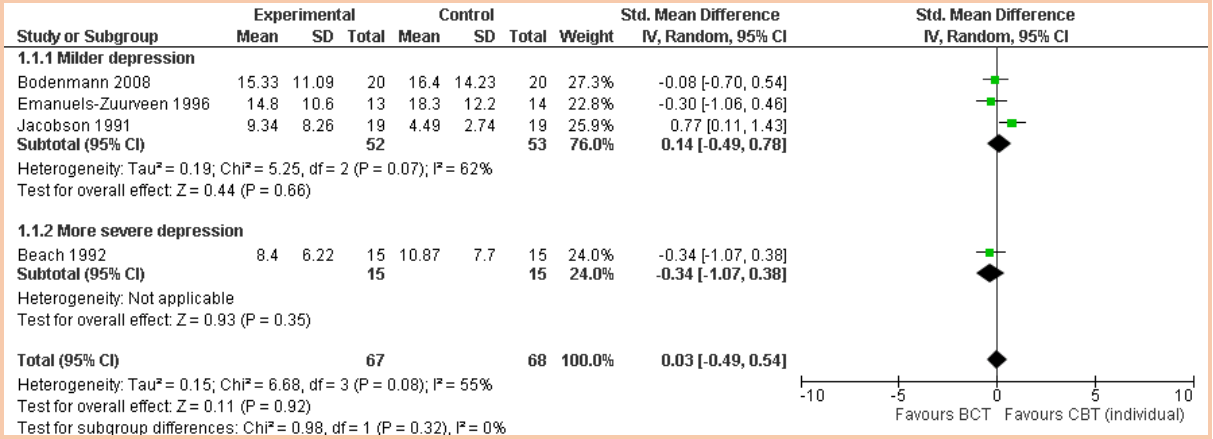


Pairwise comparisons for interventions excluded from the NMA

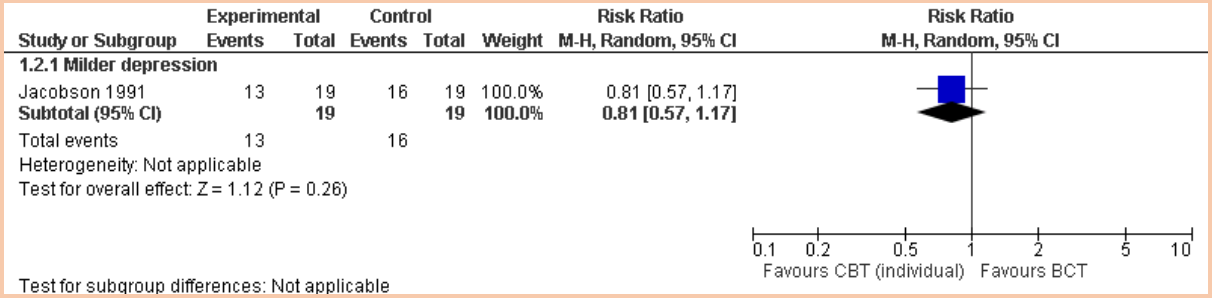
Behavioural couples therapy

Behavioural couples therapy versus CBT

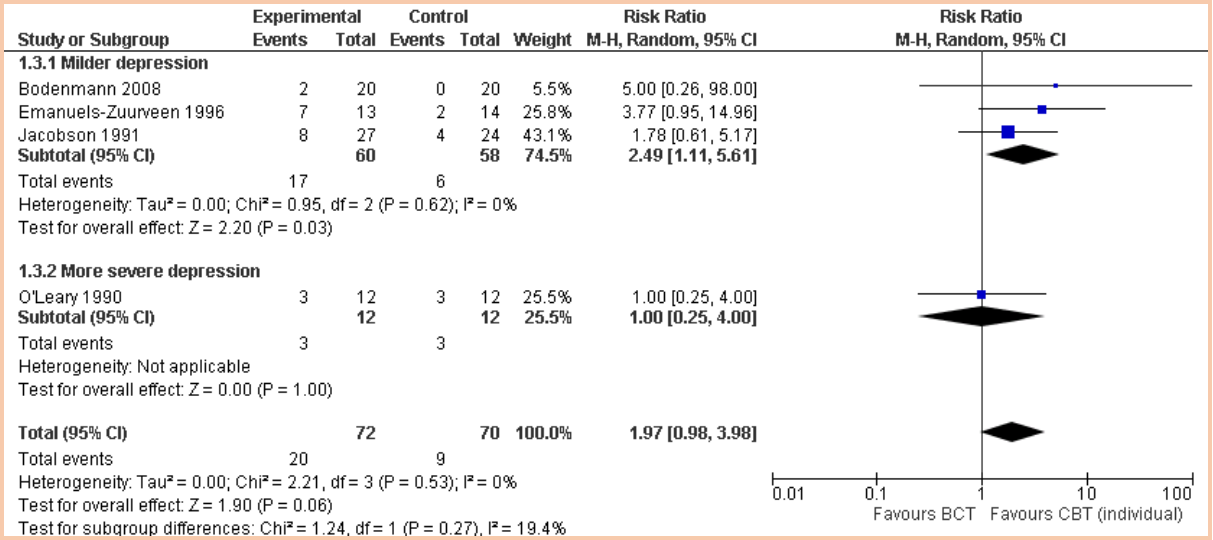
Depression symptomatology at endpoint: milder depression and more severe depression



Remission: milder depression

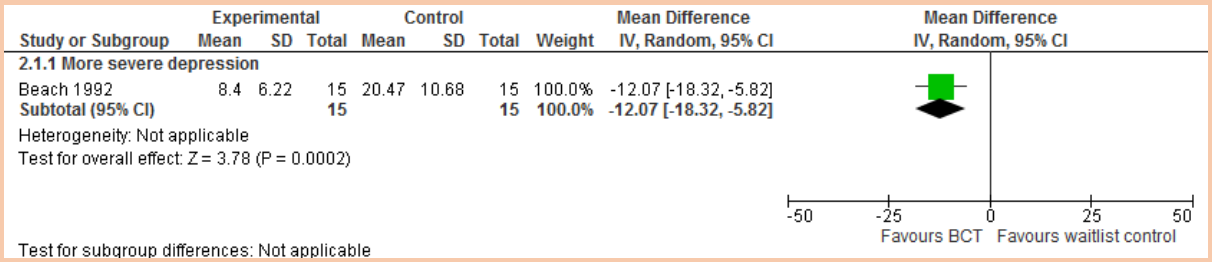


Treatment discontinuation: milder depression and more severe depression



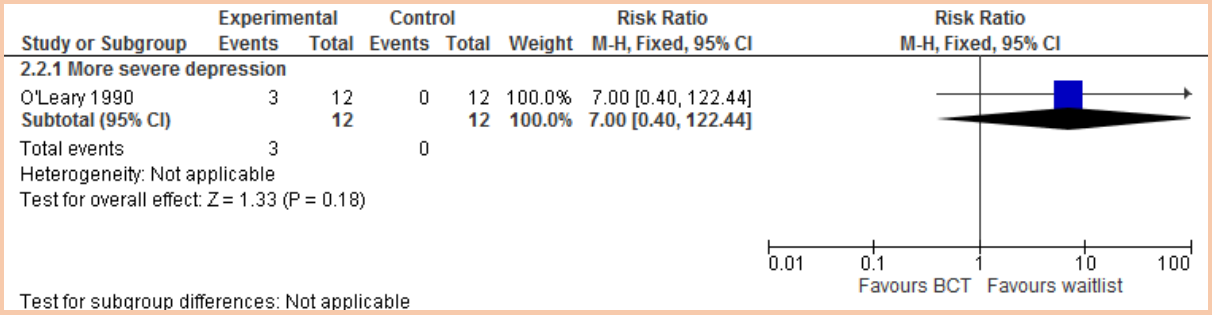
Behavioural couples therapy versus waitlist control

Depression symptoms at endpoint



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

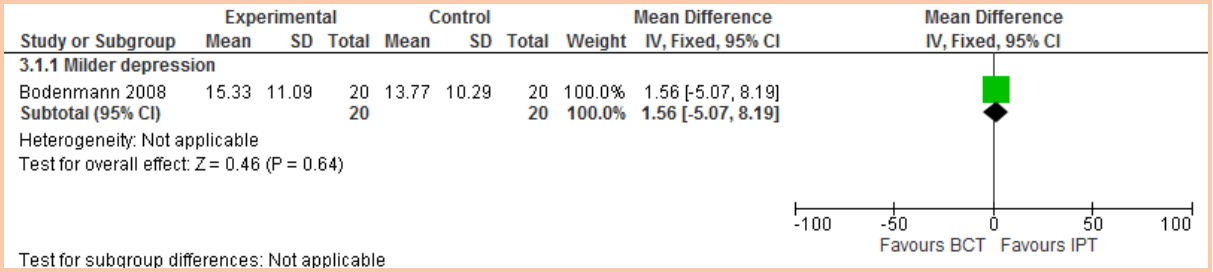
Treatment discontinuation



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

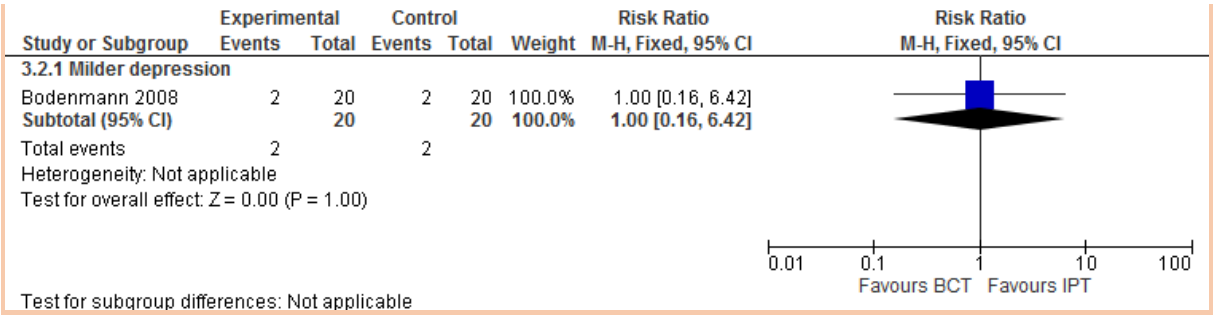
Behavioural couples therapy versus interpersonal psychotherapy (IPT)

Depression symptoms at endpoint



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

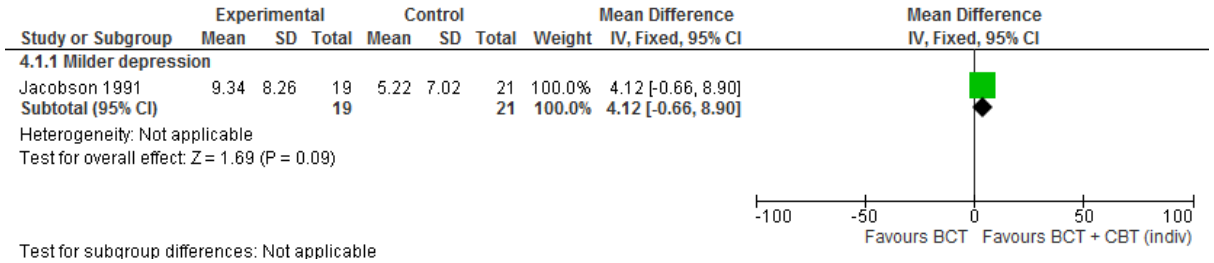
Treatment discontinuation



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

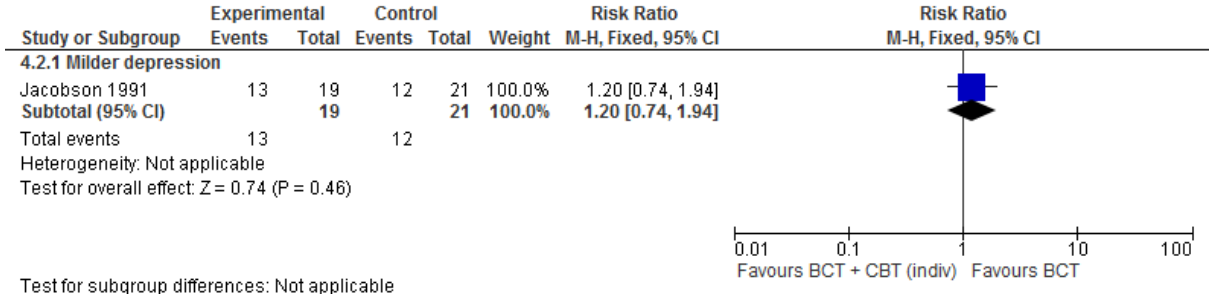
Behavioural couples therapy (BCT) versus combined BCT and CBT (individual CBT for the depressed wife)

Depression symptoms at endpoint



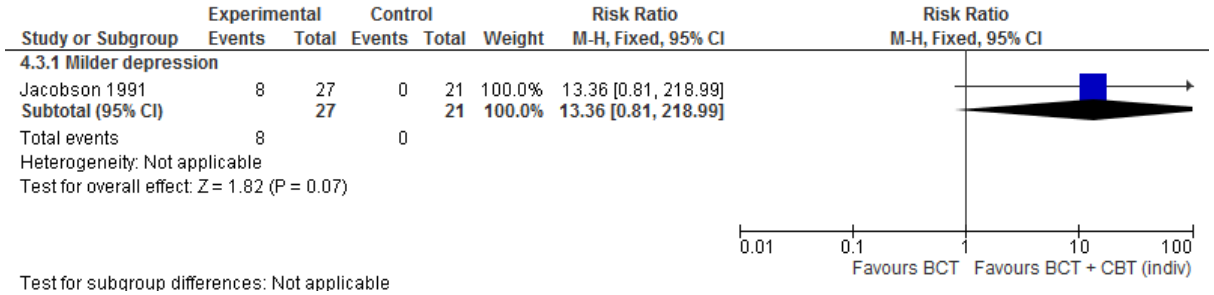
Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

Remission



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

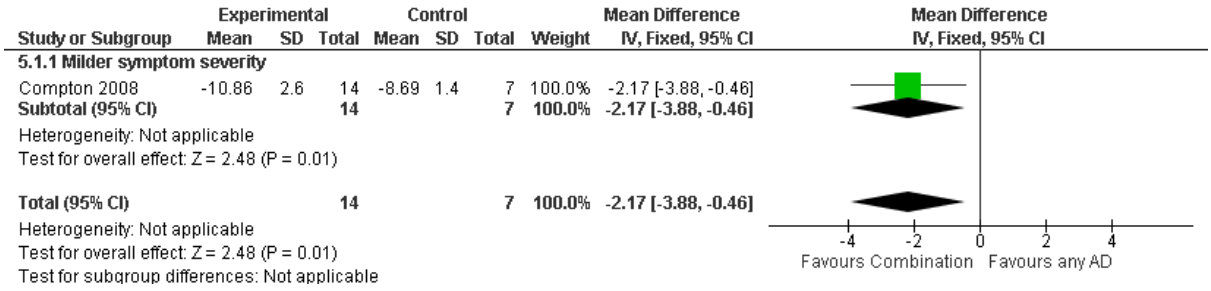
Treatment discontinuation



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

Behavioural couples therapy + any antidepressant versus any antidepressant

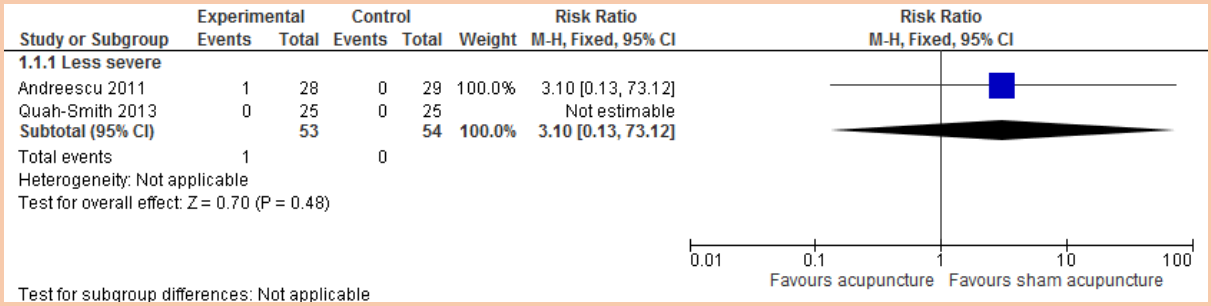
Depression symptomatology: milder depression severity



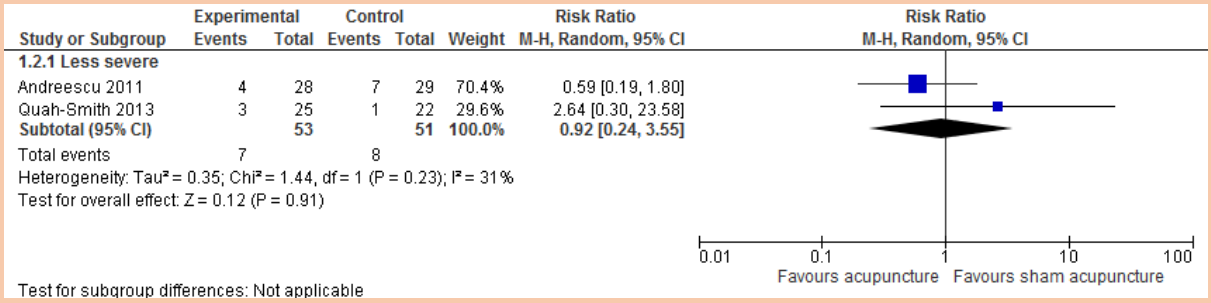
Acupuncture

Acupuncture versus sham acupuncture

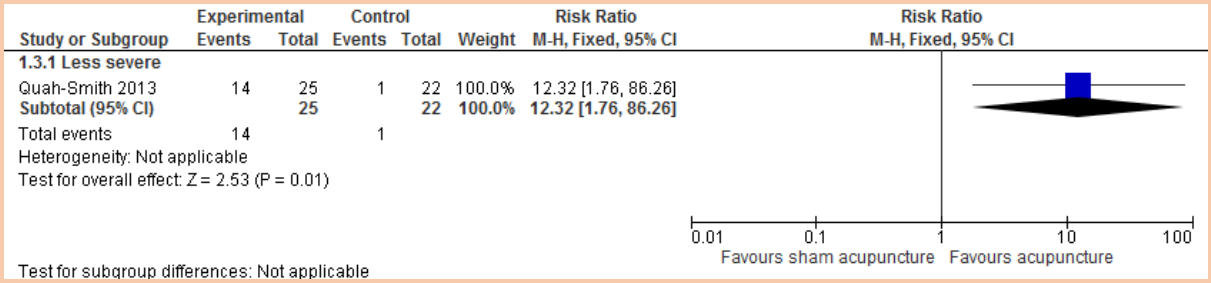
Discontinuation due to side effects



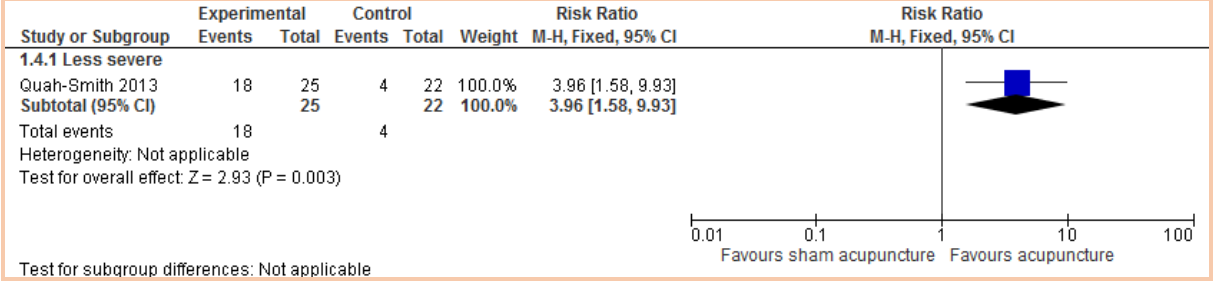
Discontinuation for any reason



Remission (HAMD endpoint score of 7 or below)

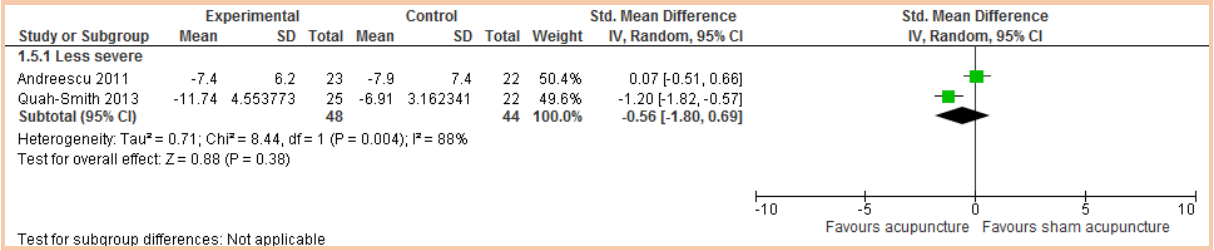


Response (reduction of at least 50% from the baseline score on HAMD)



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

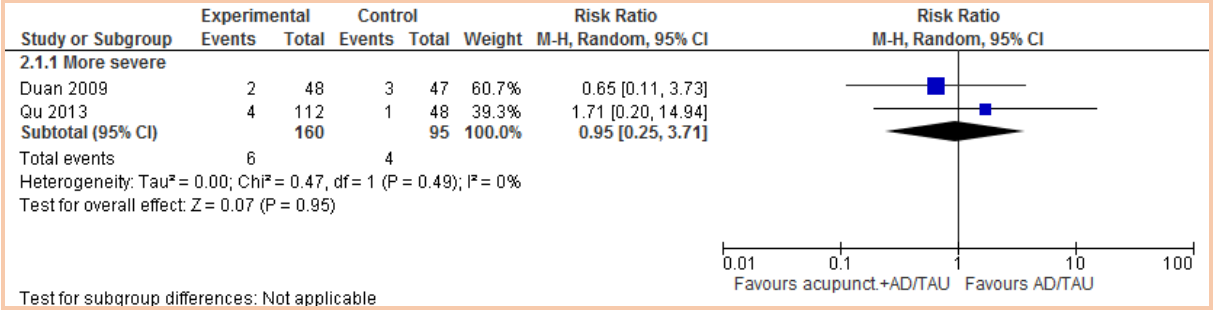
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

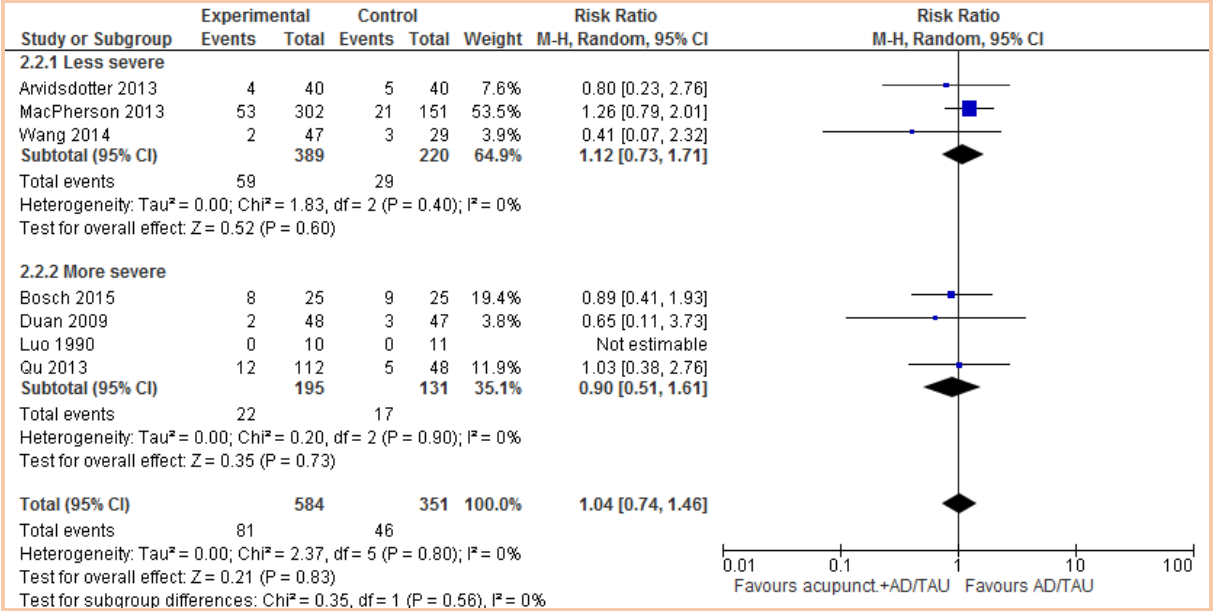
Acupuncture + AD/TAU versus TAU

Discontinuation due to side effects

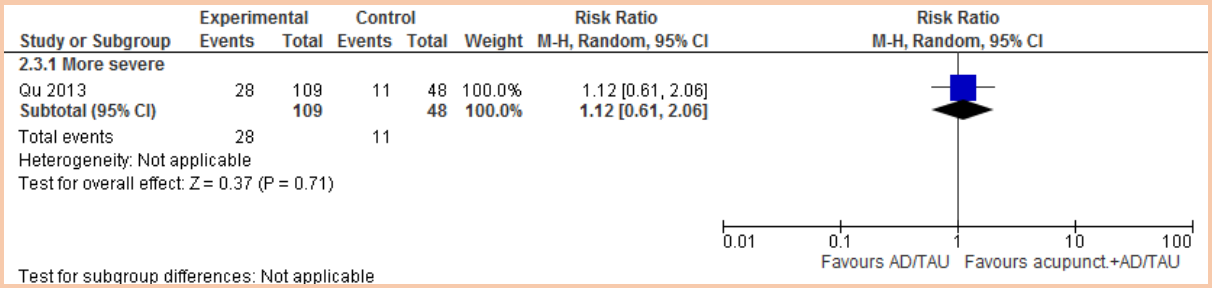


Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

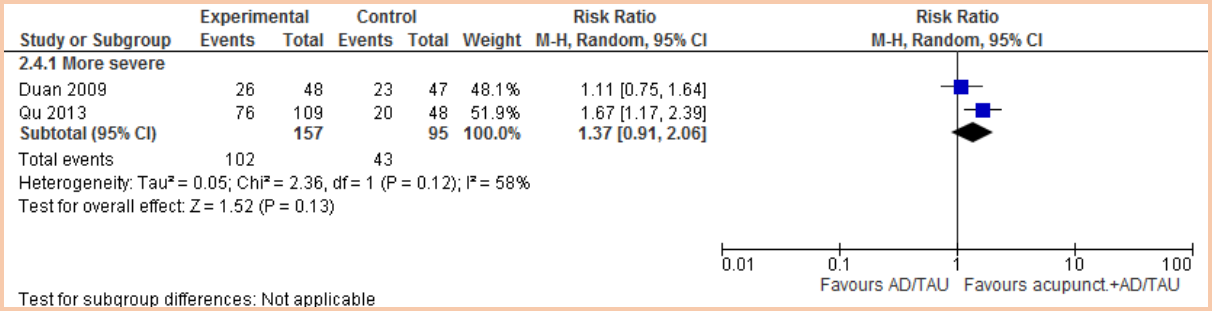
Discontinuation for any reason



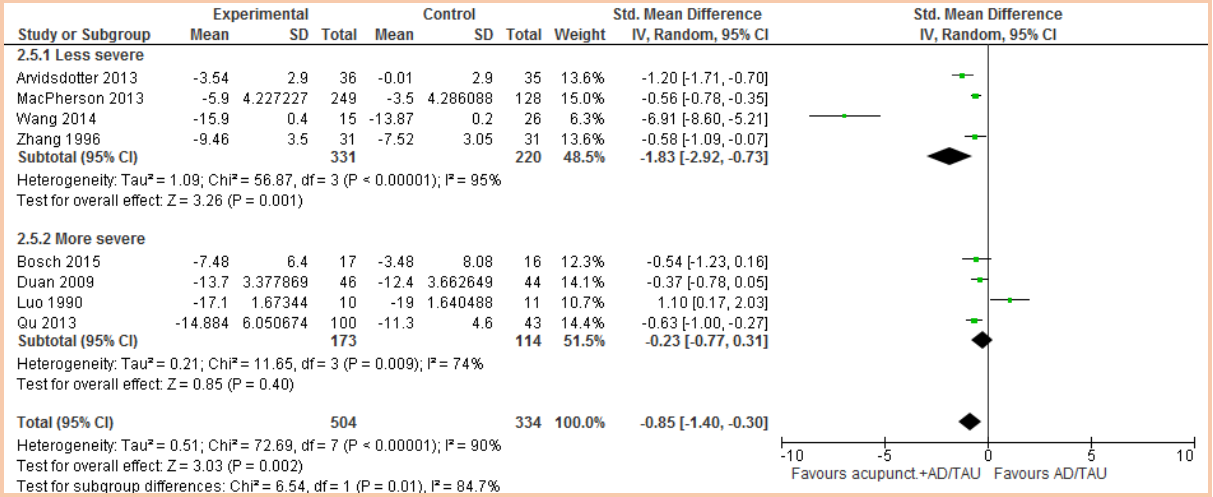
Remission (HAMD endpoint score of 7 or below)



Response (reduction of at least 50% from baseline score on HAMD)



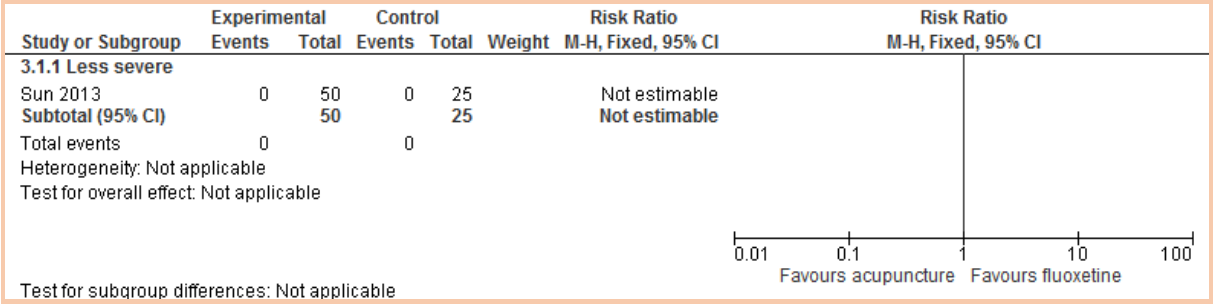
Depression symptomatology (HAMD/PHQ-9/BDI-II change score)



Acupuncture versus SSRI

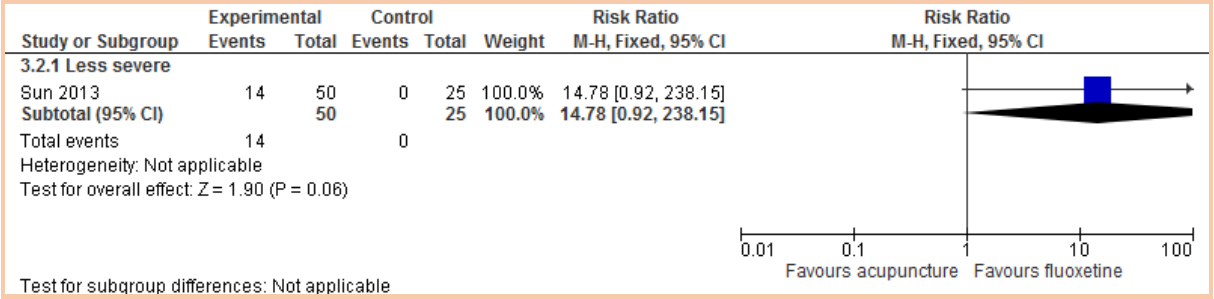
Discontinuation due to side effects

1



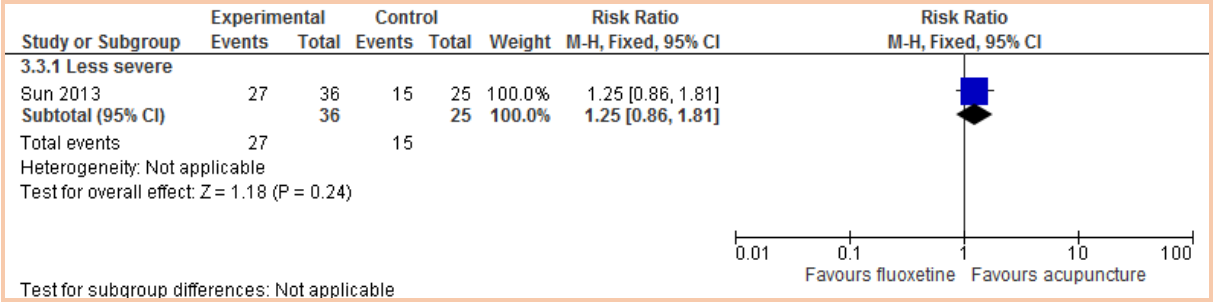
2

3 Discontinuation for any reason



4

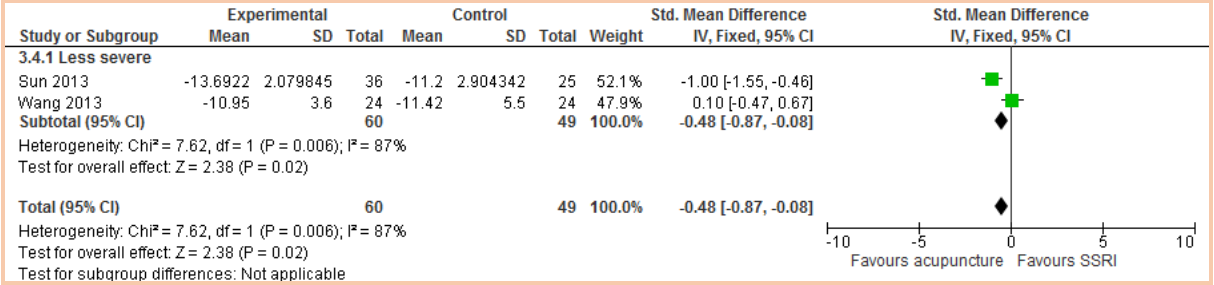
5 Response (reduction of at least 50% from the baseline score on HAMD)



6

7 Depression symptomatology (HAMD/MADRS change score)

8

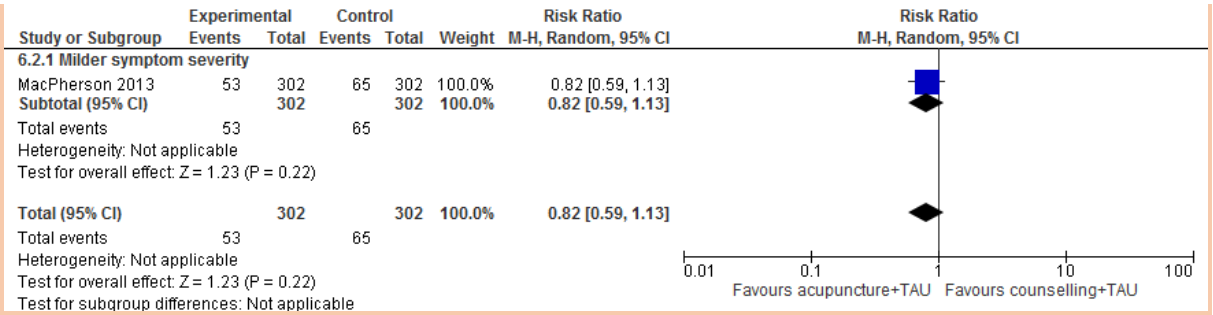


9

10

11 Acupuncture + TAU versus counselling + TAU

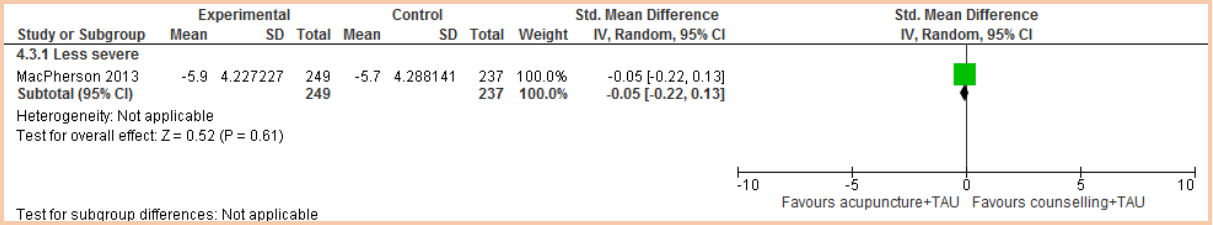
12 Discontinuation for any reason



1

2 Depression symptomatology (PHQ-9 change score)

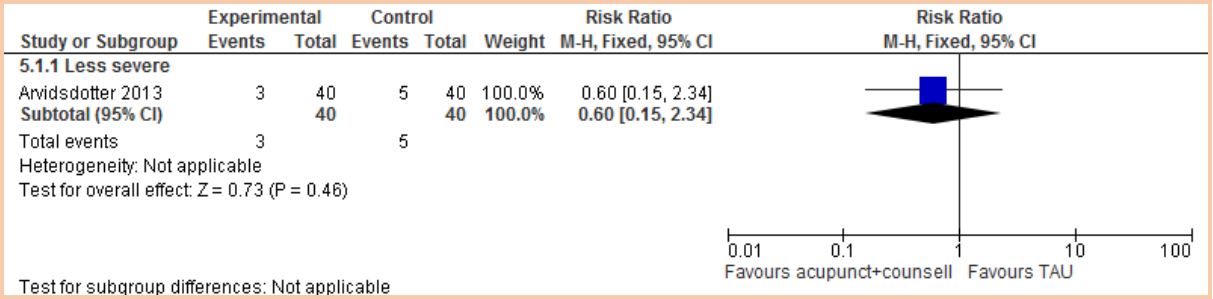
3



4

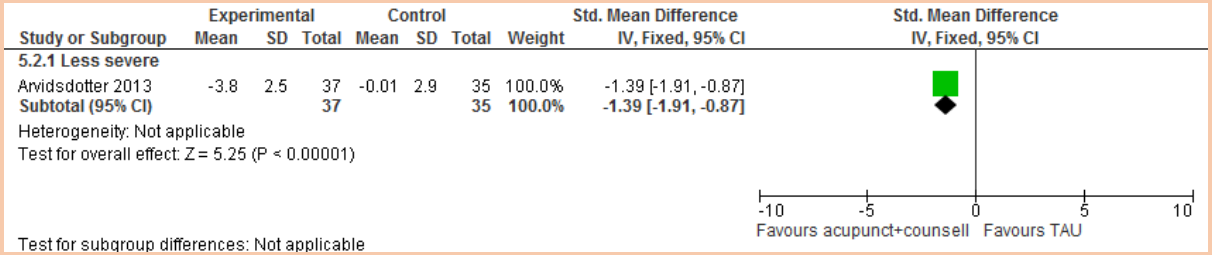
5 Acupuncture + counselling versus TAU

6 Discontinuation for any reason



7

8 Depression symptomatology (HADS-D change score)

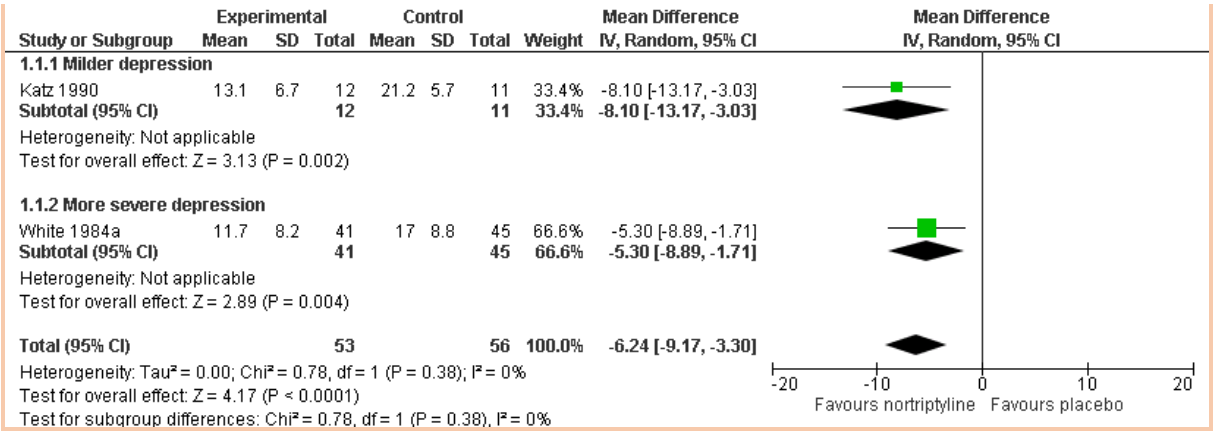


9

10 ## Nortriptyline

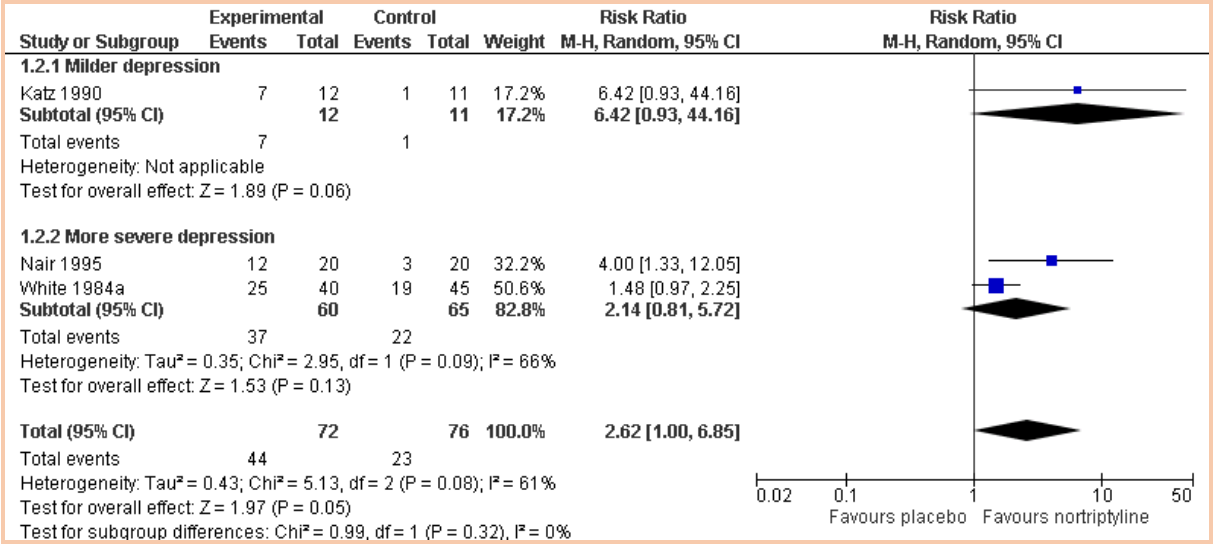
11 Nortriptyline versus placebo

12 Depression symptomatology at endpoint: milder and more severe depression



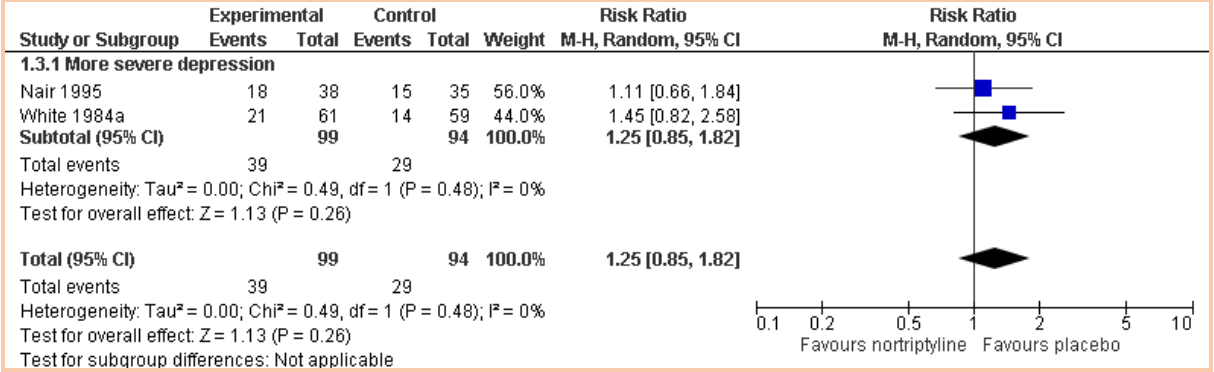
1

2 Remission at endpoint: milder and more severe depression



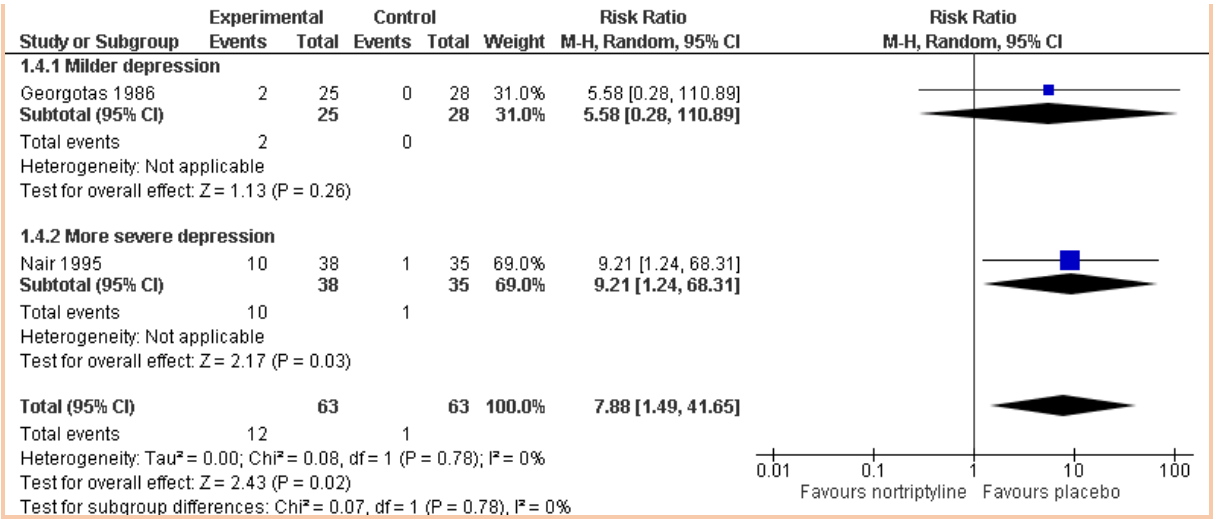
3

4 Treatment discontinuation: more severe depression



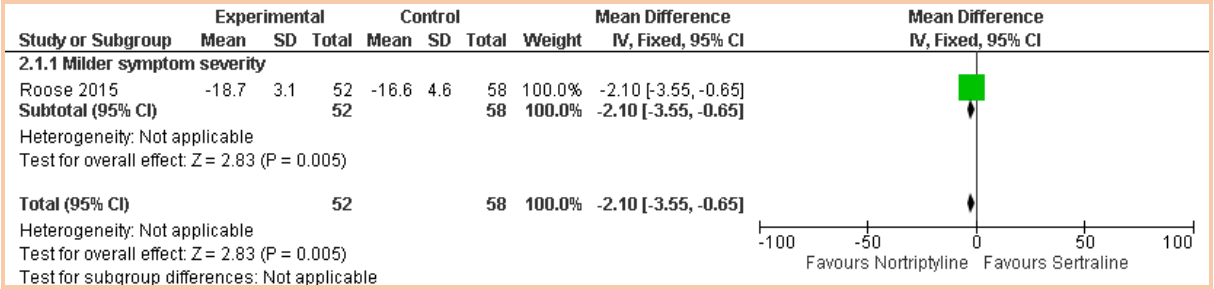
5

6 Treatment discontinuation due to side effect: milder and more severe depression

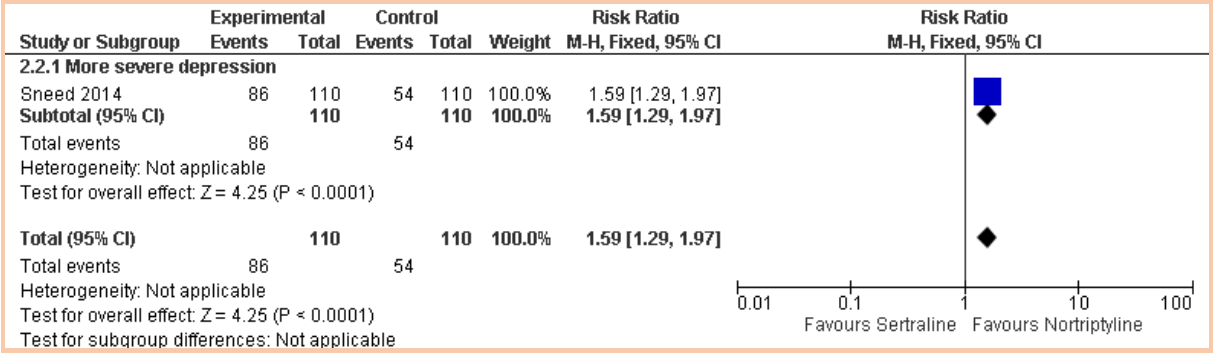


Nortriptyline versus sertraline

Depression symptomatology



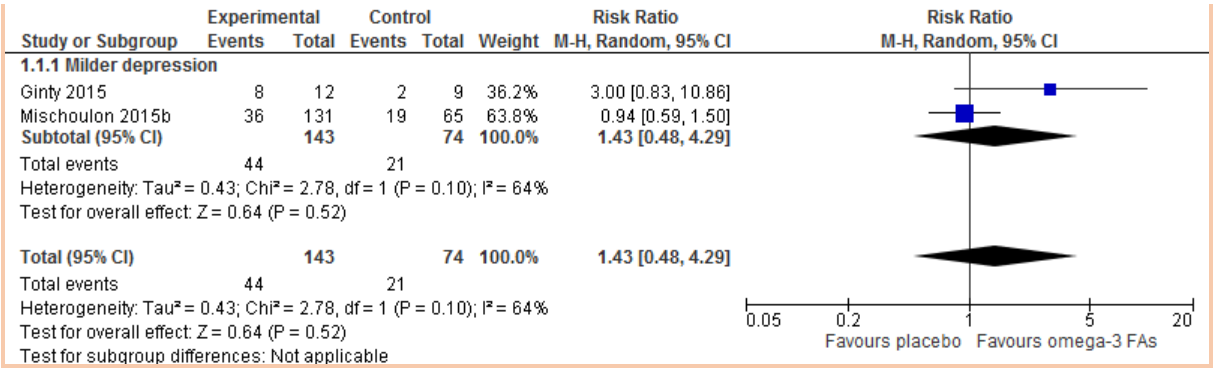
Response



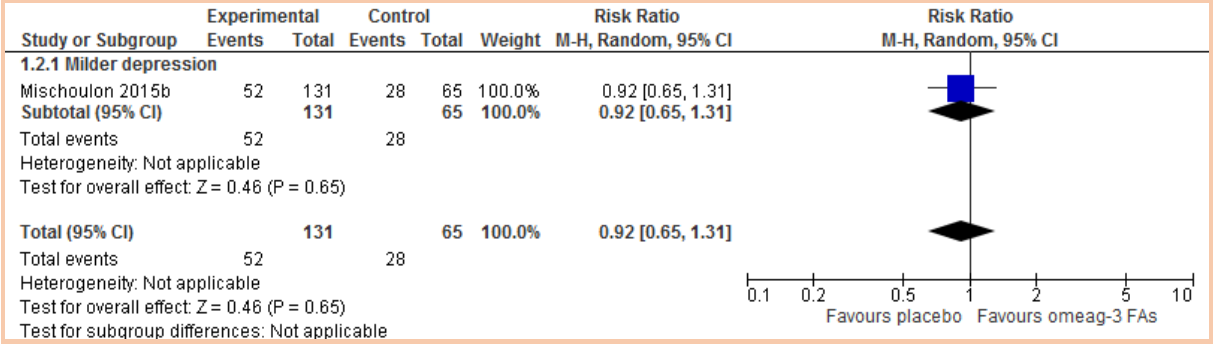
Omega-3 fatty acids

Omega-3 fatty acids versus placebo

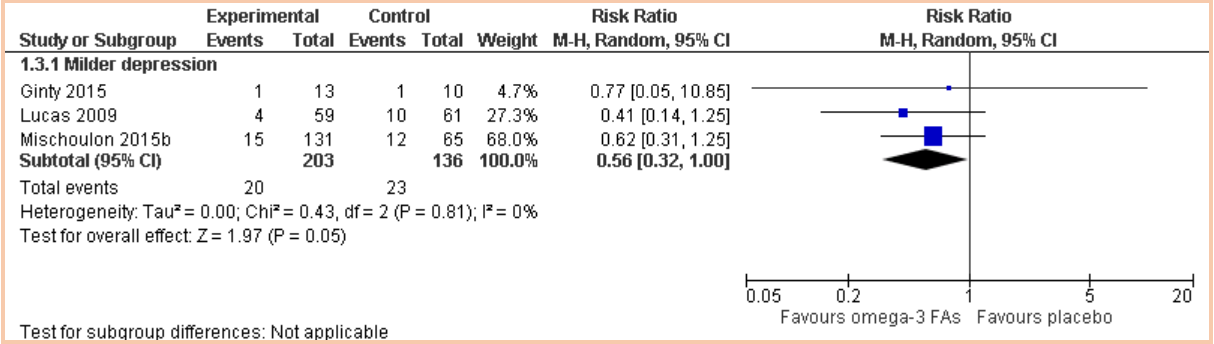
Remission (BDI<=10 or HAMD-17 <=7)



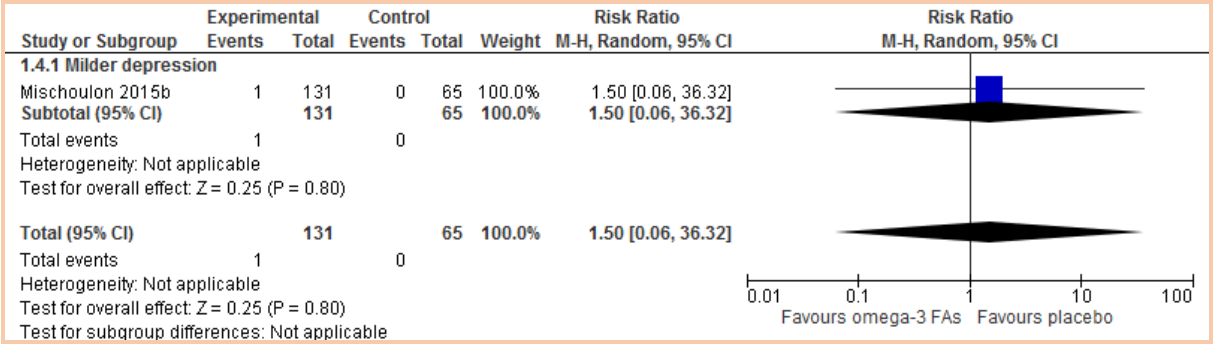
Response (HAMD reduced by >=50%)



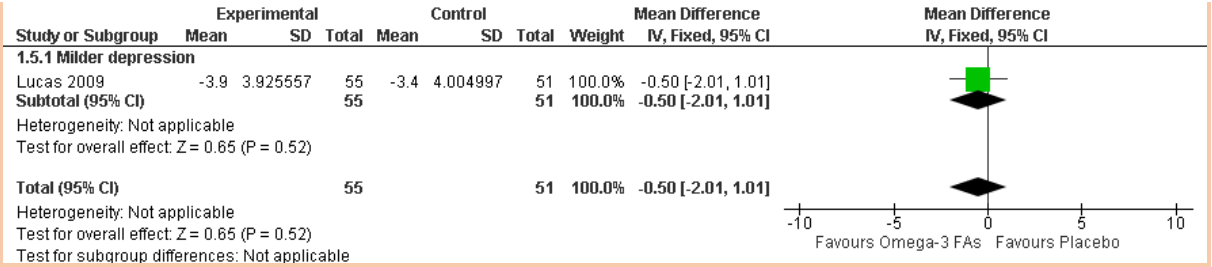
Treatment discontinuation



Discontinuation due to side effects

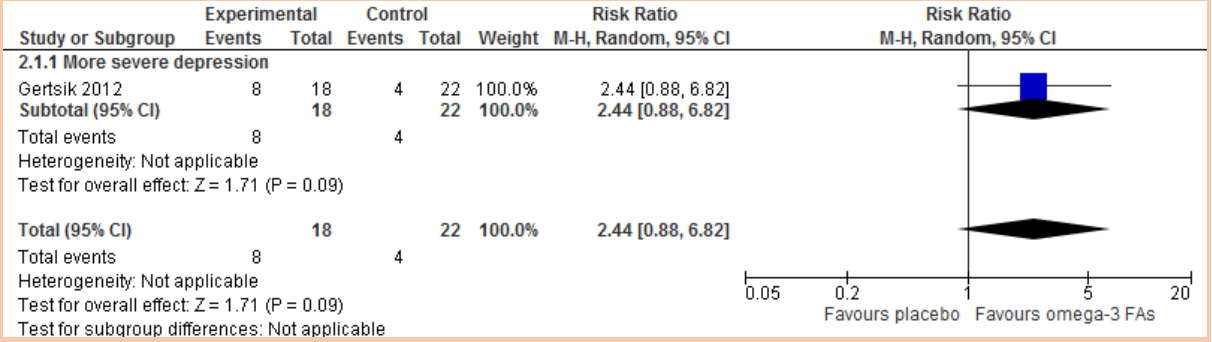


Depression symptomatology

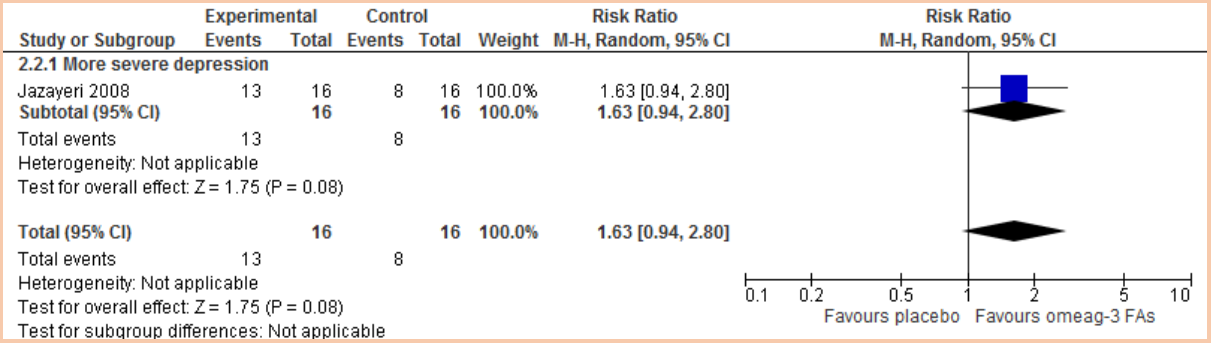


Omega-3 fatty acids + SSRI/antidepressant versus placebo + SSRI/antidepressant

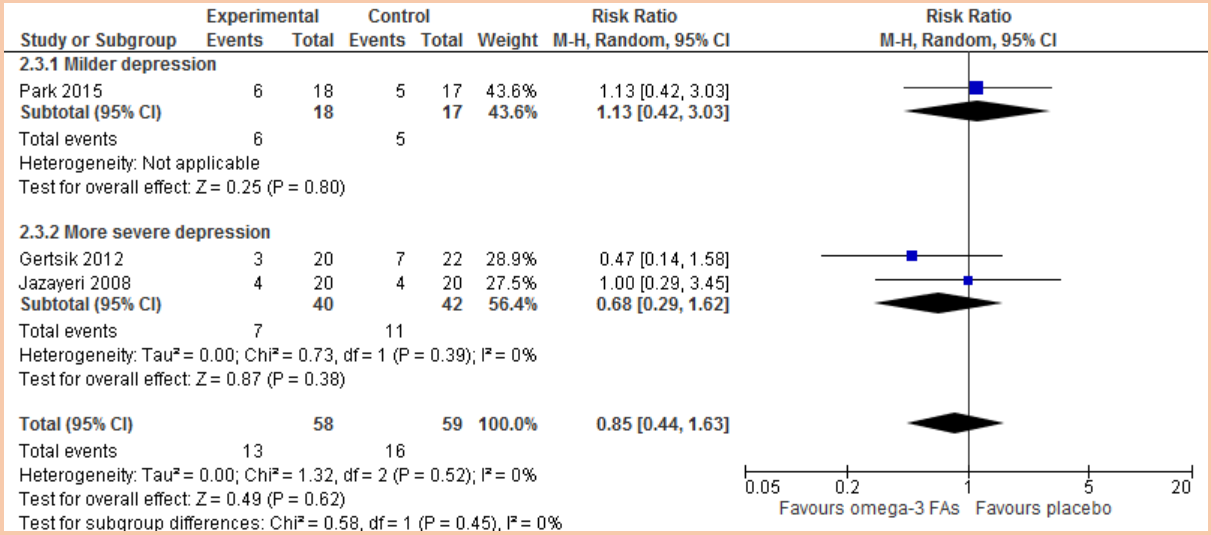
Remission (BDI<=10 or HAMD<=7 at endpoint)



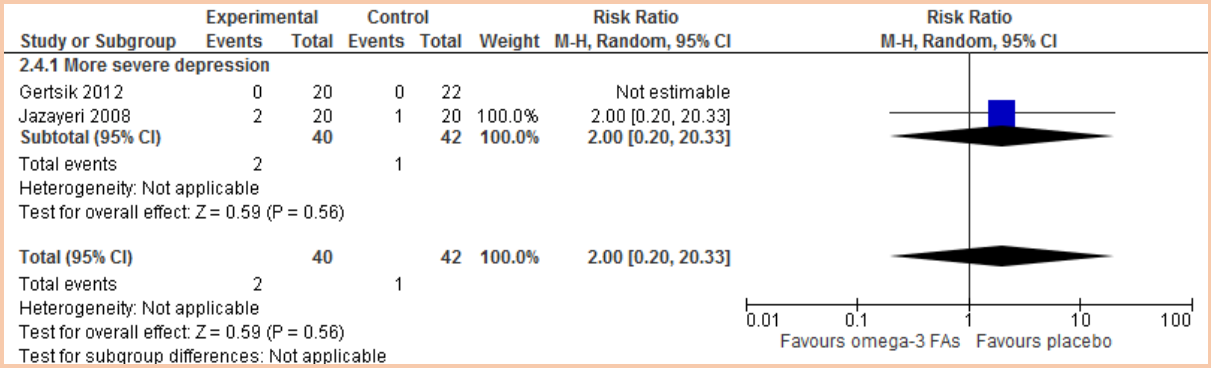
Response (HAMD reduced by >50% at endpoint)



Treatment discontinuation



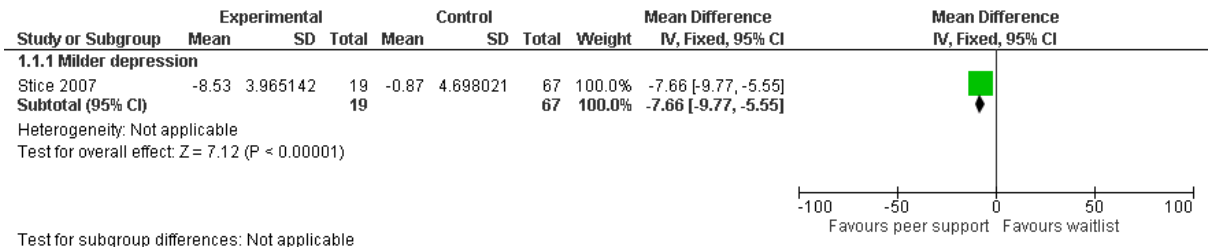
Discontinuation due to side effects



Psychosocial interventions (peer support)

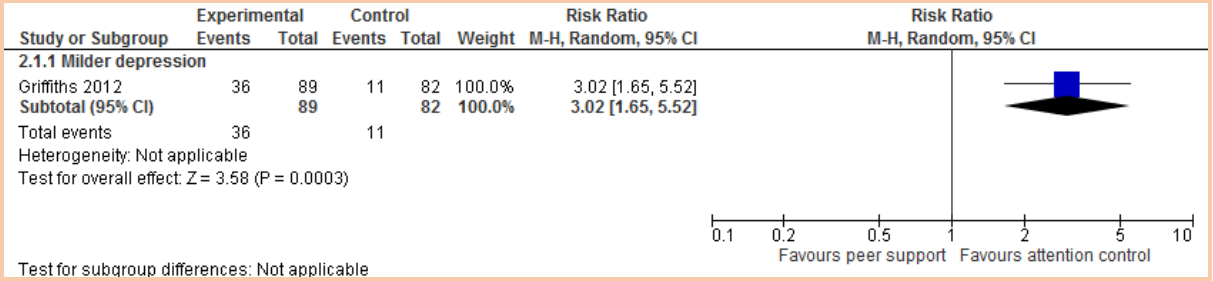
Peer support versus waitlist

Depression symptomatology at endpoint (BDI)



Peer support (online support group) versus attention-placebo control

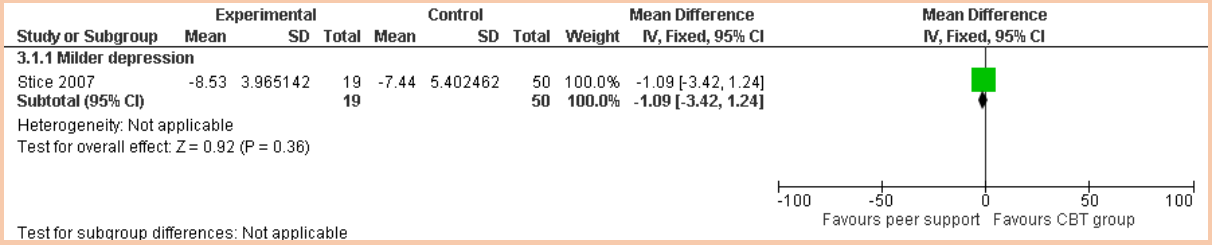
Treatment discontinuation rates



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

Peer support group versus CBT group

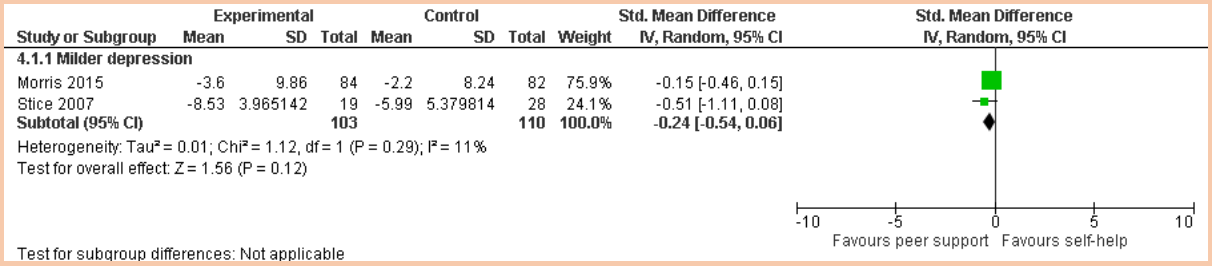
Depression symptomatology at endpoint (BDI)



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

Peer support group versus self-help (without support)

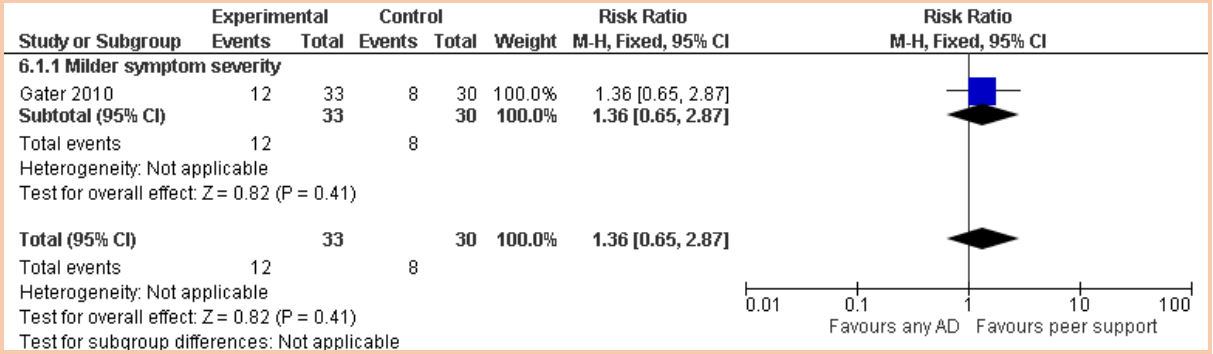
Depression symptomatology at endpoint (BDI)



Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

Peer support + any antidepressant versus any antidepressant

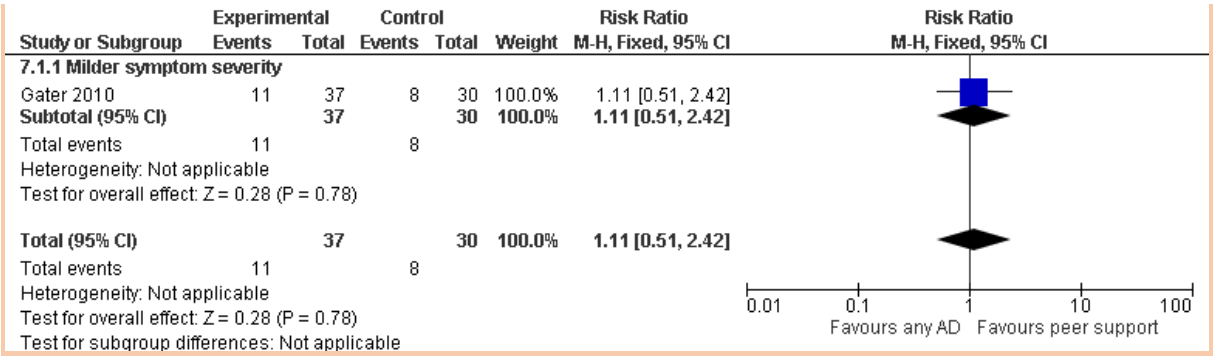
Remission



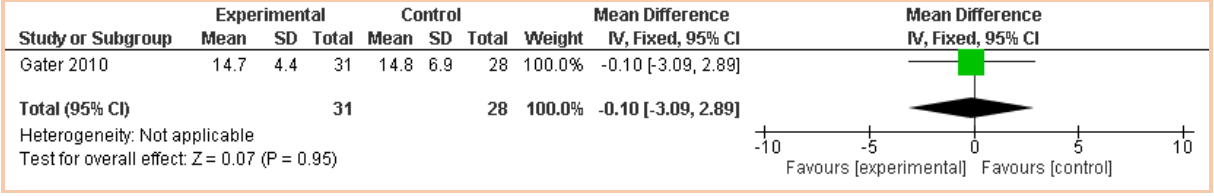
Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

Social intervention + any antidepressant versus any antidepressant

Remission

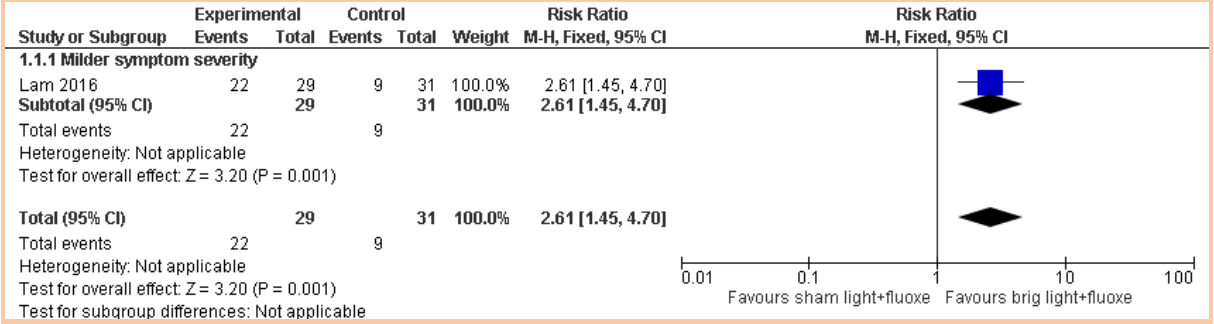


Depression symptomatology

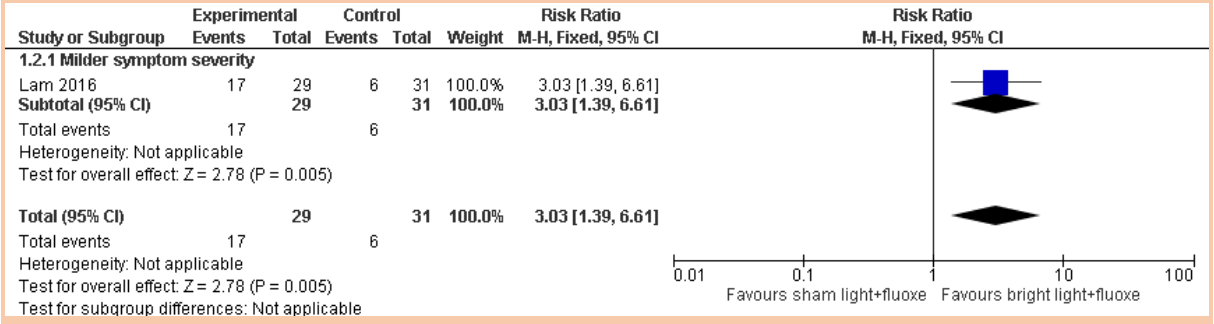


Bright light therapy

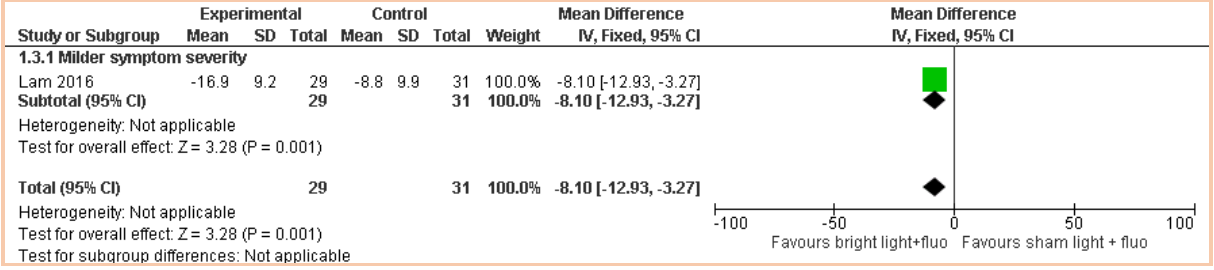
Response



Remission

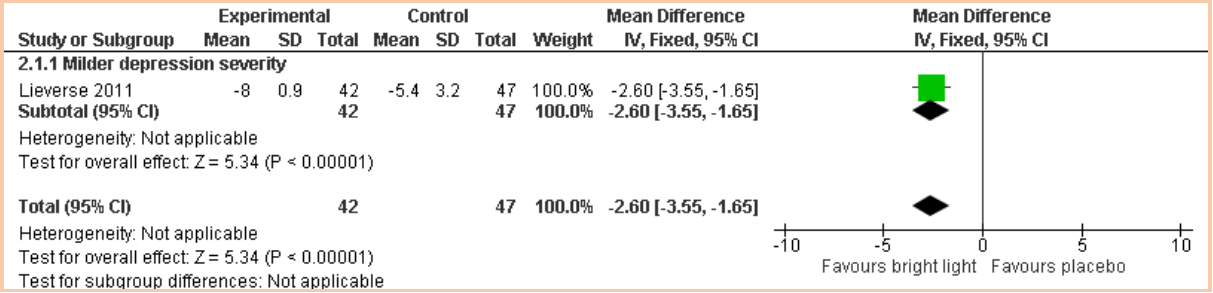


Depression symptomatology



1 Bright light therapy versus placebo

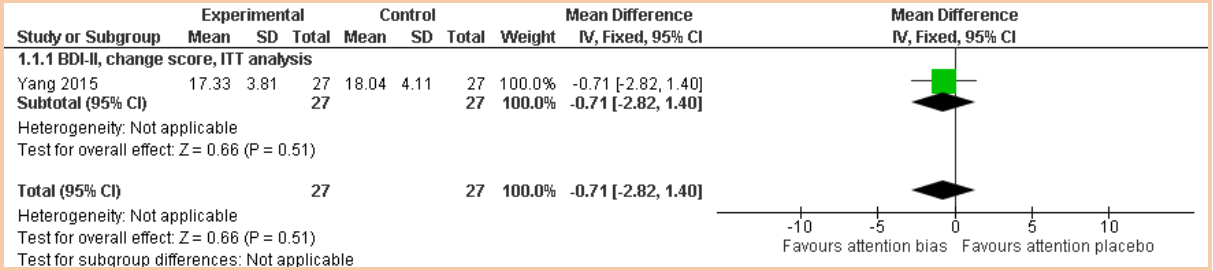
2 Depression symptomatology



3

4 ## Attention modification bias

5 Depression symptomatology

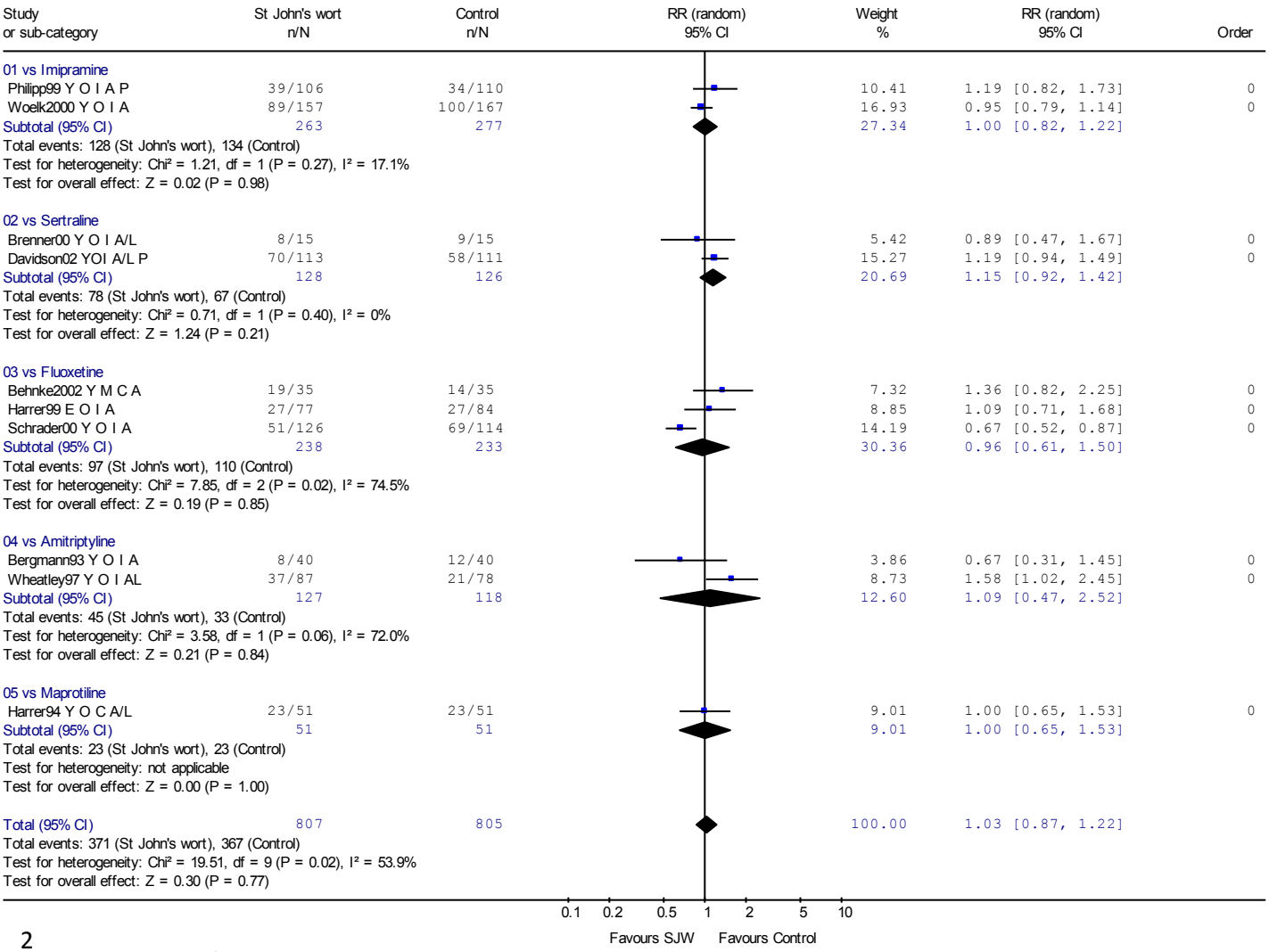


6

7

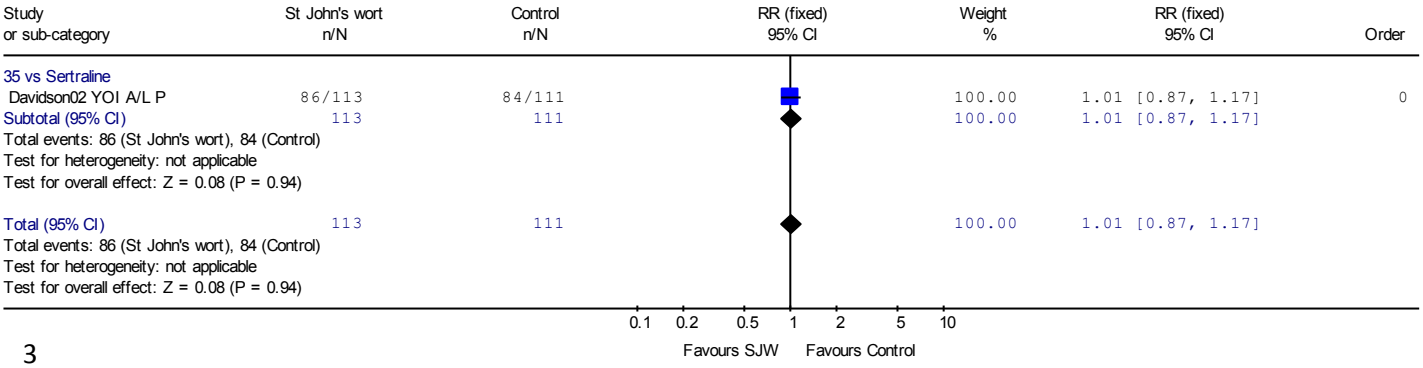
1 St John's wort

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 01 Efficacy against ADs
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score



2

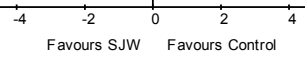
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 01 Efficacy against ADs
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving remission



3

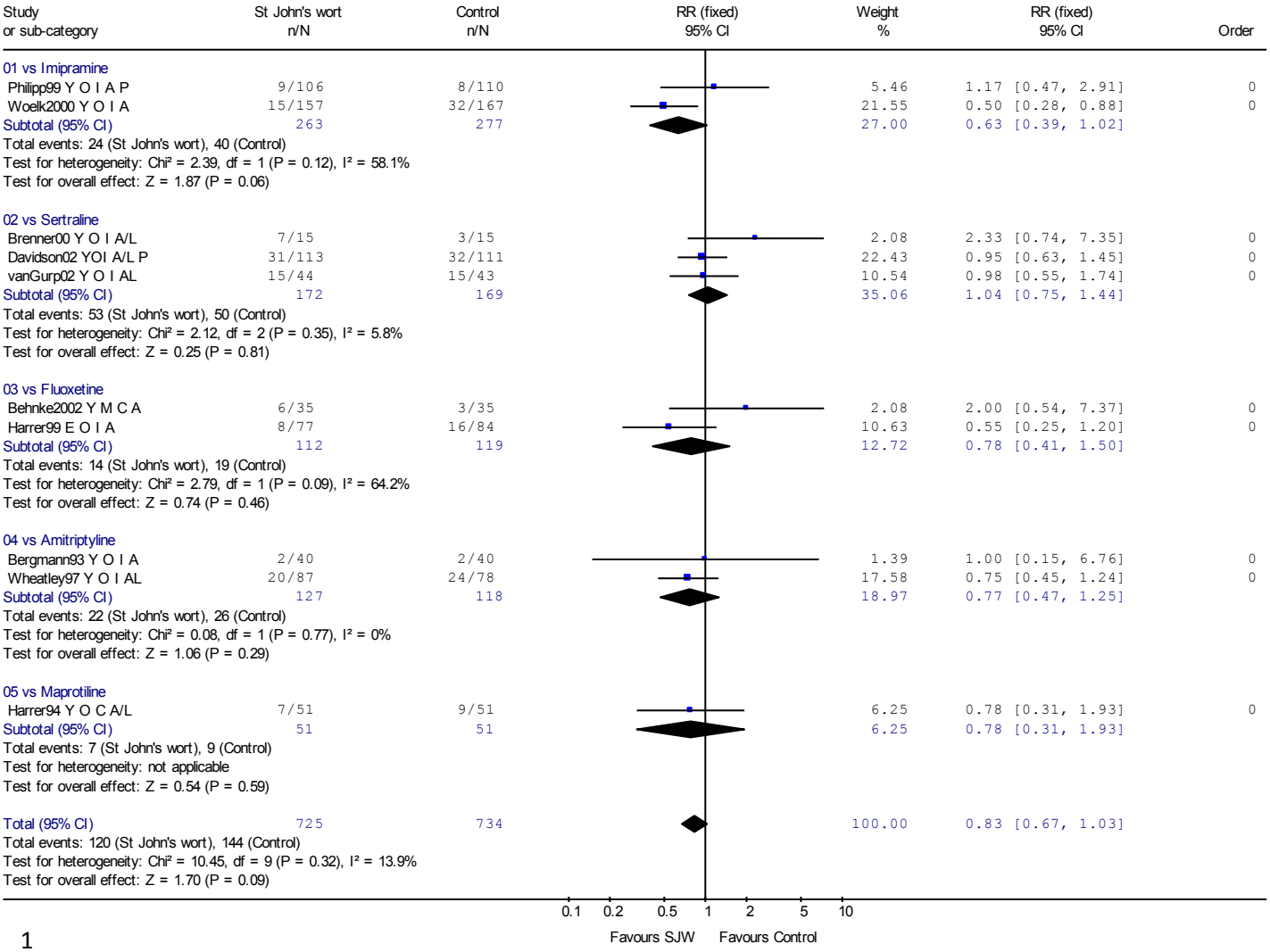
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 01 Efficacy against ADs
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores

Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 vs Imipramine								
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	105	-14.20(7.30)		17.58	-0.16 [-0.43, 0.12]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	100		105			17.58	-0.16 [-0.43, 0.12]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.11 (P = 0.27)								
02 vs Sertraline								
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	13	12.70(6.70)	15	12.50(5.60)		2.40	0.03 [-0.71, 0.77]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	109	-10.53(7.52)		18.95	0.25 [-0.01, 0.51]	0
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	44	-9.50(7.10)	43	-8.20(7.50)		7.46	-0.18 [-0.60, 0.24]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	170		167			28.81	0.12 [-0.09, 0.34]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.89, df = 2 (P = 0.24), I² = 30.8%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.11 (P = 0.27)								
03 vs Fluoxetine								
Behnke2002 Y M C A	29	-10.00(5.80)	32	-12.00(6.80)		5.17	0.31 [-0.19, 0.82]	0
Harrer99 E O I A	70	7.91(5.04)	79	8.11(5.67)		12.78	-0.04 [-0.36, 0.28]	0
Schrader00 Y O I A	125	-8.11(4.85)	113	-7.25(4.61)		20.35	-0.18 [-0.44, 0.07]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	224		224			38.30	-0.07 [-0.25, 0.12]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.95, df = 2 (P = 0.23), I² = 32.2%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.70 (P = 0.48)								
04 vs Amitriptyline								
Bergmann93 Y O I A	38	6.34(4.19)	38	6.65(5.98)		6.54	-0.06 [-0.51, 0.39]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	38		38			6.54	-0.06 [-0.51, 0.39]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.26 (P = 0.80)								
05 vs Maprotiline								
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	51	12.78(10.19)	51	12.20(7.83)		8.78	0.06 [-0.32, 0.45]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	51		51			8.78	0.06 [-0.32, 0.45]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.32 (P = 0.75)								
Total (95% CI)	583		585			100.00	-0.02 [-0.13, 0.10]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 8.89, df = 8 (P = 0.35), I² = 10.0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.27 (P = 0.78)								



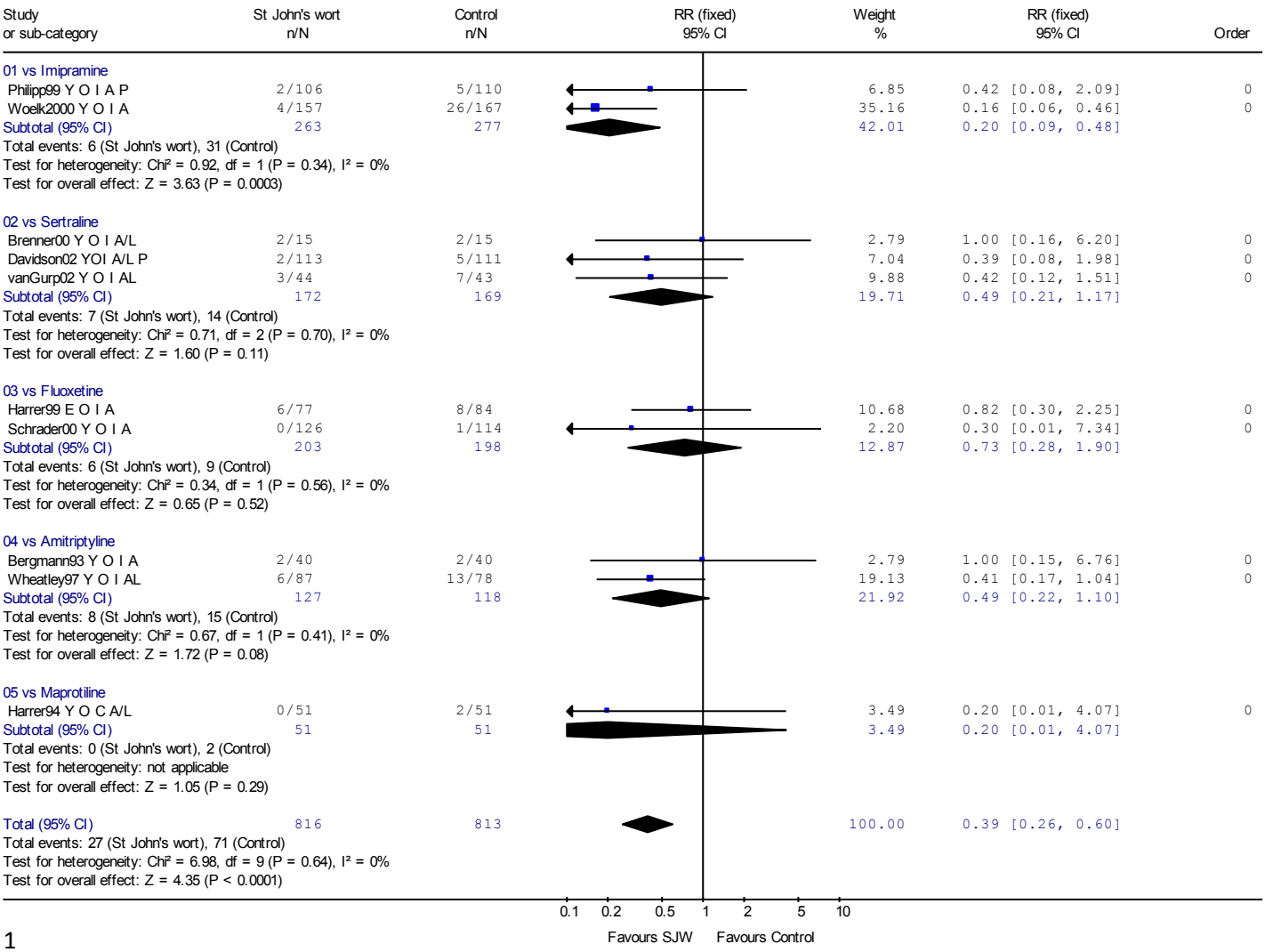
1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 02 Tolerability against ADs
Outcome: 01 Leaving the study early



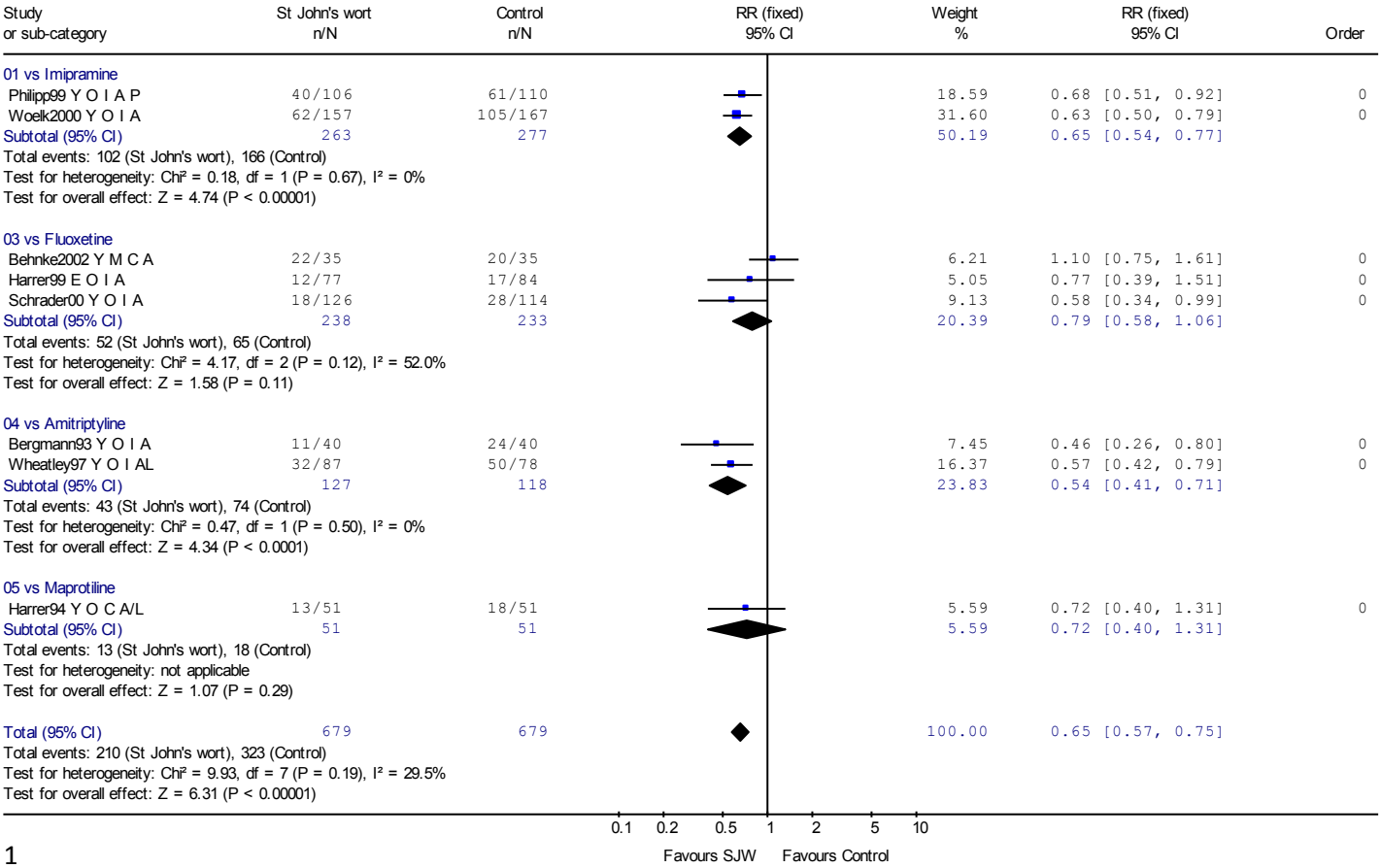
1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 02 Tolerability against ADs
Outcome: 02 Leaving the study early due to side effects



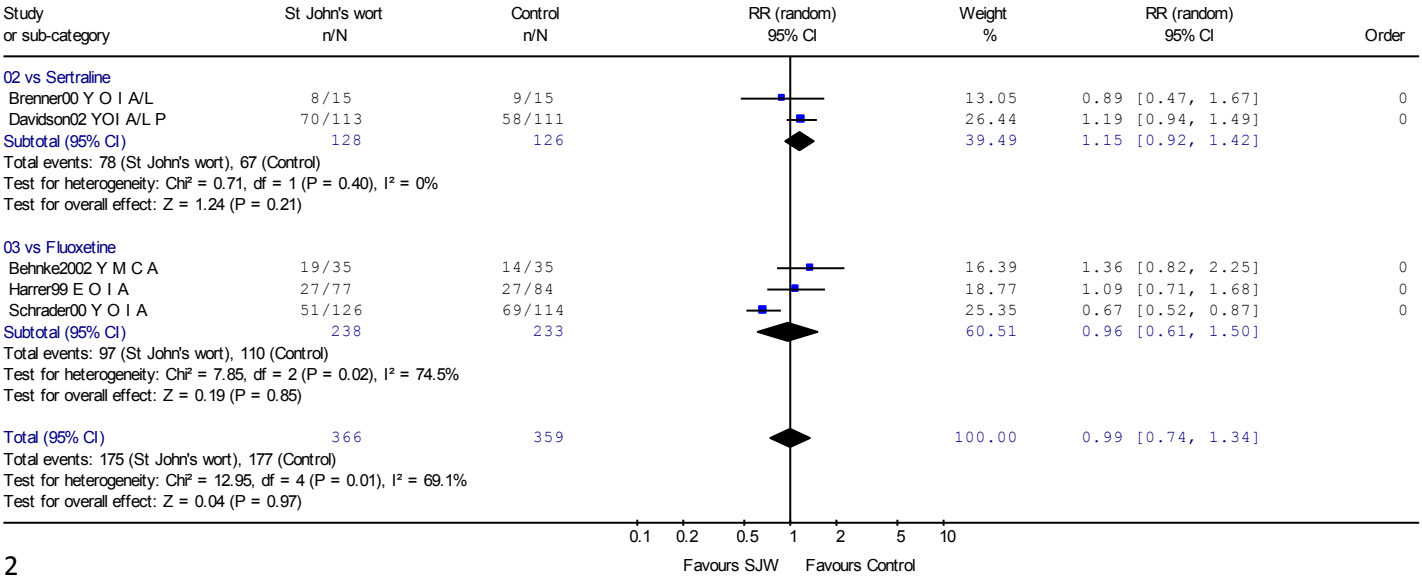
1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 02 Tolerability against ADs
Outcome: 03 Patients reporting side effects



1

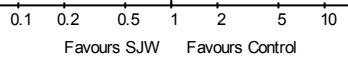
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 03 Efficacy against SSRIs
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 03 Efficacy against SSRIs
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving remission

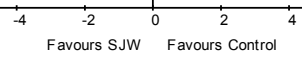
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	86/113	84/111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	113	111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 84 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)						
Total (95% CI)	113	111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 84 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 03 Efficacy against SSRIs
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores

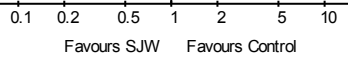
Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline								
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	13	12.70(6.70)	15	12.50(5.60)		3.57	0.03 [-0.71, 0.77]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	109	-10.53(7.52)		28.24	0.25 [-0.01, 0.51]	0
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	44	-9.50(7.10)	43	-8.20(7.50)		11.11	-0.18 [-0.60, 0.24]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	170		167			42.93	0.12 [-0.09, 0.34]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.89, df = 2 (P = 0.24), I² = 30.8%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.11 (P = 0.27)								
03 vs Fluoxetine								
Behnke2002 Y M C A	29	-10.00(5.80)	32	-12.00(6.80)		7.71	0.31 [-0.19, 0.82]	0
Harrer99 E O I A	70	7.91(5.04)	79	8.11(5.67)		19.04	-0.04 [-0.36, 0.28]	0
Schrader00 Y O I A	125	-8.11(4.85)	113	-7.25(4.61)		30.33	-0.18 [-0.44, 0.07]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	224		224			57.07	-0.07 [-0.25, 0.12]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.95, df = 2 (P = 0.23), I² = 32.2%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.70 (P = 0.48)								
Total (95% CI)	394		391			100.00	0.01 [-0.13, 0.15]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 7.52, df = 5 (P = 0.18), I² = 33.5%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.20 (P = 0.84)								



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 04 Tolerability against SSRIs
Outcome: 01 Leaving the study early

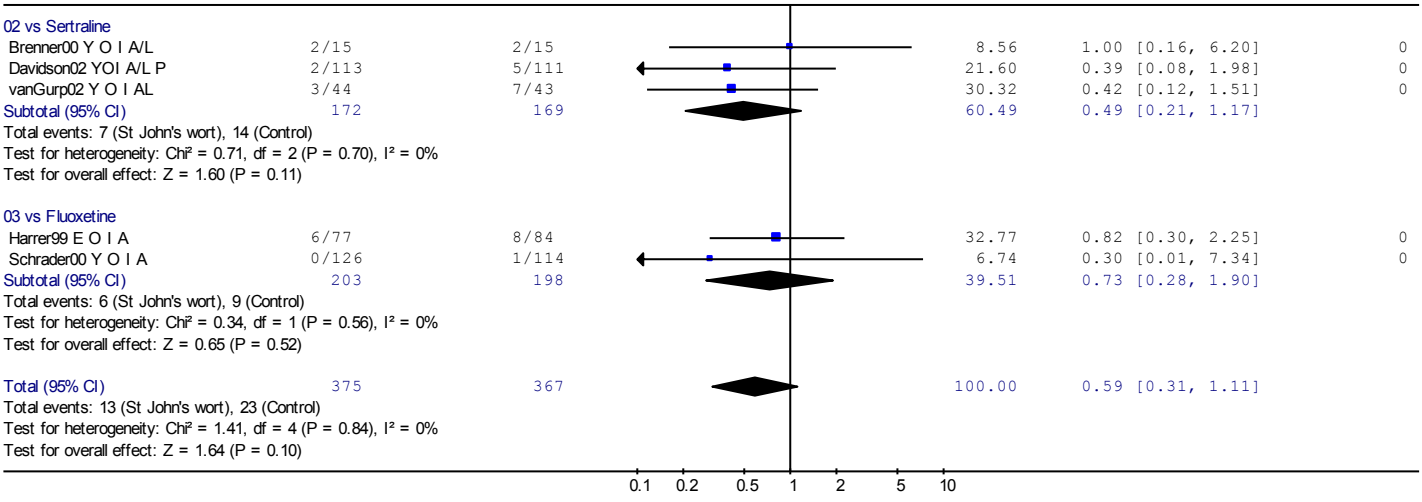
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	7/15	3/15		4.36	2.33 [0.74, 7.35]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	31/113	32/111		46.95	0.95 [0.63, 1.45]	0
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	15/44	15/43		22.06	0.98 [0.55, 1.74]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	172	169		73.38	1.04 [0.75, 1.44]	
Total events: 53 (St John's wort), 50 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.12, df = 2 (P = 0.35), I² = 5.8%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.25 (P = 0.81)						
03 vs Fluoxetine						
Behnke2002 Y M C A	6/35	3/35		4.36	2.00 [0.54, 7.37]	0
Harrer99 E O I A	8/77	16/84		22.26	0.55 [0.25, 1.20]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	112	119		26.62	0.78 [0.41, 1.50]	
Total events: 14 (St John's wort), 19 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.79, df = 1 (P = 0.09), I² = 64.2%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.74 (P = 0.46)						
Total (95% CI)	284	288		100.00	0.97 [0.73, 1.30]	
Total events: 67 (St John's wort), 69 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 5.47, df = 4 (P = 0.24), I² = 26.9%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.19 (P = 0.85)						



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 04 Tolerability against SSRIs
Outcome: 02 Leaving the study early due to side effects

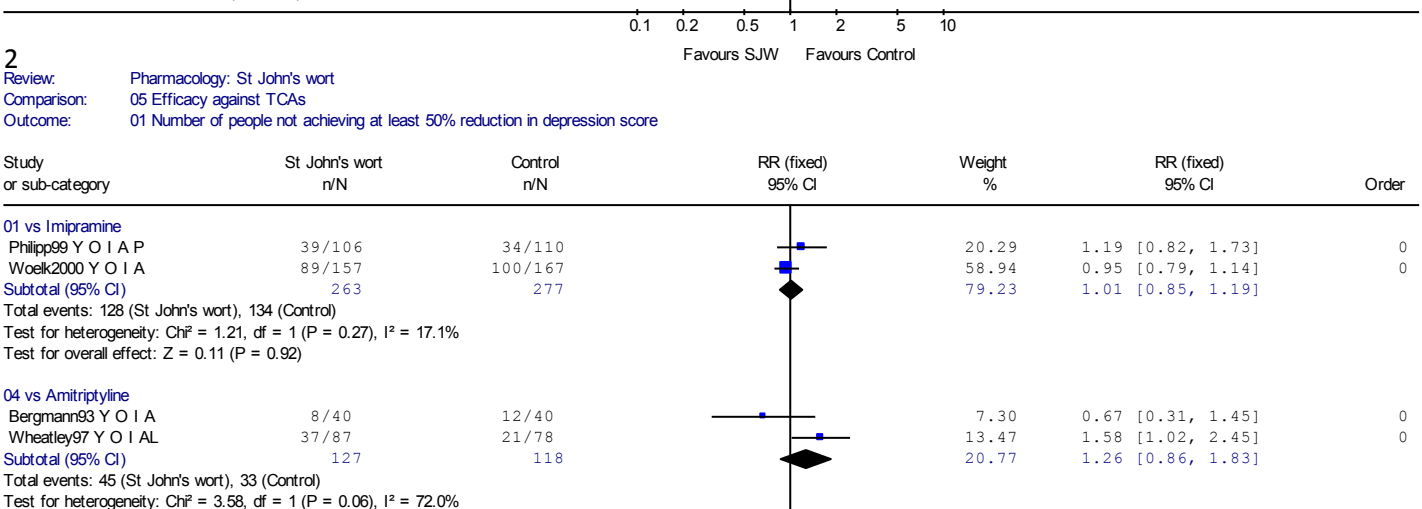
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	2/15	2/15		8.56	1.00 [0.16, 6.20]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	2/113	5/111		21.60	0.39 [0.08, 1.98]	0
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	3/44	7/43		30.32	0.42 [0.12, 1.51]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	172	169		60.49	0.49 [0.21, 1.17]	
Total events: 7 (St John's wort), 14 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.71, df = 2 (P = 0.70), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.60 (P = 0.11)						
03 vs Fluoxetine						
Harrer99 E O I A	6/77	8/84		32.77	0.82 [0.30, 2.25]	0
Schrader00 Y O I A	0/126	1/114		6.74	0.30 [0.01, 7.34]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	203	198		39.51	0.73 [0.28, 1.90]	
Total events: 6 (St John's wort), 9 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.34, df = 1 (P = 0.56), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.65 (P = 0.52)						
Total (95% CI)	375	367		100.00	0.59 [0.31, 1.11]	
Total events: 13 (St John's wort), 23 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.41, df = 4 (P = 0.84), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.64 (P = 0.10)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 04 Tolerability against SSRIs
Outcome: 03 Patients reporting side effects

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
03 vs Fluoxetine						
Behnke2002 Y M C A	22/35	20/35		30.46	1.10 [0.75, 1.61]	0
Harrer99 E O I A	12/77	17/84		24.76	0.77 [0.39, 1.51]	0
Schrader00 Y O I A	18/126	28/114		44.78	0.58 [0.34, 0.99]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	238	233		100.00	0.79 [0.58, 1.06]	
Total events: 52 (St John's wort), 65 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 4.17, df = 2 (P = 0.12), I² = 52.0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.58 (P = 0.11)						
Total (95% CI)	238	233		100.00	0.79 [0.58, 1.06]	
Total events: 52 (St John's wort), 65 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 4.17, df = 2 (P = 0.12), I² = 52.0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.58 (P = 0.11)						



2

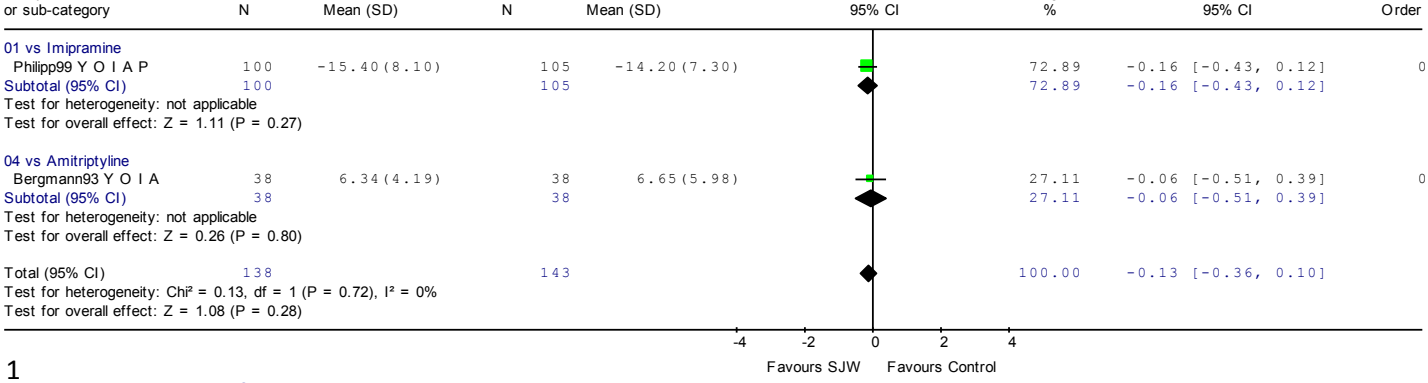
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 05 Efficacy against TCAs
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 vs Imipramine						
Philipp99 Y O I A P	39/106	34/110		20.29	1.19 [0.82, 1.73]	0
Woelk2000 Y O I A	89/157	100/167		58.94	0.95 [0.79, 1.14]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	263	277		79.23	1.01 [0.85, 1.19]	
Total events: 128 (St John's wort), 134 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.21, df = 1 (P = 0.27), I² = 17.1%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.11 (P = 0.92)						
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Bergmann93 Y O I A	8/40	12/40		7.30	0.67 [0.31, 1.45]	0
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	37/87	21/78		13.47	1.58 [1.02, 2.45]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	127	118		20.77	1.26 [0.86, 1.83]	
Total events: 45 (St John's wort), 33 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.58, df = 1 (P = 0.06), I² = 72.0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.20 (P = 0.23)						
Total (95% CI)	390	395		100.00	1.06 [0.91, 1.24]	
Total events: 173 (St John's wort), 167 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 6.34, df = 3 (P = 0.10), I² = 52.7%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.74 (P = 0.46)						

3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 05 Efficacy against TCAs
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores

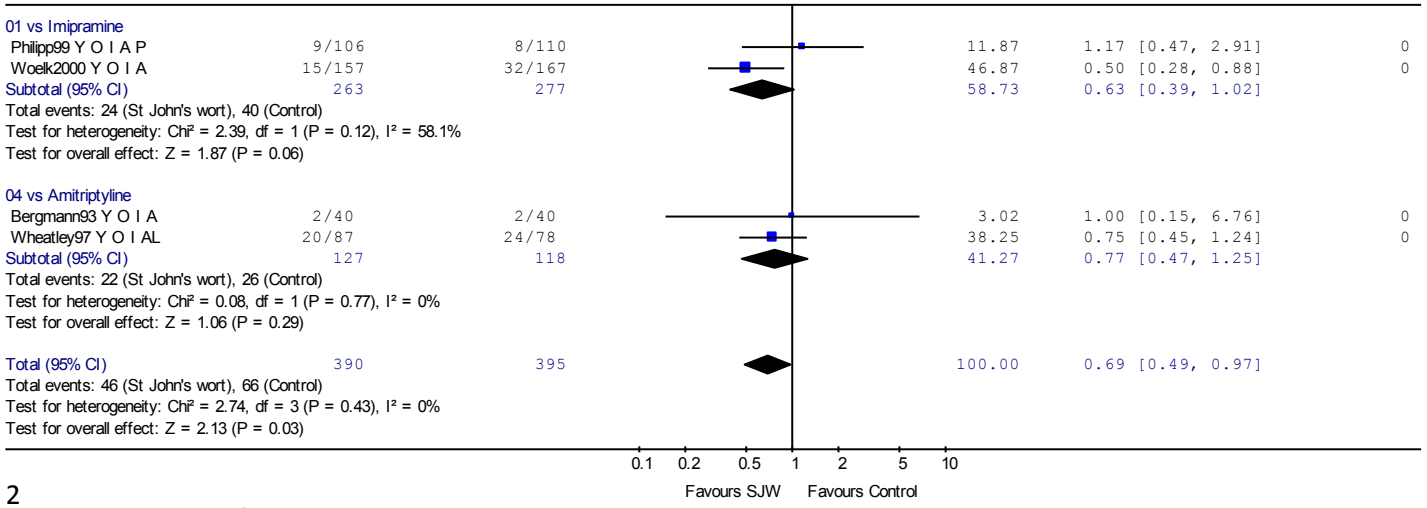
Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 vs Imipramine								
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	105	-14.20(7.30)		72.89	-0.16 [-0.43, 0.12]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	100		105			72.89	-0.16 [-0.43, 0.12]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.11 (P = 0.27)								
04 vs Amitriptyline								
Bergmann93 Y O I A	38	6.34(4.19)	38	6.65(5.98)		27.11	-0.06 [-0.51, 0.39]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	38		38			27.11	-0.06 [-0.51, 0.39]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.26 (P = 0.80)								
Total (95% CI)	138		143			100.00	-0.13 [-0.36, 0.10]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.13, df = 1 (P = 0.72), I² = 0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.08 (P = 0.28)								



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 06 Tolerability against TCAs
Outcome: 01 Leaving the study early

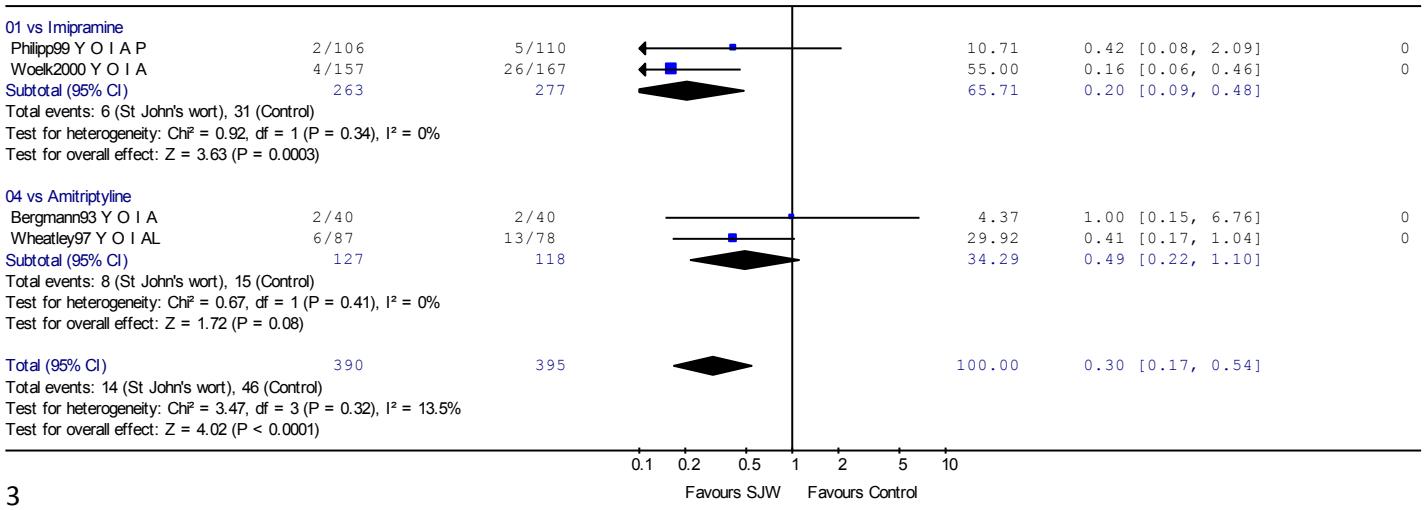
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 vs Imipramine						
Philipp99 Y O I A P	9/106	8/110		11.87	1.17 [0.47, 2.91]	0
Woelk2000 Y O I A	15/157	32/167		46.87	0.50 [0.28, 0.88]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	263	277		58.73	0.63 [0.39, 1.02]	
Total events: 24 (St John's wort), 40 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.39, df = 1 (P = 0.12), I² = 58.1%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.87 (P = 0.06)						
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Bergmann93 Y O I A	2/40	2/40		3.02	1.00 [0.15, 6.76]	0
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	20/87	24/78		38.25	0.75 [0.45, 1.24]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	127	118		41.27	0.77 [0.47, 1.25]	
Total events: 22 (St John's wort), 26 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.08, df = 1 (P = 0.77), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.06 (P = 0.29)						
Total (95% CI)	390	395		100.00	0.69 [0.49, 0.97]	
Total events: 46 (St John's wort), 66 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.74, df = 3 (P = 0.43), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.13 (P = 0.03)						



2

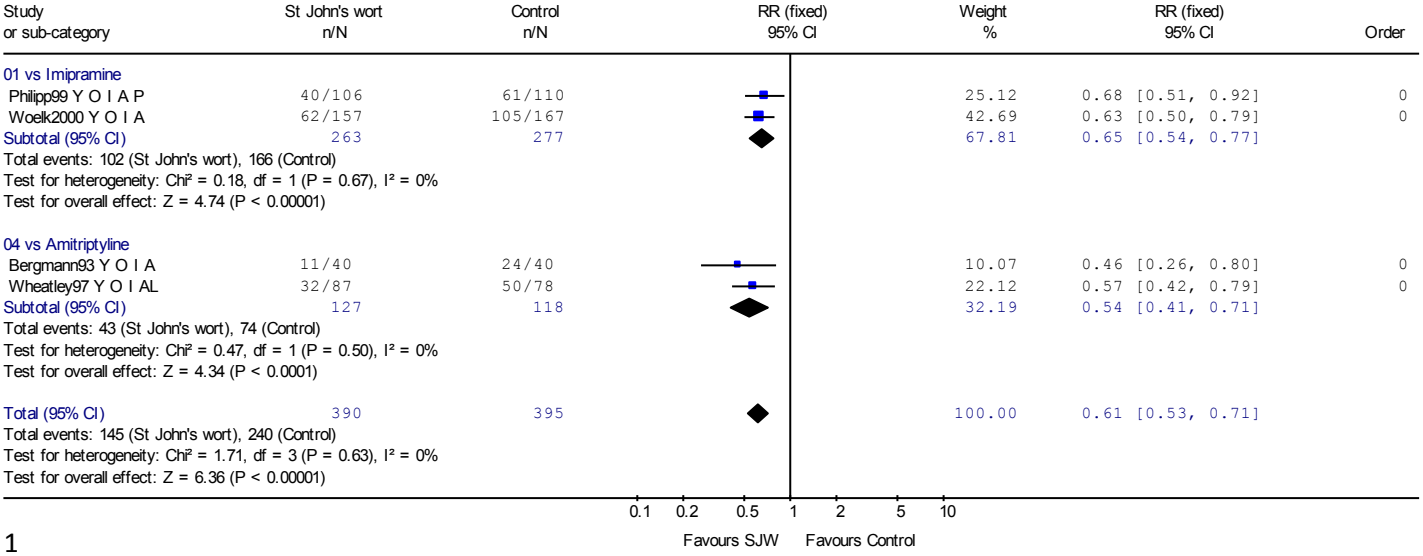
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 06 Tolerability against TCAs
Outcome: 02 Leaving the study early due to side effects

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 vs Imipramine						
Philipp99 Y O I A P	2/106	5/110		10.71	0.42 [0.08, 2.09]	0
Woelk2000 Y O I A	4/157	26/167		55.00	0.16 [0.06, 0.46]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	263	277		65.71	0.20 [0.09, 0.48]	
Total events: 6 (St John's wort), 31 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.92, df = 1 (P = 0.34), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.63 (P = 0.0003)						
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Bergmann93 Y O I A	2/40	2/40		4.37	1.00 [0.15, 6.76]	0
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	6/87	13/78		29.92	0.41 [0.17, 1.04]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	127	118		34.29	0.49 [0.22, 1.10]	
Total events: 8 (St John's wort), 15 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.67, df = 1 (P = 0.41), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.72 (P = 0.08)						
Total (95% CI)	390	395		100.00	0.30 [0.17, 0.54]	
Total events: 14 (St John's wort), 46 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.47, df = 3 (P = 0.32), I² = 13.5%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.02 (P < 0.0001)						



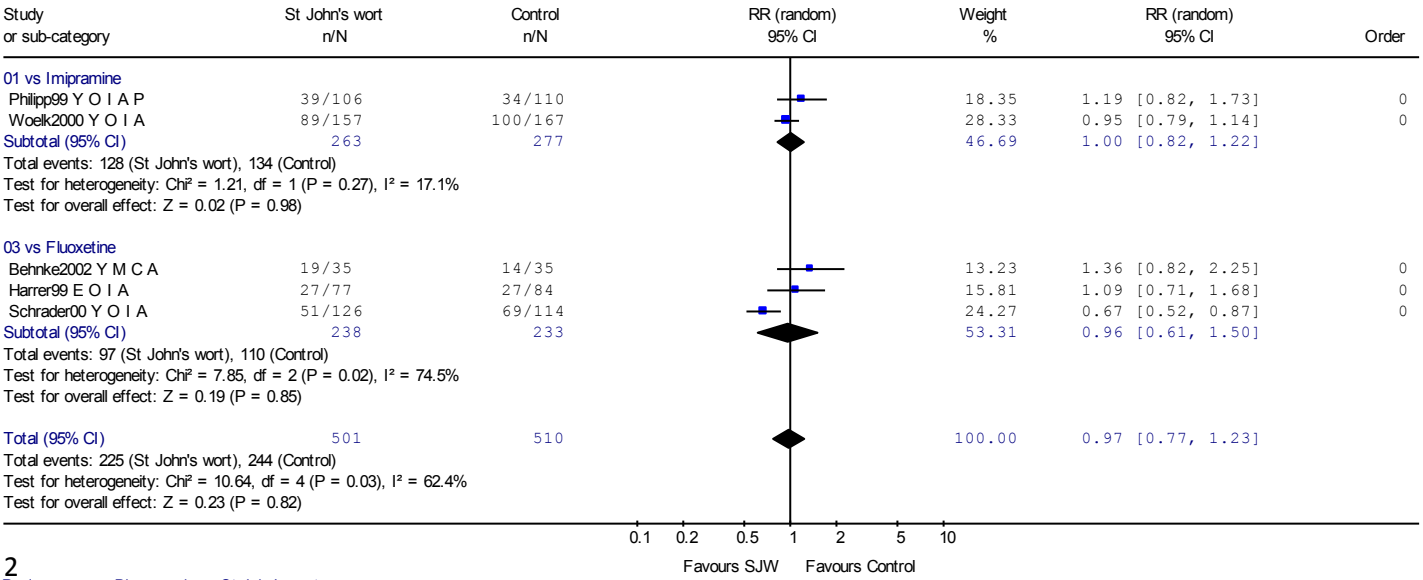
3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 06 Tolerability against TCAs
Outcome: 03 Patients reporting side effects



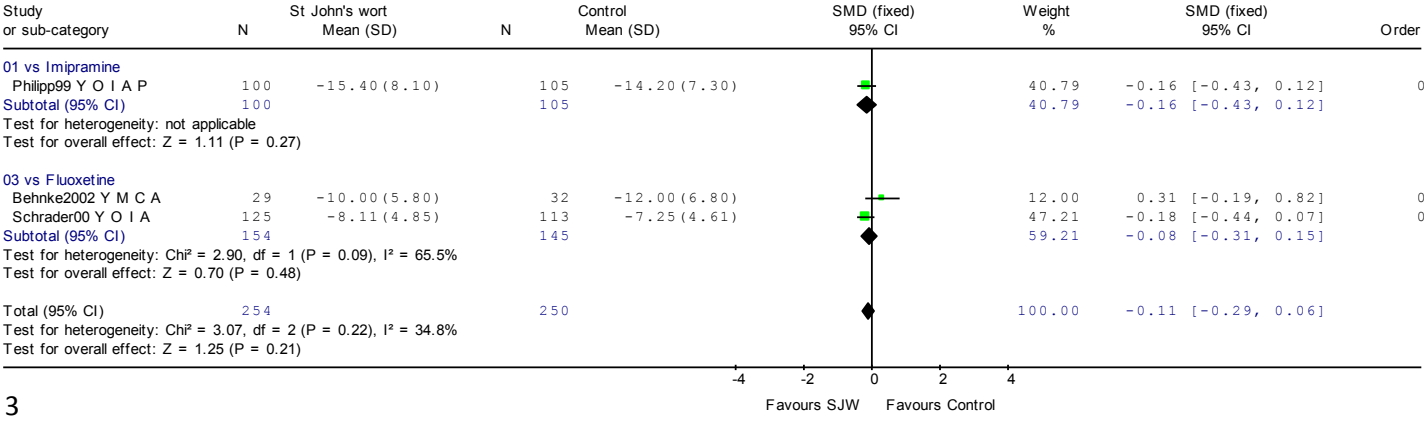
1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 07 Efficacy against therapeutic doses of ADs
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score



2

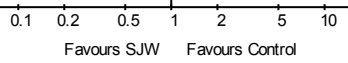
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 07 Efficacy against therapeutic doses of ADs
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 08 Efficacy against low doses of ADs
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score

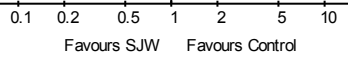
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	8/15	9/15		7.22	0.89 [0.47, 1.67]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	70/113	58/111		46.94	1.19 [0.94, 1.49]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	128	126		54.16	1.15 [0.92, 1.42]	
Total events: 78 (St John's wort), 67 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.71, df = 1 (P = 0.40), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.24 (P = 0.21)						
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Bergmann93 Y O I A	8/40	12/40		9.63	0.67 [0.31, 1.45]	0
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	37/87	21/78		17.76	1.58 [1.02, 2.45]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	127	118		27.39	1.26 [0.86, 1.83]	
Total events: 45 (St John's wort), 33 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.58, df = 1 (P = 0.06), I² = 72.0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.20 (P = 0.23)						
05 vs Maprotiline						
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	23/51	23/51		18.45	1.00 [0.65, 1.53]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	51	51		18.45	1.00 [0.65, 1.53]	
Total events: 23 (St John's wort), 23 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.00 (P = 1.00)						
Total (95% CI)	306	295		100.00	1.15 [0.97, 1.37]	
Total events: 146 (St John's wort), 123 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 5.00, df = 4 (P = 0.29), I² = 20.0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.57 (P = 0.12)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 08 Efficacy against low doses of ADs
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving remission

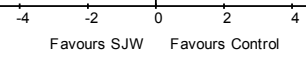
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	86/113	84/111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	113	111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 84 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)						
Total (95% CI)	113	111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 84 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)						



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 08 Efficacy against low doses of ADs
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores

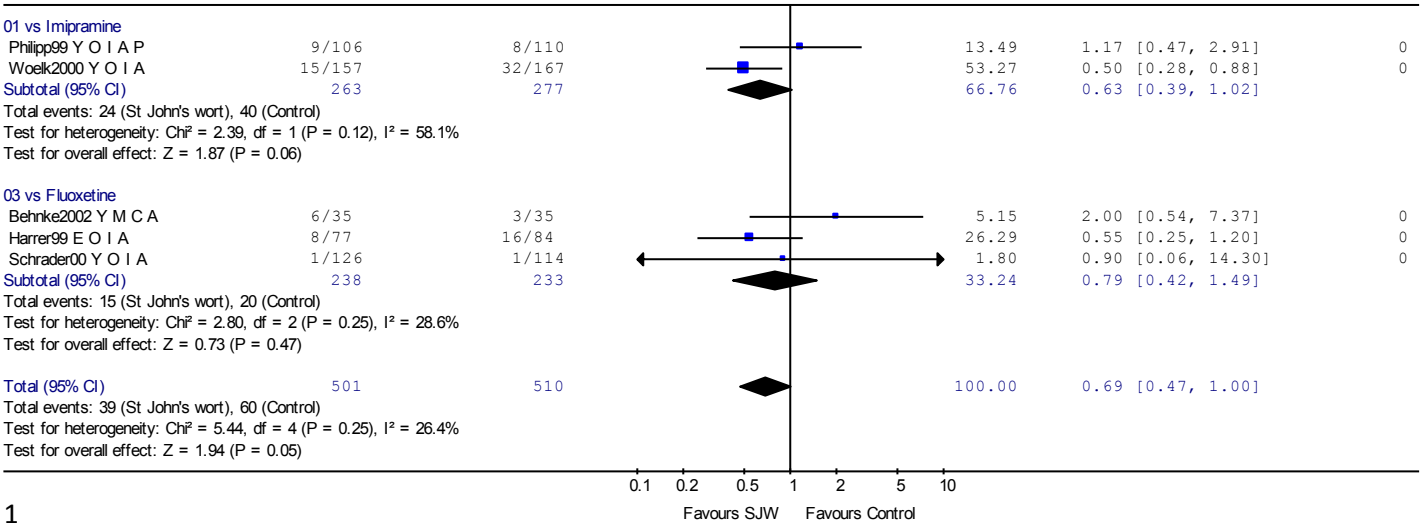
Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	Mean (SD)	Control N	Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline								
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	13	12.70(6.70)	15	12.50(5.60)		6.78	0.03 [-0.71, 0.77]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	109	-10.53(7.52)		53.62	0.25 [-0.01, 0.51]	0
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	44	-9.50(7.10)	43	-8.20(7.50)		21.10	-0.18 [-0.60, 0.24]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	170		167			81.51	0.12 [-0.09, 0.34]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.89, df = 2 (P = 0.24), I² = 30.8%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.11 (P = 0.27)								
04 vs Amitriptyline								
Bergmann93 Y O I A	38	6.30(4.20)	38	6.70(6.00)		18.49	-0.08 [-0.53, 0.37]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	38		38			18.49	-0.08 [-0.53, 0.37]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.33 (P = 0.74)								
Total (95% CI)	208		205			100.00	0.08 [-0.11, 0.28]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.49, df = 3 (P = 0.32), I² = 14.2%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.86 (P = 0.39)								



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 09 Tolerability against therapeutic doses of ADs
Outcome: 01 Leaving the study early

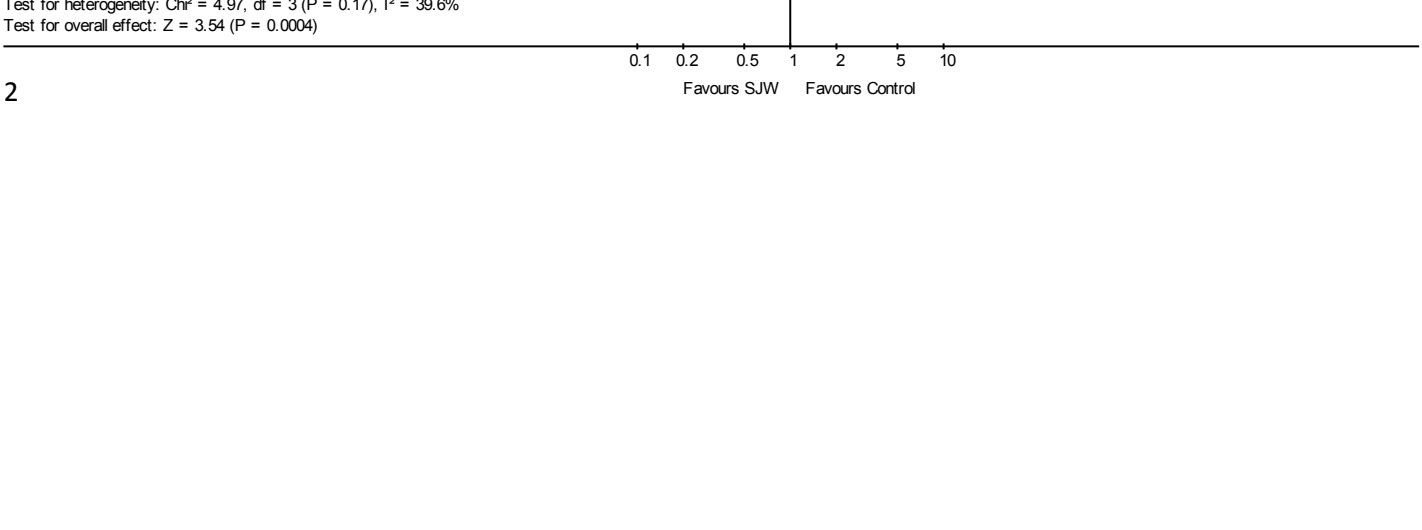
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 vs Imipramine						
Philipp99 Y O I A P	9/106	8/110		13.49	1.17 [0.47, 2.91]	0
Woelk2000 Y O I A	15/157	32/167		53.27	0.50 [0.28, 0.88]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	263	277		66.76	0.63 [0.39, 1.02]	
Total events: 24 (St John's wort), 40 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.39, df = 1 (P = 0.12), I² = 58.1%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.87 (P = 0.06)						
03 vs Fluoxetine						
Behnke2002 Y M C A	6/35	3/35		5.15	2.00 [0.54, 7.37]	0
Harrer99 E O I A	8/77	16/84		26.29	0.55 [0.25, 1.20]	0
Schrader00 Y O I A	1/126	1/114		1.80	0.90 [0.06, 14.30]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	238	233		33.24	0.79 [0.42, 1.49]	
Total events: 15 (St John's wort), 20 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.80, df = 2 (P = 0.25), I² = 28.6%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.73 (P = 0.47)						
Total (95% CI)	501	510		100.00	0.69 [0.47, 1.00]	
Total events: 39 (St John's wort), 60 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 5.44, df = 4 (P = 0.25), I² = 26.4%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.94 (P = 0.05)						



1

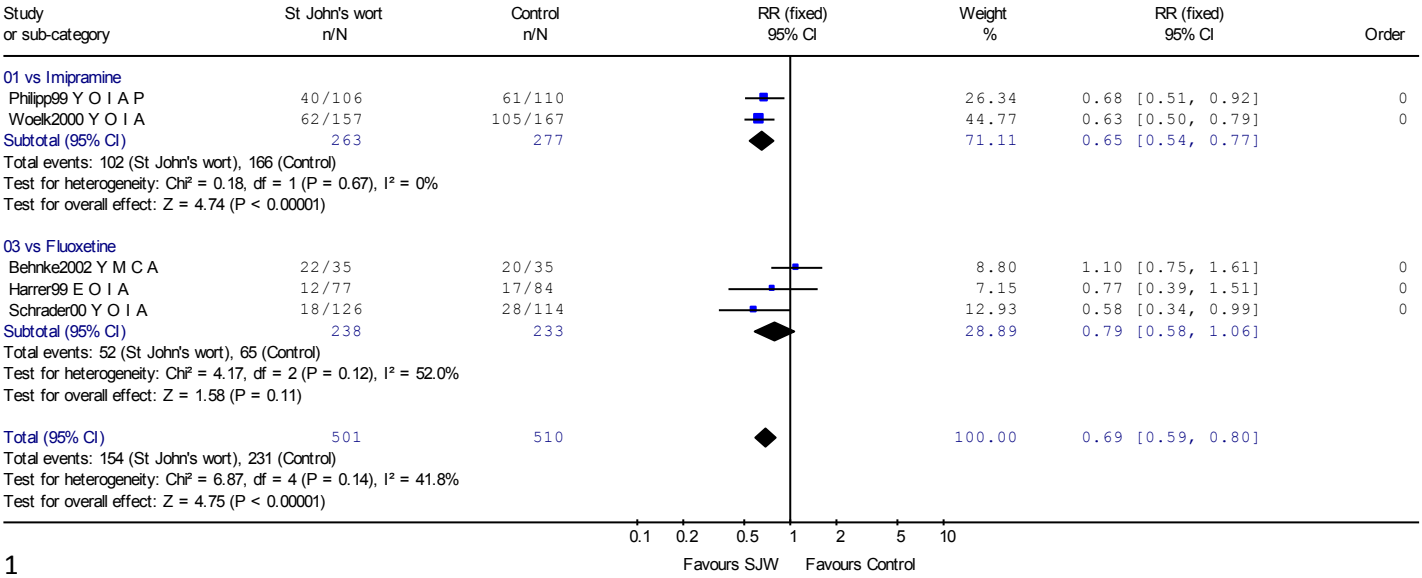
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 09 Tolerability against therapeutic doses of ADs
Outcome: 02 Leaving the study early due to side effects

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 vs Imipramine						
Philipp99 Y O I A P	2/106	5/110		12.48	0.42 [0.08, 2.09]	0
Woelk2000 Y O I A	4/157	26/167		64.06	0.16 [0.06, 0.46]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	263	277		76.54	0.20 [0.09, 0.48]	
Total events: 6 (St John's wort), 31 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.92, df = 1 (P = 0.34), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.63 (P = 0.0003)						
03 vs Fluoxetine						
Harrer99 E O I A	6/77	8/84		19.46	0.82 [0.30, 2.25]	0
Schrader00 Y O I A	0/126	1/114		4.00	0.30 [0.01, 7.34]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	203	198		23.46	0.73 [0.28, 1.90]	
Total events: 6 (St John's wort), 9 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.34, df = 1 (P = 0.56), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.65 (P = 0.52)						
Total (95% CI)	466	475		100.00	0.33 [0.18, 0.61]	
Total events: 12 (St John's wort), 40 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 4.97, df = 3 (P = 0.17), I² = 39.6%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.54 (P = 0.0004)						



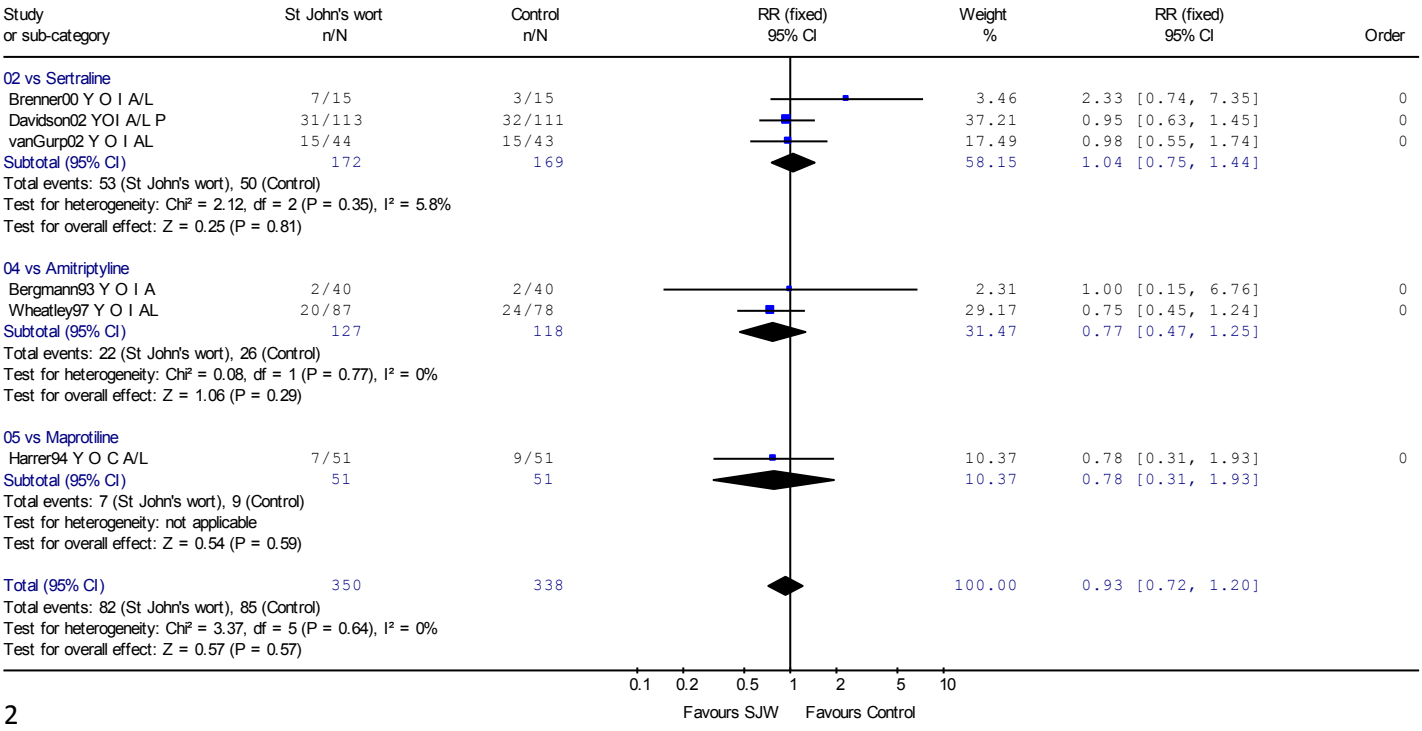
2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 09 Tolerability against therapeutic doses of ADs
Outcome: 03 Patients reporting side effects



1

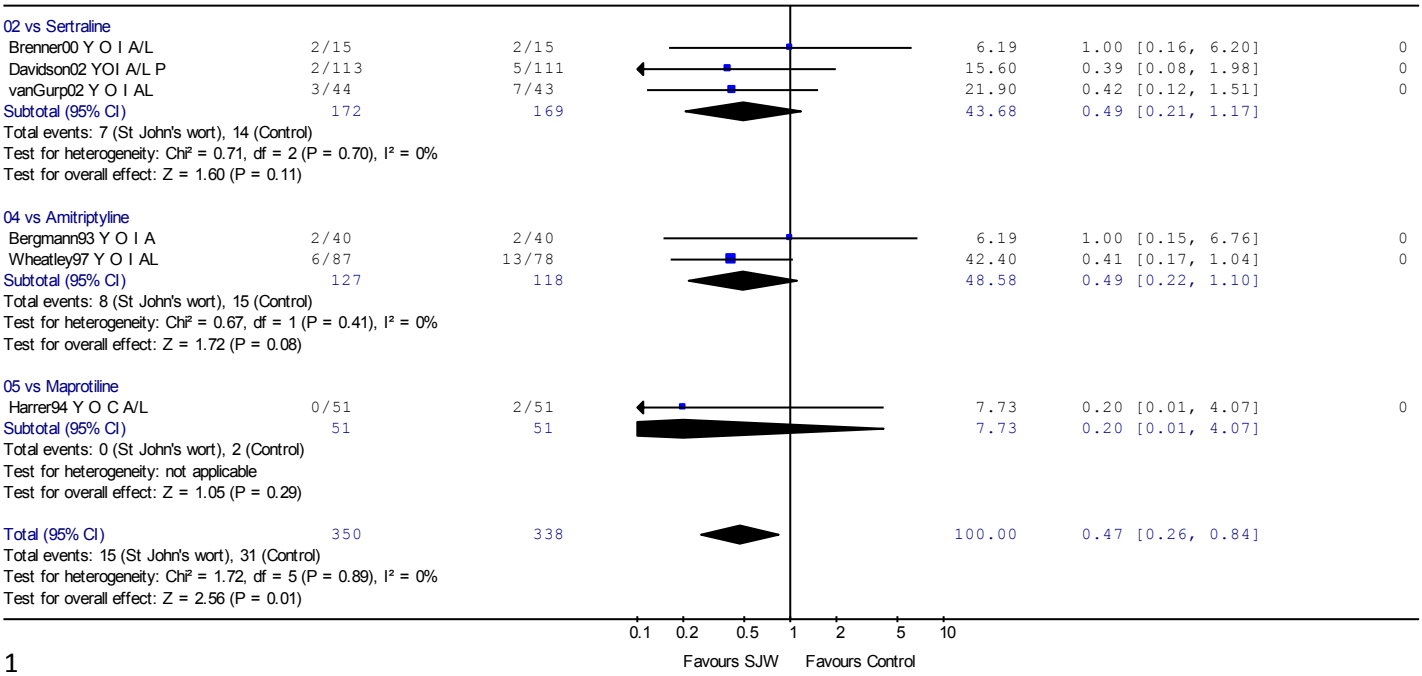
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 10 Tolerability against low doses of ADs
Outcome: 01 Leaving the study early



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 10 Tolerability against low doses of ADs
Outcome: 02 Leaving the study early due to side effects

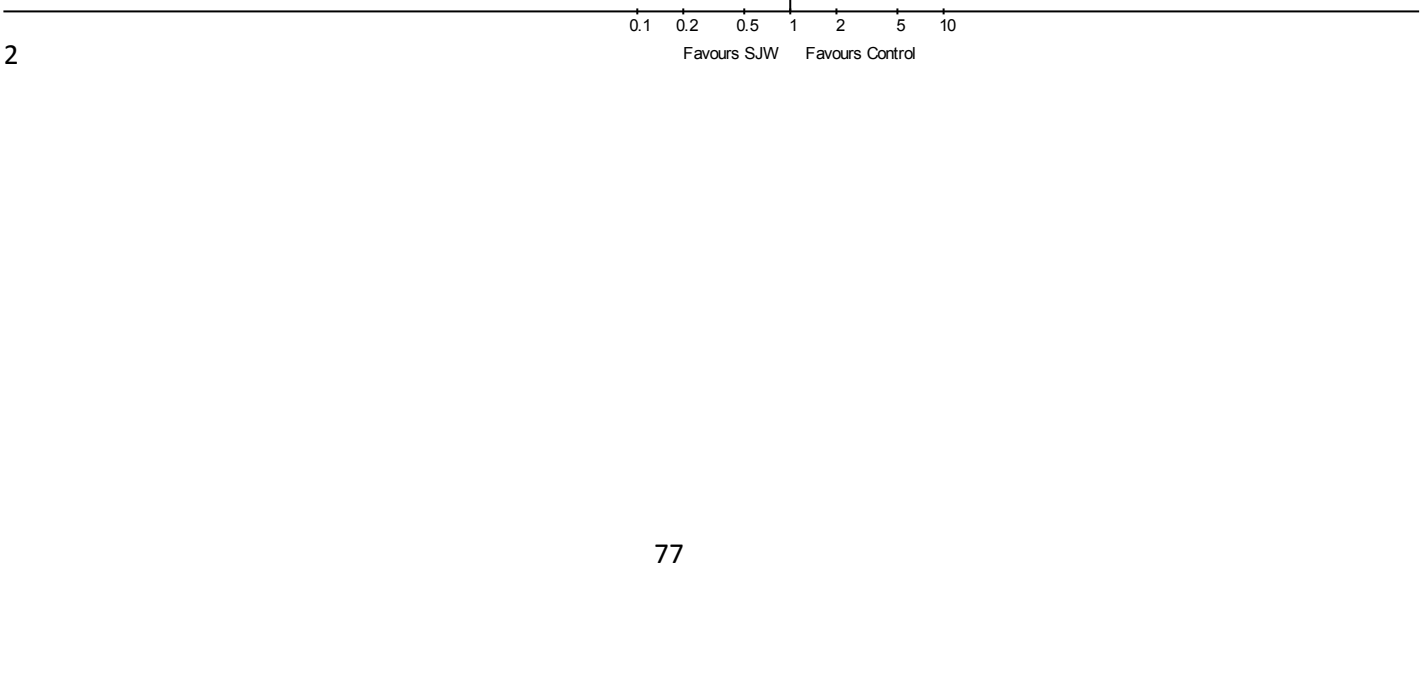
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	2/15	2/15		6.19	1.00 [0.16, 6.20]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	2/113	5/111		15.60	0.39 [0.08, 1.98]	0
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	3/44	7/43		21.90	0.42 [0.12, 1.51]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	172	169		43.68	0.49 [0.21, 1.17]	
Total events: 7 (St John's wort), 14 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.71, df = 2 (P = 0.70), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.60 (P = 0.11)						
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Bergmann93 Y O I A	2/40	2/40		6.19	1.00 [0.15, 6.76]	0
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	6/87	13/78		42.40	0.41 [0.17, 1.04]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	127	118		48.58	0.49 [0.22, 1.10]	
Total events: 8 (St John's wort), 15 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.67, df = 1 (P = 0.41), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.72 (P = 0.08)						
05 vs Maprotiline						
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	0/51	2/51		7.73	0.20 [0.01, 4.07]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	51	51		7.73	0.20 [0.01, 4.07]	
Total events: 0 (St John's wort), 2 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.05 (P = 0.29)						
Total (95% CI)	350	338		100.00	0.47 [0.26, 0.84]	
Total events: 15 (St John's wort), 31 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.72, df = 5 (P = 0.89), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.56 (P = 0.01)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 10 Tolerability against low doses of ADs
Outcome: 03 Patients reporting side effects

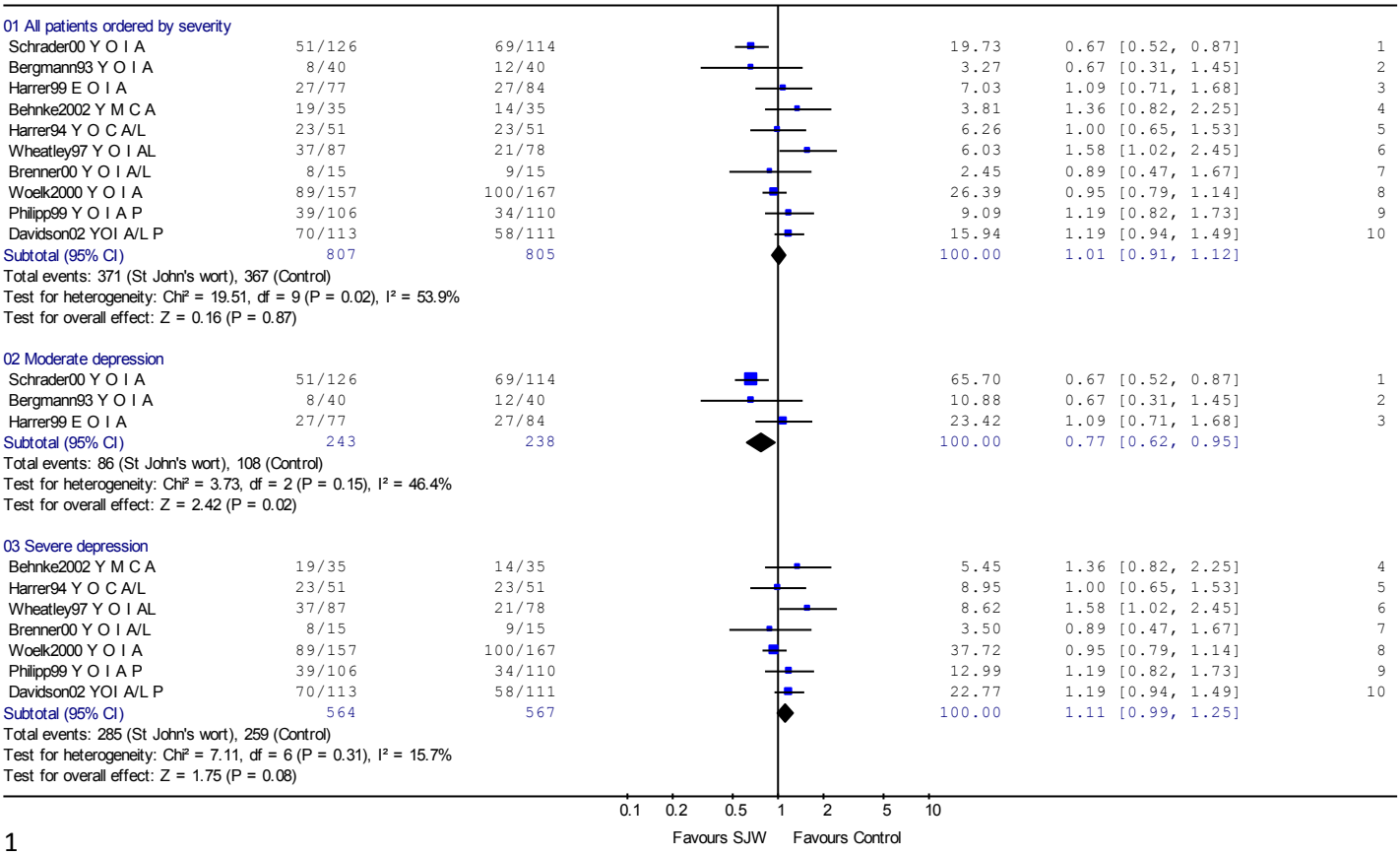
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Bergmann93 Y O I A	11/40	24/40		25.34	0.46 [0.26, 0.80]	0
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	32/87	50/78		55.66	0.57 [0.42, 0.79]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	127	118		81.00	0.54 [0.41, 0.71]	
Total events: 43 (St John's wort), 74 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.47, df = 1 (P = 0.50), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.34 (P < 0.0001)						
05 vs Maprotiline						
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	13/51	18/51		19.00	0.72 [0.40, 1.31]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	51	51		19.00	0.72 [0.40, 1.31]	
Total events: 13 (St John's wort), 18 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.07 (P = 0.29)						
Total (95% CI)	178	169		100.00	0.57 [0.44, 0.74]	
Total events: 56 (St John's wort), 92 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.18, df = 2 (P = 0.55), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.29 (P < 0.0001)						



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 11 Efficacy against ADs by severity of depression
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score

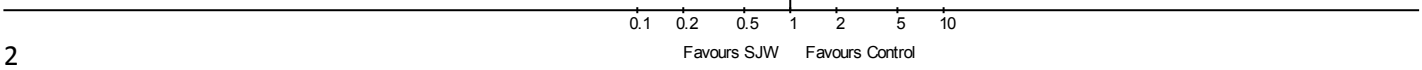
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 All patients ordered by severity						
Schrader00 Y O I A	51/126	69/114		19.73	0.67 [0.52, 0.87]	1
Bergmann93 Y O I A	8/40	12/40		3.27	0.67 [0.31, 1.45]	2
Harrer99 E O I A	27/77	27/84		7.03	1.09 [0.71, 1.68]	3
Behnke2002 Y M C A	19/35	14/35		3.81	1.36 [0.82, 2.25]	4
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	23/51	23/51		6.26	1.00 [0.65, 1.53]	5
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	37/87	21/78		6.03	1.58 [1.02, 2.45]	6
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	8/15	9/15		2.45	0.89 [0.47, 1.67]	7
Woelk2000 Y O I A	89/157	100/167		26.39	0.95 [0.79, 1.14]	8
Philipp99 Y O I A P	39/106	34/110		9.09	1.19 [0.82, 1.73]	9
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	70/113	58/111		15.94	1.19 [0.94, 1.49]	10
Subtotal (95% CI)	807	805		100.00	1.01 [0.91, 1.12]	
Total events: 371 (St John's wort), 367 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 19.51, df = 9 (P = 0.02), I² = 53.9%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.16 (P = 0.87)						
02 Moderate depression						
Schrader00 Y O I A	51/126	69/114		65.70	0.67 [0.52, 0.87]	1
Bergmann93 Y O I A	8/40	12/40		10.88	0.67 [0.31, 1.45]	2
Harrer99 E O I A	27/77	27/84		23.42	1.09 [0.71, 1.68]	3
Subtotal (95% CI)	243	238		100.00	0.77 [0.62, 0.95]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 108 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.73, df = 2 (P = 0.15), I² = 46.4%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.42 (P = 0.02)						
03 Severe depression						
Behnke2002 Y M C A	19/35	14/35		5.45	1.36 [0.82, 2.25]	4
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	23/51	23/51		8.95	1.00 [0.65, 1.53]	5
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	37/87	21/78		8.62	1.58 [1.02, 2.45]	6
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	8/15	9/15		3.50	0.89 [0.47, 1.67]	7
Woelk2000 Y O I A	89/157	100/167		37.72	0.95 [0.79, 1.14]	8
Philipp99 Y O I A P	39/106	34/110		12.99	1.19 [0.82, 1.73]	9
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	70/113	58/111		22.77	1.19 [0.94, 1.49]	10
Subtotal (95% CI)	564	567		100.00	1.11 [0.99, 1.25]	
Total events: 285 (St John's wort), 259 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 7.11, df = 6 (P = 0.31), I² = 15.7%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.75 (P = 0.08)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 11 Efficacy against ADs by severity of depression
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving remission

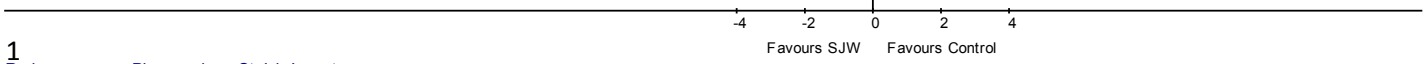
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 Severe depression						
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	86/113	84/111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	113	111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 84 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)						



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 11 Efficacy against ADs by severity of depression
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores

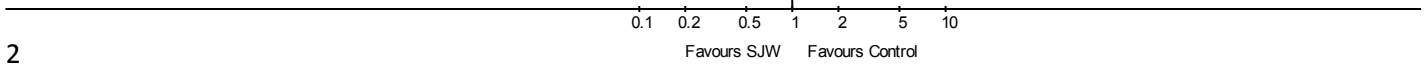
Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 All patients ordered by severity								
Schrader00 Y O I A	125	-8.11(4.85)	113	-7.25(4.61)		20.35	-0.18 [-0.44, 0.07]	1
Bergmann93 Y O I A	38	6.34(4.19)	38	6.65(5.98)		6.54	-0.06 [-0.51, 0.39]	2
Harrer99 E O I A	70	7.91(5.04)	79	8.11(5.67)		12.78	-0.04 [-0.36, 0.28]	3
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	44	-9.50(7.10)	43	-8.20(7.50)		7.46	-0.18 [-0.60, 0.24]	4
Behnke2002 Y M C A	29	-10.00(5.80)	32	-12.00(6.80)		5.17	0.31 [-0.19, 0.82]	5
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	51	12.78(10.19)	51	12.20(7.83)		8.78	0.06 [-0.32, 0.45]	6
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	13	12.70(6.70)	15	12.50(5.60)		2.40	0.03 [-0.71, 0.77]	7
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	105	-14.20(7.30)		17.58	-0.16 [-0.43, 0.12]	8
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	109	-10.53(7.52)		18.95	0.25 [-0.01, 0.51]	9
Subtotal (95% CI)	583		585			100.00	-0.02 [-0.13, 0.10]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 8.89, df = 8 (P = 0.35), I² = 10.0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.27 (P = 0.78)								
02 Moderate depression								
Schrader00 Y O I A	125	-8.11(4.85)	113	-7.25(4.61)		51.30	-0.18 [-0.44, 0.07]	1
Bergmann93 Y O I A	38	6.34(4.19)	38	6.65(5.98)		16.49	-0.06 [-0.51, 0.39]	2
Harrer99 E O I A	70	7.91(5.04)	79	8.11(5.67)		32.21	-0.04 [-0.36, 0.28]	3
Subtotal (95% CI)	233		230			100.00	-0.11 [-0.30, 0.07]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.54, df = 2 (P = 0.76), I² = 0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.23 (P = 0.22)								
03 Severe depression								
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	44	-9.50(7.10)	43	-8.20(7.50)		12.36	-0.18 [-0.60, 0.24]	4
Behnke2002 Y M C A	29	-10.00(5.80)	32	-12.00(6.80)		8.57	0.31 [-0.19, 0.82]	5
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	51	12.78(10.19)	51	12.20(7.83)		14.54	0.06 [-0.32, 0.45]	6
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	13	12.70(6.70)	15	12.50(5.60)		3.97	0.03 [-0.71, 0.77]	7
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	105	-14.20(7.30)		29.14	-0.16 [-0.43, 0.12]	8
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	109	-10.53(7.52)		31.41	0.25 [-0.01, 0.51]	9
Subtotal (95% CI)	350		355			100.00	0.05 [-0.10, 0.20]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 6.50, df = 5 (P = 0.26), I² = 23.0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.64 (P = 0.52)								



1

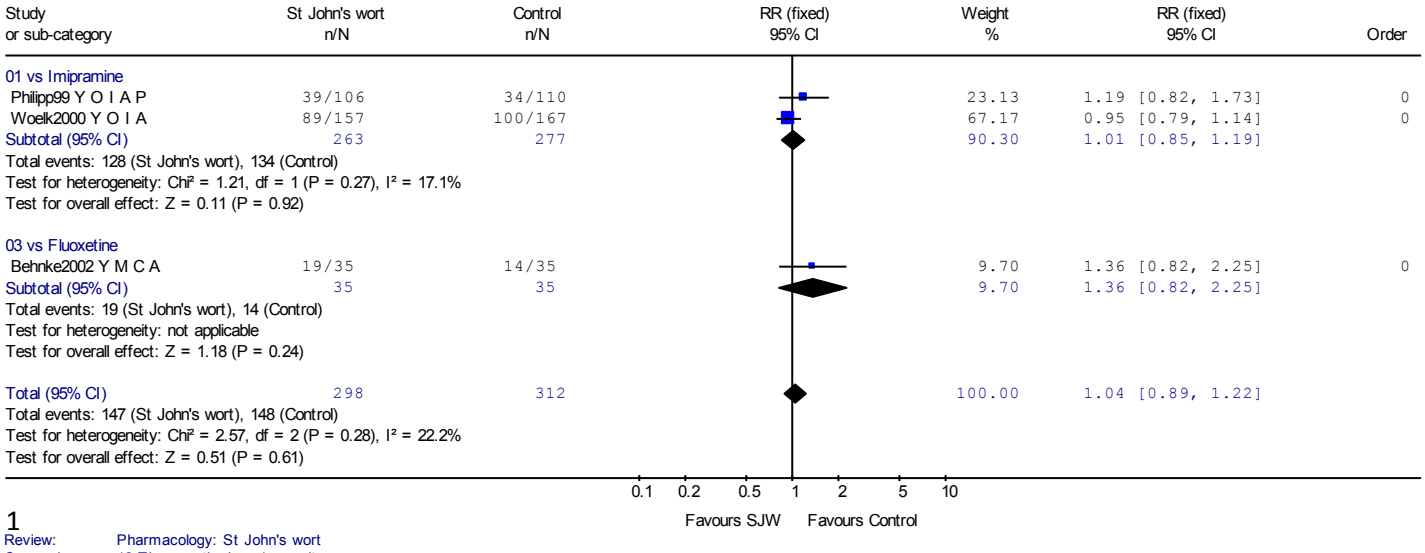
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 12 Therapeutic dose / severity
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score / moderate depression

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
03 vs Fluoxetine						
Harrer99 E O I A	27/77	27/84		26.28	1.09 [0.71, 1.68]	0
Schrader00 Y O I A	51/126	69/114		73.72	0.67 [0.52, 0.87]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	203	198		100.00	0.78 [0.62, 0.97]	
Total events: 78 (St John's wort), 96 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.65, df = 1 (P = 0.06), I² = 72.6%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.19 (P = 0.03)						
Total (95% CI)	203	198		100.00	0.78 [0.62, 0.97]	
Total events: 78 (St John's wort), 96 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.65, df = 1 (P = 0.06), I² = 72.6%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.19 (P = 0.03)						



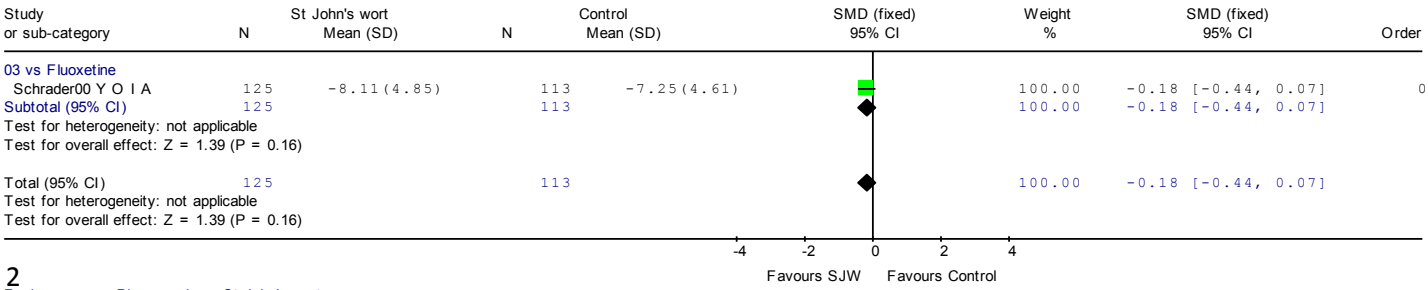
2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 12 Therapeutic dose / severity
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score / severe depression



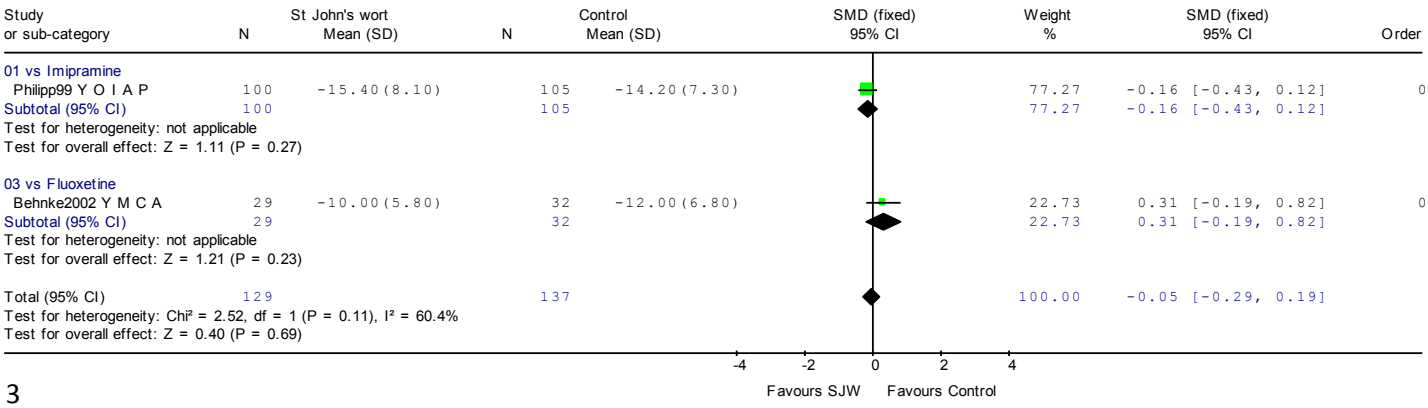
1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 12 Therapeutic dose / severity
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores / moderate depression



2

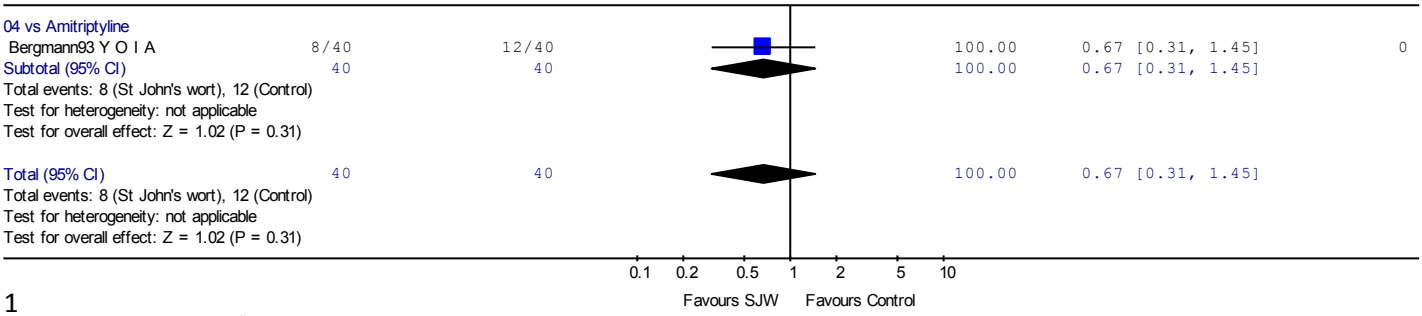
Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 12 Therapeutic dose / severity
Outcome: 04 Mean endpoint scores / severe depression



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 13 Low dose / severity
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score / moderate depression

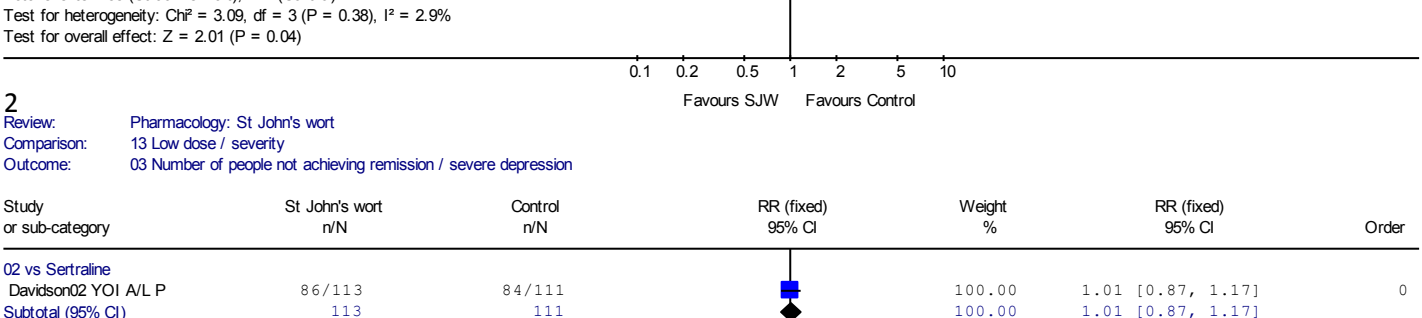
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Bergmann93 Y O I A	8/40	12/40		100.00	0.67 [0.31, 1.45]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	40	40		100.00	0.67 [0.31, 1.45]	
Total events: 8 (St John's wort), 12 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.02 (P = 0.31)						
Total (95% CI)	40	40		100.00	0.67 [0.31, 1.45]	
Total events: 8 (St John's wort), 12 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.02 (P = 0.31)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 13 Low dose / severity
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score / severe depression

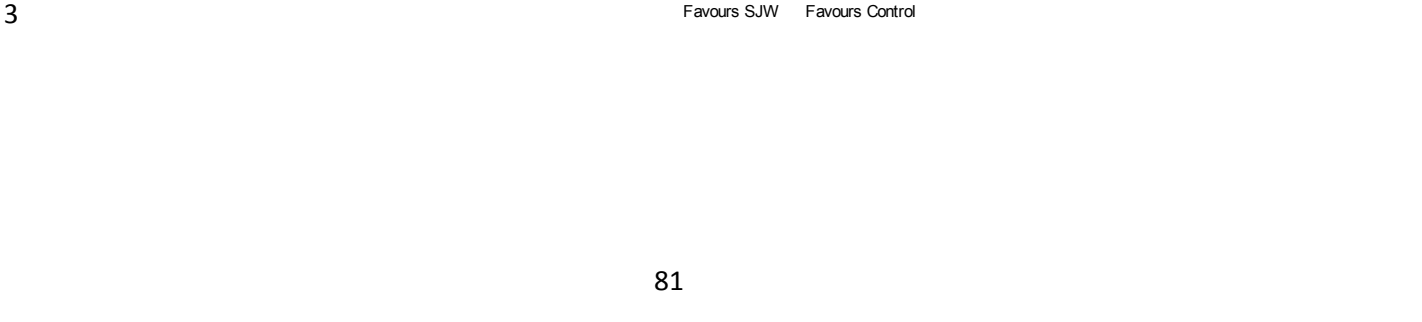
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	8/15	9/15		7.99	0.89 [0.47, 1.67]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	70/113	58/111		51.94	1.19 [0.94, 1.49]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	128	126		59.93	1.15 [0.92, 1.42]	
Total events: 78 (St John's wort), 67 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.71, df = 1 (P = 0.40), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.24 (P = 0.21)						
04 vs Amitriptyline						
Wheatley97 Y O I AL	37/87	21/78		19.66	1.58 [1.02, 2.45]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	87	78		19.66	1.58 [1.02, 2.45]	
Total events: 37 (St John's wort), 21 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.04 (P = 0.04)						
05 vs Maprotiline						
Harrer94 Y O C A/L	23/51	23/51		20.41	1.00 [0.65, 1.53]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	51	51		20.41	1.00 [0.65, 1.53]	
Total events: 23 (St John's wort), 23 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.00 (P = 1.00)						
Total (95% CI)	266	255		100.00	1.20 [1.00, 1.44]	
Total events: 138 (St John's wort), 111 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.09, df = 3 (P = 0.38), I² = 2.9%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.01 (P = 0.04)						



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 13 Low dose / severity
Outcome: 03 Number of people not achieving remission / severe depression

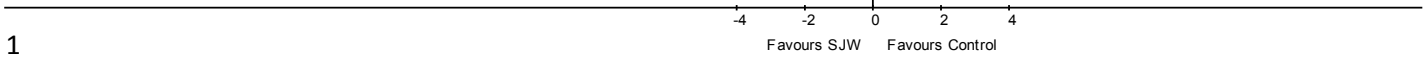
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline						
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	86/113	84/111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	113	111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 84 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)						
Total (95% CI)	113	111		100.00	1.01 [0.87, 1.17]	
Total events: 86 (St John's wort), 84 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)						



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 13 Low dose / severity
Outcome: 04 Mean endpoint scores / moderate depression

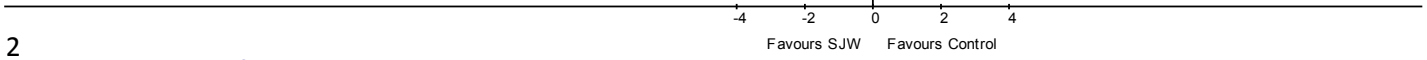
Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
04 vs Amitriptyline								
Bergmann93 Y O I A	38	6.30(4.20)	38	6.70(6.00)		100.00	-0.08 [-0.53, 0.37]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	38		38			100.00	-0.08 [-0.53, 0.37]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.33 (P = 0.74)								
Total (95% CI)	38		38			100.00	-0.08 [-0.53, 0.37]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.33 (P = 0.74)								



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 13 Low dose / severity
Outcome: 05 Mean endpoint scores / severe depression

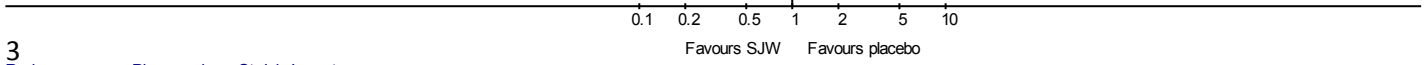
Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 vs Sertraline								
Brenner00 Y O I A/L	13	12.70(6.70)	15	12.50(5.60)		8.32	0.03 [-0.71, 0.77]	0
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	109	-10.53(7.52)		65.79	0.25 [-0.01, 0.51]	0
vanGurp02 Y O I AL	44	-9.50(7.10)	43	-8.20(7.50)		25.89	-0.18 [-0.60, 0.24]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	170		167			100.00	0.12 [-0.09, 0.34]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.89, df = 2 (P = 0.24), I² = 30.8%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.11 (P = 0.27)								
Total (95% CI)	170		167			100.00	0.12 [-0.09, 0.34]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.89, df = 2 (P = 0.24), I² = 30.8%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.11 (P = 0.27)								



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 14 Efficacy against placebo
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score

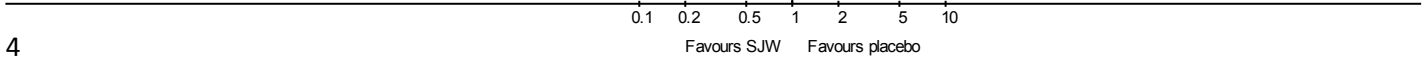
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Schrader98 Y ? I P	44/81	69/81		14.44	0.64 [0.51, 0.79]	1
Kalb2001 Y O I P	14/37	20/35		4.30	0.66 [0.40, 1.09]	2
Laakmann98 Y O I P	25/49	33/49		6.91	0.76 [0.54, 1.06]	3
Hansgen1996 Y M C P	17/53	43/55		8.83	0.41 [0.27, 0.62]	4
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	88/186	109/189		22.63	0.82 [0.68, 1.00]	5
Shelton2001 Y O I P	72/98	83/102		17.03	0.90 [0.78, 1.05]	6
Philipp99 Y O I A P	39/106	25/47		7.25	0.69 [0.48, 1.00]	7
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	70/113	66/116		13.63	1.09 [0.88, 1.35]	8
Witte1995 Y O I P	14/48	24/49		4.97	0.60 [0.35, 1.01]	9
Total (95% CI)	771	723		100.00	0.78 [0.71, 0.85]	
Total events: 383 (St John's wort), 472 (Placebo)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 27.58, df = 8 (P = 0.0006), I² = 71.0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.67 (P < 0.00001)						



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 14 Efficacy against placebo
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving remission

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (random) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (random) 95% CI	Order
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	80/186	159/189		32.75	0.51 [0.43, 0.61]	1
Shelton2001 Y O I P	84/98	97/102		34.20	0.90 [0.82, 0.99]	2
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	86/113	79/116		33.06	1.12 [0.95, 1.31]	3
Total (95% CI)	397	407		100.00	0.80 [0.53, 1.22]	
Total events: 250 (St John's wort), 335 (Placebo)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 52.99, df = 2 (P < 0.00001), I² = 96.2%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.02 (P = 0.31)						



4

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 14 Efficacy against placebo
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores

Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Placebo N	Placebo Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Schrader98 Y ? I P	80	-9.60(9.93)	79	-0.77(7.44)		9.73	-1.00 [-1.33, -0.67]	1
Volz2000 Y O I P	70	12.00(5.10)	70	14.30(5.90)		9.46	-0.41 [-0.75, -0.08]	2
Kalb2001 Y O I P	37	-10.80(5.00)	35	-5.70(6.40)		4.51	-0.88 [-1.37, -0.40]	3
Laakmann98 Y O I P	49	-10.30(4.60)	49	-7.90(5.20)		6.57	-0.49 [-0.89, -0.08]	4
Hansgen1996 Y M C P	51	8.90(4.30)	50	14.40(5.10)		5.94	-1.16 [-1.58, -0.74]	5
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	186	-9.90(6.80)	189	-8.10(7.10)		25.69	-0.26 [-0.46, -0.06]	6
Shelton2001 Y O I P	98	15.06(6.93)	102	16.28(6.16)		13.75	-0.19 [-0.46, 0.09]	7
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	46	-12.10(7.40)		8.54	-0.42 [-0.77, -0.06]	8
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	116	-9.20(7.22)		15.81	0.07 [-0.19, 0.33]	9
Total (95% CI)	784		736			100.00	-0.39 [-0.50, -0.29]	

Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 45.90, df = 8 (P < 0.00001), I² = 82.6%
Test for overall effect: Z = 7.48 (P < 0.00001)

-4 -2 0 2 4
Favours SJW Favours placebo

1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 14 Efficacy against placebo
Outcome: 04 Sensitivity analysis: Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Kalb2001 Y O I P	14/37	20/35		6.82	0.66 [0.40, 1.09]	2
Laakmann98 Y O I P	25/49	33/49		10.95	0.76 [0.54, 1.06]	3
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	88/186	109/189		35.87	0.82 [0.68, 1.00]	5
Shelton2001 Y O I P	72/98	83/102		26.99	0.90 [0.78, 1.05]	6
Philipp99 Y O I A P	39/106	25/47		11.49	0.69 [0.48, 1.00]	7
Witte1995 Y O I P	14/48	24/49		7.88	0.60 [0.35, 1.01]	9
Total (95% CI)	524	471		100.00	0.79 [0.71, 0.88]	

Total events: 252 (St John's wort), 294 (Placebo)
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 5.22, df = 5 (P = 0.39), I² = 4.1%
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.15 (P < 0.0001)

0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10
Favours SJW Favours placebo

2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 14 Efficacy against placebo
Outcome: 05 Sensitivity analysis: Mean endpoint scores

Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Placebo N	Placebo Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Volz2000 Y O I P	70	12.00(5.10)	70	14.30(5.90)		13.81	-0.41 [-0.75, -0.08]	2
Kalb2001 Y O I P	37	-10.80(5.00)	35	-5.70(6.40)		6.58	-0.88 [-1.37, -0.40]	3
Laakmann98 Y O I P	49	-10.30(4.60)	49	-7.90(5.20)		9.59	-0.49 [-0.89, -0.08]	4
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	186	-9.90(6.80)	189	-8.10(7.10)		37.49	-0.26 [-0.46, -0.06]	6
Shelton2001 Y O I P	98	15.06(6.93)	102	16.28(6.16)		20.07	-0.19 [-0.46, 0.09]	7
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	46	-12.10(7.40)		12.47	-0.42 [-0.77, -0.06]	8
Total (95% CI)	540		491			100.00	-0.35 [-0.47, -0.22]	

Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 7.45, df = 5 (P = 0.19), I² = 32.9%
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.48 (P < 0.00001)

-4 -2 0 2 4
Favours SJW Favours placebo

3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 14 Efficacy against placebo
Outcome: 06 Mean endpoint scores (HRSD-17 only)

Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Placebo N	Placebo Mean (SD)	WMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	WMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Kalb2001 Y O I P	37	-10.80(5.00)	35	-5.70(6.40)		7.29	-5.10 [-7.76, -2.44]	3
Laakmann98 Y O I P	49	-10.30(4.60)	49	-7.90(5.20)		13.68	-2.40 [-4.34, -0.46]	4
Hansgen1996 Y M C P	51	8.90(4.30)	50	14.40(5.10)		15.25	-5.50 [-7.34, -3.66]	5
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	186	-9.90(6.80)	189	-8.10(7.10)		26.12	-1.80 [-3.21, -0.39]	6
Shelton2001 Y O I P	98	15.06(6.93)	102	16.28(6.16)		15.61	-1.22 [-3.04, 0.60]	7
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	46	-12.10(7.40)		7.29	-3.30 [-5.96, -0.64]	8
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	116	-9.20(7.22)		14.76	0.52 [-1.35, 2.39]	9
Total (95% CI)	634		587			100.00	-2.36 [-3.08, -1.64]	

Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 26.93, df = 6 (P = 0.0001), I² = 77.7%
Test for overall effect: Z = 6.44 (P < 0.00001)

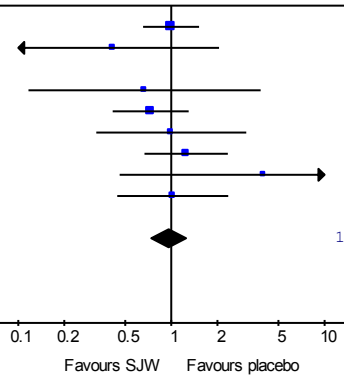
-4 -2 0 2 4
Favours SJW Favours placebo

4

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 15 Tolerability against placebo
Outcome: 01 Leaving the study early

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	31/113	32/116		33.44	0.99 [0.65, 1.51]	0
Hansgen1996 Y M C P	2/53	5/55		5.20	0.42 [0.08, 2.05]	0
Kalb2001 Y O I P	0/37	0/35			Not estimable	0
Laakmann98 Y O I P	2/49	3/49		3.18	0.67 [0.12, 3.82]	0
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	18/186	25/189		26.26	0.73 [0.41, 1.30]	0
Philipp99 Y O I A P	9/106	4/47		5.87	1.00 [0.32, 3.08]	0
Shelton2001 Y O I P	18/98	15/102		15.57	1.25 [0.67, 2.34]	0
Volz2000 Y O I P	4/70	1/70		1.06	4.00 [0.46, 34.90]	0
Witte1995 Y O I P	9/48	9/49		9.43	1.02 [0.44, 2.35]	0
Total (95% CI)	760	712		100.00	0.96 [0.74, 1.25]	

Total events: 93 (St John's wort), 94 (Placebo)
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 4.50, df = 7 (P = 0.72), I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.31 (P = 0.75)

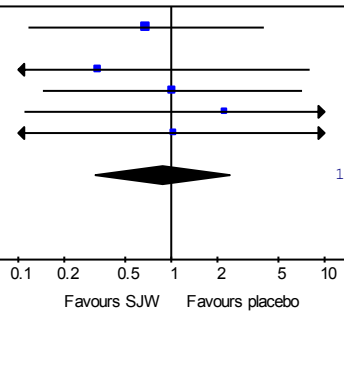


1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 15 Tolerability against placebo
Outcome: 02 Leaving the study early due to side effects

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	2/113	3/116		36.48	0.68 [0.12, 4.02]	0
Kalb2001 Y O I P	0/37	0/35			Not estimable	0
Laakmann98 Y O I P	0/49	1/49		18.48	0.33 [0.01, 7.99]	0
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	2/186	2/189		24.45	1.02 [0.14, 7.14]	0
Philipp99 Y O I A P	2/106	0/47		8.51	2.24 [0.11, 45.83]	0
Shelton2001 Y O I P	1/98	1/102		12.08	1.04 [0.07, 16.41]	0
Total (95% CI)	589	538		100.00	0.88 [0.32, 2.41]	

Total events: 7 (St John's wort), 7 (Placebo)
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.84, df = 4 (P = 0.93), I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.26 (P = 0.80)

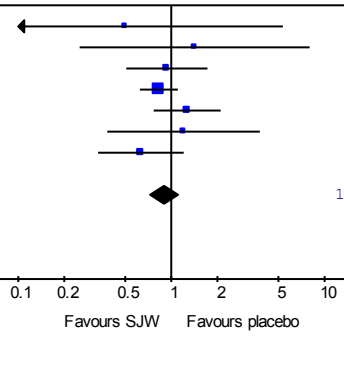


2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 15 Tolerability against placebo
Outcome: 03 Patients reporting side effects

Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
Hansgen1996 Y M C P	1/53	2/53		1.52	0.50 [0.05, 5.35]	0
Kalb2001 Y O I P	3/37	2/35		1.56	1.42 [0.25, 7.99]	0
Laakmann98 Y O I P	14/49	15/49		11.37	0.93 [0.51, 1.72]	0
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	57/186	70/189		52.65	0.83 [0.62, 1.10]	0
Philipp99 Y O I A P	40/106	14/47		14.71	1.27 [0.77, 2.09]	0
Schrader98 Y ? I P	6/81	5/81		3.79	1.20 [0.38, 3.78]	0
Volz2000 Y O I P	12/70	19/70		14.41	0.63 [0.33, 1.20]	0
Total (95% CI)	582	524		100.00	0.89 [0.72, 1.10]	

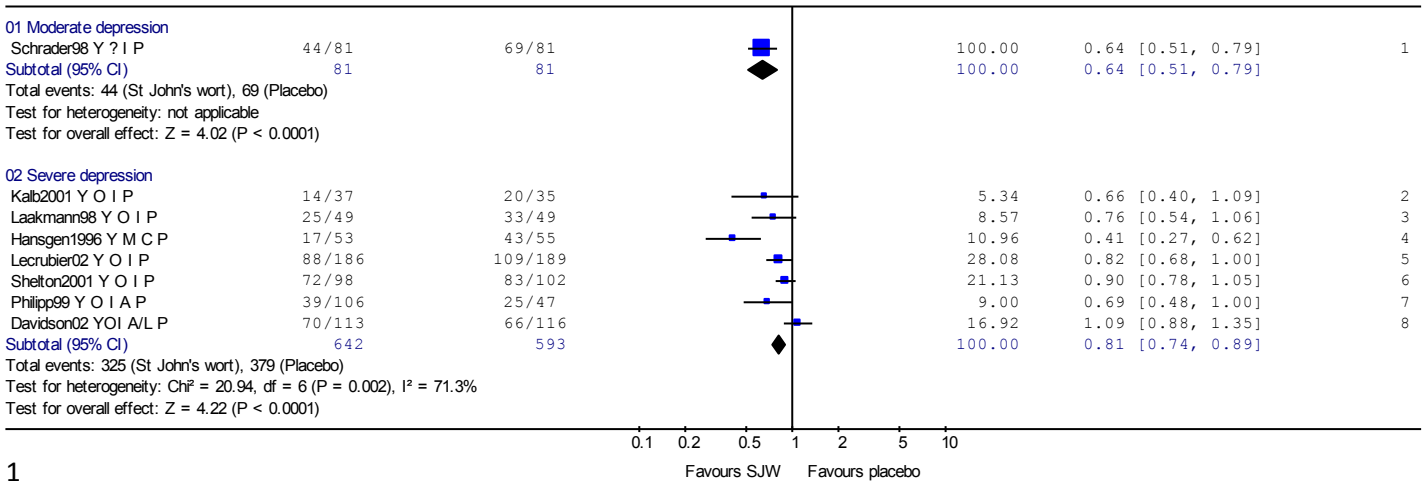
Total events: 133 (St John's wort), 127 (Placebo)
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 4.03, df = 6 (P = 0.67), I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.04 (P = 0.30)



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 16 Efficacy against placebo by severity
Outcome: 01 Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score

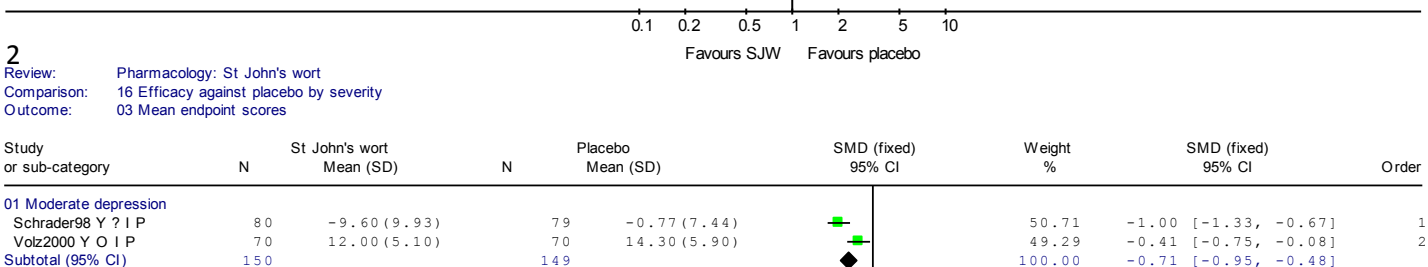
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 Moderate depression						
Schrader98 Y ? I P	44/81	69/81		100.00	0.64 [0.51, 0.79]	1
Subtotal (95% CI)	81	81		100.00	0.64 [0.51, 0.79]	
Total events: 44 (St John's wort), 69 (Placebo)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.02 (P < 0.0001)						
02 Severe depression						
Kalb2001 Y O I P	14/37	20/35		5.34	0.66 [0.40, 1.09]	2
Laakmann98 Y O I P	25/49	33/49		8.57	0.76 [0.54, 1.06]	3
Hansgen1996 Y M C P	17/53	43/55		10.96	0.41 [0.27, 0.62]	4
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	88/186	109/189		28.08	0.82 [0.68, 1.00]	5
Shelton2001 Y O I P	72/98	83/102		21.13	0.90 [0.78, 1.05]	6
Philipp99 Y O I A P	39/106	25/47		9.00	0.69 [0.48, 1.00]	7
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	70/113	66/116		16.92	1.09 [0.88, 1.35]	8
Subtotal (95% CI)	642	593		100.00	0.81 [0.74, 0.89]	
Total events: 325 (St John's wort), 379 (Placebo)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 20.94, df = 6 (P = 0.002), I² = 71.3%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.22 (P < 0.0001)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 16 Efficacy against placebo by severity
Outcome: 02 Number of people not achieving remission

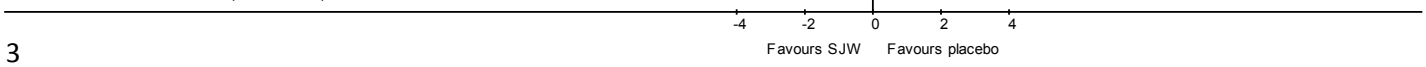
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (random) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (random) 95% CI	Order
01 Severe depression						
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	80/186	159/189		32.75	0.51 [0.43, 0.61]	1
Shelton2001 Y O I P	84/98	97/102		34.20	0.90 [0.82, 0.99]	2
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	86/113	79/116		33.06	1.12 [0.95, 1.31]	3
Subtotal (95% CI)	397	407		100.00	0.80 [0.53, 1.22]	
Total events: 250 (St John's wort), 335 (Placebo)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 52.99, df = 2 (P < 0.00001), I² = 96.2%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.02 (P = 0.31)						



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 16 Efficacy against placebo by severity
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint scores

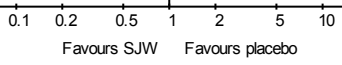
Study or sub-category	St John's wort N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	Placebo N	Placebo Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 Moderate depression								
Schrader98 Y ? I P	80	-9.60(9.93)	79	-0.77(7.44)		50.71	-1.00 [-1.33, -0.67]	1
Volz2000 Y O I P	70	12.00(5.10)	70	14.30(5.90)		49.29	-0.41 [-0.75, -0.08]	2
Subtotal (95% CI)	150		149			100.00	-0.71 [-0.95, -0.48]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 5.96, df = 1 (P = 0.01), I² = 83.2%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.93 (P < 0.00001)								
02 Severe depression								
Kalb2001 Y O I P	37	-10.80(5.00)	35	-5.70(6.40)		5.58	-0.88 [-1.37, -0.40]	3
Laakmann98 Y O I P	49	-10.30(4.60)	49	-7.90(5.20)		8.13	-0.49 [-0.89, -0.08]	4
Hansgen1996 Y M C P	51	8.90(4.30)	50	14.40(5.10)		7.35	-1.16 [-1.58, -0.74]	5
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	186	-9.90(6.80)	189	-8.10(7.10)		31.79	-0.26 [-0.46, -0.06]	6
Shelton2001 Y O I P	98	15.06(6.93)	102	16.28(6.16)		17.02	-0.19 [-0.46, 0.09]	7
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	46	-12.10(7.40)		10.57	-0.42 [-0.77, -0.06]	8
Davidson02 YOI A/L P	113	-8.68(7.23)	116	-9.20(7.22)		19.56	0.07 [-0.19, 0.33]	9
Subtotal (95% CI)	634		587			100.00	-0.32 [-0.43, -0.20]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 31.21, df = 6 (P < 0.0001), I² = 80.8%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.43 (P < 0.00001)								



3

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 16 Efficacy against placebo by severity
Outcome: 04 Sensitivity analysis: Number of people not achieving at least 50% reduction in depression score

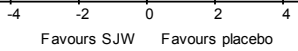
Study or sub-category	St John's wort n/N	Placebo n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 Moderate depression						
Schrader98 Y ? I P	44/81	69/81		100.00	0.64 [0.51, 0.79]	1
Subtotal (95% CI)	81	81		100.00	0.64 [0.51, 0.79]	
Total events: 44 (St John's wort), 69 (Placebo)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.02 (P < 0.0001)						
02 Severe depression						
Kalb2001 Y O I P	14/37	20/35		7.40	0.66 [0.40, 1.09]	2
Laakmann98 Y O I P	25/49	33/49		11.88	0.76 [0.54, 1.06]	3
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	88/186	109/189		38.94	0.82 [0.68, 1.00]	5
Shelton2001 Y O I P	72/98	83/102		29.29	0.90 [0.78, 1.05]	6
Philipp99 Y O I A P	39/106	25/47		12.48	0.69 [0.48, 1.00]	7
Subtotal (95% CI)	476	422		100.00	0.81 [0.72, 0.90]	
Total events: 238 (St John's wort), 270 (Placebo)						
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.50, df = 4 (P = 0.48), I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.72 (P = 0.0002)						



1

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 16 Efficacy against placebo by severity
Outcome: 05 Sensitivity analysis: Mean endpoint scores

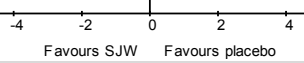
Study or sub-category	N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	N	Placebo Mean (SD)	SMD (random) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (random) 95% CI	Order
01 Moderate depression								
Schrader98 Y ? I P	80	-9.60(9.93)	79	-0.77(7.44)		50.12	-1.00 [-1.33, -0.67]	1
Volz2000 Y O I P	70	12.00(5.10)	70	14.30(5.90)		49.88	-0.41 [-0.75, -0.08]	2
Subtotal (95% CI)	150		149			100.00	-0.71 [-1.28, -0.13]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 5.96, df = 1 (P = 0.01), I² = 83.2%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.42 (P = 0.02)								
Total (95% CI)	150		149			100.00	-0.71 [-1.28, -0.13]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 5.96, df = 1 (P = 0.01), I² = 83.2%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.42 (P = 0.02)								



2

Review: Pharmacology: St John's wort
Comparison: 16 Efficacy against placebo by severity
Outcome: 06 Sensitivity analysis: Mean endpoint scores

Study or sub-category	N	St John's wort Mean (SD)	N	Placebo Mean (SD)	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
02 Severe depression								
Kalb2001 Y O I P	37	-10.80(5.00)	35	-5.70(6.40)		7.63	-0.88 [-1.37, -0.40]	3
Laakmann98 Y O I P	49	-10.30(4.60)	49	-7.90(5.20)		11.12	-0.49 [-0.89, -0.08]	4
Lecrubier02 Y O I P	186	-9.90(6.80)	189	-8.10(7.10)		43.50	-0.26 [-0.46, -0.06]	6
Shelton2001 Y O I P	98	15.06(6.93)	102	16.28(6.16)		23.28	-0.19 [-0.46, 0.09]	7
Philipp99 Y O I A P	100	-15.40(8.10)	46	-12.10(7.40)		14.46	-0.42 [-0.77, -0.06]	8
Subtotal (95% CI)	470		421			100.00	-0.34 [-0.47, -0.20]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 7.27, df = 4 (P = 0.12), I² = 45.0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.93 (P < 0.00001)								
Total (95% CI)	470		421			100.00	-0.34 [-0.47, -0.20]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 7.27, df = 4 (P = 0.12), I² = 45.0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.93 (P < 0.00001)								

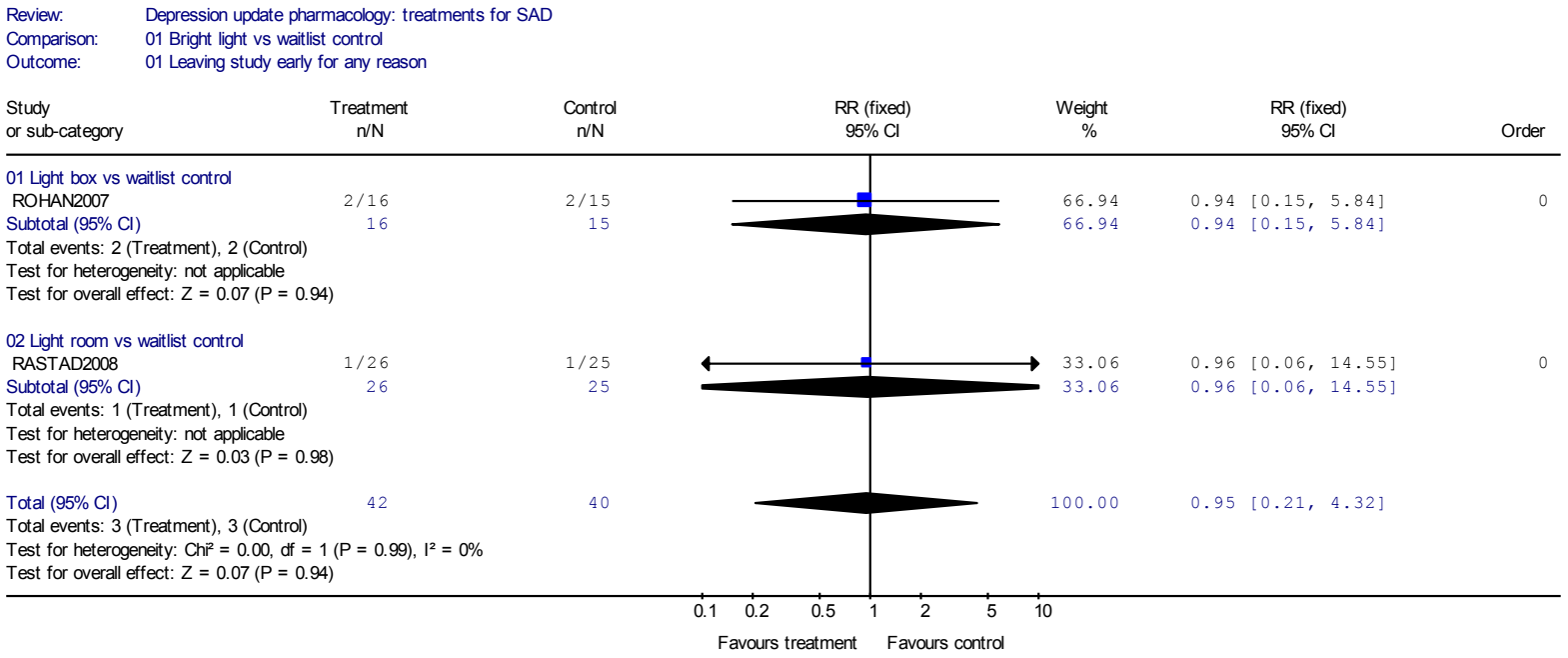


3
4

Treatments for SAD

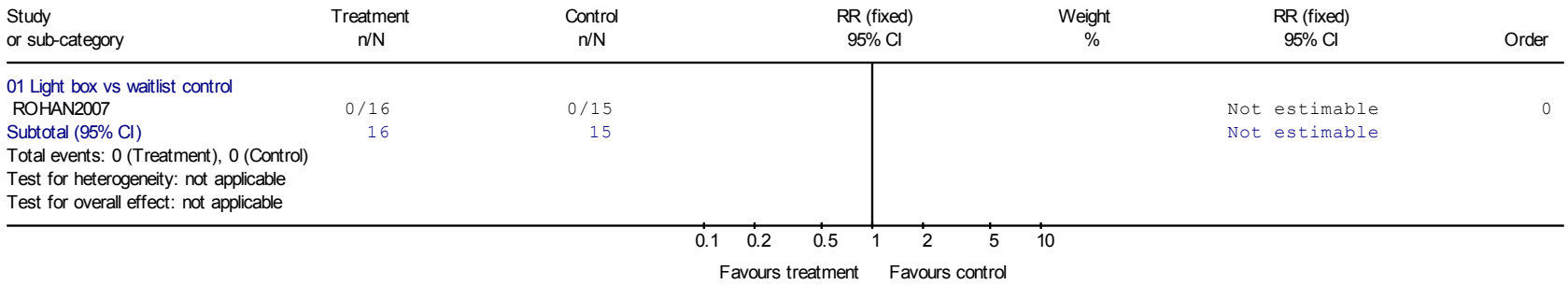
bright light versus waitlist control

Number leaving the study early for any reason



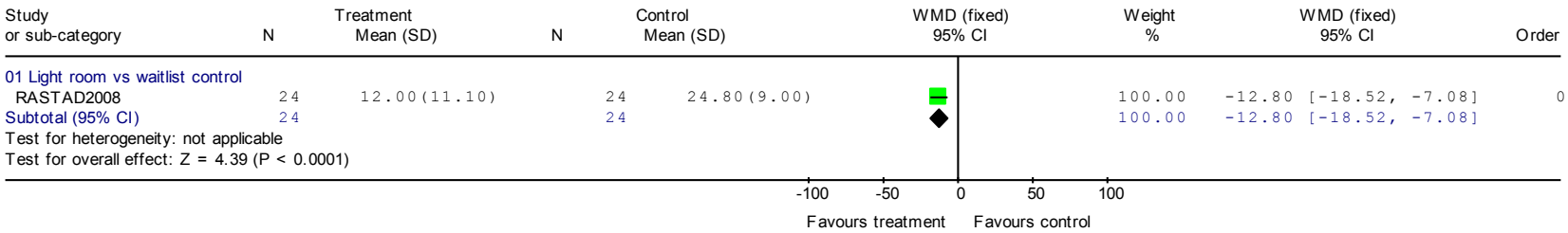
Number leaving the study early due to side effects

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 02 Leaving study early due to side effects



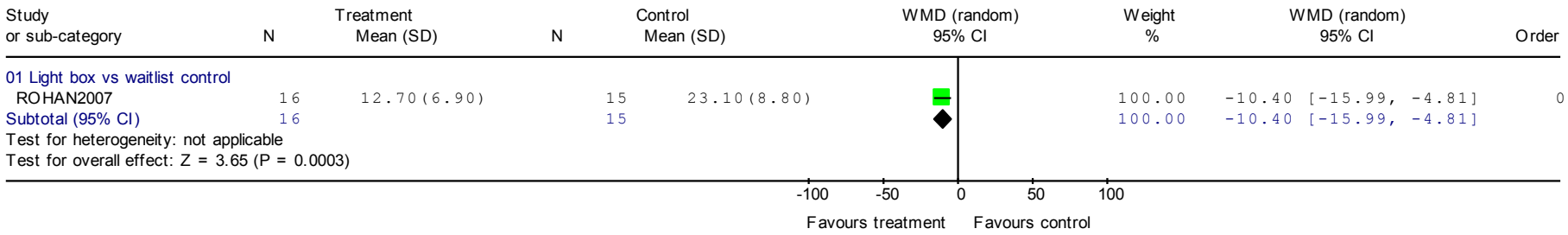
Mean endpoint SAD depression scores (SIGH-SAD-SR) (self-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 03 Mean self rated SAD depression scores (SIGH-SAD-SR) at endpoint



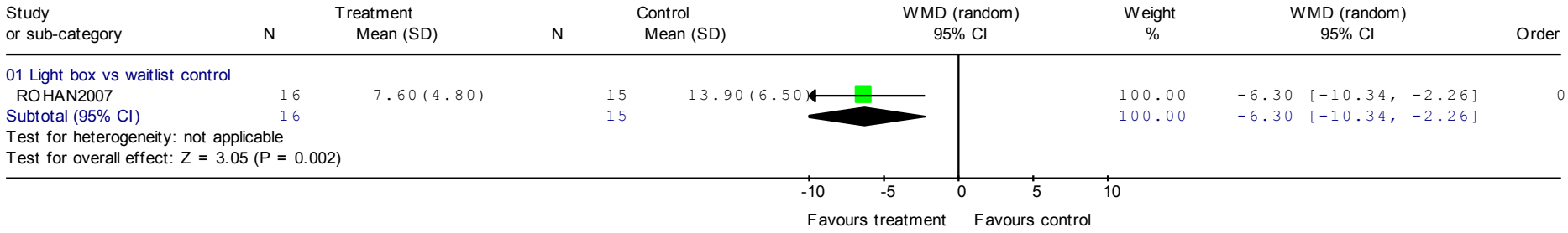
Mean endpoint SAD depression scores (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 04 Mean clinician rated SAD depression scores (SIGH-SAD) at endpoint



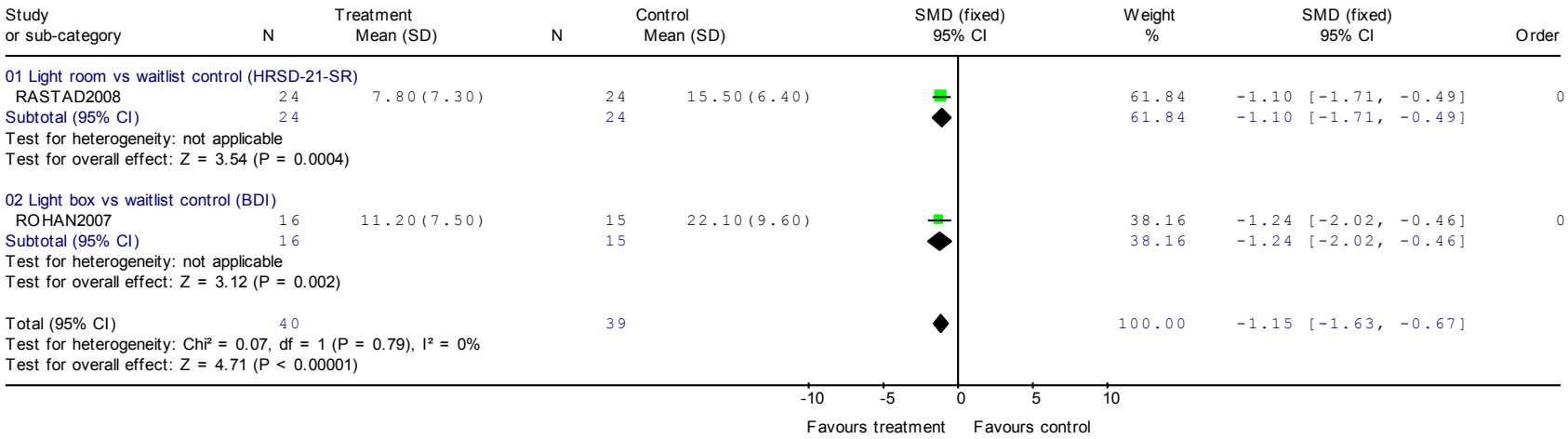
Mean endpoint depression scores (HRSD-21) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 05 Mean clinician rated typical depression scores (HRSD-21) at endpoint



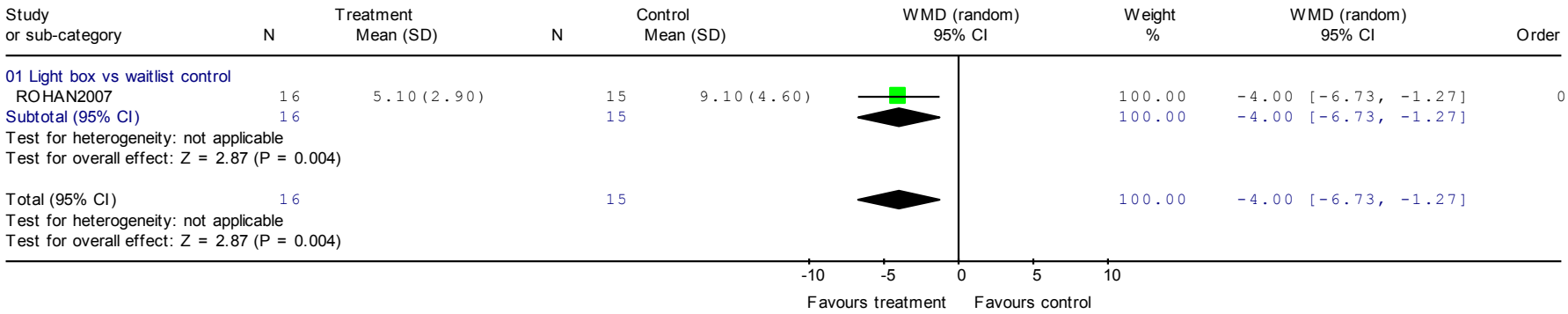
SAD.01.06. Mean depression scores at endpoint (self-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 06 Mean self rated depression scores at endpoint



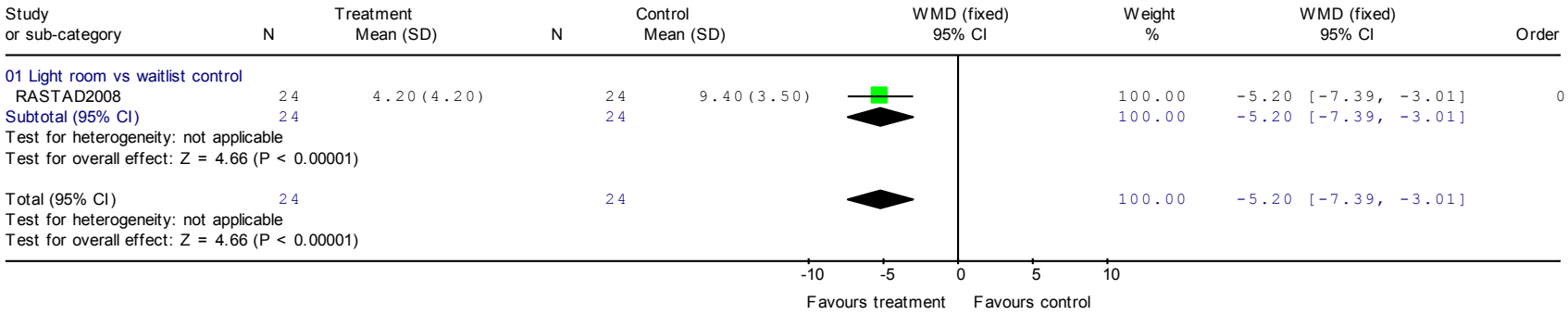
SAD.01.07. Mean endpoint atypical depression scores (SAD subscale) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 07 Mean clinician rated atypical depression scores (SADsubscale) at endpoint



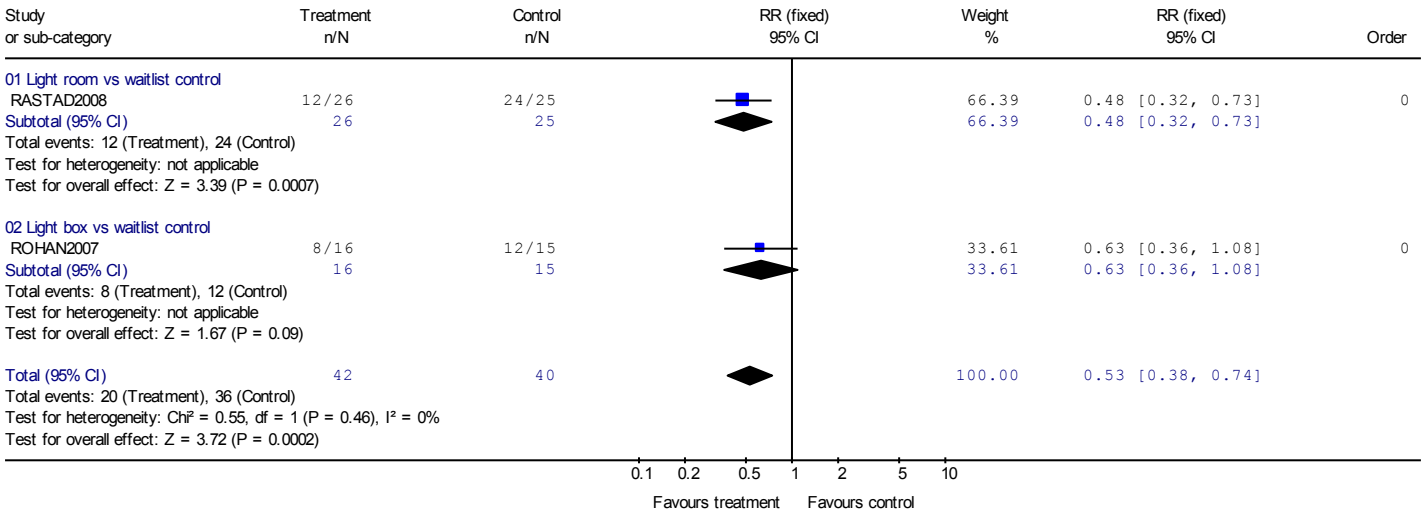
Mean endpoint atypical depression scores (SAD-SR subscale) (self-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 08 Mean self rated atypical depression scores (SAD-SR subscale) at endpoint



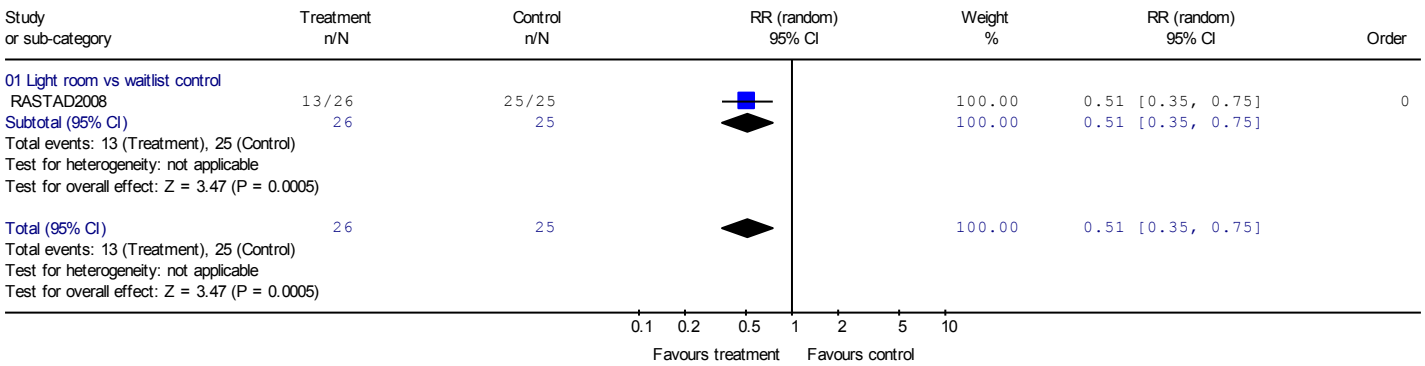
Non-response data (SIGH-SAD)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 10 Non remission (SIGH-SAD-SR)



Non-response data (SIGN-SAD)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 01 Bright light vs waitlist control
Outcome: 11 Non response (SIGH-SAD)

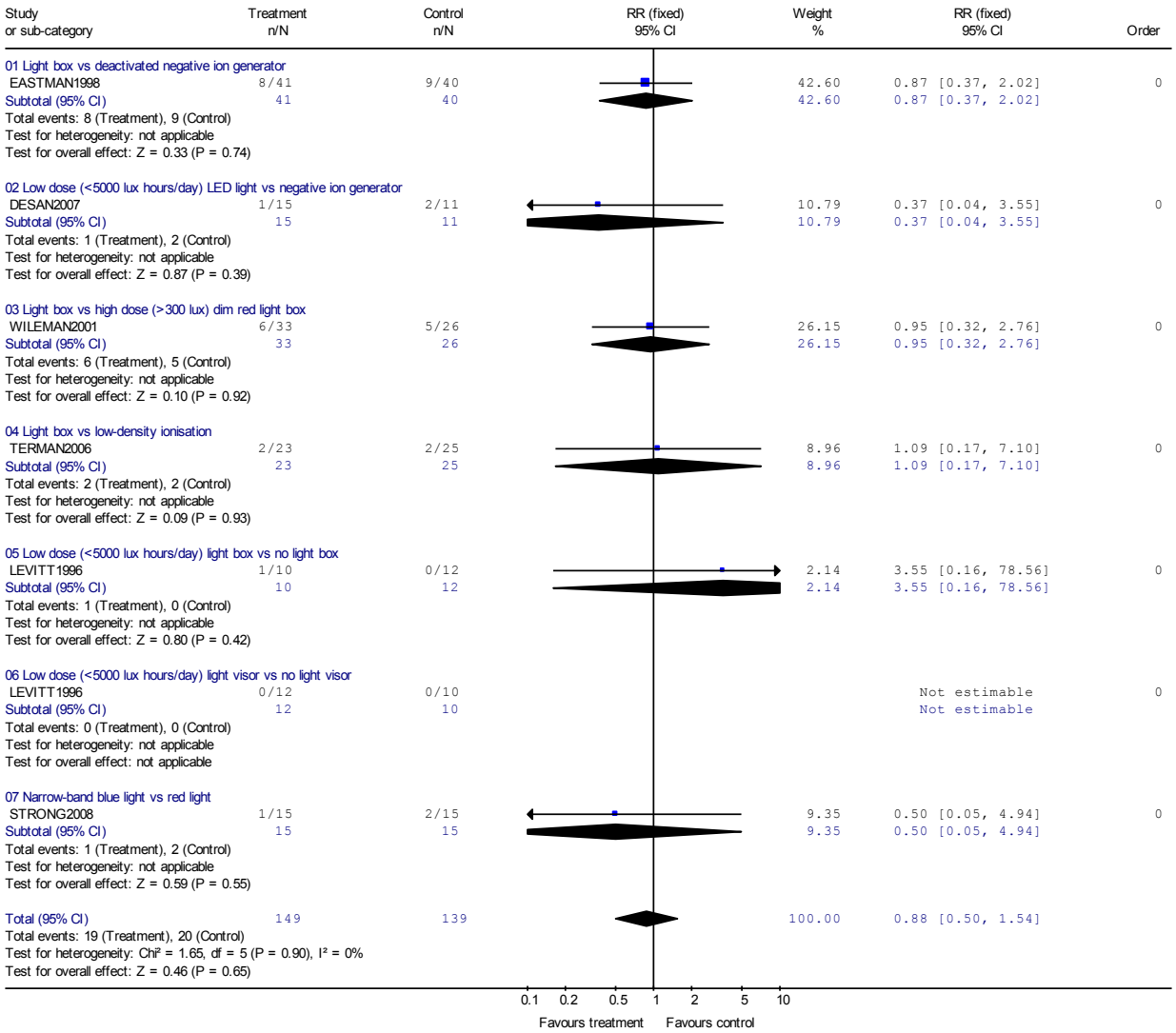


Bright light versus attentional control

Number leaving study early for any reason

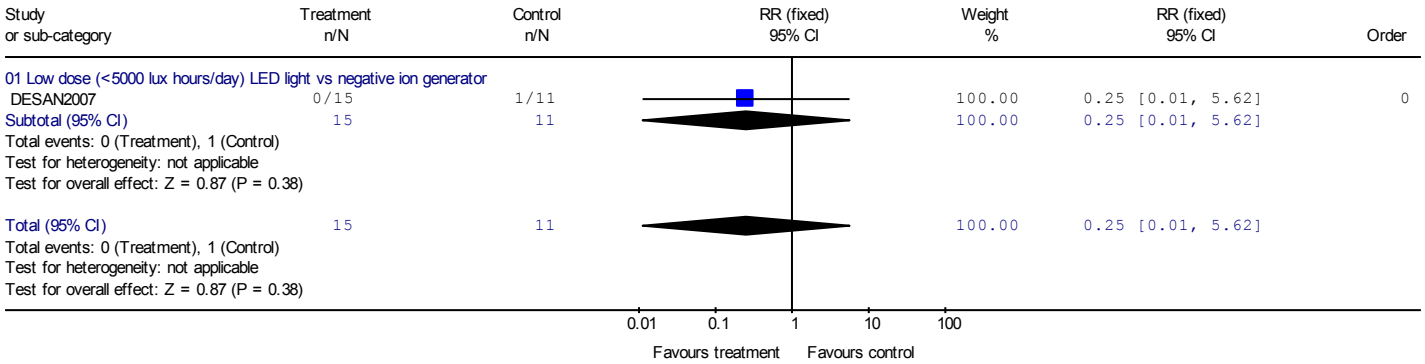
Forest plots

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 01 Leaving study early for any reason



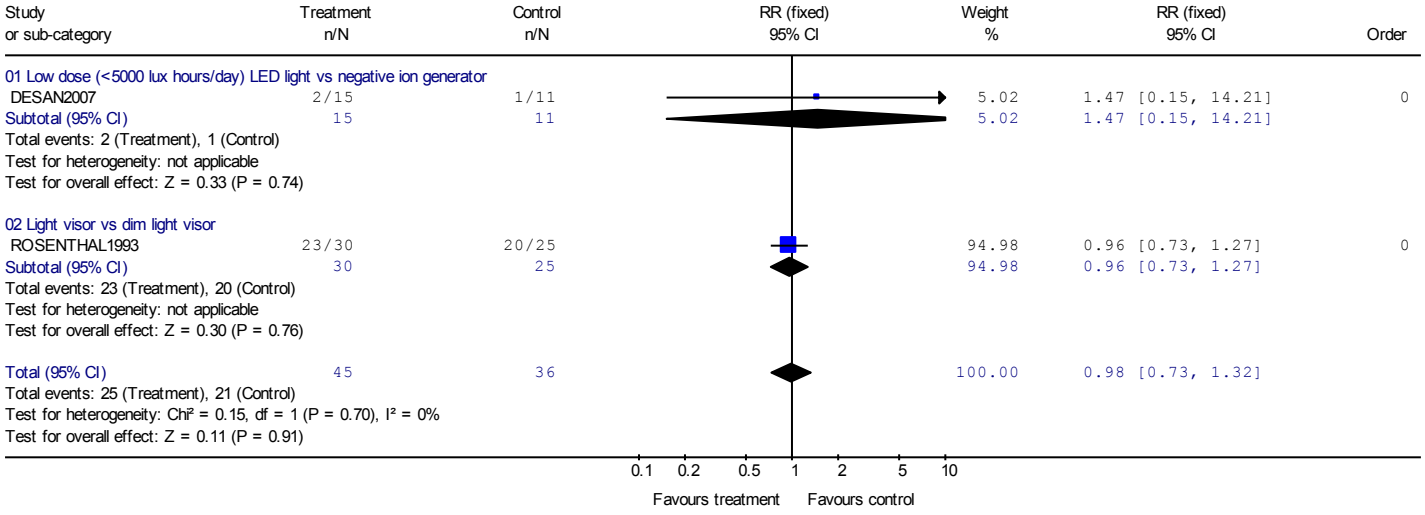
Number leaving study early due to lack of efficacy

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 02 Leaving study early due to lack of efficacy



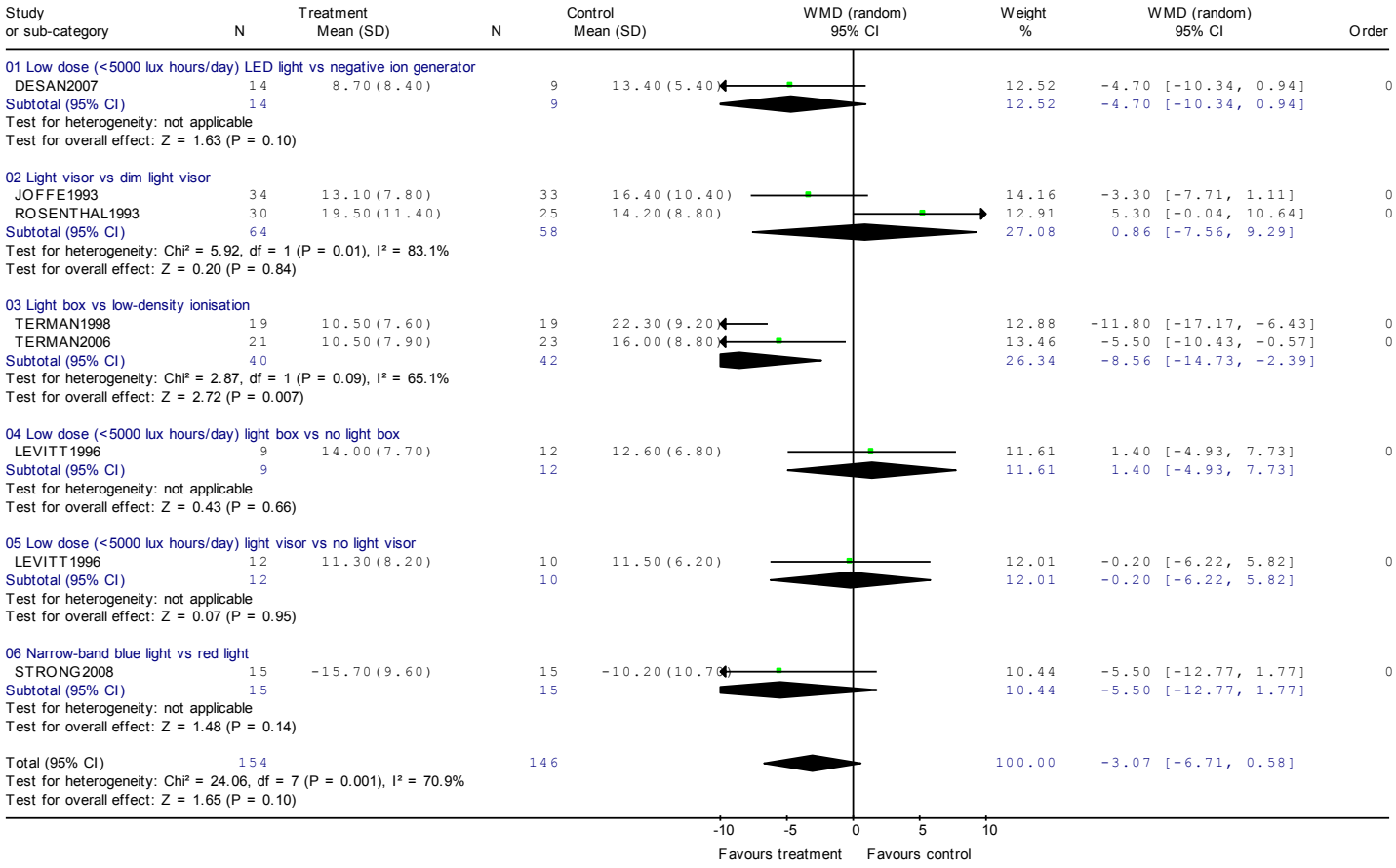
Number of reported side effects

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 03 Reported side effects



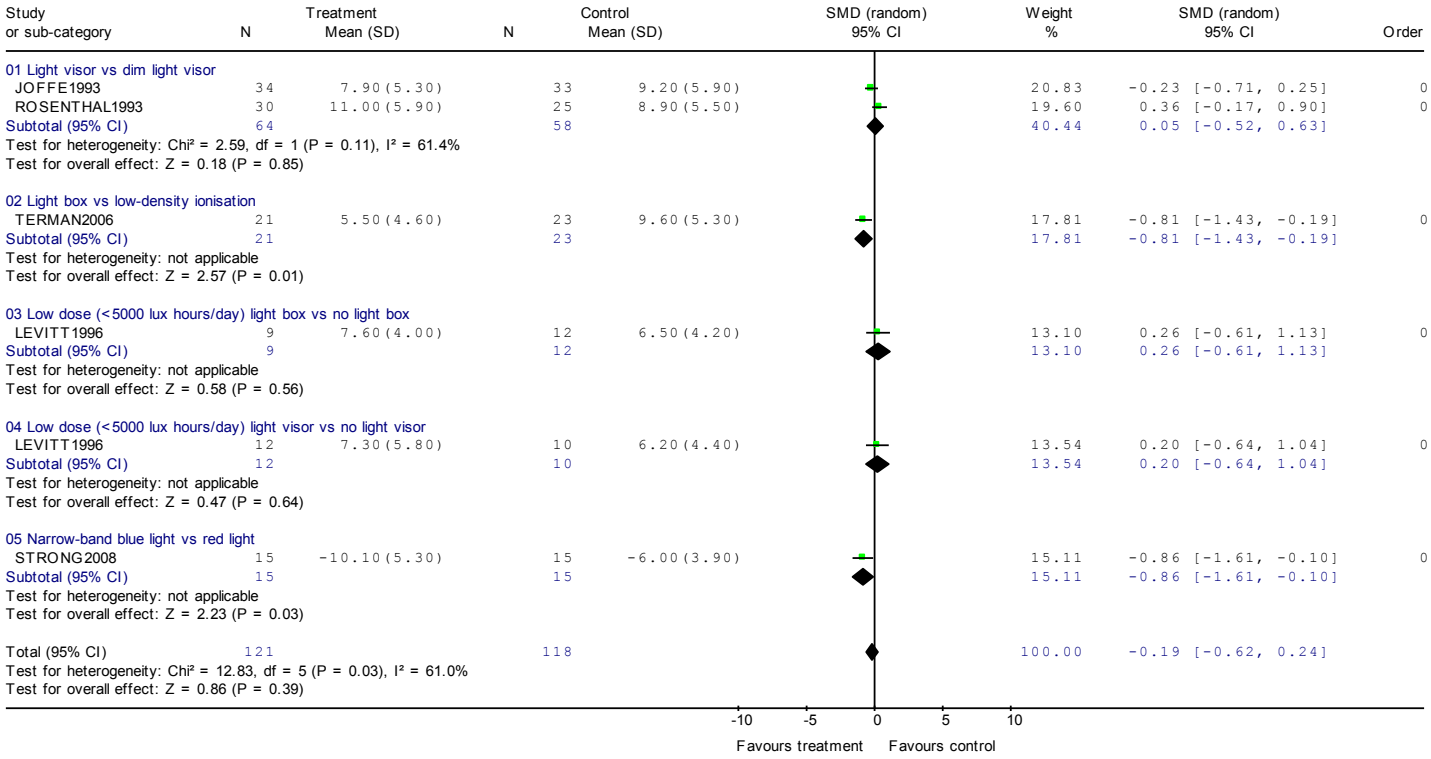
Mean endpoint depression scores (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 04 Mean clinician rated SAD depression scores (SIGH-SAD) at endpoint



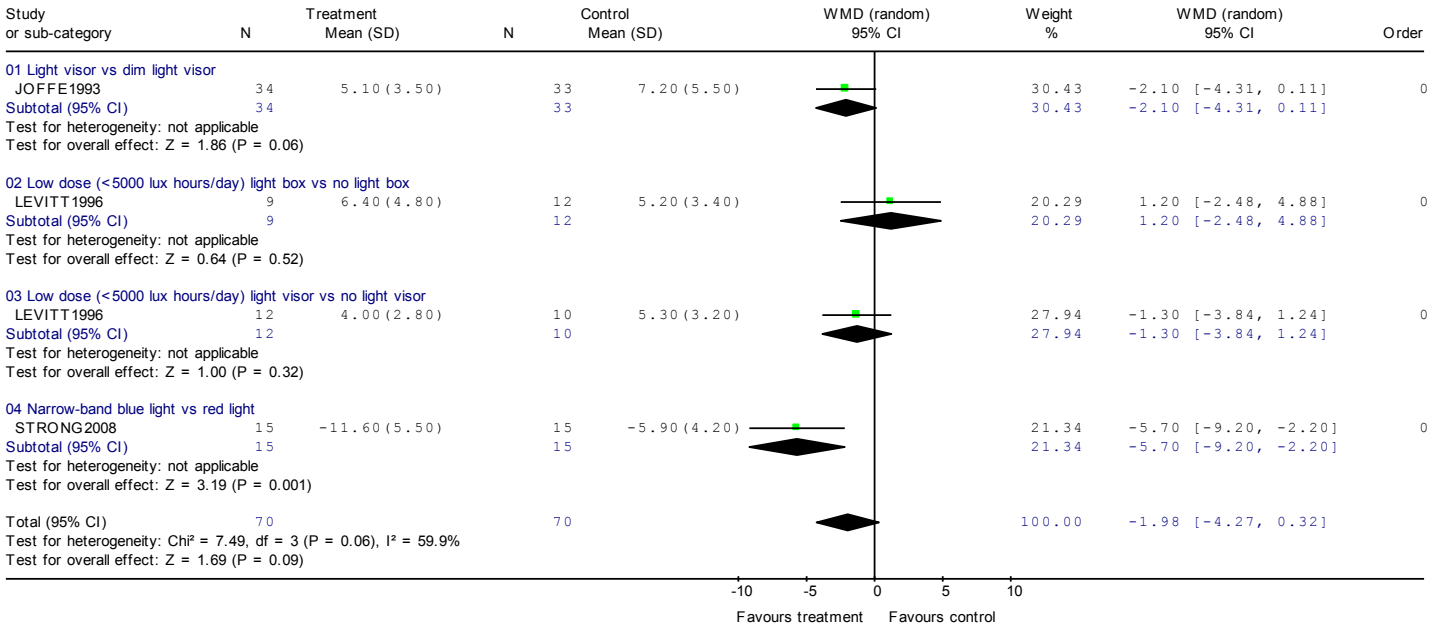
Mean endpoint typical depression scores (HAM-D17/HRSD-21) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 05 Mean clinician rated typical depression scores (HAMD-17/HRSD-21) at endpoint

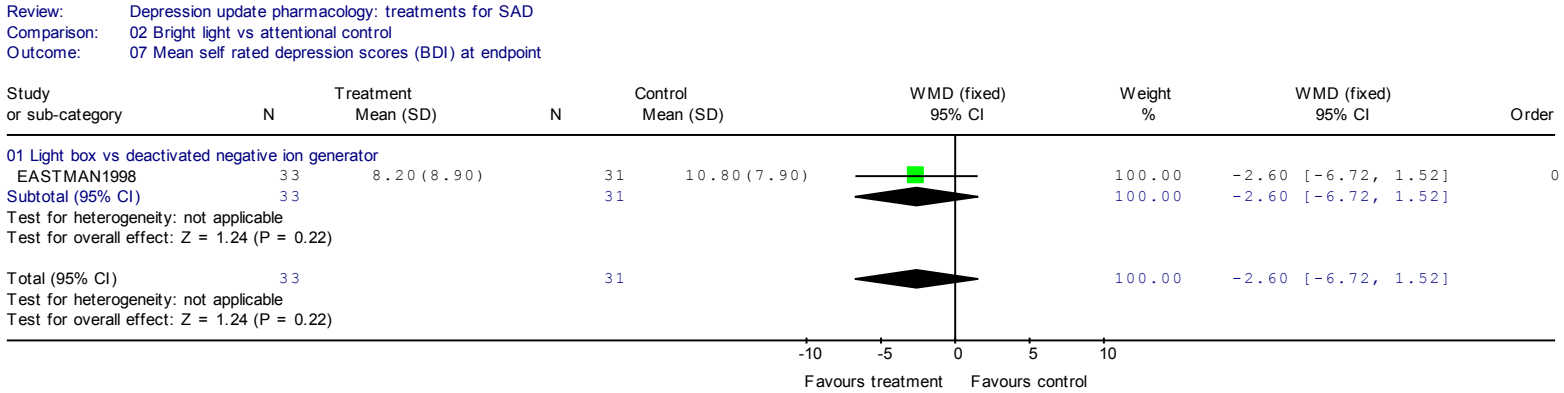


Mean endpoint atypical depression scores (SAD subscale) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 06 Mean clinician rated atypical depression scores (SAD subscale) at endpoint

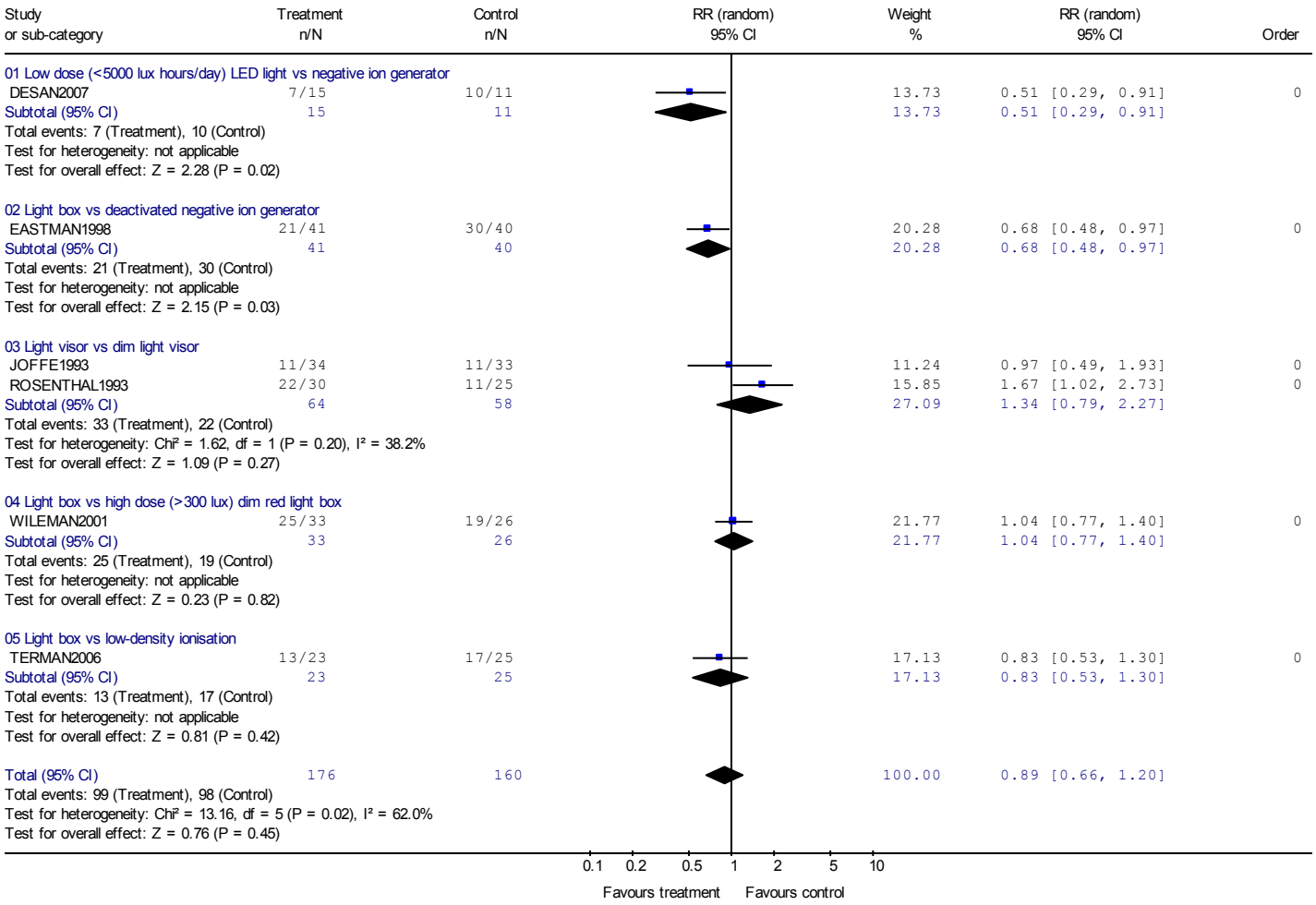


Mean endpoint depression scores (BDI) (self-rated)



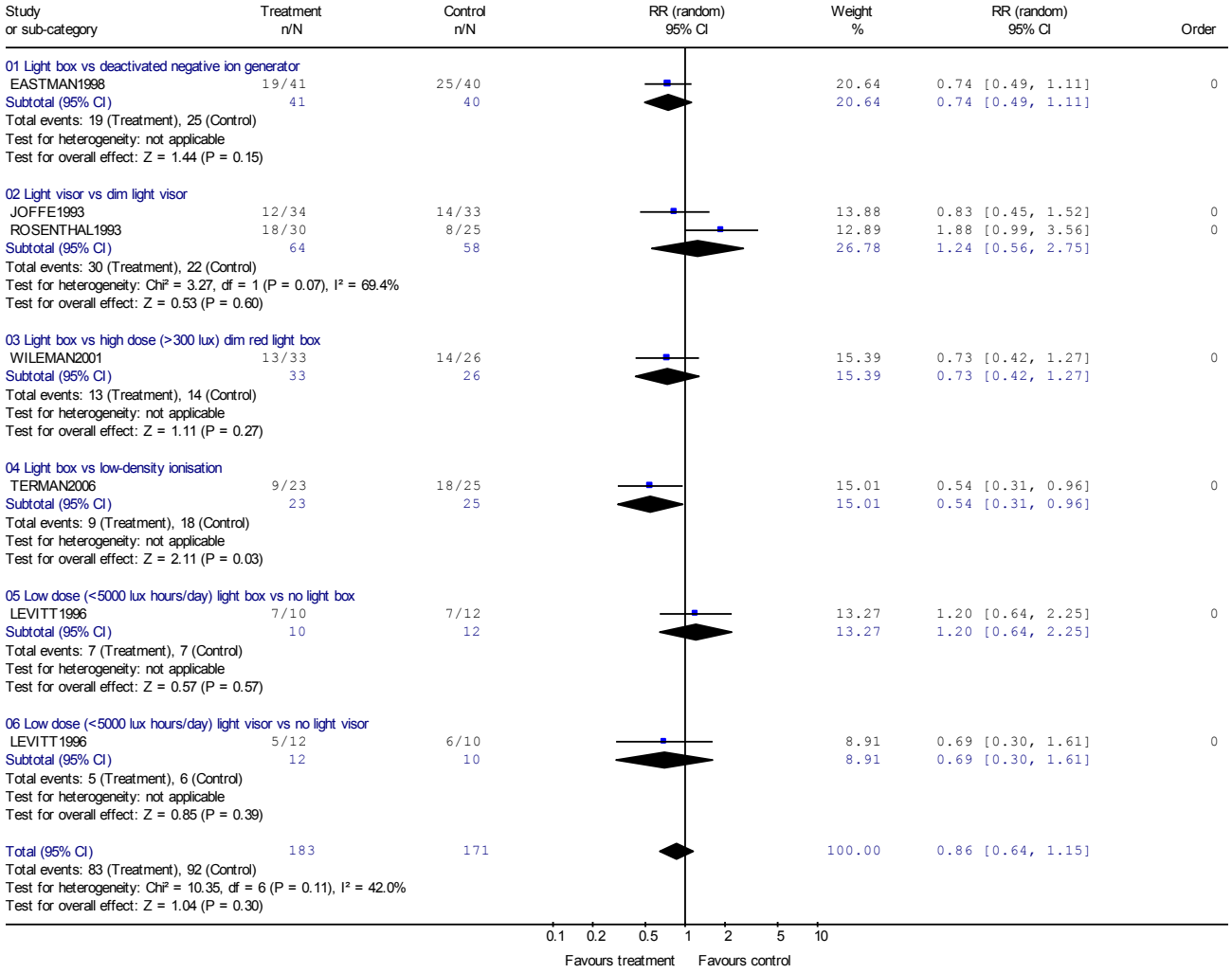
Non-remission data (SIGH-SAD, SIGH-SAD-SR or HDRS)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 08 Non remission (SIGHSAD or SIGHSAD-SR or HDRS)



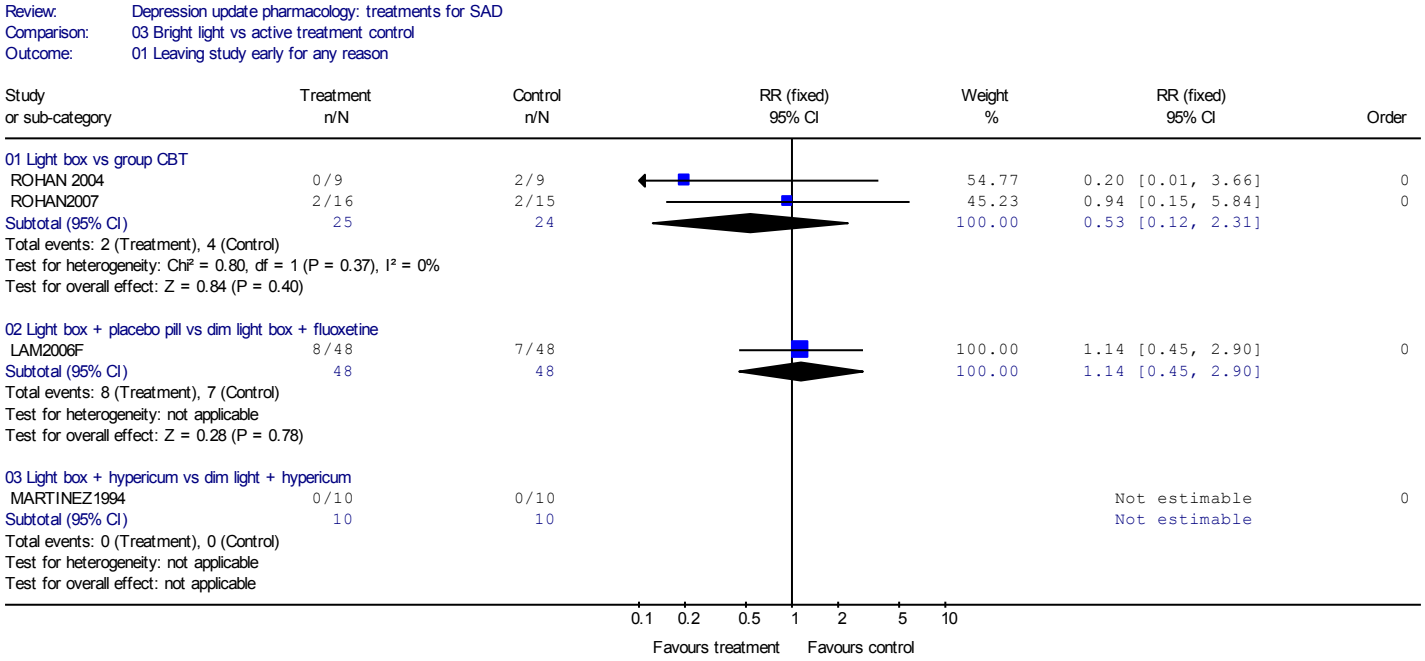
Non-response data (SIGH-SAD)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 02 Bright light vs attentional control
Outcome: 09 Non response (SIGH-SAD)



Bright light versus active treatment control

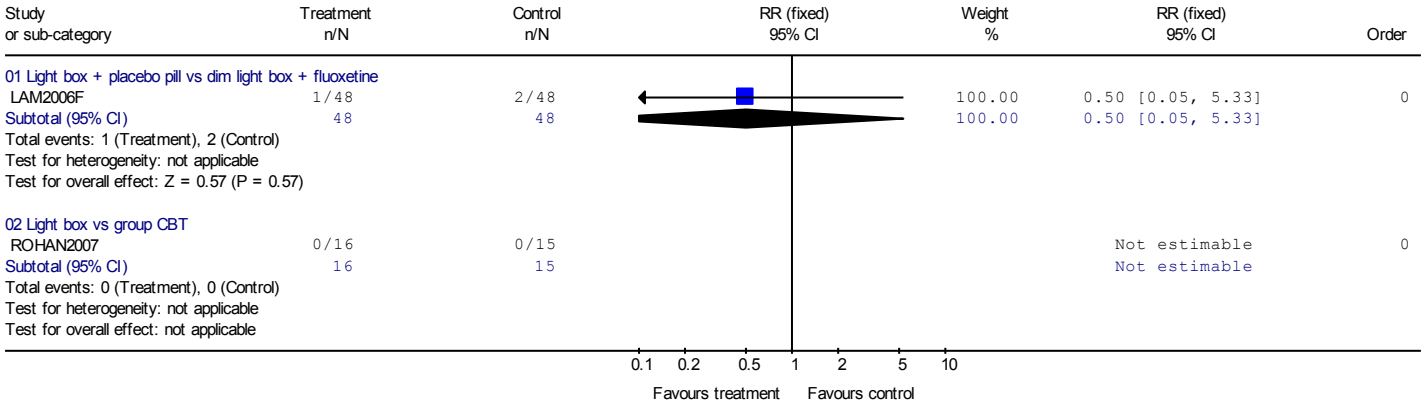
Number leaving study early for any reason



Number leaving study early due to side effects

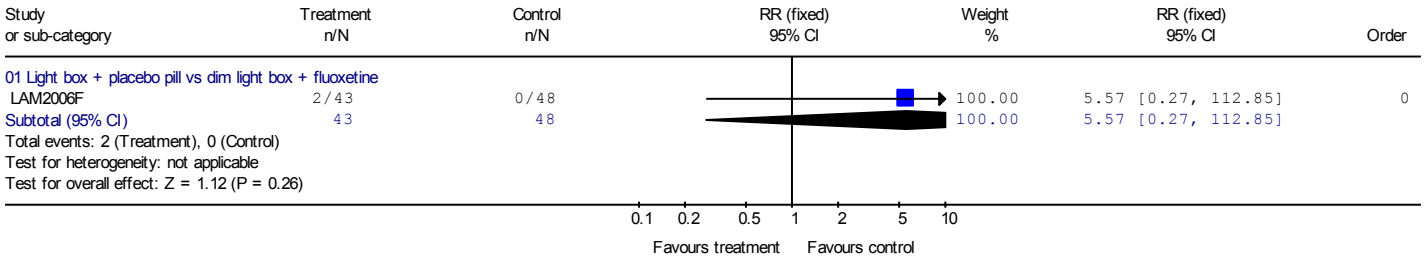
Forest plots

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 03 Bright light vs active treatment control
Outcome: 02 Leaving study early due to side effects

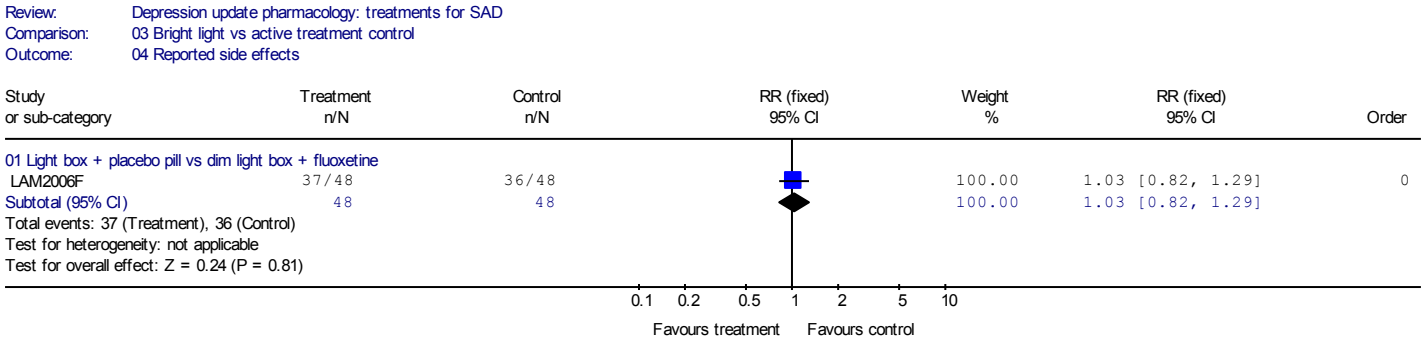


Number leaving study early due to lack of efficacy

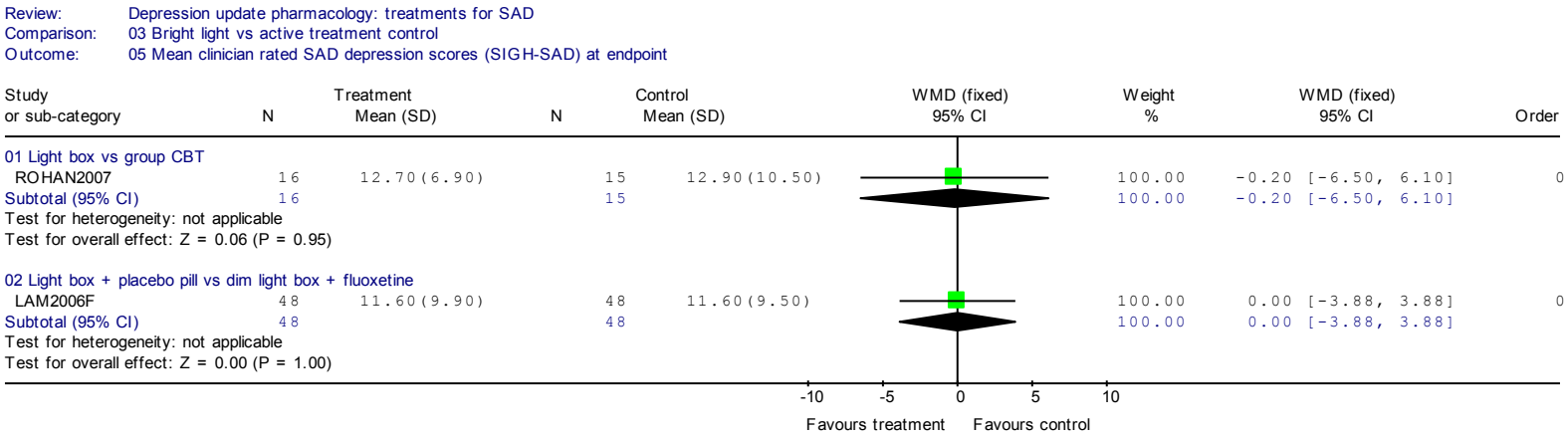
Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 03 Bright light vs active treatment control
Outcome: 03 Leaving study early due to lack of efficacy



Number of reported side effects

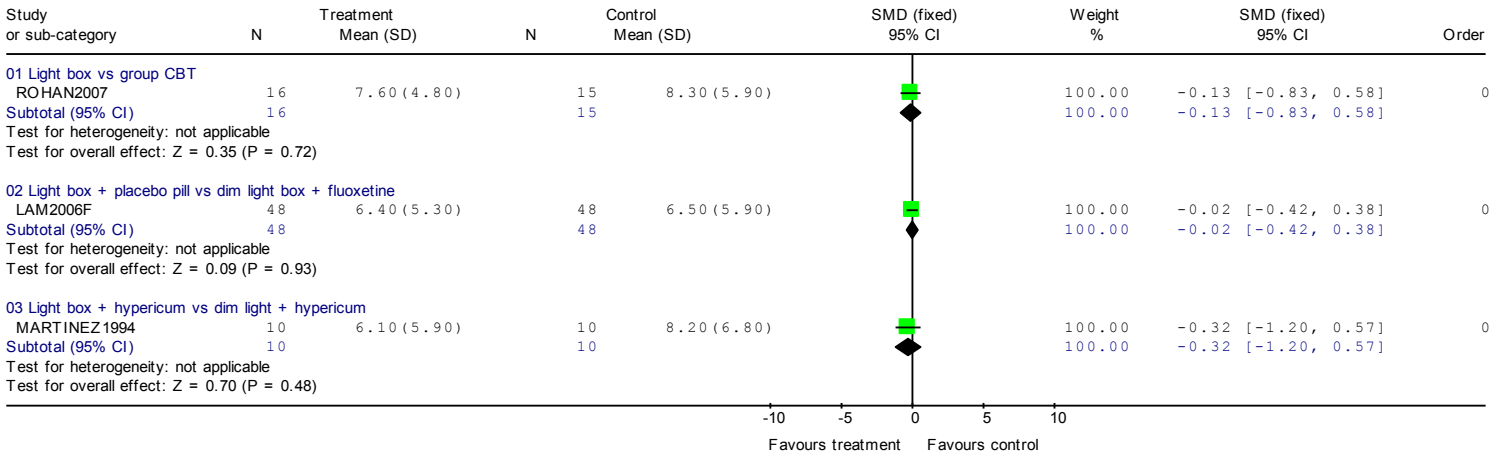


Mean SAD depression endpoint scores (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)



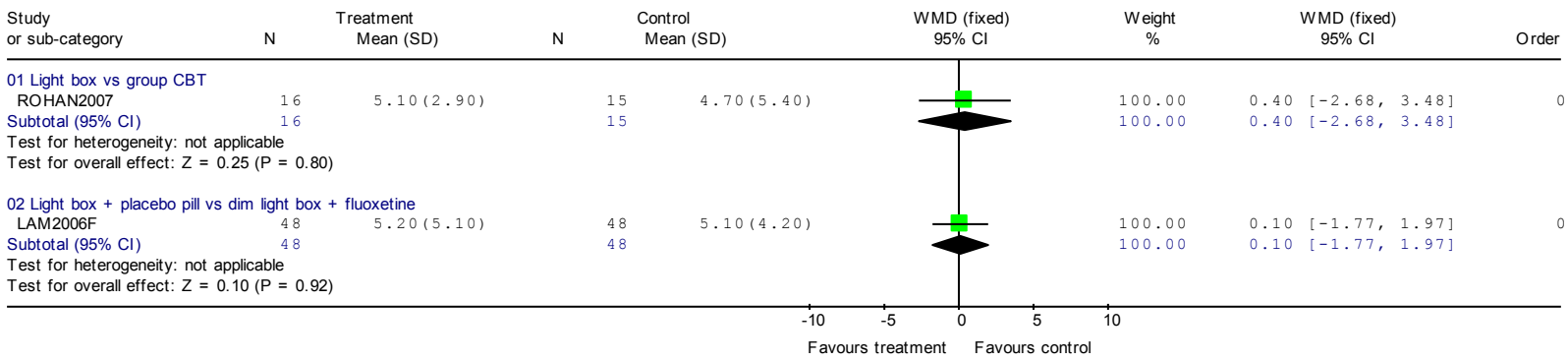
Mean atypical depression endpoint scores (HAM-D17/HRSD-21) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 03 Bright light vs active treatment control
Outcome: 06 Mean clinician rated typical depression scores (HAMD-17/HRSD-21) at endpoint



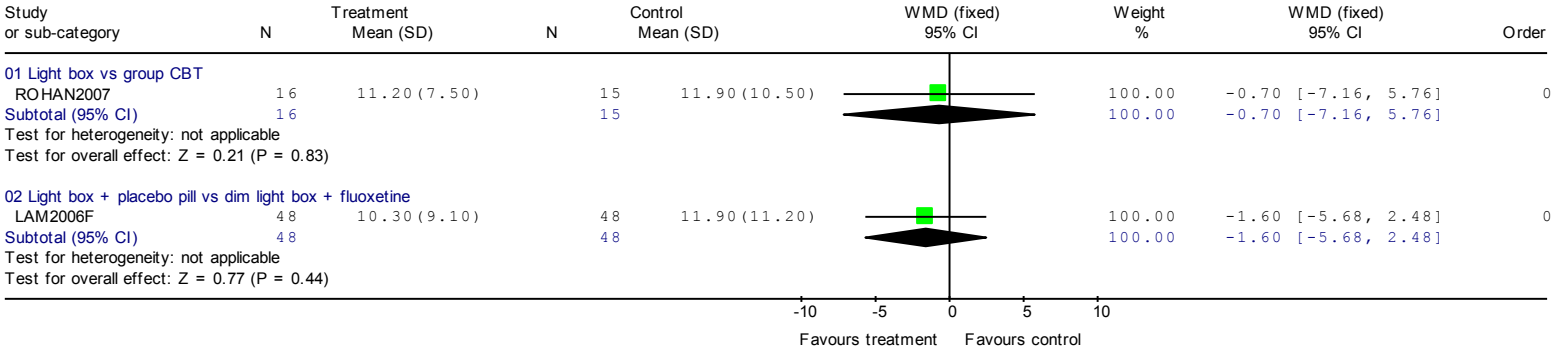
Mean atypical depression endpoint scores (SAD subscale) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 03 Bright light vs active treatment control
Outcome: 07 Mean clinician rated atypical depression scores (SADsubscale) at endpoint



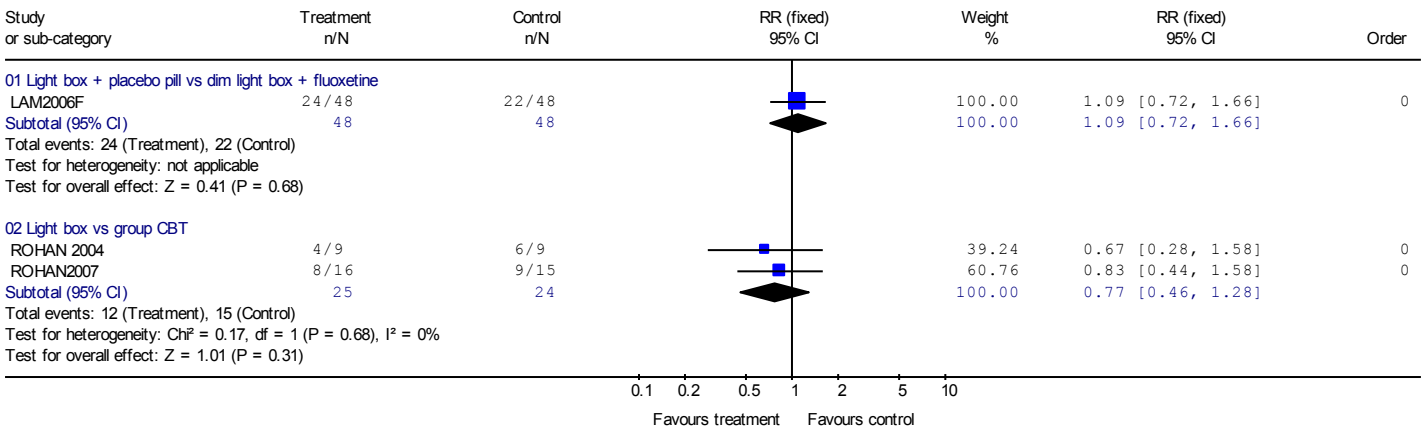
Mean depression endpoint scores (BDI) (self-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 03 Bright light vs active treatment control
Outcome: 08 Mean self rated depression scores (BDI) at endpoint

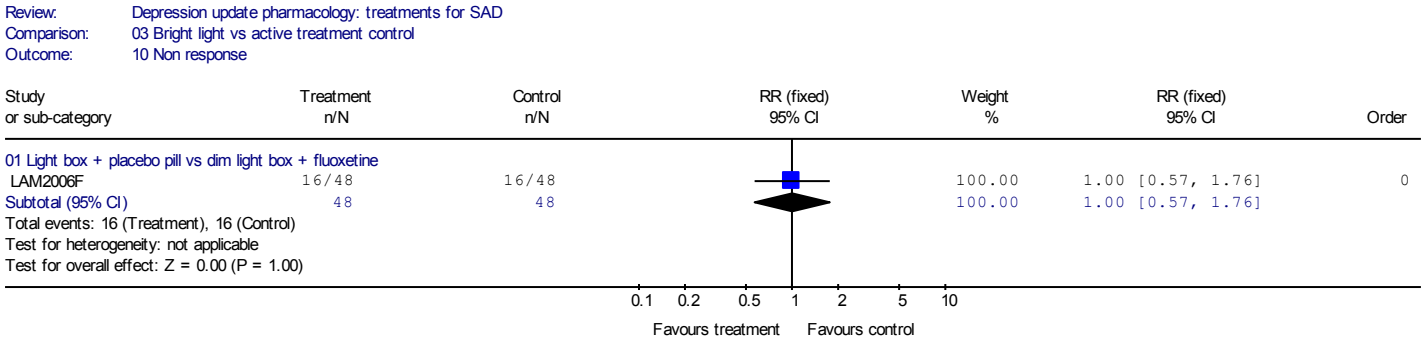


Non-remission data

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 03 Bright light vs active treatment control
Outcome: 09 Non remission

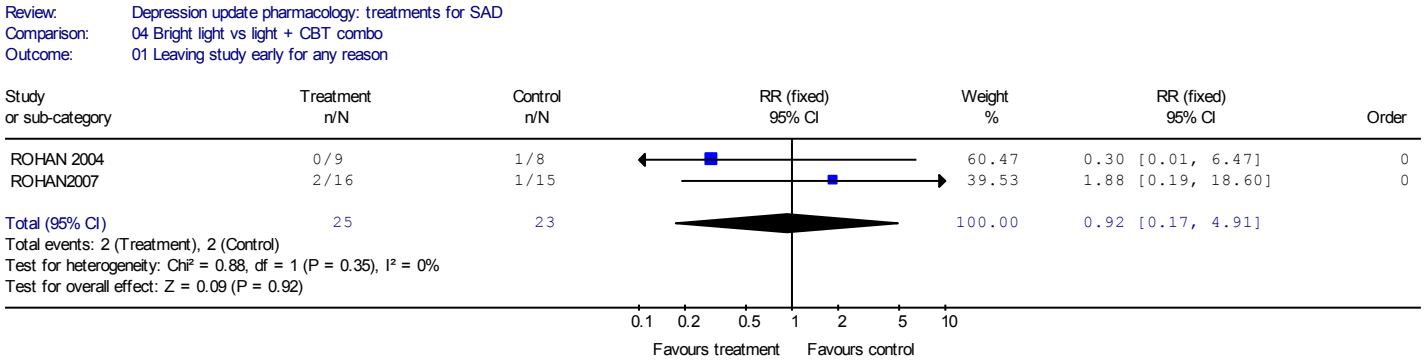


SAD.03.10. Non-response data



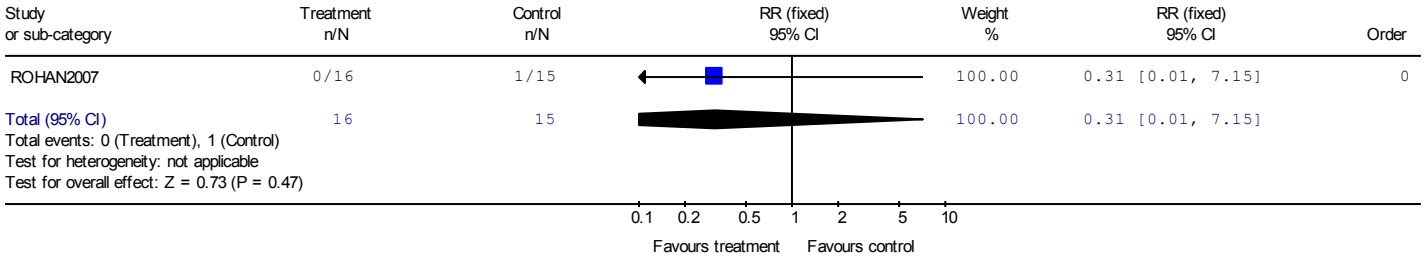
Bright light versus light + CBT combination

Number leaving study early for any reason



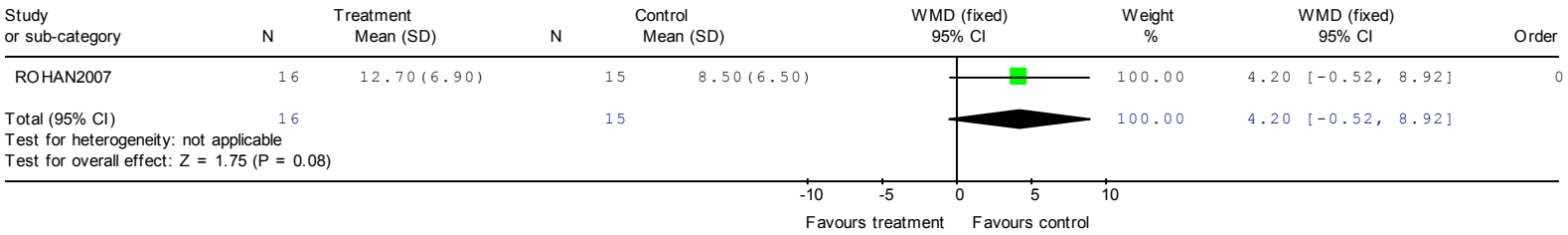
Number leaving study early due to side effects

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 04 Bright light vs light + CBT combo
Outcome: 02 Leaving study early due to side effects



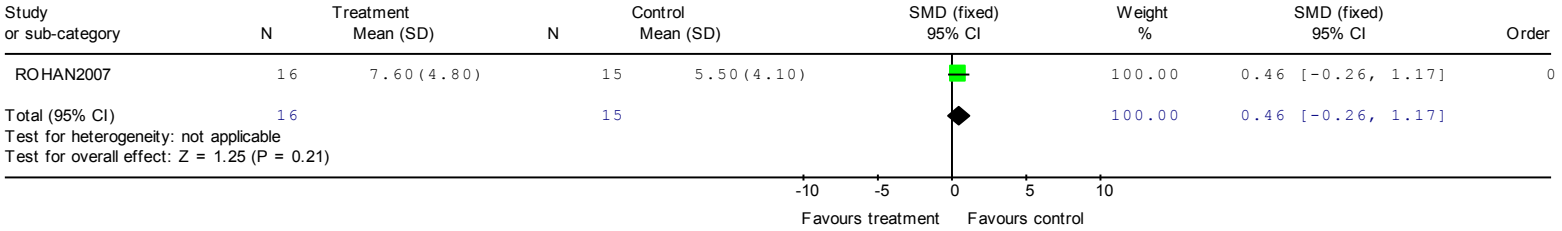
Mean SAD depression endpoint scores (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 04 Bright light vs light + CBT combo
Outcome: 03 Mean clinician rated SAD depression scores (SIGH-SAD) at endpoint



Mean typical depression endpoint scores (HAM-D17/HRSD-21) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 04 Bright light vs light + CBT combo
Outcome: 04 Mean clinician rated typical depression scores (HAMD-17/HRSD-21) at endpoint

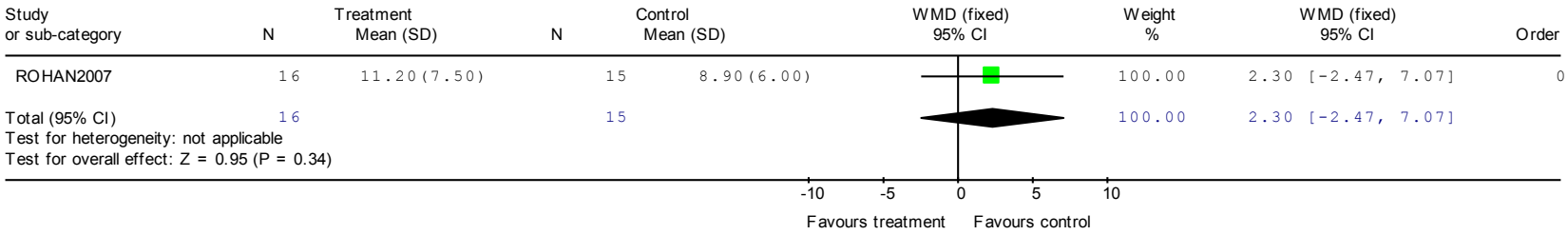


Mean atypical depression endpoint scores (SAD subscale) (clinician-rated)

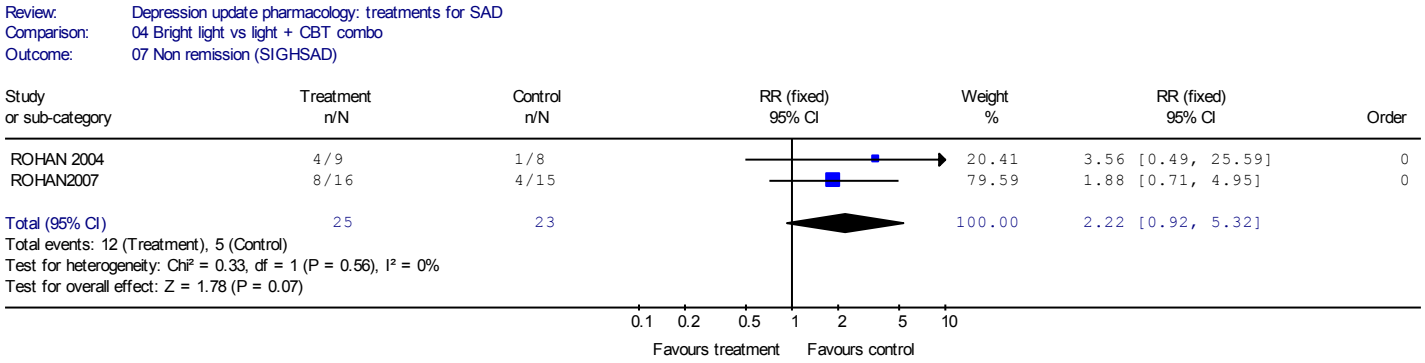
Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 04 Bright light vs light + CBT combo
Outcome: 05 Mean clinician rated atypical depression scores (SADsubscale) at endpoint

Mean depression endpoint scores (BDI) (self-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 04 Bright light vs light + CBT combo
Outcome: 06 Mean self rated depression scores (BDI) at endpoint

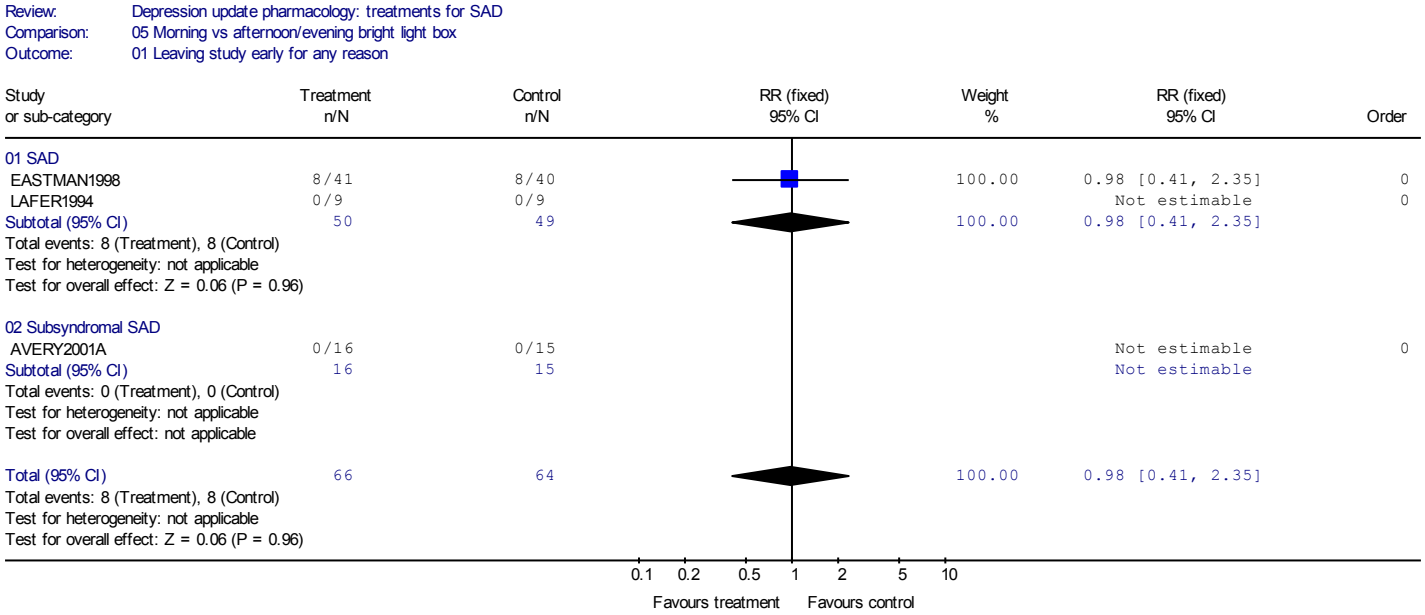


Non-remission data (SIGH-SAD)



Morning versus afternoon/evening bright light box

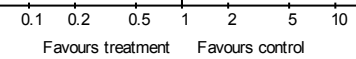
Number leaving study early for any reason



Number leaving study early due to side effects

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 05 Morning vs afternoon/evening bright light box
Outcome: 02 Leaving study early due to side effects

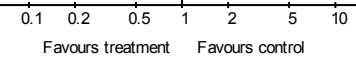
Study or sub-category	Treatment n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 Sub-syndromal SAD						
AVERY2001A	0/16	0/15			Not estimable	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	16	15			Not estimable	
Total events: 0 (Treatment), 0 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: not applicable						
Total (95% CI)	16	15			Not estimable	
Total events: 0 (Treatment), 0 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: not applicable						



Number of reported side effects

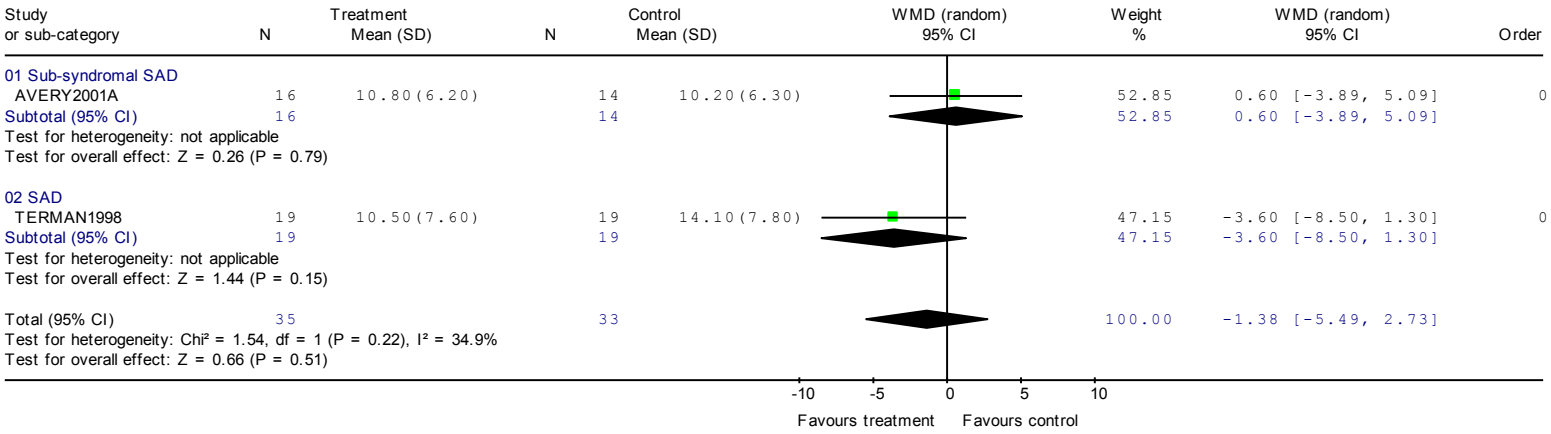
Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 05 Morning vs afternoon/evening bright light box
Outcome: 03 Reported side effects

Study or sub-category	Treatment n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 Sub-syndromal SAD						
AVERY2001A	1/16	2/15		100.00	0.47 [0.05, 4.65]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	16	15		100.00	0.47 [0.05, 4.65]	
Total events: 1 (Treatment), 2 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.65 (P = 0.52)						
Total (95% CI)	16	15		100.00	0.47 [0.05, 4.65]	
Total events: 1 (Treatment), 2 (Control)						
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.65 (P = 0.52)						



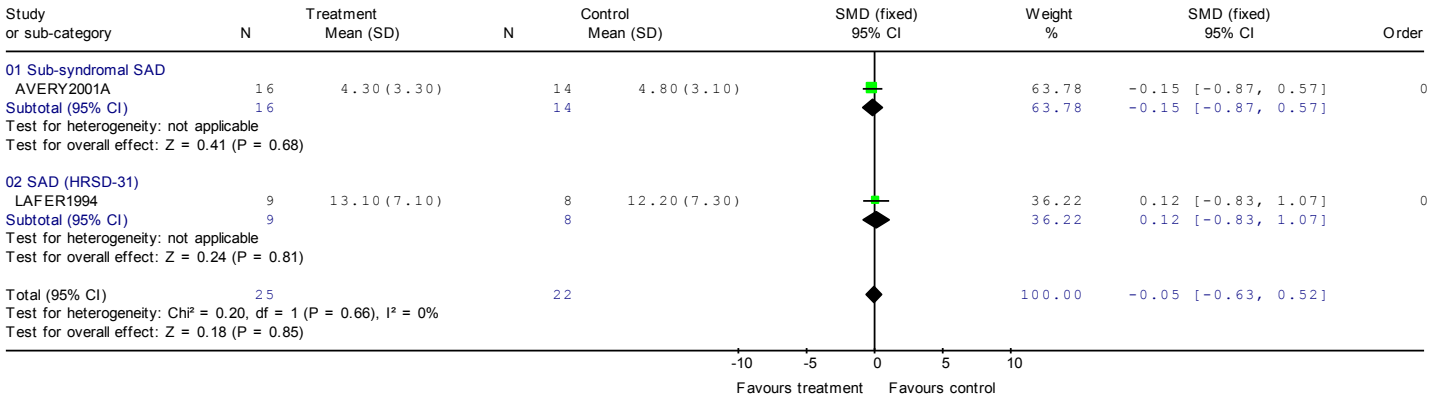
Mean SAD depression endpoint scores (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 05 Morning vs afternoon/evening bright light box
Outcome: 04 Mean clinician rated SAD depression scores (SIGH-SAD) at endpoint



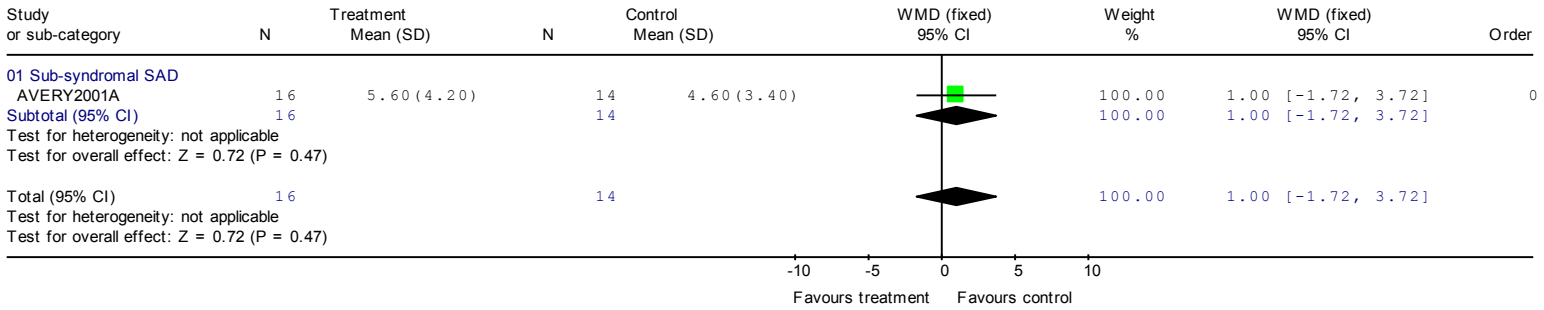
Mean typical depression endpoint scores (HAM-D17/HRSD-31) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 05 Morning vs afternoon/evening bright light box
Outcome: 05 Mean clinician rated typical depression scores (HAMD-17/HRSD-31) at endpoint

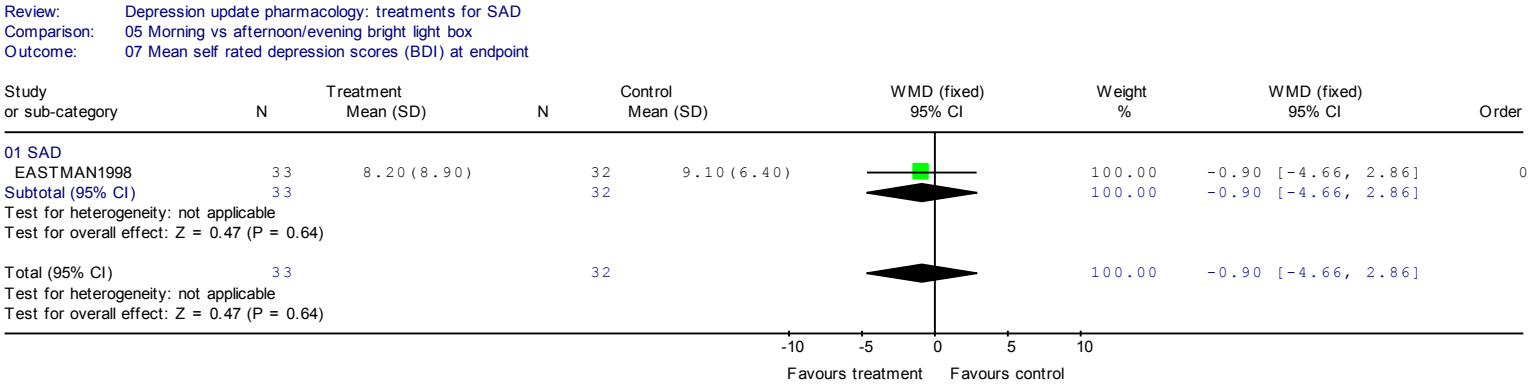


Mean atypical depression endpoint scores (SAD subscale) (clinician-rated)

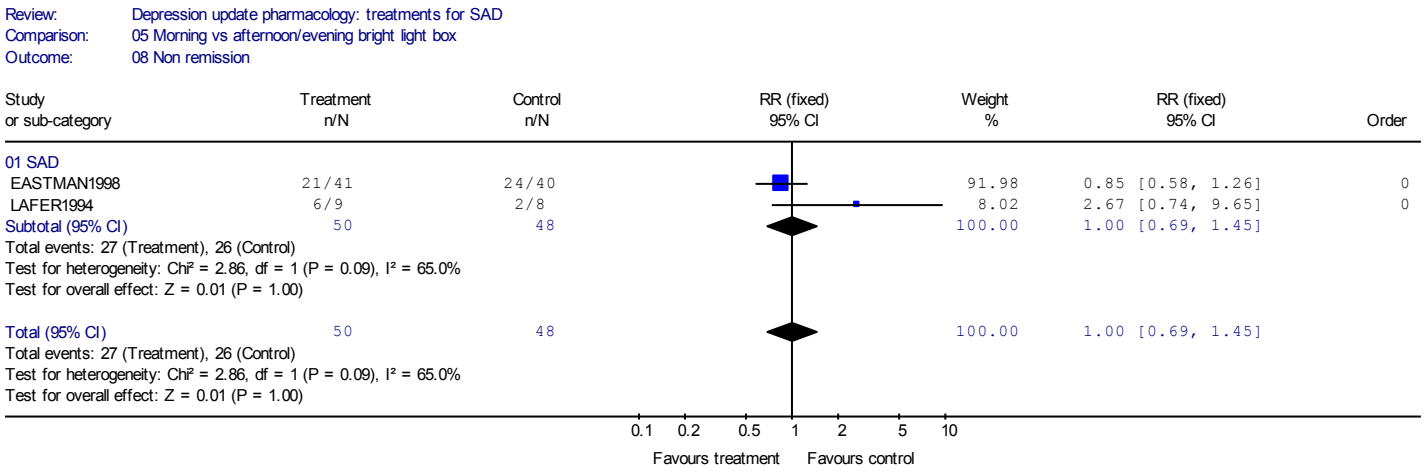
Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 05 Morning vs afternoon/evening bright light box
Outcome: 06 Mean clinician rated atypical depression scores (SAD-subscale) at endpoint



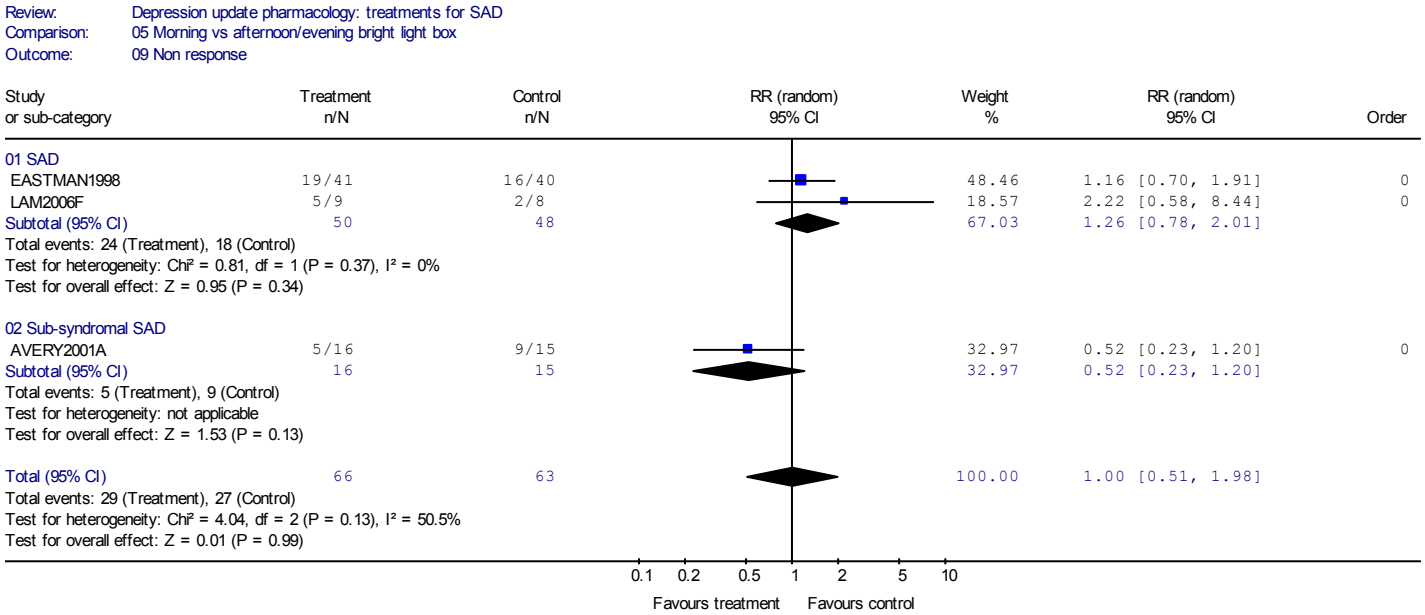
Mean depression endpoint scores (BDI) (self-rated)



Non-remission data

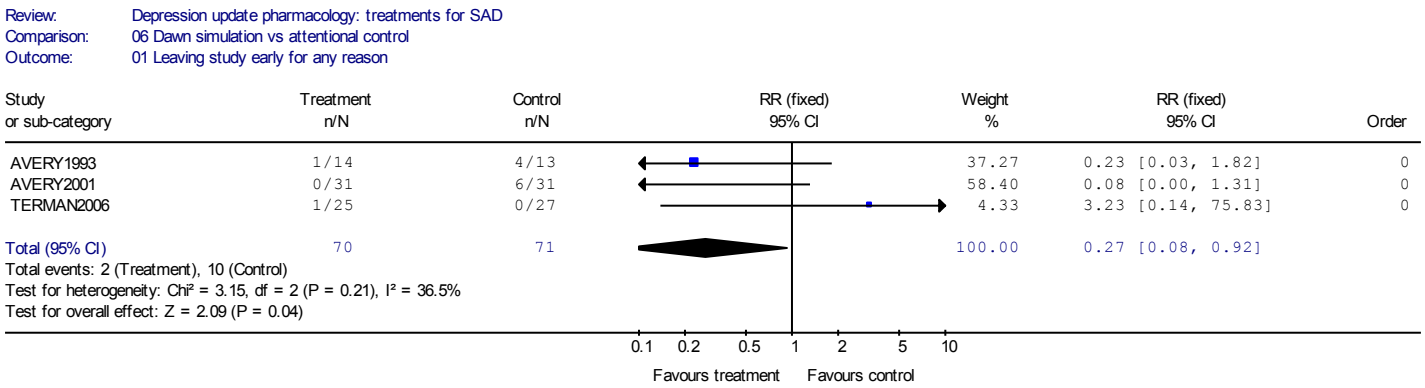


Non-response data

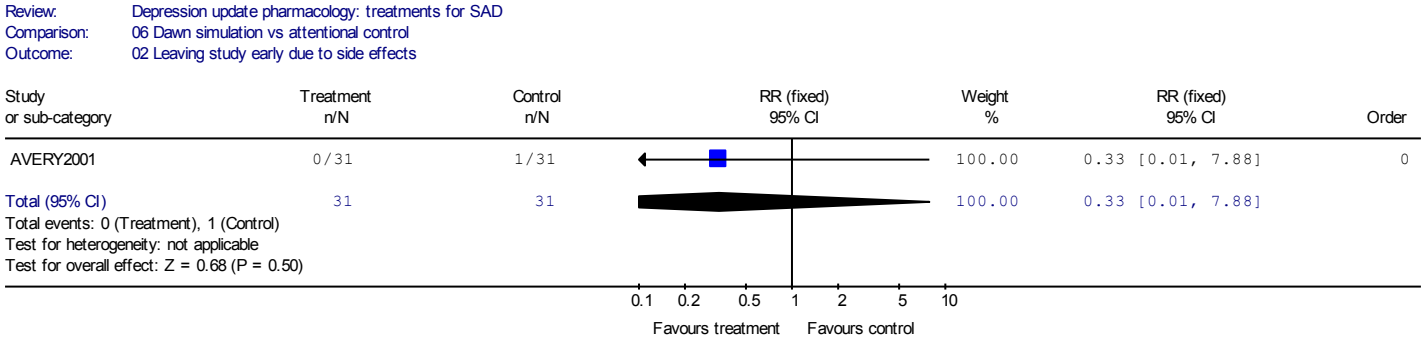


Dawn simulation versus attentional control

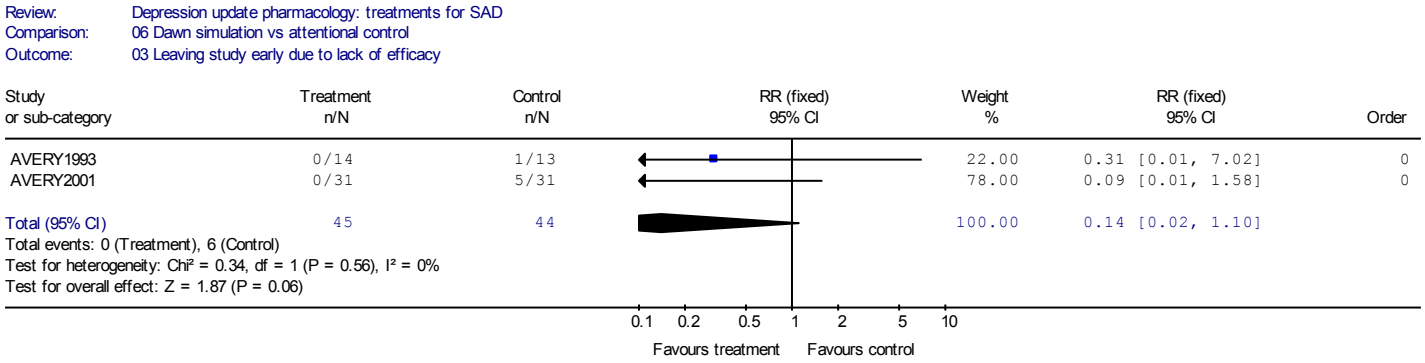
Number leaving study early for any reason



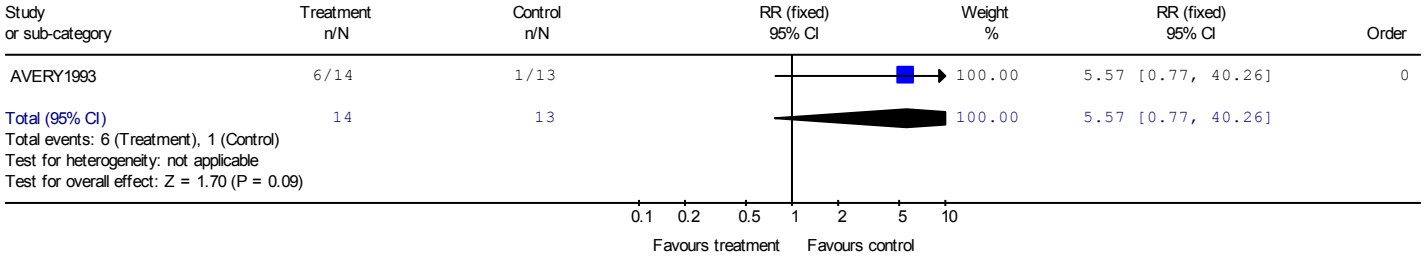
Number leaving study early due to side effects



Number leaving study early due to lack of efficacy



Number of reported side effects

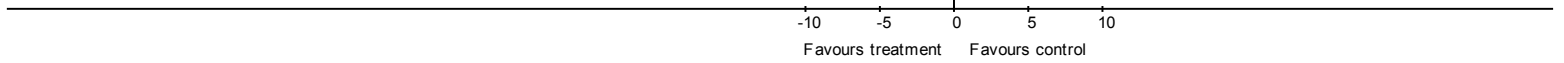


Mean typical depression endpoint scores (HAM-D17/HRSD-21) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 06 Dawn simulation vs attentional control
Outcome: 05 Mean clinician rated typical depression scores (HAMD-17/HRSD-21) at endpoint

Study or sub-category	Treatment N	Treatment Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (random) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (random) 95% CI	Order
AVERY1993	13	5.50(4.50)	9	11.10(4.90)		44.21	-1.16 [-2.08, -0.23]	0
TERMAN2006	24	6.40(6.00)	27	6.60(6.70)		55.79	-0.03 [-0.58, 0.52]	0
Total (95% CI)	37		36			100.00	-0.53 [-1.62, 0.57]	

Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 4.16, df = 1 (P = 0.04), I² = 76.0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.95 (P = 0.34)

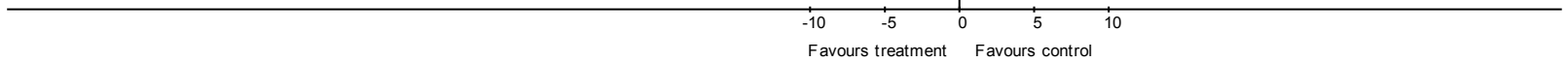


Mean atypical depression endpoint scores (SAD subscale) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 06 Dawn simulation vs attentional control
Outcome: 06 Mean clinician rated atypical depression scores (SAD-subscale) at endpoint

Study or sub-category	Treatment N	Treatment Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	WMD (random) 95% CI	Weight %	WMD (random) 95% CI	Order
AVERY1993	13	4.30(4.20)	9	8.80(3.50)		58.24	-4.50 [-7.73, -1.27]	0
TERMAN2006	24	12.30(9.80)	27	11.30(10.00)		41.76	1.00 [-4.44, 6.44]	0
Total (95% CI)	37		36			100.00	-2.20 [-7.52, 3.11]	

Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.90, df = 1 (P = 0.09), I² = 65.5%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.81 (P = 0.42)

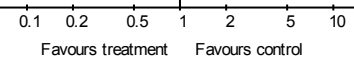


Non-remission data (SIGH-SAD)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 06 Dawn simulation vs attentional control
Outcome: 07 Non remission (SIGH-SAD)

Study or sub-category	Treatment n/N	Control n/N	RR (random) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (random) 95% CI	Order
AVERY2001	10/31	16/31		46.77	0.63 [0.34, 1.15]	0
TERMAN2006	15/25	13/27		53.23	1.25 [0.75, 2.07]	0
Total (95% CI)	56	58		100.00	0.90 [0.46, 1.78]	

Total events: 25 (Treatment), 29 (Control)
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.96, df = 1 (P = 0.09), I² = 66.2%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.30 (P = 0.77)

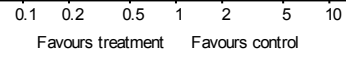


Non-response data (SIGH-SAD)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 06 Dawn simulation vs attentional control
Outcome: 08 Non response (SIGH-SAD)

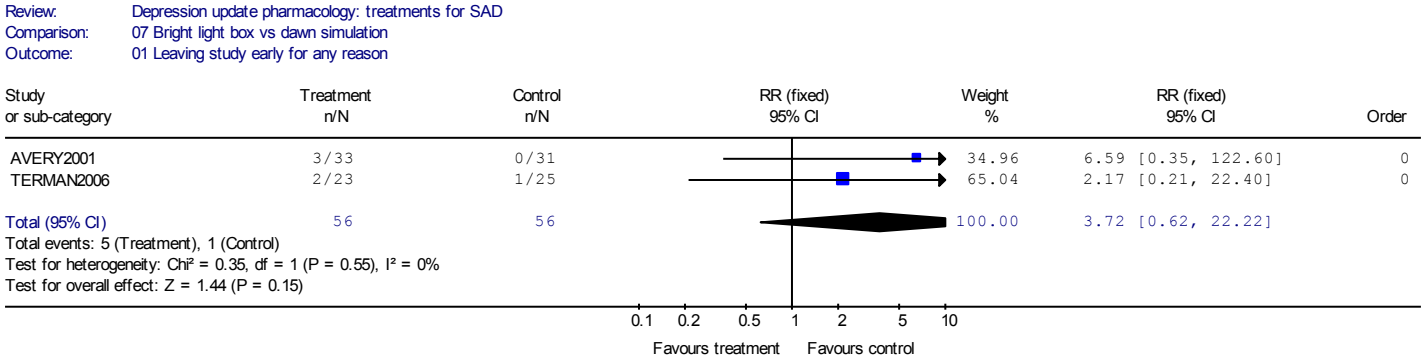
Study or sub-category	Treatment n/N	Control n/N	RR (random) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (random) 95% CI	Order
AVERY2001	5/31	11/31		42.16	0.45 [0.18, 1.16]	0
TERMAN2006	9/25	10/27		57.84	0.97 [0.47, 1.99]	0
Total (95% CI)	56	58		100.00	0.71 [0.34, 1.48]	

Total events: 14 (Treatment), 21 (Control)
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.63, df = 1 (P = 0.20), I² = 38.8%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.92 (P = 0.36)

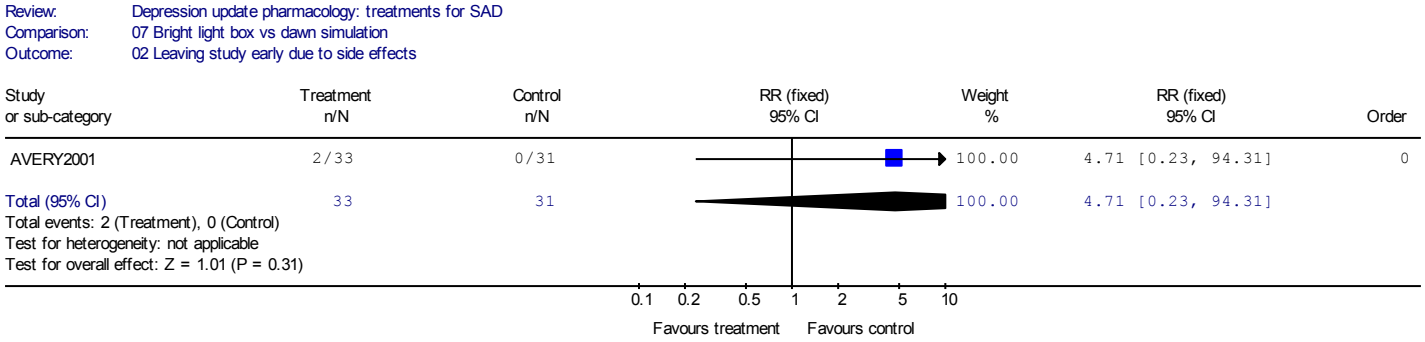


Bright light versus dawn simulation

Number leaving study early for any reason



Number leaving study early due to side effects

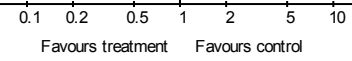


Number leaving study early due to lack of efficacy

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 07 Bright light box vs dawn simulation
Outcome: 03 Leaving study early due to lack of efficacy

Study or sub-category	Treatment n/N	Control n/N	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (fixed) 95% CI	Order
AVERY2001	0/31	0/31			Not estimable	0
Total (95% CI)	31	31			Not estimable	

Total events: 0 (Treatment), 0 (Control)
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable
Test for overall effect: not applicable

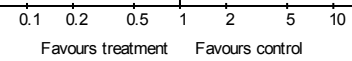


Non-remission data (SIGH-SAD)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 07 Bright light box vs dawn simulation
Outcome: 04 Non remission (SIGH-SAD)

Study or sub-category	Treatment n/N	Control n/N	RR (random) 95% CI	Weight %	RR (random) 95% CI	Order
AVERY2001	17/33	10/31		43.77	1.60 [0.87, 2.93]	0
TERMAN2006	13/23	15/25		56.23	0.94 [0.58, 1.52]	0
Total (95% CI)	56	56		100.00	1.19 [0.70, 2.00]	

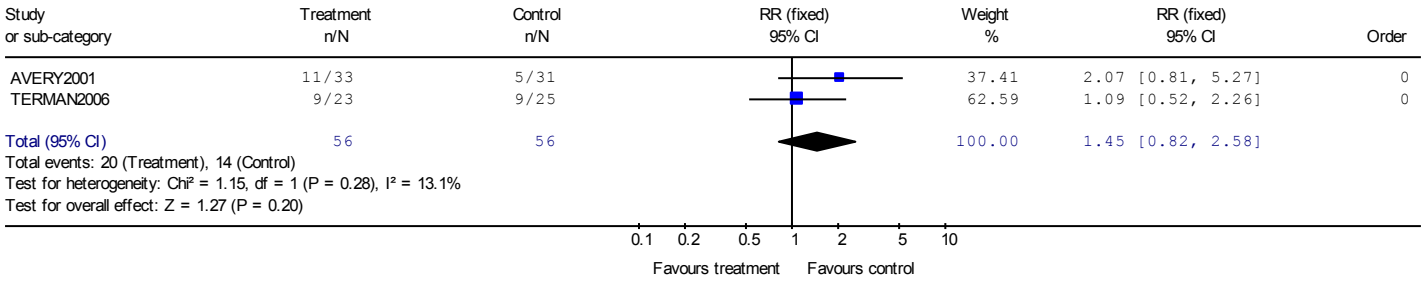
Total events: 30 (Treatment), 25 (Control)
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.85, df = 1 (P = 0.17), I² = 46.1%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.64 (P = 0.52)



Depression in adults: treatment and management
Forest plots

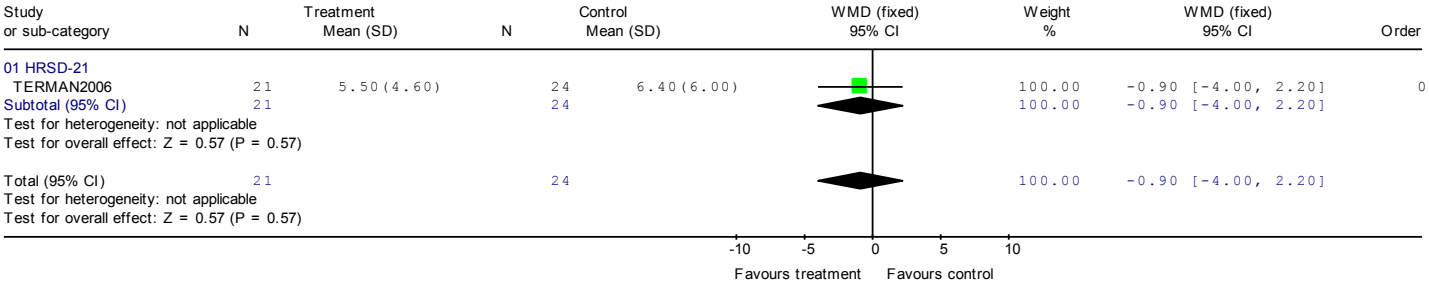
Non-response data (SIGH-SAD

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 07 Bright light box vs dawn simulation
Outcome: 05 Non response (SIGH-SAD)

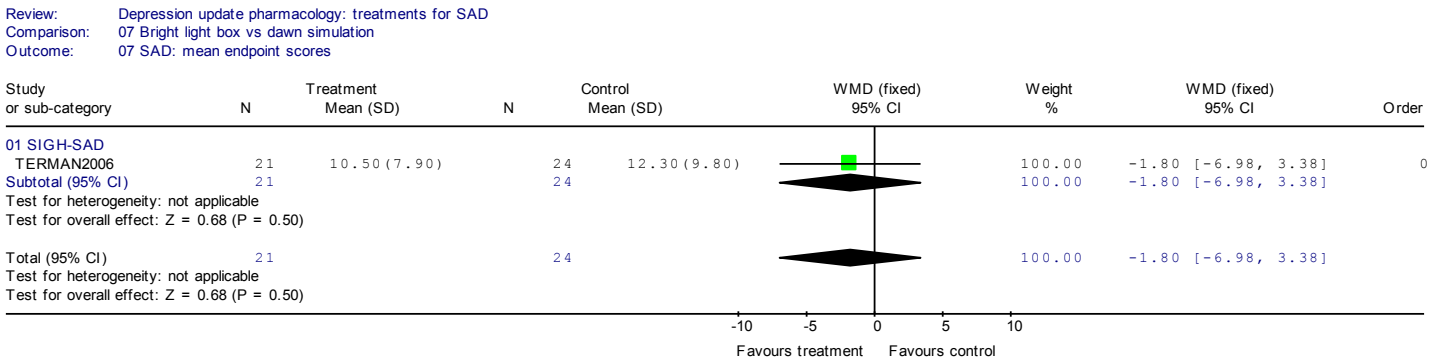


Mean depression endpoint scores

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 07 Bright light box vs dawn simulation
Outcome: 06 Depression: mean endpoint scores

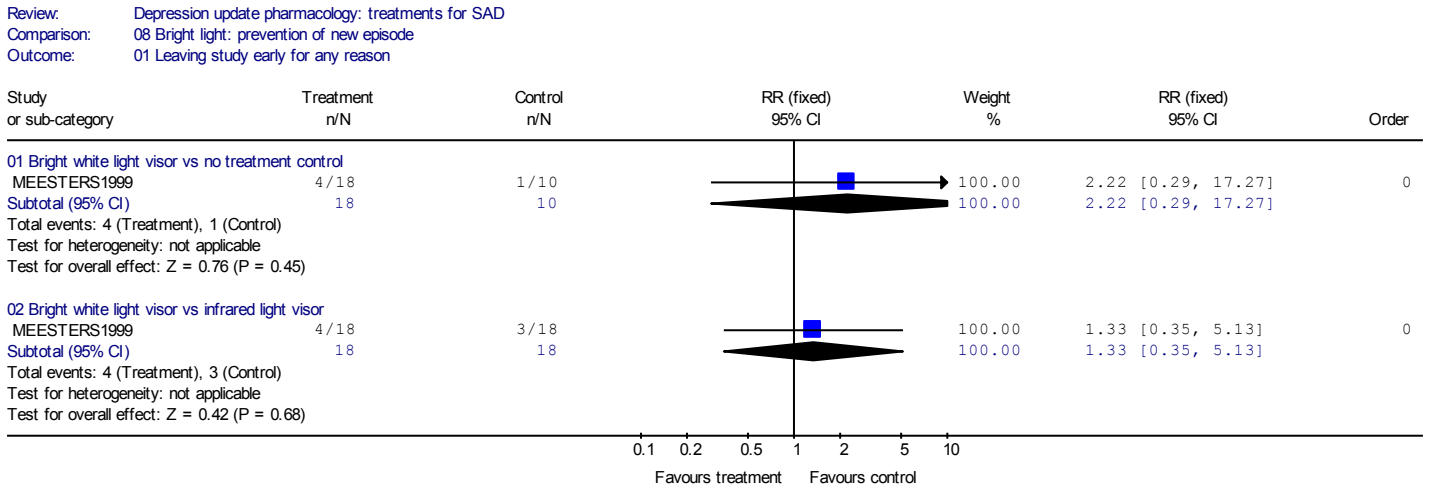


Mean SAD depression endpoint scores

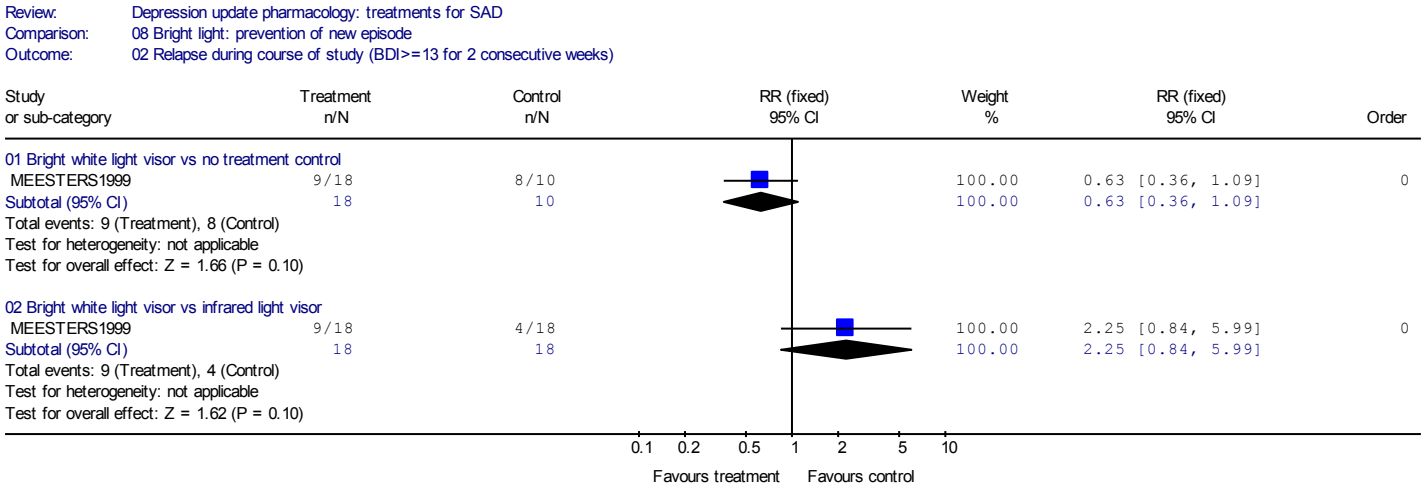


Bright light – prevention of new episode

Number leaving study early for any reason

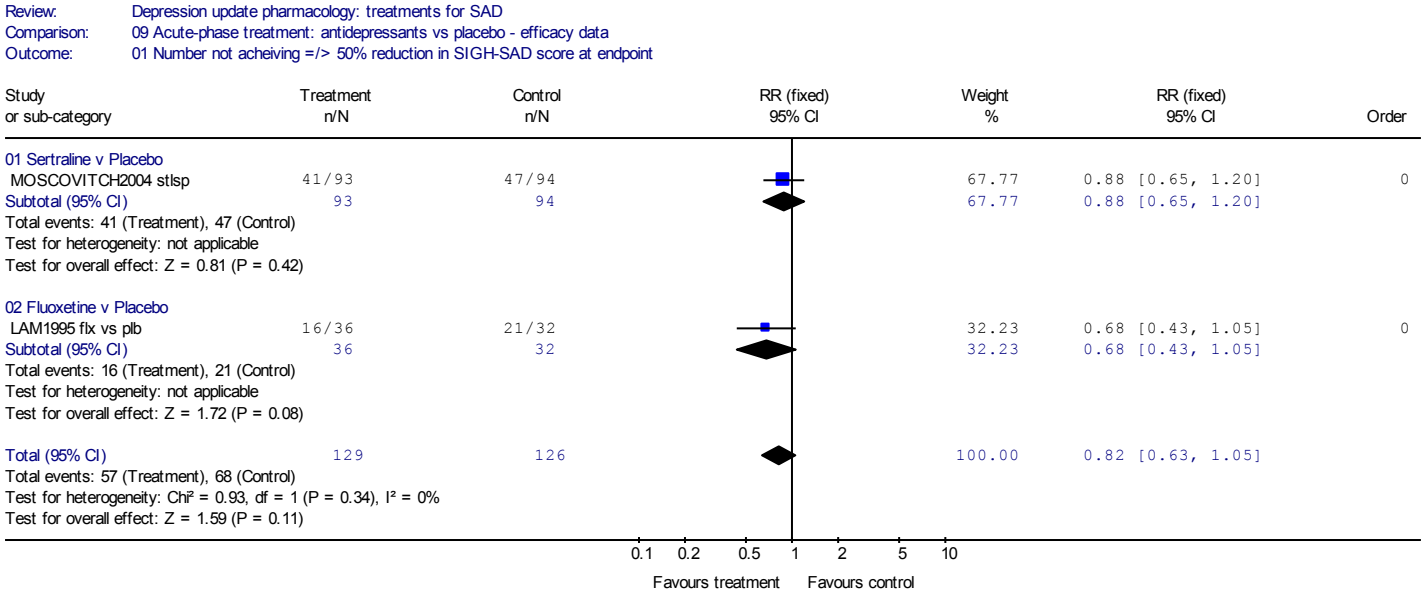


Number who relapsed during course of study (BDI>=13 for 2 consecutive weeks)



Acute-phase treatment – antidepressants versus placebo (efficacy data)

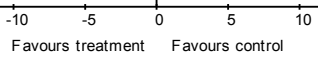
Non-response data (SIGH-SAD)



Mean endpoint depression scores (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 09 Acute-phase treatment: antidepressants vs placebo - efficacy data
Outcome: 02 Mean endpoint (clinician rated) (antidepressants) SIGH-SAD

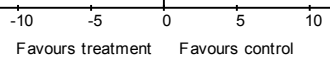
Study or sub-category	Treatment N	Treatment Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	SMD (random) 95% CI	Weight %	SMD (random) 95% CI	Order
01 Moclobemide vs Placebo								
LINGJAERDE93ml vs pl	16	24.00(14.00)	15	21.00(11.00)		38.79	0.23 [-0.48, 0.94]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	16		15			38.79	0.23 [-0.48, 0.94]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.64 (P = 0.52)								
02 Fluoxetine vs Placebo								
LAM1995 flx vs plb	36	15.10(10.50)	32	18.80(11.80)		61.21	-0.33 [-0.81, 0.15]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	36		32			61.21	-0.33 [-0.81, 0.15]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.34 (P = 0.18)								
Total (95% CI)	52		47			100.00	-0.11 [-0.65, 0.42]	
Test for heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.65, df = 1 (P = 0.20), I² = 39.4%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.41 (P = 0.68)								



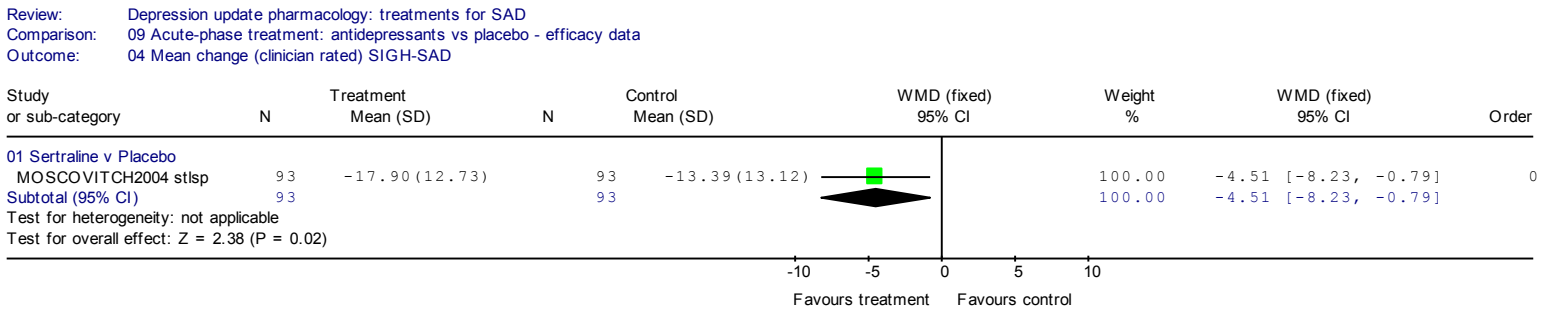
Mean endpoint depression scores (BDI) (self-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 09 Acute-phase treatment: antidepressants vs placebo - efficacy data
Outcome: 03 Mean endpoint (self rated) BDI

Study or sub-category	Treatment N	Treatment Mean (SD)	Control N	Control Mean (SD)	WMD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	WMD (fixed) 95% CI	Order
01 Fluoxetine vs Placebo								
LAM1995 flx vs plb	36	11.60(10.20)	32	13.30(10.10)		100.00	-1.70 [-6.53, 3.13]	0
Subtotal (95% CI)	36		32			100.00	-1.70 [-6.53, 3.13]	
Test for heterogeneity: not applicable								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.69 (P = 0.49)								

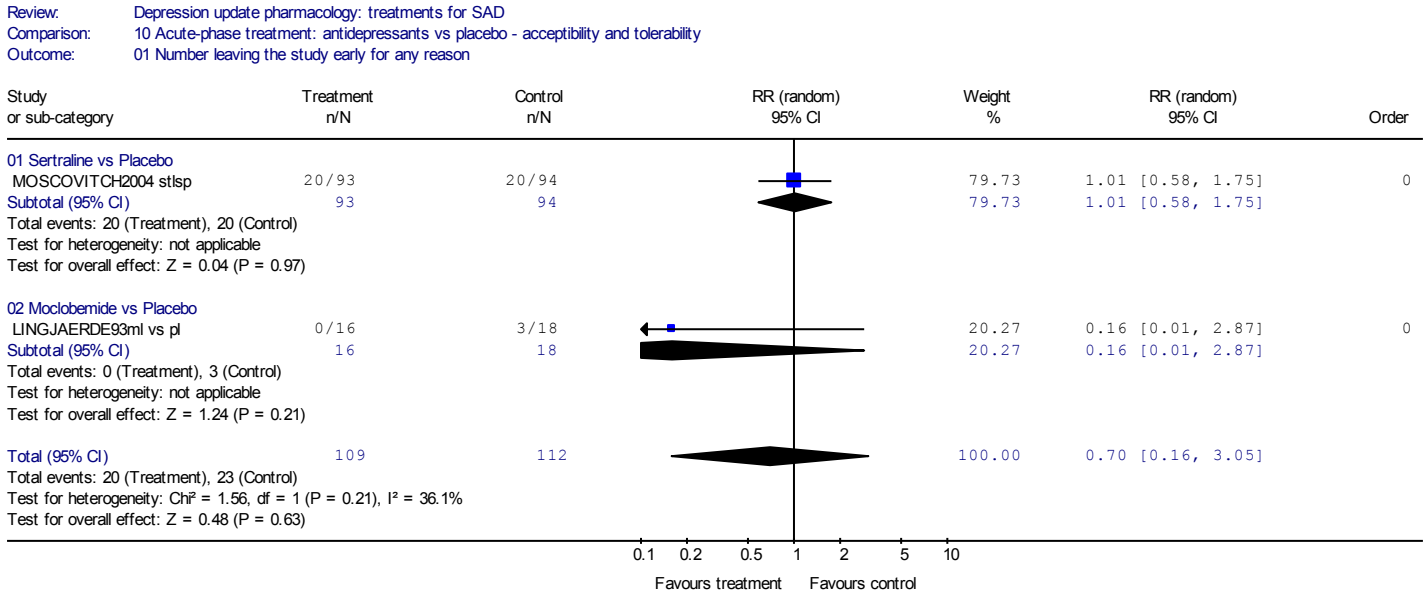


Mean change depression scores (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)



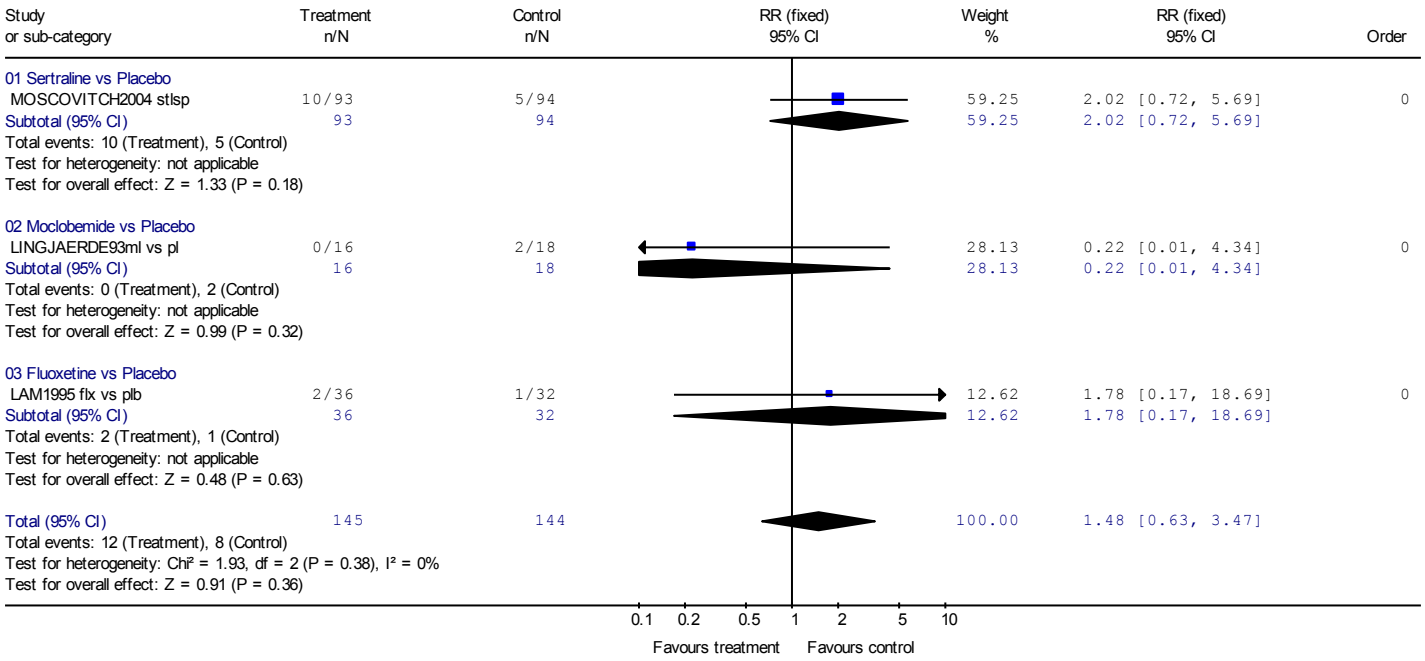
Acute-phase treatment – antidepressants versus placebo (acceptability and tolerability data)

Number leaving the study early for any reason



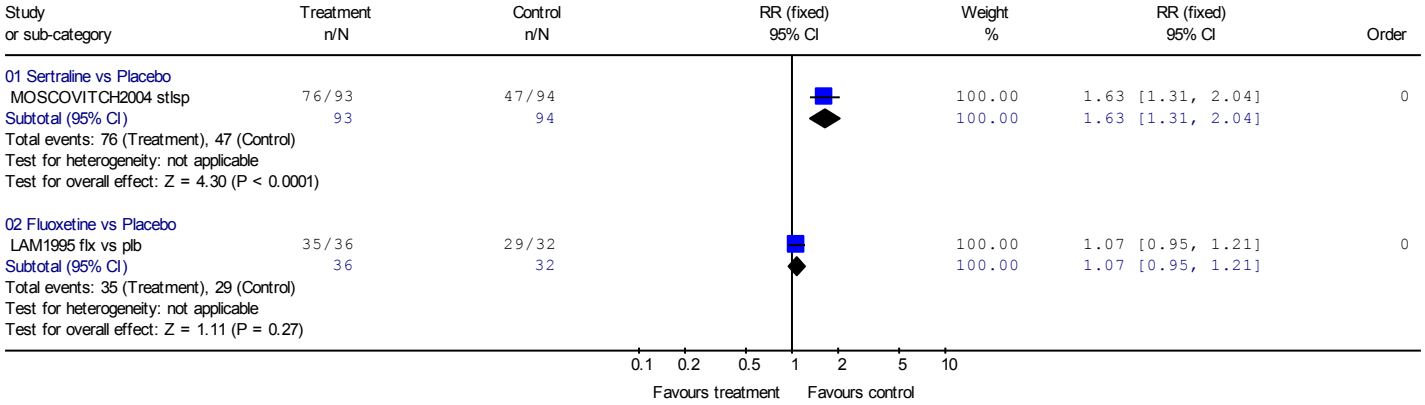
Number leaving the study early due to side effects

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 10 Acute-phase treatment: antidepressants vs placebo - acceptibility and tolerability
Outcome: 02 Number leaving the study early due to side effects



Number reporting side effects

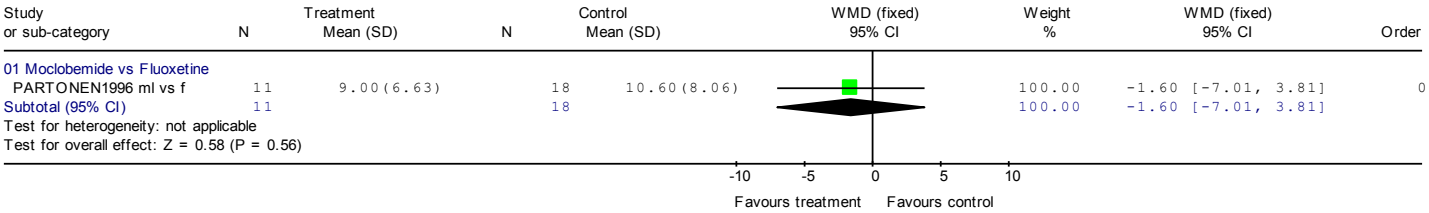
Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 10 Acute-phase treatment: antidepressants vs placebo - acceptibility and tolerability
Outcome: 03 Number reporting side effects



Acute-phase treatment – antidepressants versus active control (efficacy data)

Mean endpoint depression data (SIGH-SAD) (clinician-rated)

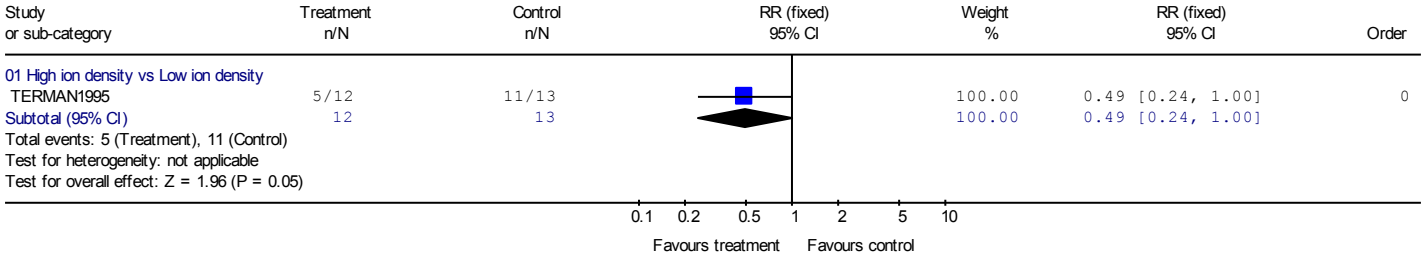
Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 11 Acute-phase treatment: antidepressants vs active control - efficacy data
Outcome: 01 Mean endpoint (clinician rated) SIGH-SAD



Overall efficacy (other interventions)

Non-response data (SIGH-SAD)

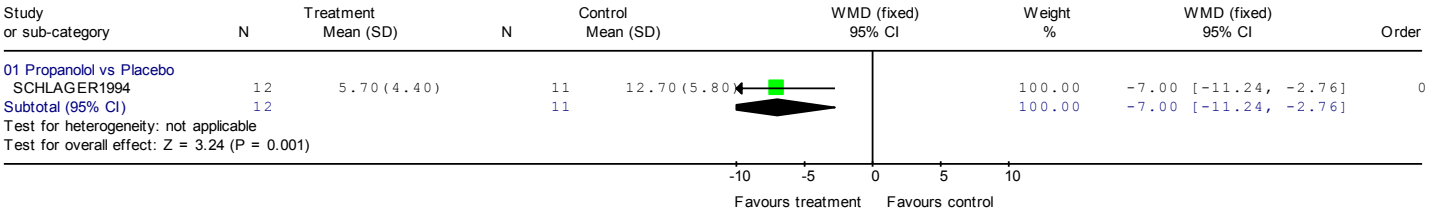
Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 12 Overall efficacy (other interventions)
Outcome: 01 Number not acheiving =/> 50% reduction in outcome score at endpoint SIGH-SAD



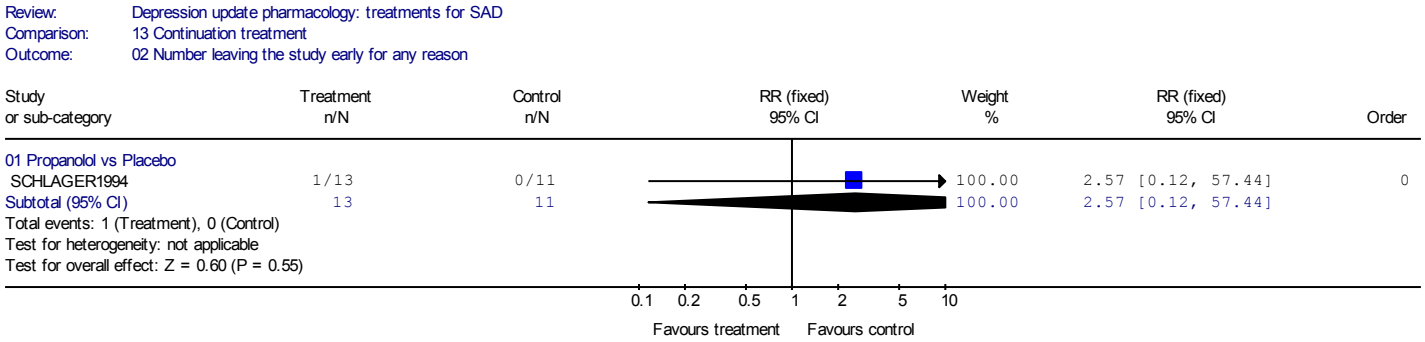
Continuation treatment

Mean endpoint depression scores (HAM-D21) (clinician-rated)

Review: Depression update pharmacology: treatments for SAD
Comparison: 13 Continuation treatment
Outcome: 01 Mean endpoint (clinician-rated) HAMD-21

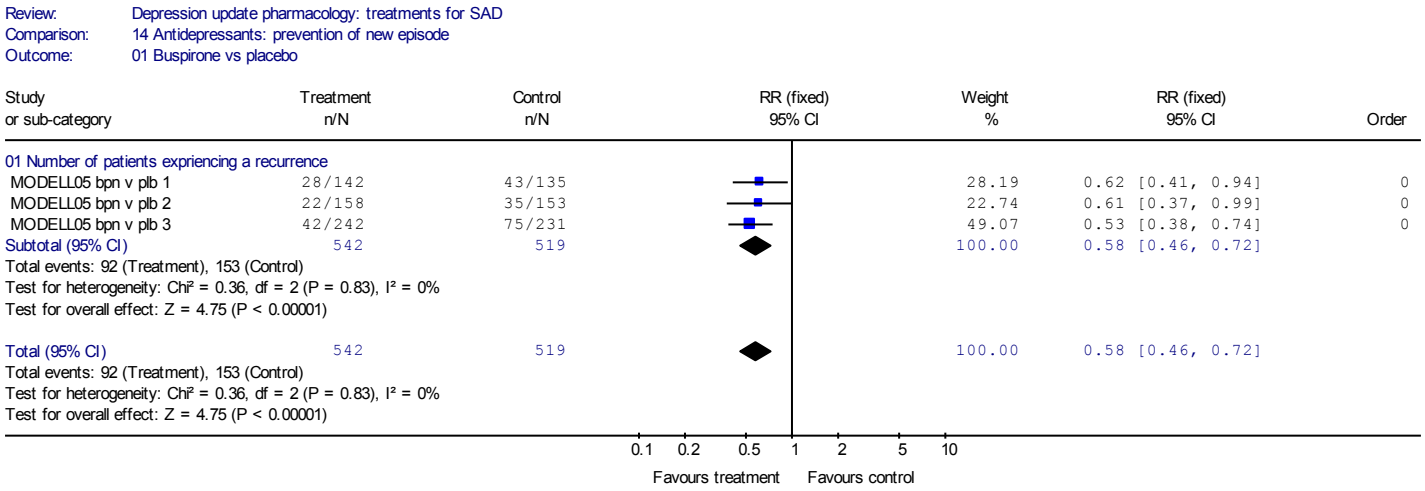


Number leaving the study early for any reason



Antidepressants – prevention of a new episode

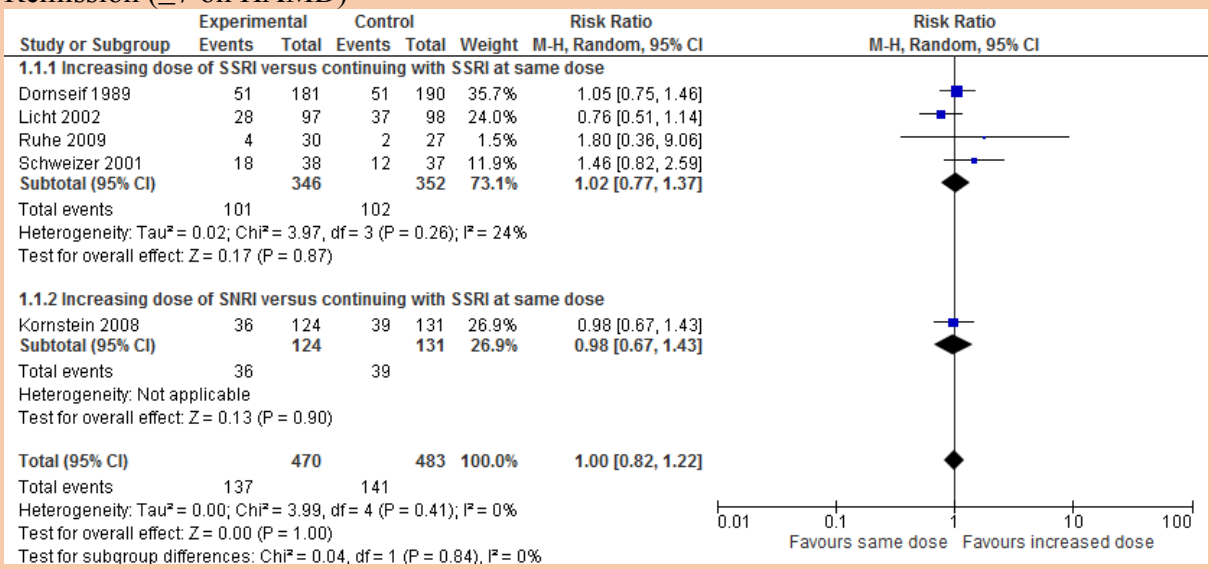
Number of patients experiencing a recurrence



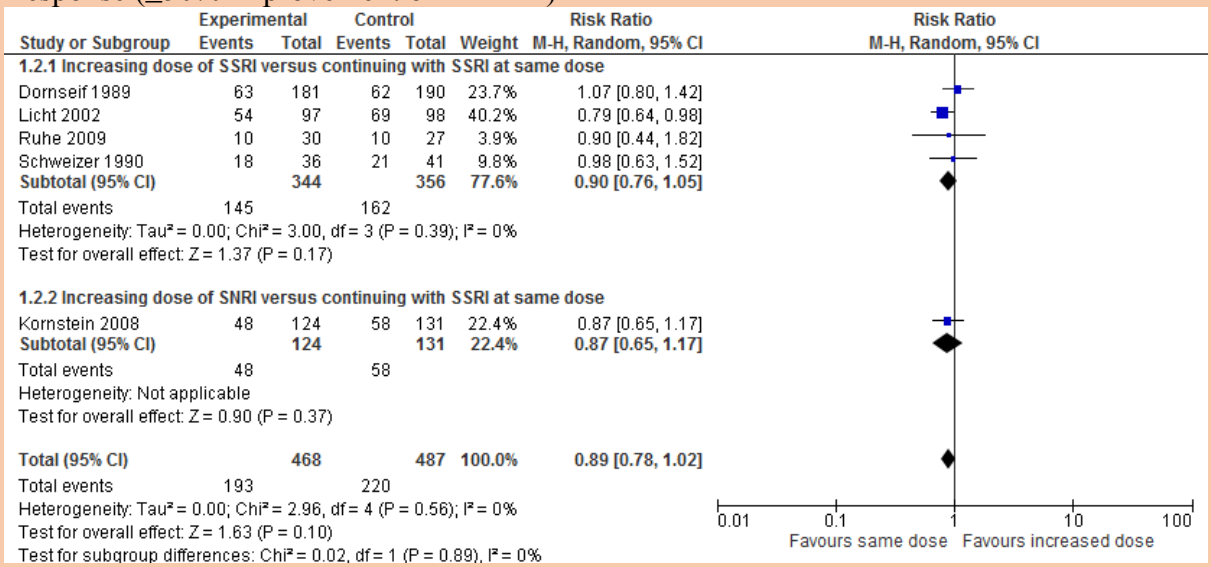
Further-line treatment (chapter 8)

Increasing the dose of antidepressant versus continuing with the antidepressant at the same dose

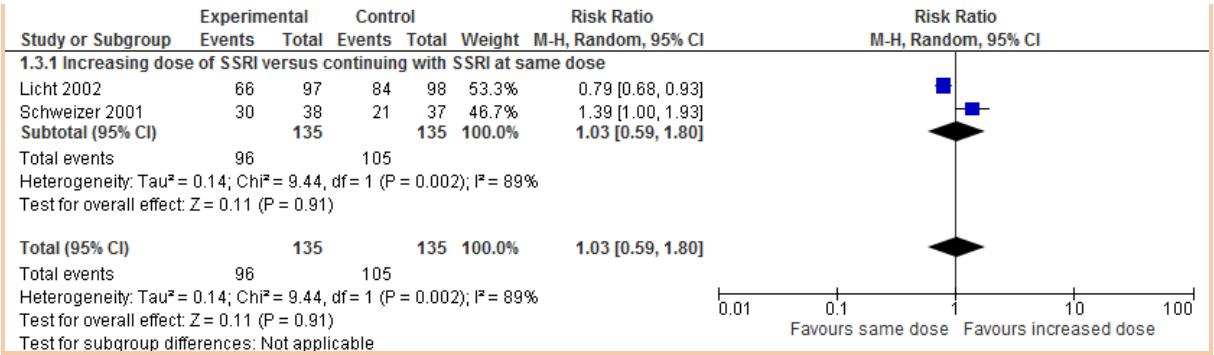
Remission (≤7 on HAMD)



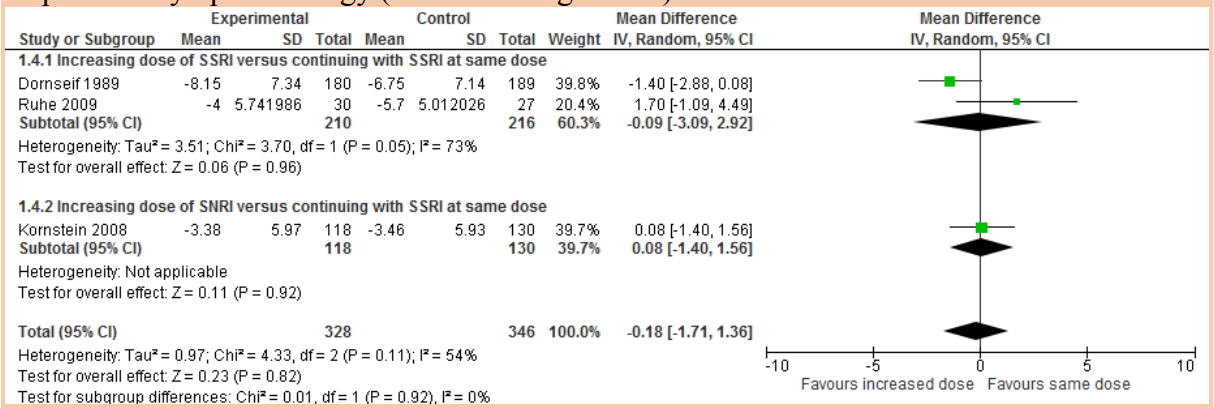
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD)



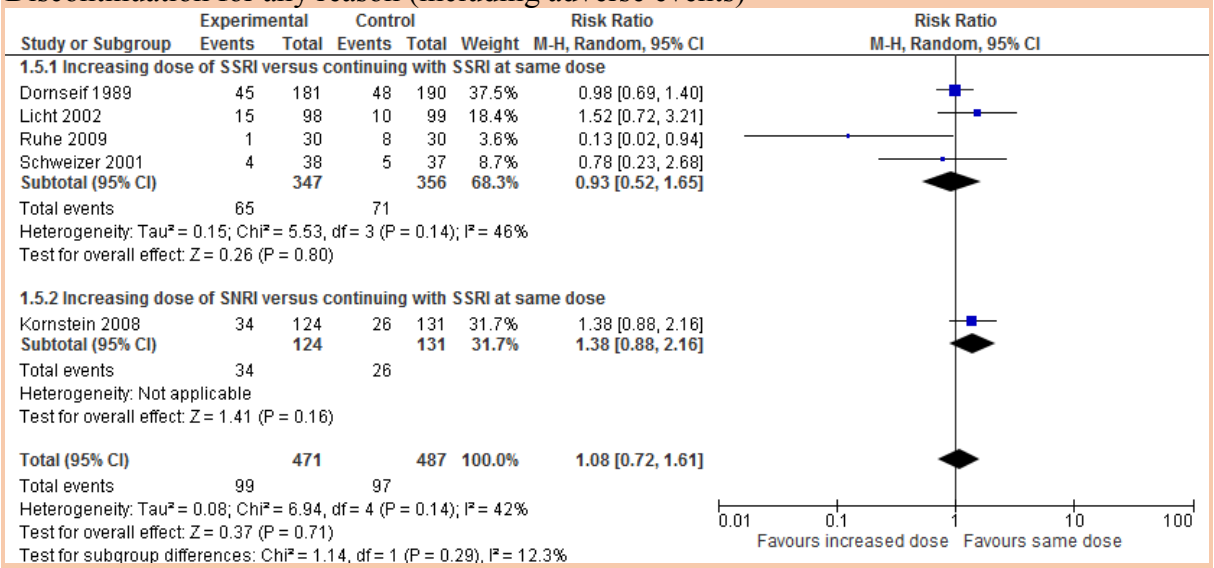
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



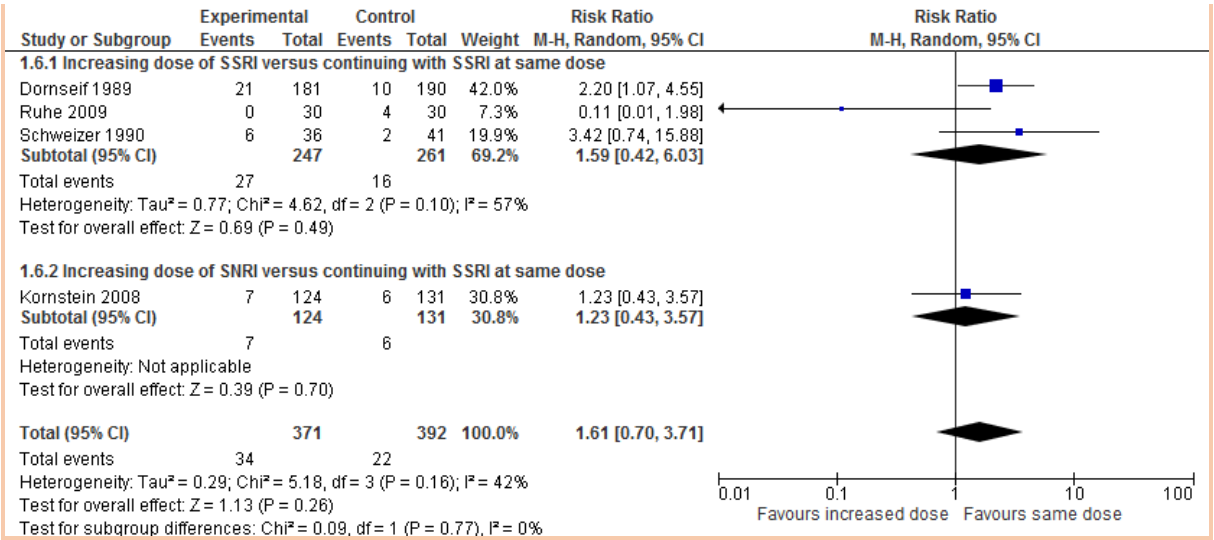
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

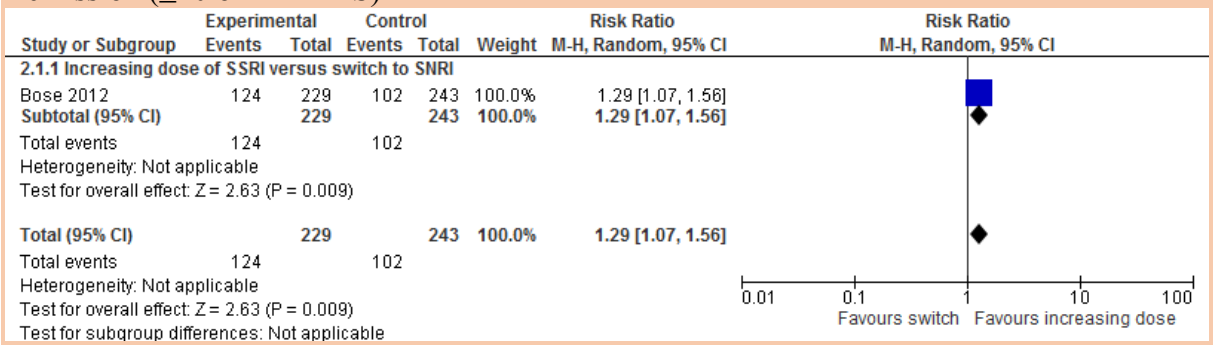


Discontinuation due to adverse events

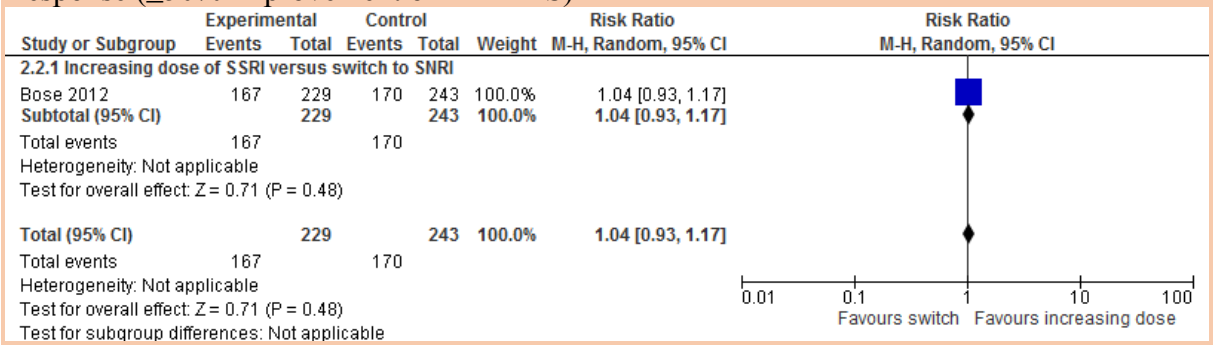


Increasing the dose of antidepressant versus switching to another antidepressant

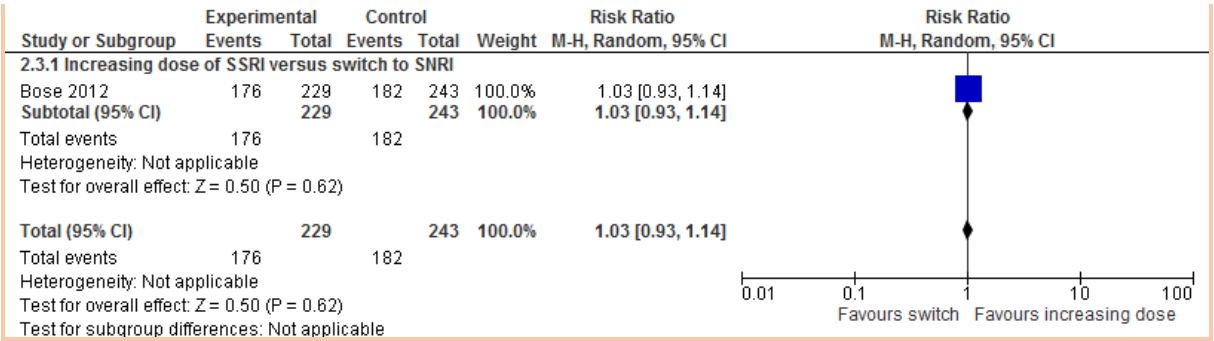
Remission (≤10 on MADRS)



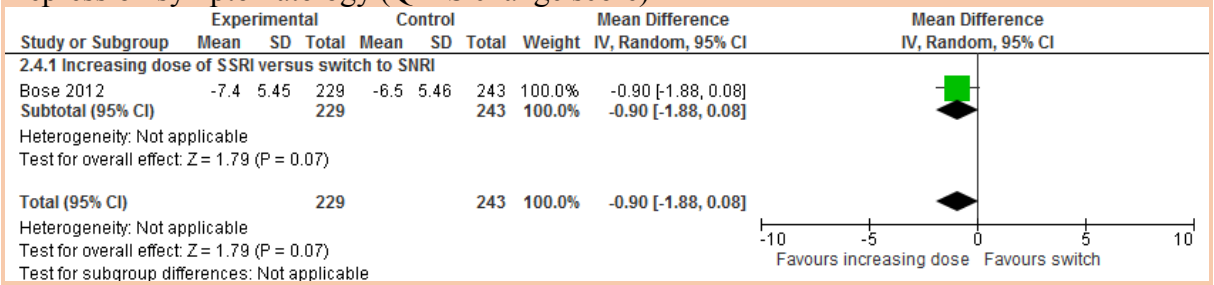
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS)



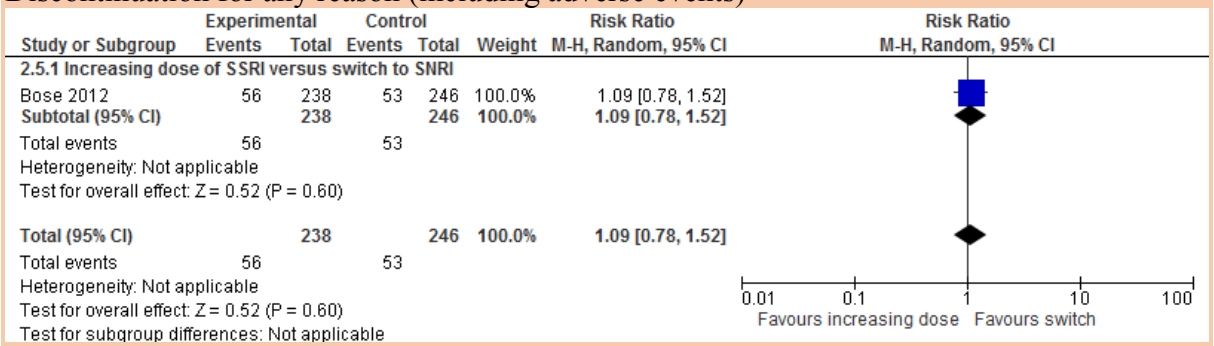
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



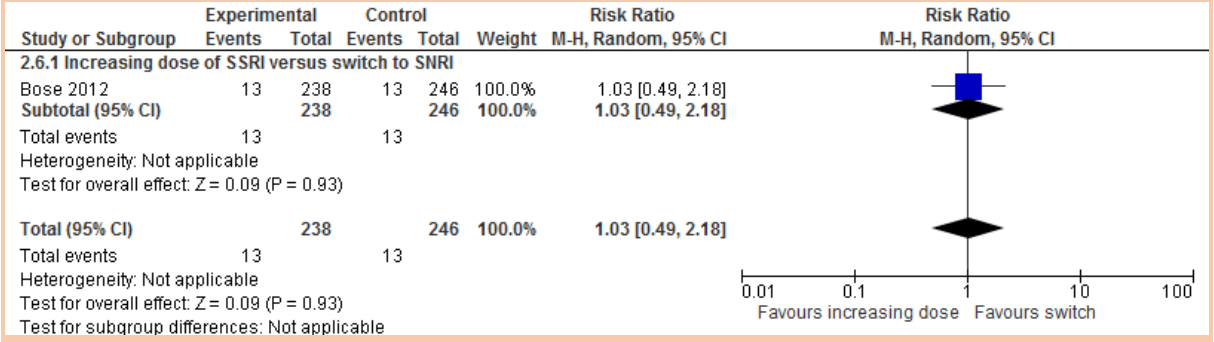
Depression symptomatology (QIDS change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

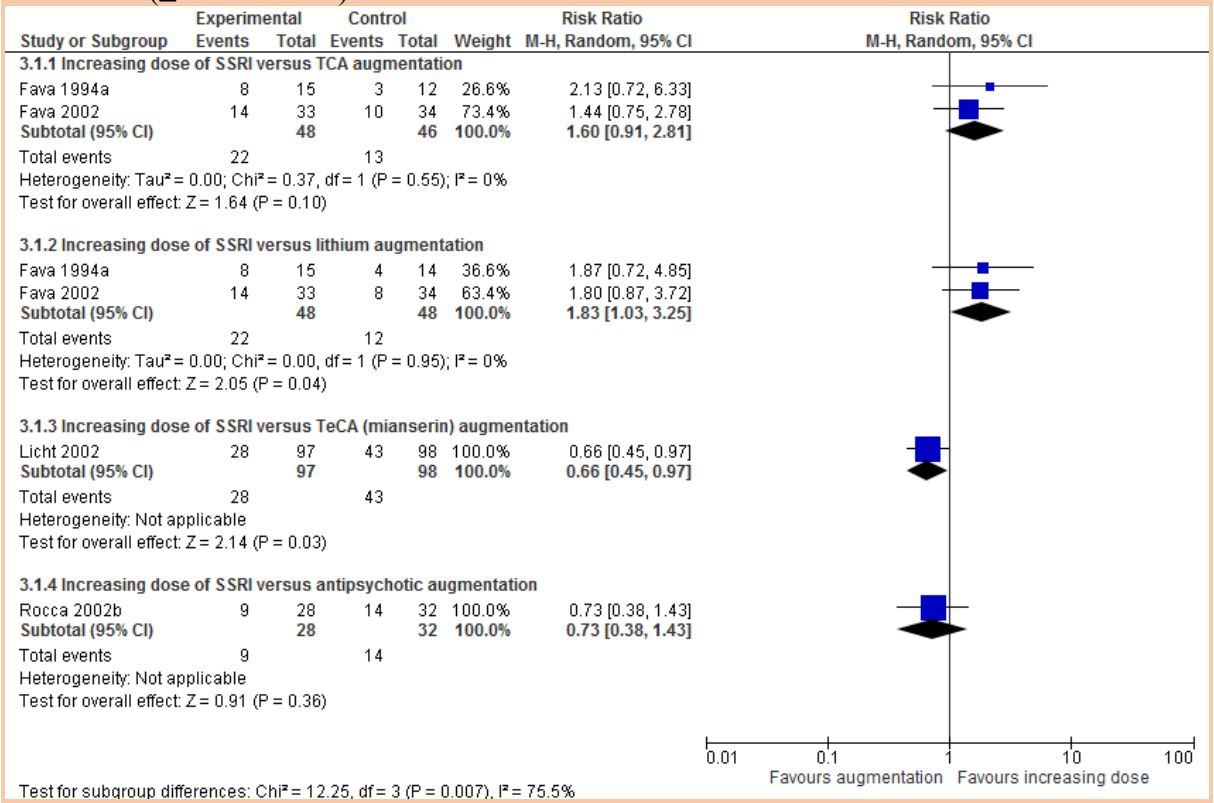


Discontinuation due to adverse events

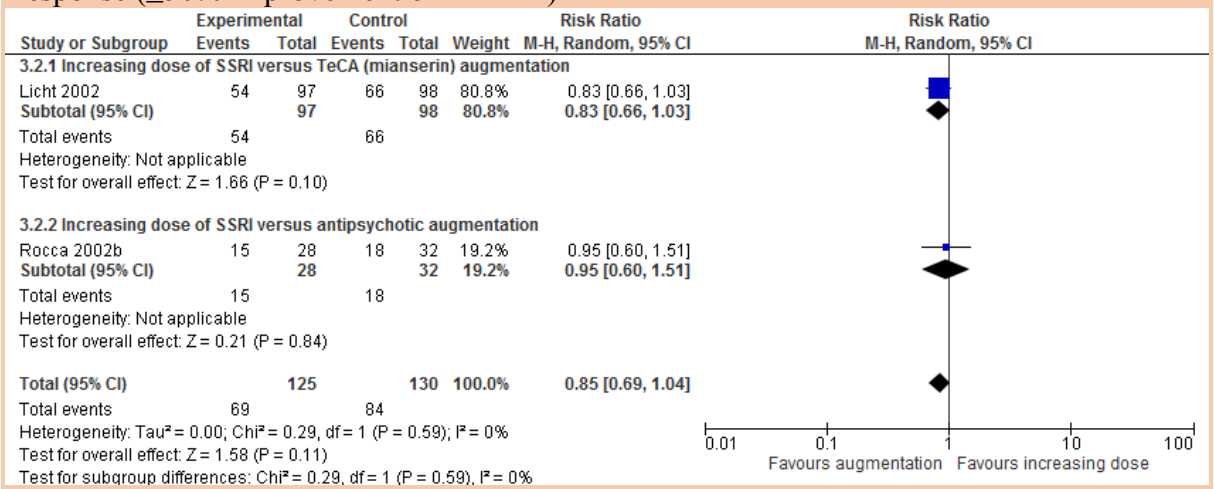


Increasing the dose of antidepressant versus augmenting with another antidepressant/non-antidepressant agent

Remission (≤7 on HAMD)

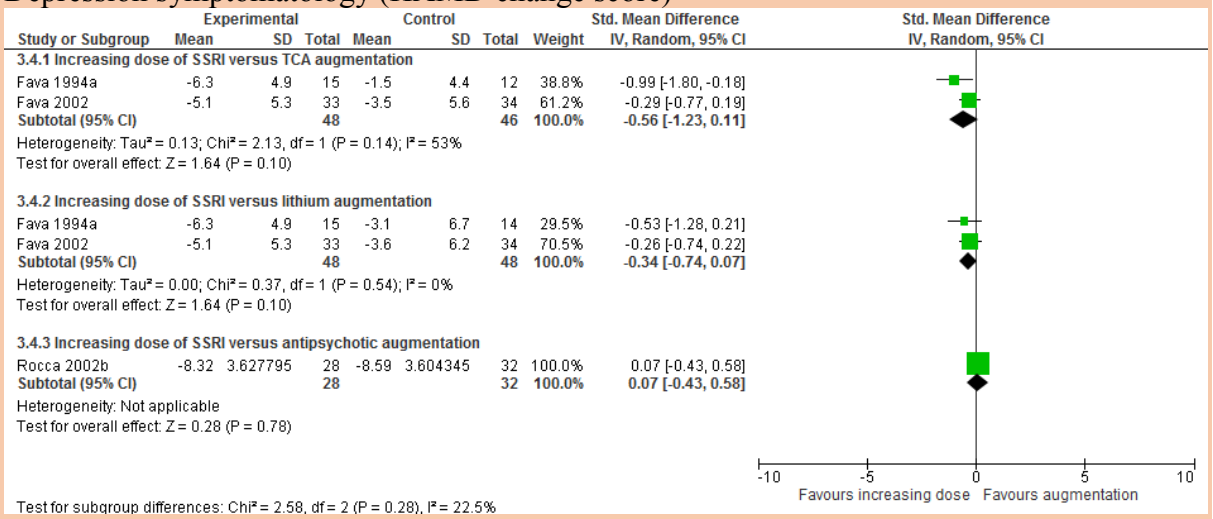


Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD)

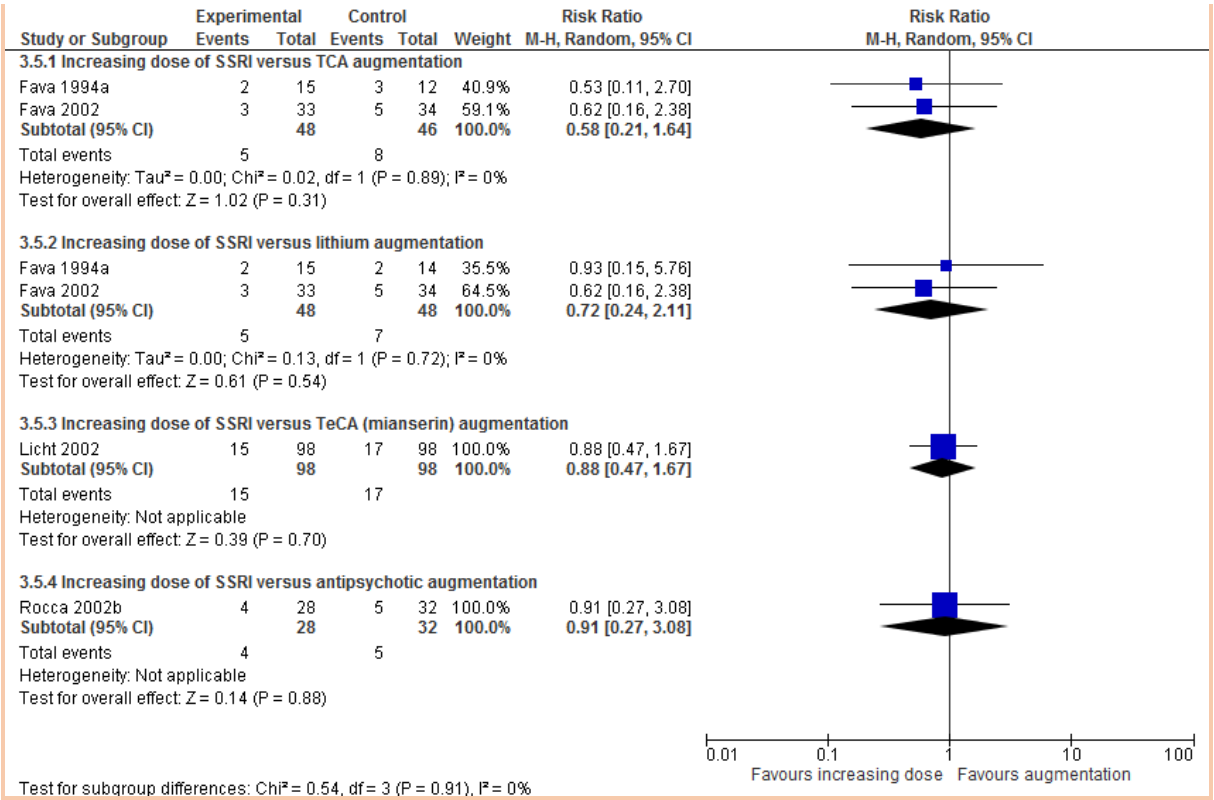


Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)

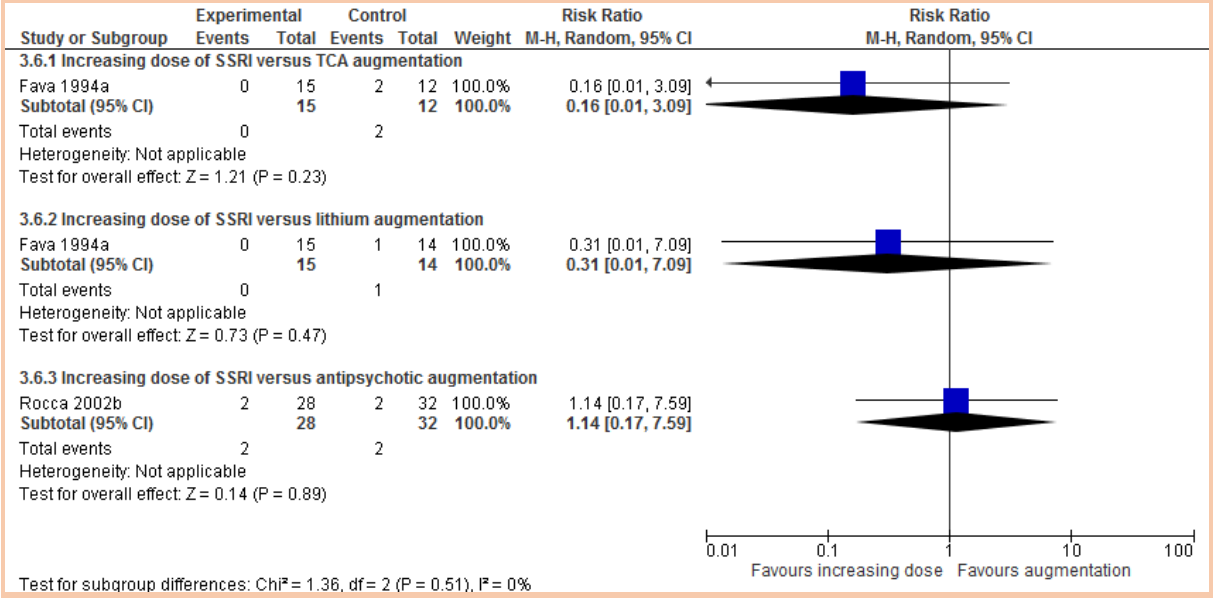
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

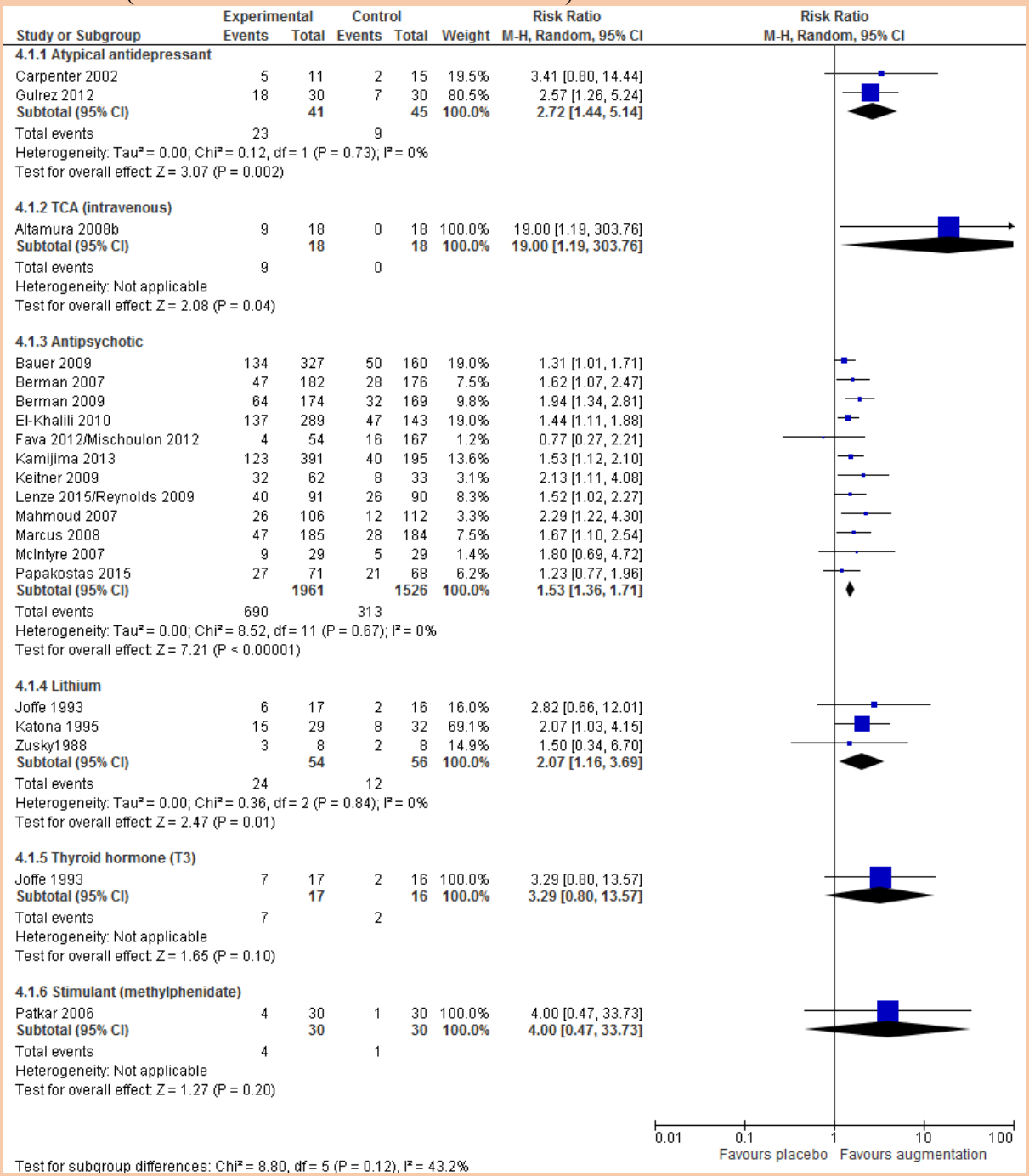


Discontinuation due to adverse events

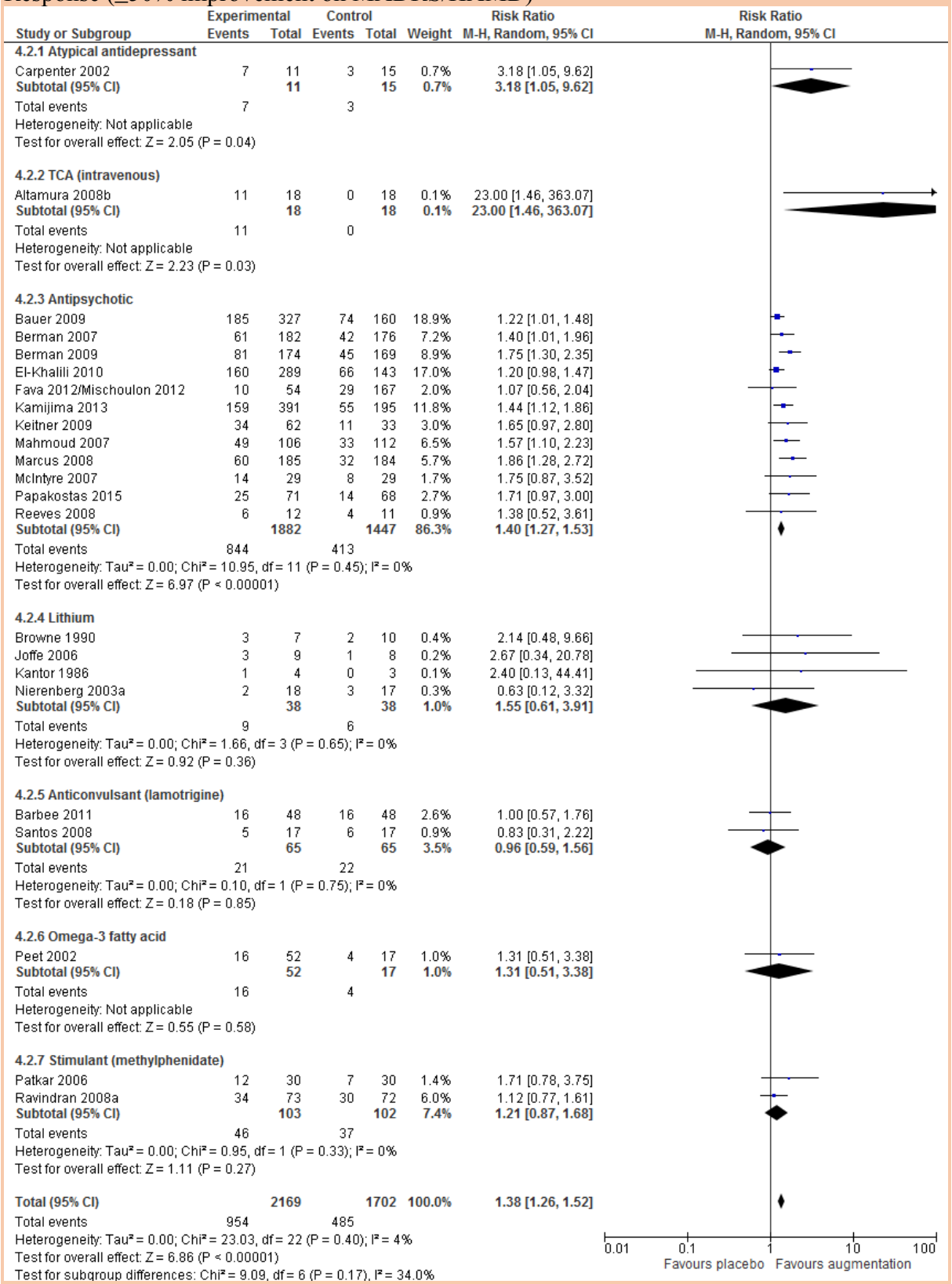


Augmenting the antidepressant with another antidepressant or a non-antidepressant agent versus placebo

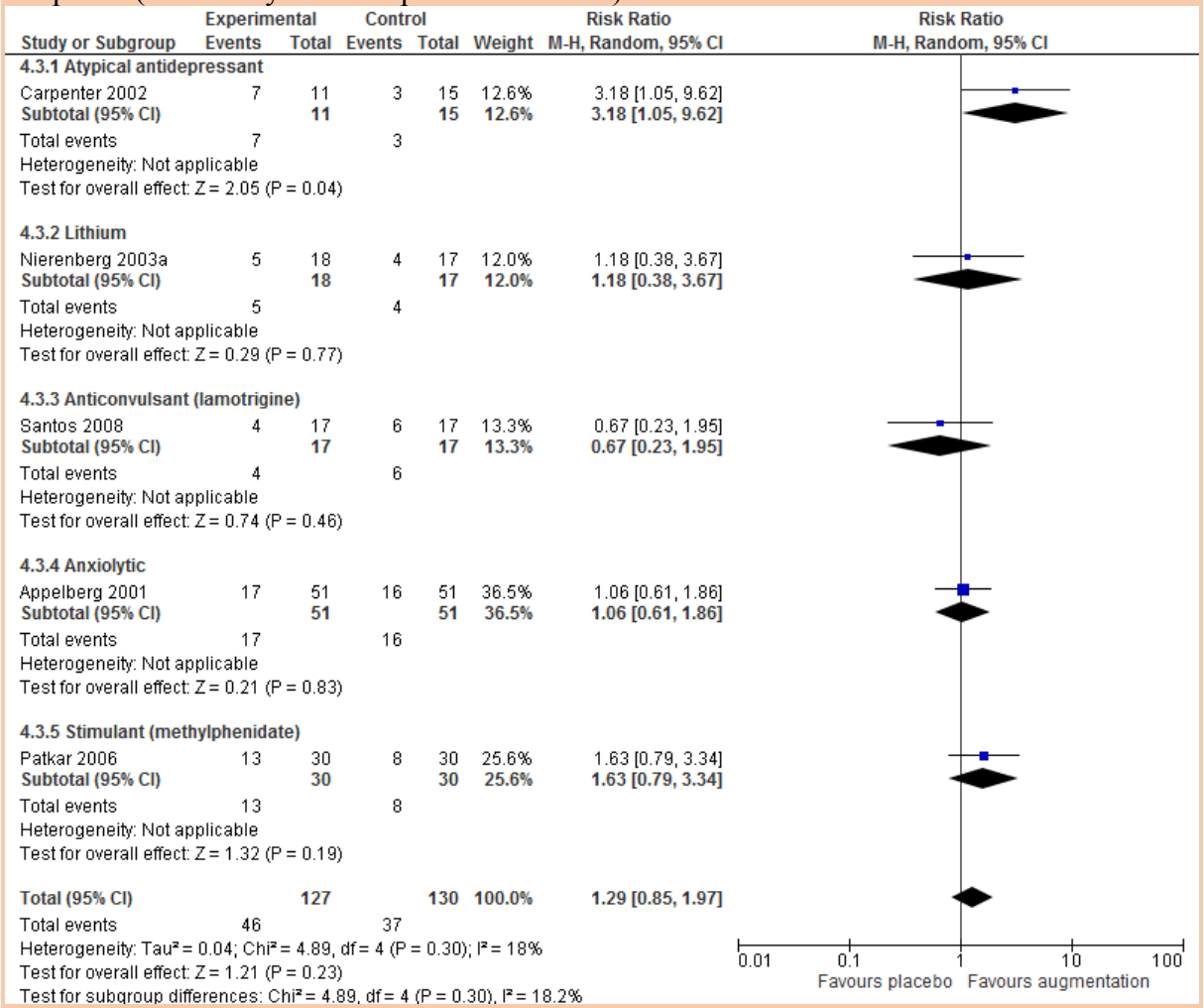
Remission (<10/11 on MADRS/<7/8/10 on HAMD)



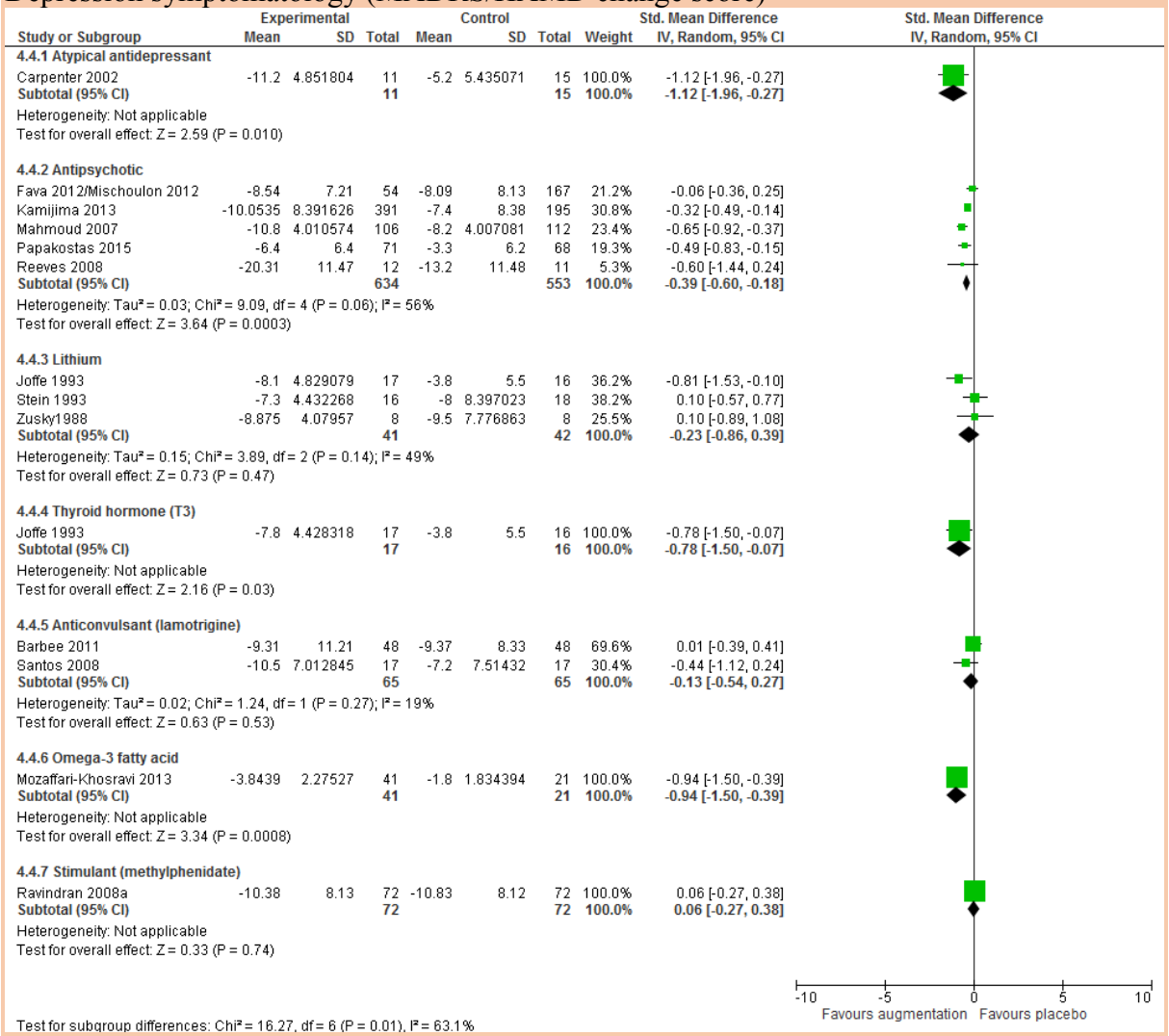
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS/HAMD)



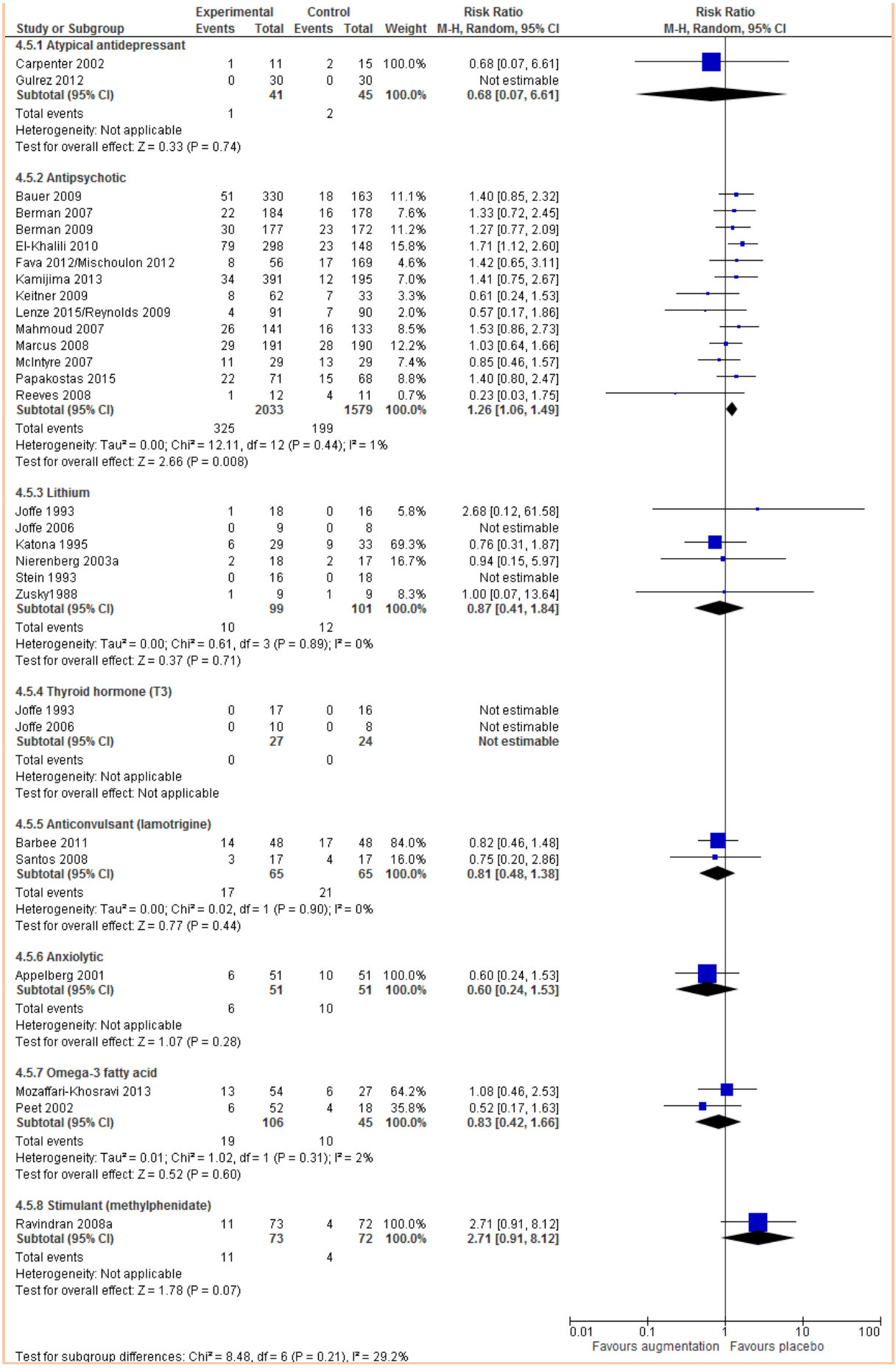
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



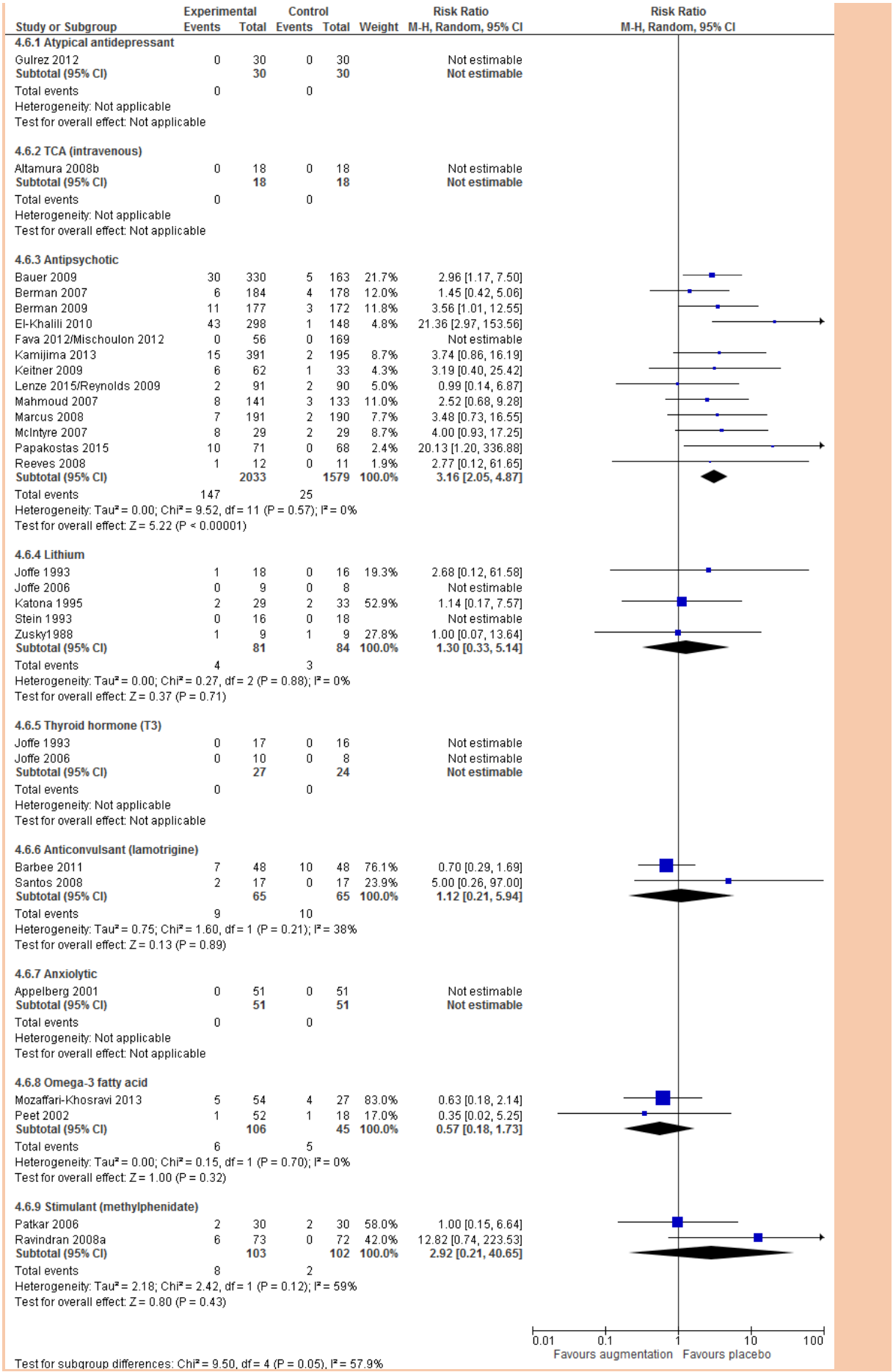
Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

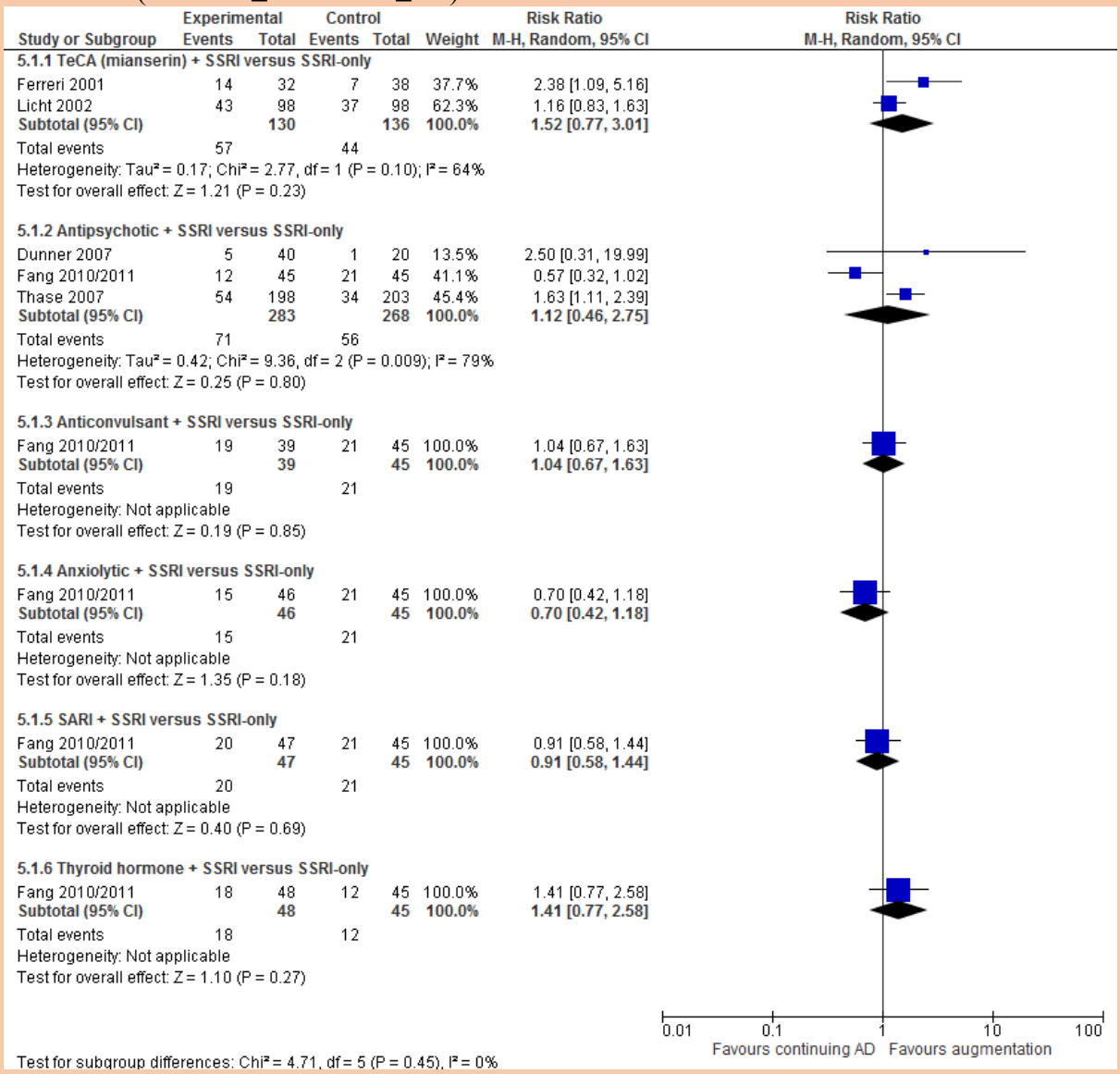

Experimental
Control
Risk Ratio
Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup Events Total Events Total Weight M-H, Random, 95% CI
M-H, Random, 95% CI
4.5.1 Atypical antidepressant
Carpenter 2002 1 11 2 15 100.0% 0.68 [0.07, 6.61]
Gulrez 2012 0 30 0 30 Not estimable
Subtotal (95% CI) 41 45 100.0% 0.68 [0.07, 6.61]
Total events 1 2
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.33 (P = 0.74)
4.5.2 Antipsychotic
Bauer 2009 51 330 18 163 11.1% 1.40 [0.85, 2.32]
Berman 2007 22 184 16 178 7.6% 1.33 [0.72, 2.45]
Berman 2009 30 177 23 172 11.2% 1.27 [0.77, 2.09]
El-Khalili 2010 79 298 23 148 15.8% 1.71 [1.12, 2.60]
Fava 2012/Mischoulon 2012 8 56 17 169 4.6% 1.42 [0.65, 3.11]
Kamijima 2013 34 391 12 195 7.0% 1.41 [0.75, 2.67]
Keitner 2009 8 62 7 33 3.3% 0.61 [0.24, 1.53]
Lenze 2015/Reynolds 2009 4 91 7 90 2.0% 0.57 [0.17, 1.86]
Mahmoud 2007 26 141 16 133 8.5% 1.53 [0.86, 2.73]
Marcus 2008 29 191 28 190 12.2% 1.03 [0.64, 1.66]
McIntyre 2007 11 29 13 29 7.4% 0.85 [0.46, 1.57]
Papakostas 2015 22 71 15 68 8.8% 1.40 [0.80, 2.47]
Reeves 2008 1 12 4 11 0.7% 0.23 [0.03, 1.75]
Subtotal (95% CI) 2033 1579 100.0% 1.26 [1.06, 1.49]
Total events 325 199
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 12.11, df = 12 (P = 0.44); I² = 1%
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.66 (P = 0.008)
4.5.3 Lithium
Joffe 1993 1 18 0 16 5.8% 2.68 [0.12, 61.58]
Joffe 2006 0 9 0 8 Not estimable
Katona 1995 6 29 9 33 69.3% 0.76 [0.31, 1.87]
Nierenberg 2003a 2 18 2 17 16.7% 0.94 [0.15, 5.97]
Stein 1993 0 16 0 18 Not estimable
Zusky1988 1 9 1 9 8.3% 1.00 [0.07, 13.64]
Subtotal (95% CI) 99 101 100.0% 0.87 [0.41, 1.84]
Total events 10 12
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.61, df = 3 (P = 0.89); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.37 (P = 0.71)
4.5.4 Thyroid hormone (T3)
Joffe 1993 0 17 0 16 Not estimable
Joffe 2006 0 10 0 8 Not estimable
Subtotal (95% CI) 27 24 Not estimable
Total events 0 0
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Not applicable
4.5.5 Anticonvulsant (lamotrigine)
Barbee 2011 14 48 17 48 84.0% 0.82 [0.46, 1.48]
Santos 2008 3 17 4 17 16.0% 0.75 [0.20, 2.86]
Subtotal (95% CI) 65 65 100.0% 0.81 [0.48, 1.38]
Total events 17 21
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.02, df = 1 (P = 0.90); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.77 (P = 0.44)
4.5.6 Anxiolytic
Appelberg 2001 6 51 10 51 100.0% 0.60 [0.24, 1.53]
Subtotal (95% CI) 51 51 100.0% 0.60 [0.24, 1.53]
Total events 6 10
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.07 (P = 0.28)
4.5.7 Omega-3 fatty acid
Mozaffari-Khosravi 2013 13 54 6 27 64.2% 1.08 [0.46, 2.53]
Peet 2002 6 52 4 18 35.8% 0.52 [0.17, 1.63]
Subtotal (95% CI) 106 45 100.0% 0.83 [0.42, 1.66]
Total events 19 10
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.01; Chi² = 1.02, df = 1 (P = 0.31); I² = 2%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.52 (P = 0.60)
4.5.8 Stimulant (methylphenidate)
Ravindran 2008a 11 73 4 72 100.0% 2.71 [0.91, 8.12]
Subtotal (95% CI) 73 72 100.0% 2.71 [0.91, 8.12]
Total events 11 4
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.78 (P = 0.07)
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 8.48, df = 6 (P = 0.21), I² = 29.2%
0.01
0.1
1
10
100
Favours augmentation
Favours placebo

Discontinuation due to adverse events

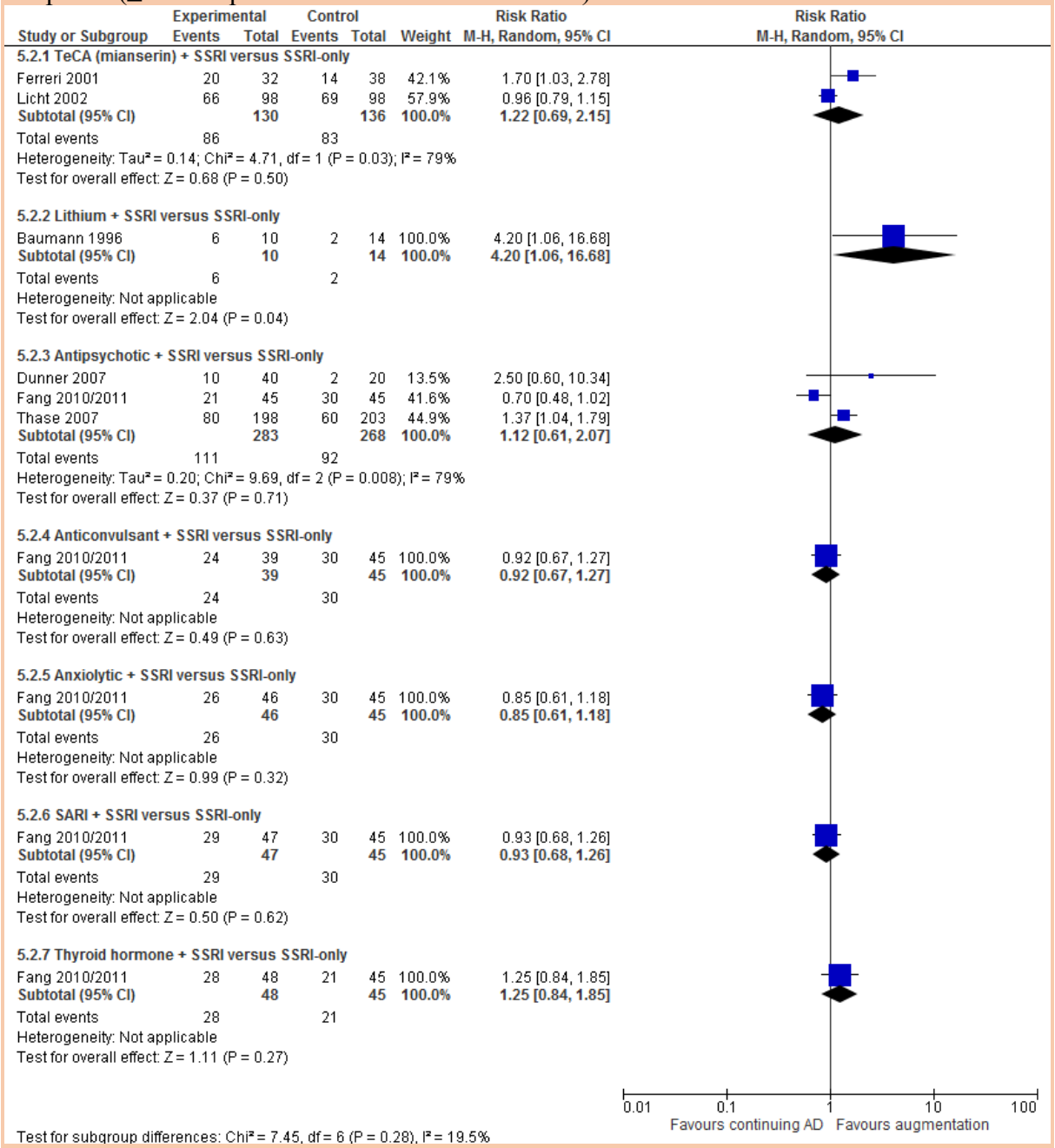

Experimental
Control
Risk Ratio
Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup Events Total Events Total Weight M-H, Random, 95% CI
M-H, Random, 95% CI
4.6.1 Atypical antidepressant
Gulrez 2012 0 30 0 30 Not estimable
Subtotal (95% CI) 30 30 Not estimable
Total events 0 0
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Not applicable
4.6.2 TCA (intravenous)
Altamura 2008b 0 18 0 18 Not estimable
Subtotal (95% CI) 18 18 Not estimable
Total events 0 0
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Not applicable
4.6.3 Antipsychotic
Bauer 2009 30 330 5 163 21.7% 2.96 [1.17, 7.50]
Berman 2007 6 184 4 178 12.0% 1.45 [0.42, 5.06]
Berman 2009 11 177 3 172 11.8% 3.56 [1.01, 12.55]
El-Khalili 2010 43 298 1 148 4.8% 21.36 [2.97, 153.56]
Fava 2012/Mischoulon 2012 0 56 0 169 Not estimable
Kamijima 2013 15 391 2 195 8.7% 3.74 [0.86, 16.19]
Keitner 2009 6 62 1 33 4.3% 3.19 [0.40, 25.42]
Lenze 2015/Reynolds 2009 2 91 2 90 5.0% 0.99 [0.14, 6.87]
Mahmoud 2007 8 141 3 133 11.0% 2.52 [0.68, 9.28]
Marcus 2008 7 191 2 190 7.7% 3.48 [0.73, 16.55]
McIntyre 2007 8 29 2 29 8.7% 4.00 [0.93, 17.25]
Papakostas 2015 10 71 0 68 2.4% 20.13 [1.20, 336.88]
Reeves 2008 1 12 0 11 1.9% 2.77 [0.12, 61.65]
Subtotal (95% CI) 2033 1579 100.0% 3.16 [2.05, 4.87]
Total events 147 25
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 9.52, df = 11 (P = 0.57); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.22 (P < 0.00001)
4.6.4 Lithium
Joffe 1993 1 18 0 16 19.3% 2.68 [0.12, 61.58]
Joffe 2006 0 9 0 8 Not estimable
Katona 1995 2 29 2 33 52.9% 1.14 [0.17, 7.57]
Stein 1993 0 16 0 18 Not estimable
Zusky1988 1 9 1 9 27.8% 1.00 [0.07, 13.64]
Subtotal (95% CI) 81 84 100.0% 1.30 [0.33, 5.14]
Total events 4 3
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.27, df = 2 (P = 0.88); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.37 (P = 0.71)
4.6.5 Thyroid hormone (T3)
Joffe 1993 0 17 0 16 Not estimable
Joffe 2006 0 10 0 8 Not estimable
Subtotal (95% CI) 27 24 Not estimable
Total events 0 0
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Not applicable
4.6.6 Anticonvulsant (lamotrigine)
Barbee 2011 7 48 10 48 76.1% 0.70 [0.29, 1.69]
Santos 2008 2 17 0 17 23.9% 5.00 [0.26, 97.00]
Subtotal (95% CI) 65 65 100.0% 1.12 [0.21, 5.94]
Total events 9 10
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.75; Chi² = 1.60, df = 1 (P = 0.21); I² = 38%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.13 (P = 0.89)
4.6.7 Anxiolytic
Appelberg 2001 0 51 0 51 Not estimable
Subtotal (95% CI) 51 51 Not estimable
Total events 0 0
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Not applicable
4.6.8 Omega-3 fatty acid
Mozaffari-Khosravi 2013 5 54 4 27 83.0% 0.63 [0.18, 2.14]
Peet 2002 1 52 1 18 17.0% 0.35 [0.02, 5.25]
Subtotal (95% CI) 106 45 100.0% 0.57 [0.18, 1.73]
Total events 6 5
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.15, df = 1 (P = 0.70); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.00 (P = 0.32)
4.6.9 Stimulant (methylphenidate)
Patkar 2006 2 30 2 30 58.0% 1.00 [0.15, 6.64]
Ravindran 2008a 6 73 0 72 42.0% 12.82 [0.74, 223.53]
Subtotal (95% CI) 103 102 100.0% 2.92 [0.21, 40.65]
Total events 8 2
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 2.18; Chi² = 2.42, df = 1 (P = 0.12); I² = 59%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.80 (P = 0.43)
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 9.50, df = 4 (P = 0.05), I² = 57.9%
0.01
0.1
1
10
100
Favours augmentation
Favours placebo

Augmenting the antidepressant with another antidepressant/non-antidepressant agent versus continuing with the antidepressant-only

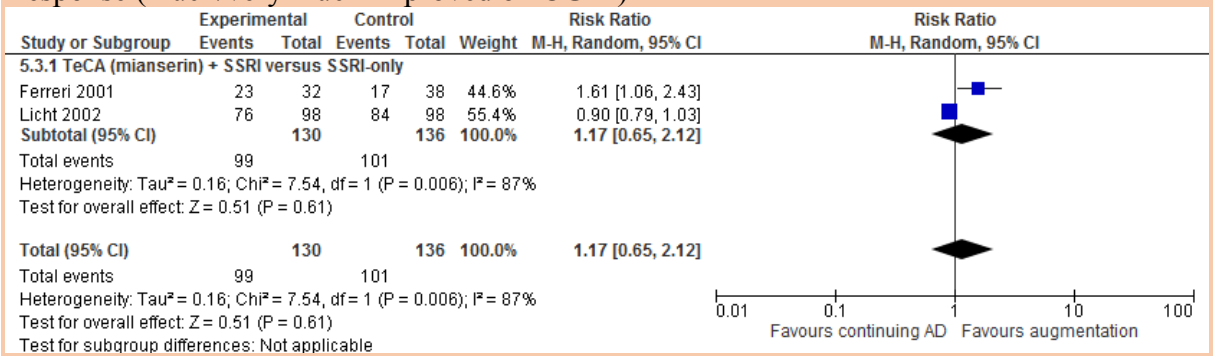
Remission (MADRS≤10/HAMD≤7/8)



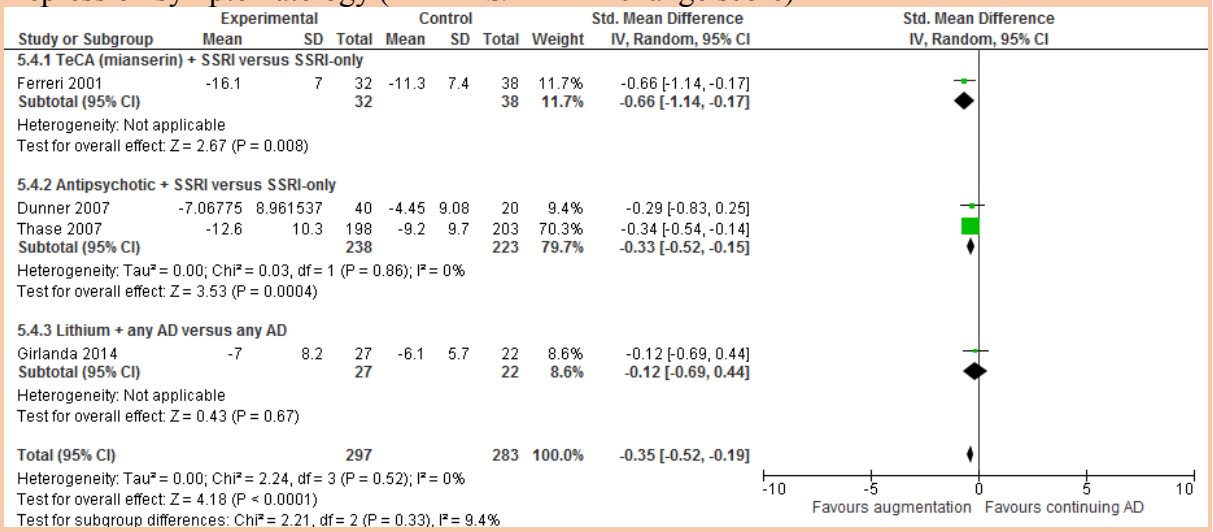
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS/HAMD)



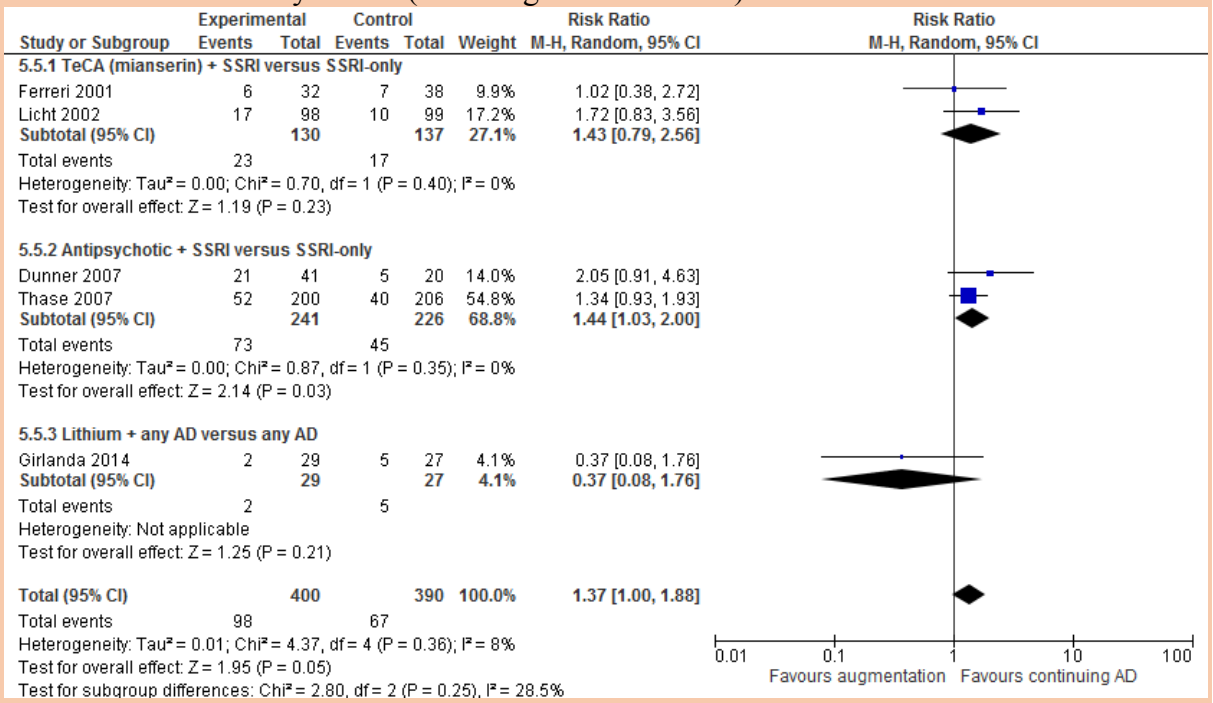
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



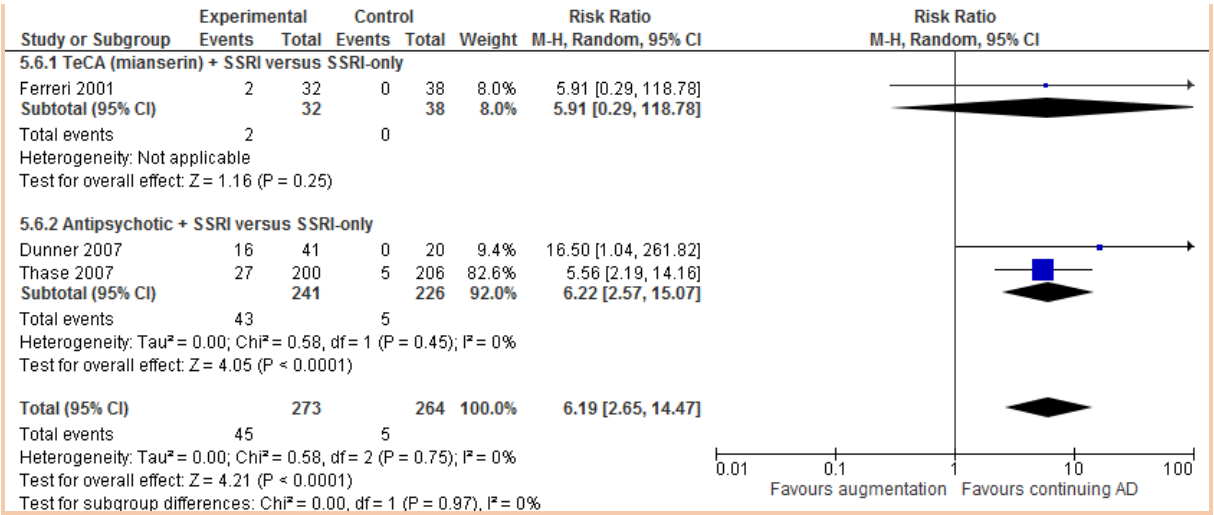
Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

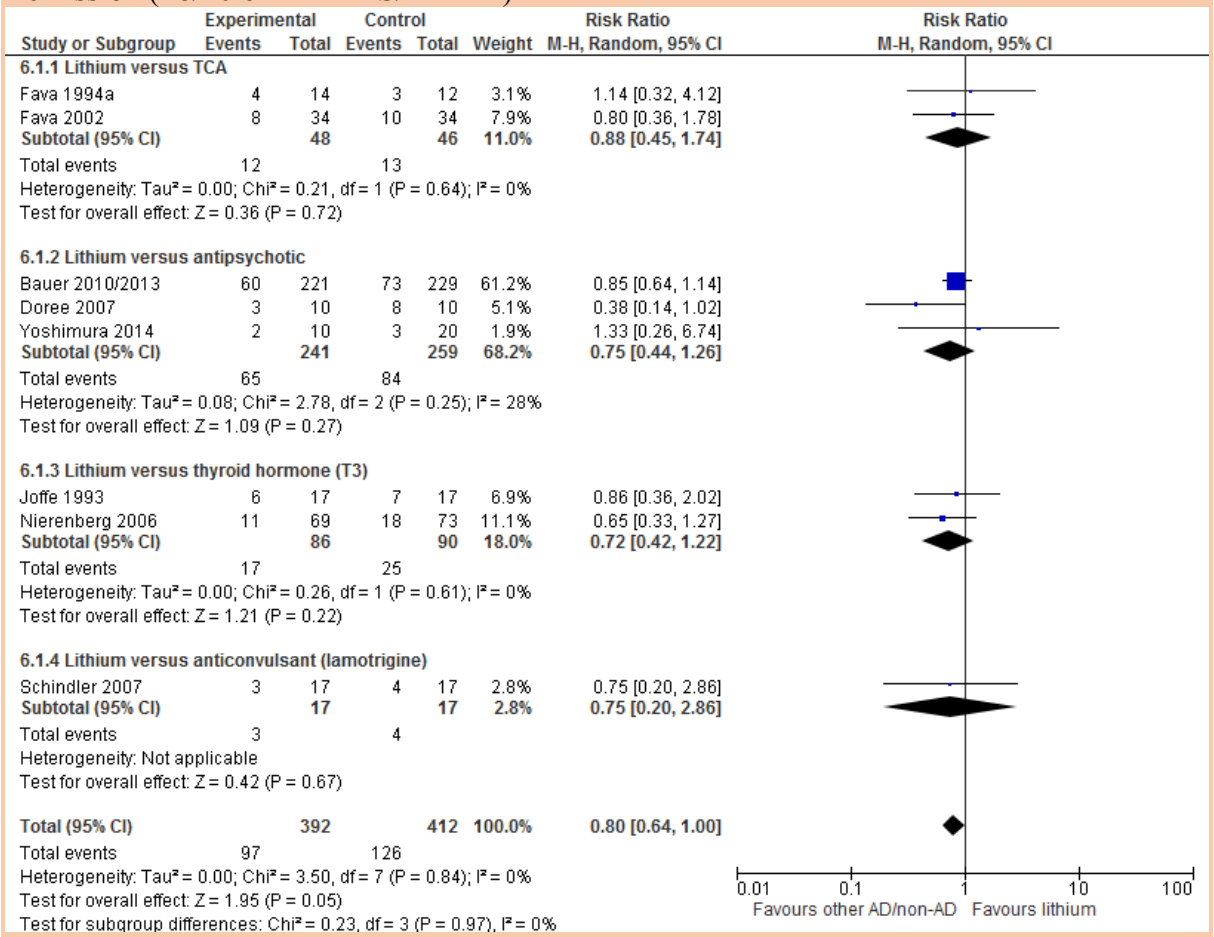


Discontinuation due to adverse events

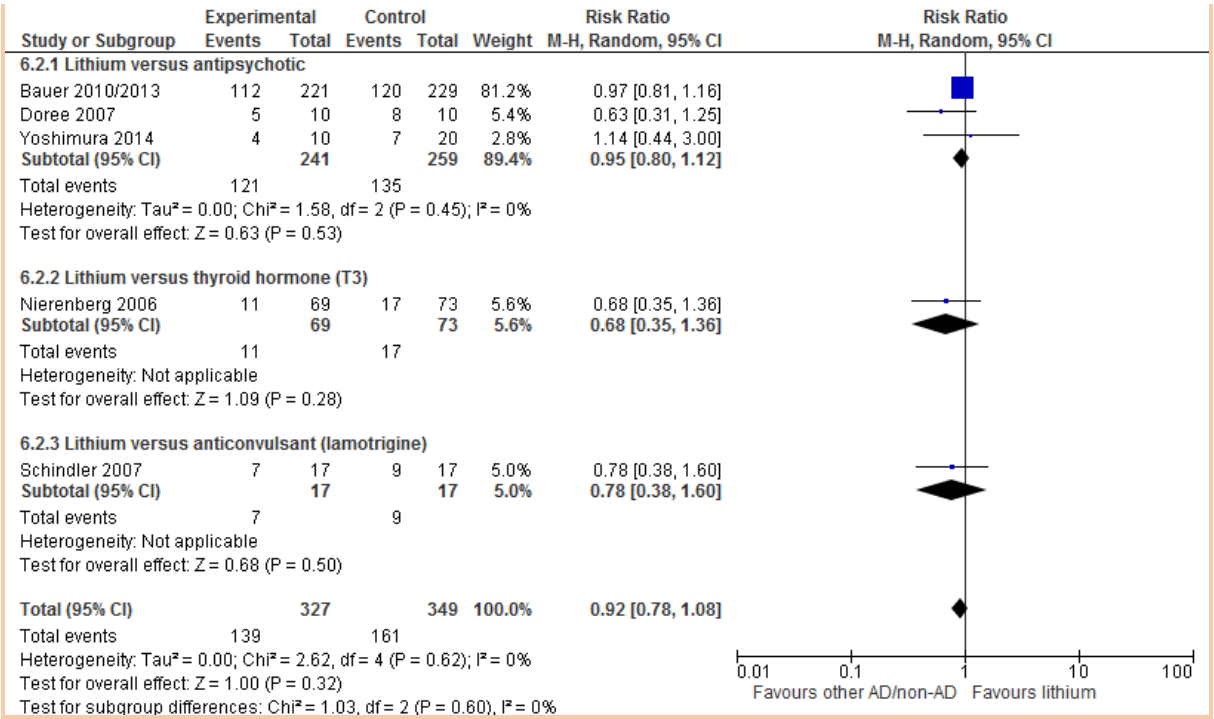


Augmenting the antidepressant with lithium compared to 'other' augmentation agents (head-to-head comparisons)

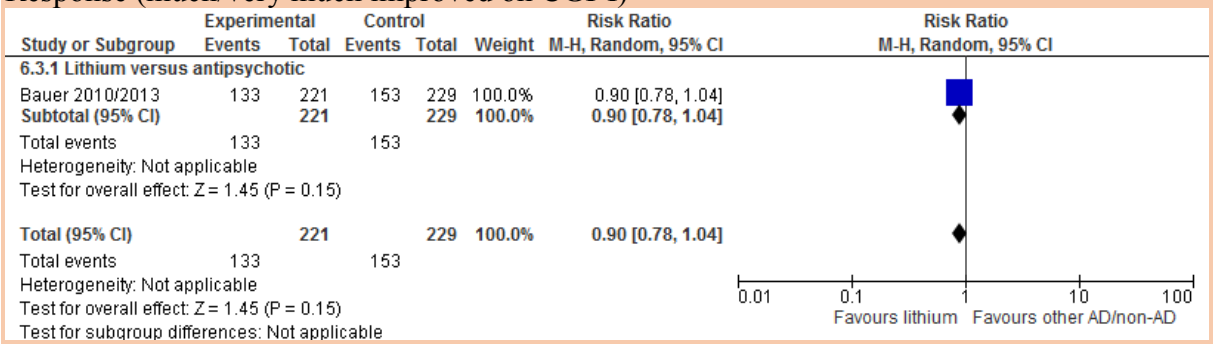
Remission (<8/10 on MADRS/HAMD)



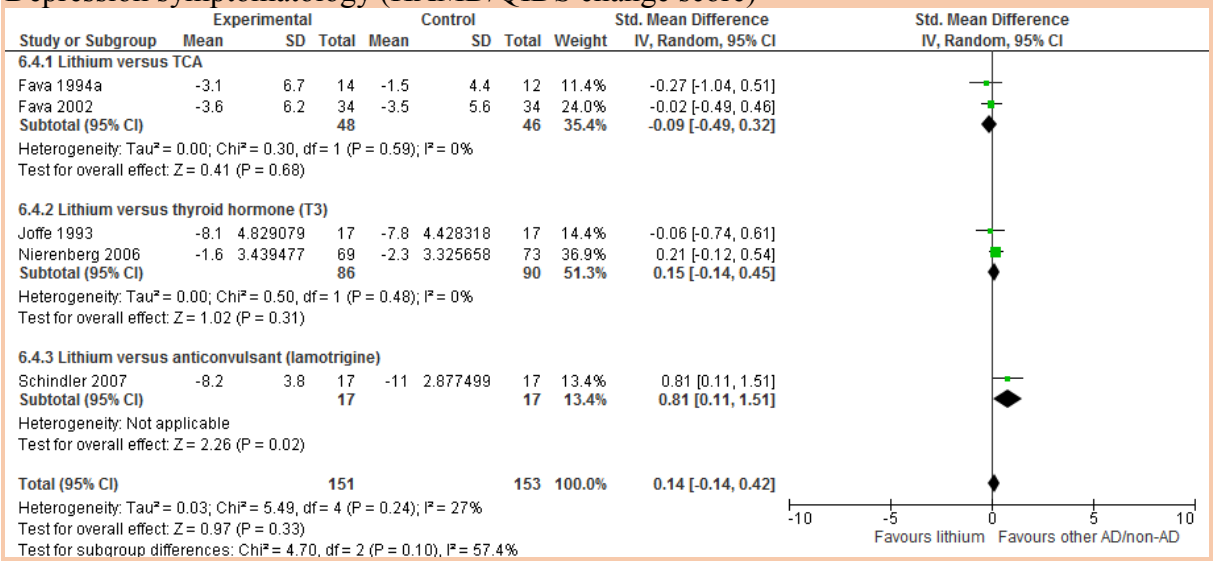
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD/MADRS/QIDS)



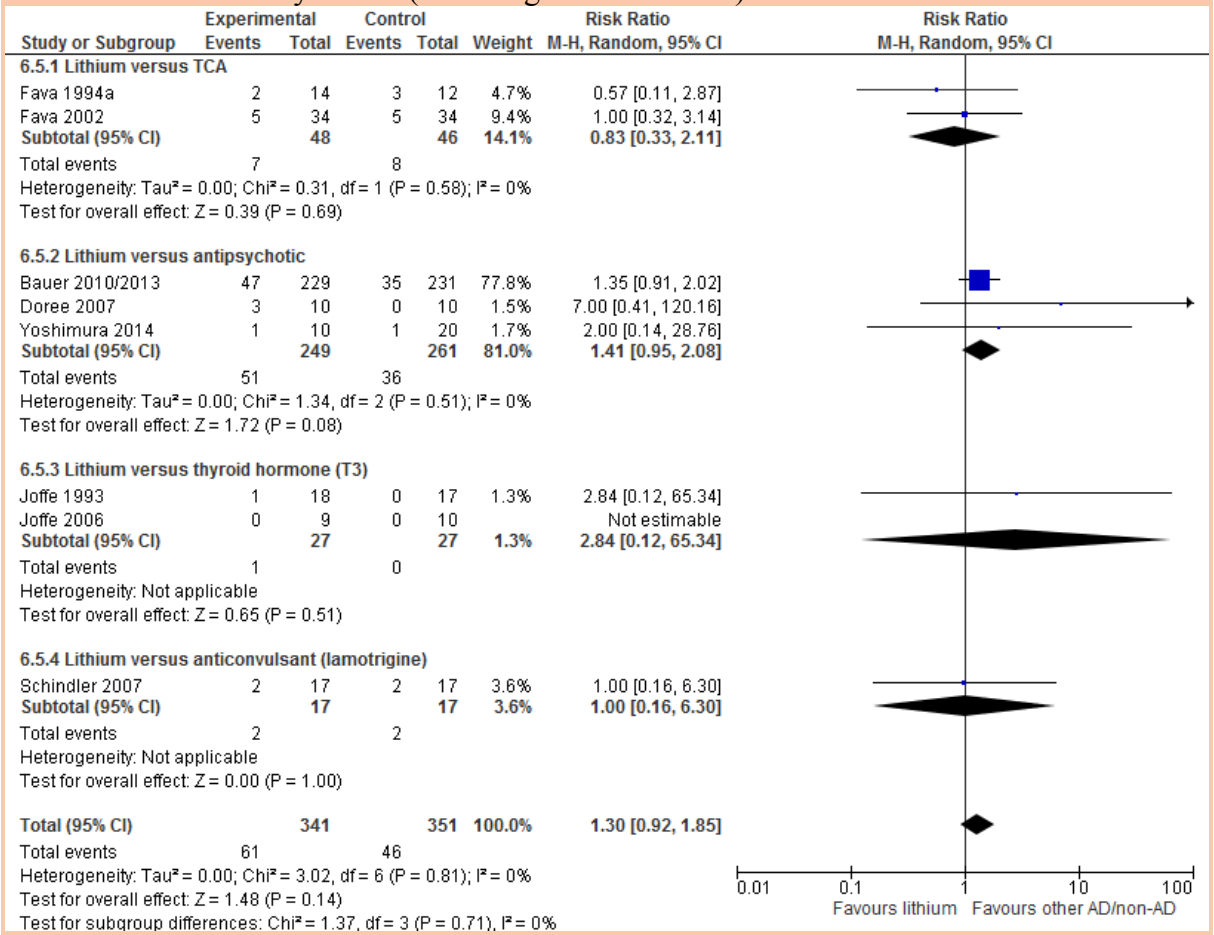
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



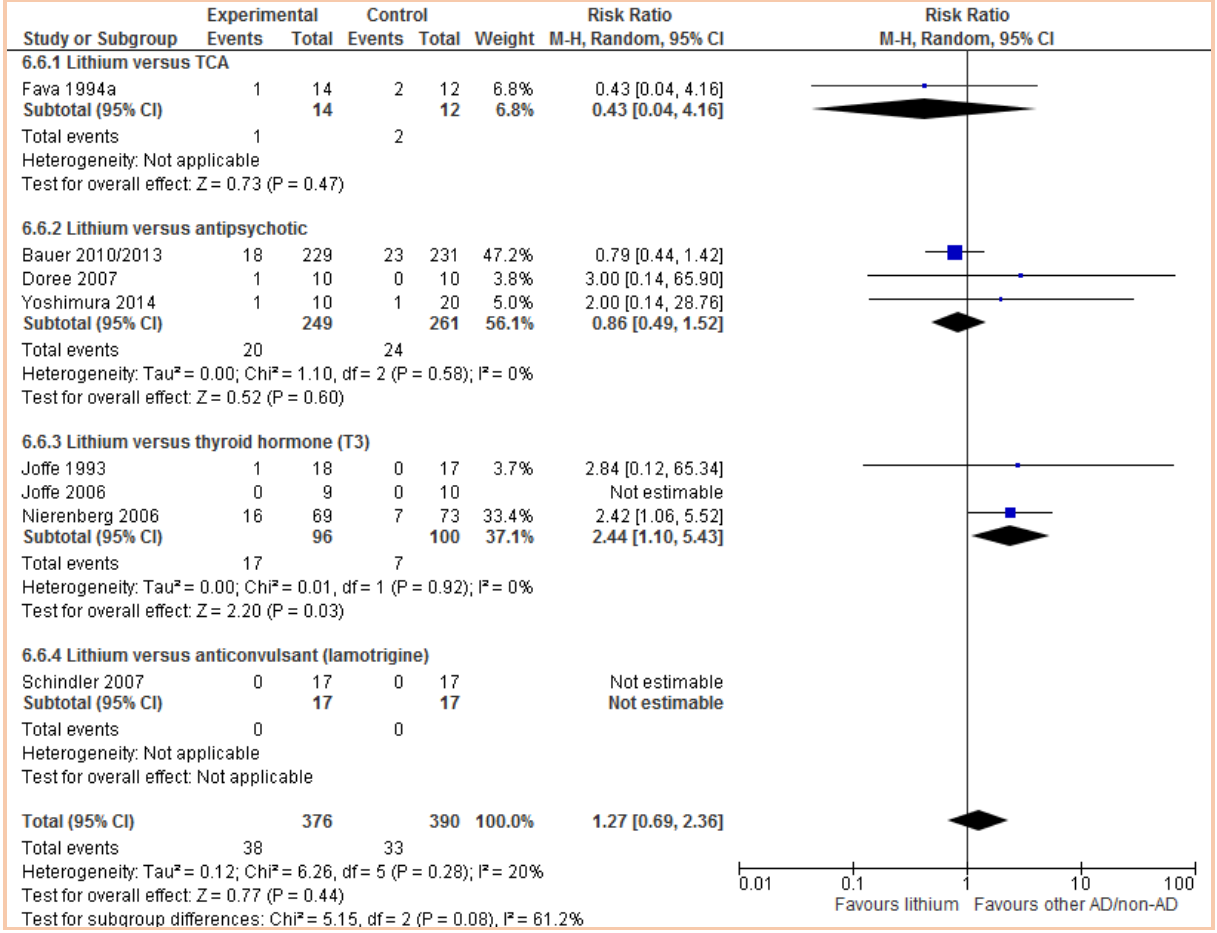
Depression symptomatology (HAMD/QIDS change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

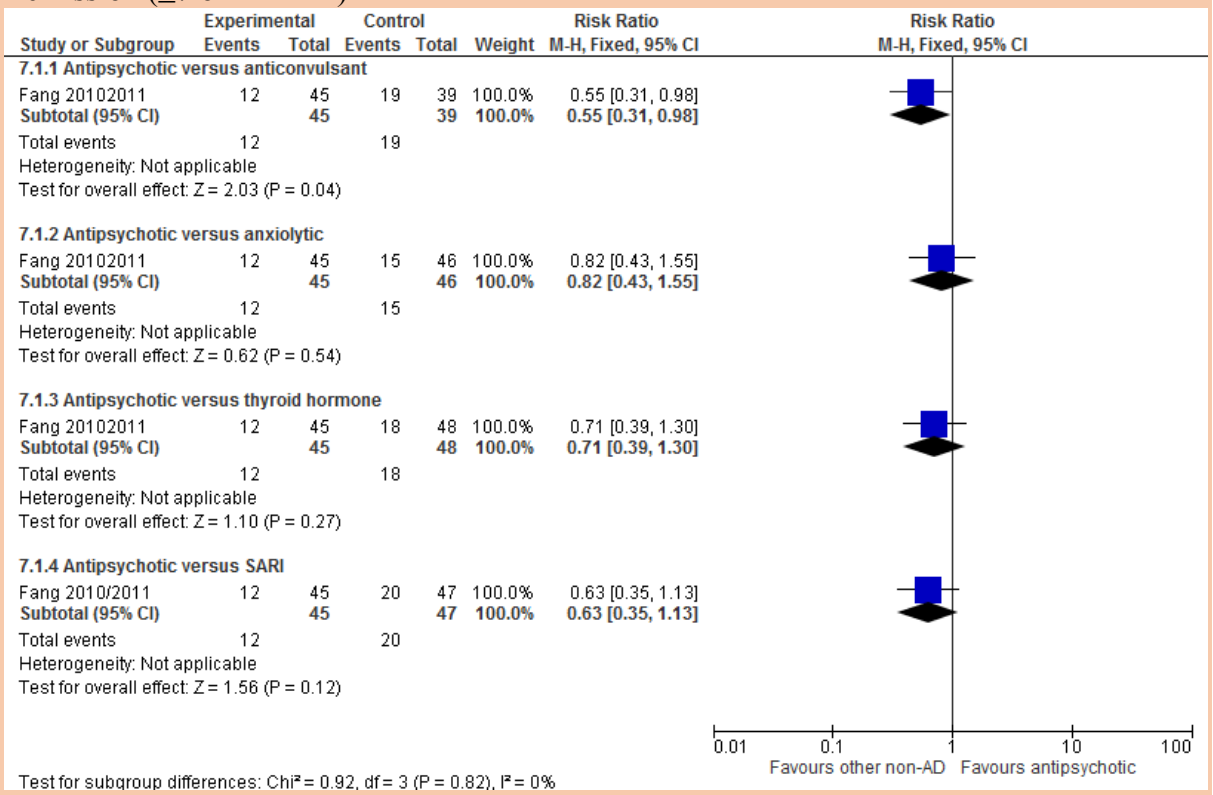


Discontinuation due to adverse events

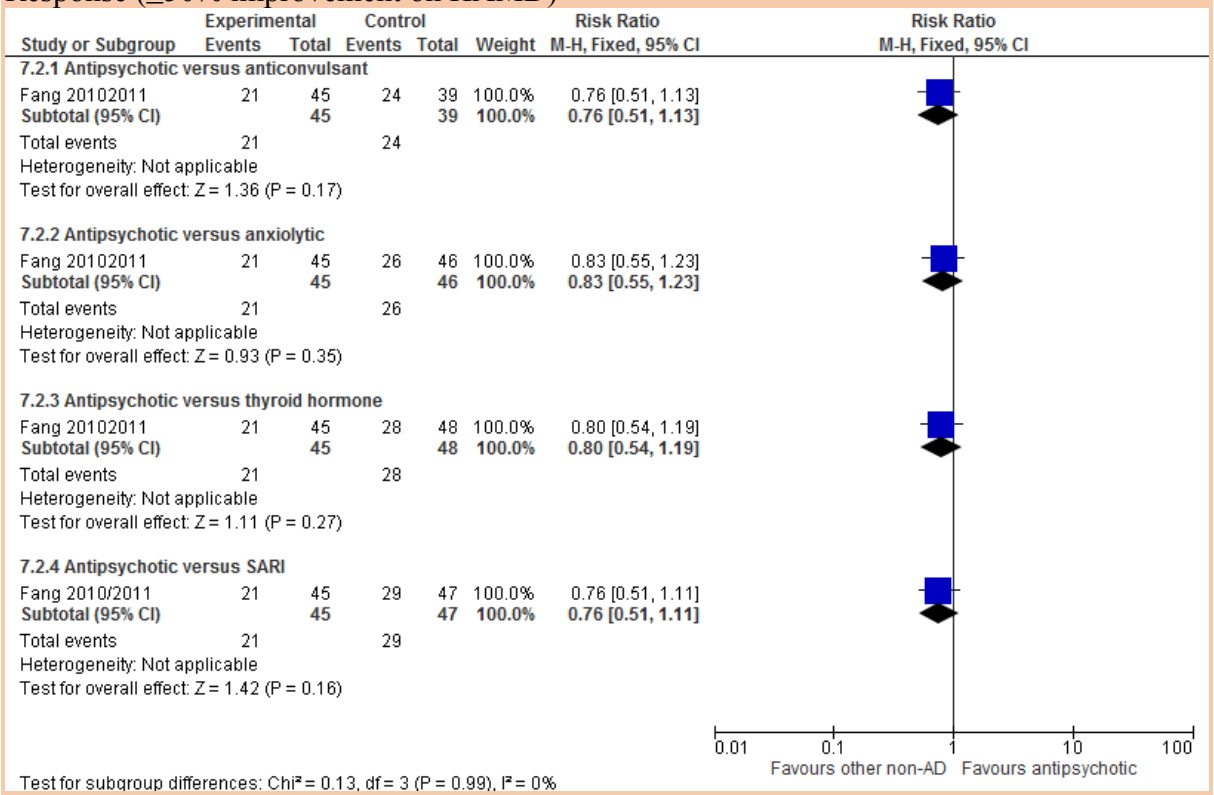


Augmenting the antidepressant with an antipsychotic compared to 'other' augmentation agents (head-to-head comparisons)

Remission (≤7 on HAMD)

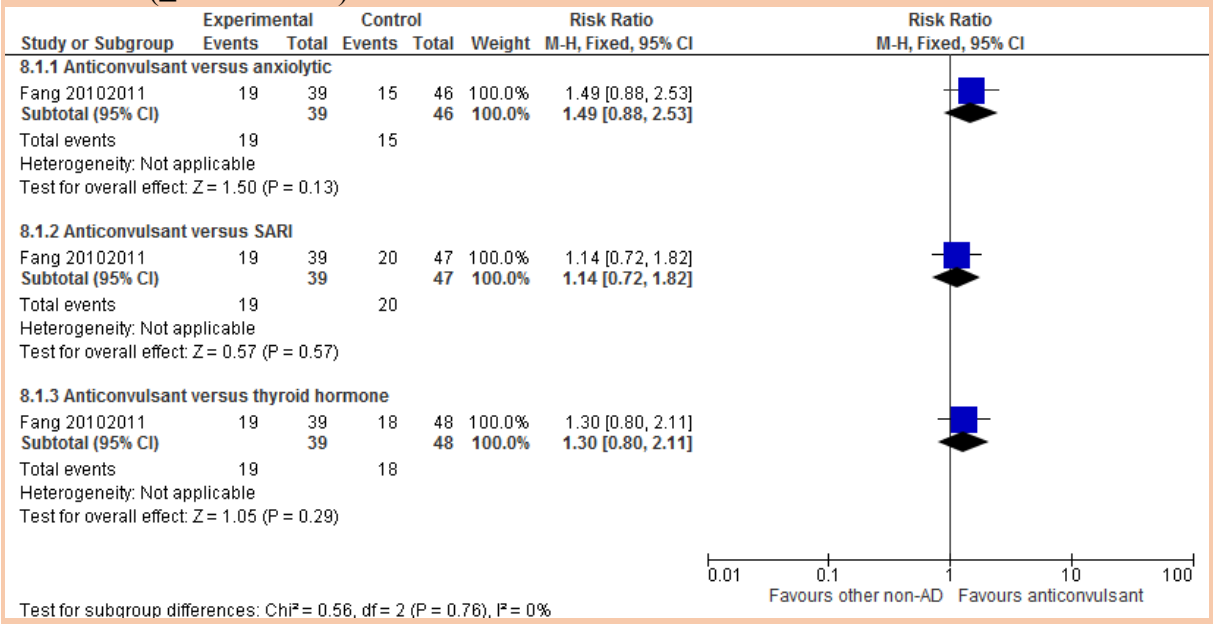


Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD)

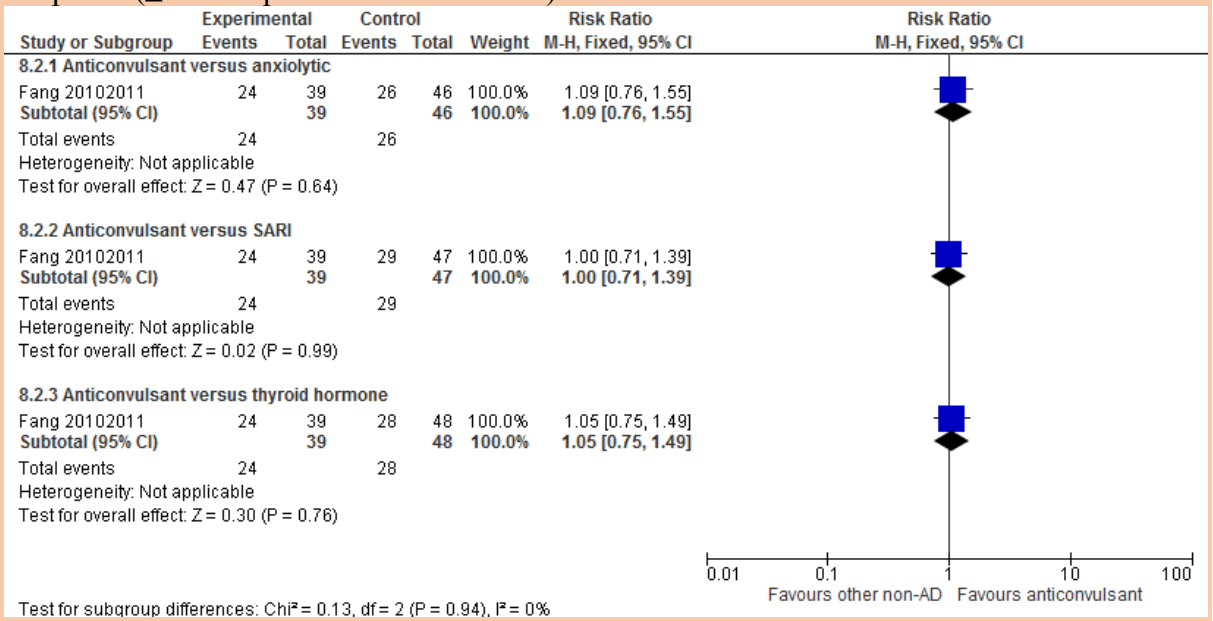


Augmenting the antidepressant with an anticonvulsant compared to 'other' augmentation agents (head-to-head comparisons)

Remission (≤7 on HAMD)

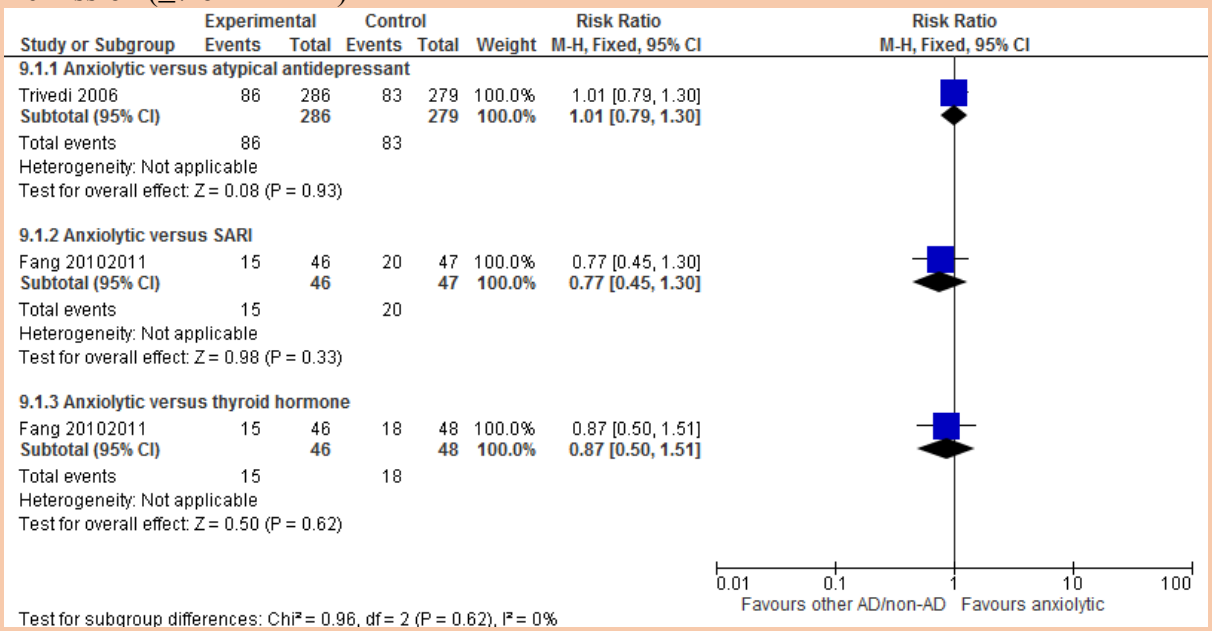


Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD)

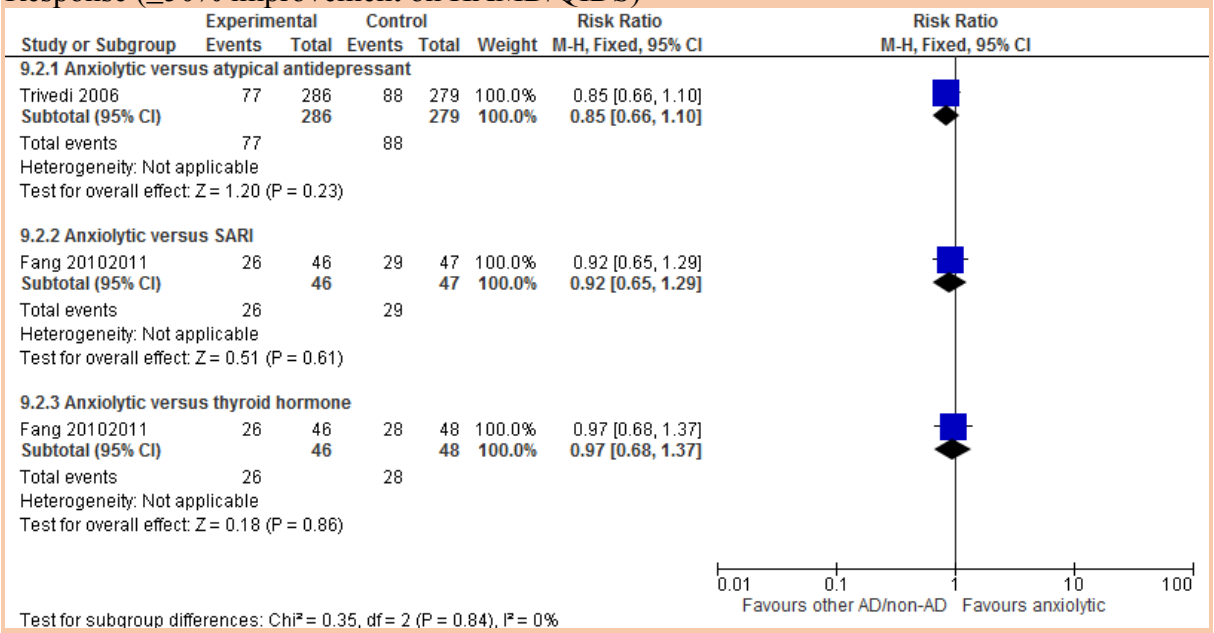


Augmenting the antidepressant with an anxiolytic compared to 'other' augmentation agents (head-to-head comparisons)

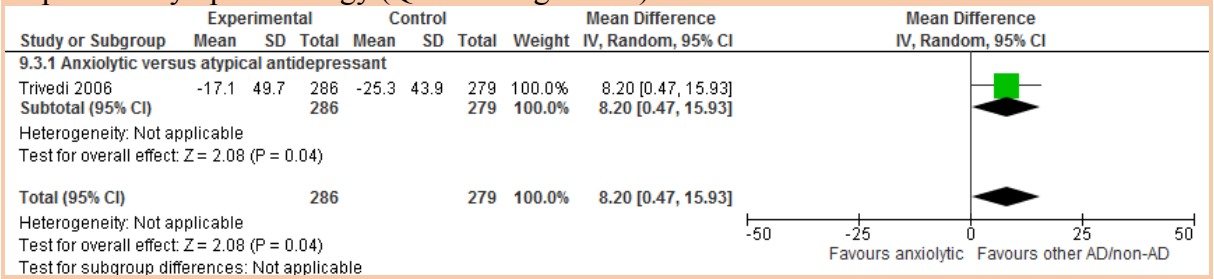
Remission (≤7 on HAMD)



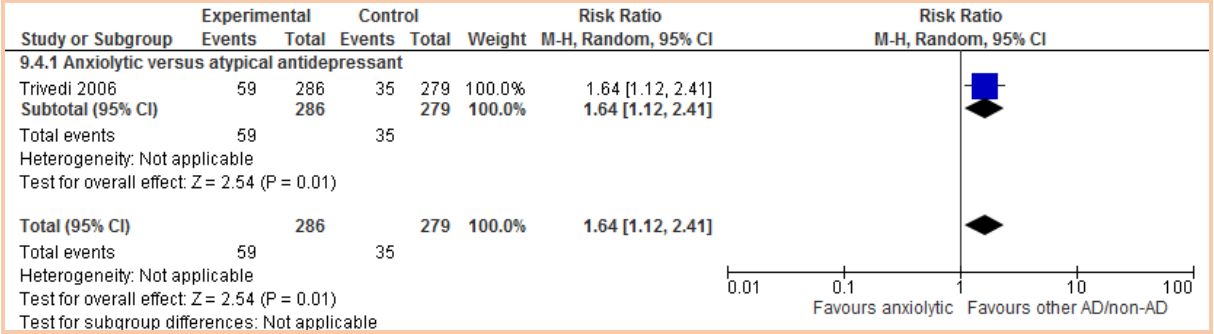
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD/QIDS)



Depression symptomatology (QIDS change score)

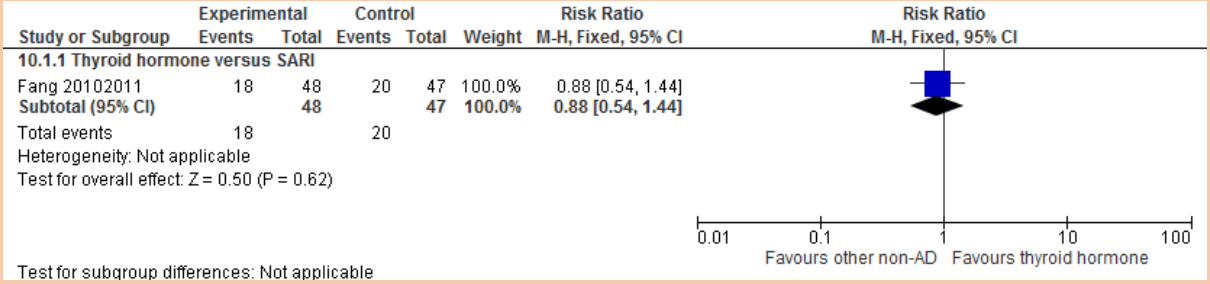


Discontinuation due to adverse events

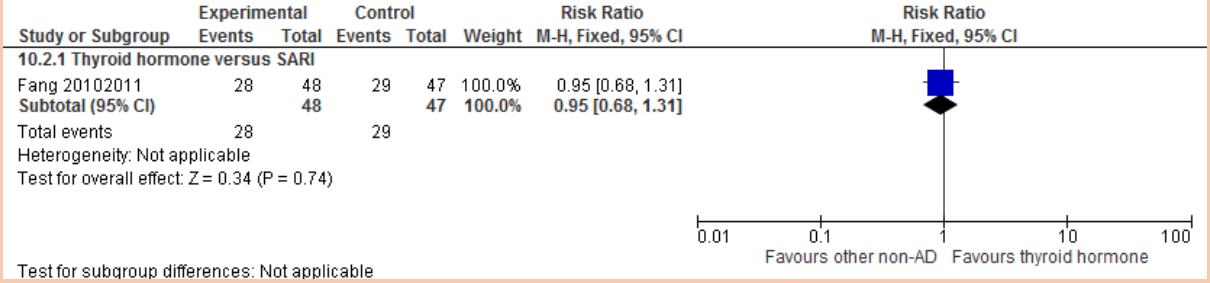


Augmenting the antidepressant with a thyroid hormone compared to 'other' augmentation agents (head-to-head comparisons)

Remission (≤7 on HAMD)

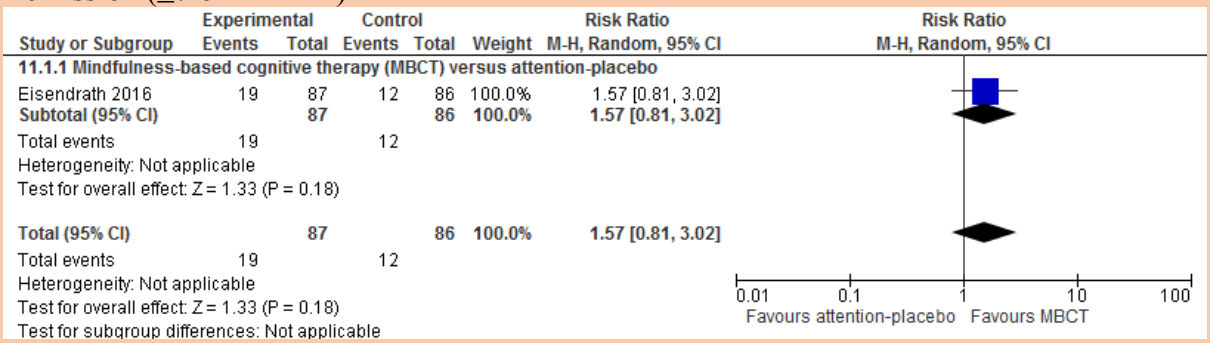


Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD)

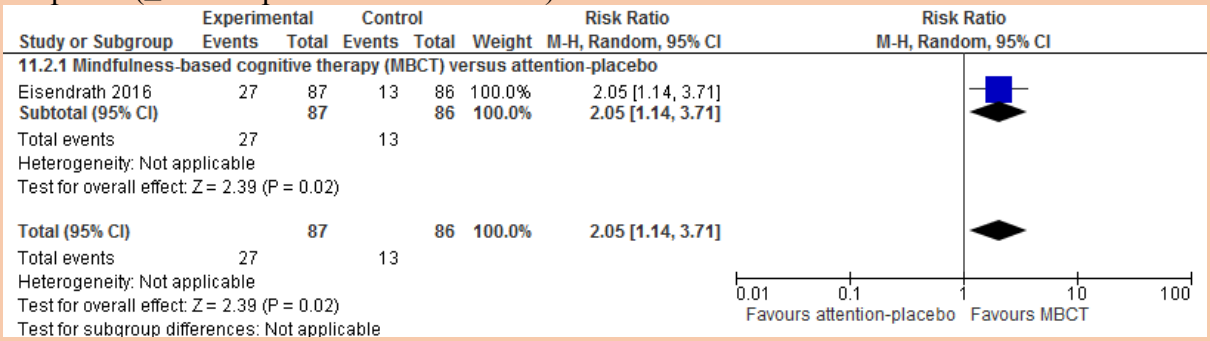


Augmenting the antidepressant with a psychological intervention compared to attention-placebo

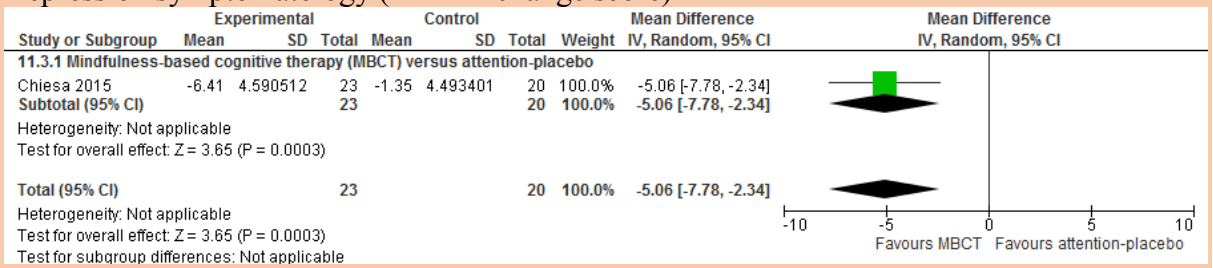
Remission (≤7 on HAMD)



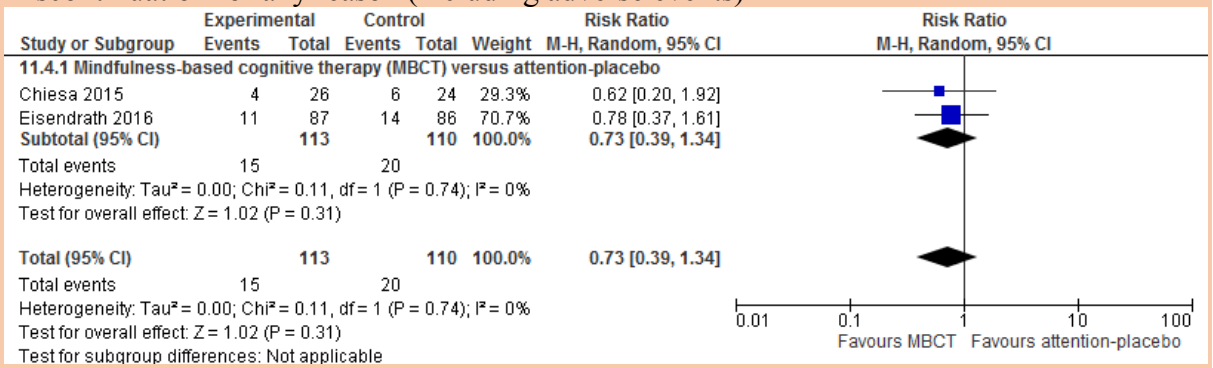
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD)



Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)

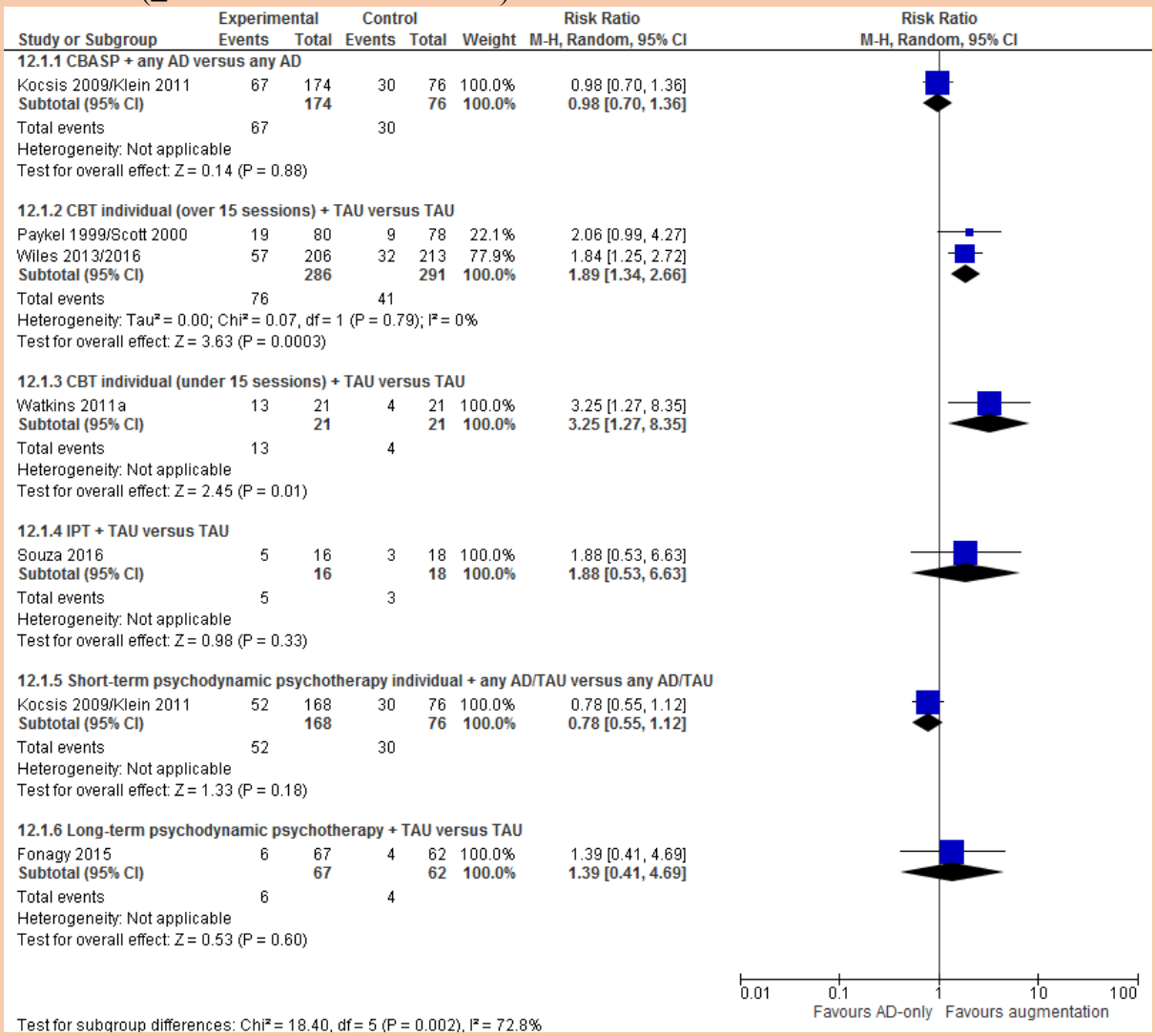


Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

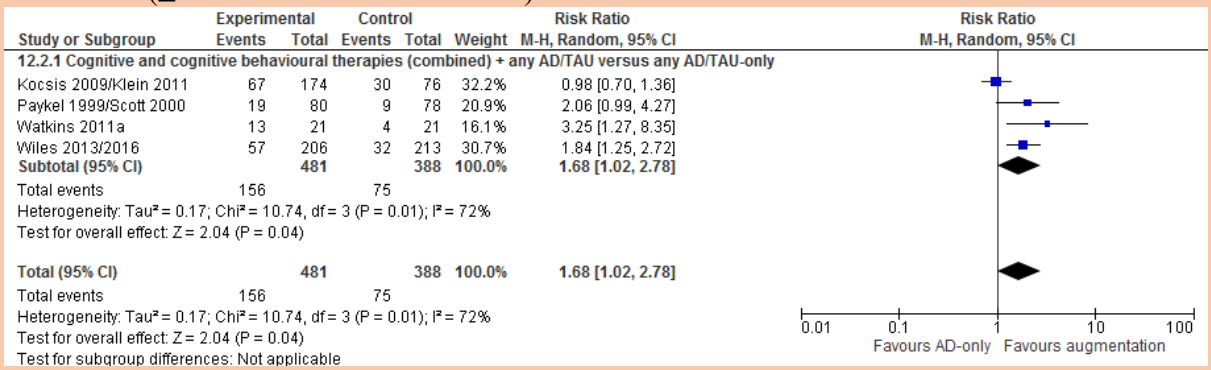


Augmenting the antidepressant with a psychological intervention compared to continuing with the antidepressant-only

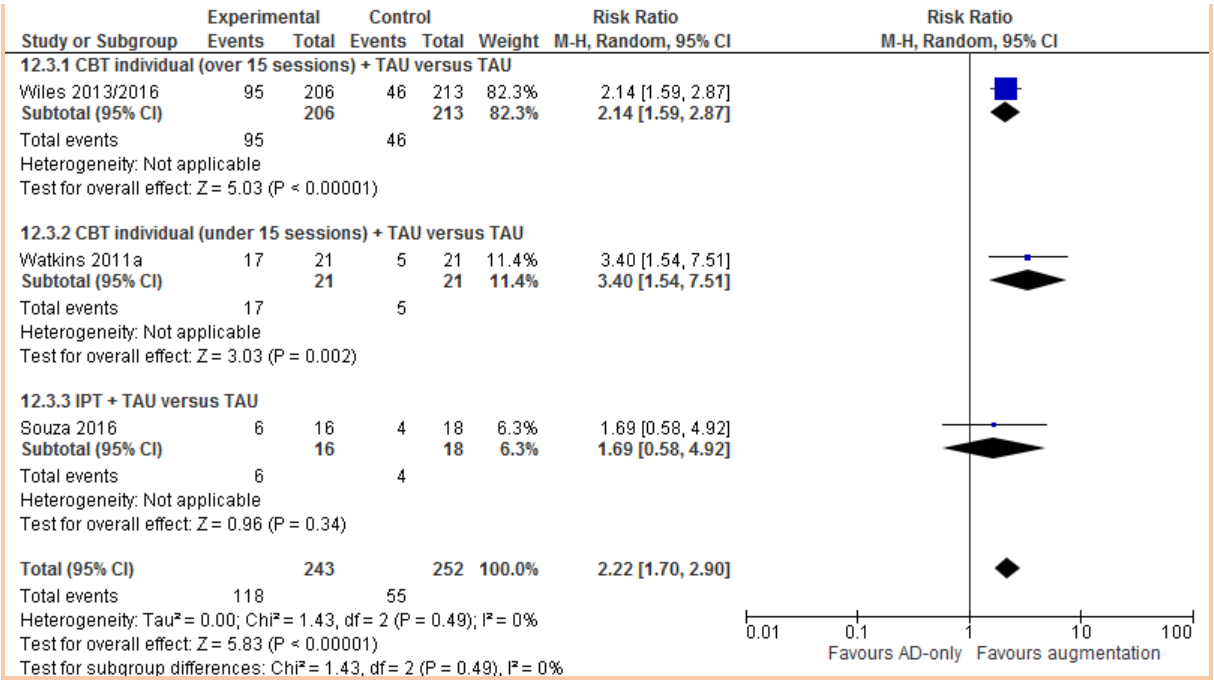
Remission (≤7/8 on HAMD/<10 on BDI)



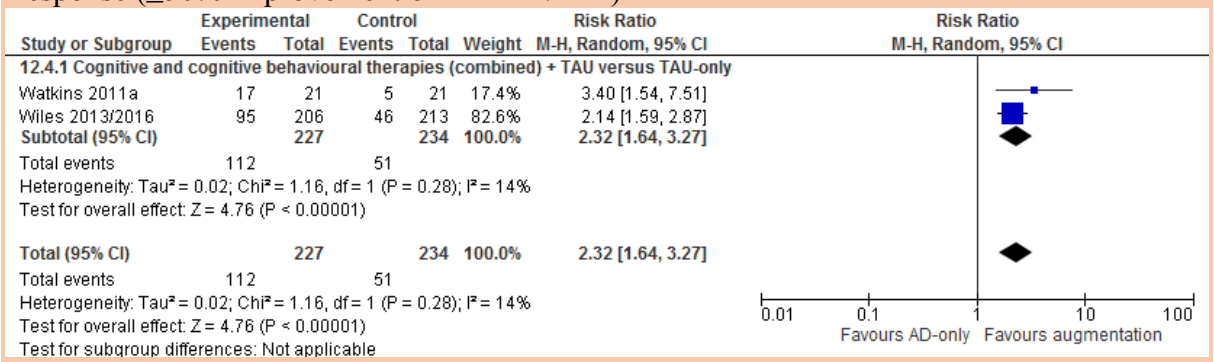
Remission (≤7/8 on HAMD/<10 on BDI)



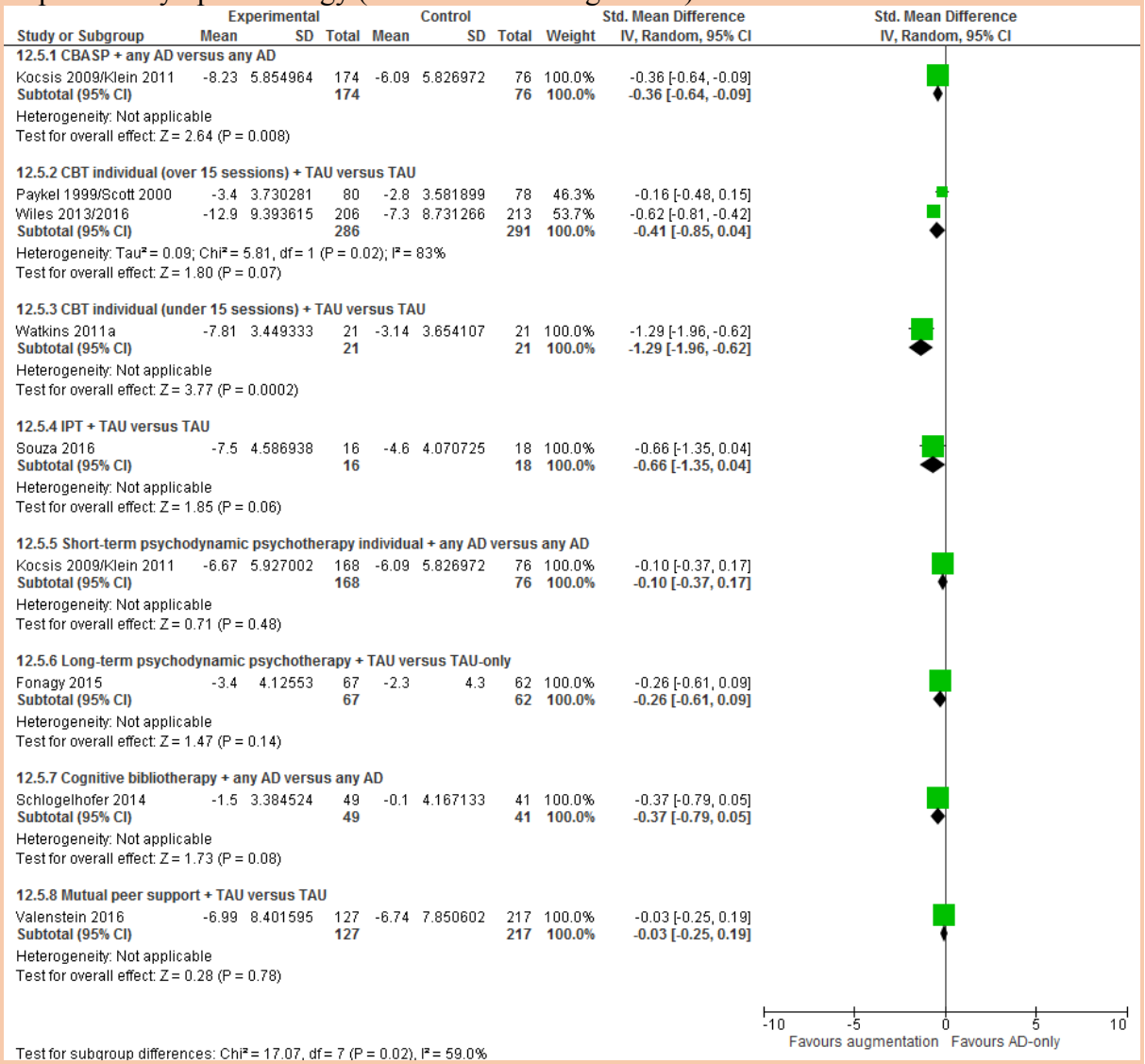
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD/BDI)



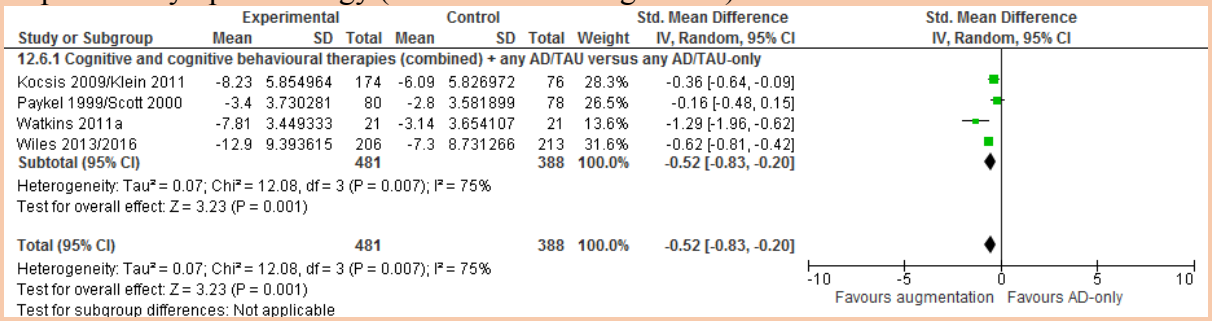
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD/BDI)



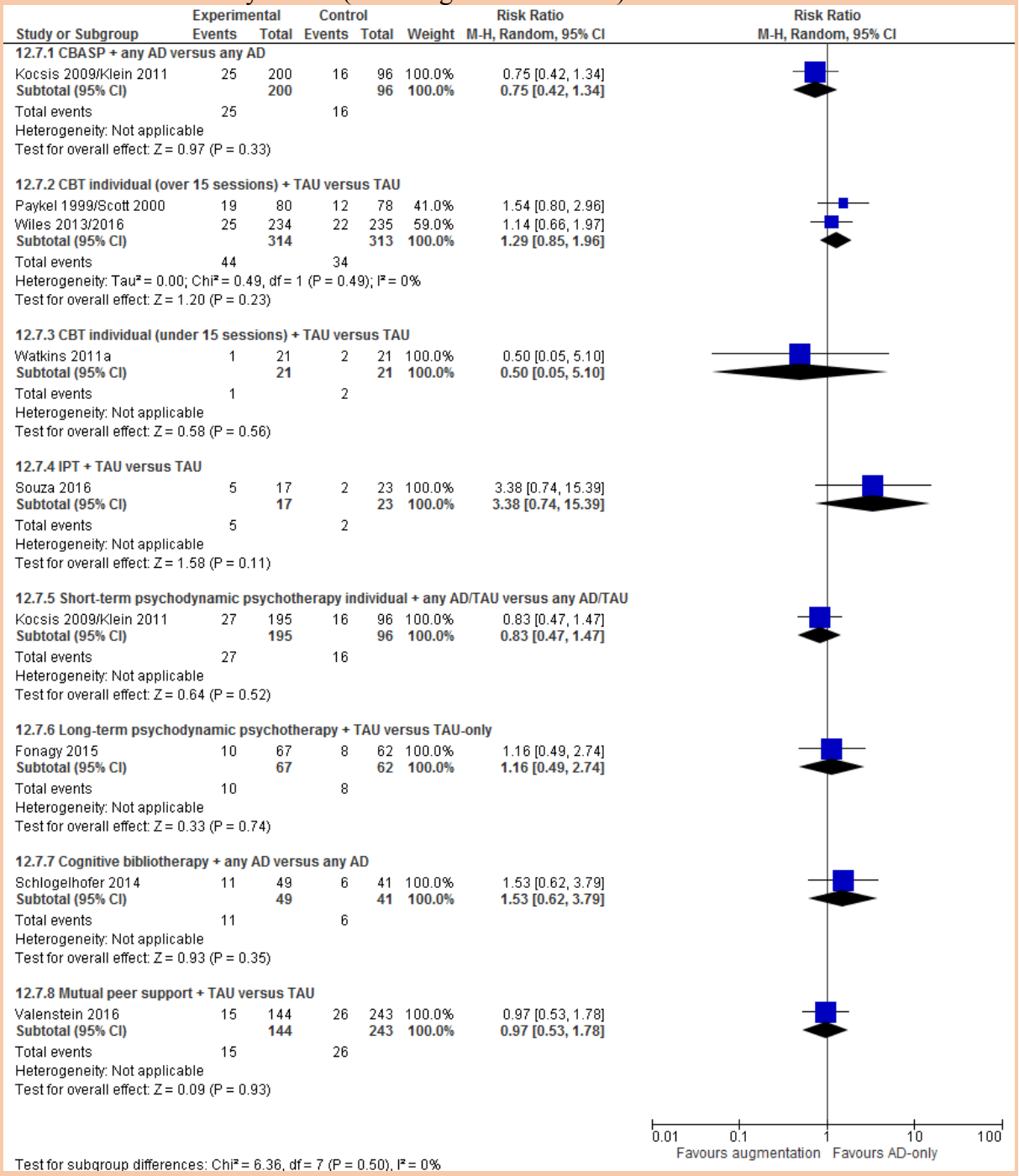
Depression symptomatology (HAMD/BDI change score)



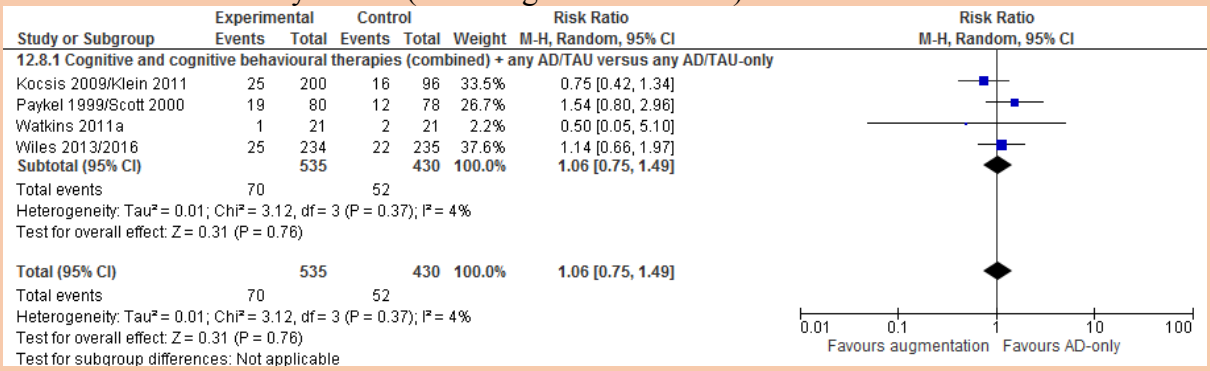
Depression symptomatology (HAMD/BDI change score)



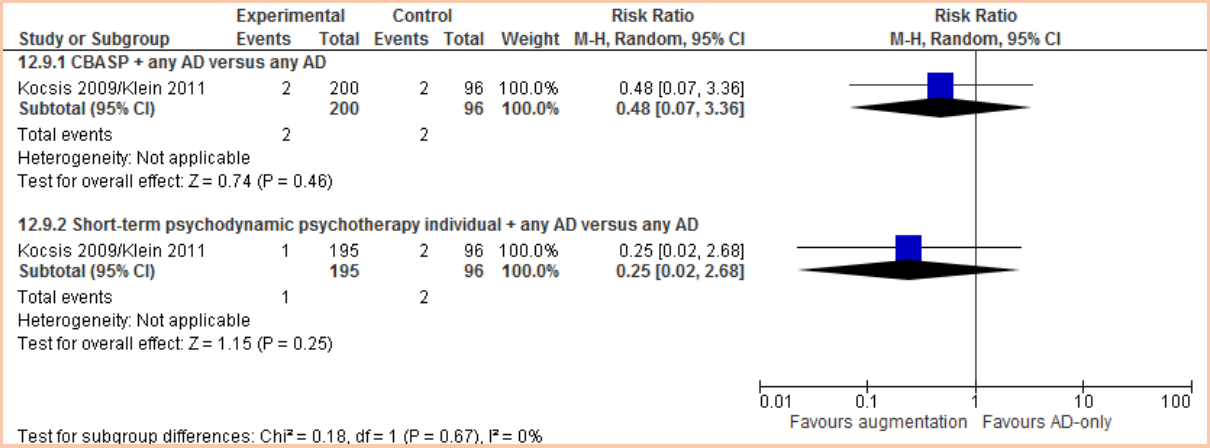
Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

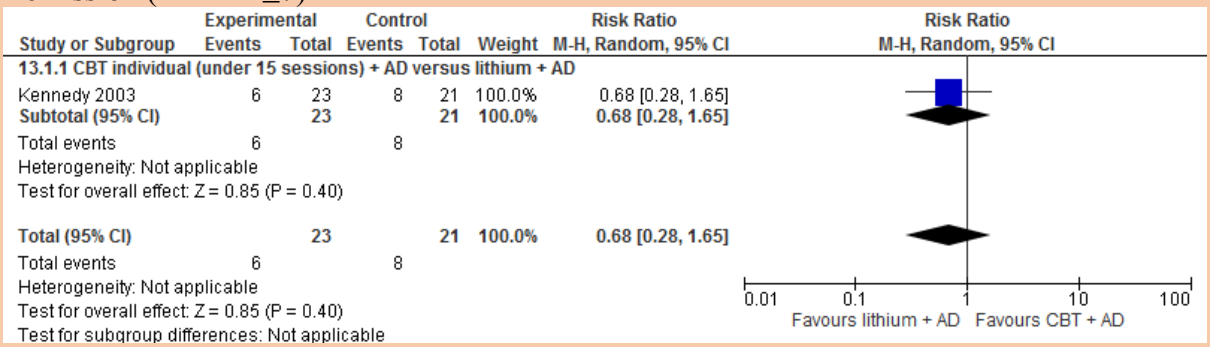


Discontinuation due to adverse events

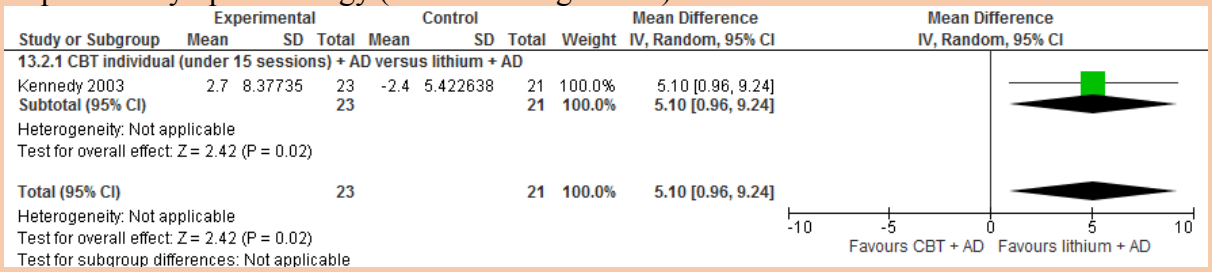


Augmenting the antidepressant with a psychological intervention compared to augmenting with a non-antidepressant agent

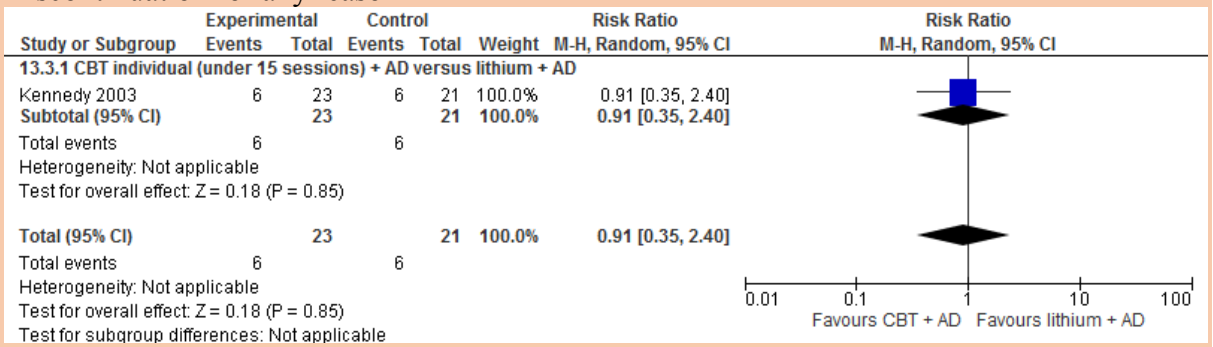
Remission (HAMD ≤7)



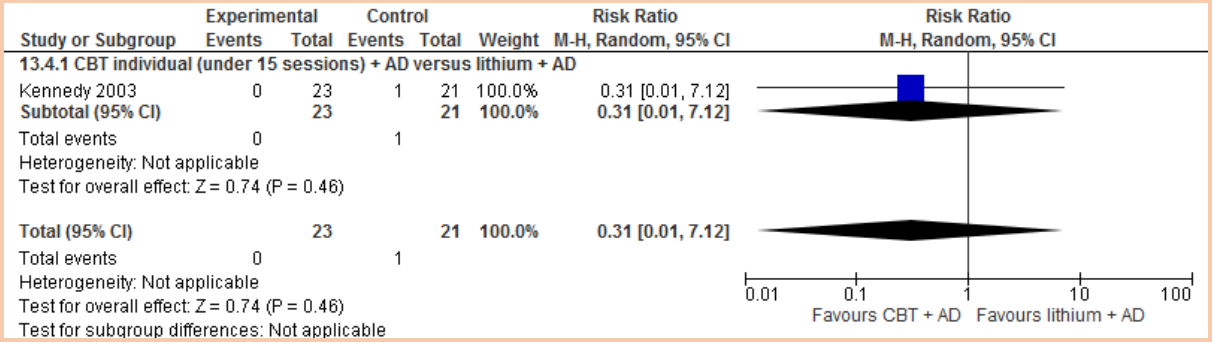
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason

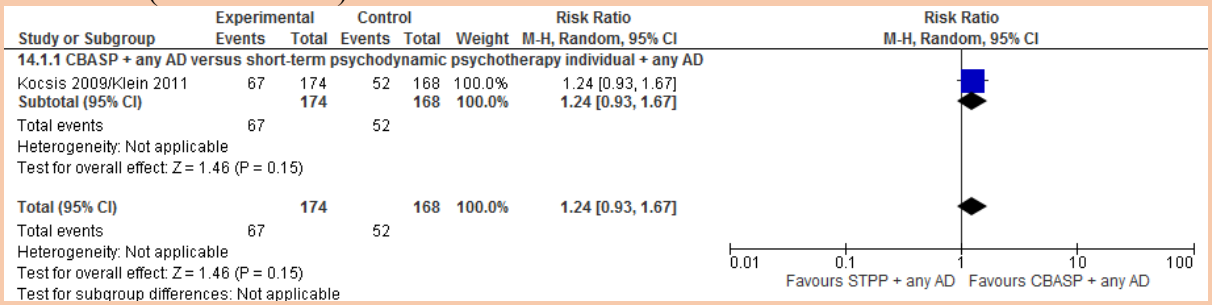


Discontinuation due to adverse events

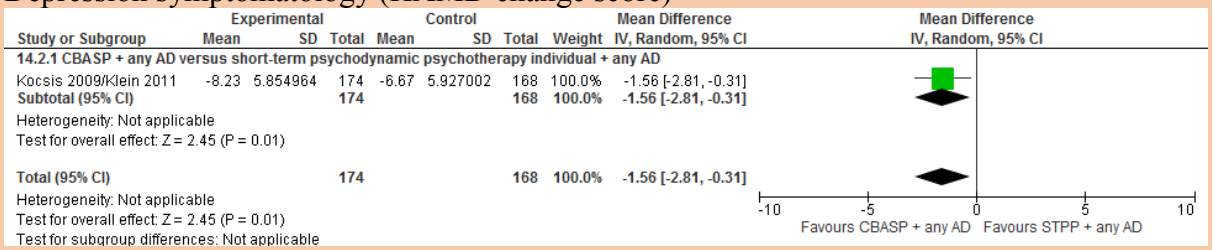


Augmenting the antidepressant with a psychological intervention compared to 'other' psychological intervention (head-to-head comparisons)

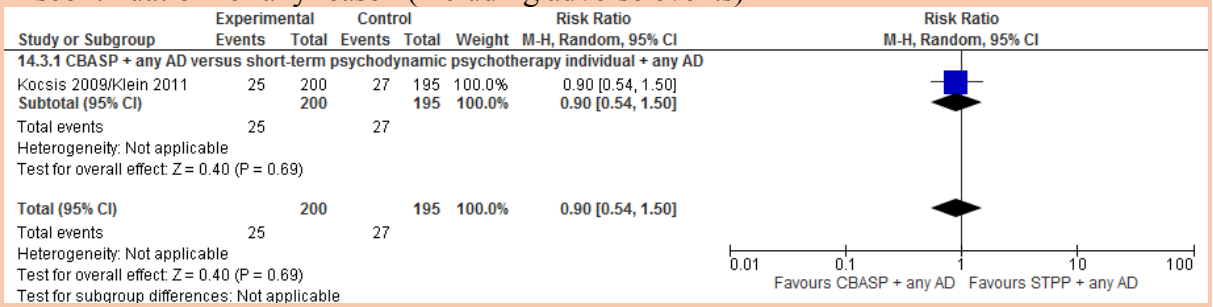
Remission (<8 on HAMD)



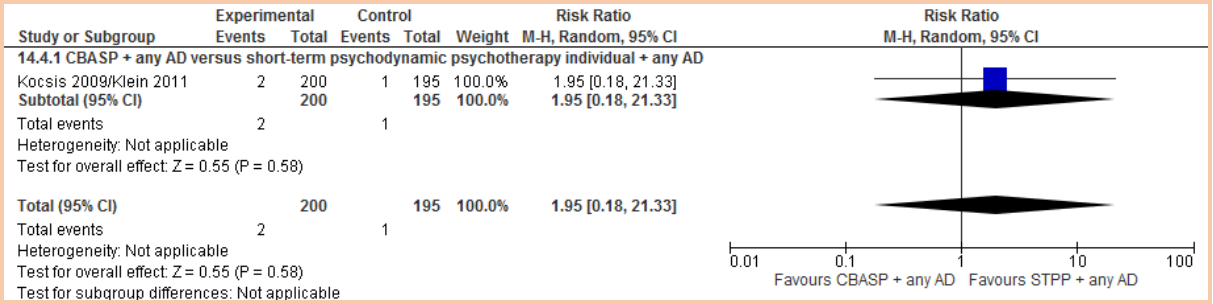
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

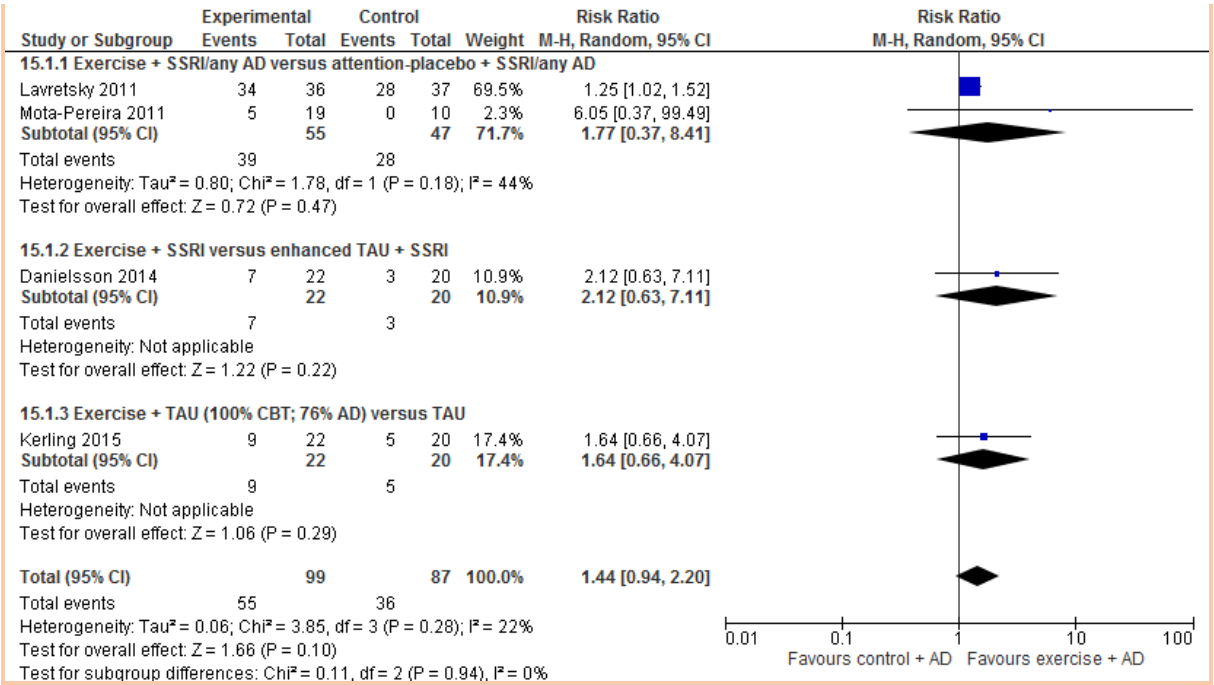


Discontinuation due to adverse events

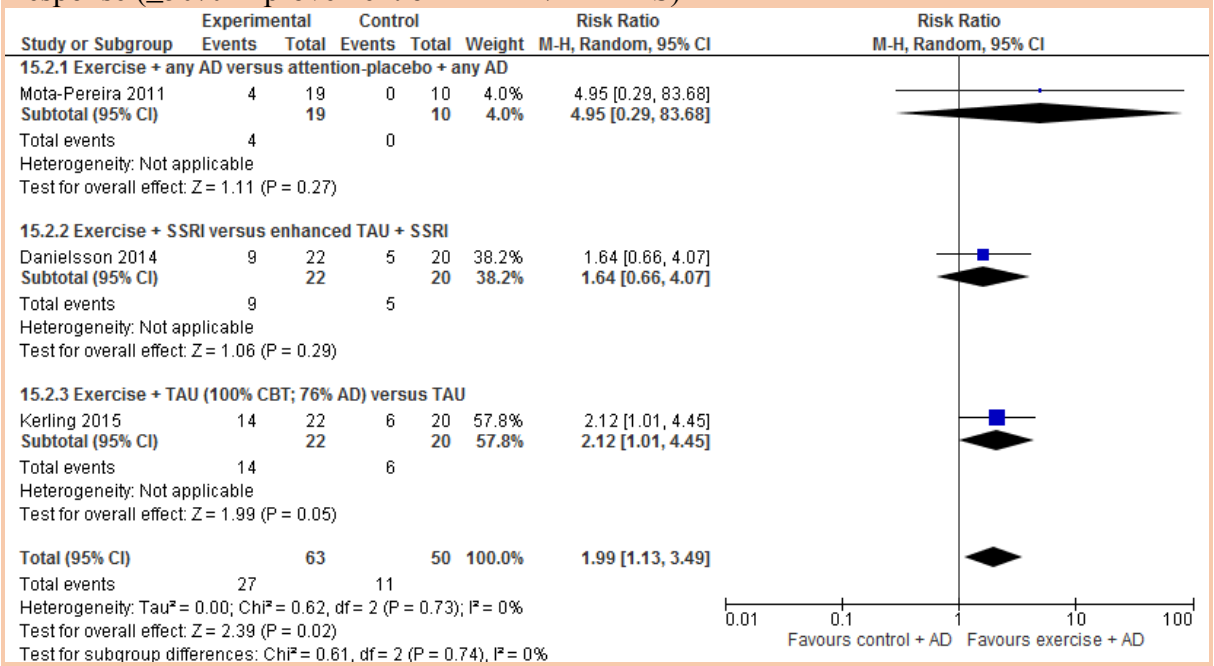


Augmenting the antidepressant/standard treatment with exercise compared to control

Remission (≤7/10 on HAMD/ ≤ 10 on MADRS & ≥ 50% improvement)

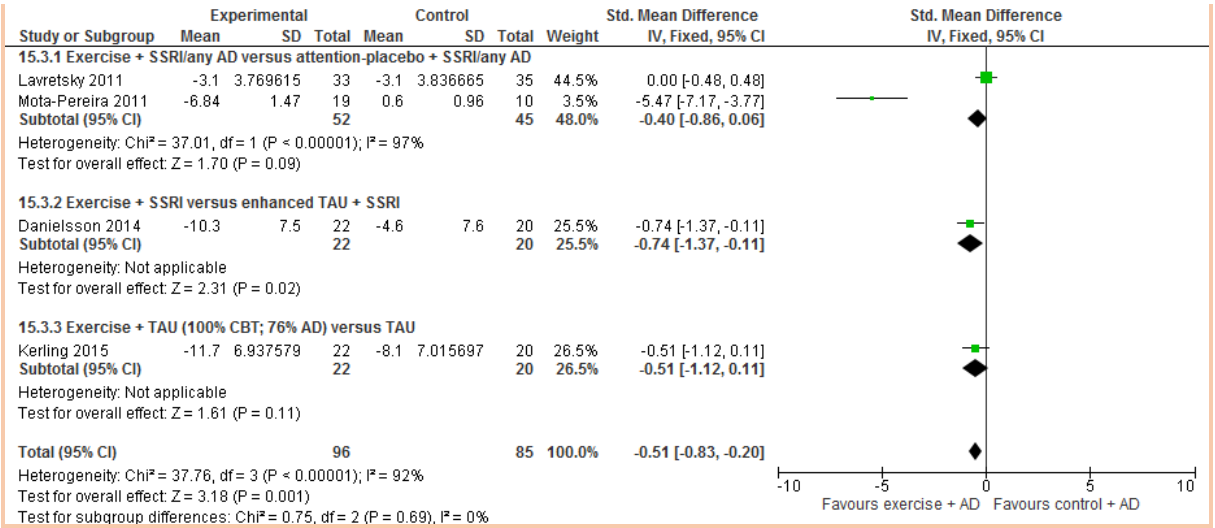


Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD/MADRS)

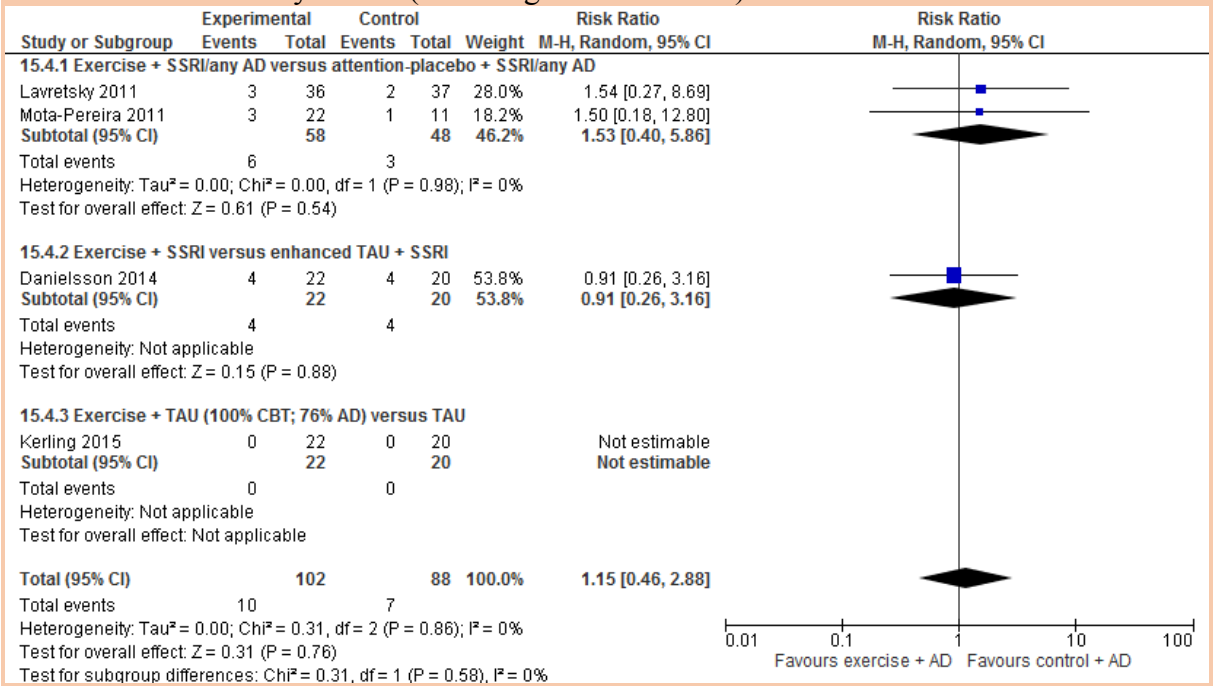


Depression symptomatology (HAMD/MADRS change score)

Forest plots

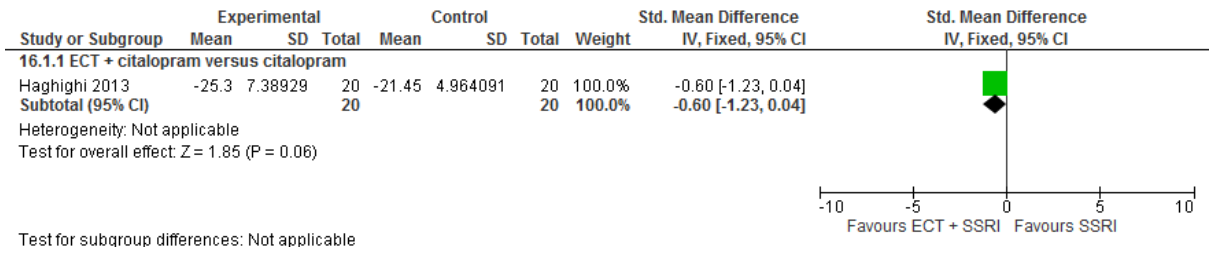


Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

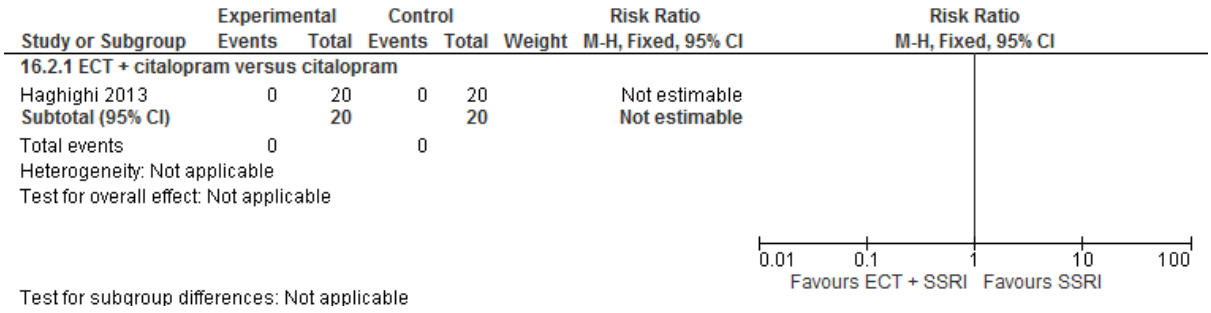


Augmenting the antidepressant with ECT compared to continuing with the antidepressant-only

Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)

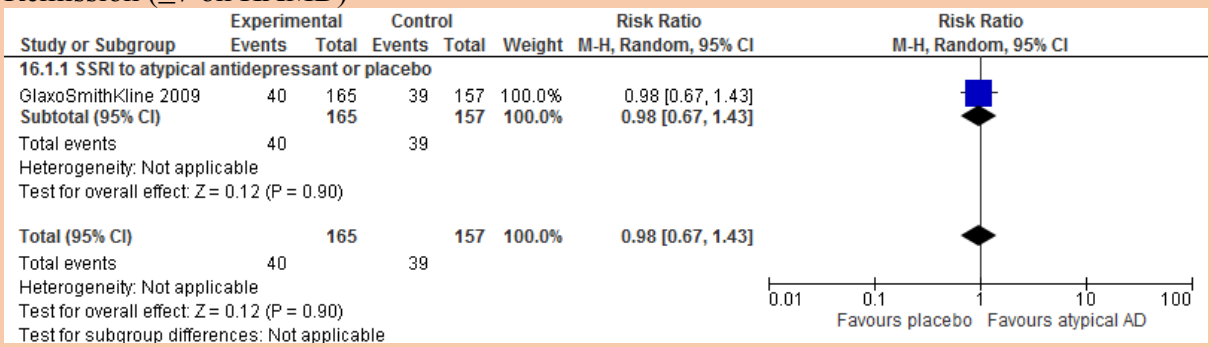


Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

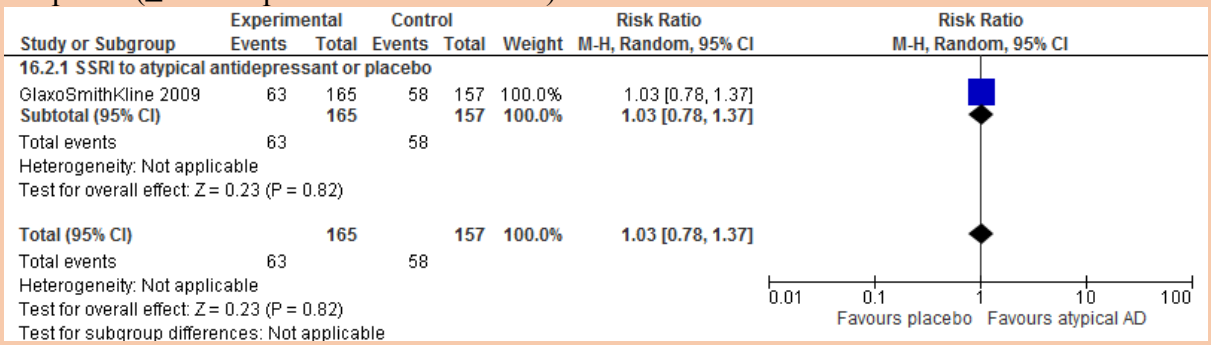


Switching to another antidepressant of a different class compared to placebo

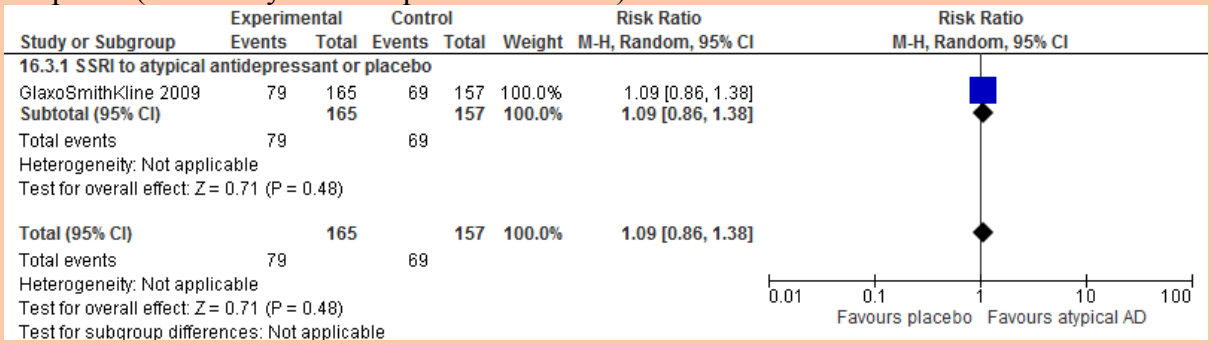
Remission (≤7 on HAMD)



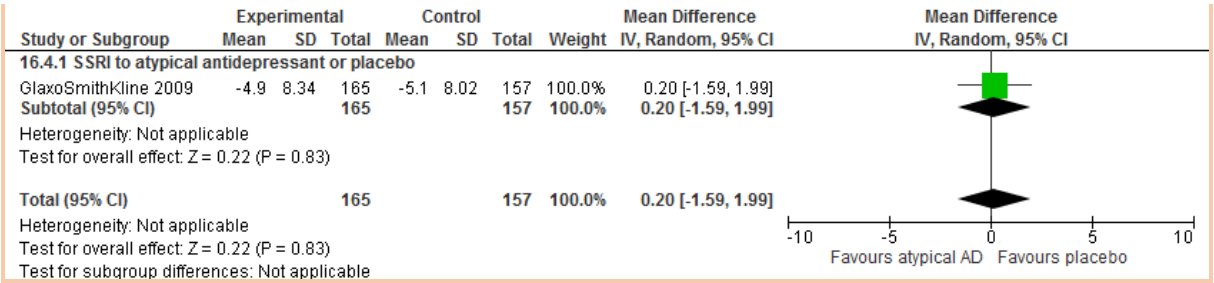
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD)



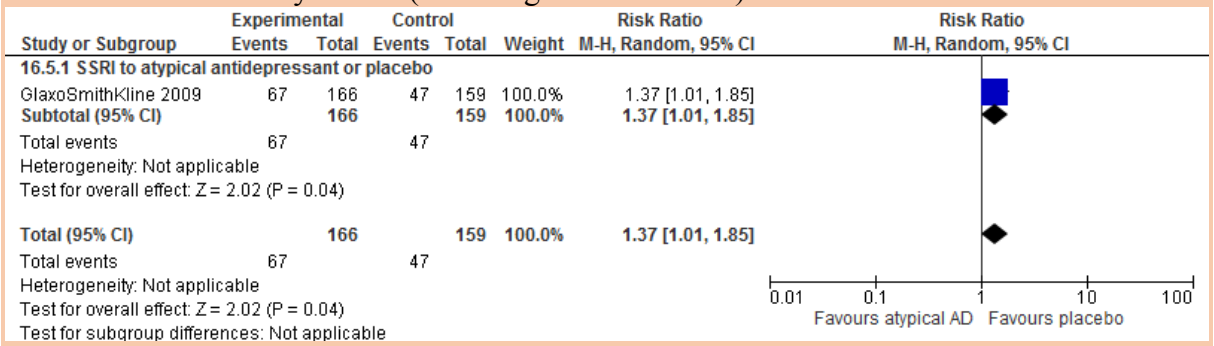
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



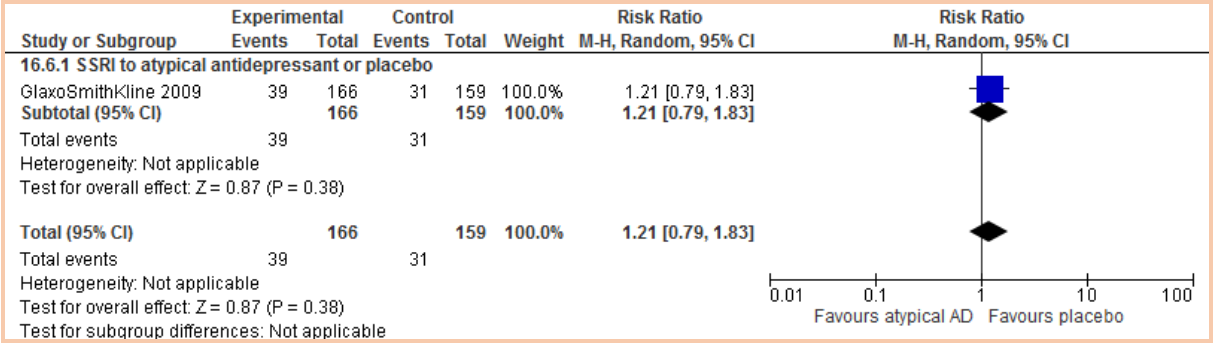
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

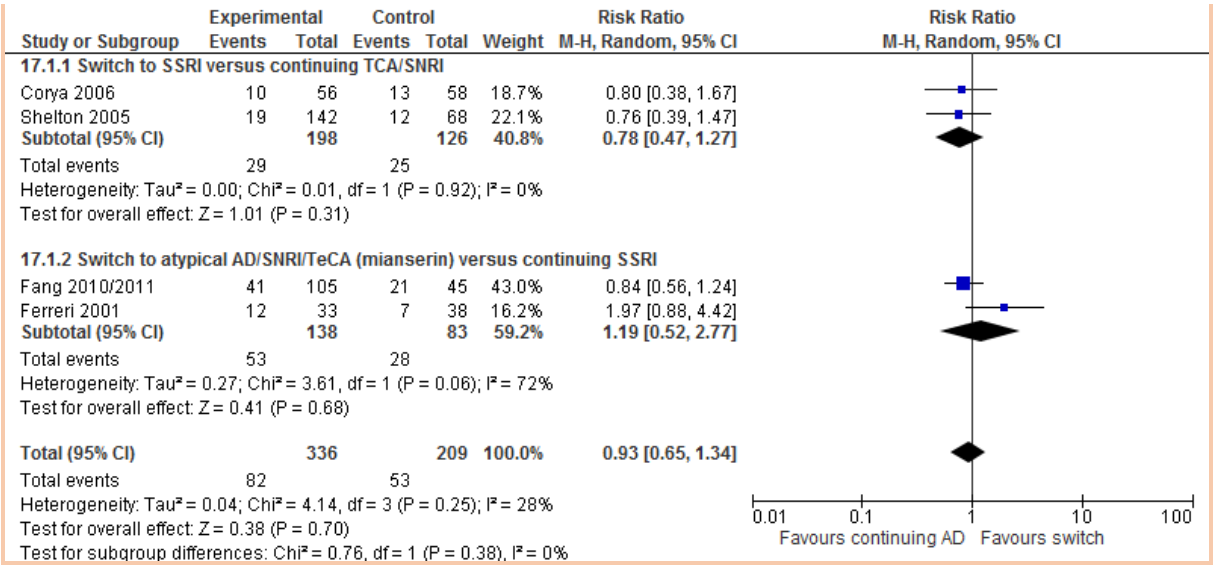


Discontinuation due to adverse events

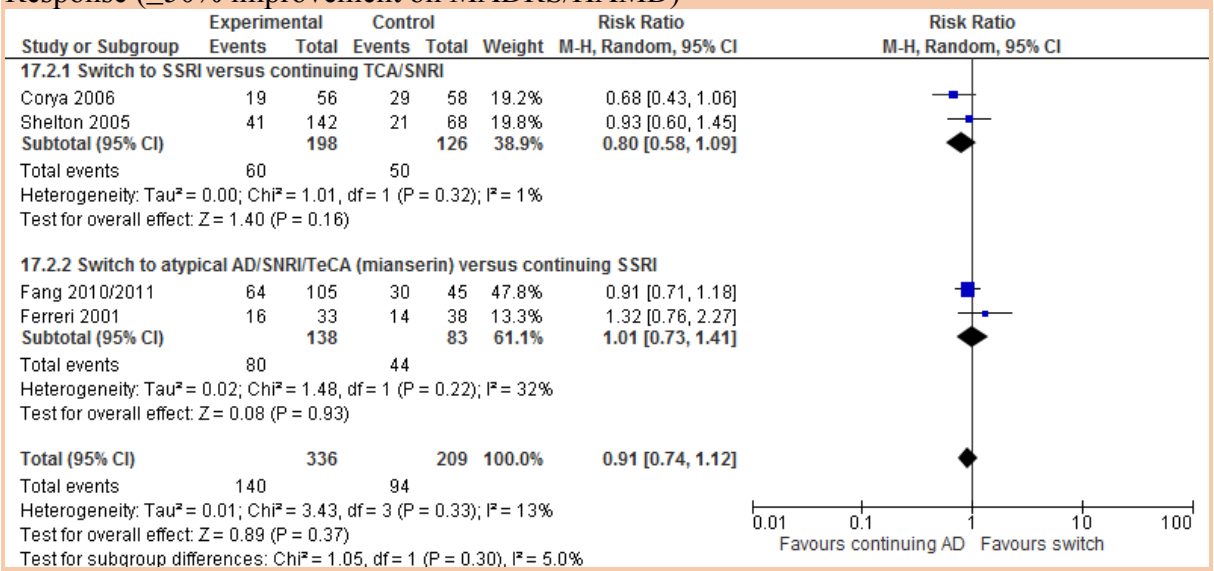


Switching to another antidepressant of a different class compared to continuing with the same antidepressant

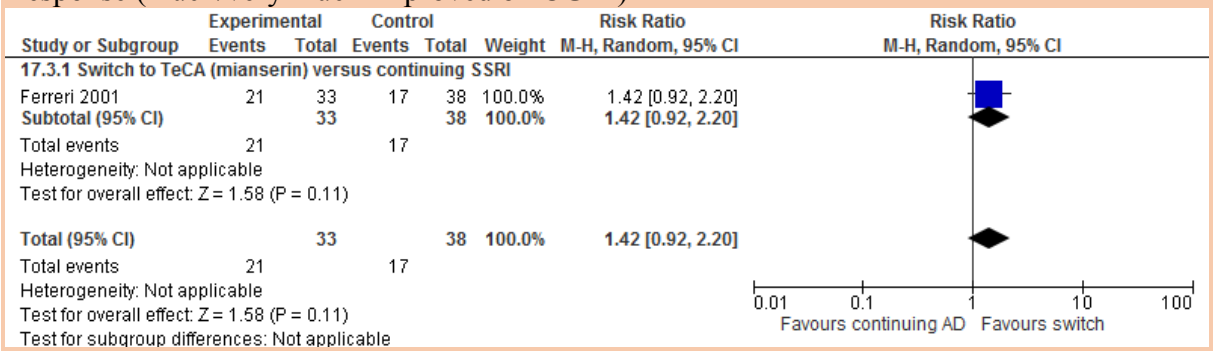
Remission (≤8/10 on MADRS/≤7/8 on HAMD)



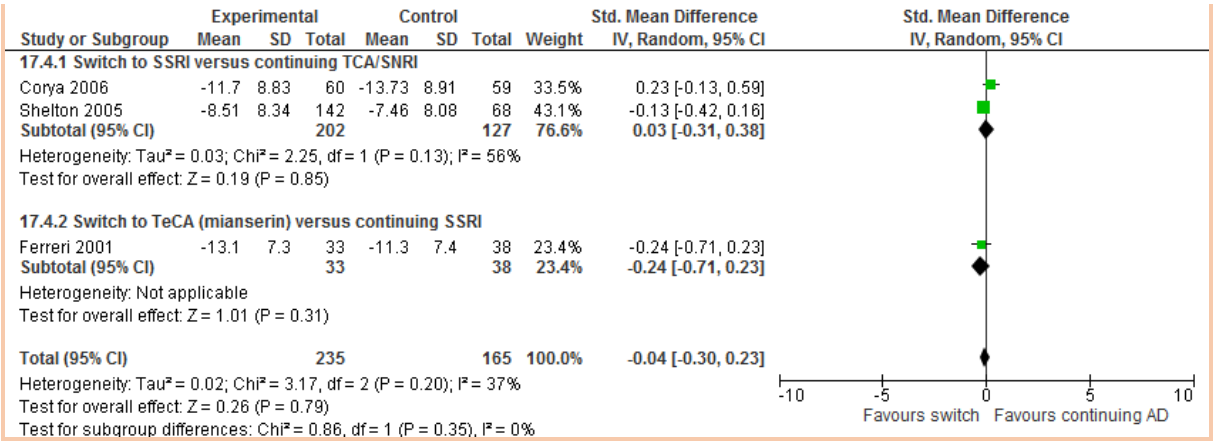
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS/HAMD)



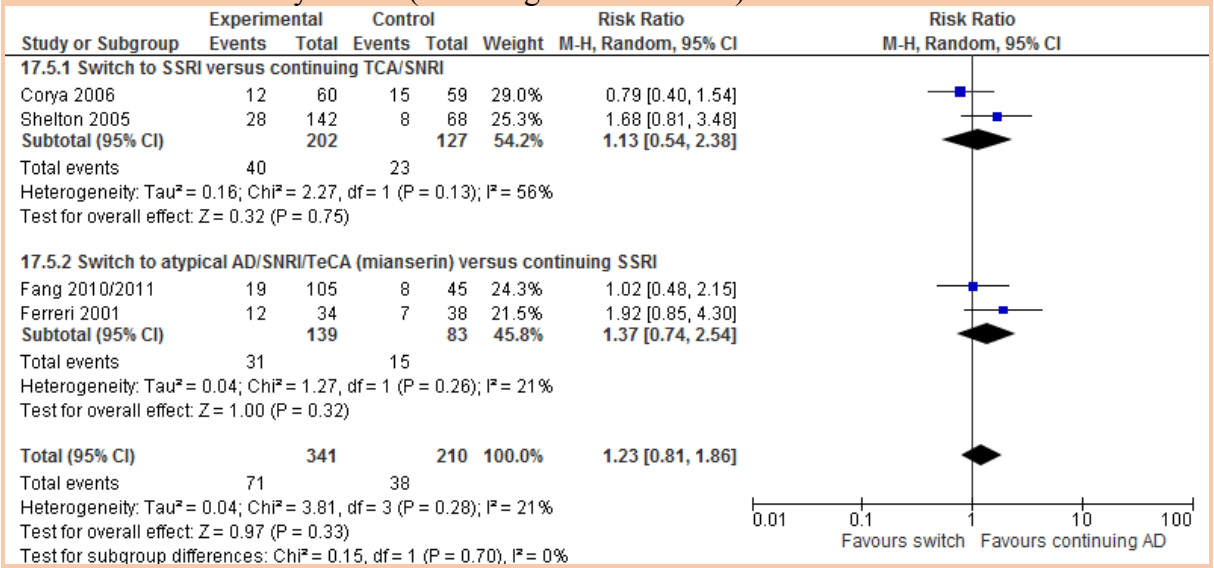
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



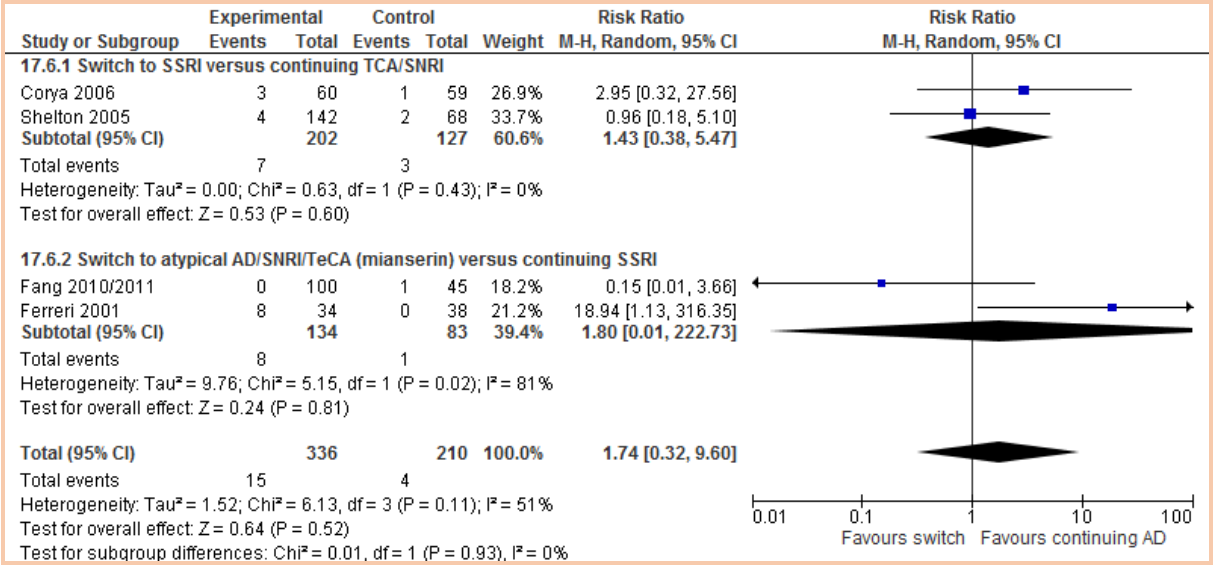
Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

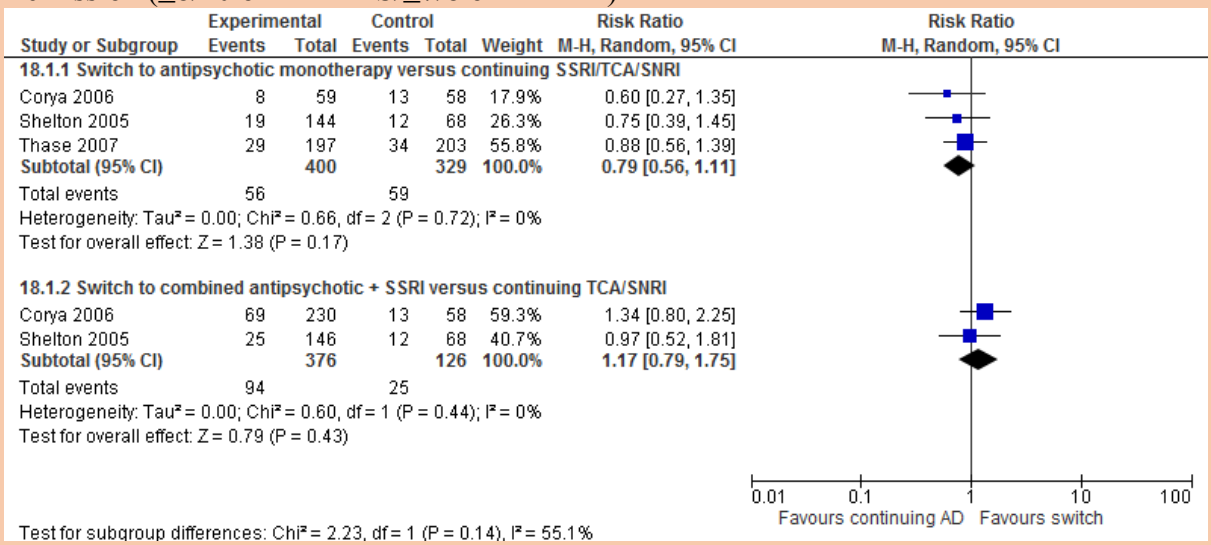


Discontinuation due to adverse events

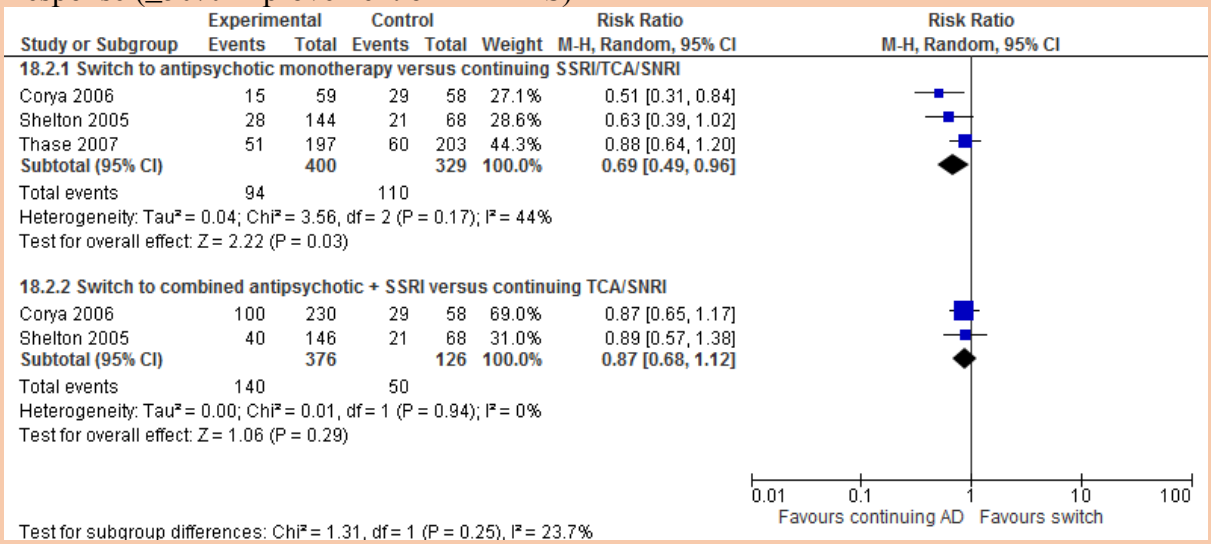


Switching to a non-antidepressant agent compared to continuing with the antidepressant

Remission (≤8/10 on MADRS/≤7/8 on HAMD)

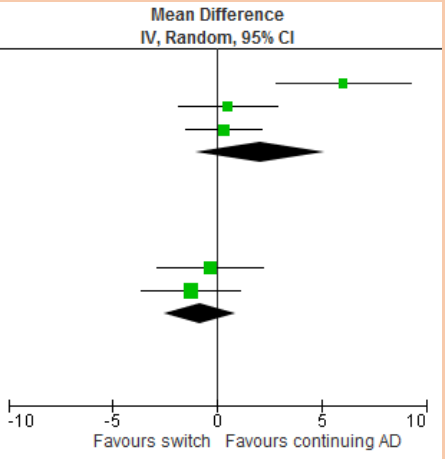


Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS)



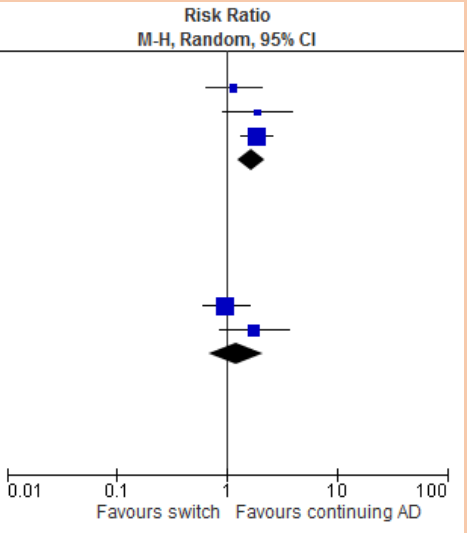
Depression symptomatology (MADRS change score)

Study or Subgroup	Experimental Mean	SD	Total	Control Mean	SD	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI
18.3.1 Switch to antipsychotic monotherapy versus continuing SSRI/TCA/SNRI								
Corya 2006	-7.71	9.21	62	-13.73	8.91	59	29.0%	6.02 [2.79, 9.25]
Shelton 2005	-6.95	8.52	144	-7.46	8.08	68	34.0%	0.51 [-1.86, 2.88]
Thase 2007	-8.9	9	197	-9.2	9.7	203	37.0%	0.30 [-1.53, 2.13]
Subtotal (95% CI)			**403**			**330**	**100.0%**	**2.03 [-1.06, 5.13]**
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 5.87; Chi² = 9.78, df = 2 (P = 0.008); I² = 80%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.29 (P = 0.20)								
18.3.2 Switch to combined antipsychotic + SSRI versus continuing TCA/SNRI								
Corya 2006	-14.06	9.2	243	-13.73	8.91	59	46.1%	-0.33 [-2.88, 2.22]
Shelton 2005	-8.71	8.46	146	-7.46	8.08	68	53.9%	-1.25 [-3.61, 1.11]
Subtotal (95% CI)			**389**			**127**	**100.0%**	**-0.83 [-2.56, 0.91]**
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.27, df = 1 (P = 0.60); I² = 0%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.93 (P = 0.35)								
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 2.49, df = 1 (P = 0.11), I² = 59.9%								



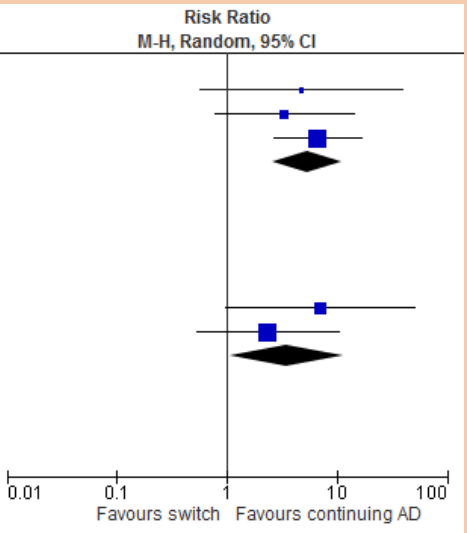
Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

Study or Subgroup	Experimental Events	Total	Control Events	Total	Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
18.4.1 Switch to antipsychotic monotherapy versus continuing SSRI/TCA/SNRI						
Corya 2006	18	62	15	59	22.6%	1.14 [0.64, 2.05]
Shelton 2005	32	144	8	68	15.3%	1.89 [0.92, 3.88]
Thase 2007	72	199	40	206	62.1%	1.86 [1.33, 2.60]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**405**		**333**	**100.0%**	**1.67 [1.26, 2.23]**
Total events	122		63			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.01; Chi² = 2.15, df = 2 (P = 0.34); I² = 7%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.51 (P = 0.0004)						
18.4.2 Switch to combined antipsychotic + SSRI versus continuing TCA/SNRI						
Corya 2006	60	243	15	59	60.6%	0.97 [0.60, 1.58]
Shelton 2005	30	146	8	68	39.4%	1.75 [0.85, 3.61]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**389**		**127**	**100.0%**	**1.22 [0.69, 2.16]**
Total events	90		23			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.08; Chi² = 1.76, df = 1 (P = 0.18); I² = 43%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.70 (P = 0.49)						
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 0.92, df = 1 (P = 0.34), I² = 0%						



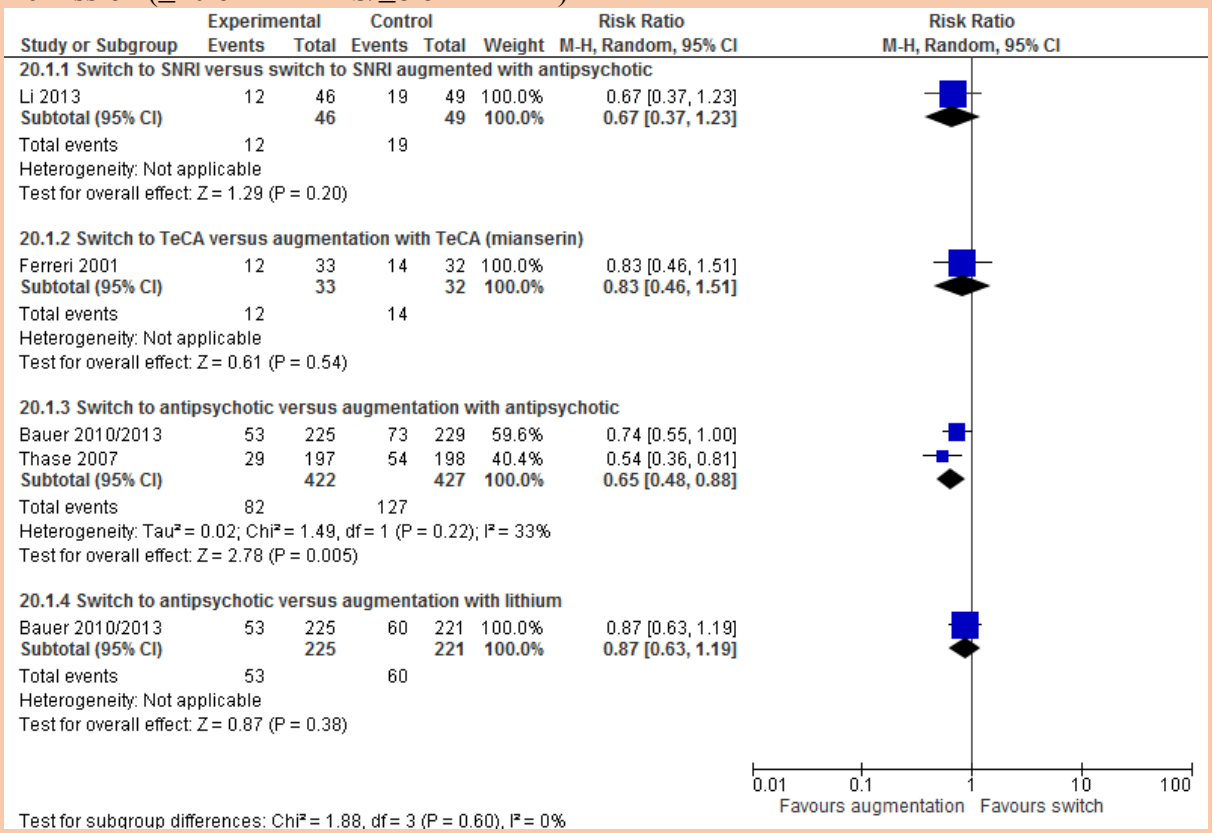
Discontinuation due to adverse events

Study or Subgroup	Experimental Events	Total	Control Events	Total	Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
18.5.1 Switch to antipsychotic monotherapy versus continuing SSRI/TCA/SNRI						
Corya 2006	5	62	1	59	11.9%	4.76 [0.57, 39.53]
Shelton 2005	14	144	2	68	25.3%	3.31 [0.77, 14.14]
Thase 2007	32	199	5	206	62.8%	6.63 [2.63, 16.66]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**405**		**333**	**100.0%**	**5.34 [2.57, 11.09]**
Total events	51		8			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.64, df = 2 (P = 0.73); I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.49 (P < 0.00001)						
18.5.2 Switch to combined antipsychotic + SSRI versus continuing TCA/SNRI						
Corya 2006	29	243	1	59	36.3%	7.04 [0.98, 50.65]
Shelton 2005	10	146	2	68	63.7%	2.33 [0.52, 10.34]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**389**		**127**	**100.0%**	**3.48 [1.06, 11.44]**
Total events	39		3			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.84, df = 1 (P = 0.36); I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.06 (P = 0.04)						
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 0.36, df = 1 (P = 0.55), I² = 0%						

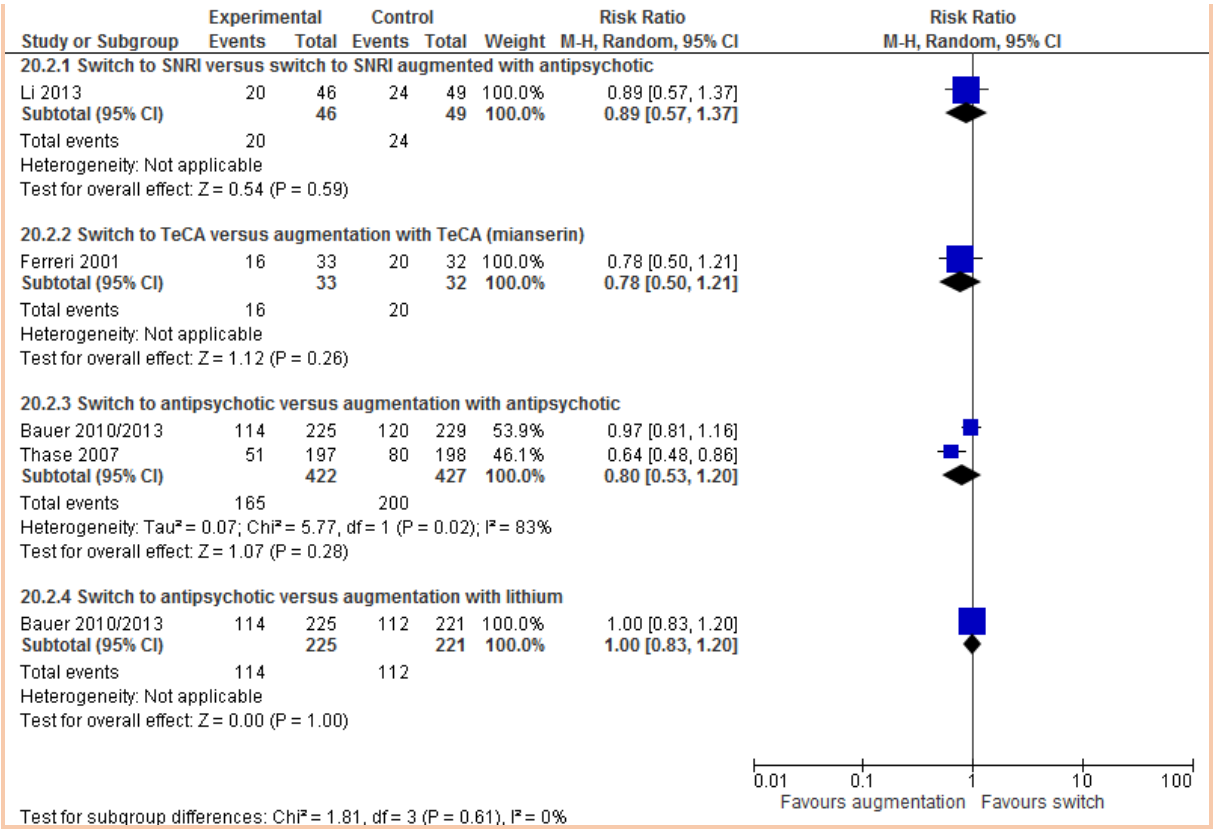


Switching to another antidepressant or non-antidepressant agent compared to augmenting with another antidepressant or non-antidepressant agent

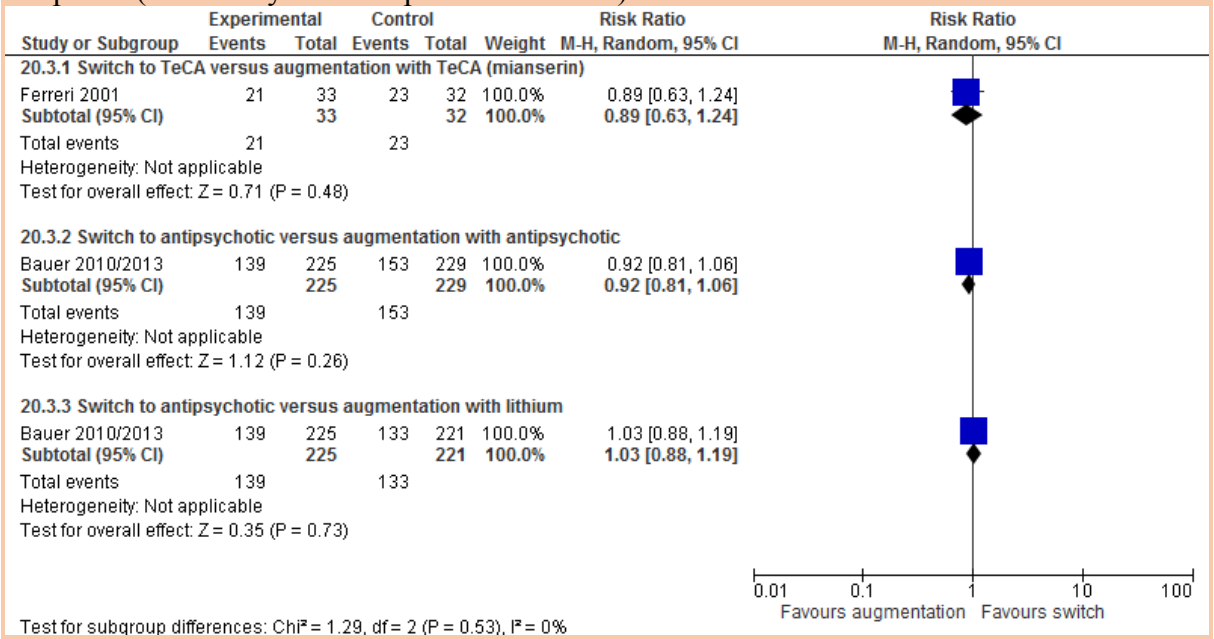
Remission (≤10 on MADRS/≤8 on HAMD)



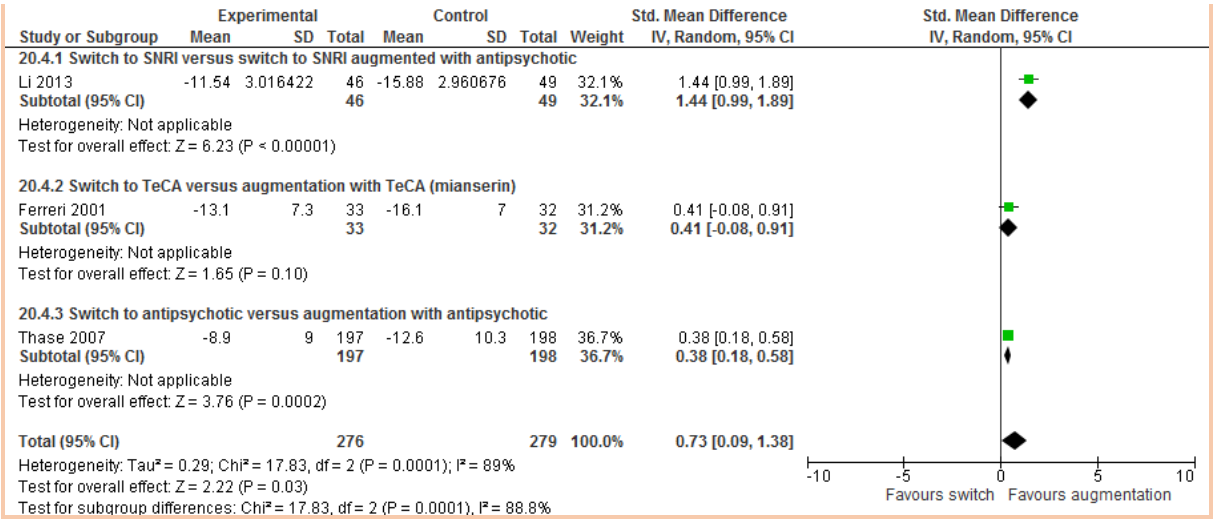
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS/HAMD)



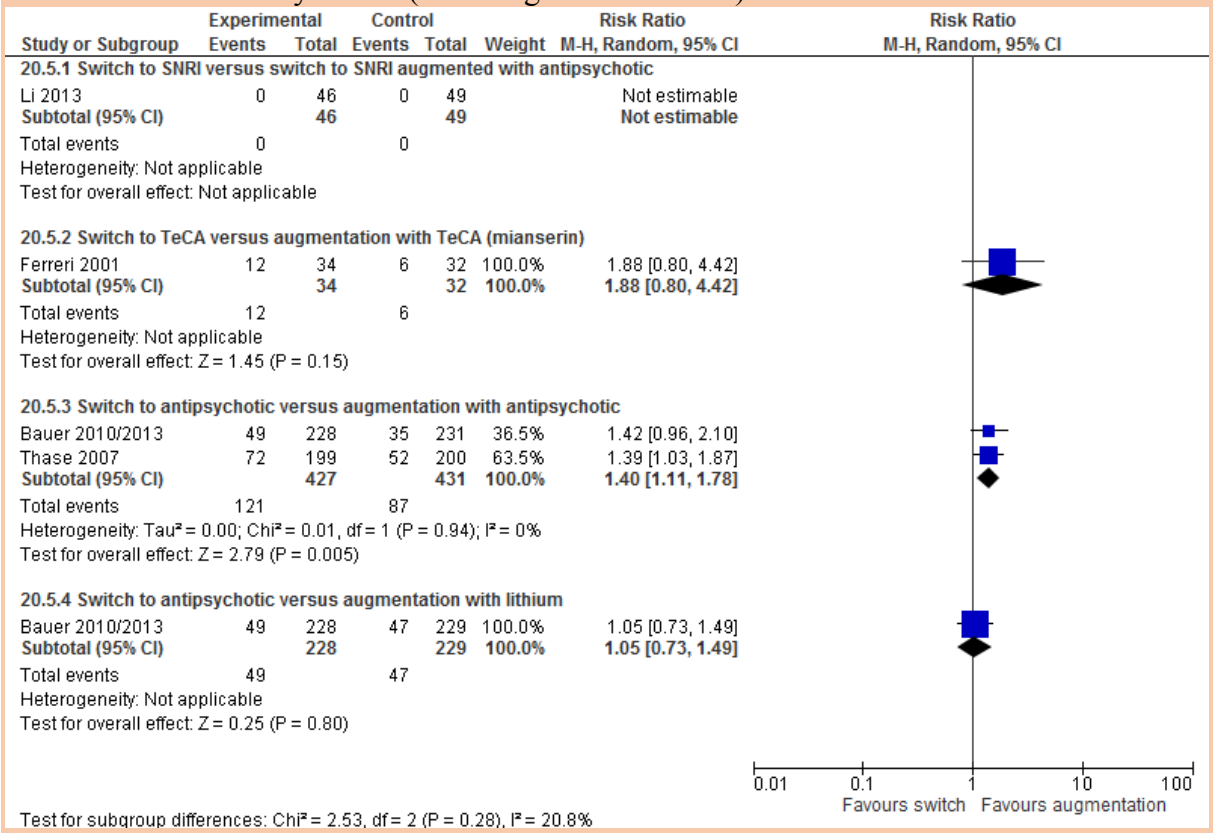
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



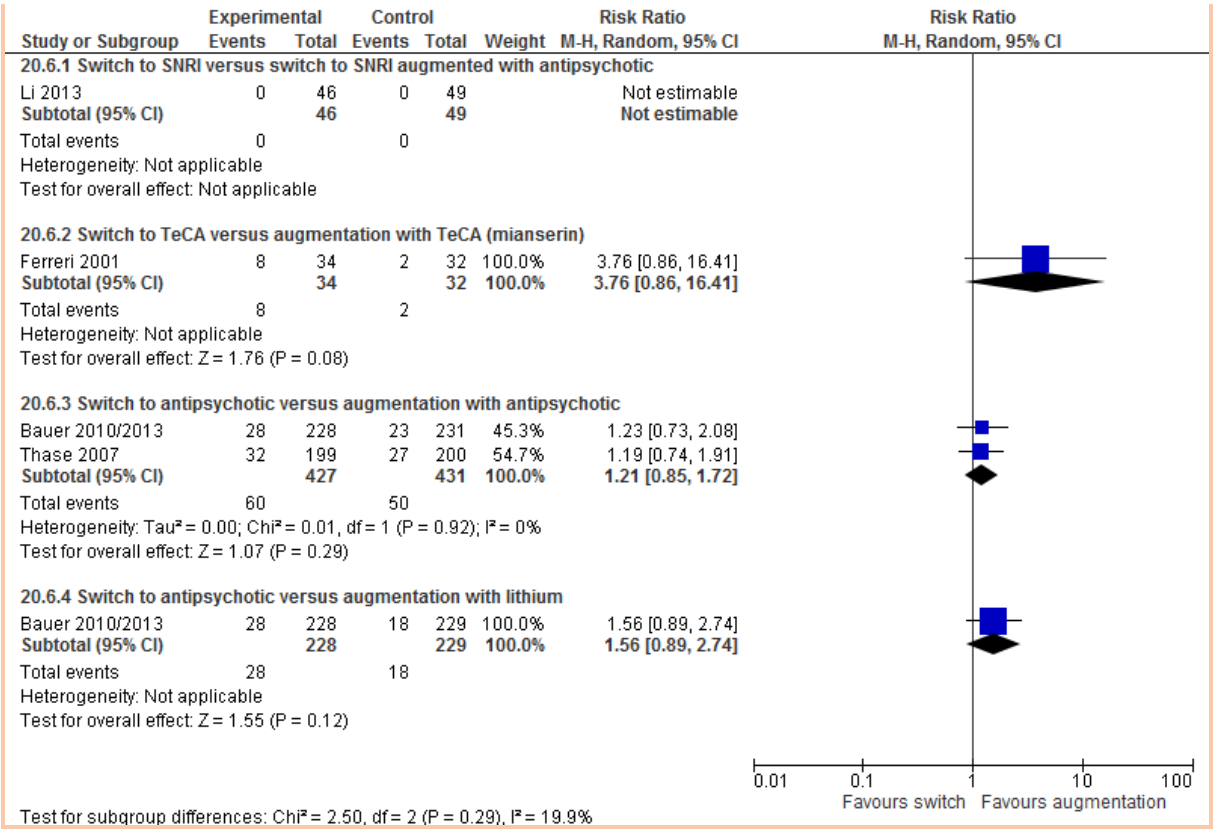
Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

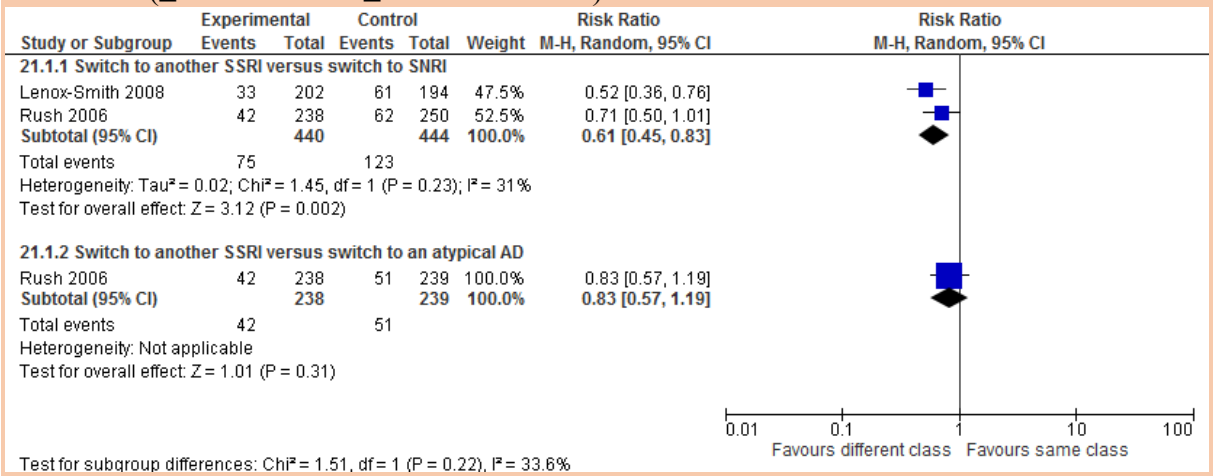


Discontinuation due to adverse events

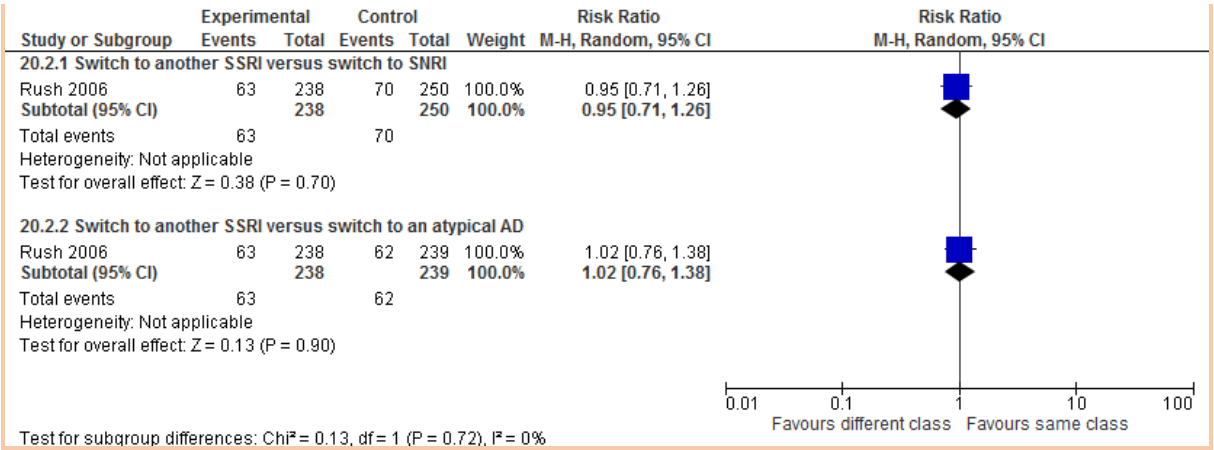


Switching to another antidepressant of the same class compared to switching to another antidepressant of a different class

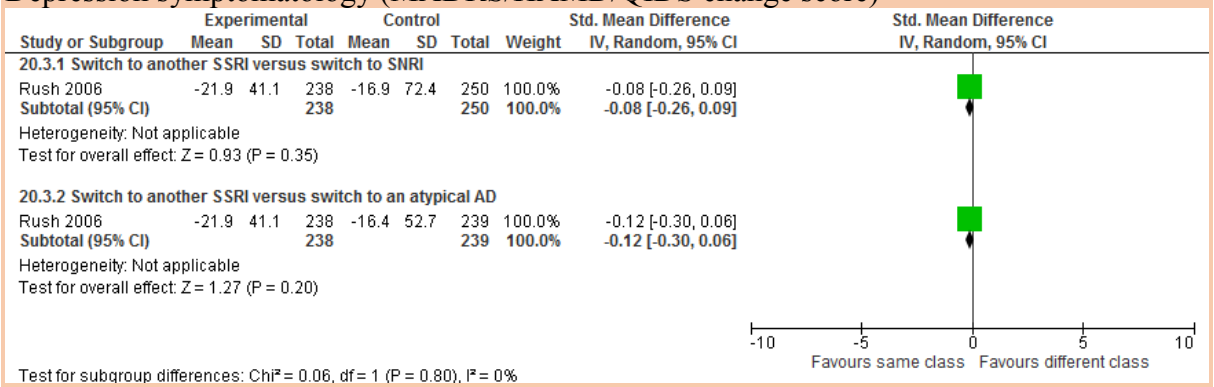
Remission (≤8 on MADRS/≤4/7/9 on HAMD)



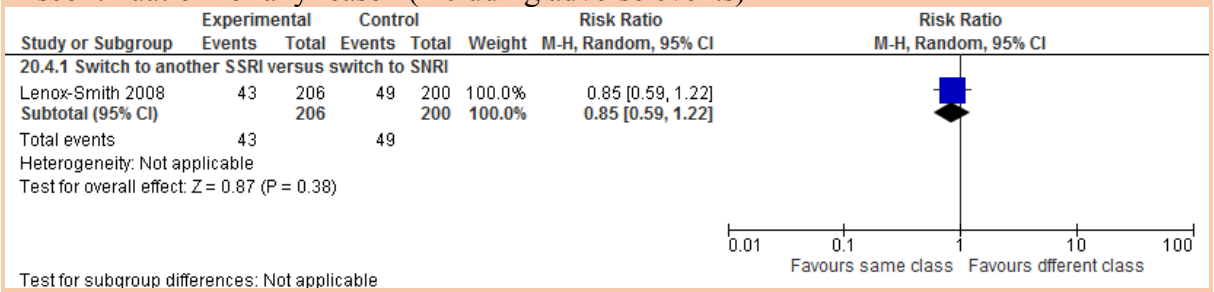
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS/HAMD/QIDS)



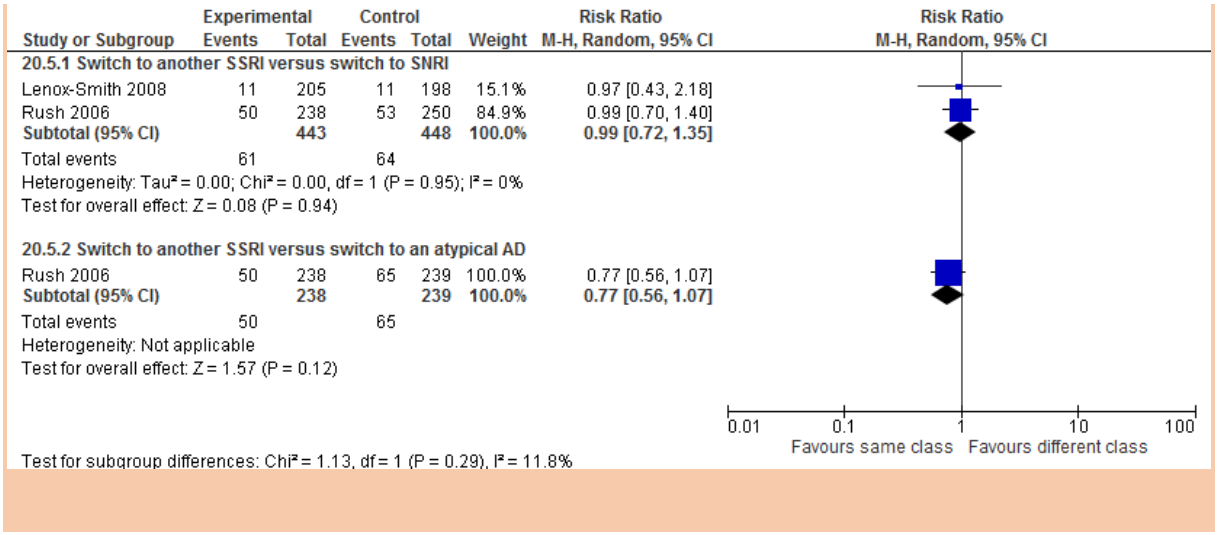
Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD/QIDS change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

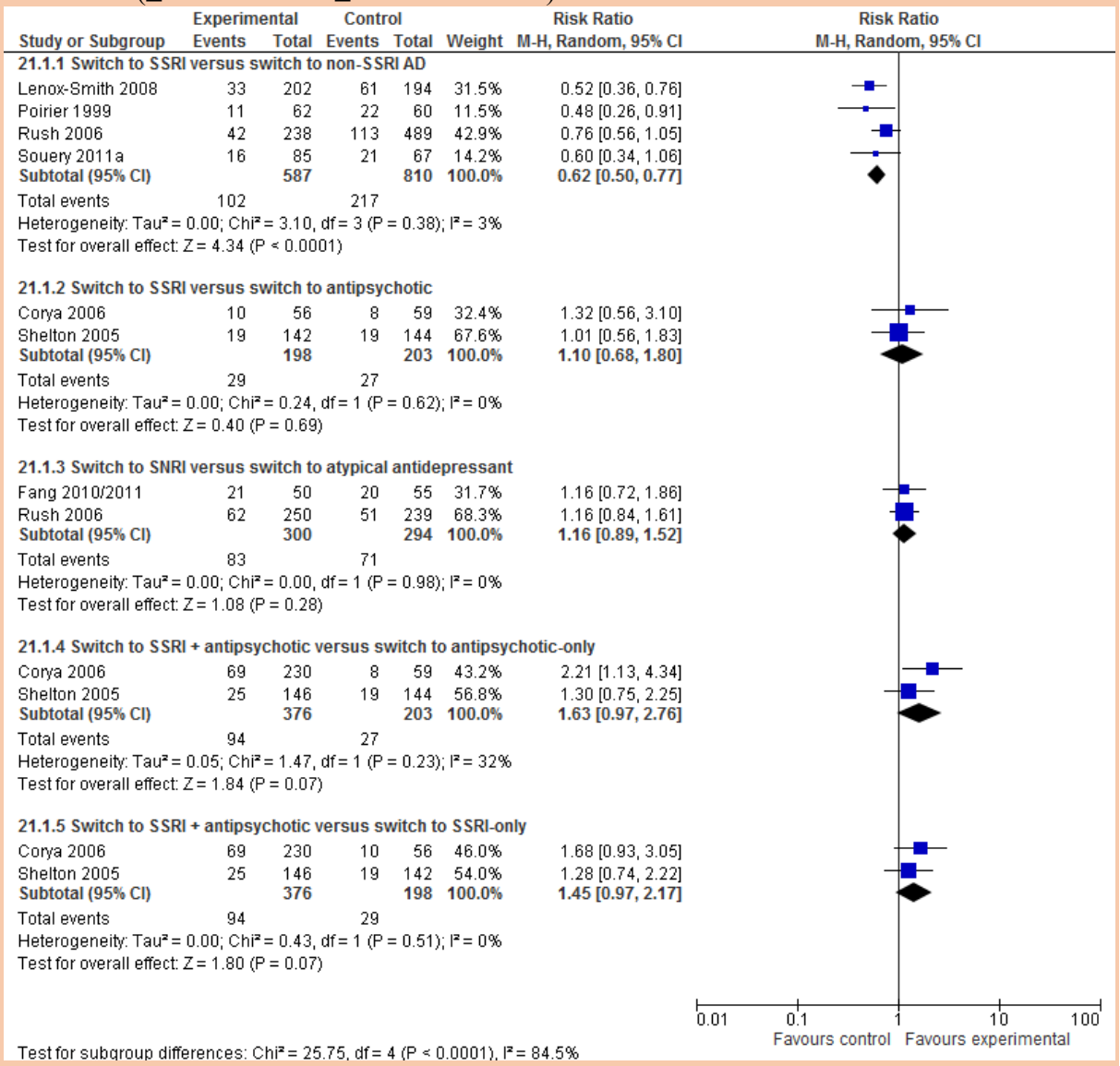


Discontinuation due to adverse events

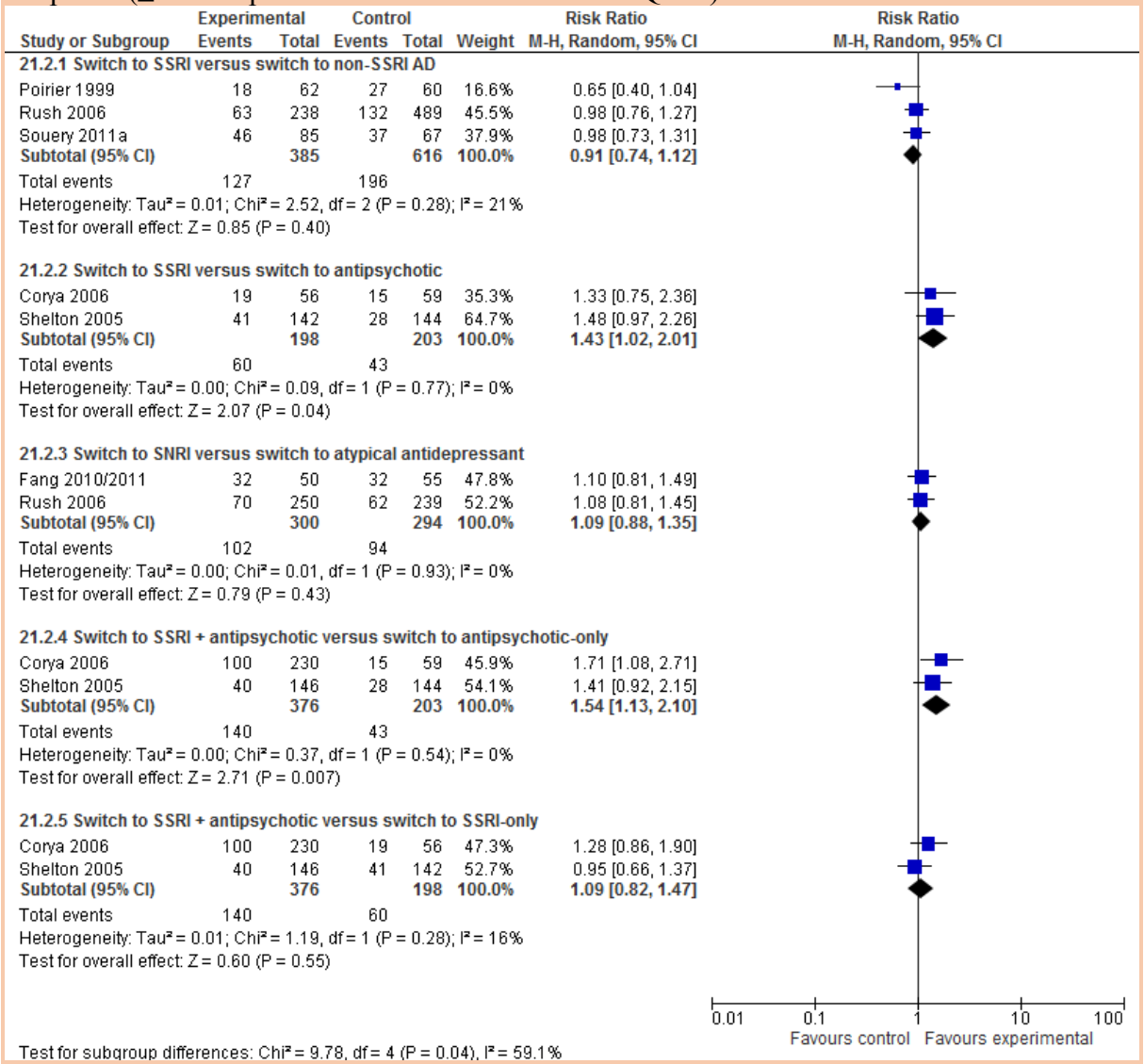

Experimental
Control
Risk Ratio
Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup Events Total Events Total Weight M-H, Random, 95% CI
M-H, Random, 95% CI
20.5.1 Switch to another SSRI versus switch to SNRI
Lenox-Smith 2008 11 205 11 198 15.1% 0.97 [0.43, 2.18]
Rush 2006 50 238 53 250 84.9% 0.99 [0.70, 1.40]
Subtotal (95% CI) 443 448 100.0% 0.99 [0.72, 1.35]
Total events 61 64
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.00, df = 1 (P = 0.95); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.08 (P = 0.94)
20.5.2 Switch to another SSRI versus switch to an atypical AD
Rush 2006 50 238 65 239 100.0% 0.77 [0.56, 1.07]
Subtotal (95% CI) 238 239 100.0% 0.77 [0.56, 1.07]
Total events 50 65
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.57 (P = 0.12)
0.01
0.1
1
10
100
Favours same class
Favours different class
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 1.13, df = 1 (P = 0.29), I² = 11.8%

Switching to another antidepressant or non-antidepressant agent (head-to-head comparisons)

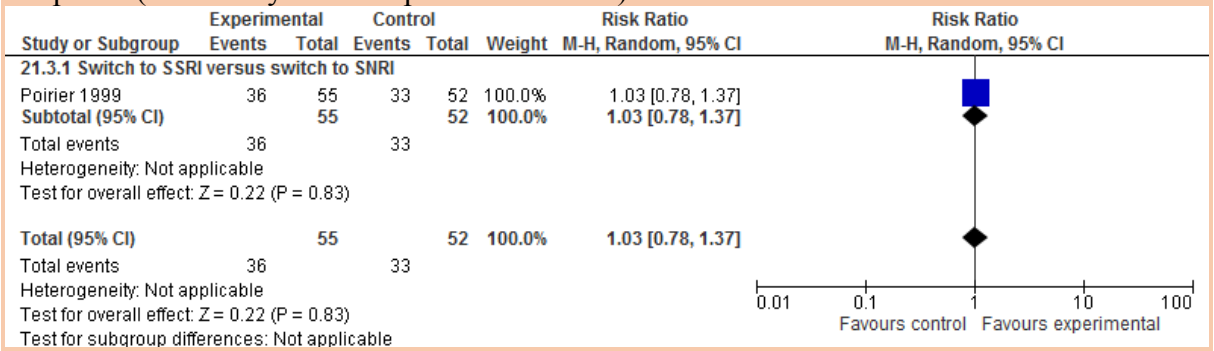
Remission (≤8 on MADRS/≤4/7/9 on HAMD)



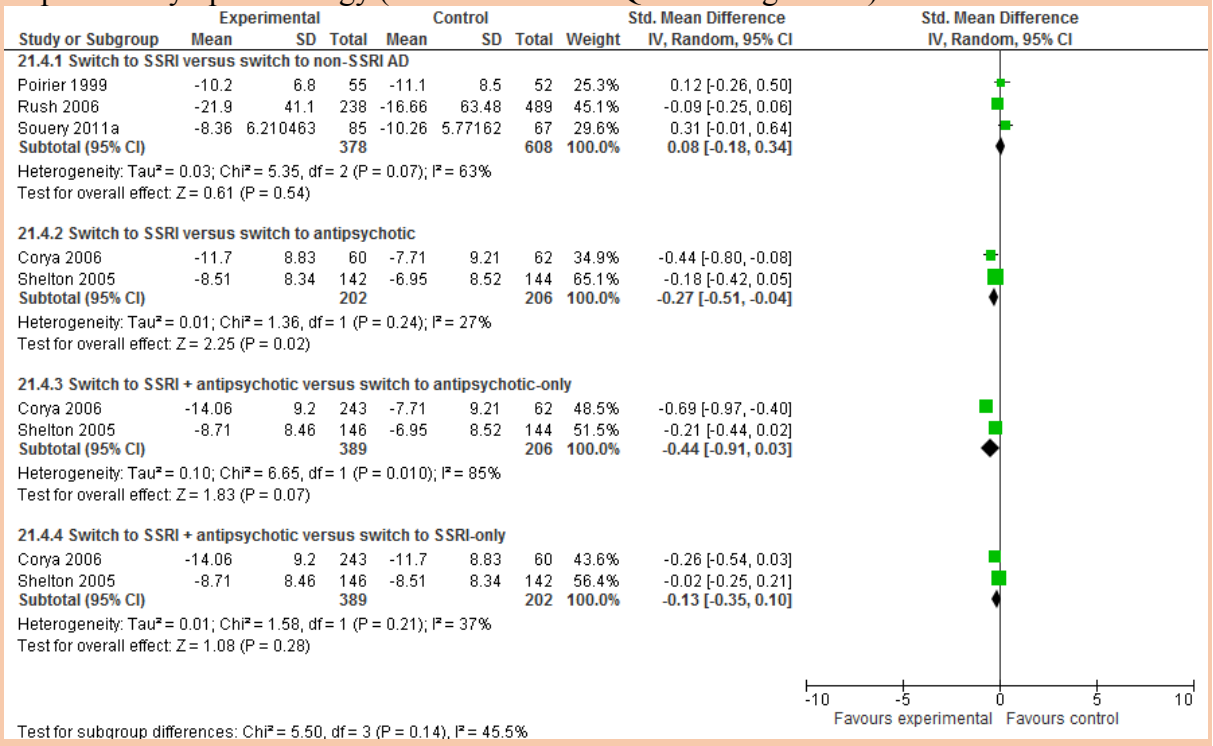
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS/HAMD/QIDS)



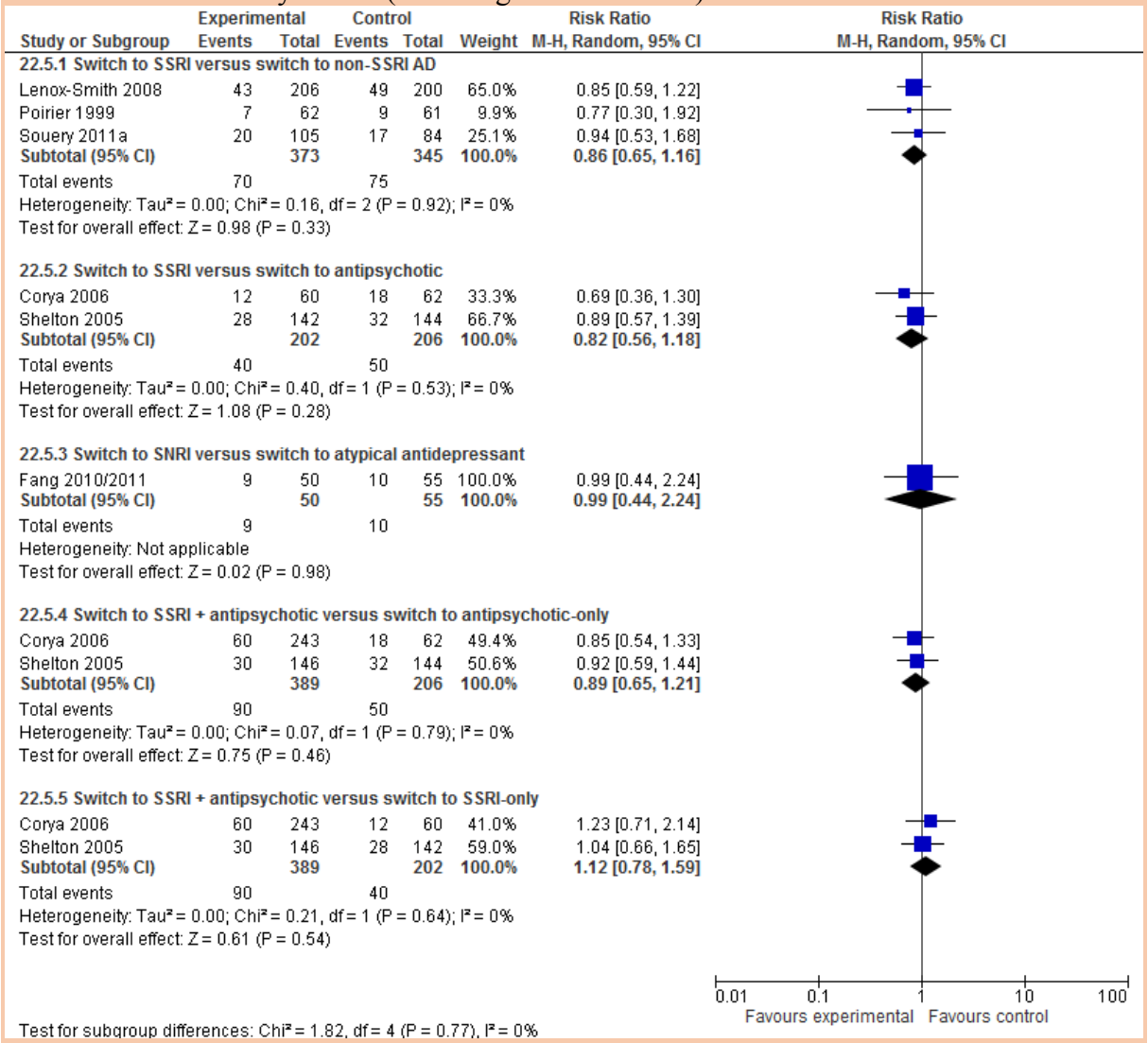
Response (much/very much improved on CGI-I)



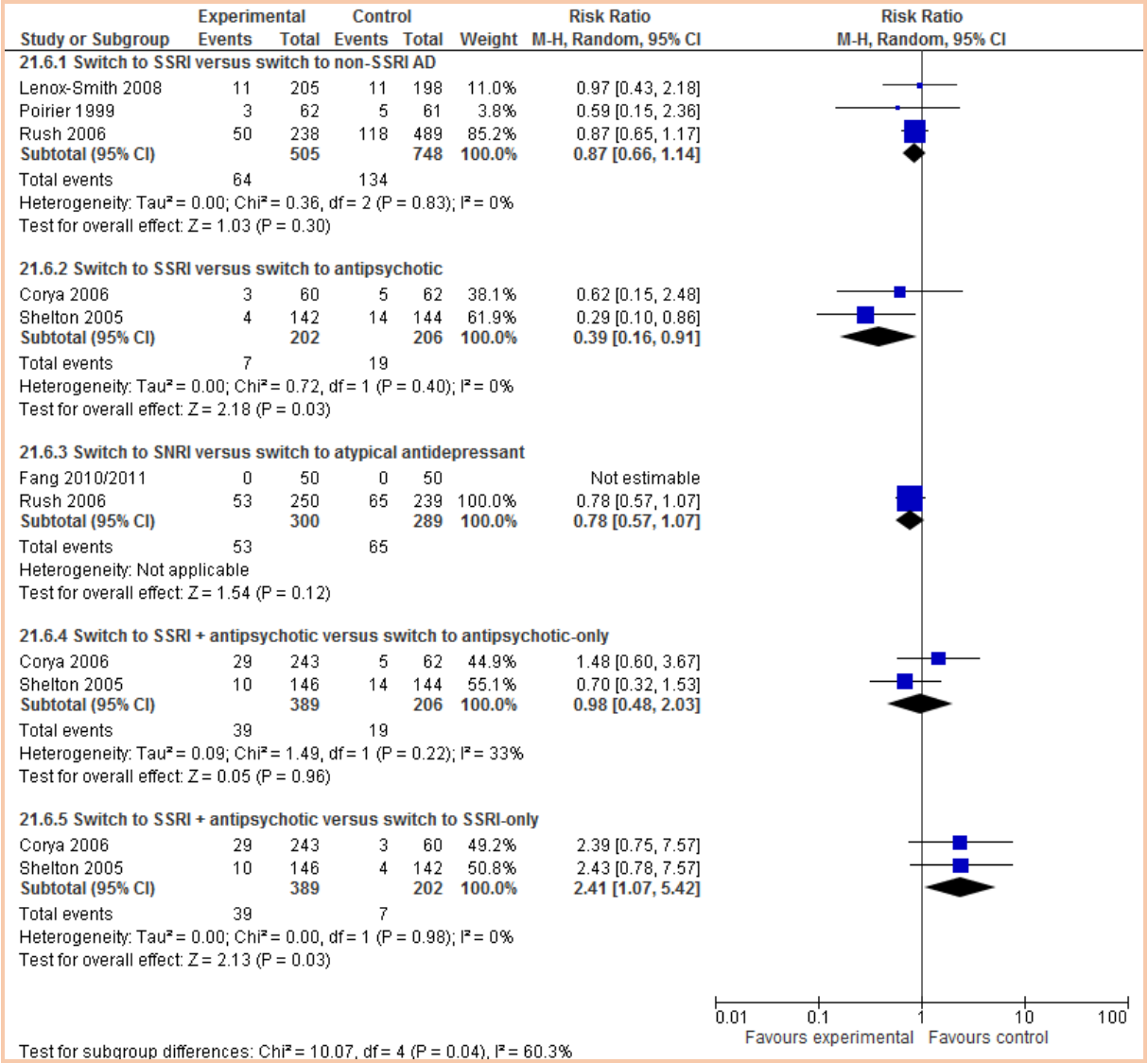
Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD/QIDS change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

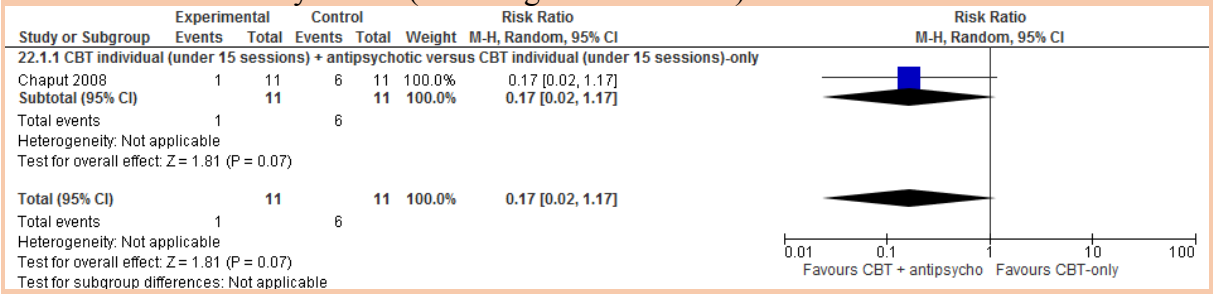


Discontinuation due to adverse events



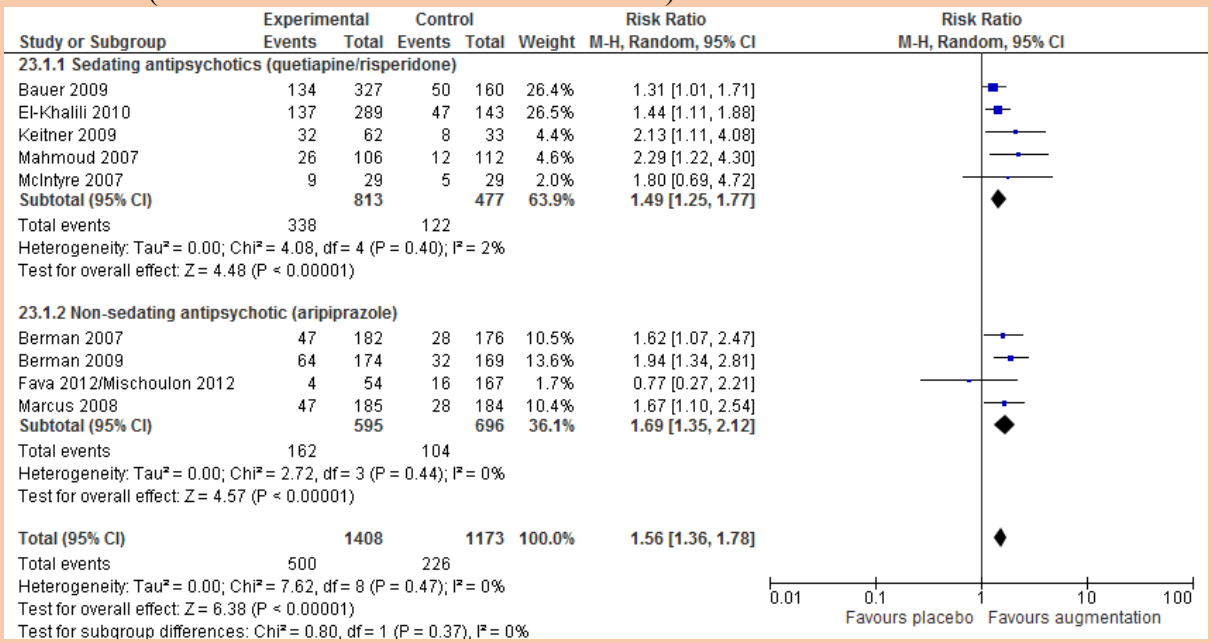
Switching to a combined psychological and pharmacological intervention versus switching to a psychological intervention-only

Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

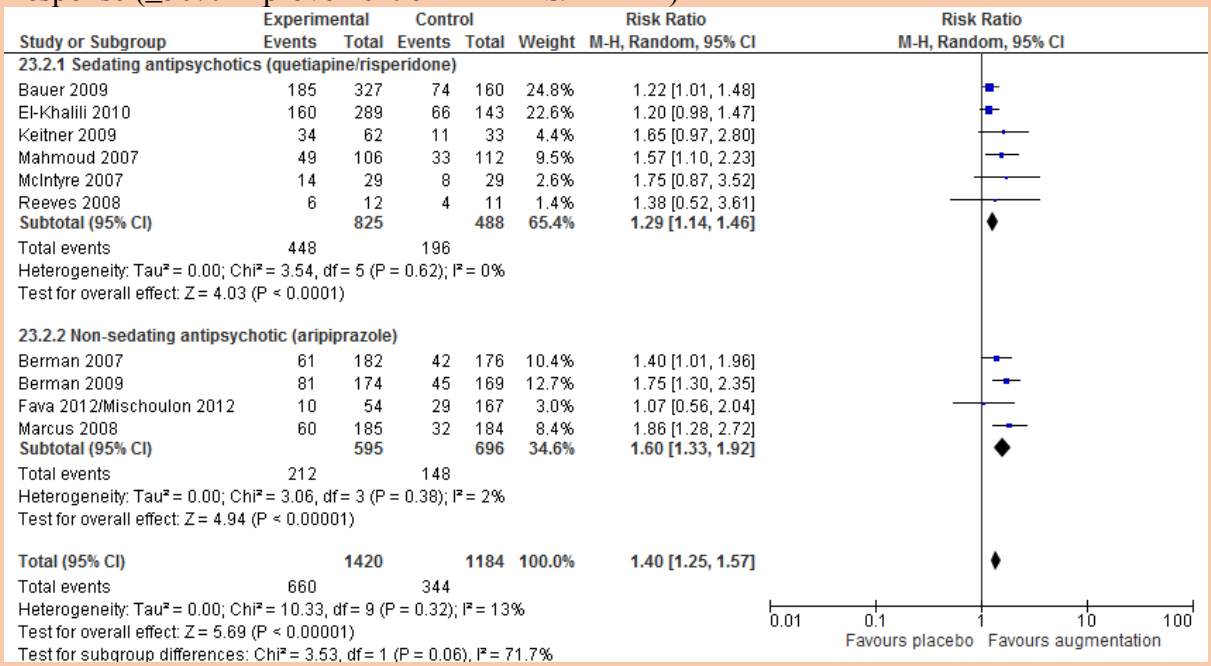


Antipsychotic augmentation versus placebo: Sub-analysis by sedating versus non-sedating antipsychotics

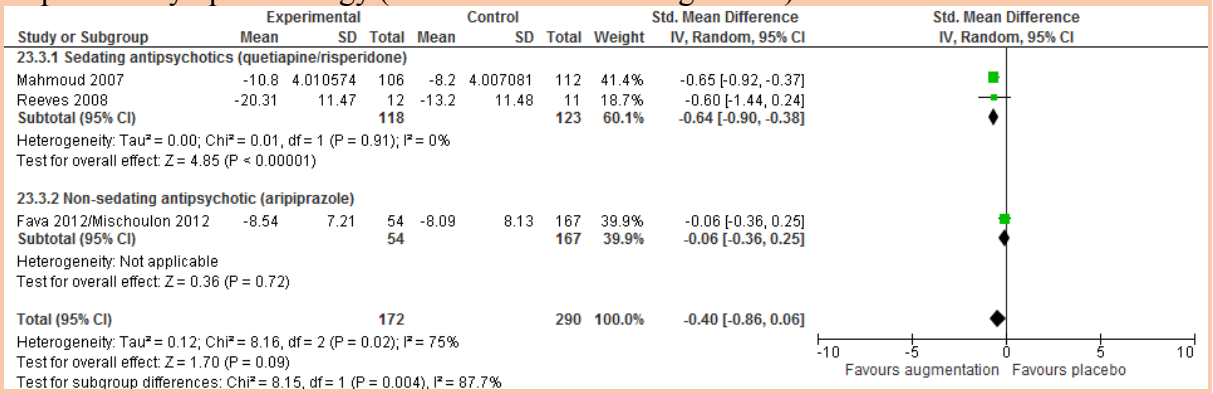
Remission (<10/11 on MADRS/<7/8/10 on HAMD)



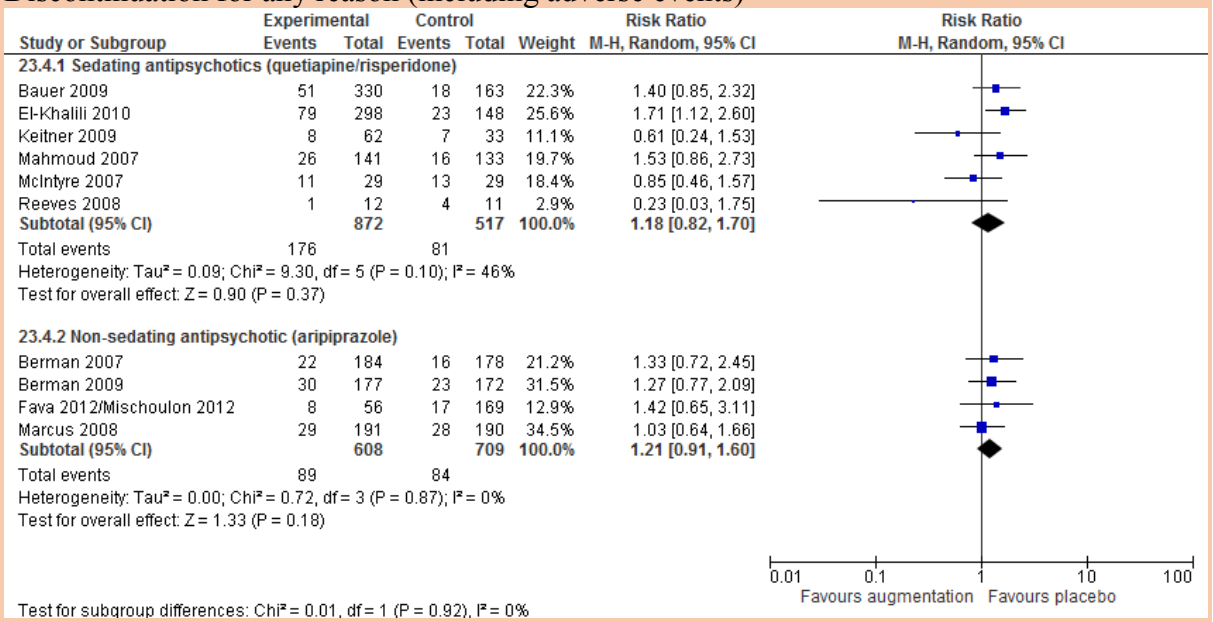
Response (≥50% improvement on MADRS/HAMD)



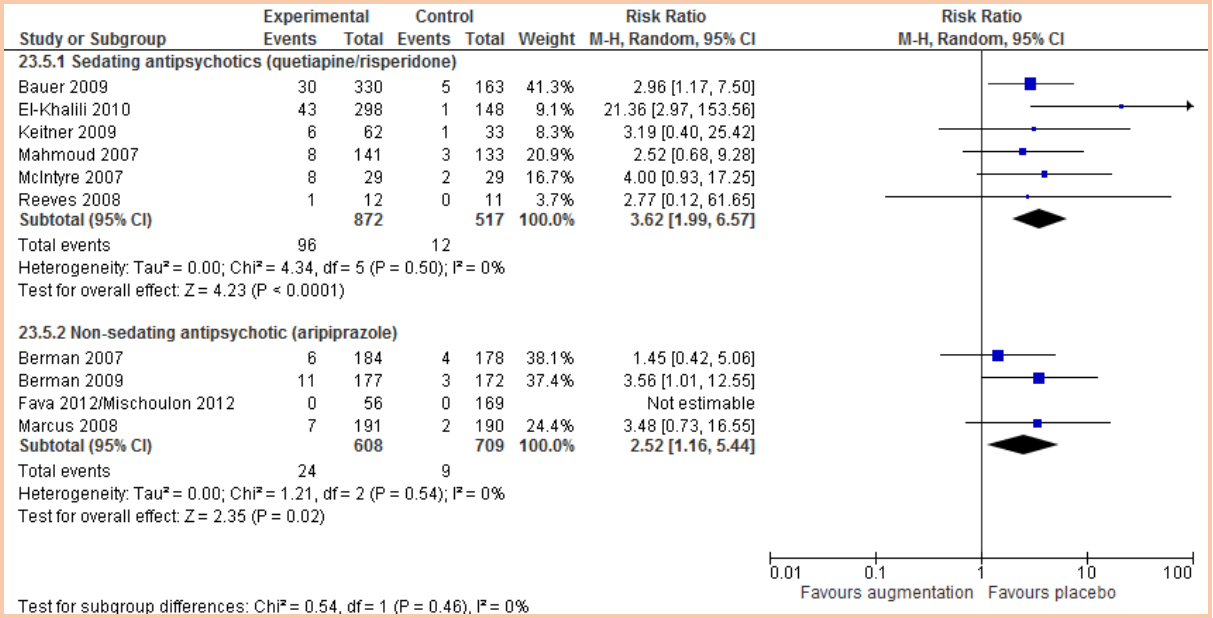
Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)



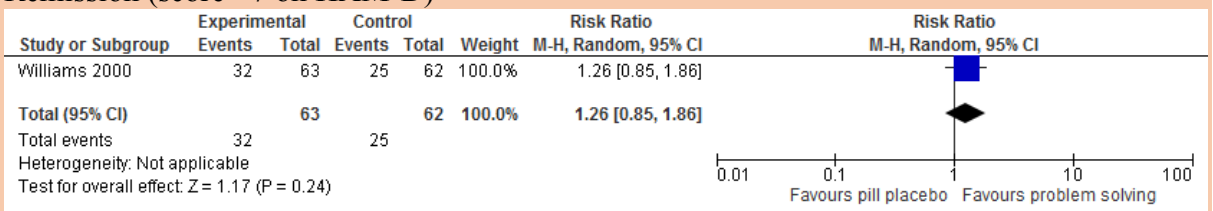
Discontinuation due to adverse events



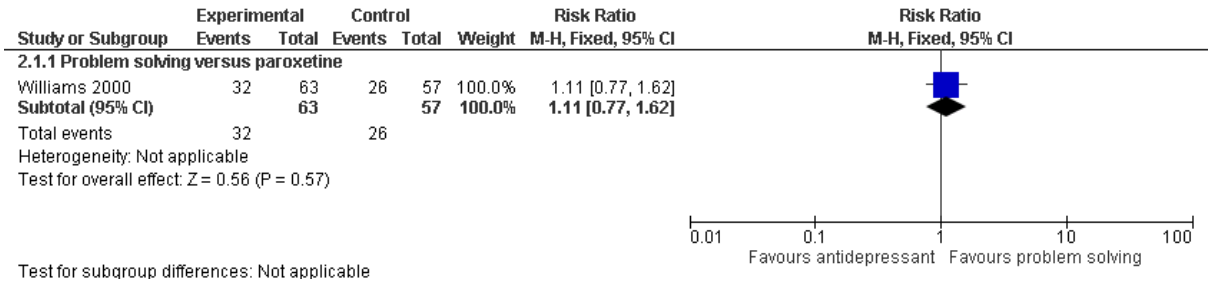
Chronic depressive symptoms (chapter 9)

Problem solving versus pill placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

Remission (score <7 on HAM-D)

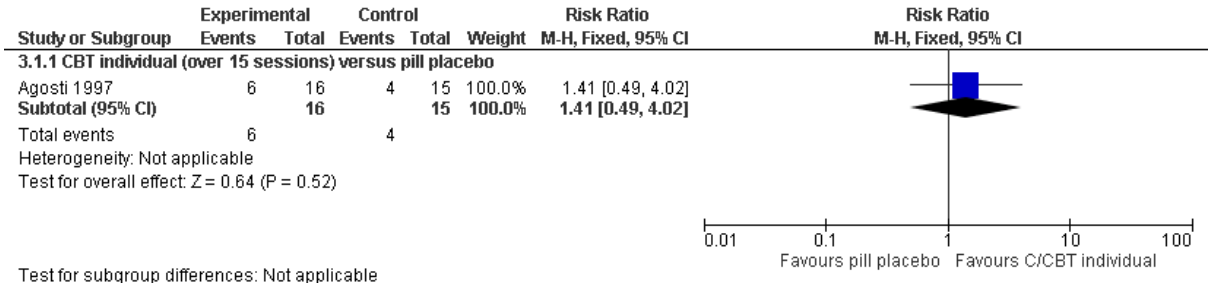


Problem solving versus antidepressant for dysthymia

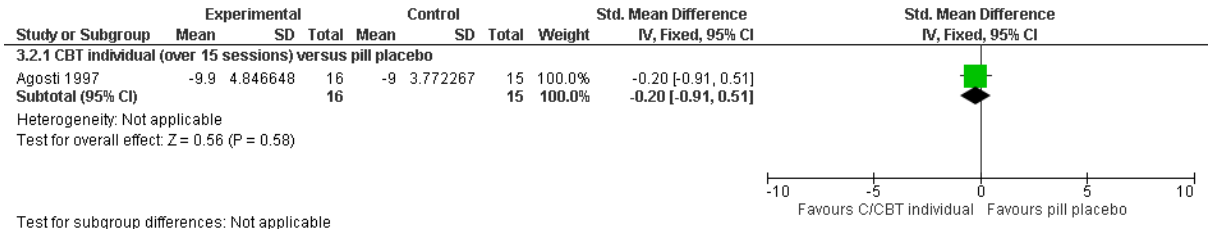


Cognitive and cognitive behavioural therapies versus pill placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

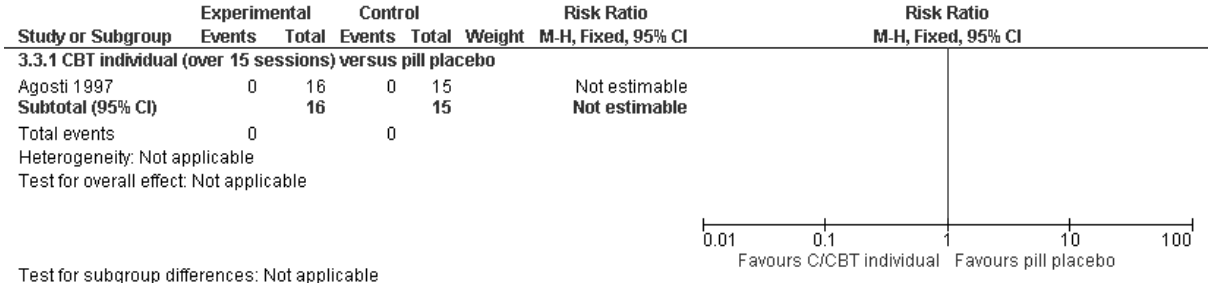
Remission (<7 on HAM-D)



Depression symptomatology (HAM-D change score)

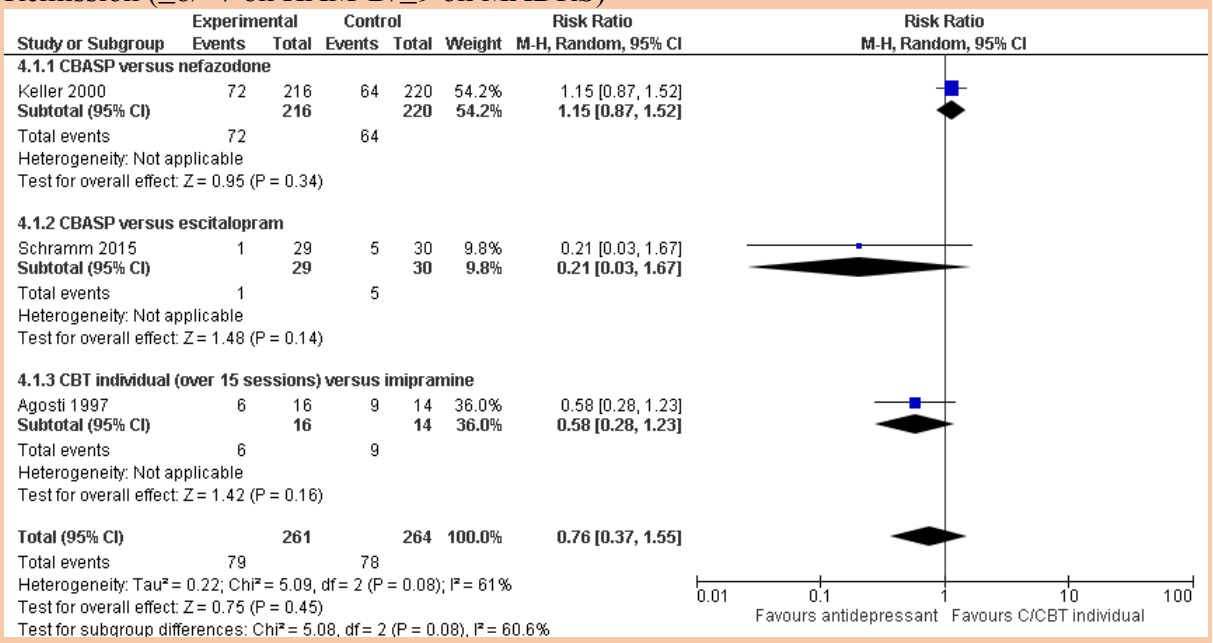


Discontinuation for any reason

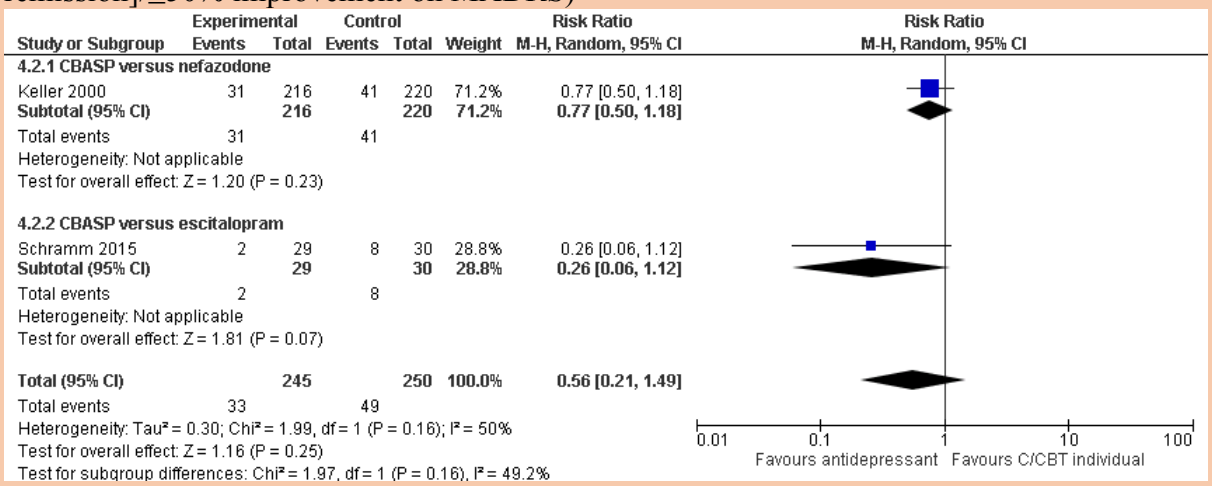


Cognitive and cognitive behavioural therapies versus antidepressants for chronic depressive symptoms

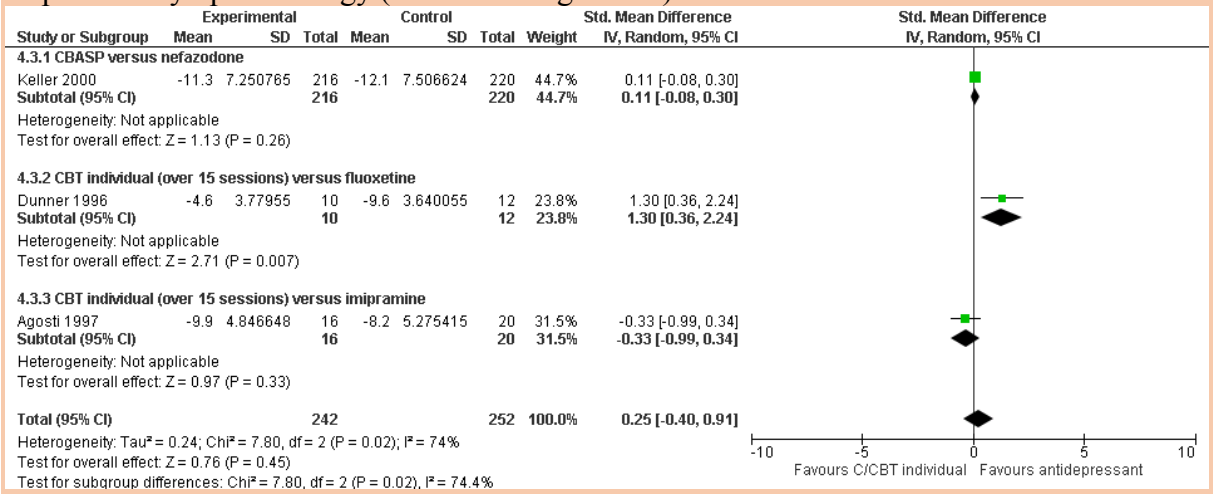
Remission (≤8/<7 on HAM-D/≤9 on MADRS)



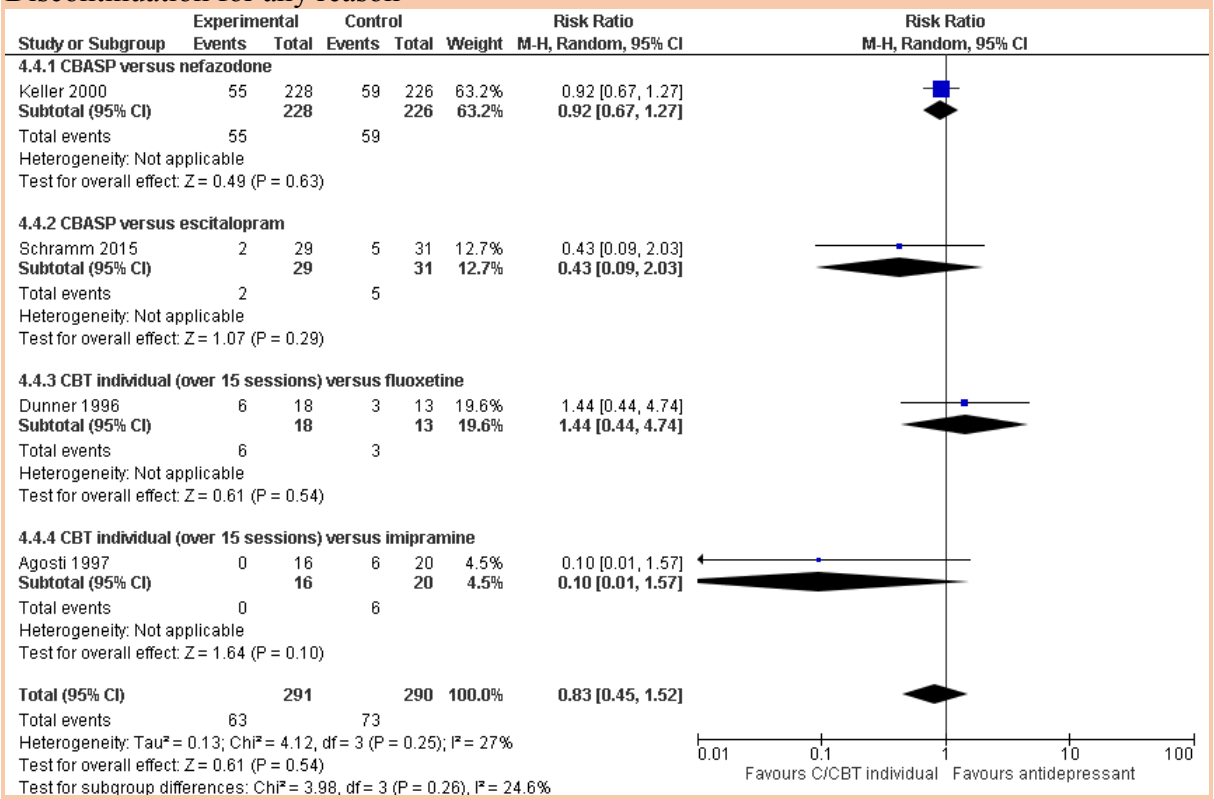
Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D & HAMD score 8-15 [response without remission]/≥50% improvement on MADRS)



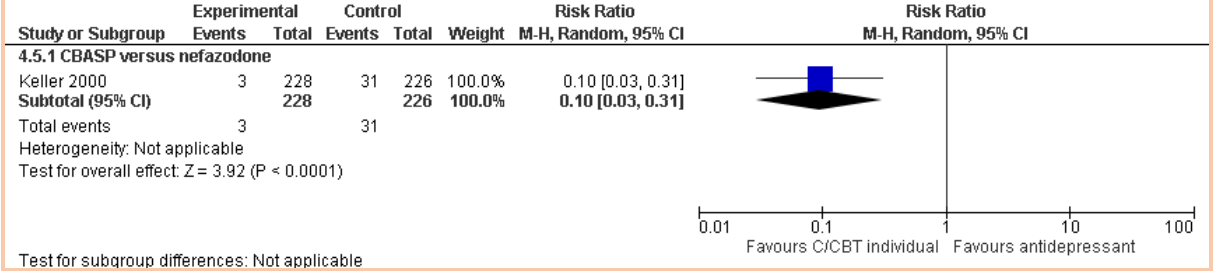
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason

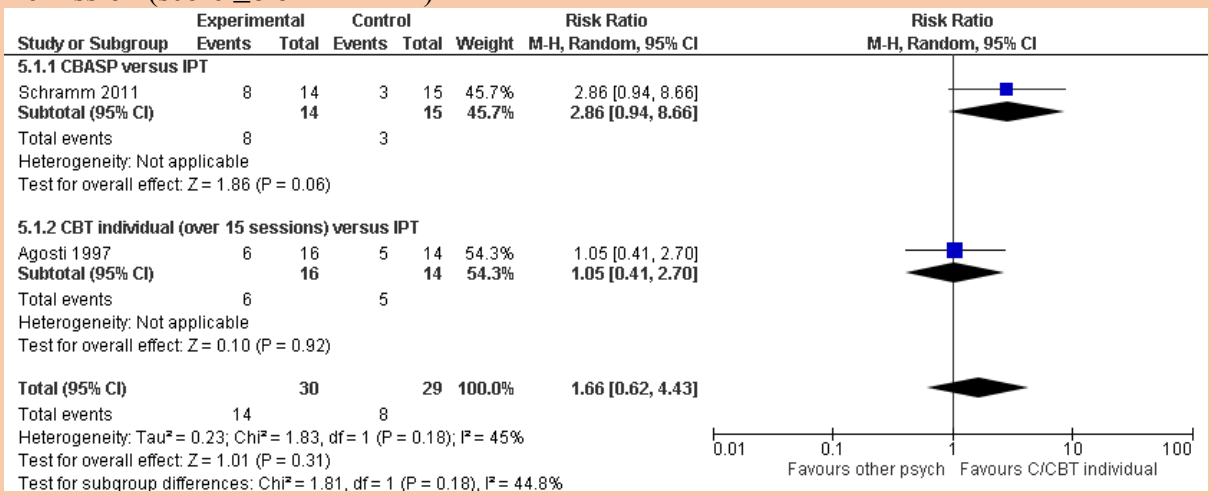


Discontinuation due to adverse events

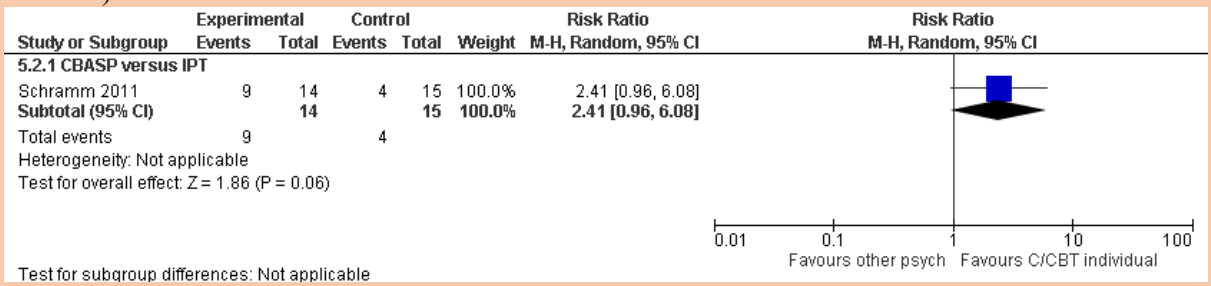


CBASP versus other psychological intervention for chronic depressive symptoms

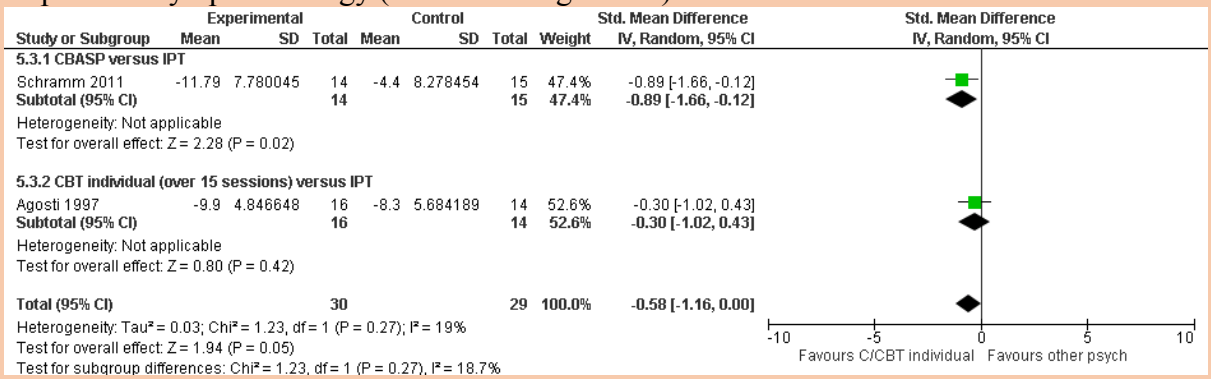
Remission (score ≤8 on HAM-D)



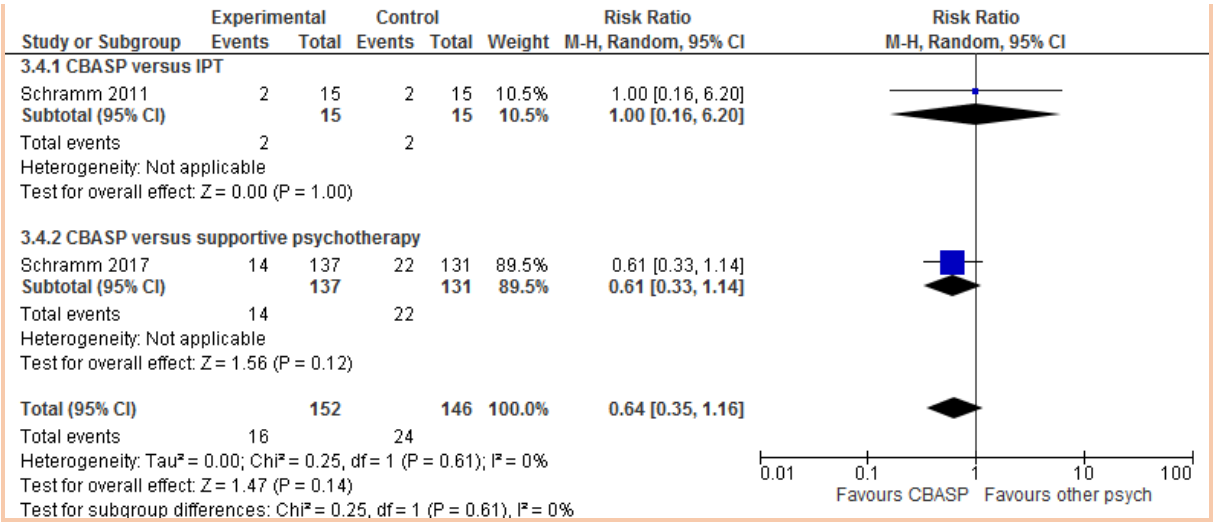
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD & HAMD score≤15/≥50% improvement on HAMD)



Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)

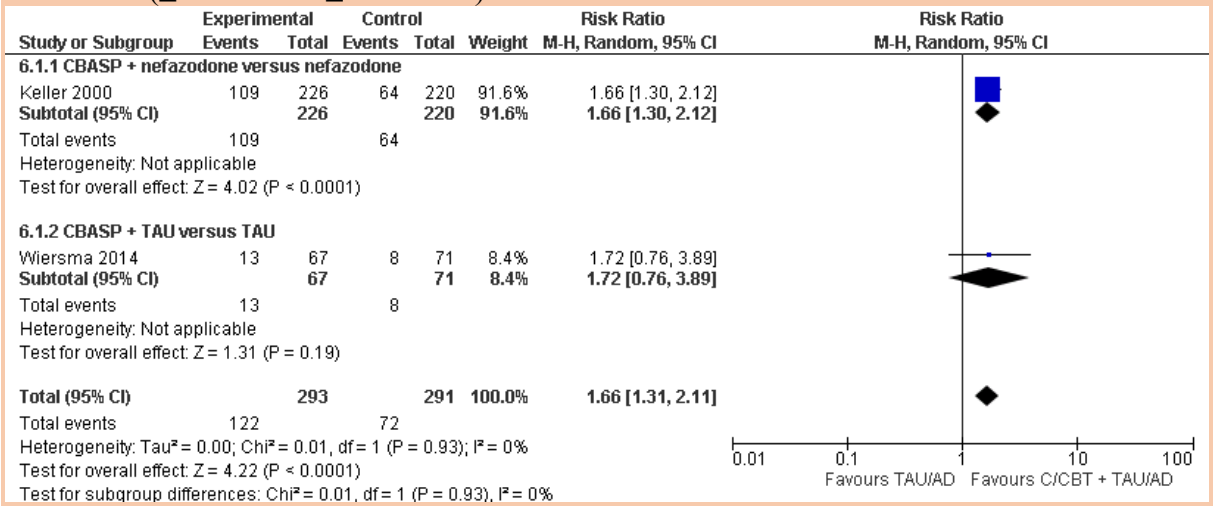


Discontinuation for any reason

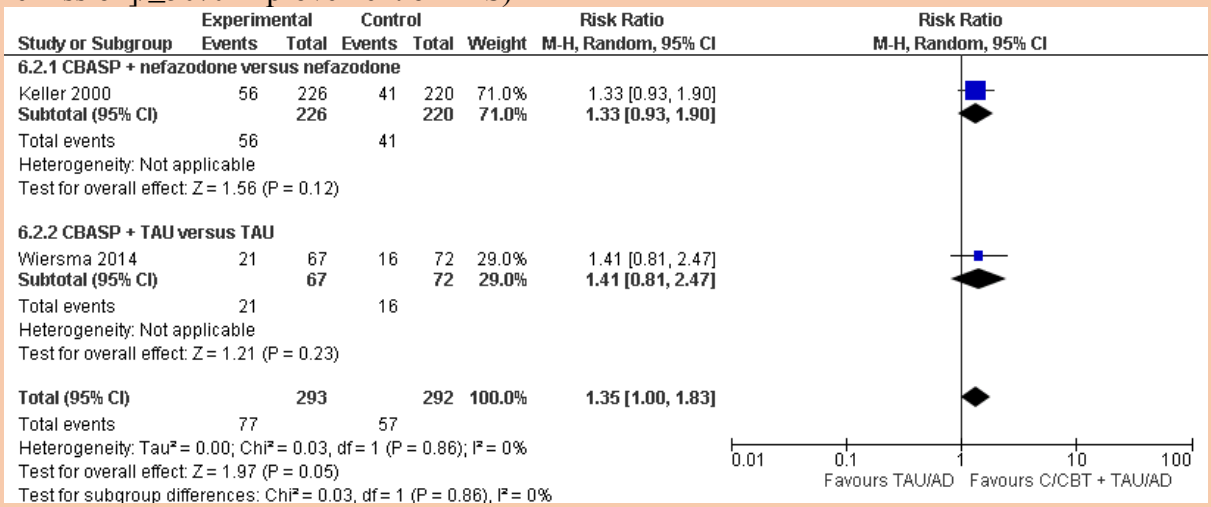


Cognitive and cognitive behavioural therapies + TAU/AD versus TAU/AD-only for chronic depressive symptoms

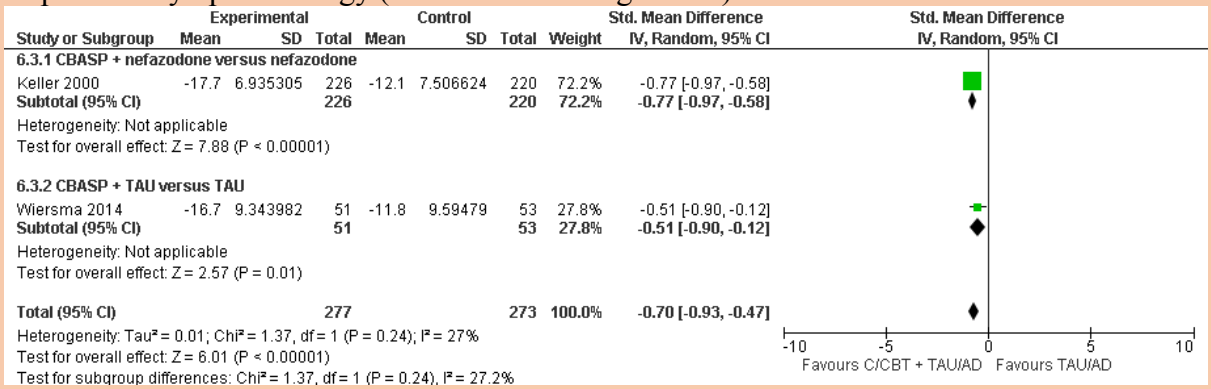
Remission (≤8 HAM-D/ ≤13 on IDS)



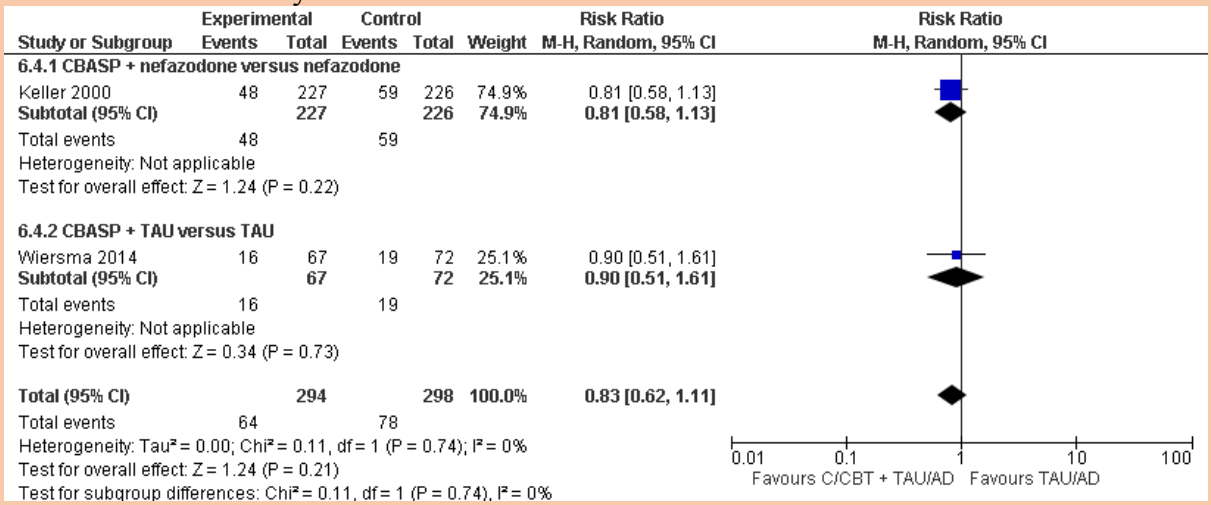
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD & HAMD score 8-15 [response without remission]/≥50% improvement on IDS)



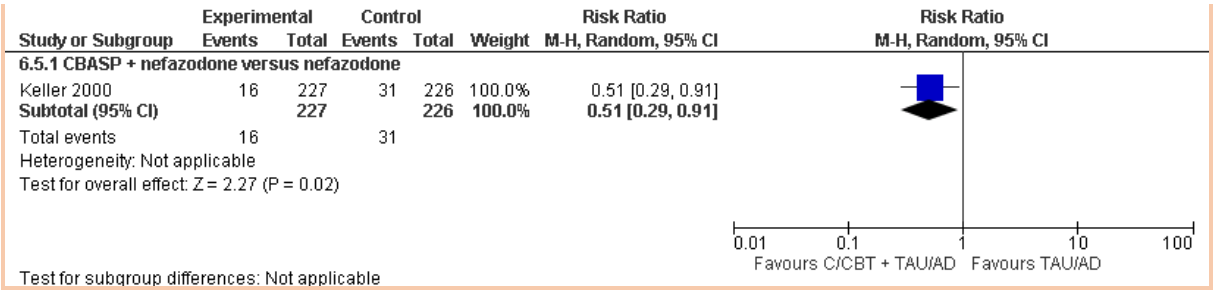
Depression symptomatology (HAMD/IDS change score)



Discontinuation for any reason

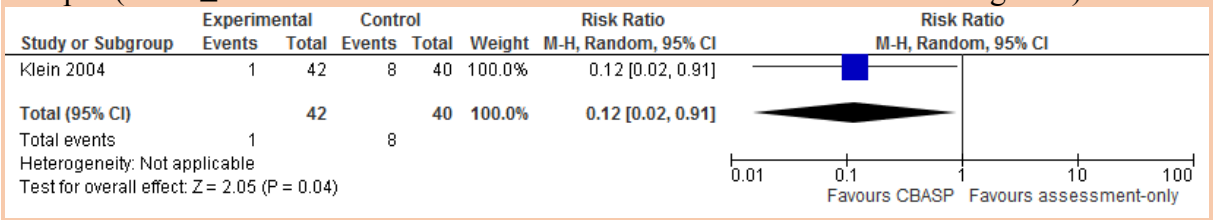


Discontinuation due to adverse events

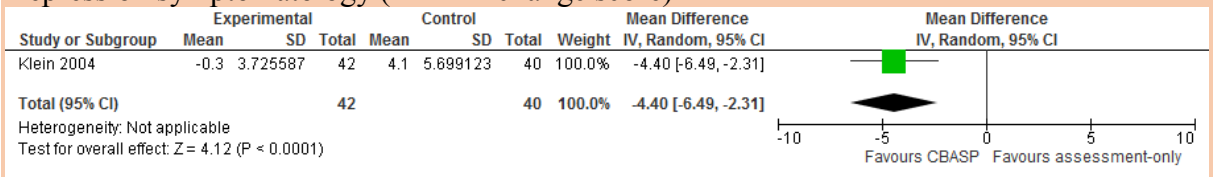


CBASP (maintenance treatment) versus assessment-only for relapse prevention in chronic depressive symptoms

Relapse (score ≥16 on HAM-D on 2 consecutive visits & DSM-IV MDD diagnosis)



Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



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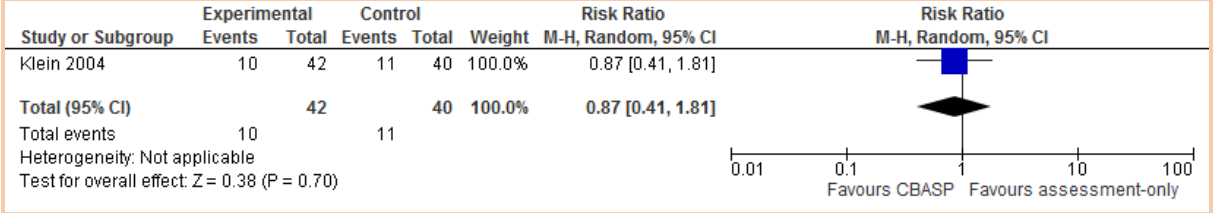
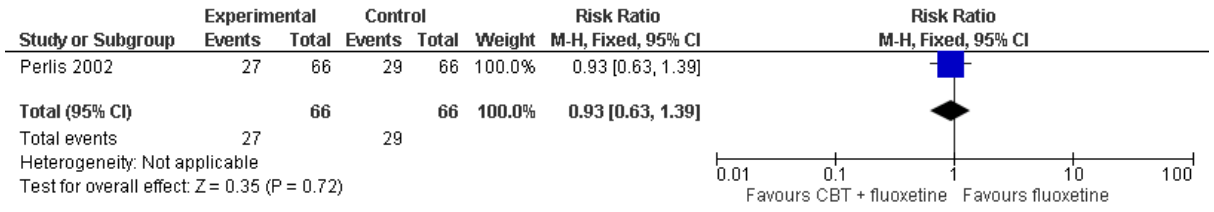


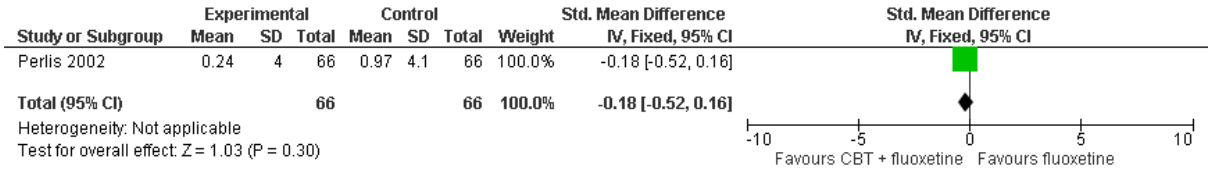
CBT + fluoxetine (dose increase) versus fluoxetine (dose increase) for relapse prevention in chronic depressive symptoms

Relapse (≥15 on HAM-D on 2 consecutive visits or DSR-III-R MDD)



Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)

Forest plots



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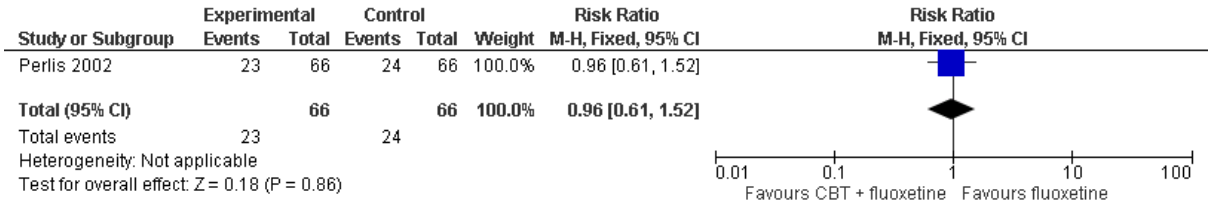
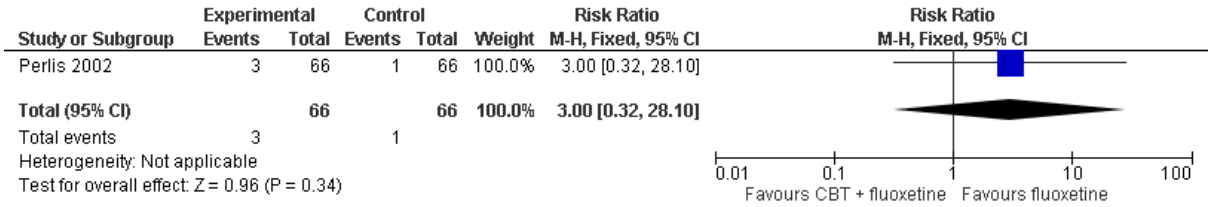
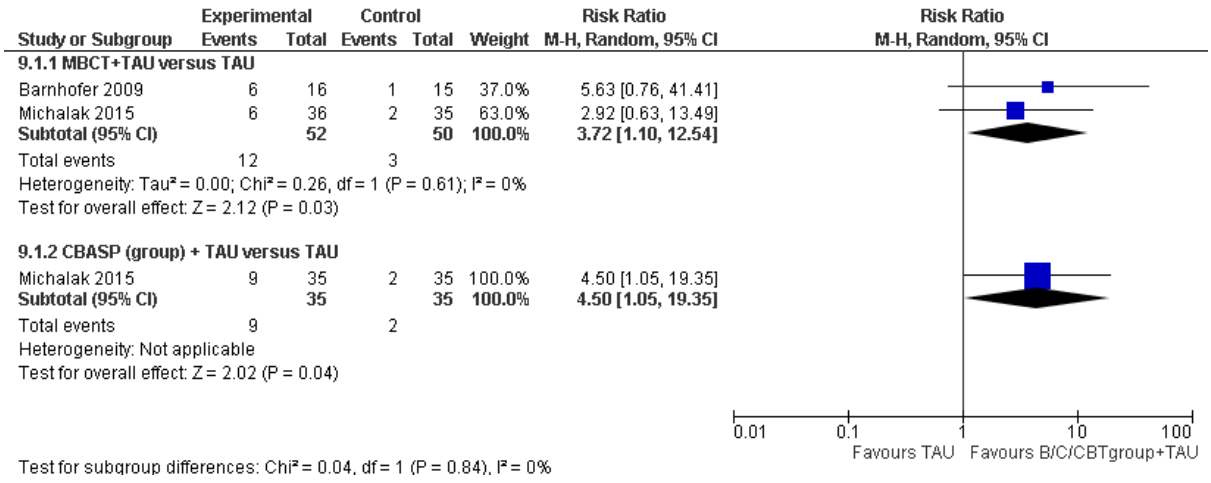


Discontinuation due to adverse events

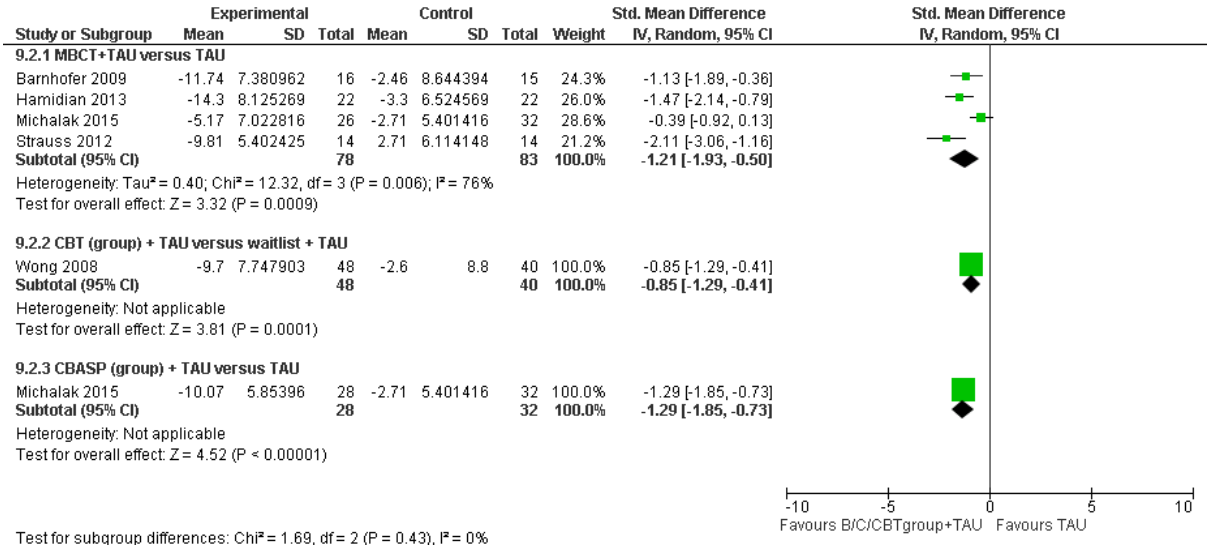


Behavioural, cognitive, or CBT groups + TAU/AD versus TAU/AD only for chronic depressive symptoms

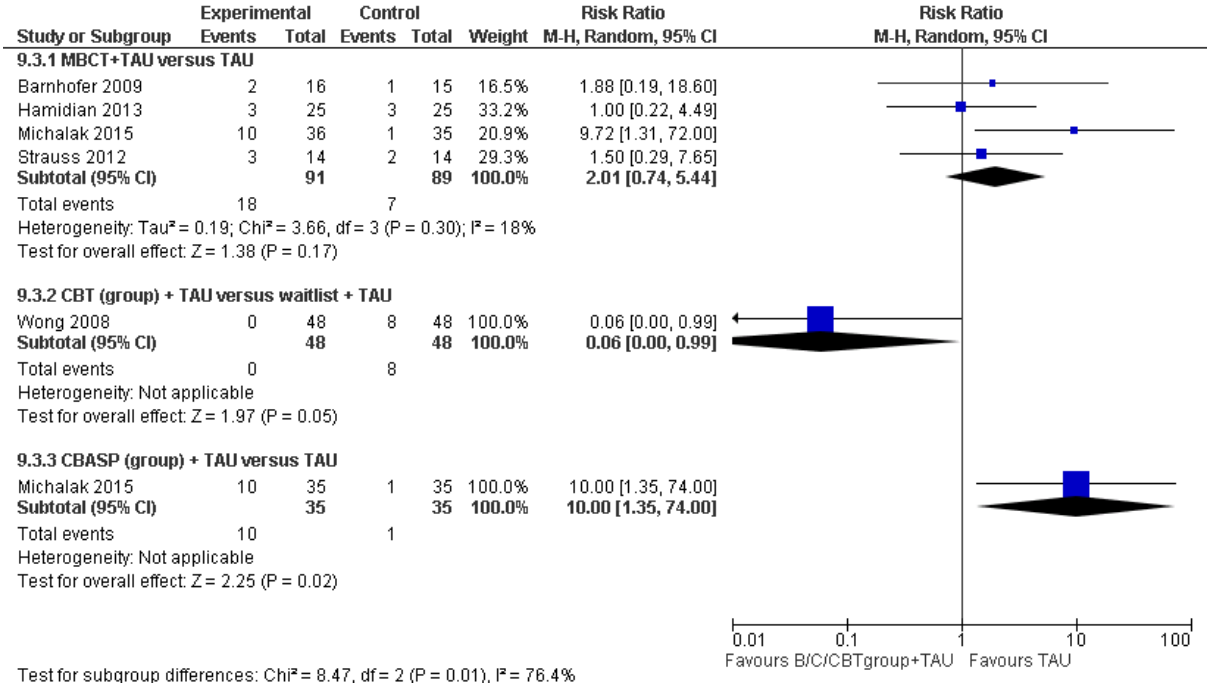
Remission (≤13 on BDI-II & ≥ 50% improvement on BDI-II/<7 on HAMD)



Depression symptomatology (BDI/BDI-II /HAMD change score)

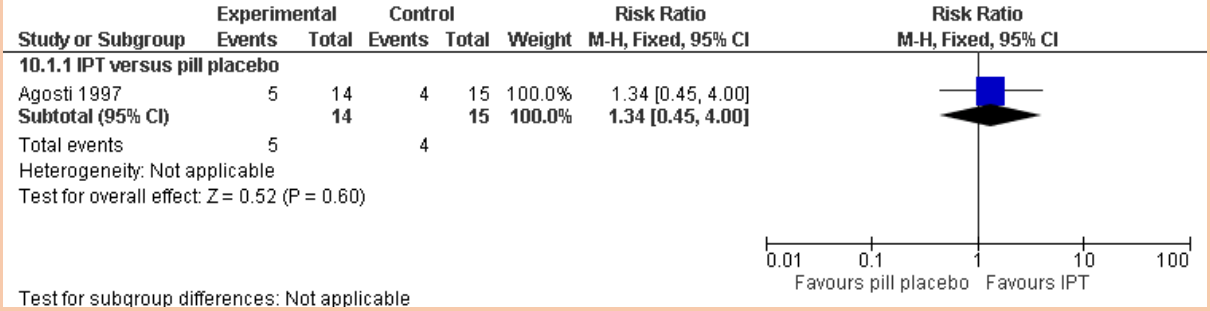


Discontinuation for any reason

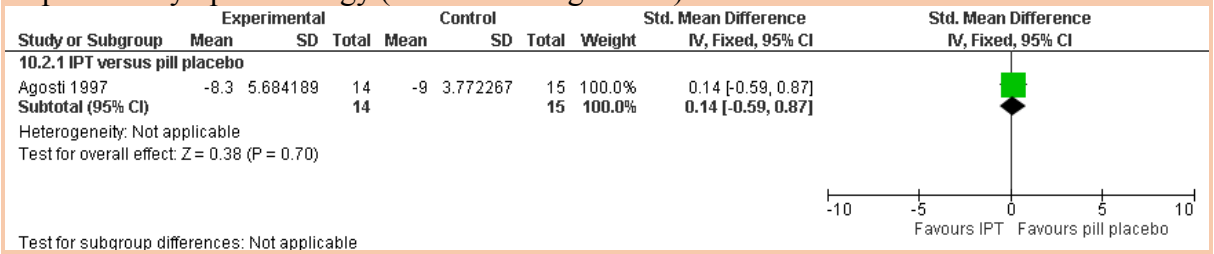


IPT versus pill placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

Remission (HAM-D <7)



Depression symptomatology (HAM-D change score)



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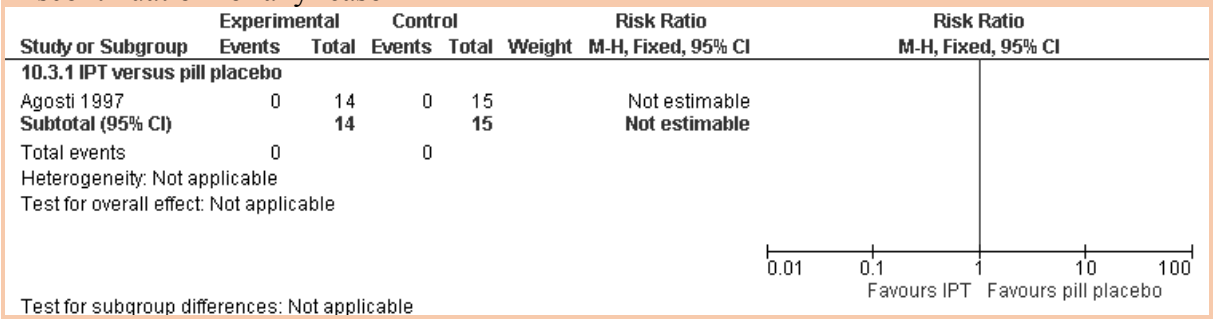
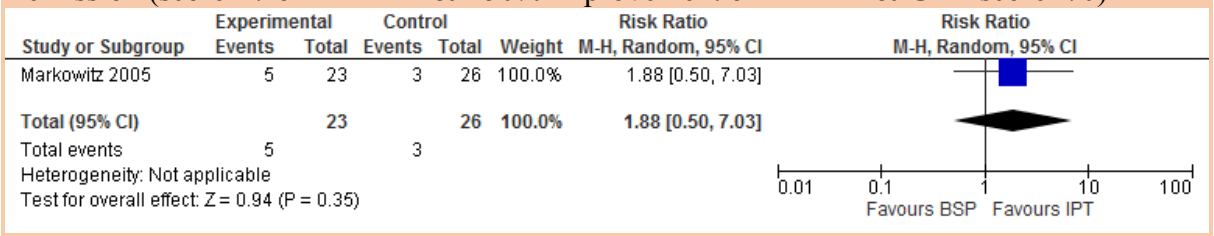
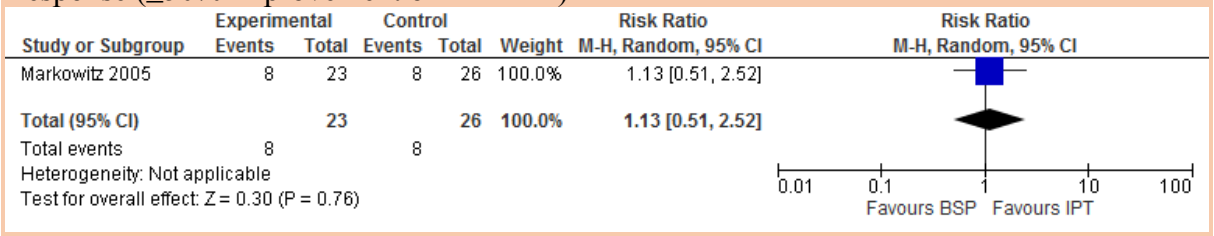


IPT versus brief supportive psychotherapy (BSP) for chronic depressive symptoms

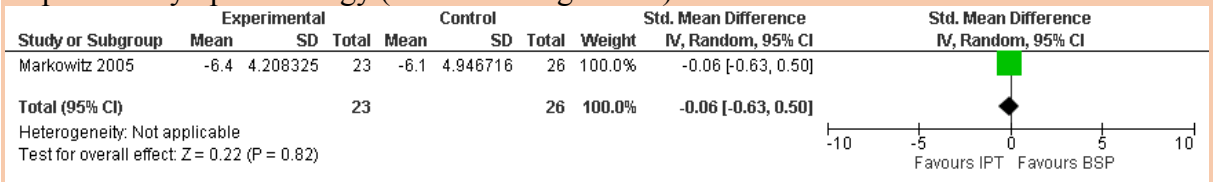
Remission (score <7 on HAM-D & >50% improvement on HAMD & GAF score>70)



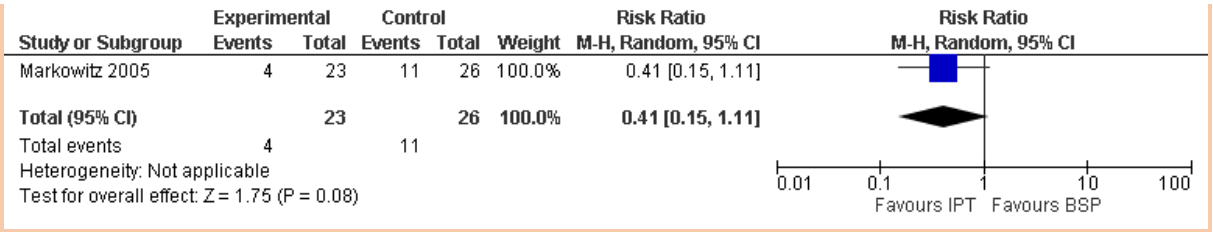
Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D)



Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)

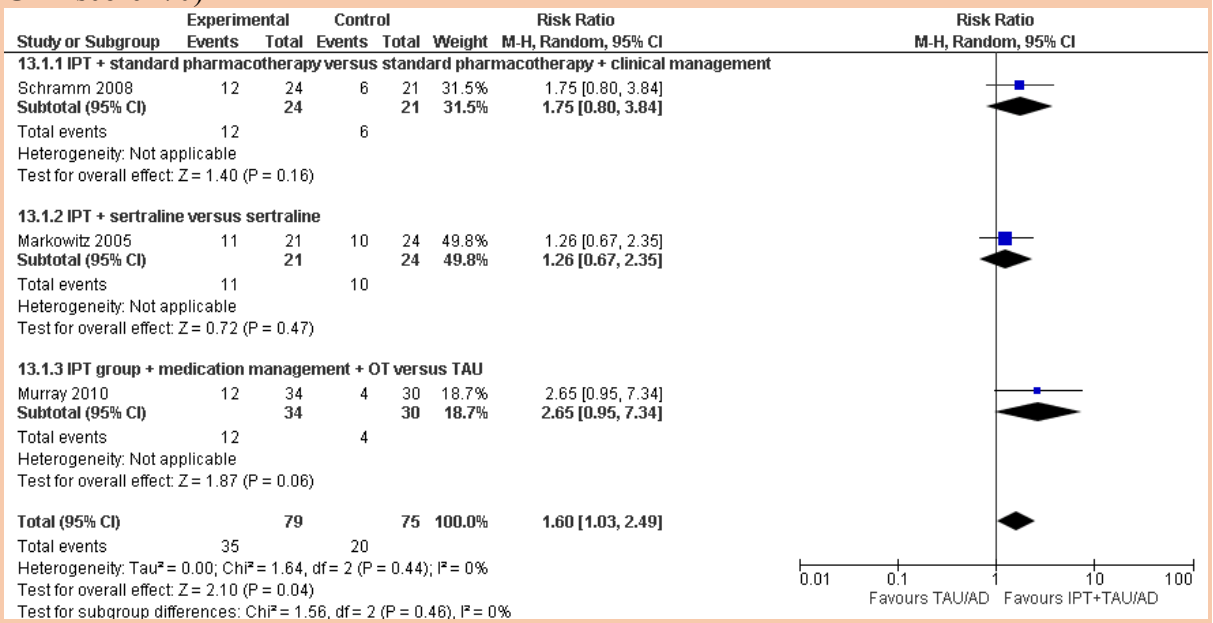


Discontinuation for any reason

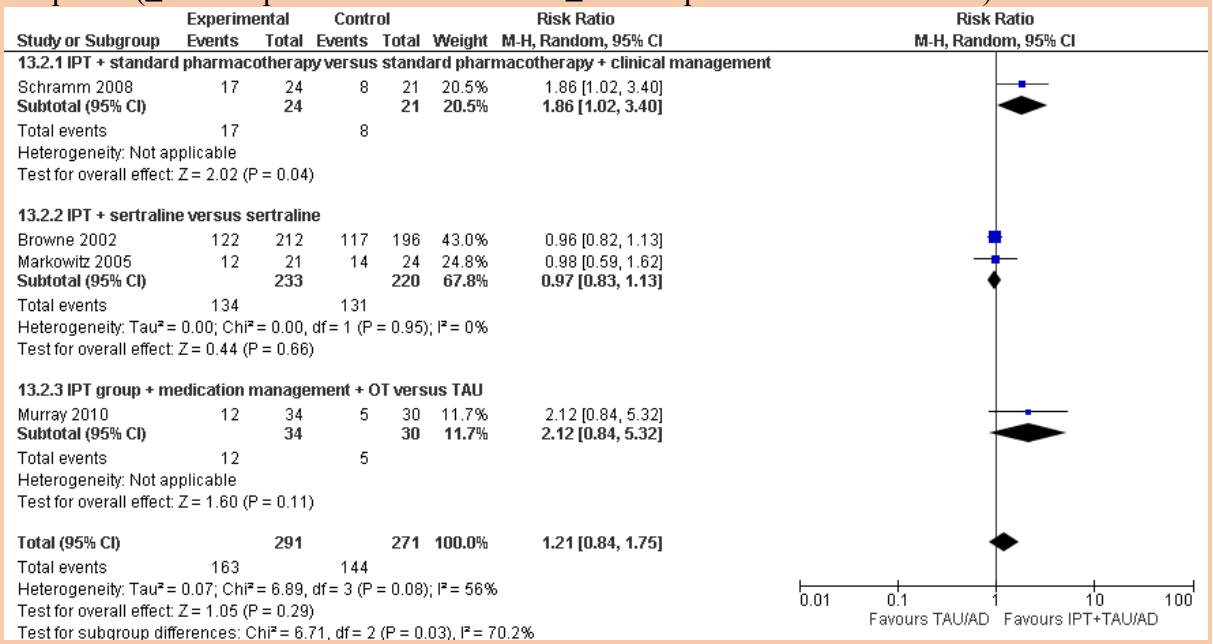


IPT + TAU/AD versus TAU/AD-only for chronic depressive symptoms

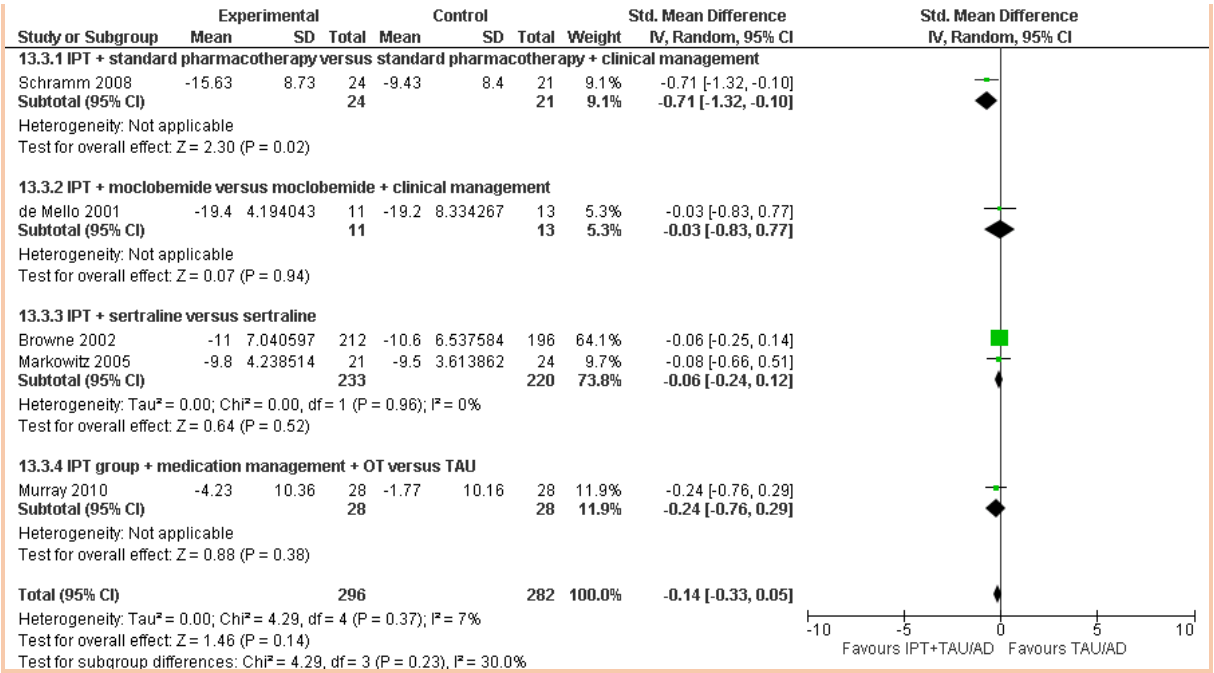
Remission (score ≤7 on HAM-D/score <7 on HAM-D & >50% improvement on HAMD & GAF score>70)



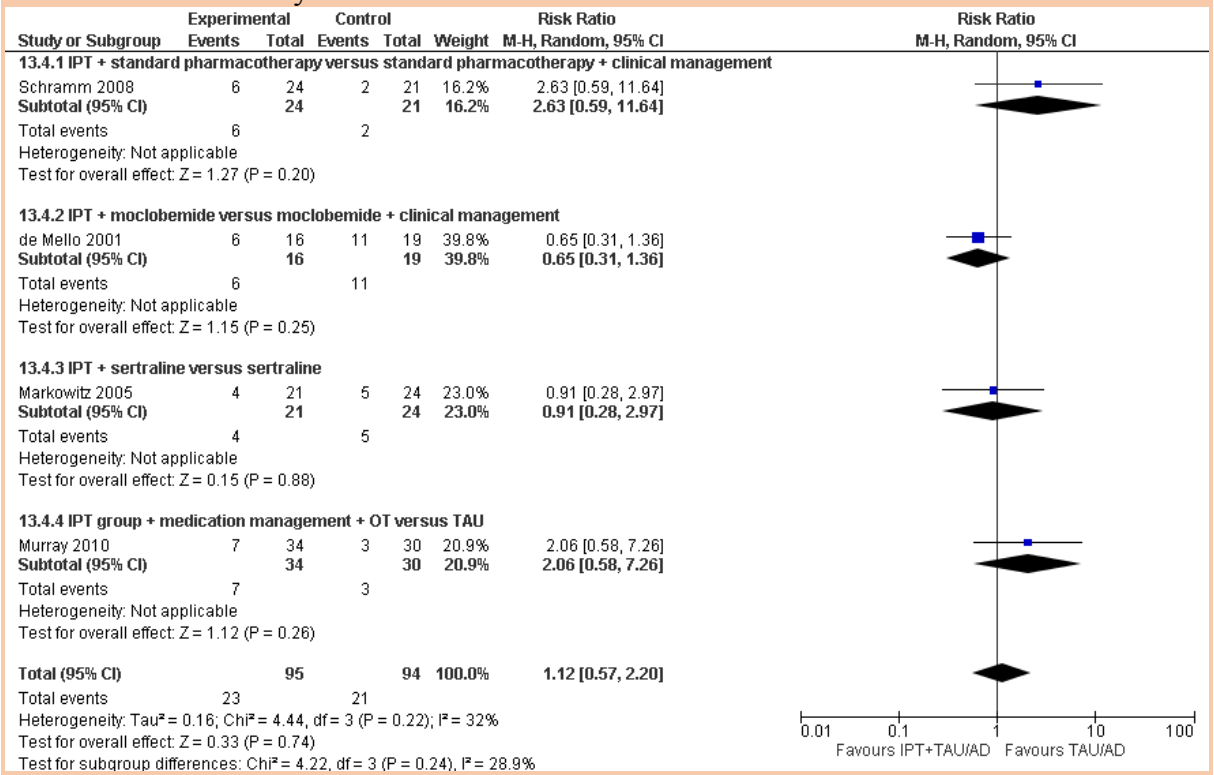
Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D/≥40% improvement on MADRS)



Depression symptomatology (HAMD/MADRS change score)

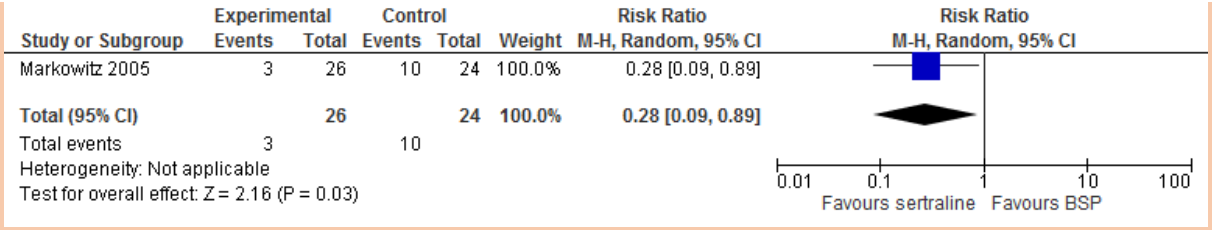


Discontinuation for any reason

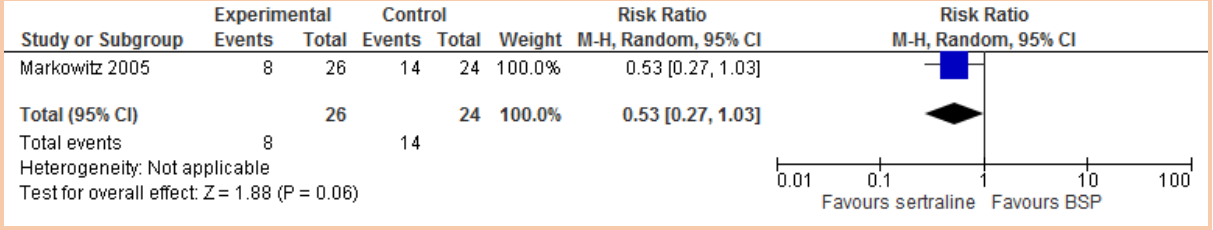


Brief supportive psychotherapy (BSP) versus sertraline for chronic depressive symptoms

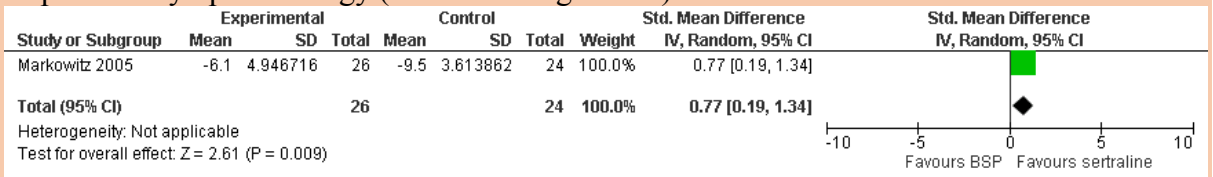
Remission (score <7 on HAM-D & >50% improvement on HAMD & GAF score>70)



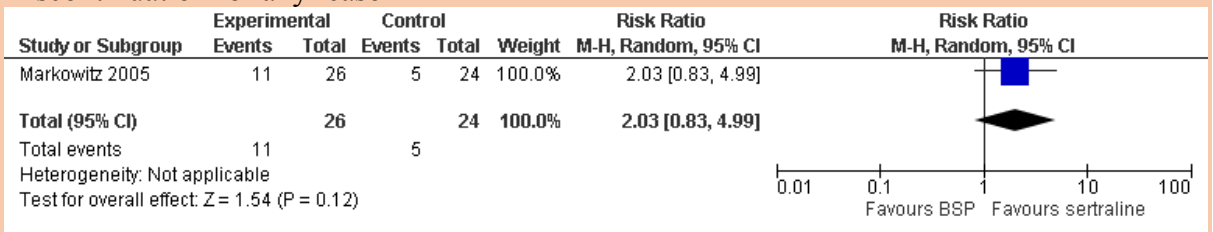
Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D)



Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)

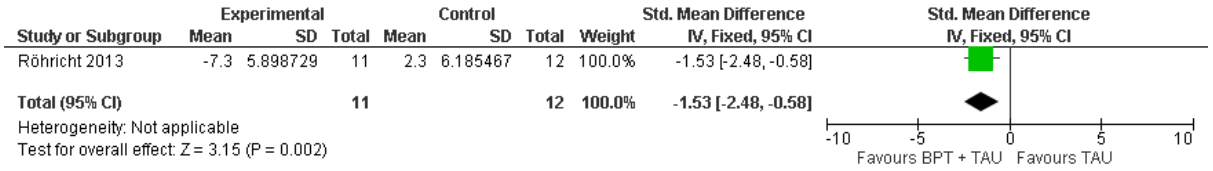


Discontinuation for any reason



Body psychotherapy (BPT) + TAU versus TAU for chronic depressive symptoms

Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



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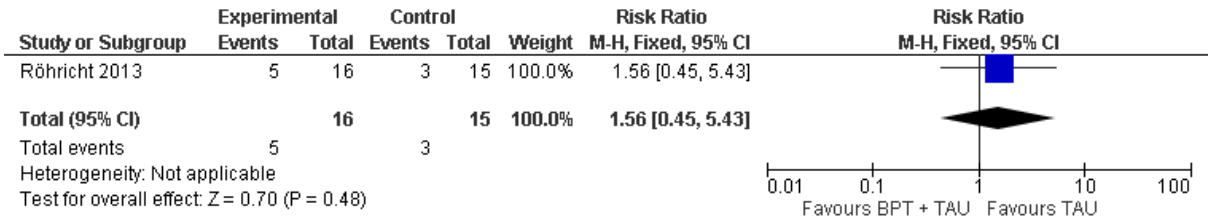
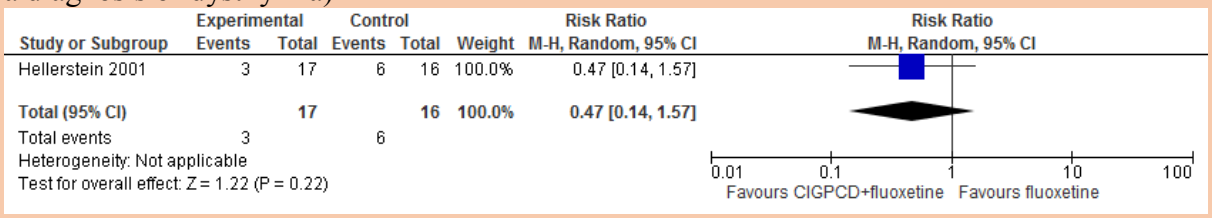
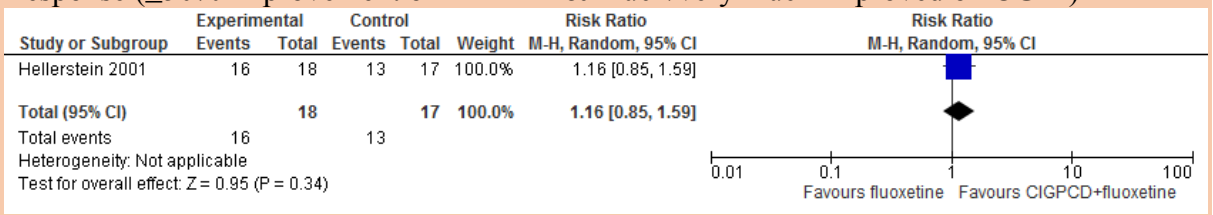


Cognitive-Interpersonal Group Psychotherapy for Chronic Depression (CIGP-CD) + fluoxetine versus fluoxetine (maintenance treatment) for relapse prevention in dysthymia

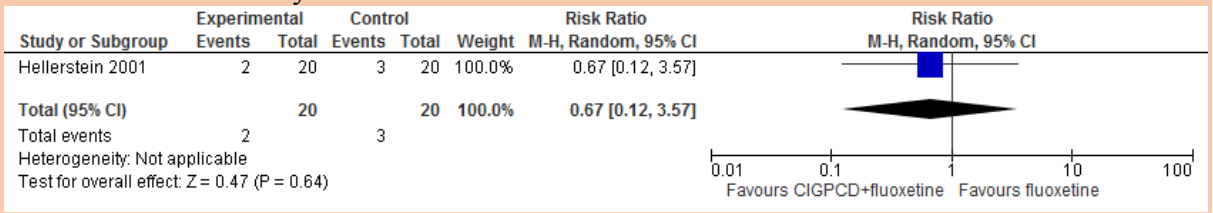
Relapse (score >0 on item #1 (depressed mood) on HAM-D OR meeting DSM-IV criteria for a diagnosis of dysthymia)



Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D & much/very much improved on CGI-I)

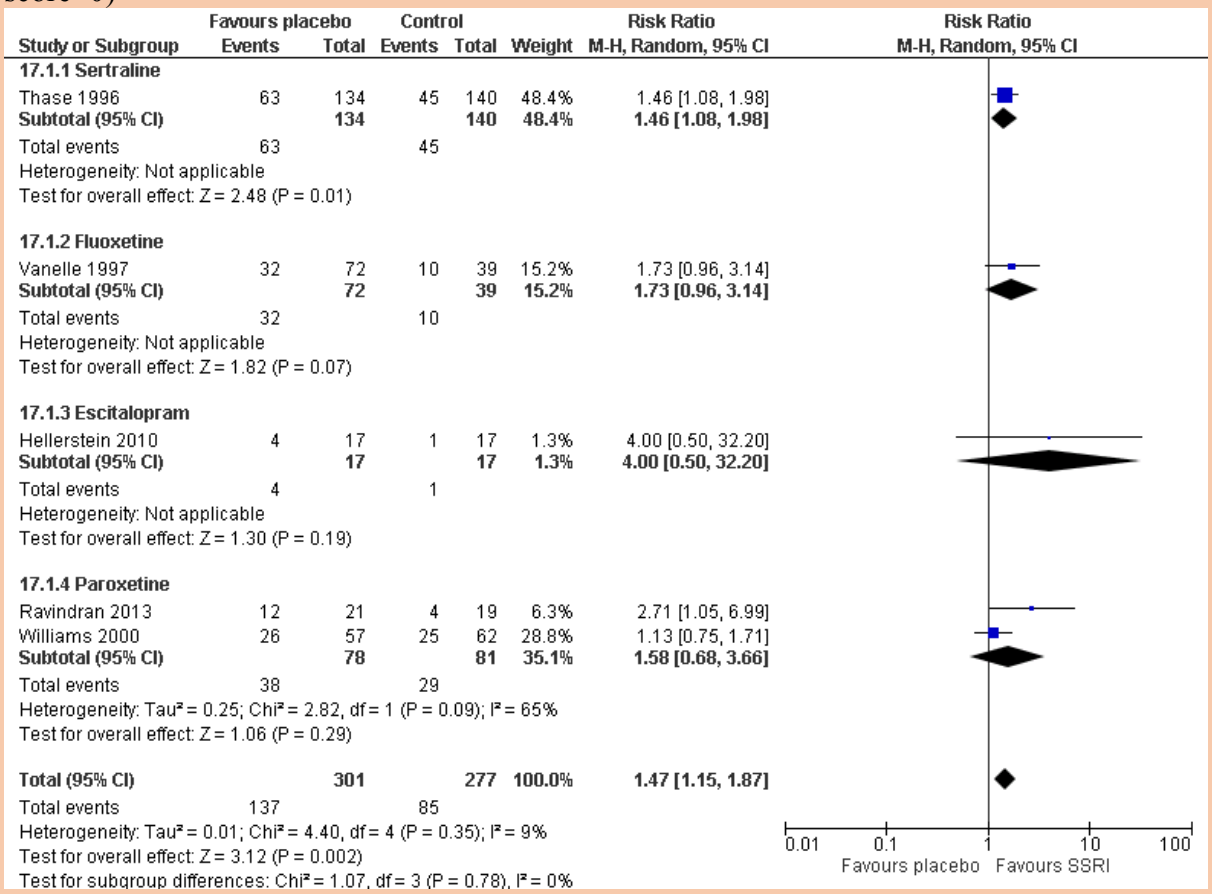


Discontinuation for any reason

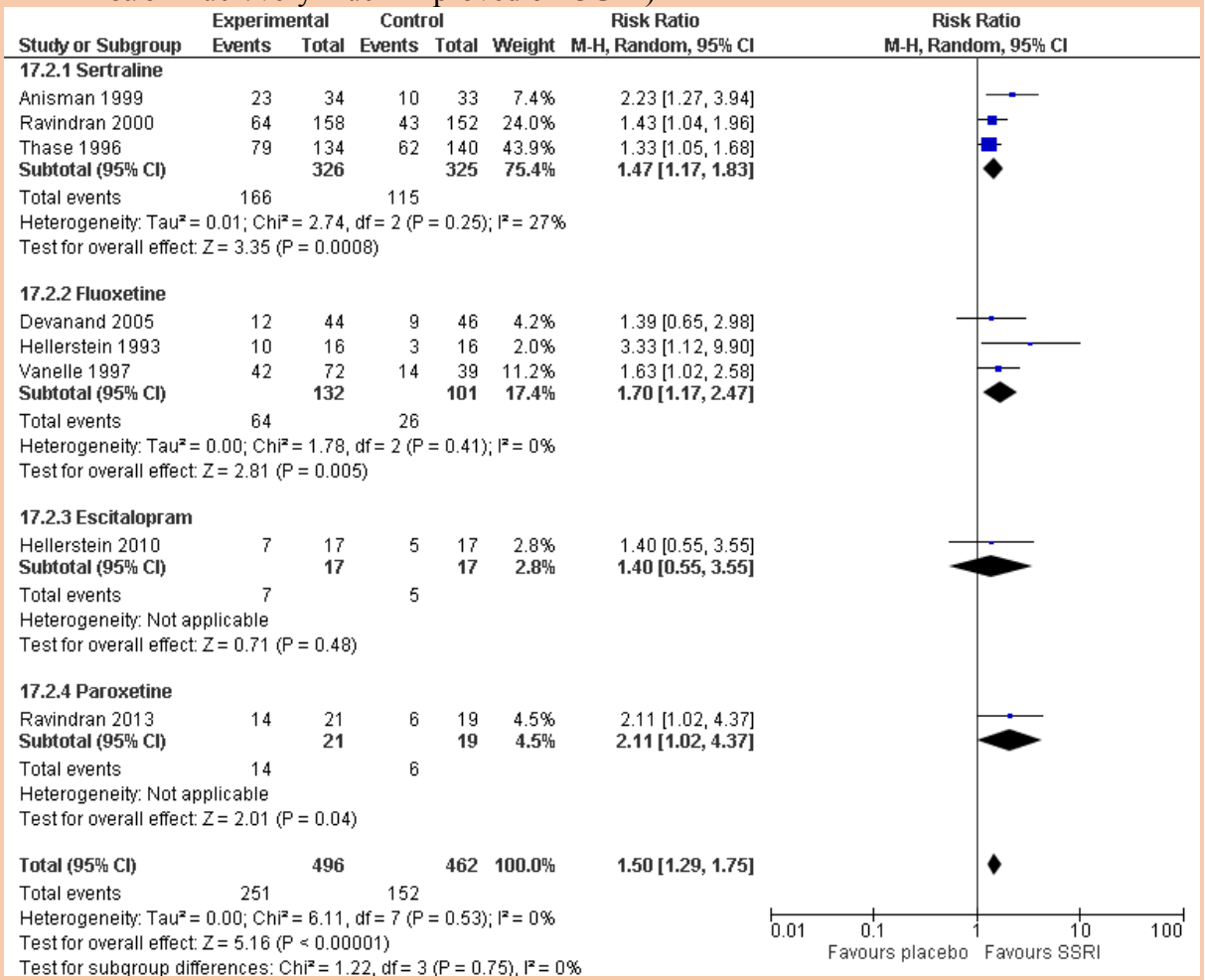


SSRIs versus placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

Remission (score ≤4/<7/≤8 on HAM-D/≤4 on HAM-D & HAMD item # 1 [depressed mood] score=0)

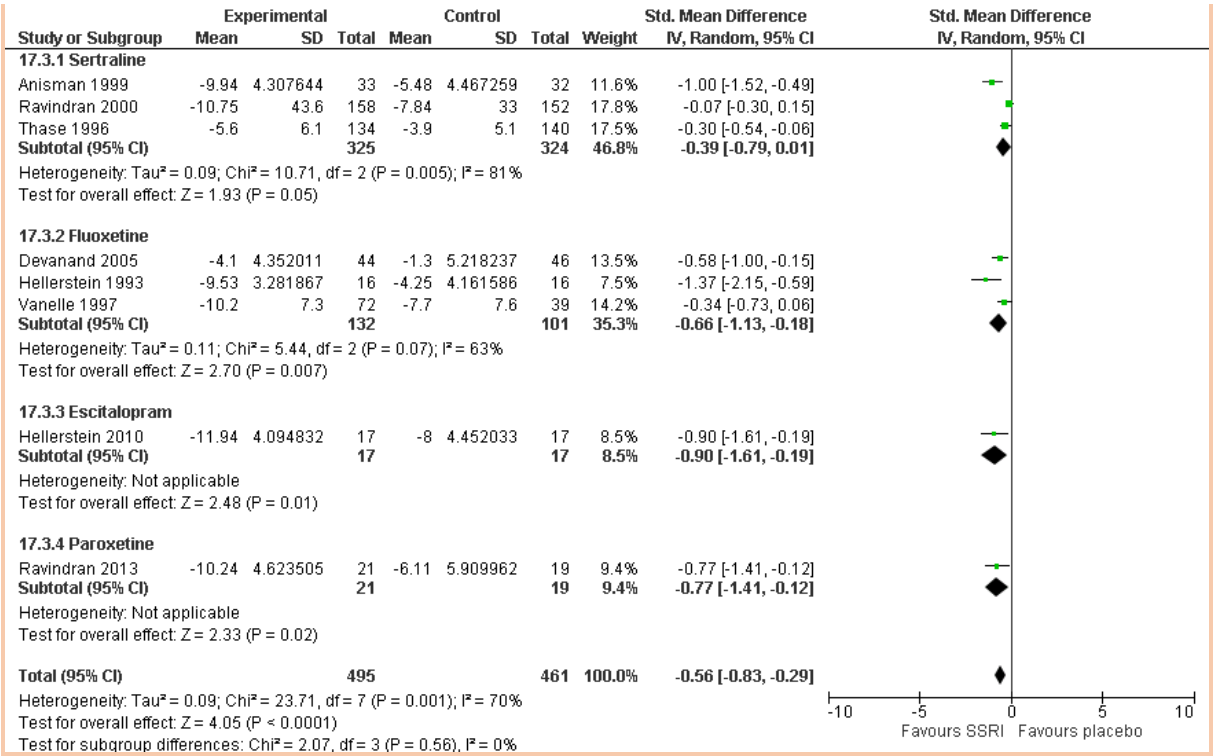


Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD & HAMD score≤10/≥50% improvement on HAMD &/or much/very much improved on CGI-I)

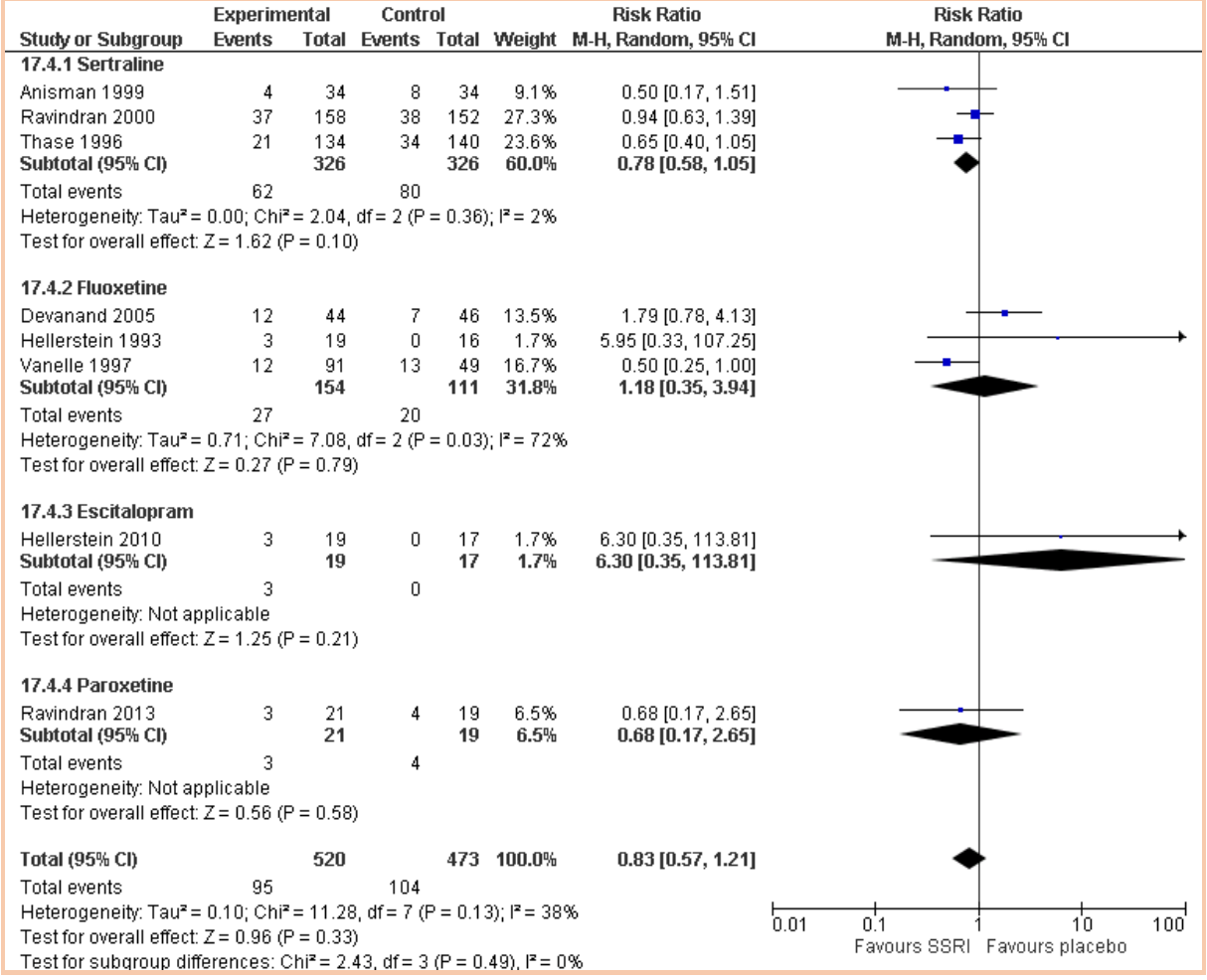


Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)

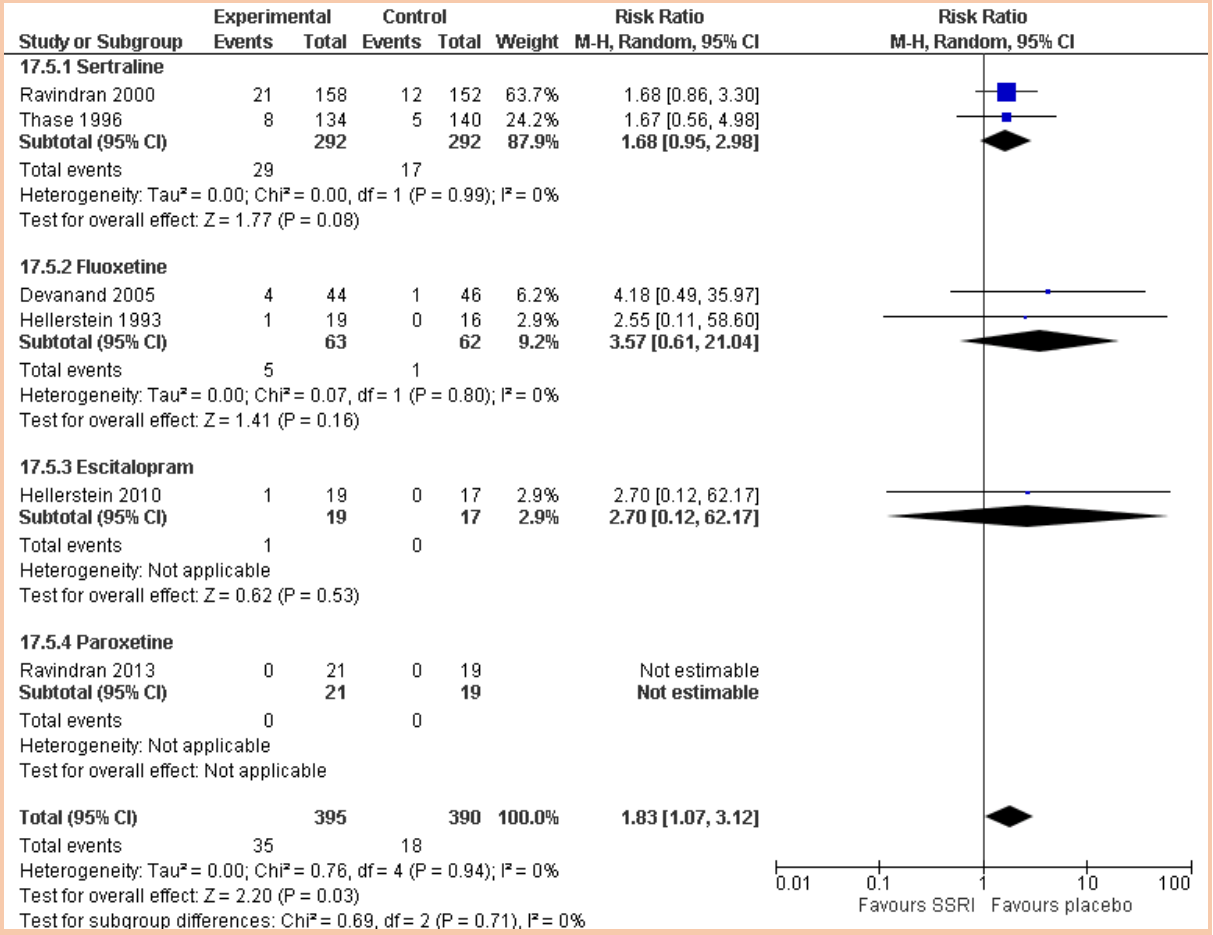
Forest plots



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

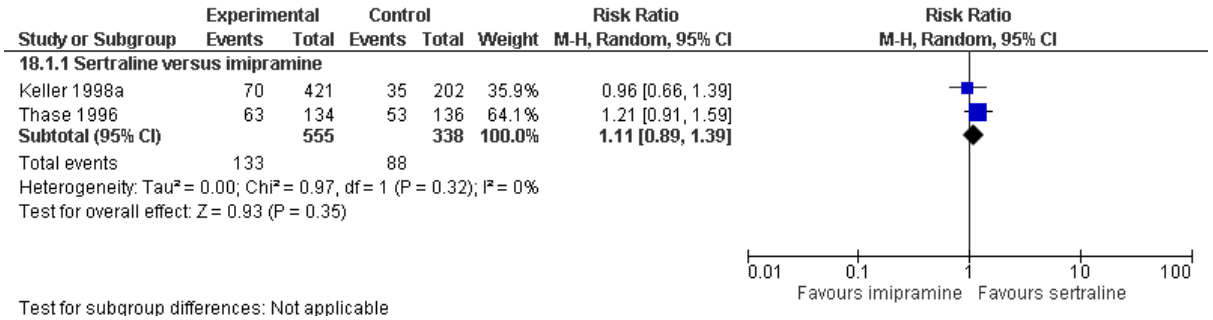


Discontinuation due to adverse events

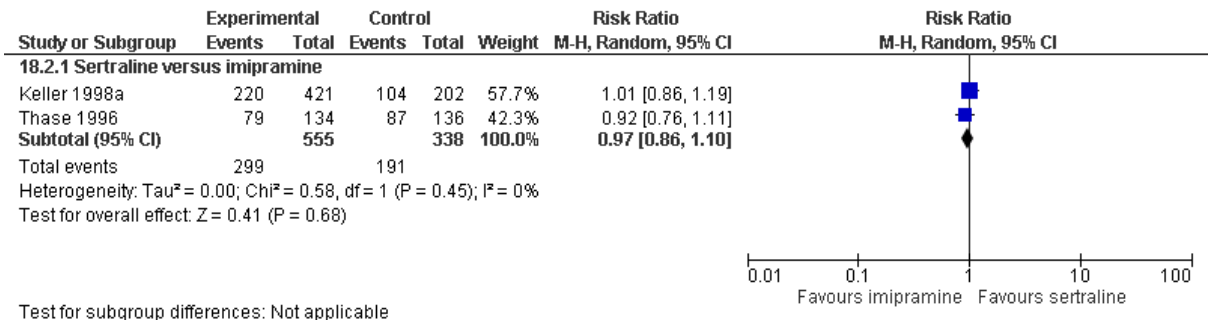


SSRI versus TCA for chronic depressive symptoms

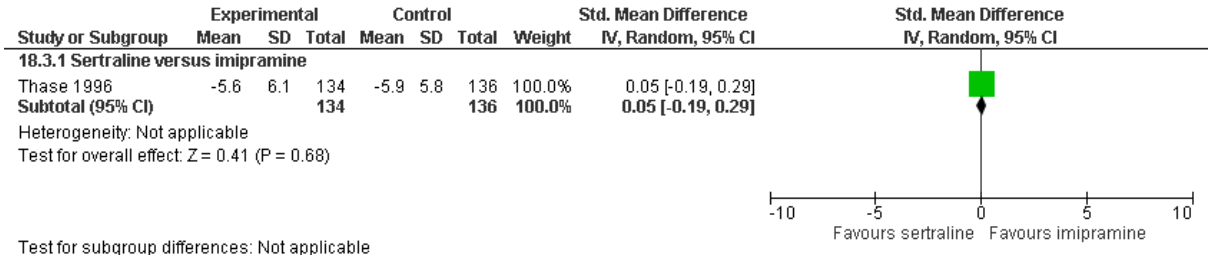
Remission (score ≤ 7 on HAM-D & much/very much improved on CGI-I/≤4 on HAM-D)



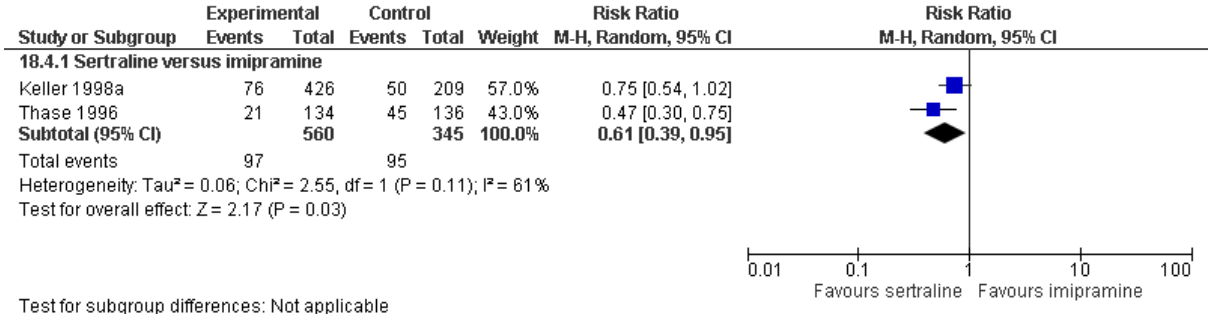
Response (≥50% on HAM-D & much/very much improved on CGI-I/≤4 on HAM-D)



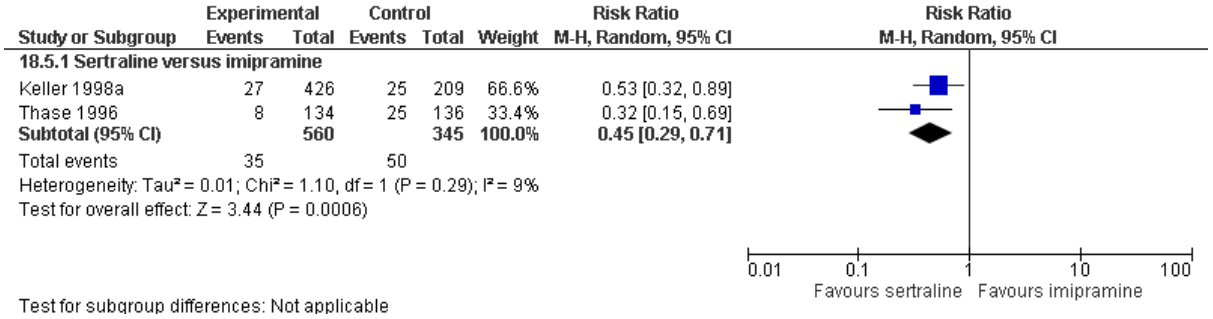
Depression symptomatology (HAM-D change score)



Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

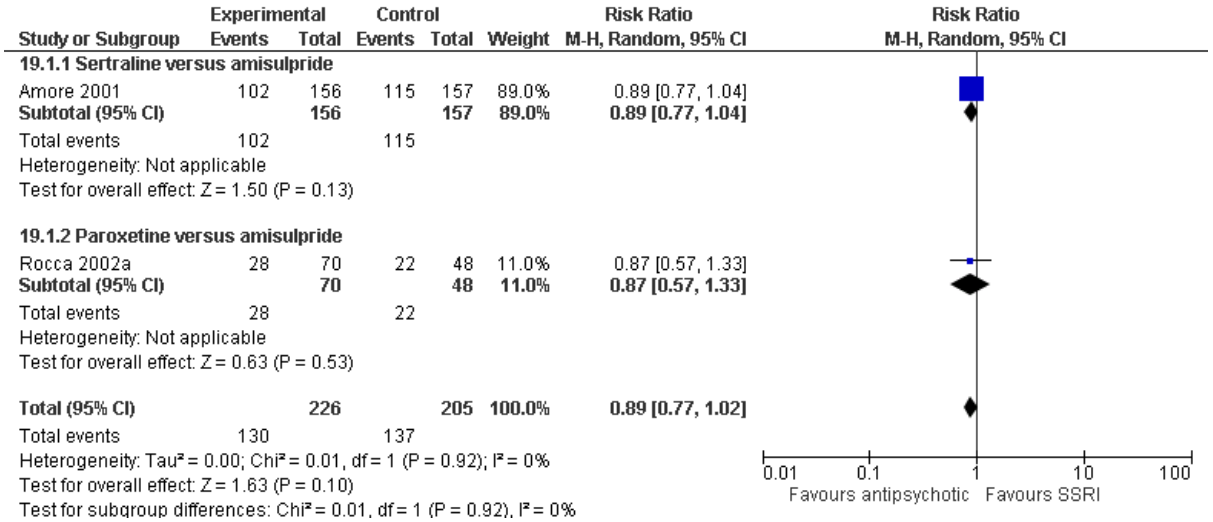


Discontinuation due to adverse events

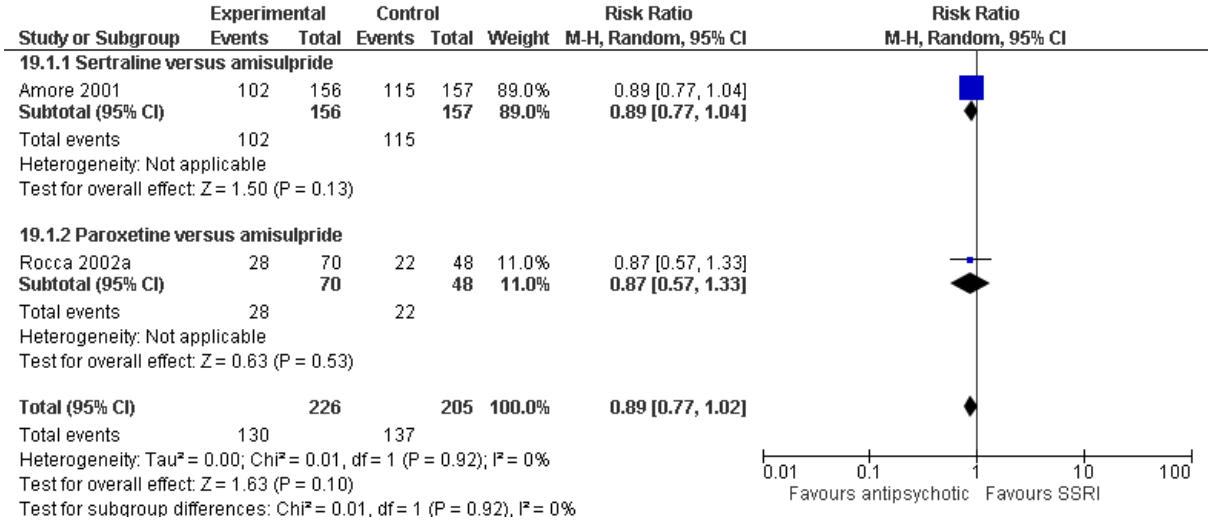


SSRI versus antipsychotic for dysthymia or double depression

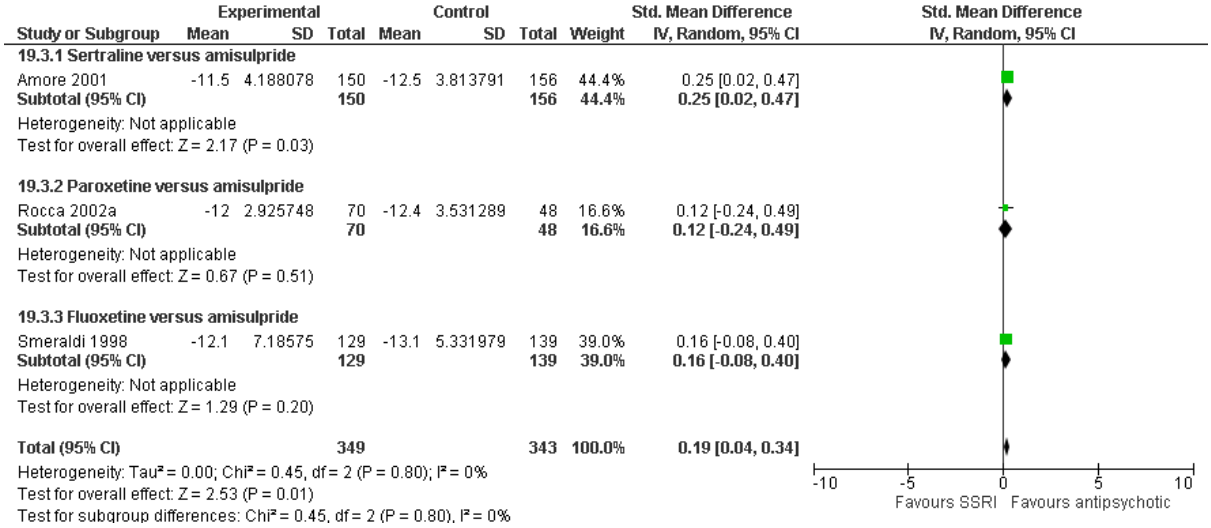
Remission (</≤7 on HAM-D)



Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD/MADR)

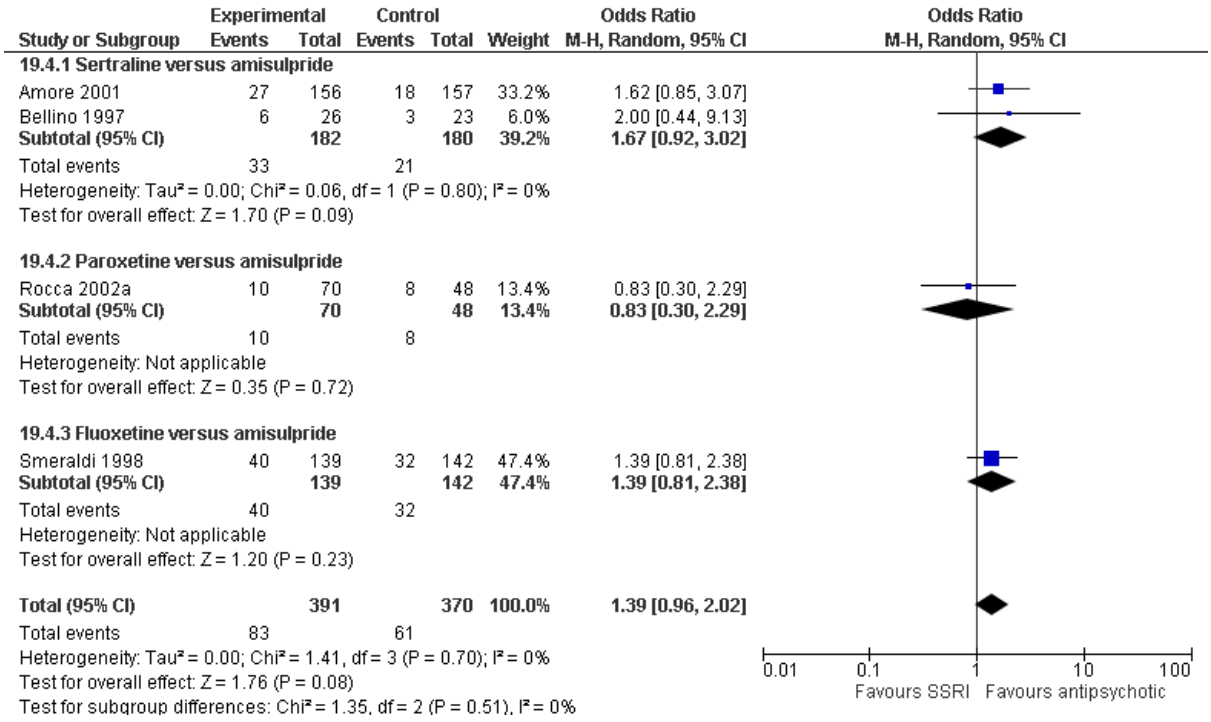


Depression symptomatology (HAMD/MADRS change score)

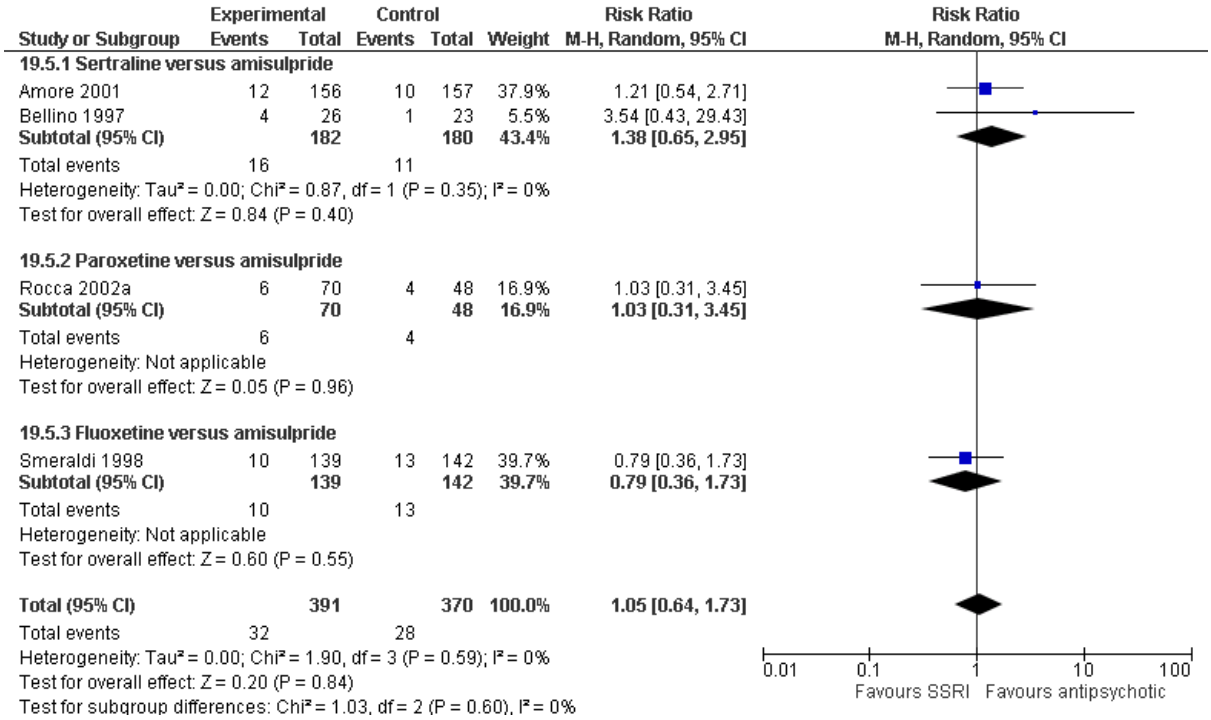


Discontinuation for any reason

Forest plots

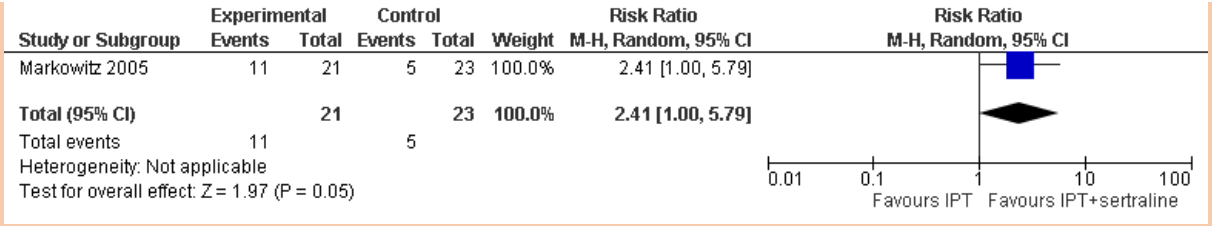


Discontinuation due to adverse events

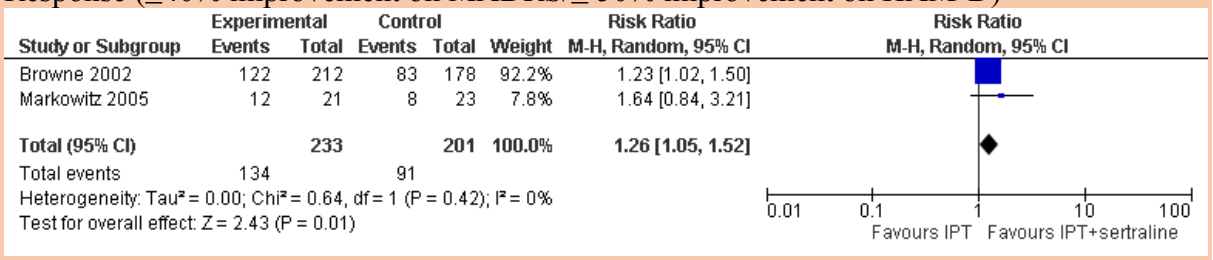


Sertraline versus IPT versus IPT- only for dysthymia

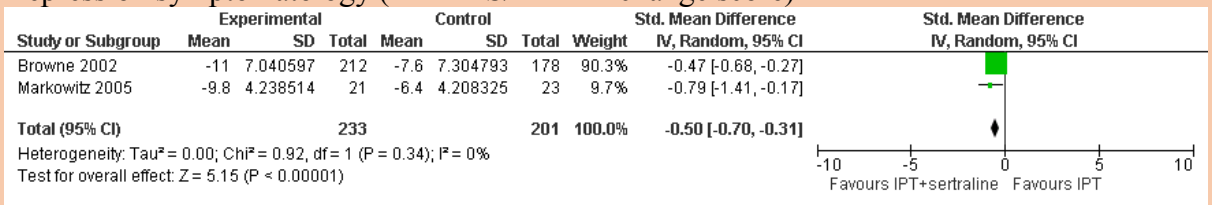
Remission (score <7 on HAM-D & > 50% improvement on HAMD & GAF score> 70)



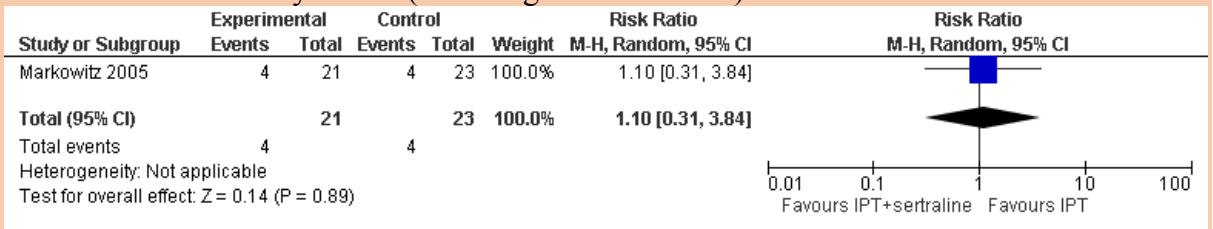
Response (≥40% improvement on MADRS/≥ 50% improvement on HAM-D)



Depression symptomatology (MADRS/HAMD change score)

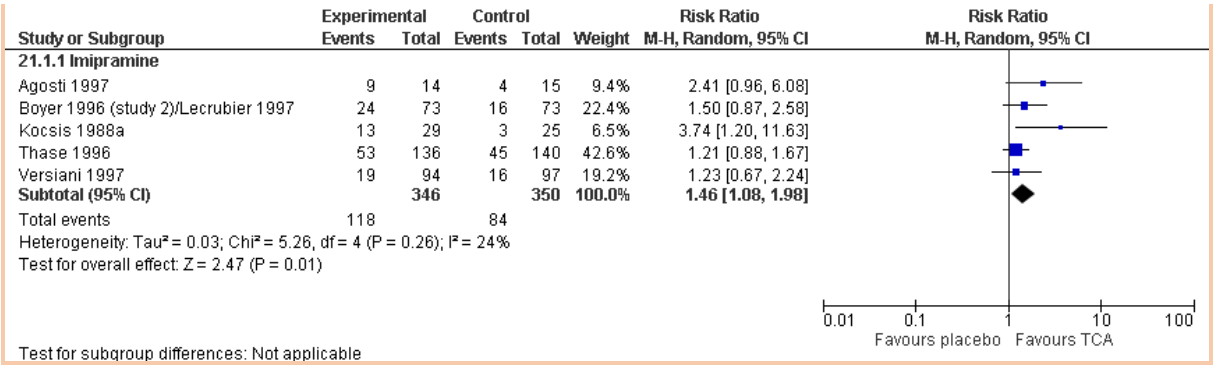


Discontinuation for any reason (including adverse events)

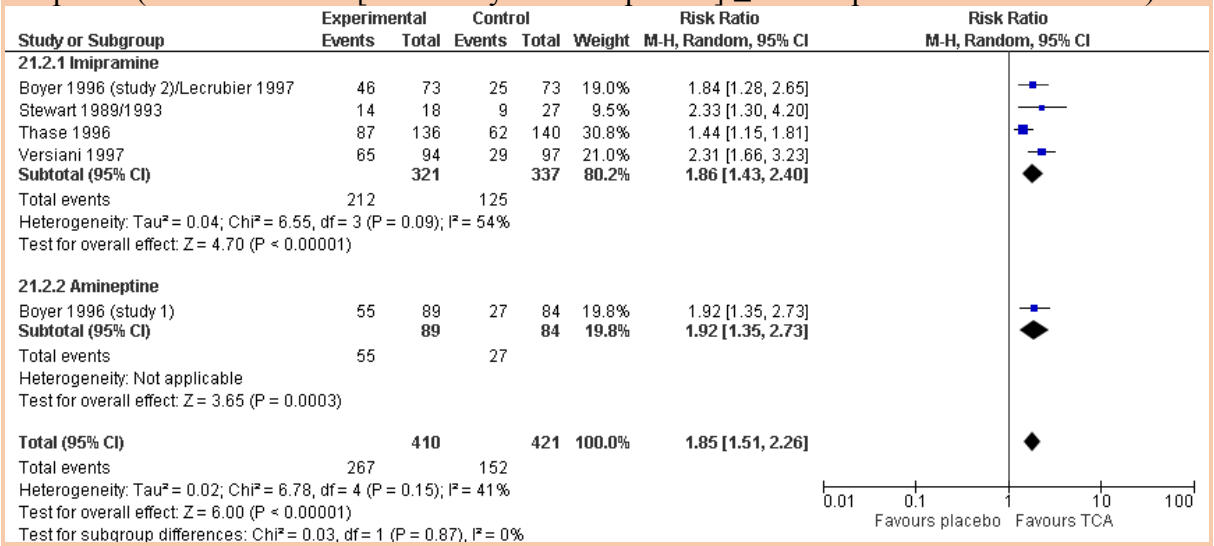


TCAs versus placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

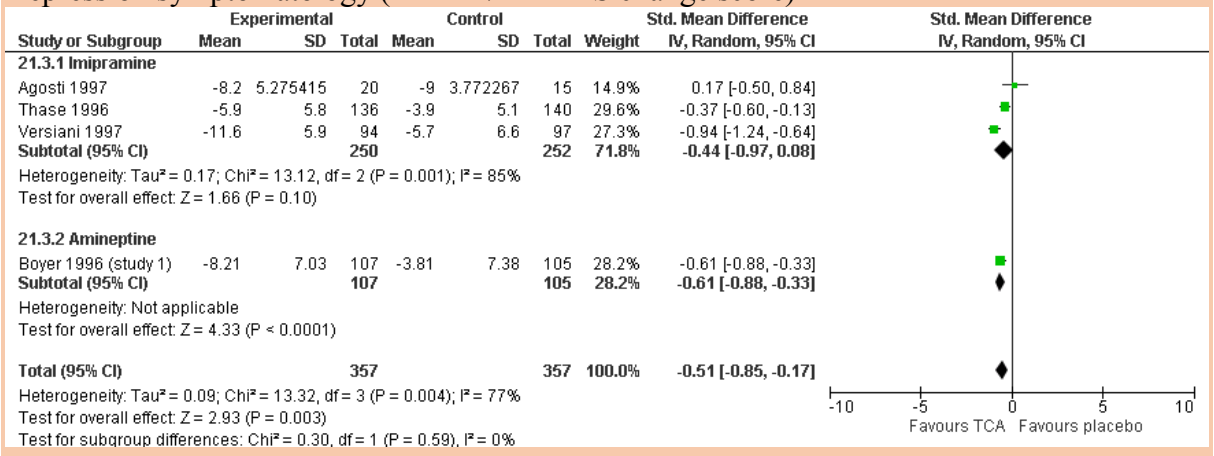
Remission (score ≤4 on HAM-D/≤6 on HAM-D & ≥10-point improvement on GAS & no longer meet DSM-III criteria for dysthymia/<8 on MADRS)



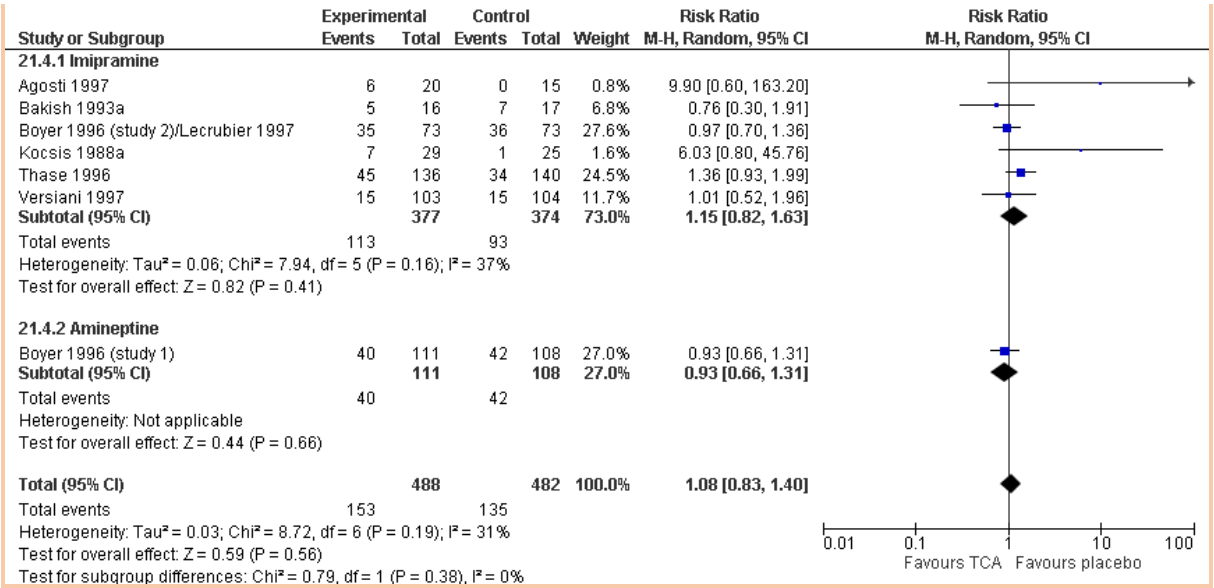
Response (CGI-I score 1-2 [much/very much improved]/≥50% improvement on HAM-D)



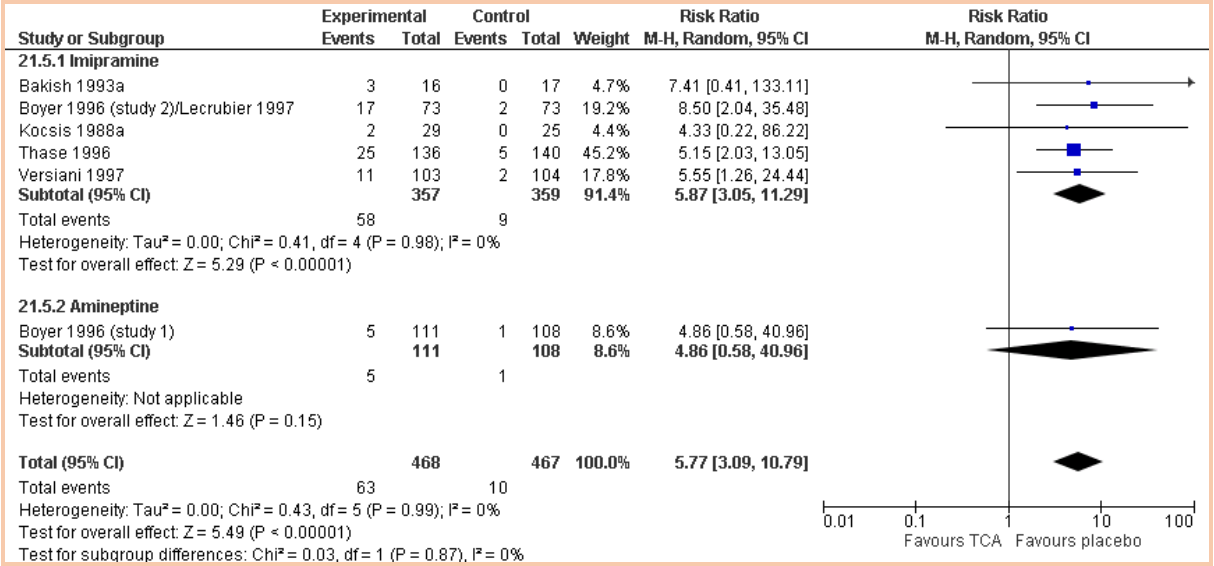
Depression symptomatology (HAMD/MADRS change score)



Discontinuation for any reason

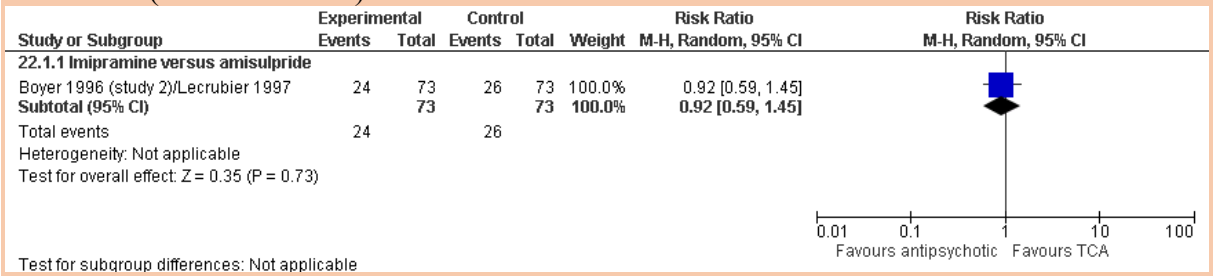


Discontinuation due to adverse events

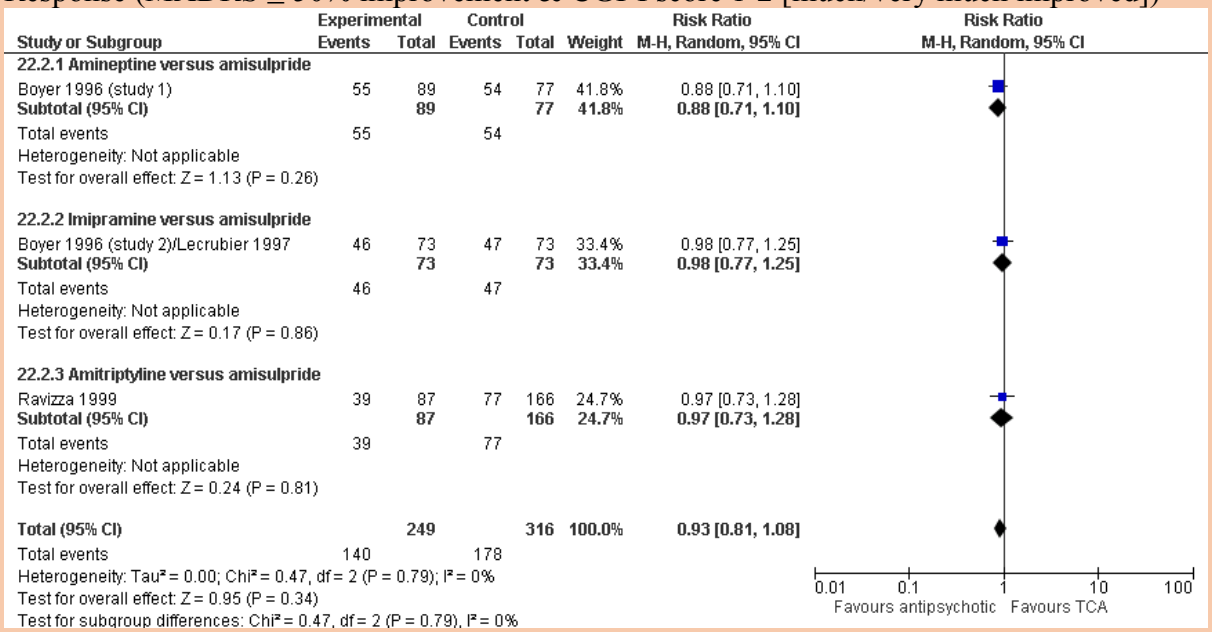


TCA versus antipsychotic for chronic depressive symptoms

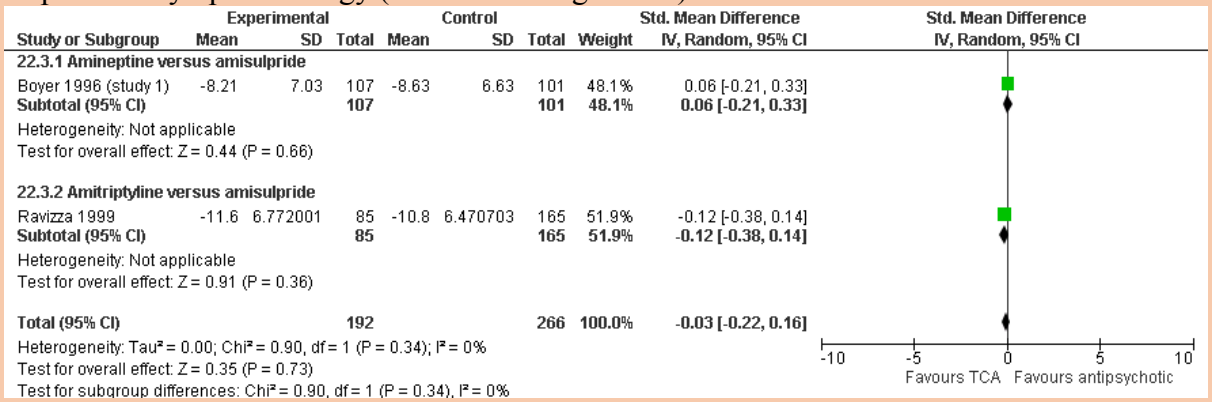
Remission (<8 on MADRS)



Response (MADRS ≥ 50% improvement & CGI-I score 1-2 [much/very much improved])

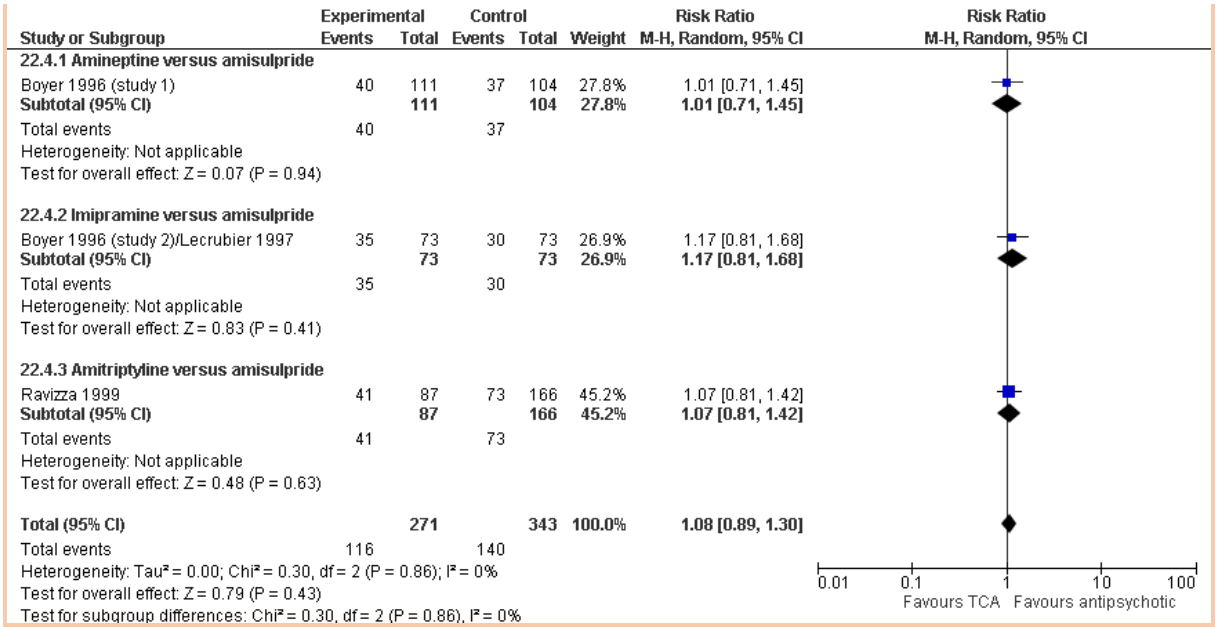


Depression symptomatology (MADRS change score)

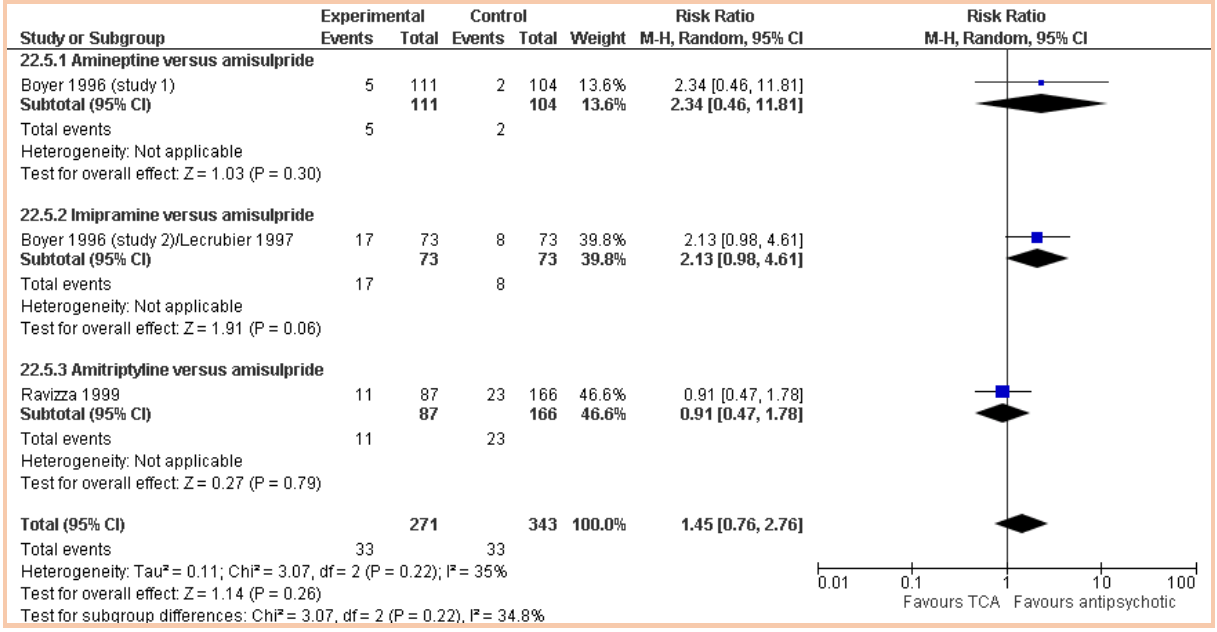


Discontinuation for any reason

Forest plots

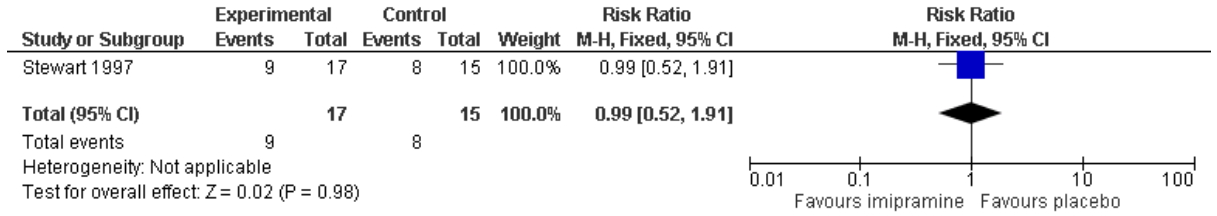


Discontinuation due to adverse events

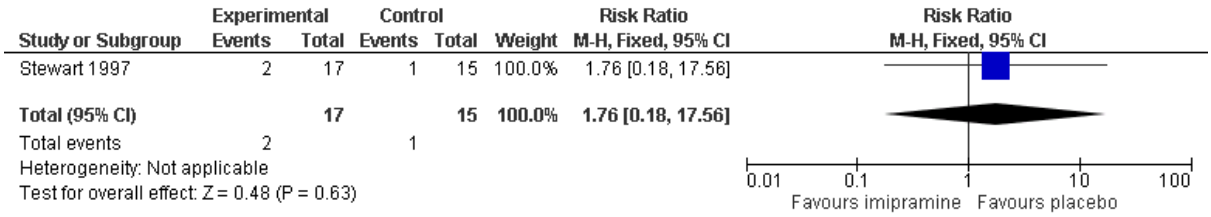


Maintenance imipramine versus placebo for relapse prevention in chronic depressive symptoms

Relapse (≥3 on CGI-I on 2 consecutive weeks)

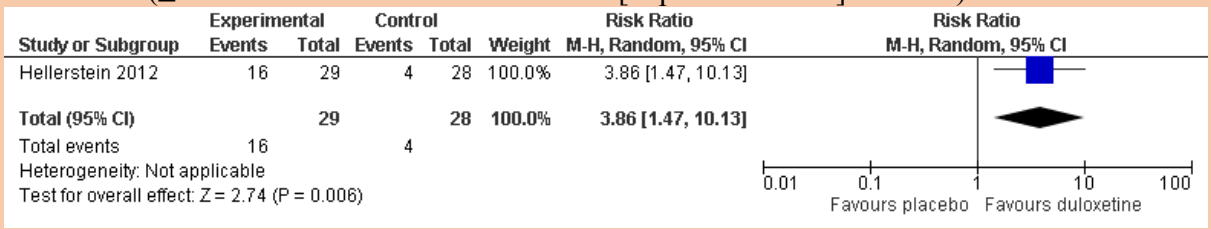


Discontinuation for any reason

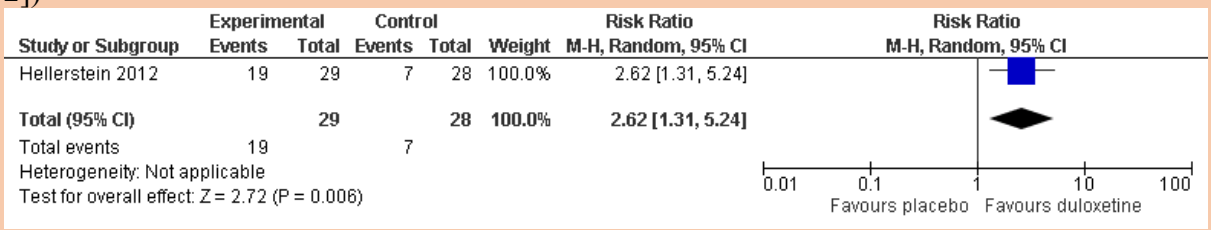


Duloxetine versus placebo for non-major chronic depressive symptoms

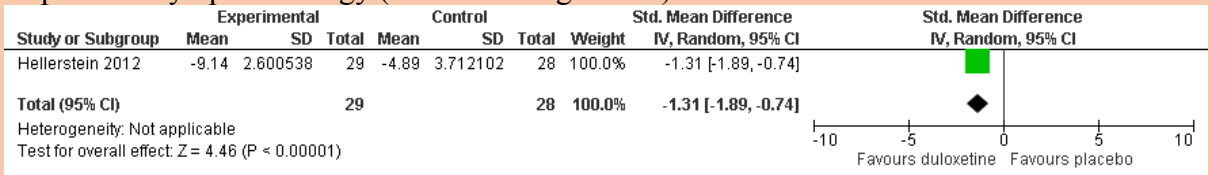
Remission (≤4 on HAM-D & HAM-D item # 1 [depressed mood] score=0)



Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D & much/very much improved on CGI-I [score 1-2])

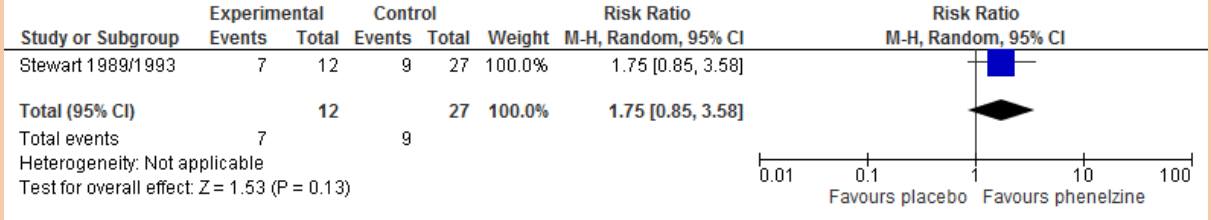


Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Phenelzine versus placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

Response (CGI-I score 1-2 [much/very much improved])

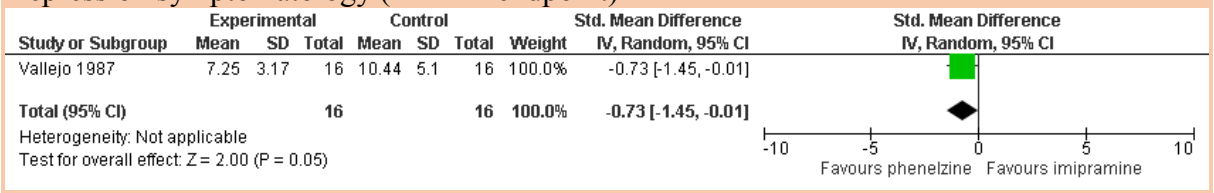


Phenelzine versus imipramine for dysthymia

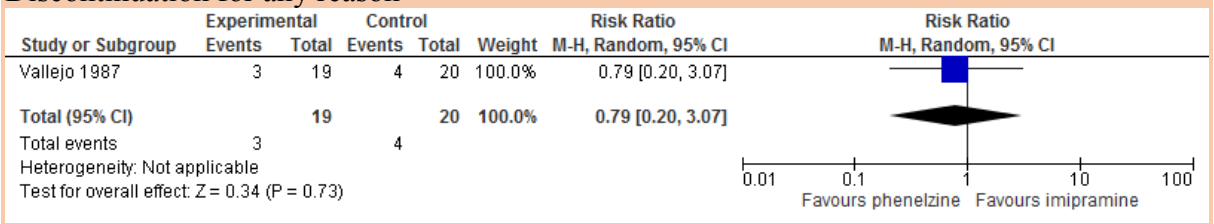
Response (CGI-I score 1-2 [much/very much improved])

Forest plots

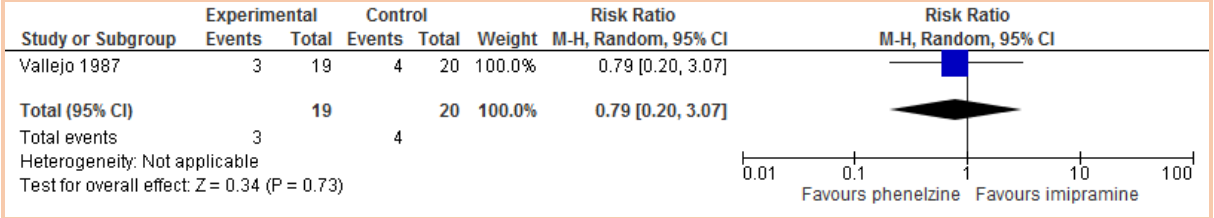
Depression symptomatology (HAMD endpoint)



Discontinuation for any reason



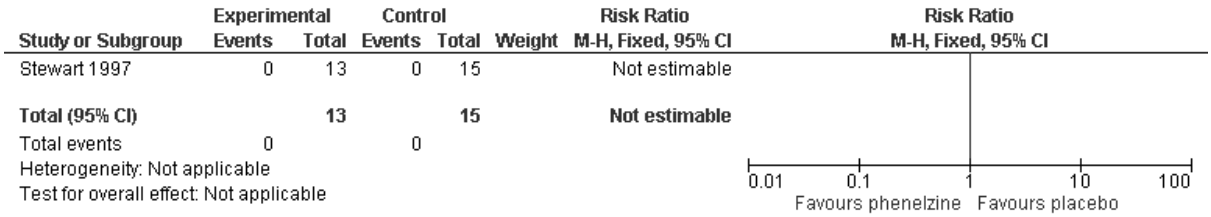
Discontinuation due to adverse events



Maintenance phenelzine versus placebo for relapse prevention in chronic depressive symptoms

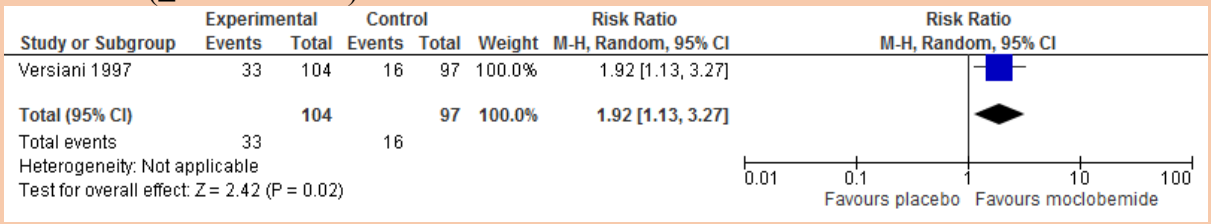
Relapse (≥3 on CGI-I on 2 consecutive weeks)

Discontinuation for any reason

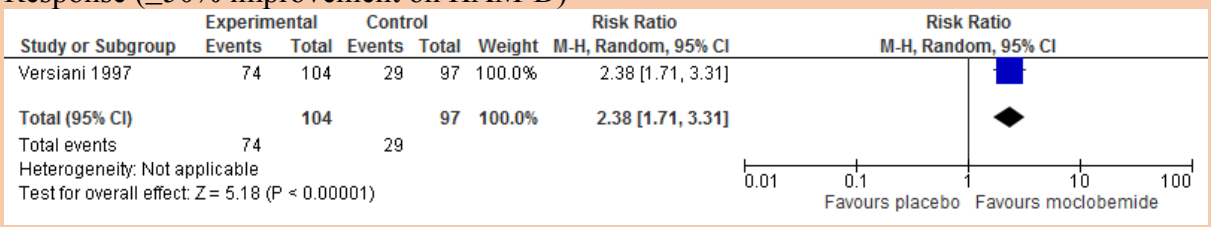


Moclobemide versus placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

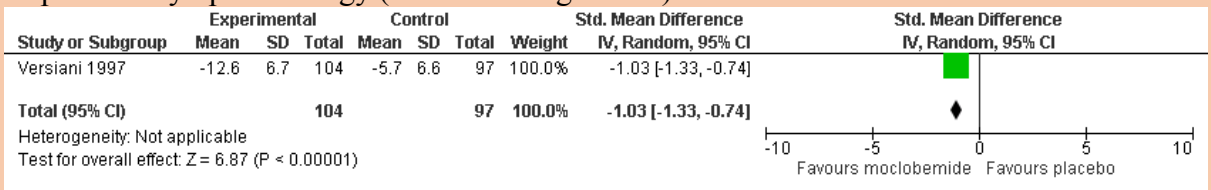
Remission (≤4 on HAM-D)



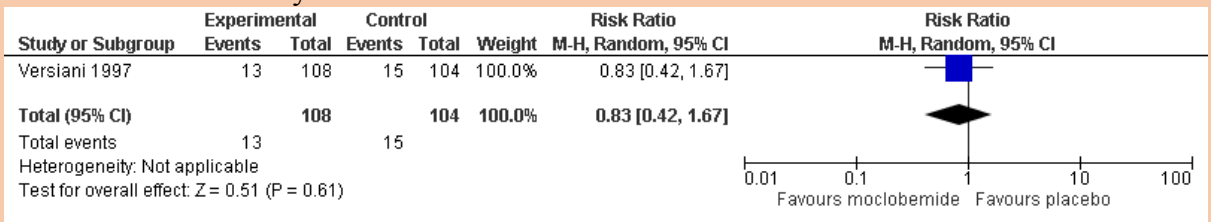
Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D)



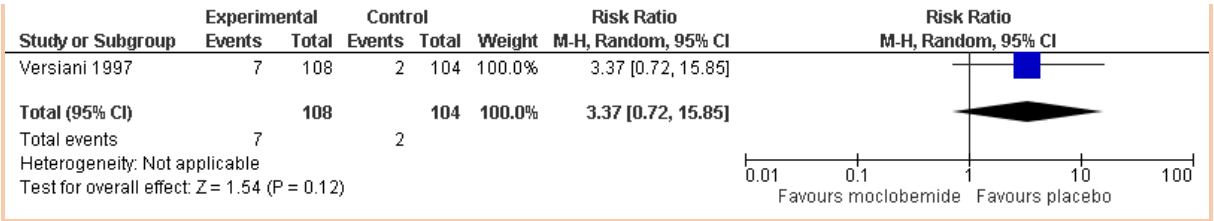
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason

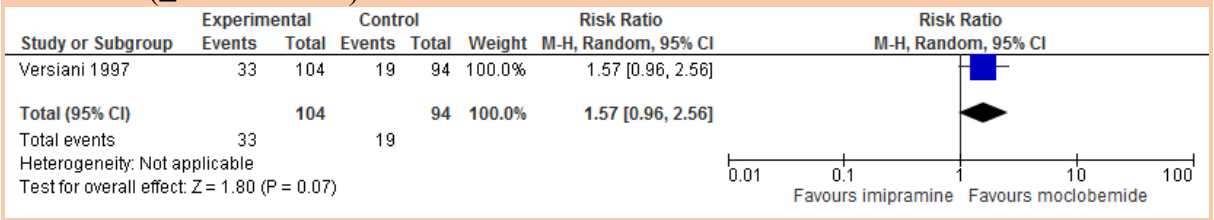


Discontinuation due to adverse events

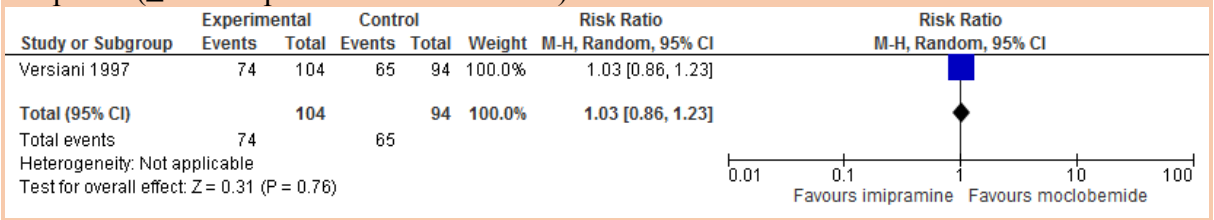


Moclobemide versus imipramine for chronic depressive symptoms

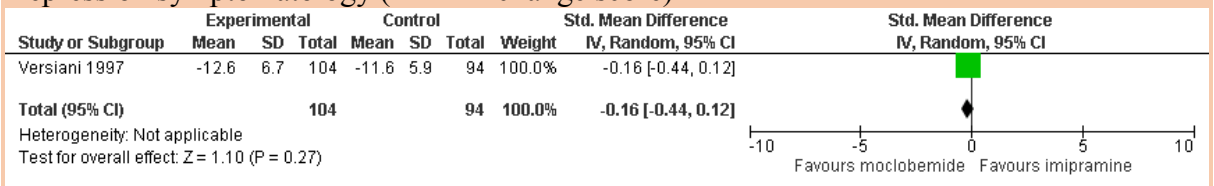
Remission (≤4 on HAM-D)



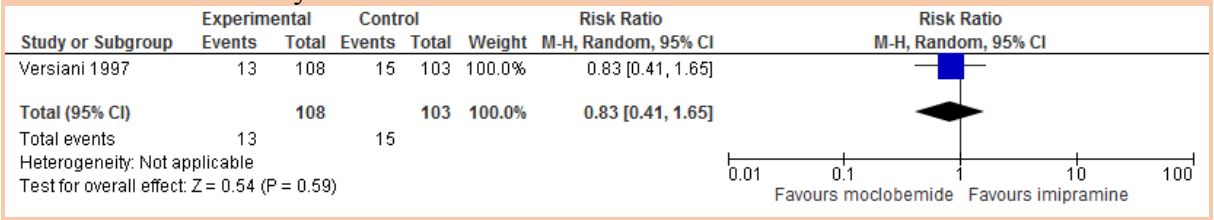
Response (≥50% improvement on HAM-D)



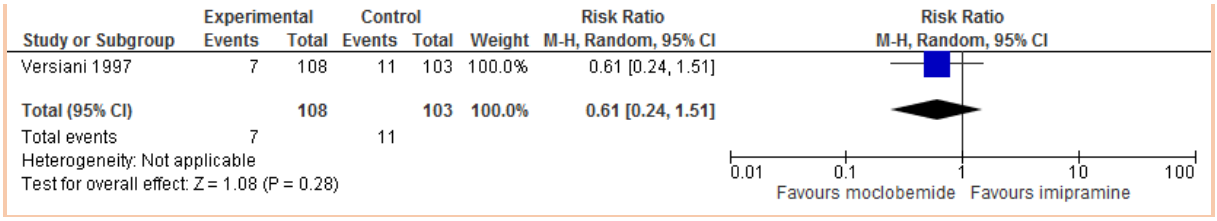
Depression symptomatology (HAMD change score)



Discontinuation for any reason

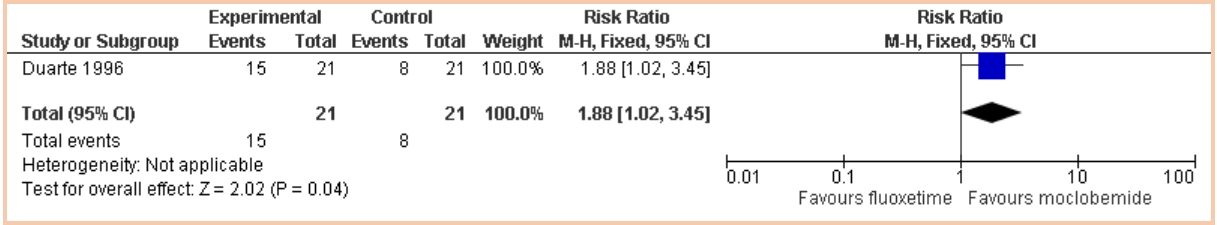


Discontinuation due to adverse events

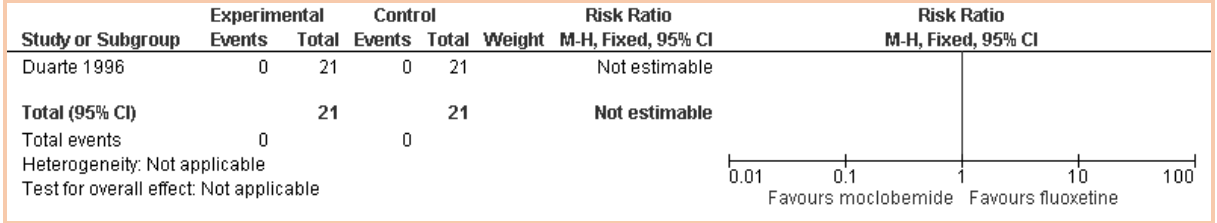


Moclobemide versus fluoxetine for double depression

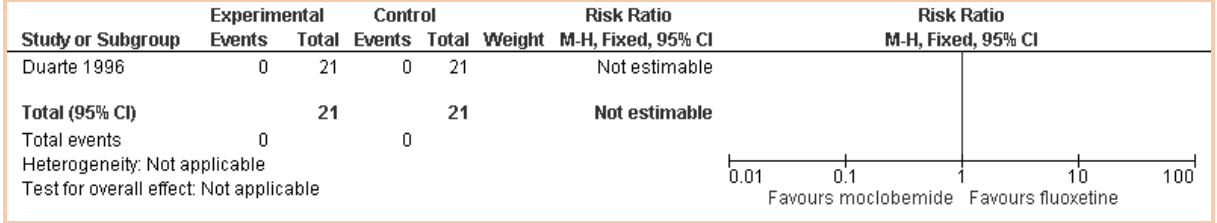
Response (≥50% improvement on HAMD score)



Discontinuation for any reason

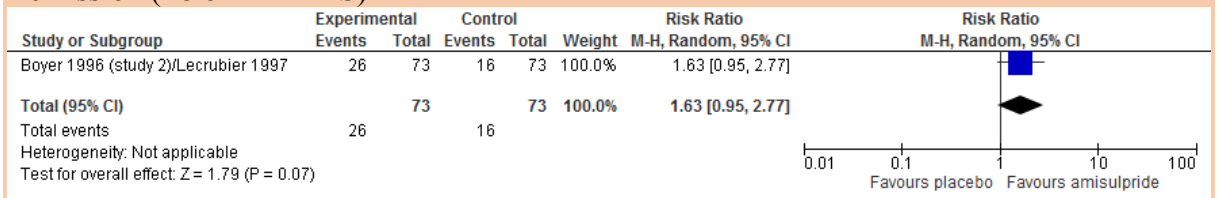


Discontinuation due to adverse events

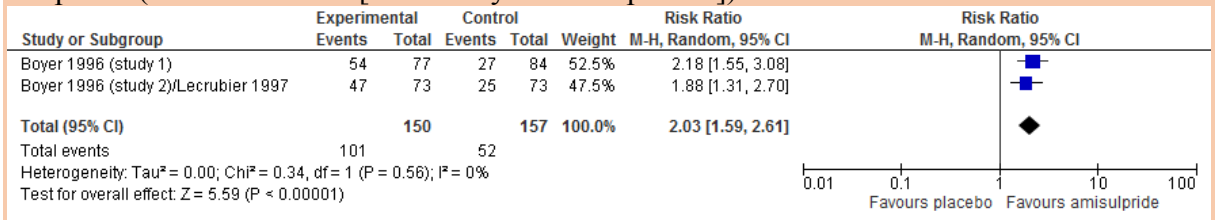


Amisulpride versus placebo for chronic depressive symptoms

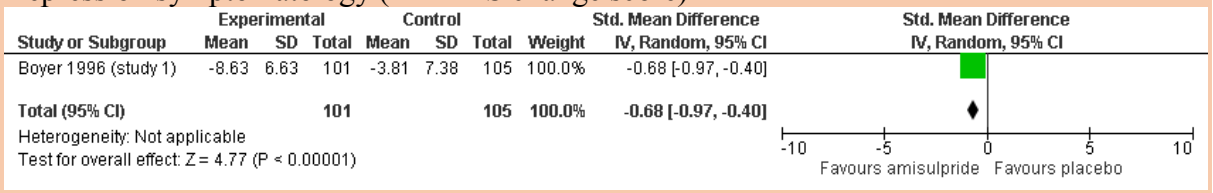
Remission (<8 on MADRS)



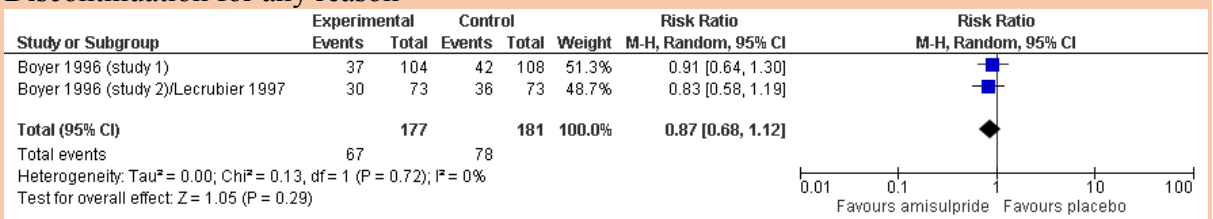
Response (CGI-I score 1-2 [much/very much improved])



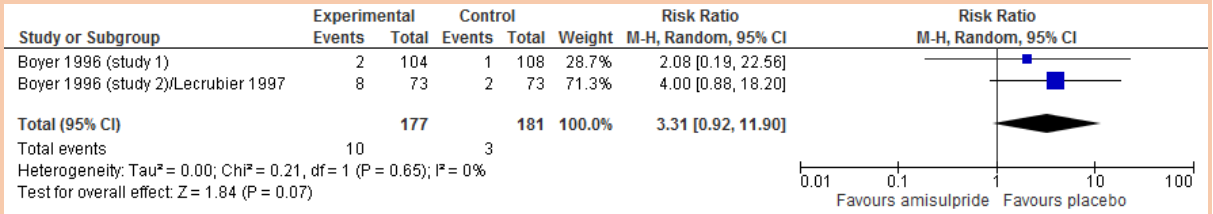
Depression symptomatology (MADRS change score)



Discontinuation for any reason



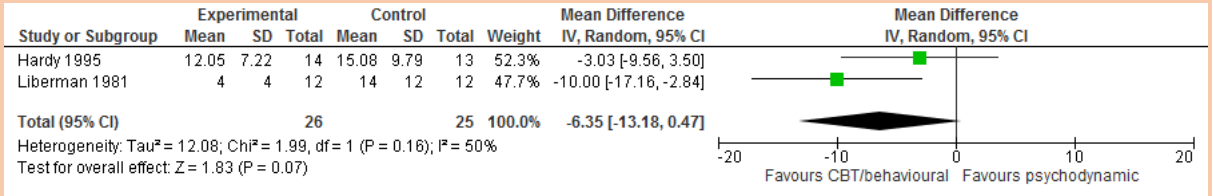
Discontinuation due to adverse events



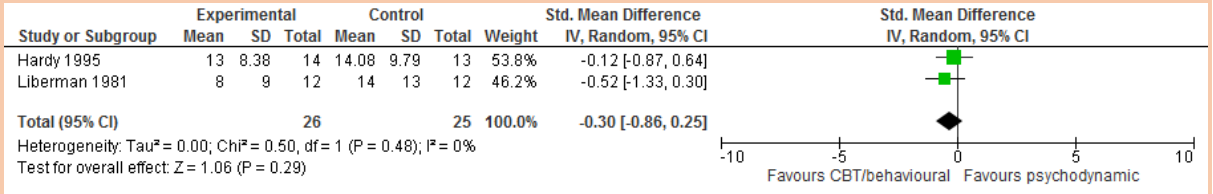
Complex depression (chapter 10)

CBT/behavioural therapies versus psychodynamic therapies for complex depression

Depression symptomatology at endpoint (BDI)

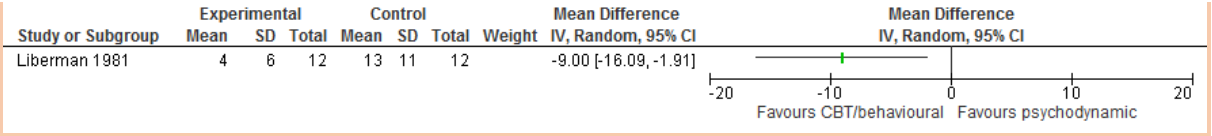


Depression symptomatology at 12 week follow-up (BDI)

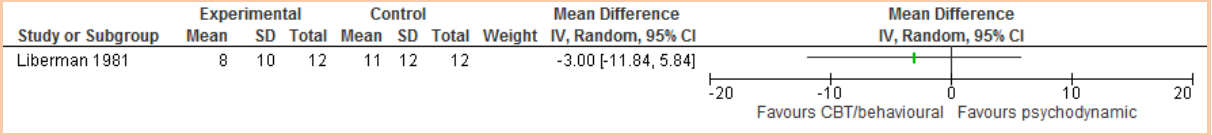


Depression symptomatology at 24 week follow-up (BDI)

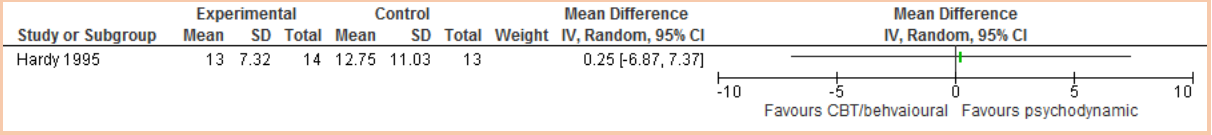
Forest plots



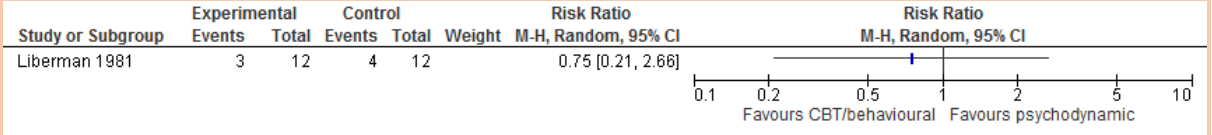
Depression symptomatology at 36 week follow-up (BDI)



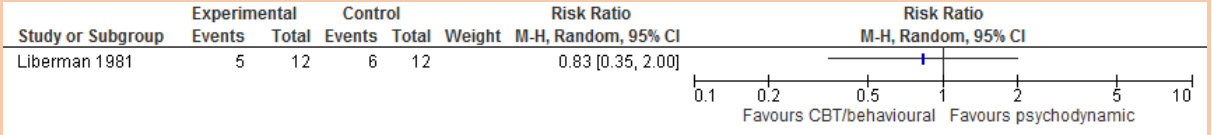
Depression symptomatology at 1 year follow-up (BDI)



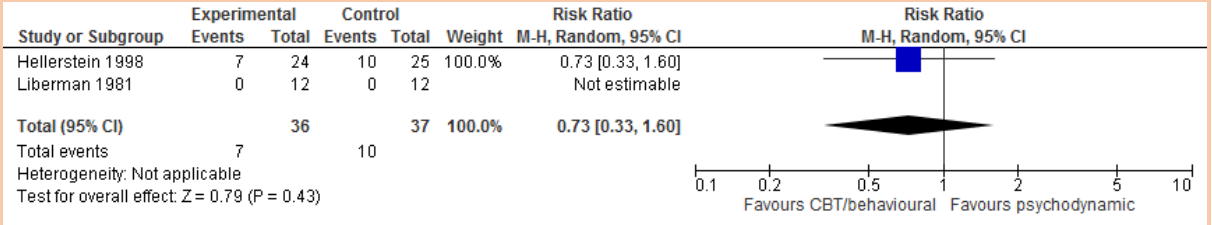
Suicide attempts at 24 week follow-up



Suicide attempts at 2 year follow-up

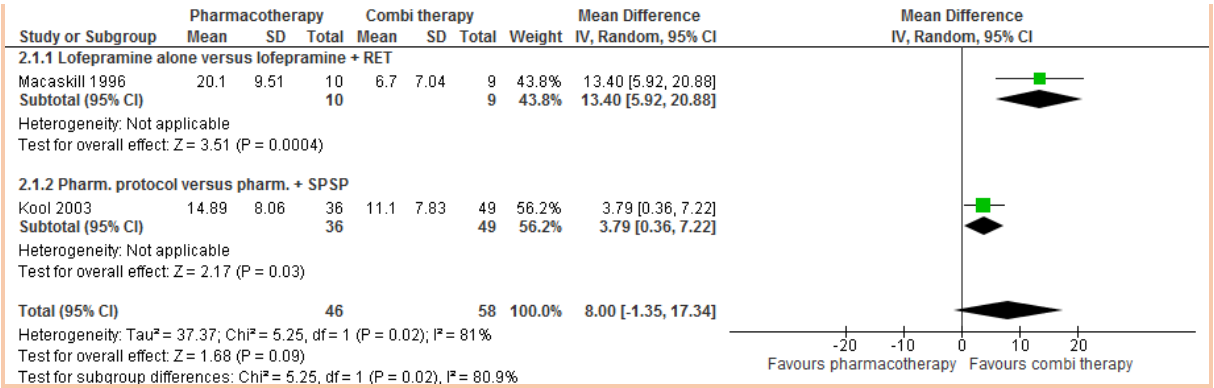


Discontinuations for any reason

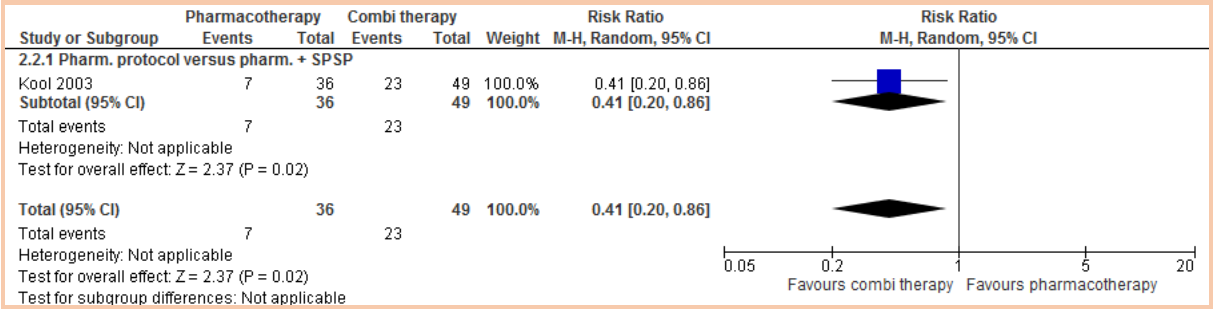


Pharmacotherapy versus combination therapy for complex depression

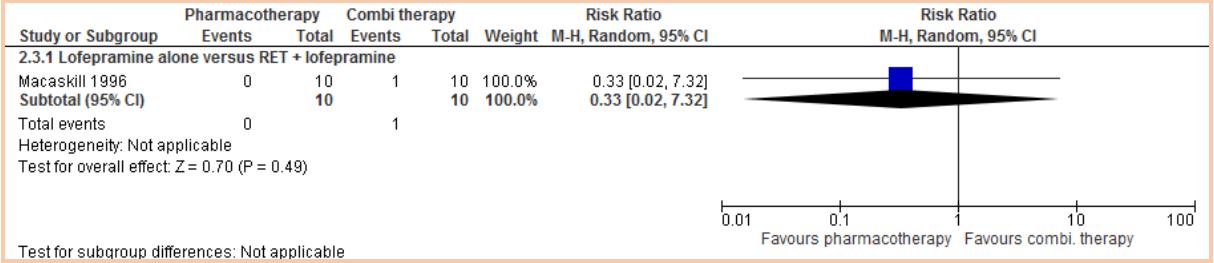
Depression symptomatology at endpoint (HAM-D 17)



Remission at endpoint (HAM-D 17)



Discontinuations for any reason

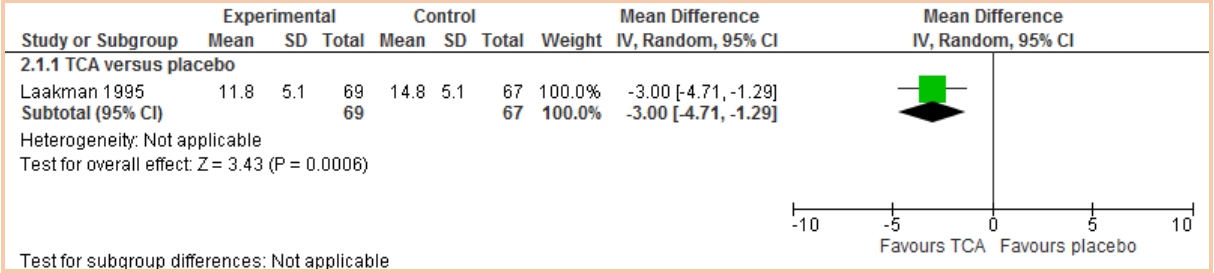


Psychotic depression (chapter 10)

Antidepressants versus other pharmacological interventions

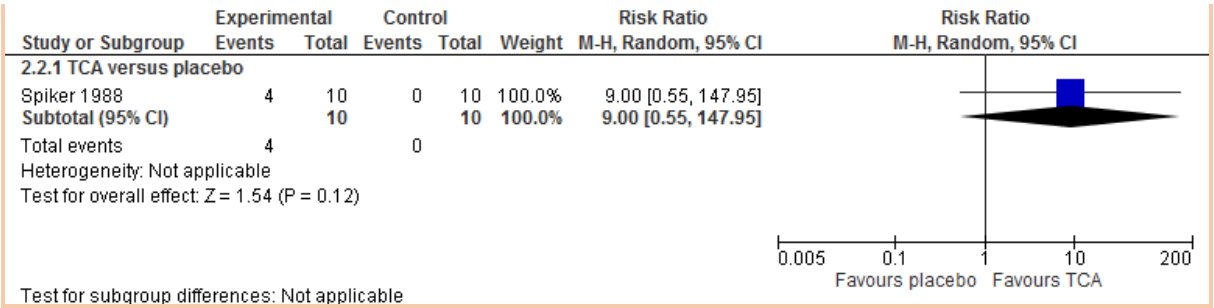
Antidepressant versus placebo

Depressive symptoms at endpoint (HAMD 17)

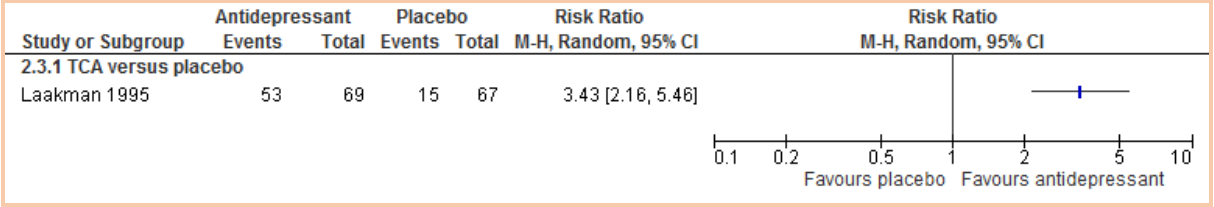


Remission

Forest plots



Response



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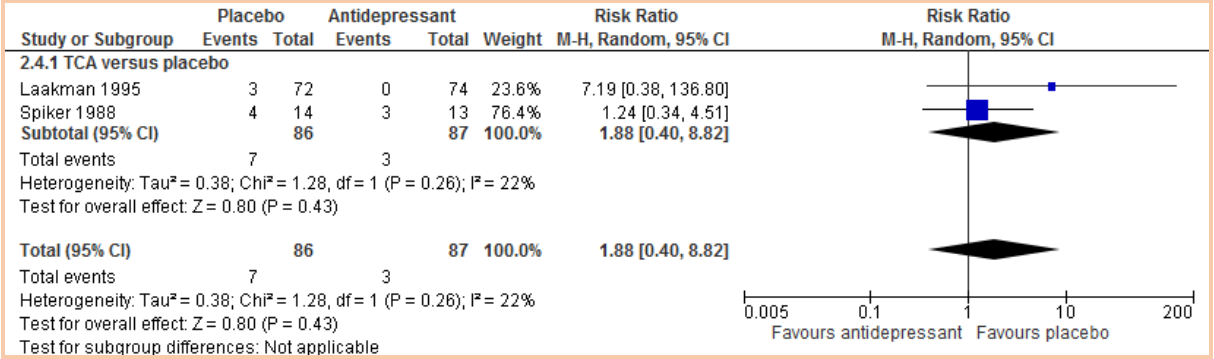
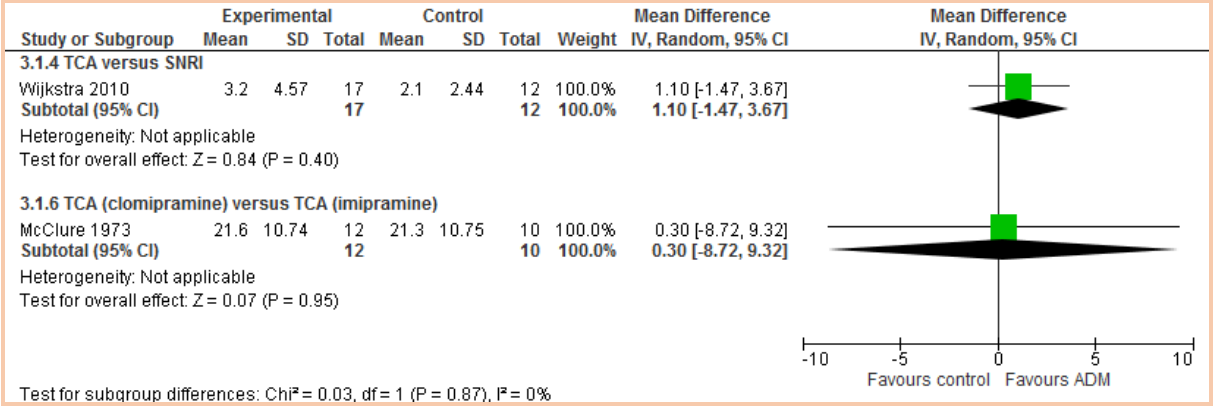


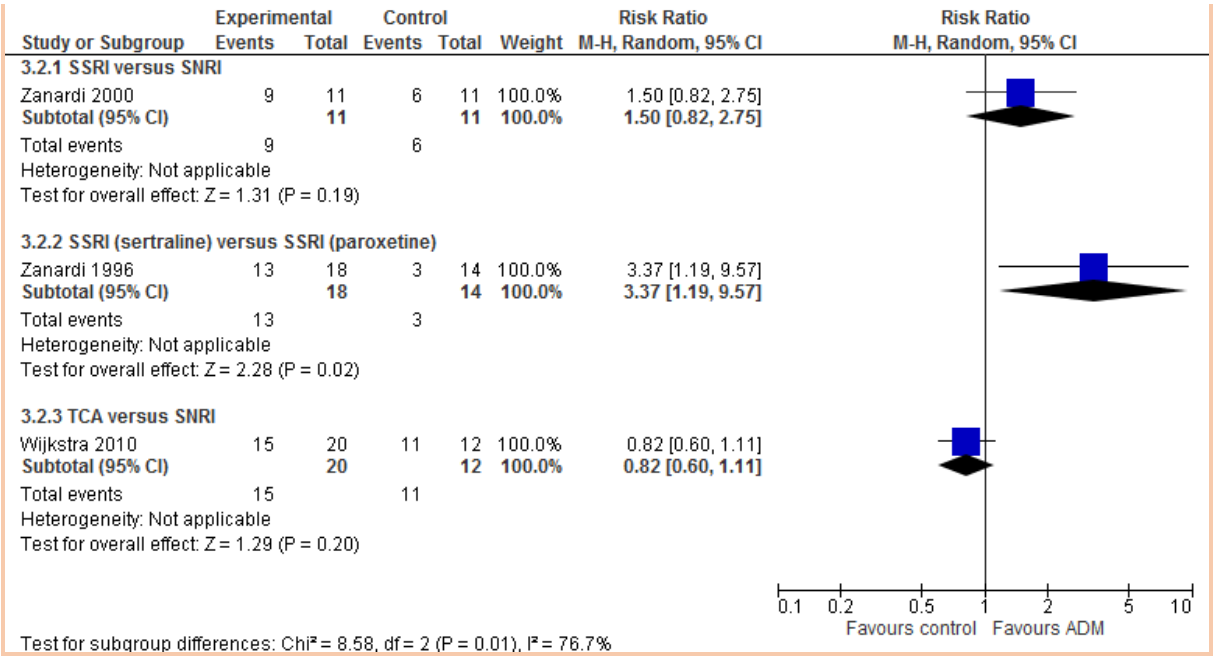
Antidepressant versus antidepressant

Depressive symptoms at endpoint

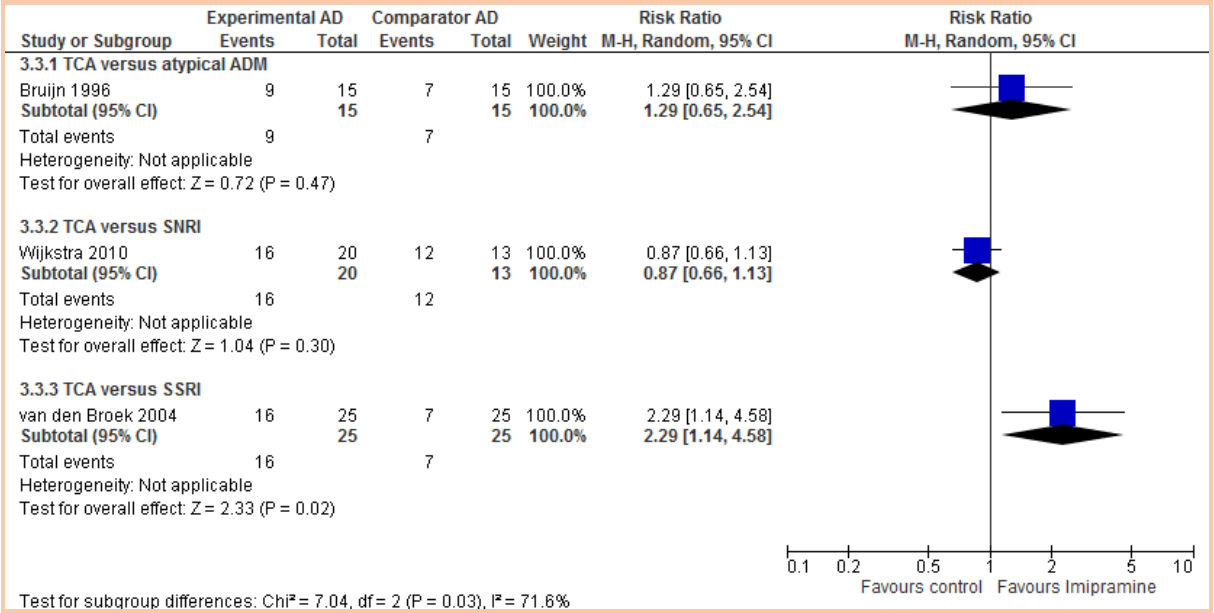


Remission

Forest plots



Response



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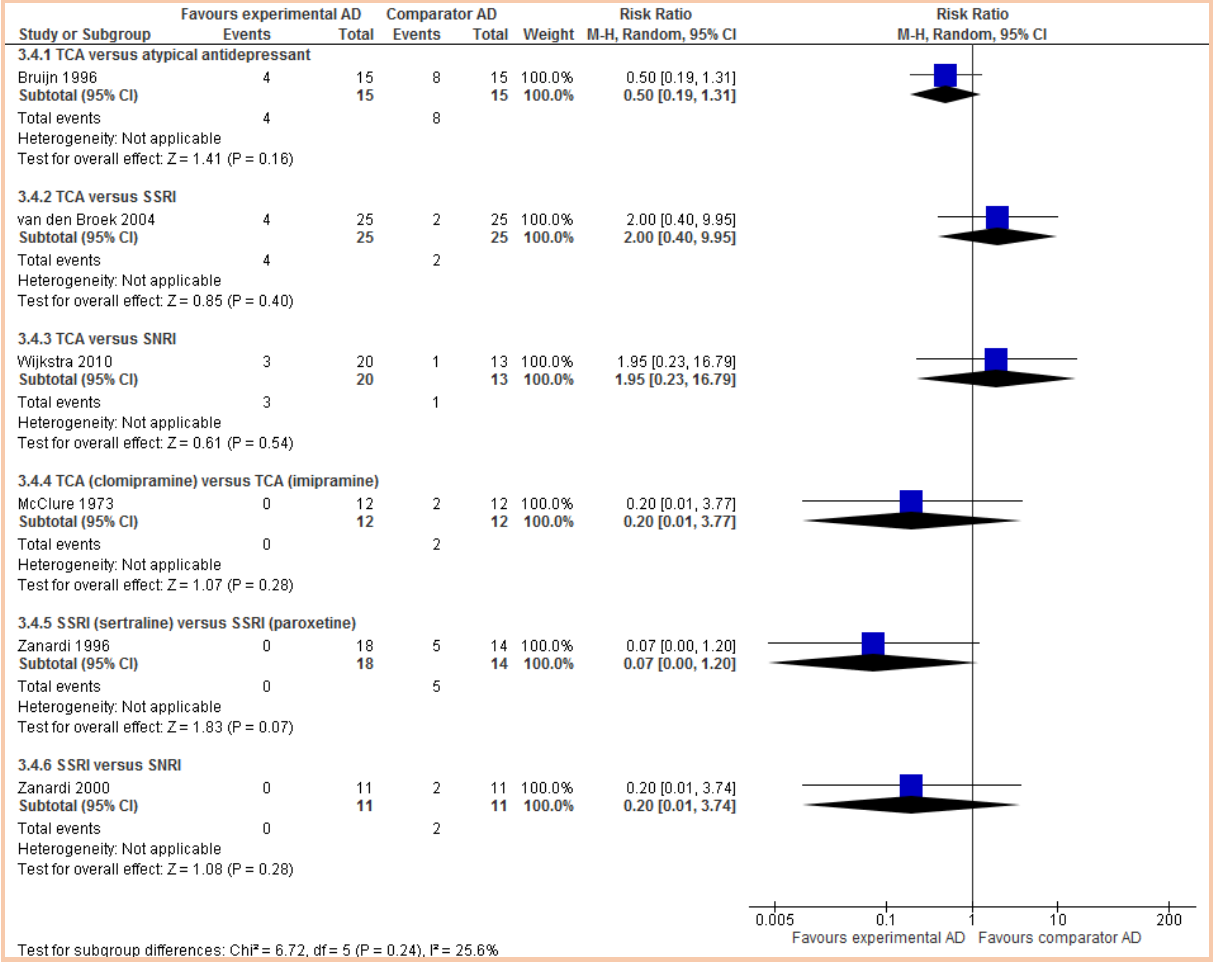
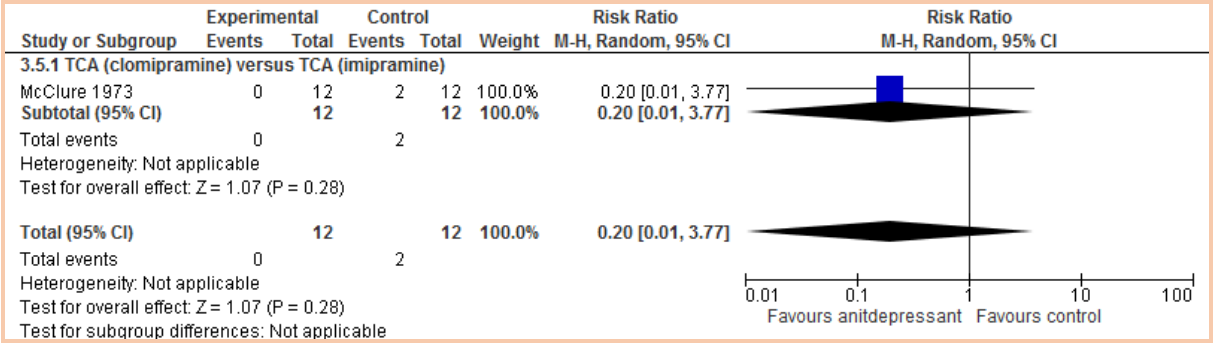
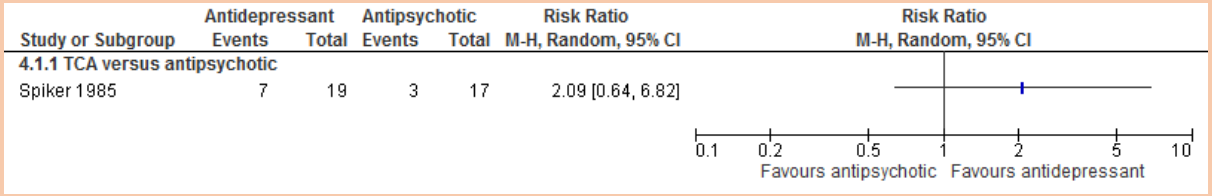


Discontinuation due to side effects



Antidepressant versus antipsychotic

Remission



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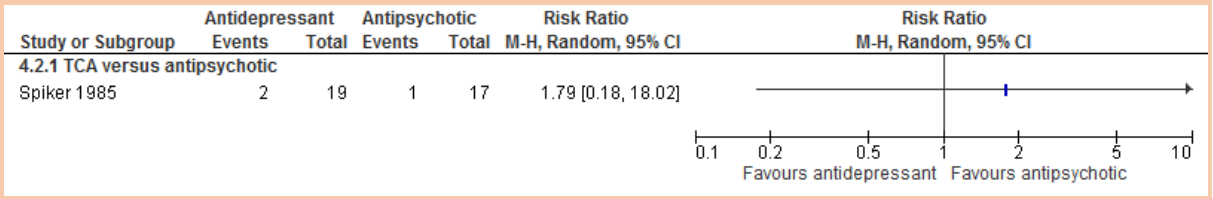
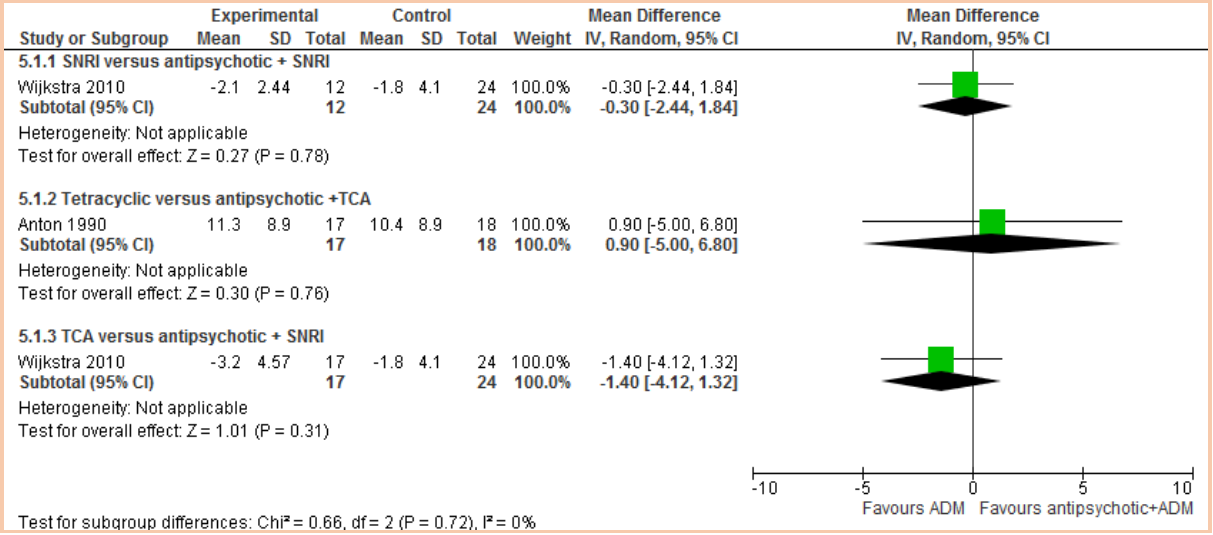
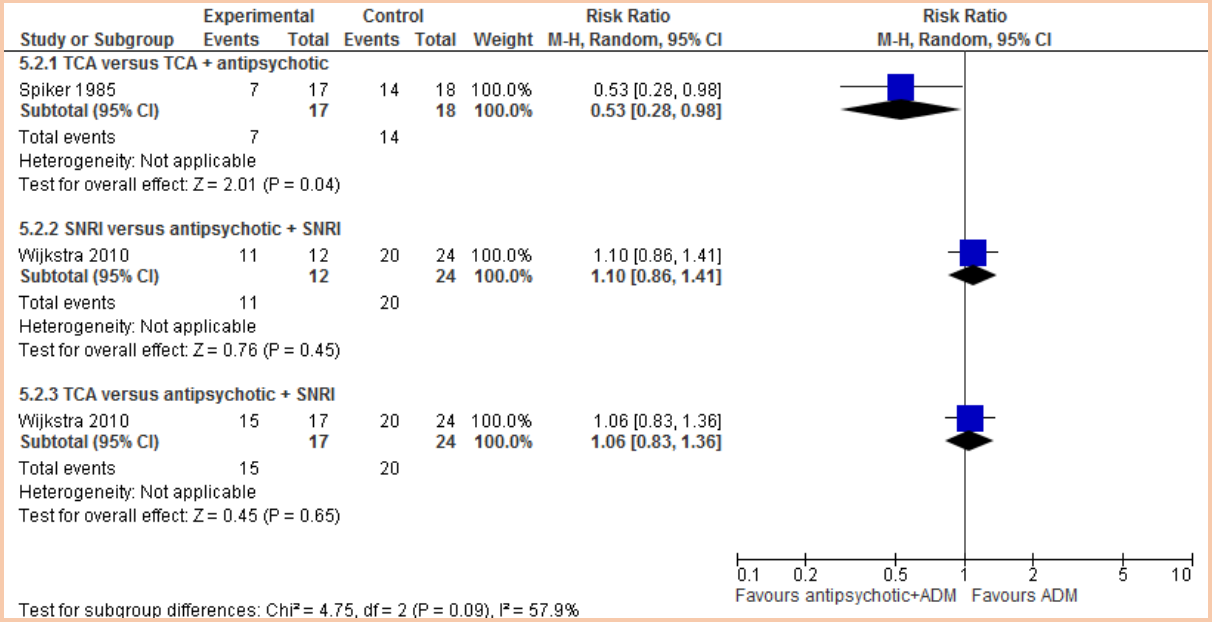


Antidepressant versus antipsychotic plus antidepressant

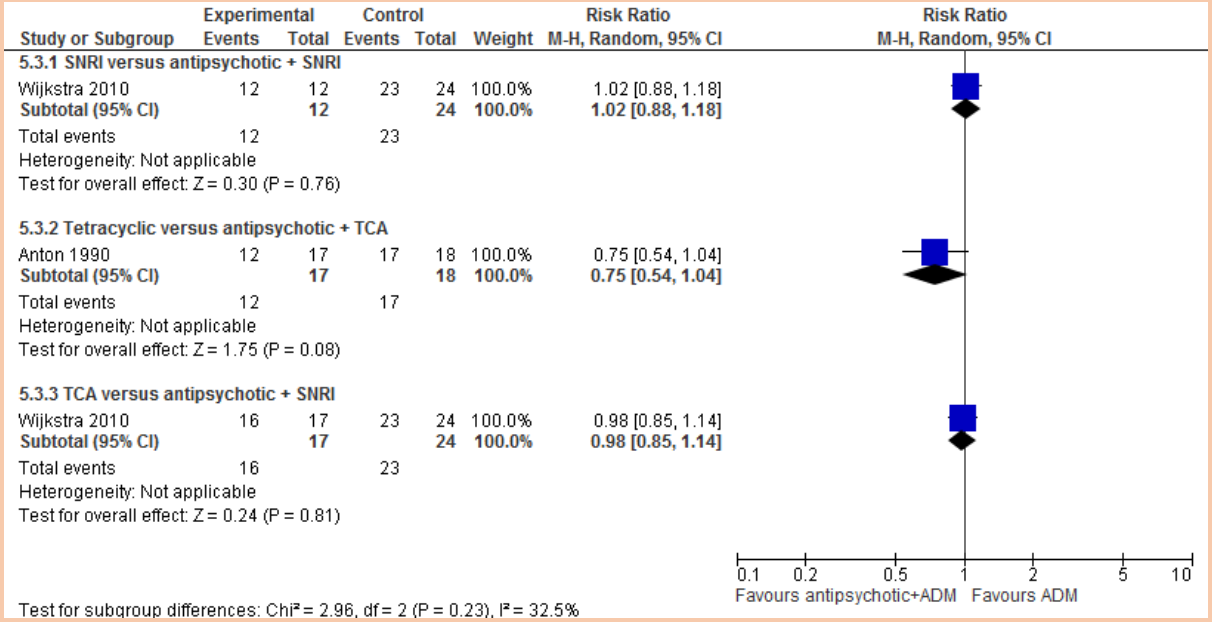
Depression symptomatology at endpoint (HAMD 17)



Remission



Response



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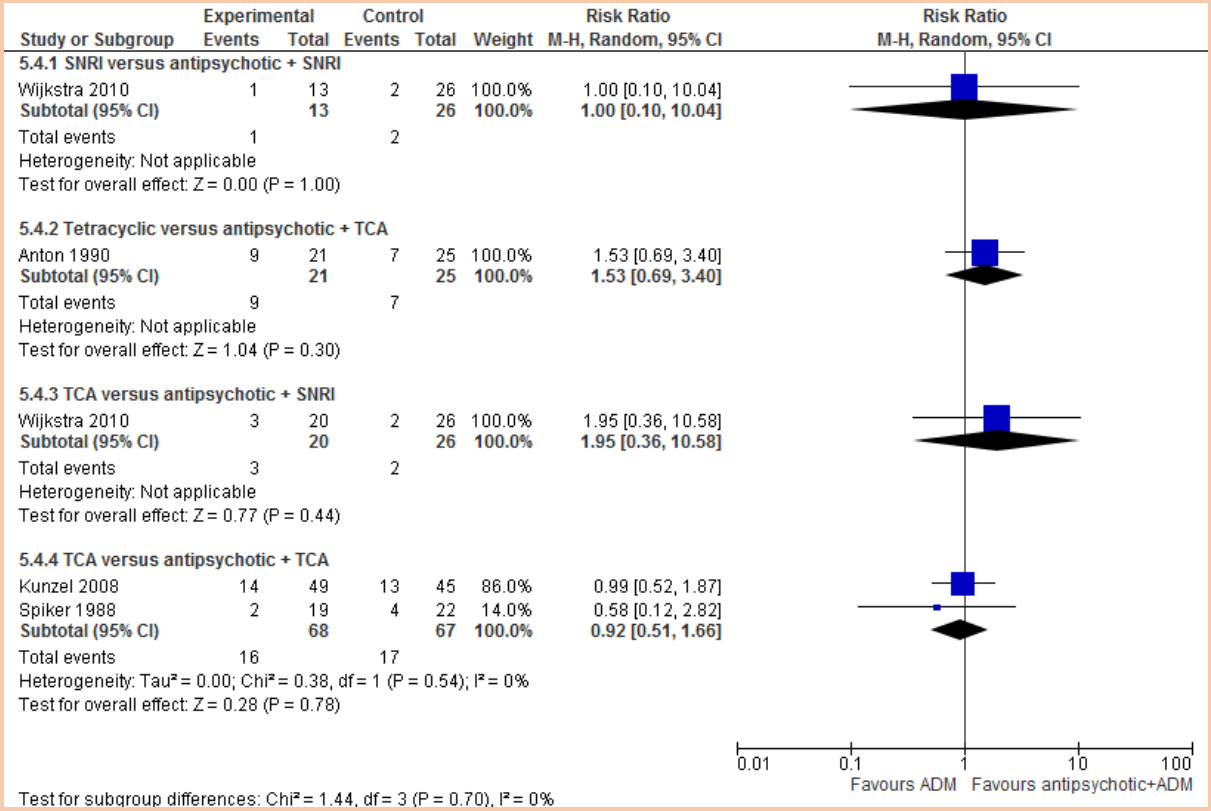
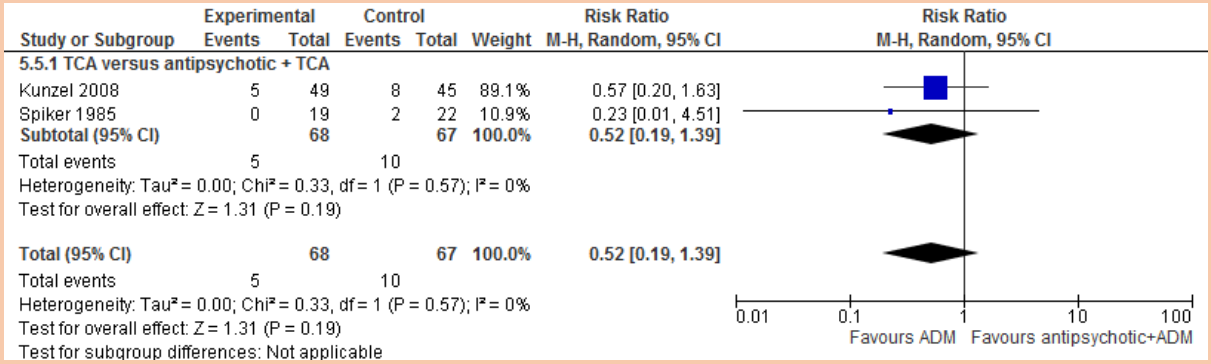


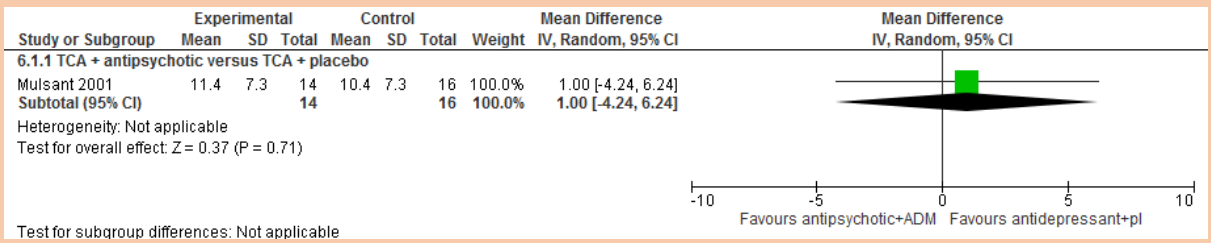
Discontinuation due to side effects



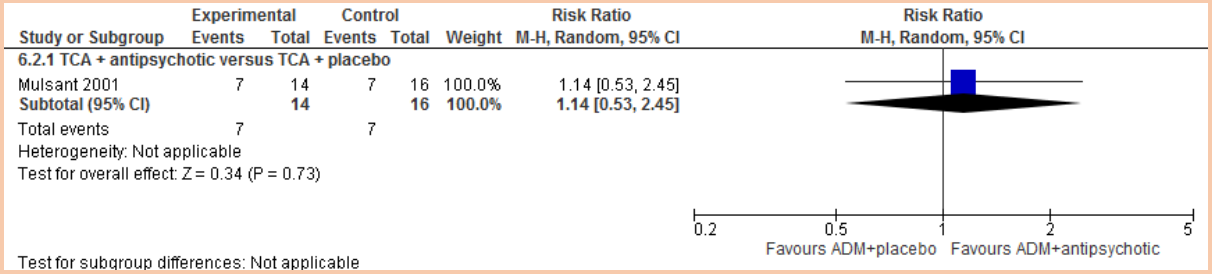
Combined antidepressant and antipsychotic versus other pharmacological interventions

Antidepressant plus antipsychotic versus antidepressant plus placebo

Depression symptomatology at endpoint (HAMD 17)



Remission



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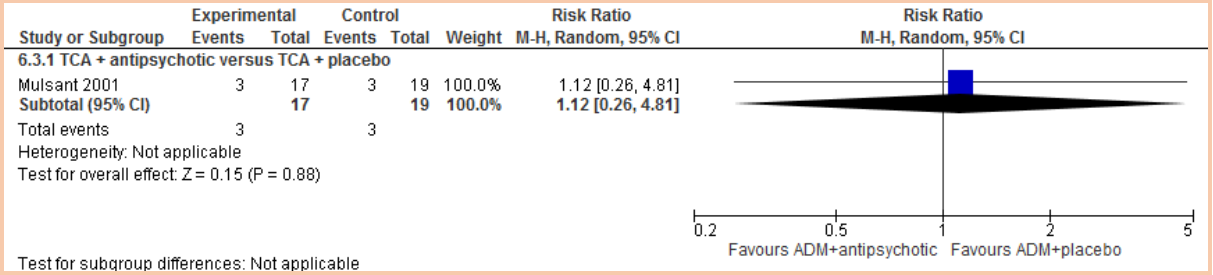
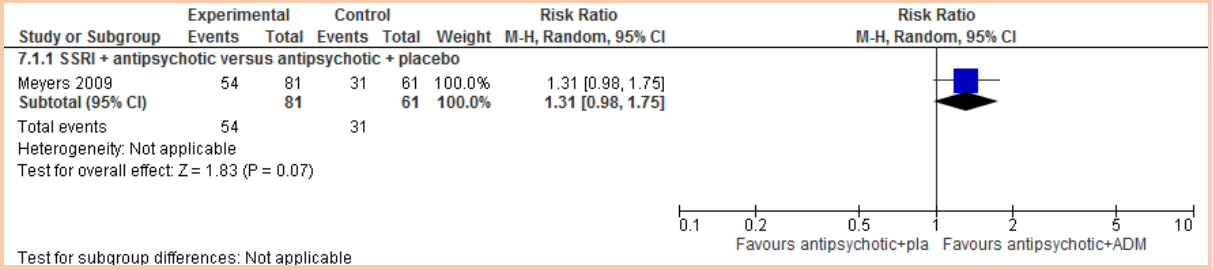


Antidepressant plus antipsychotic versus antipsychotic plus placebo

Remission



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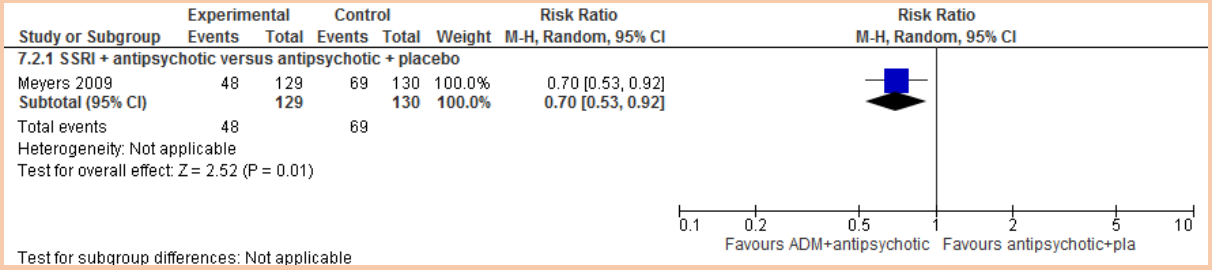
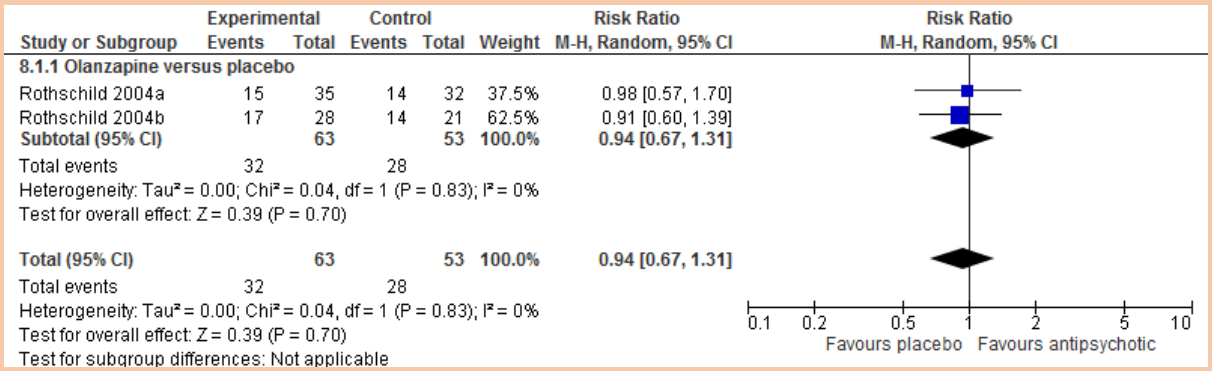


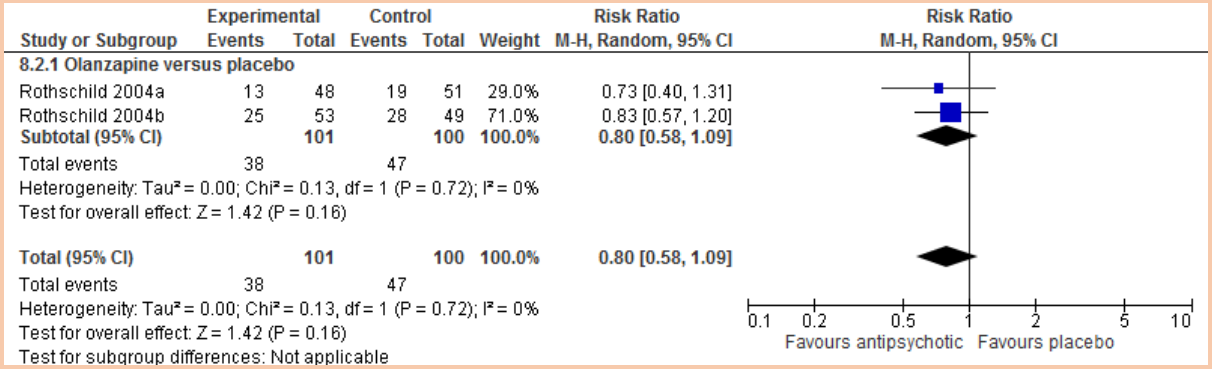
Antipsychotics versus other pharmacological interventions

Antipsychotics versus placebo

Response

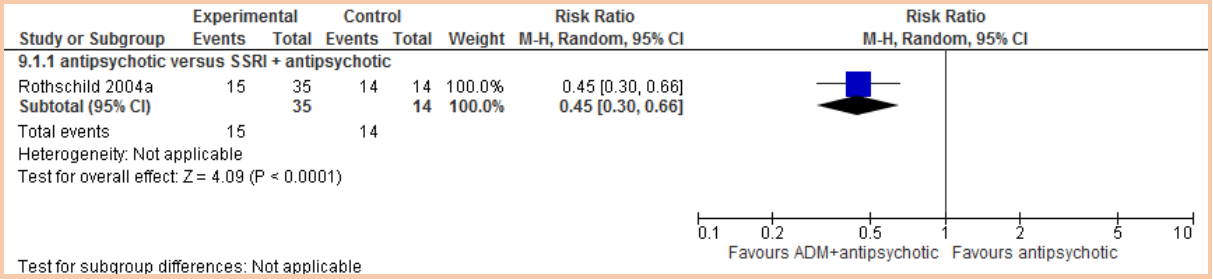


Discontinuation



Antipsychotics versus antipsychotics plus antidepressants

Response



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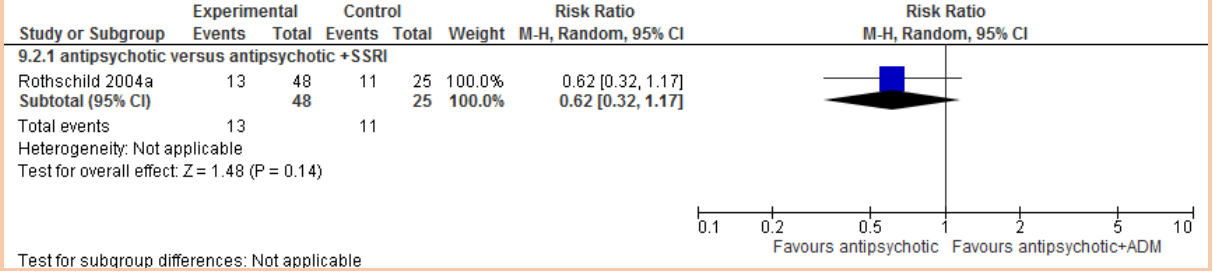
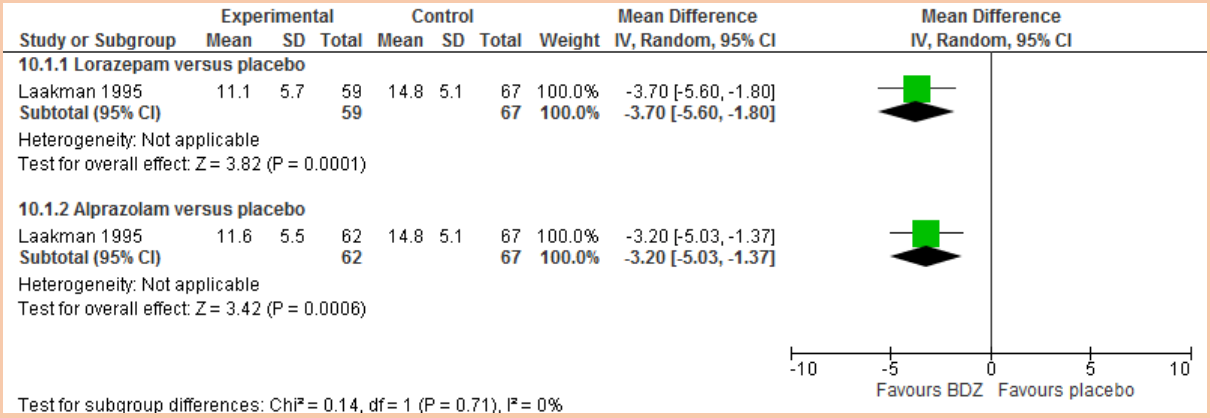


Benzodiazepines versus other pharmacological interventions

Benzodiazepines versus placebo

Depression symptomatology at endpoint (HAMD-17)



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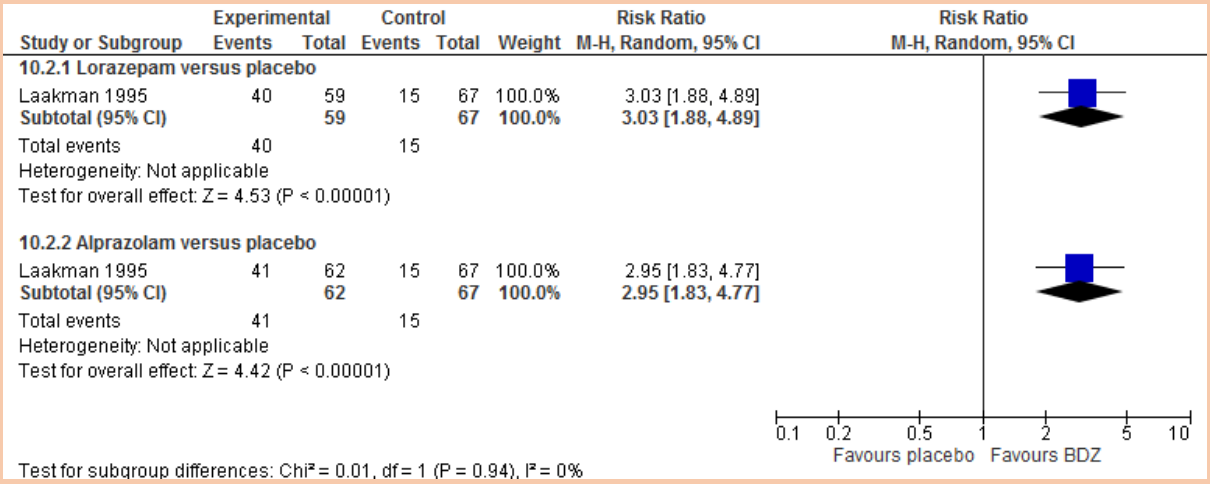

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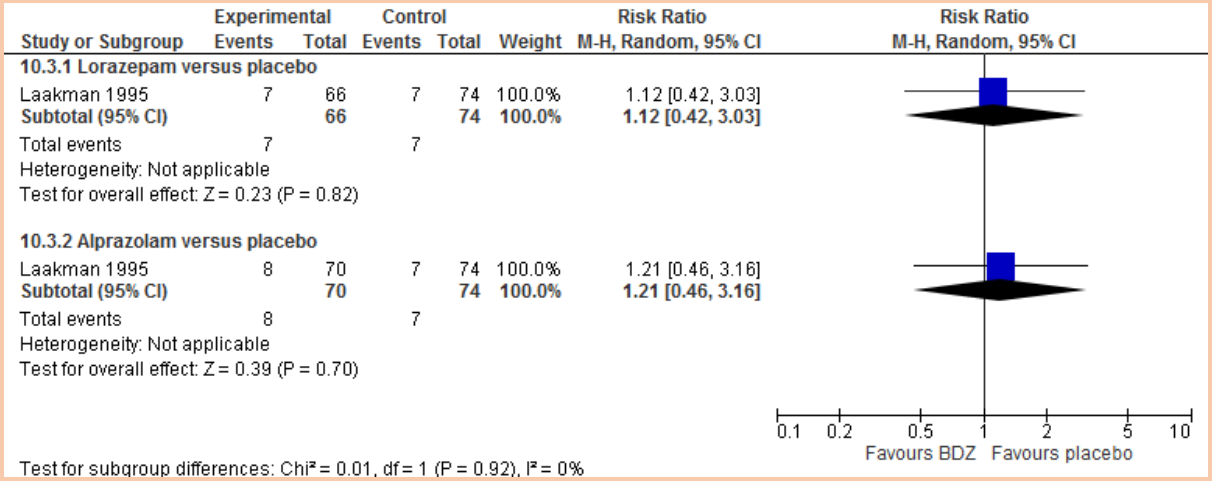
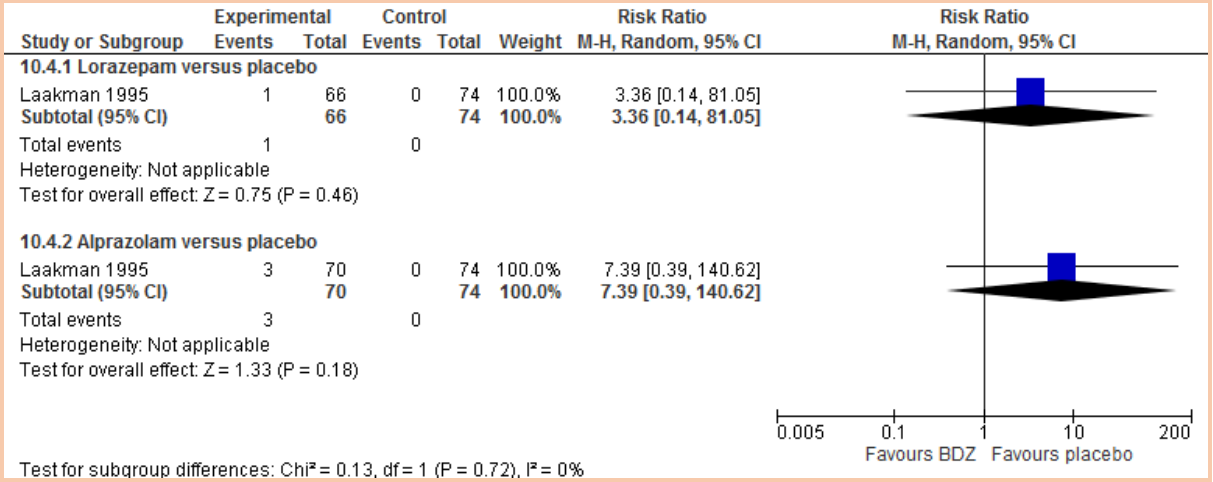
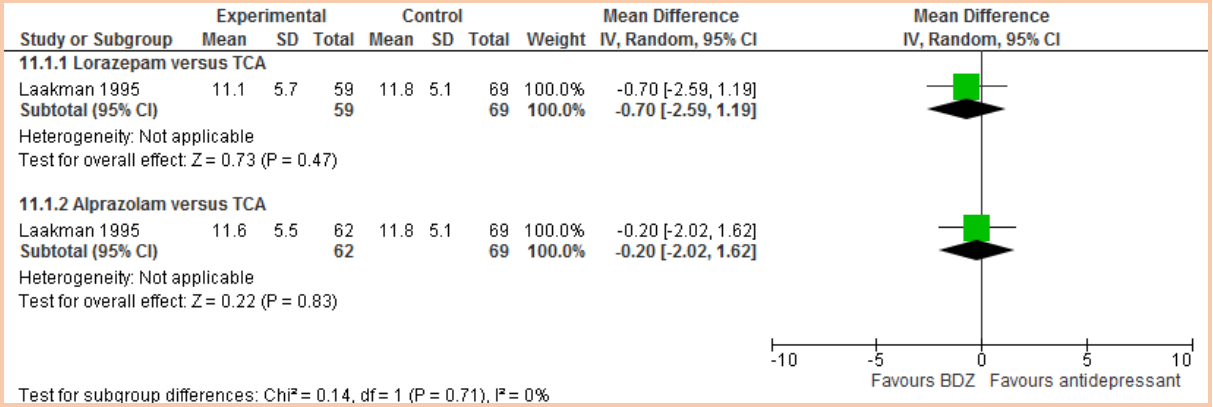


Discontinuation due to side effects

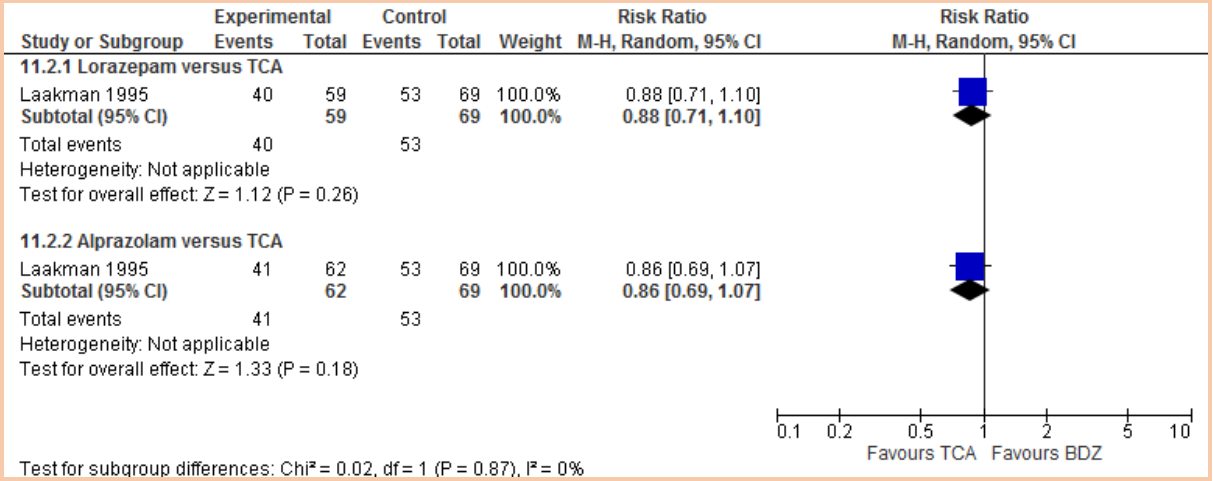


Benzodiazepines versus antidepressants

Depression symptomatology at endpoint (HAMD 17)



Response



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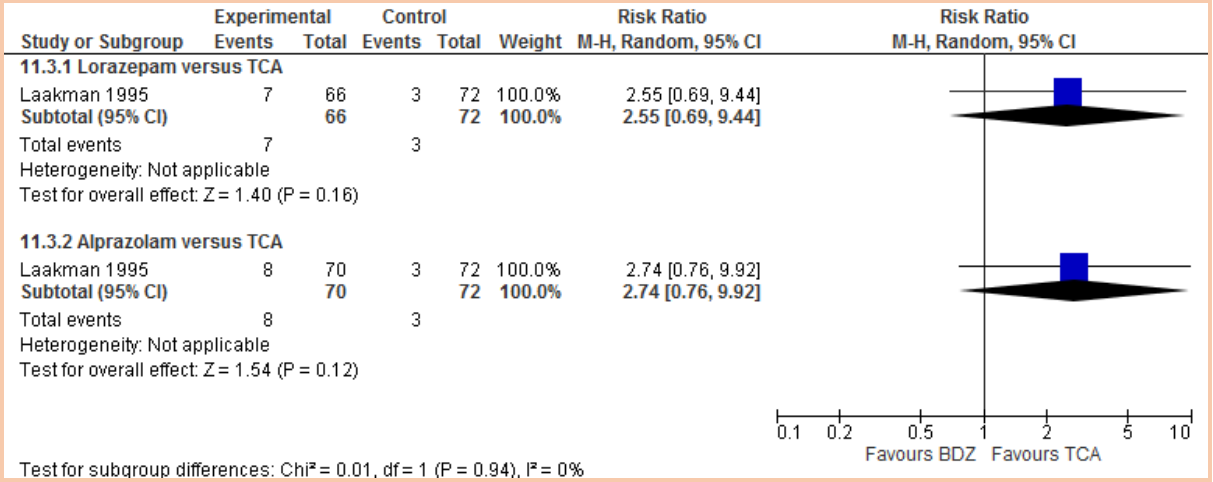
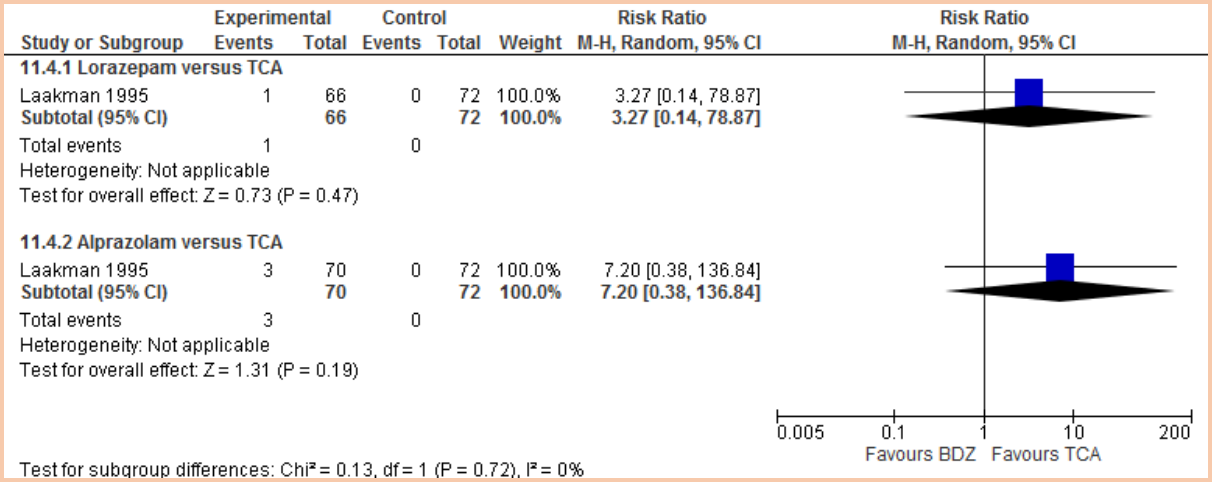
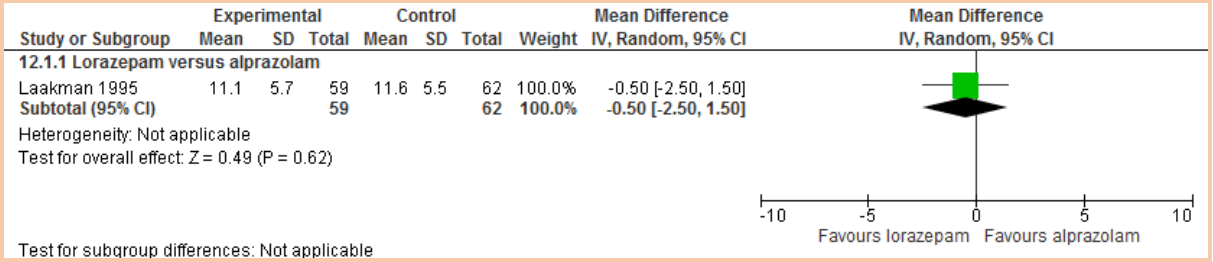


Discontinuation due to side effects



Benzodiazepines versus benzodiazepines

Depression symptomatology at endpoint (HAMD 17)



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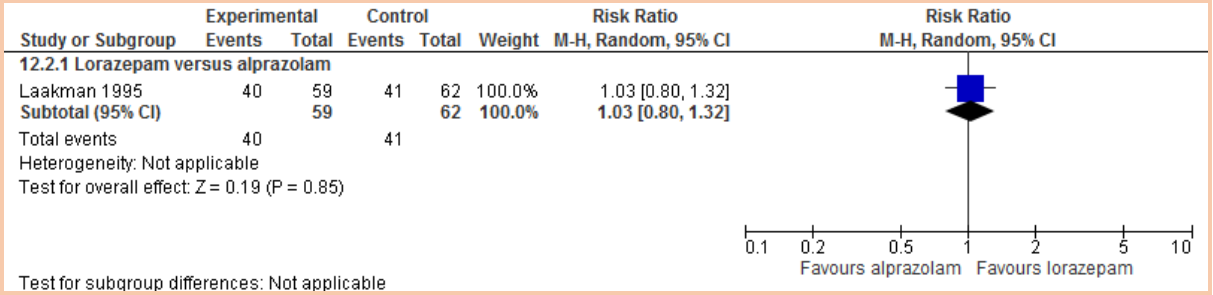

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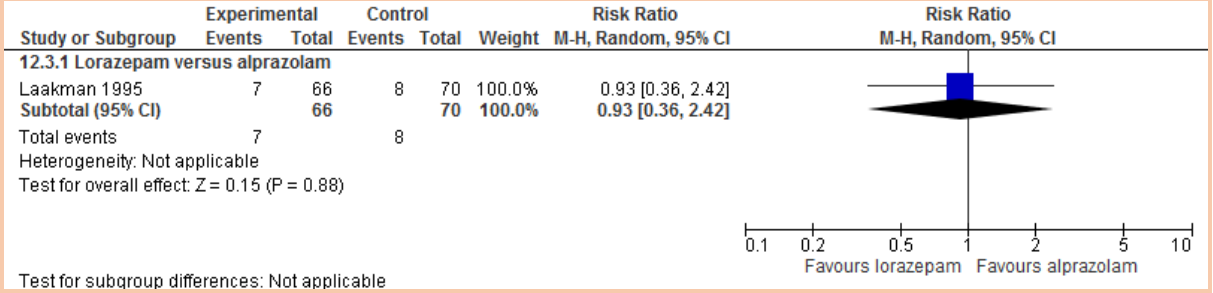
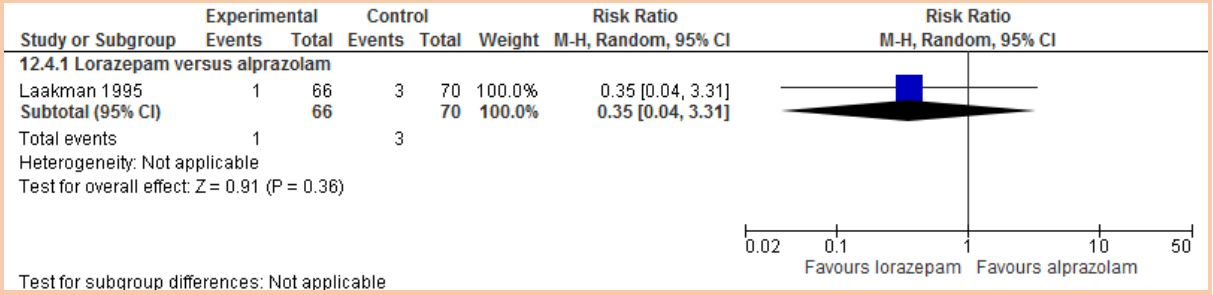


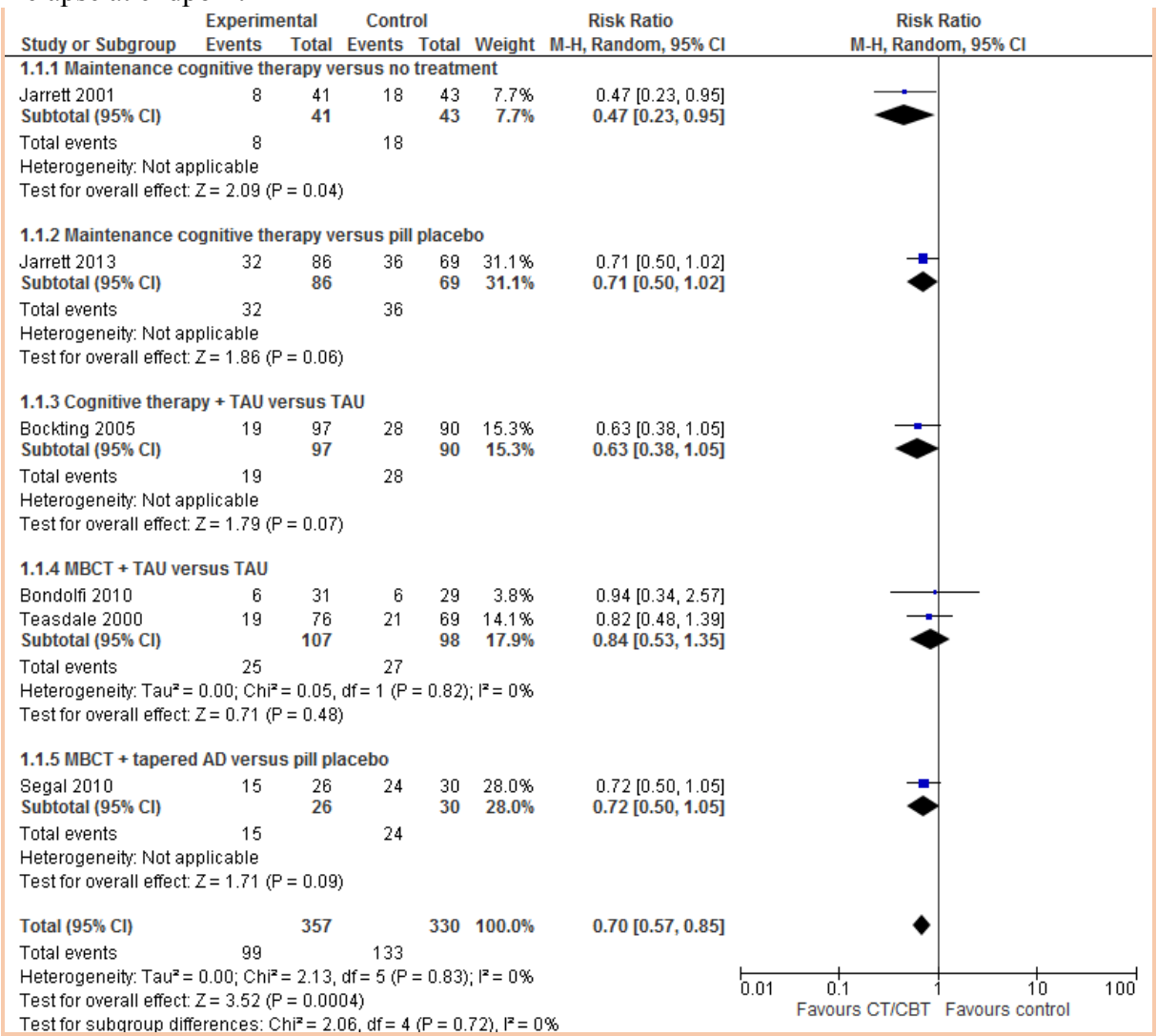
Discontinuation due to side effects



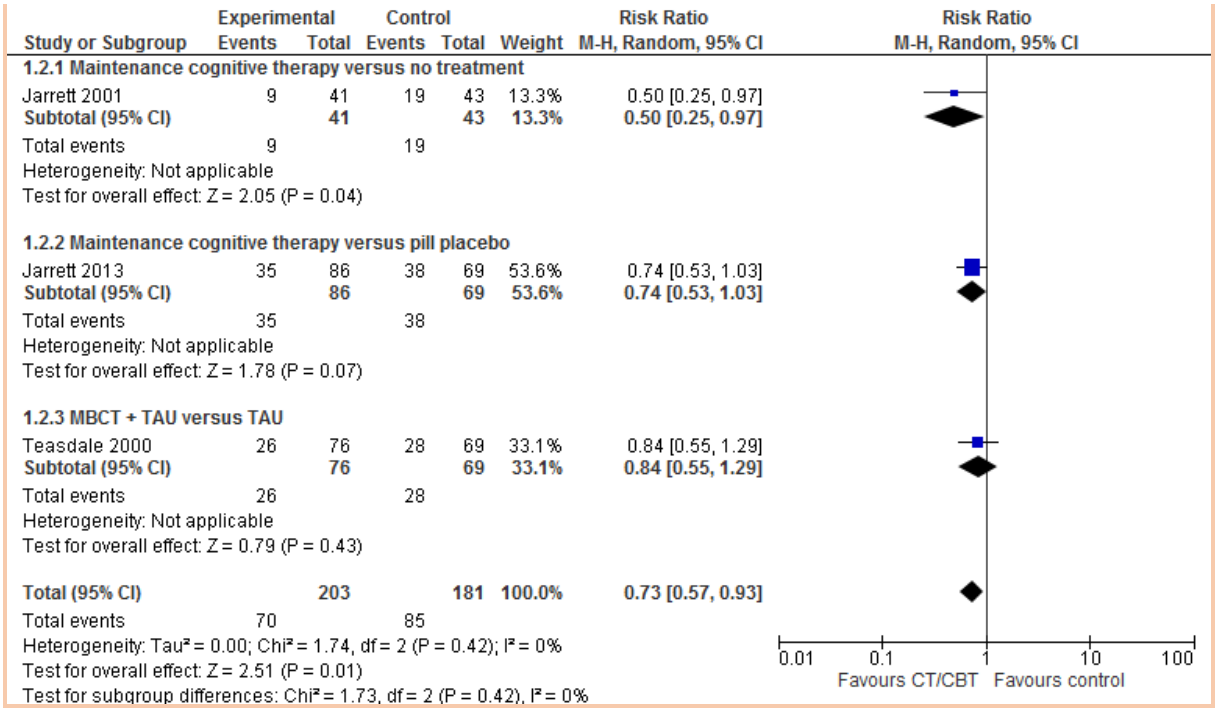
Relapse prevention (chapter 11)

Cognitive or cognitive behavioural therapies versus control

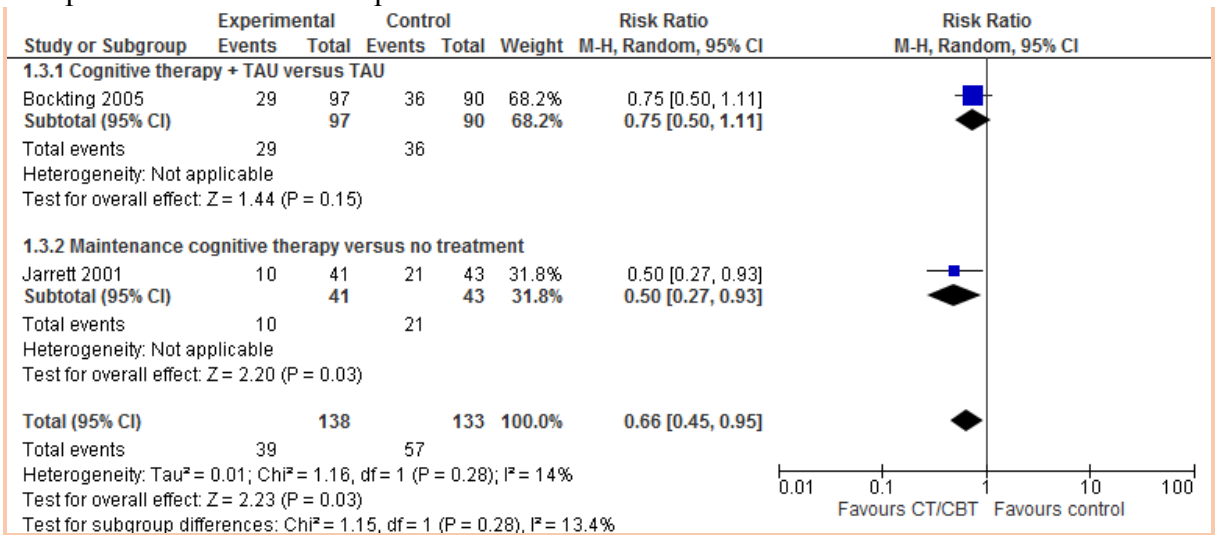
Relapse at endpoint



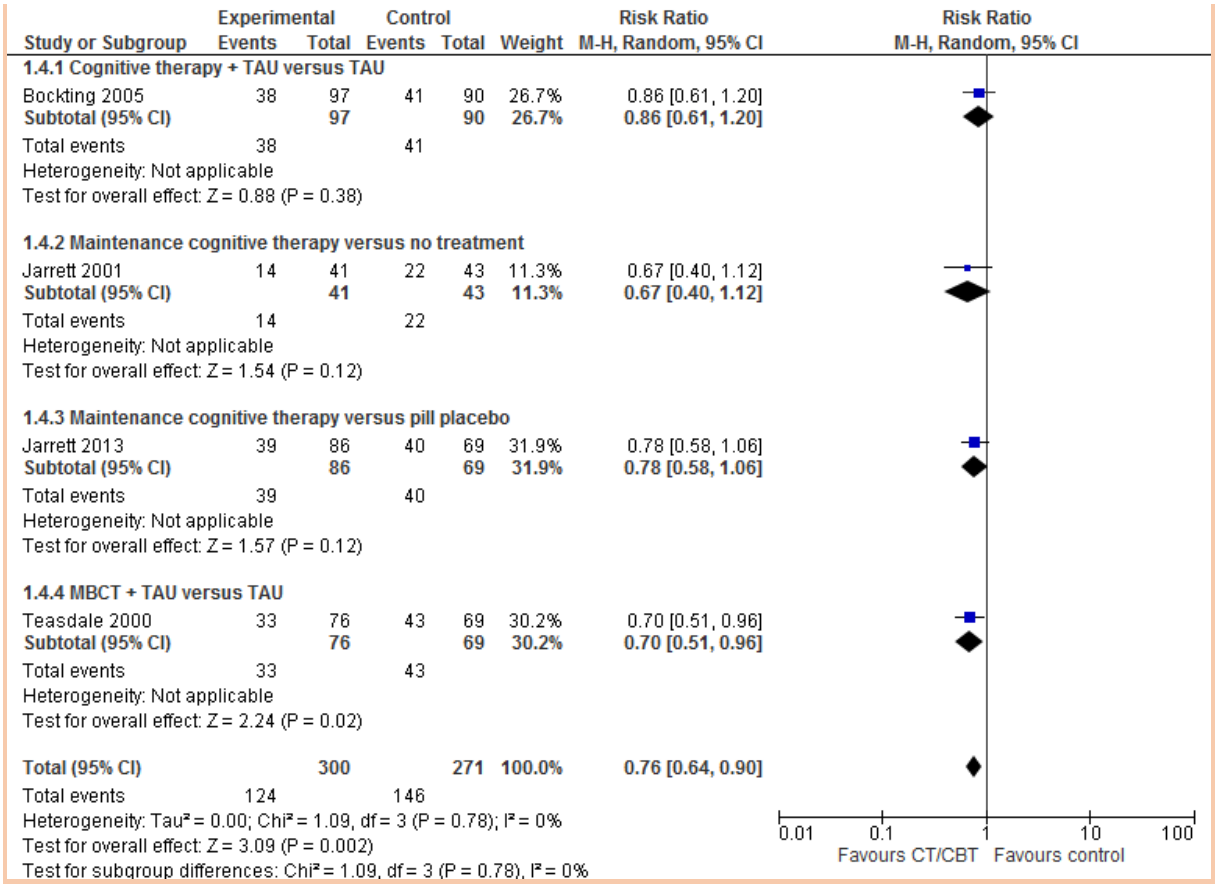
Relapse at 1-2 month follow-up



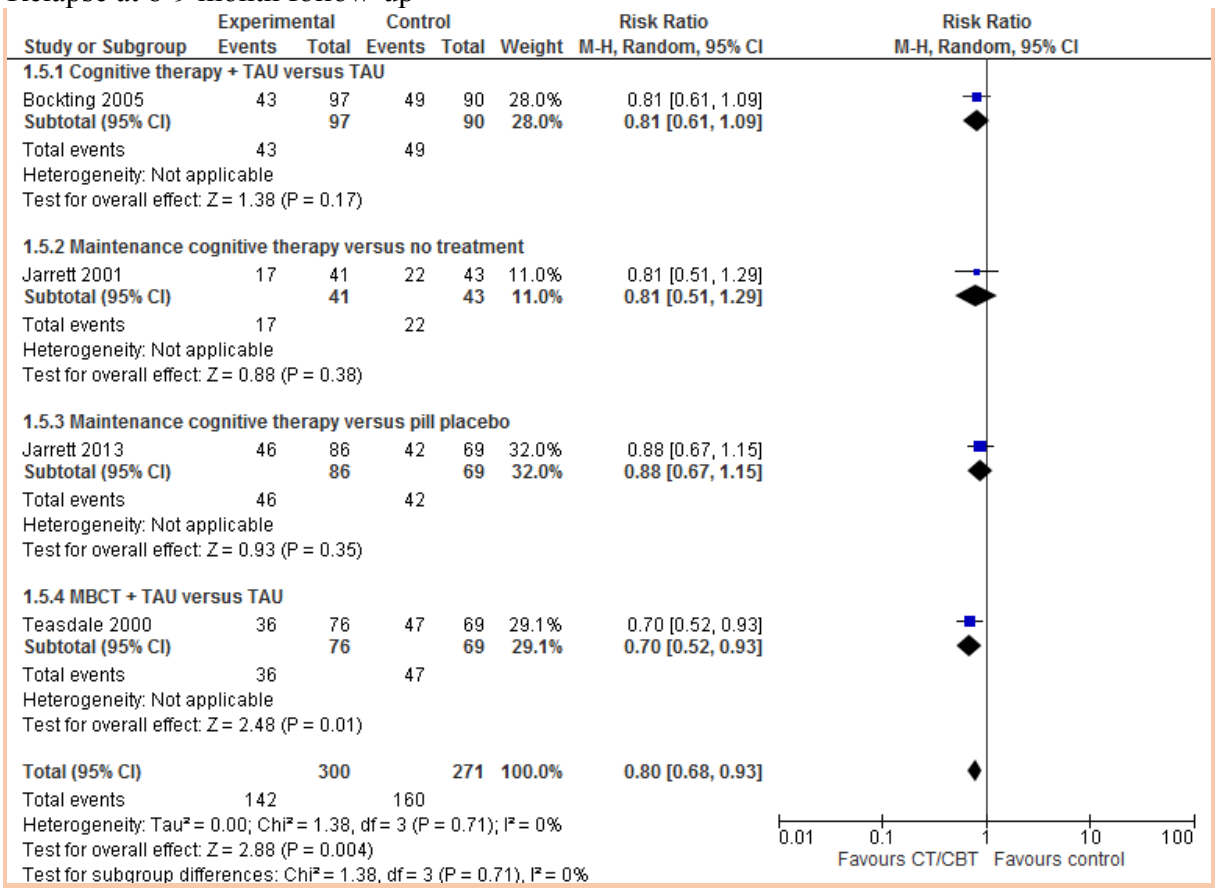
Relapse at 3-month follow-up



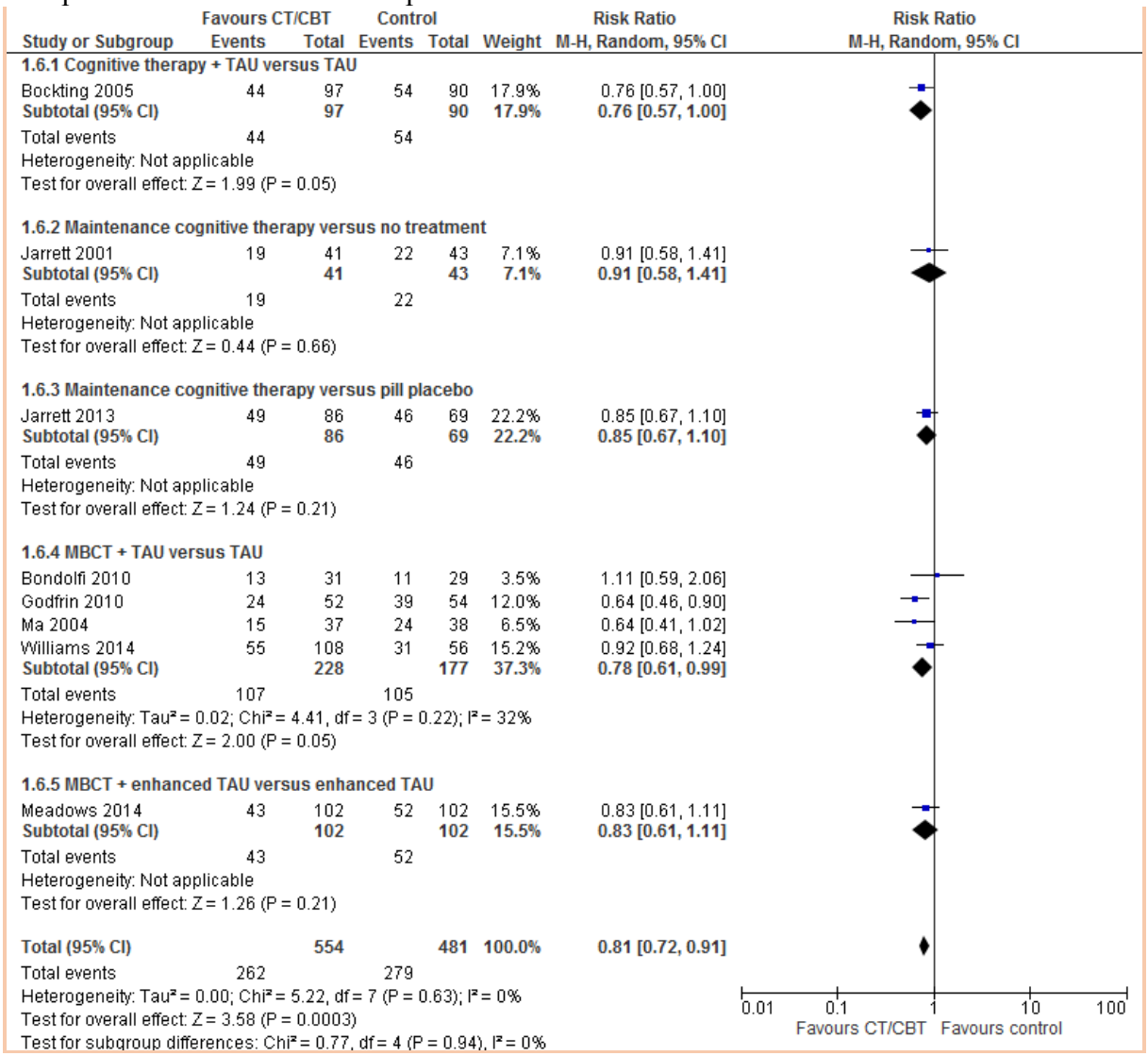
Relapse at 5-7 month follow-up



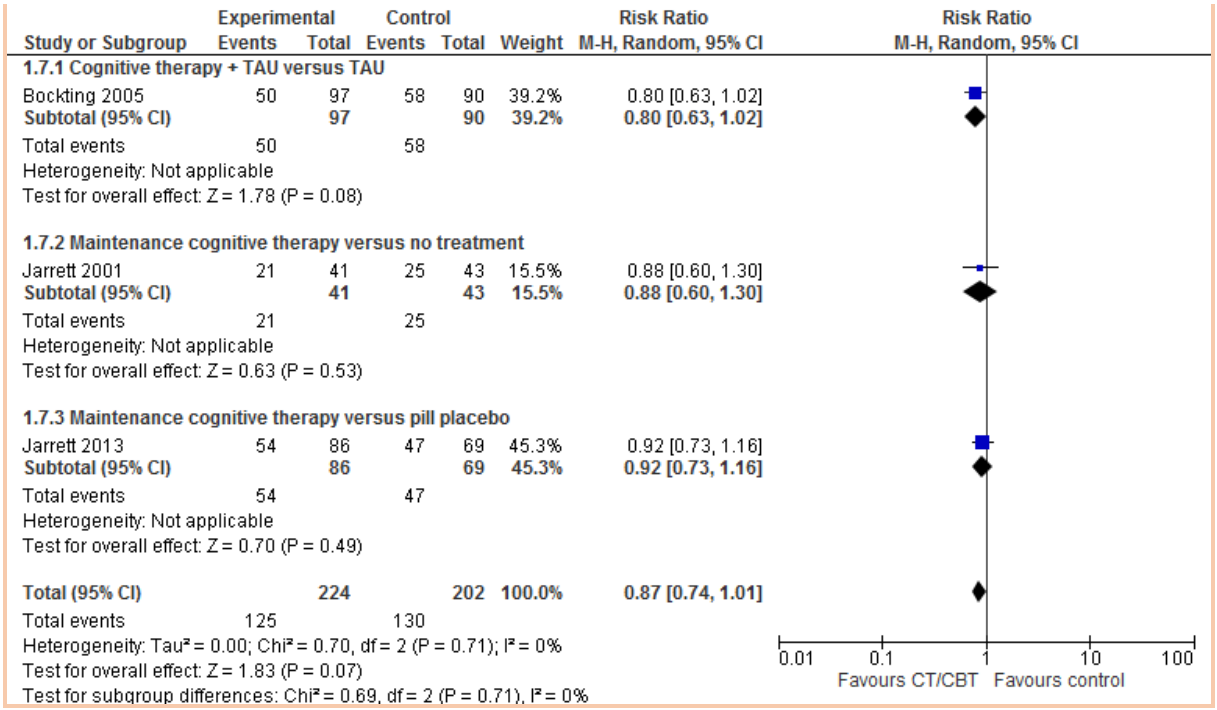
Relapse at 8-9 month follow-up



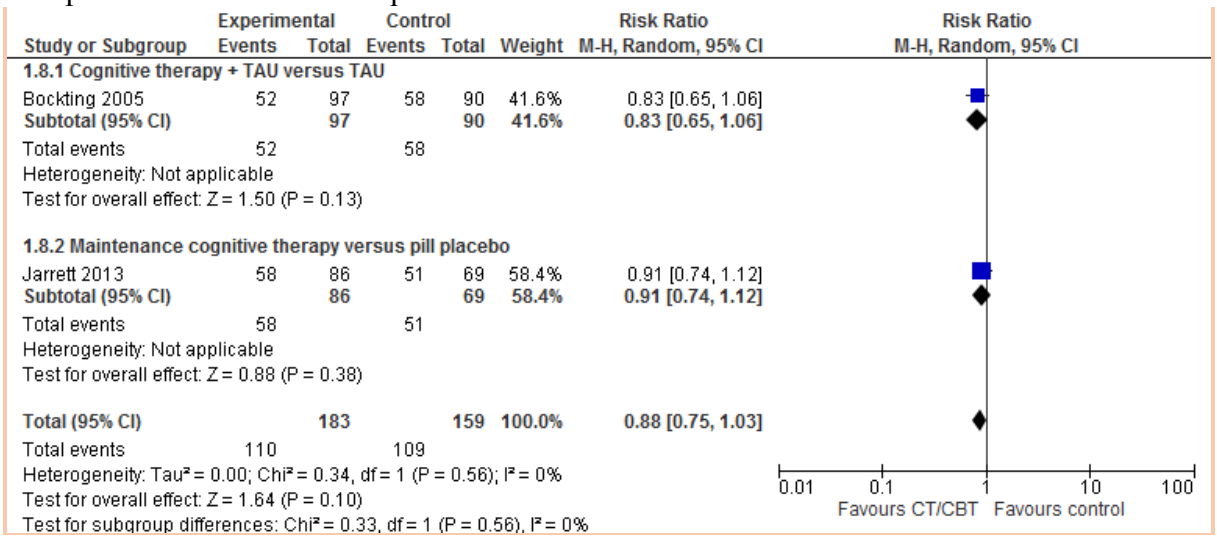
Relapse at 11-12 month follow-up



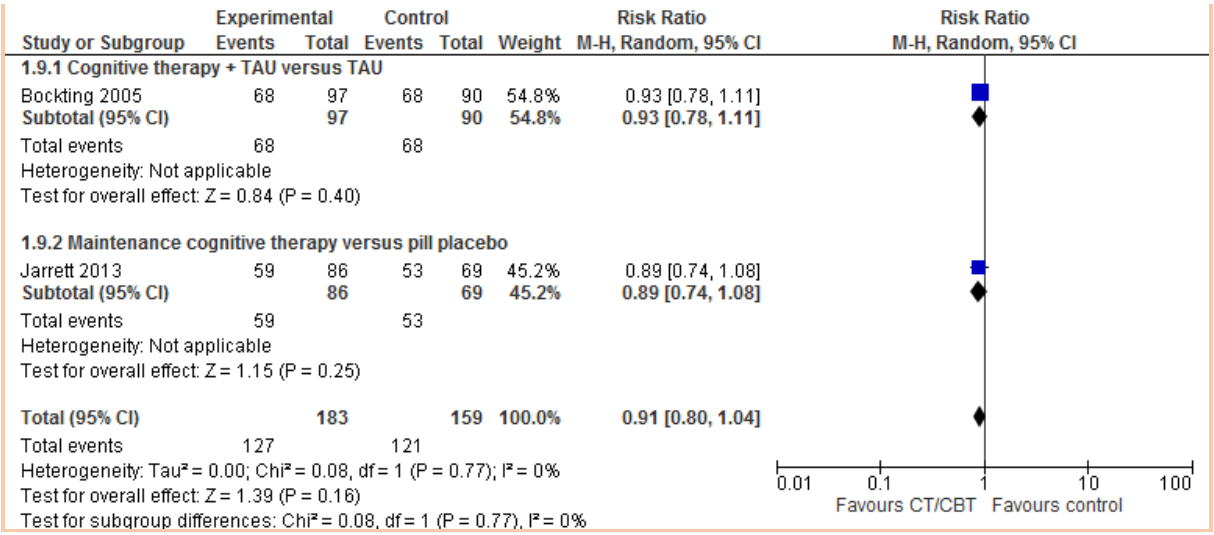
Relapse at 15-16 month follow-up



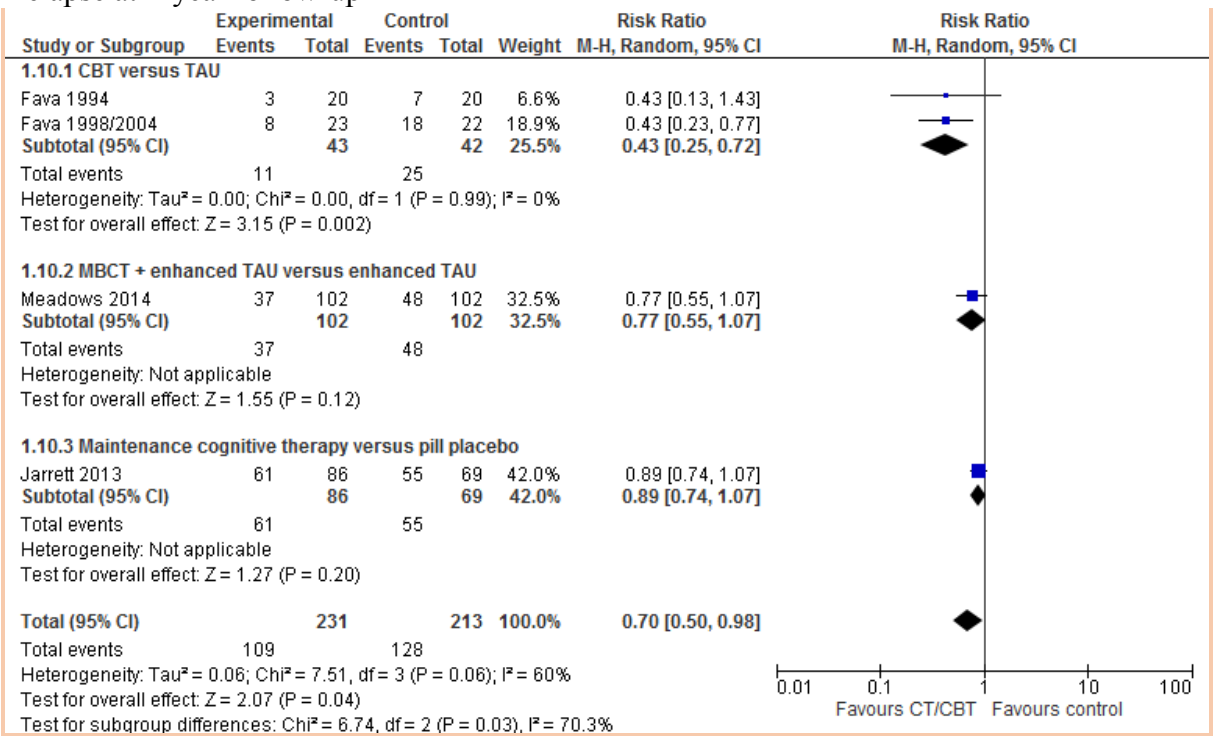
Relapse at 18-month follow-up



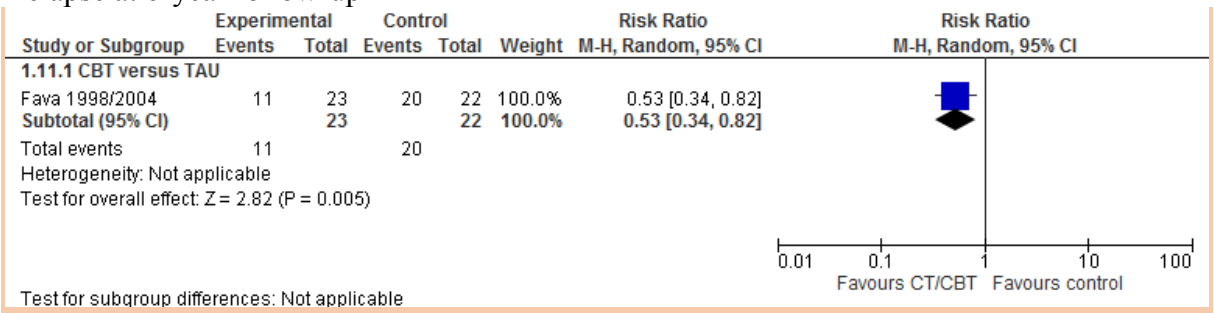
Relapse at 21-month follow-up



Relapse at 2-year follow-up

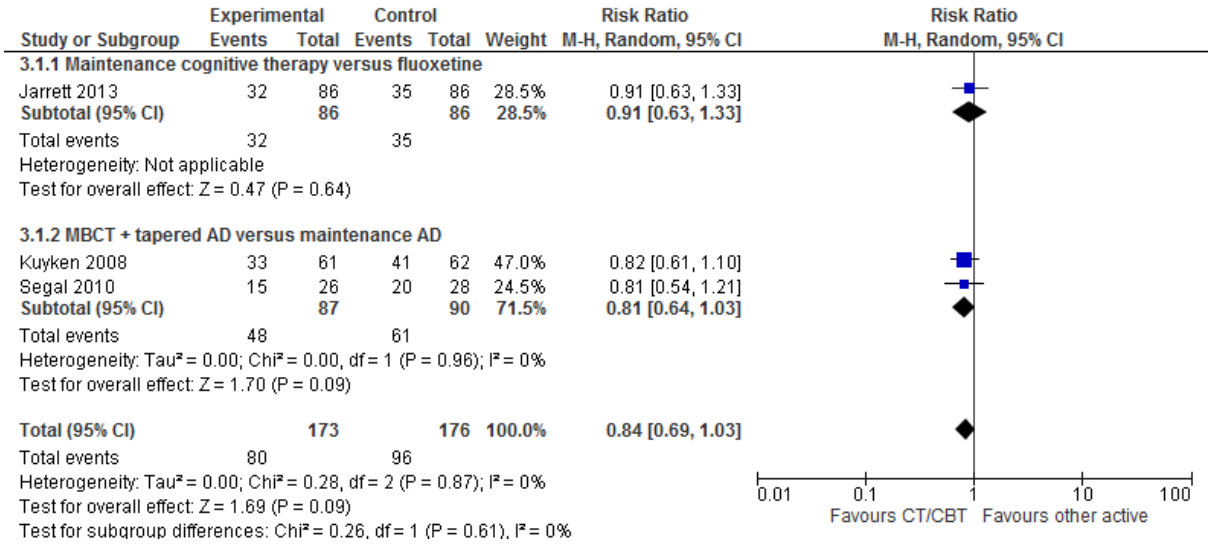


Relapse at 6-year follow-up

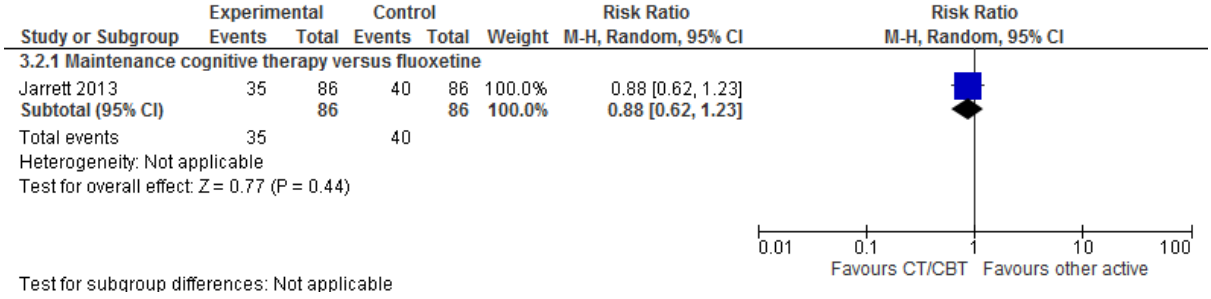


Cognitive or cognitive behavioural therapies versus active intervention

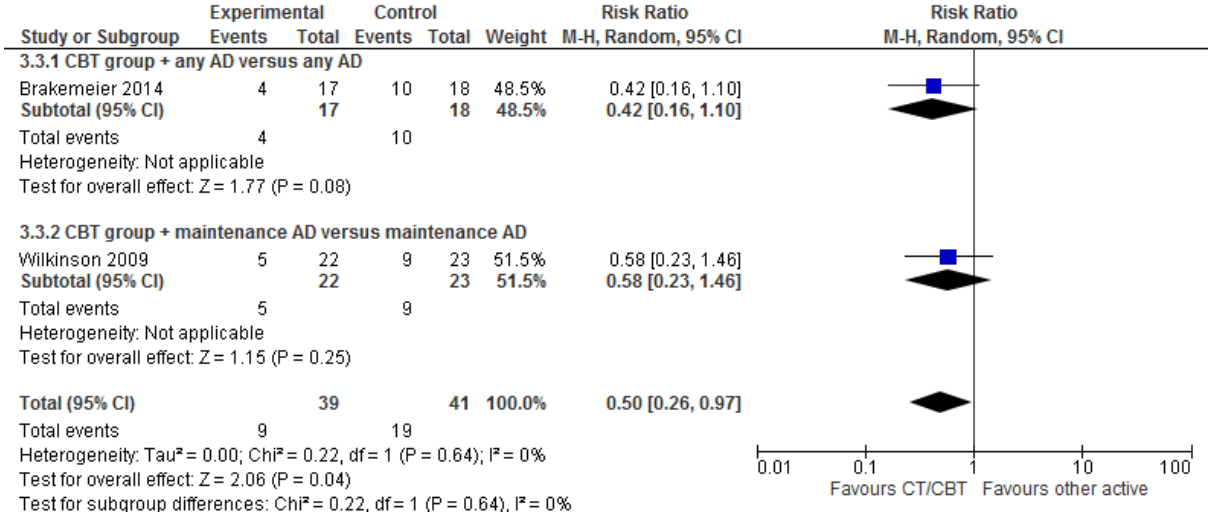
Relapse at endpoint



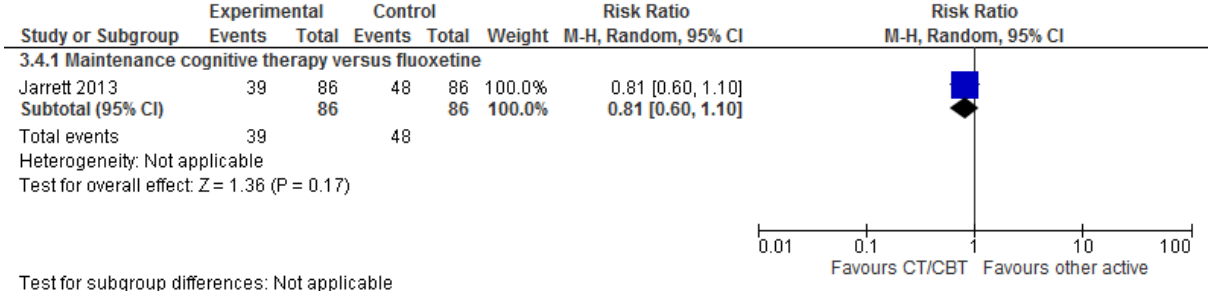
Relapse at 2-month follow-up



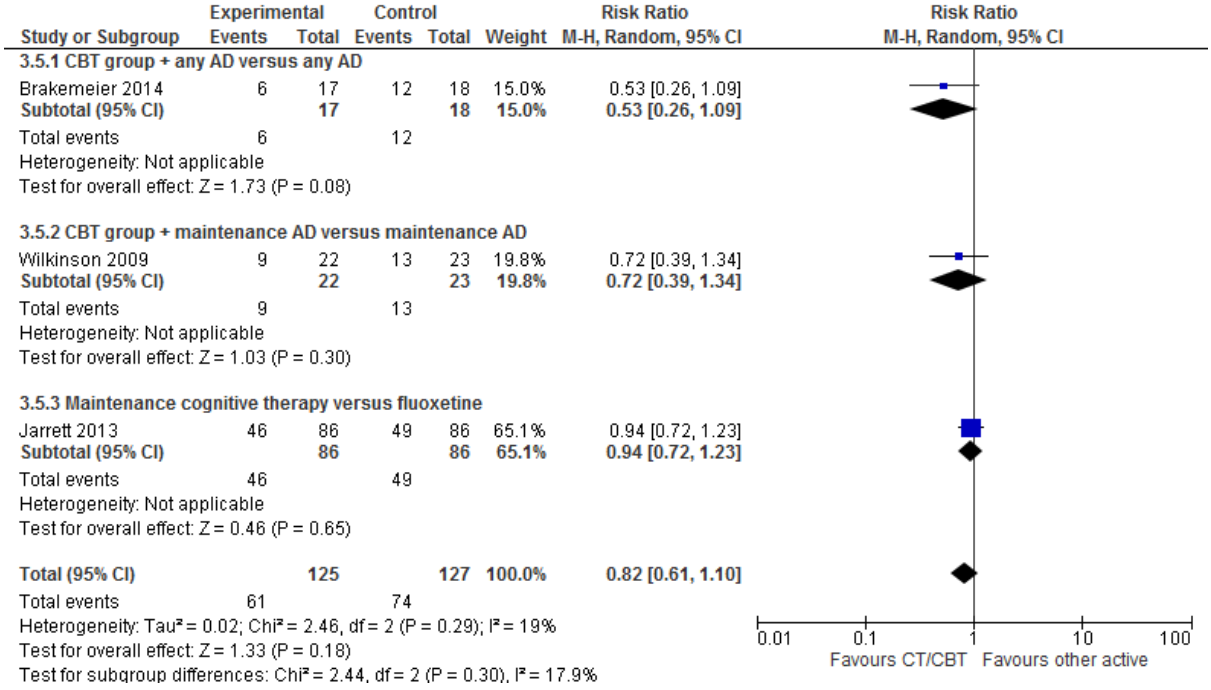
Relapse at 3-4 month follow-up



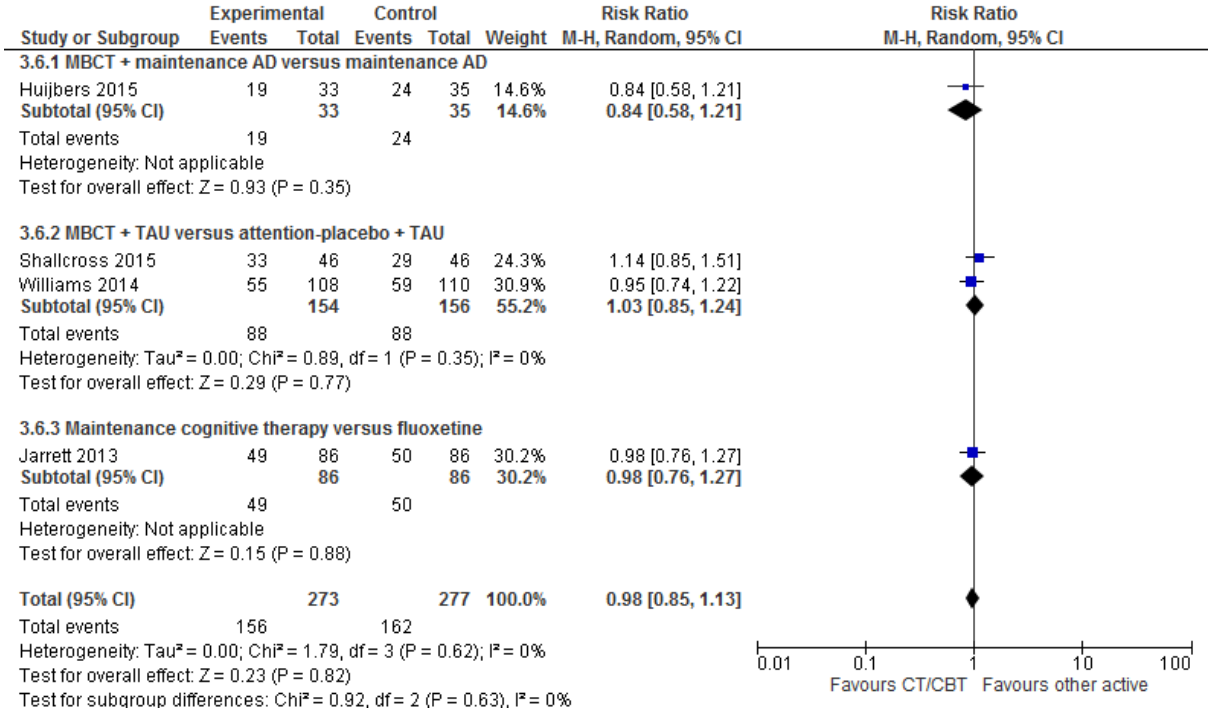
Relapse at 5-month follow-up



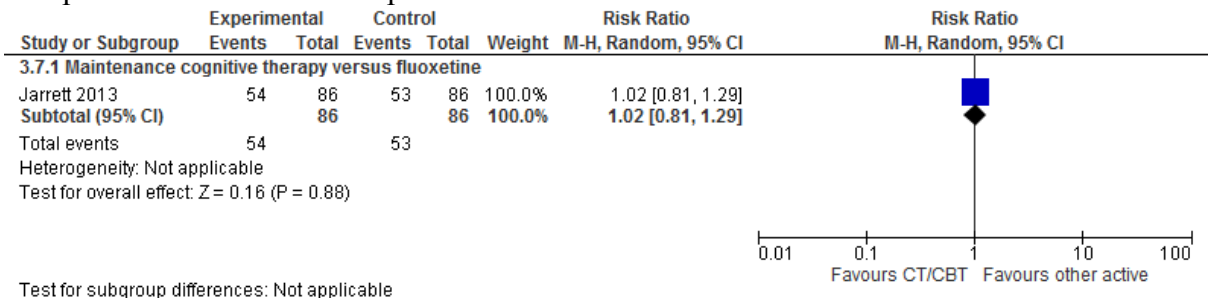
Relapse at 8-10 month follow-up



Relapse at 11-13 month follow-up

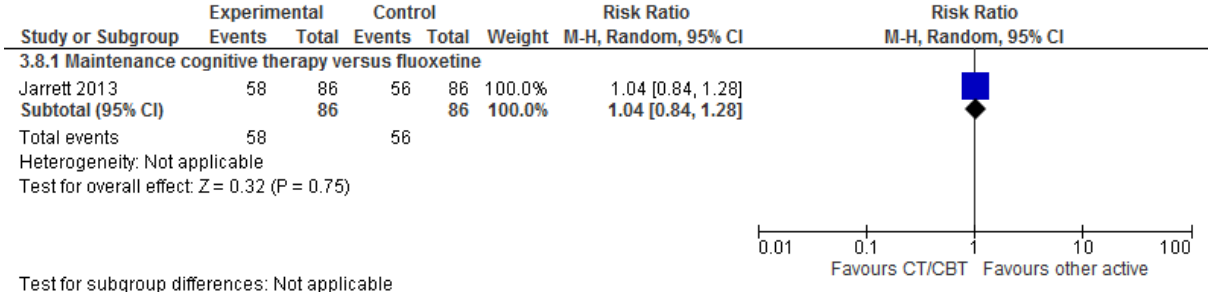


Relapse at 15-month follow-up

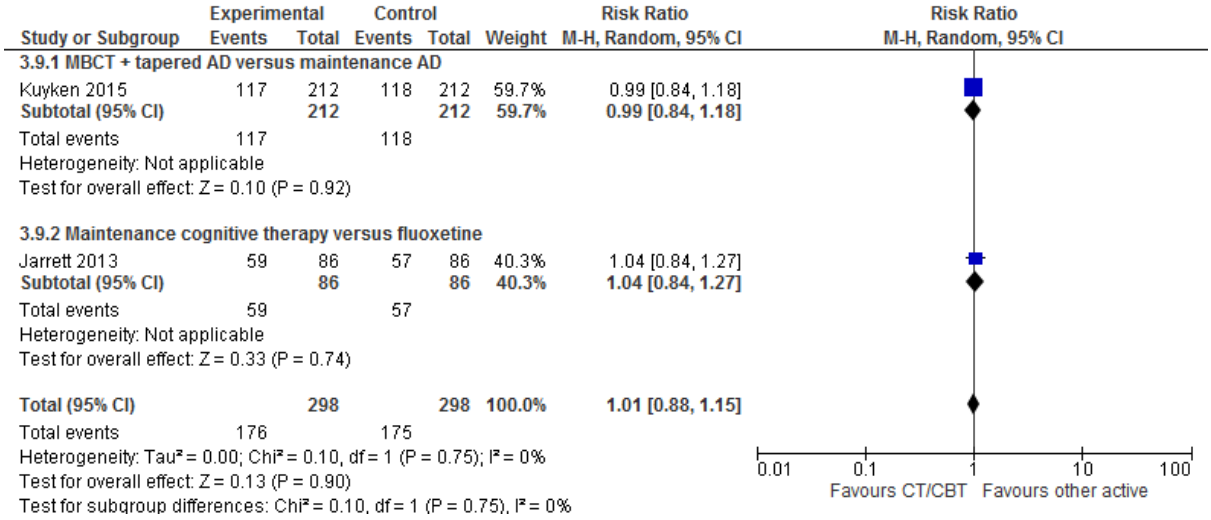


Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

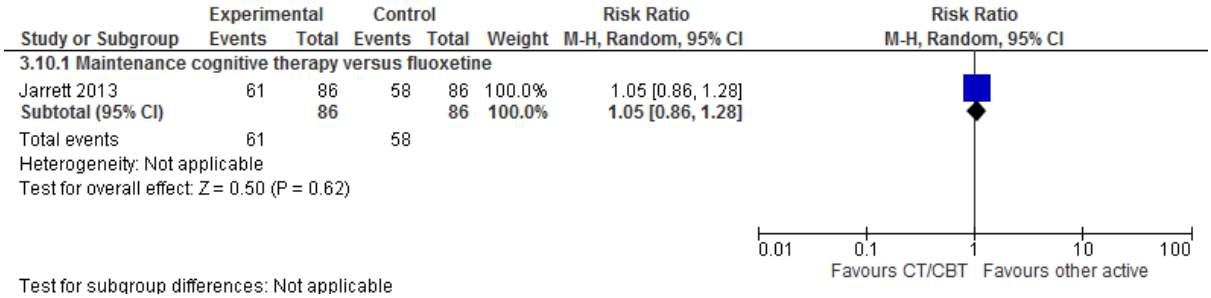
Relapse at 18-month follow-up



Relapse at 21-22 month follow-up

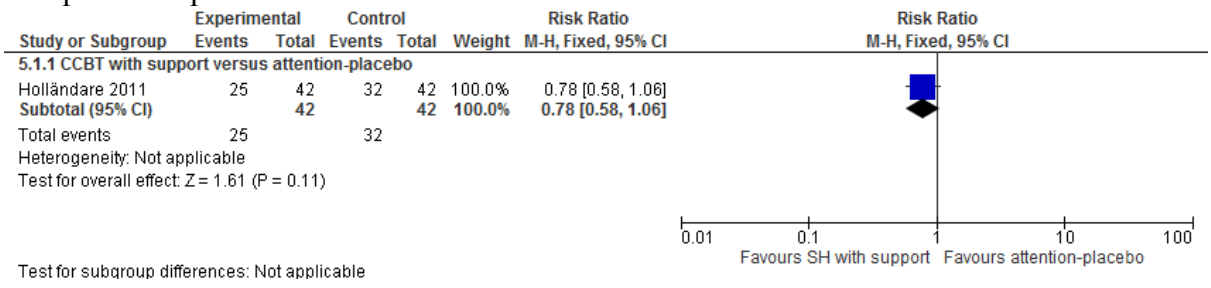


Relapse at 2-year follow-up

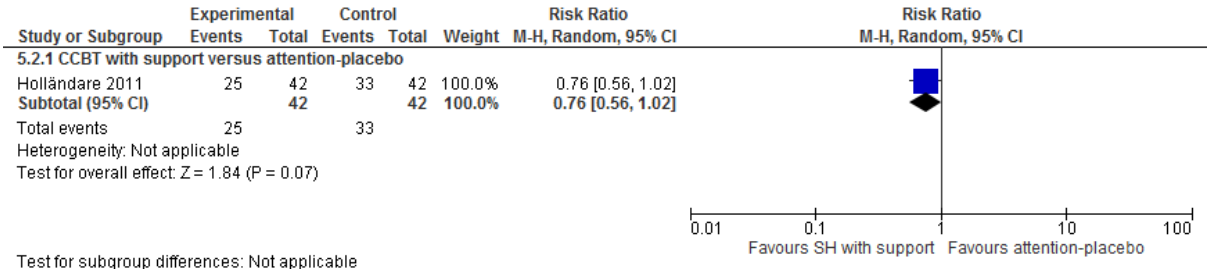


Self-help with support versus attention-placebo

Relapse at endpoint

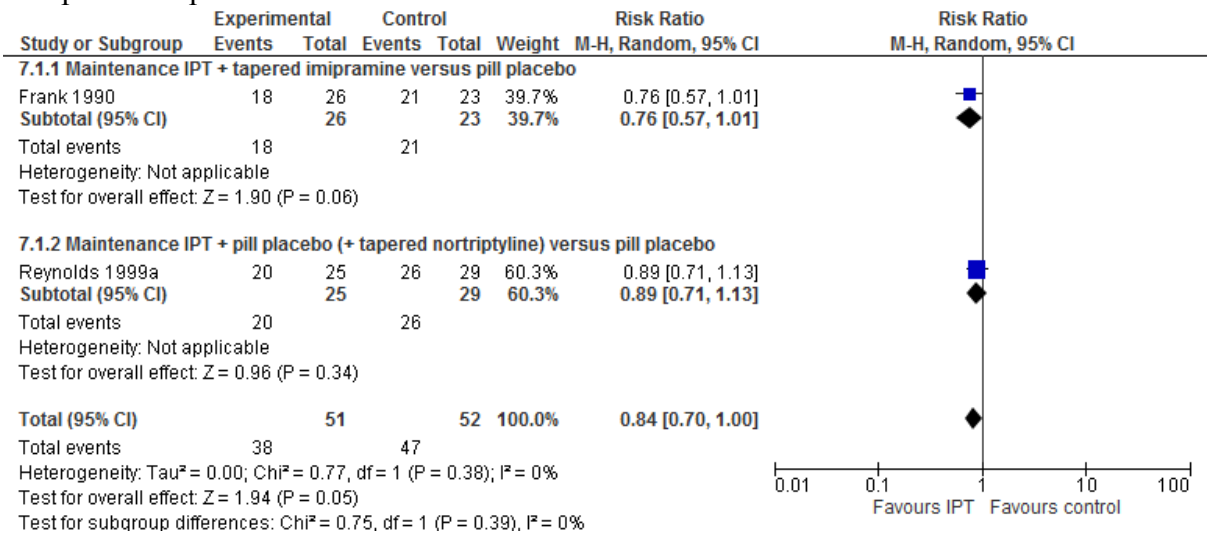


Relapse at 6-month follow-up



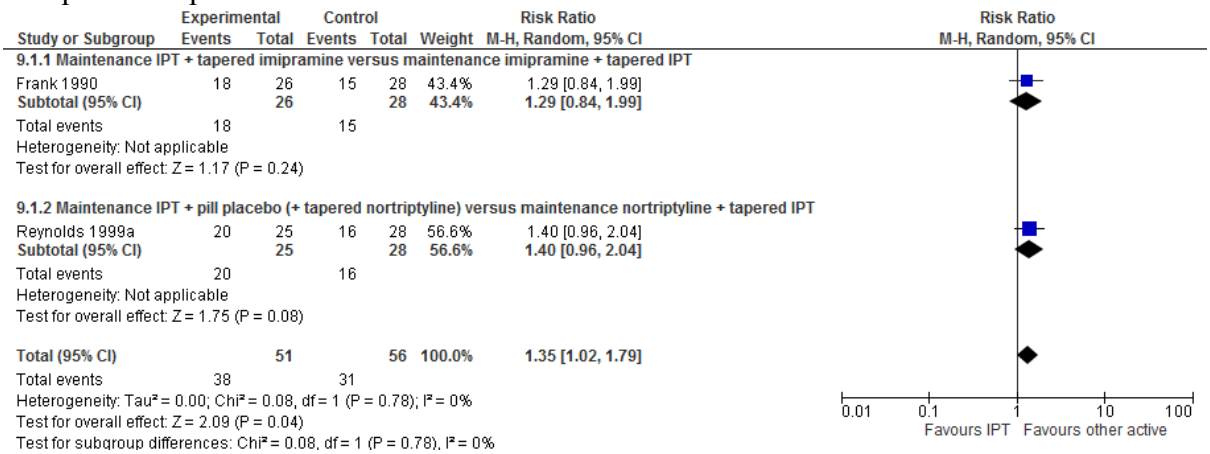
IPT versus control

Relapse at endpoint



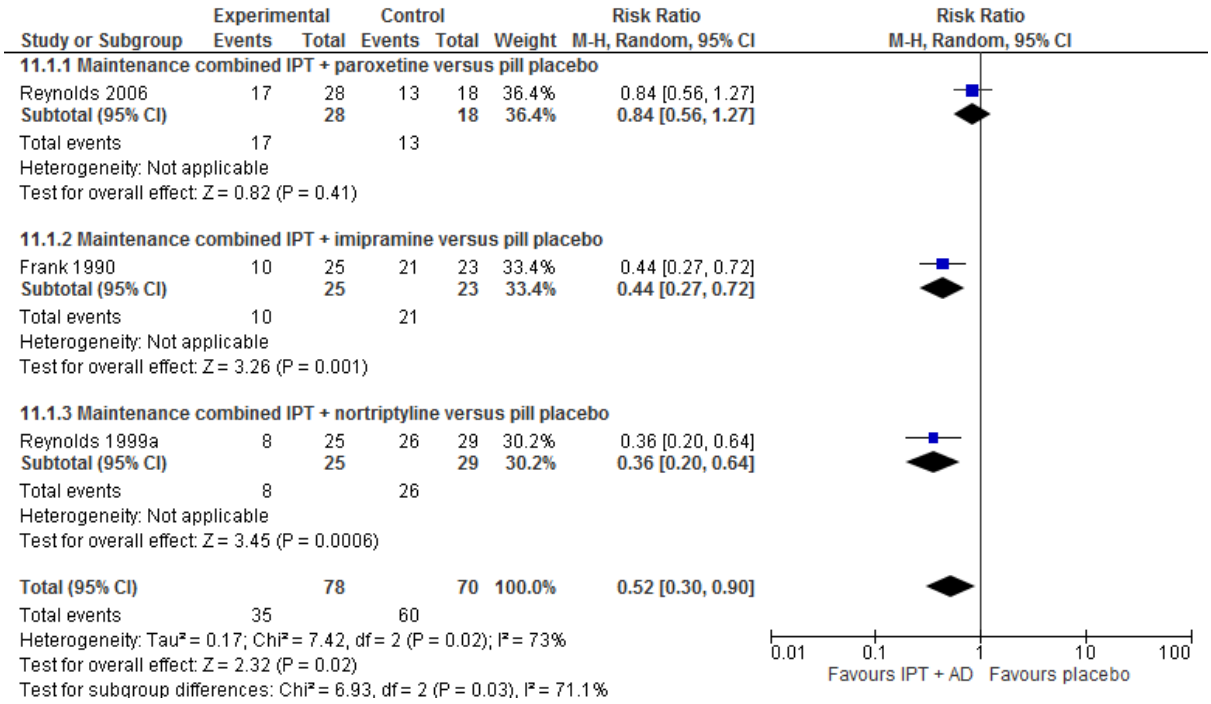
IPT versus active intervention

Relapse at endpoint



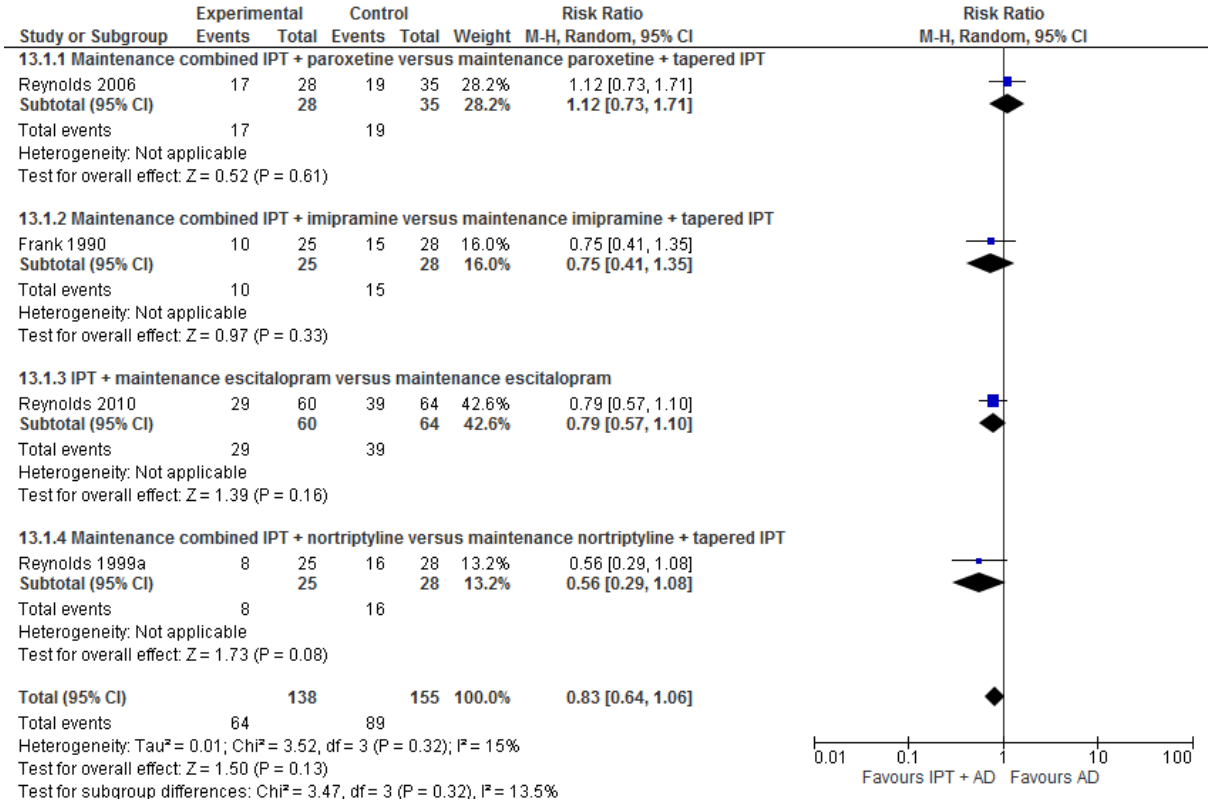
Combined IPT + AD versus pill placebo

Relapse at endpoint



Combined IPT + AD versus AD

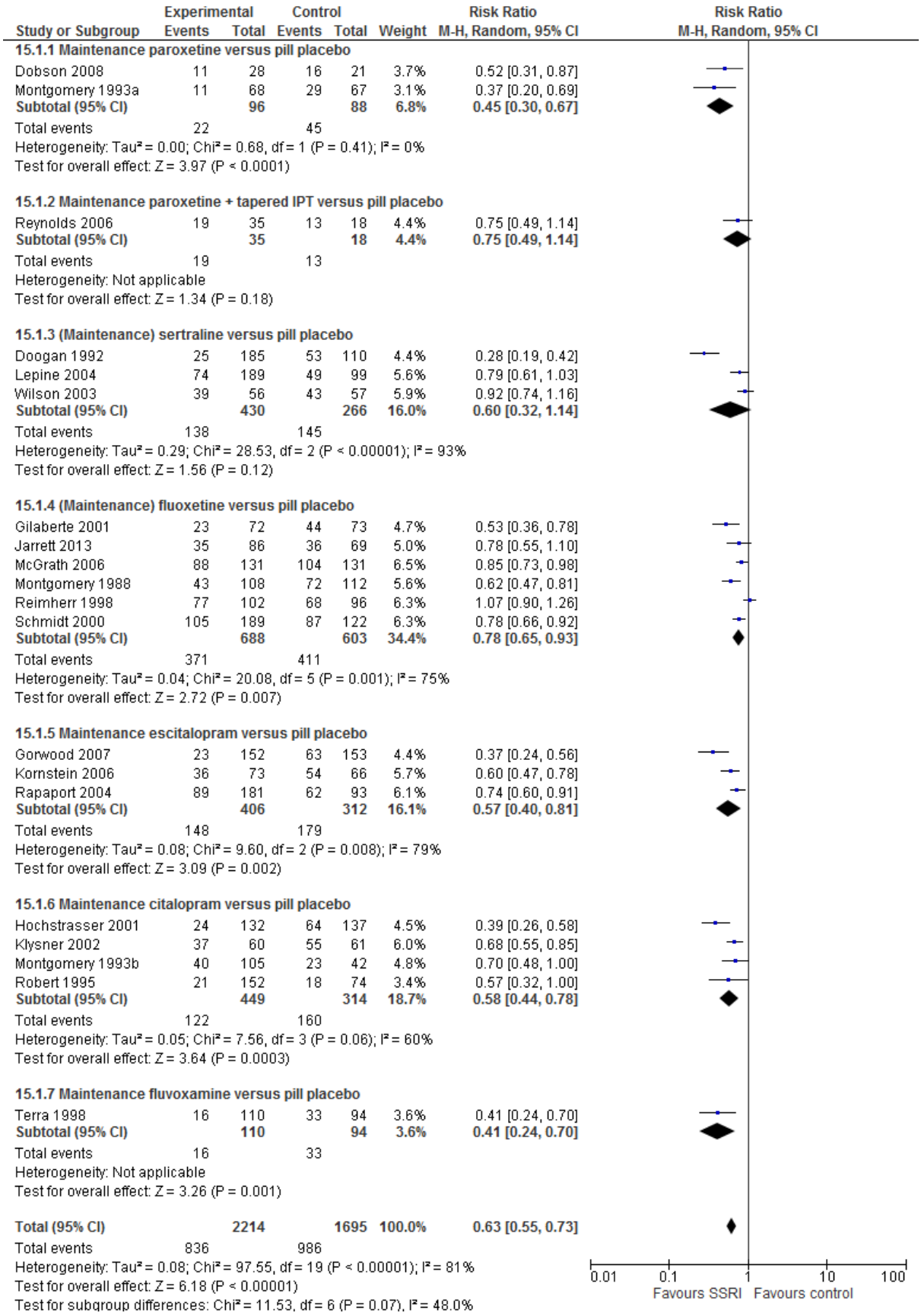
Relapse at endpoint



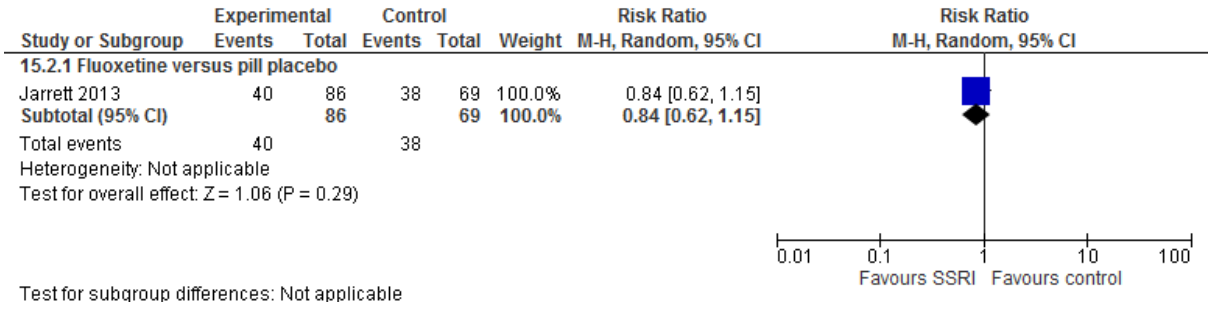
SSRIs versus control

Relapse at endpoint

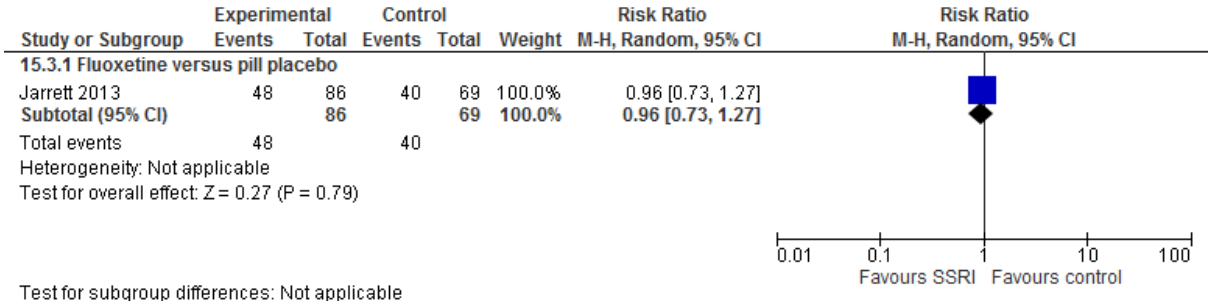
Forest plots



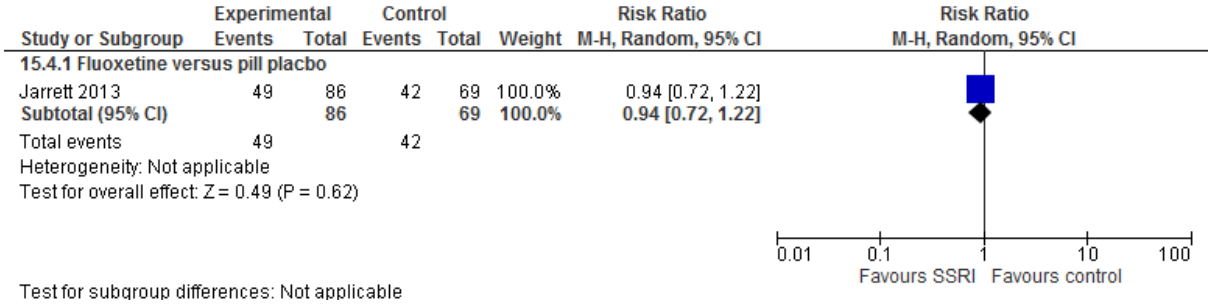
Relapse at 2-month follow-up



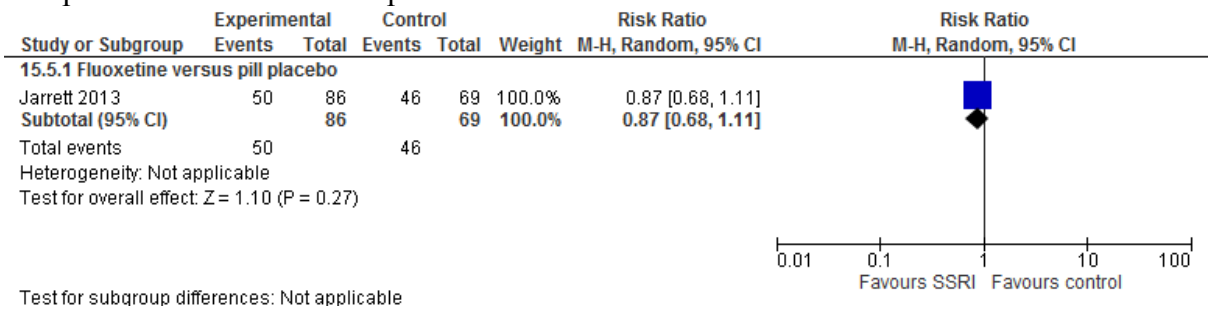
Relapse at 5-month follow-up



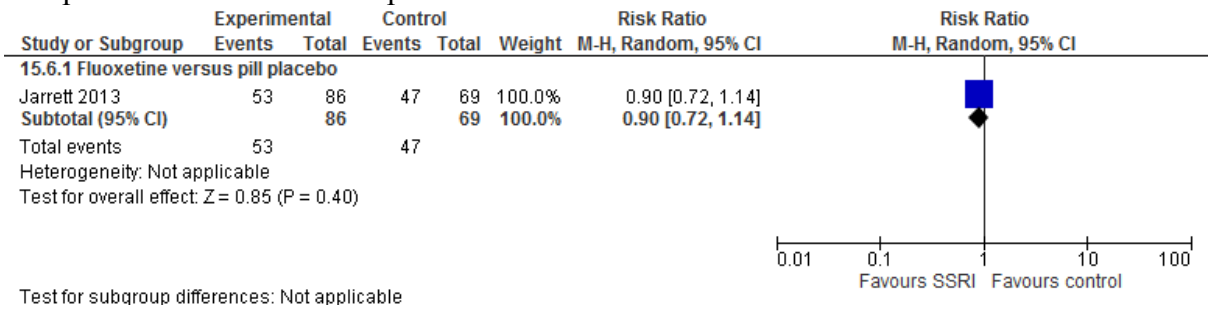
Relapse at 8-month follow-up



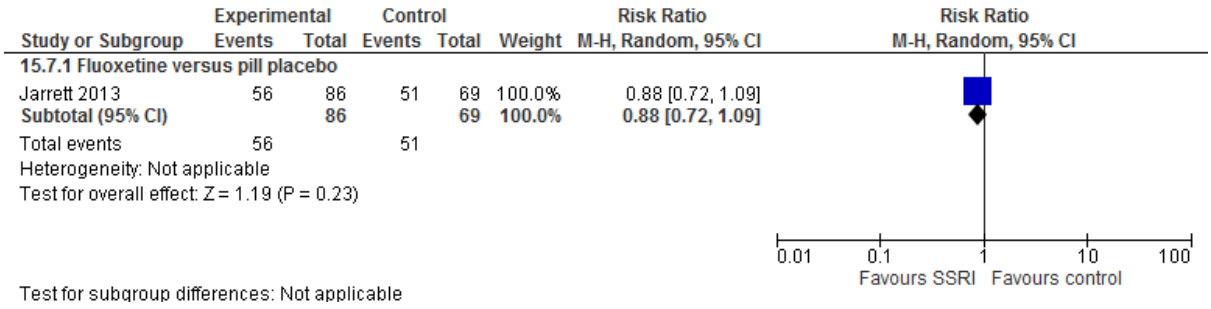
Relapse at 11-month follow-up



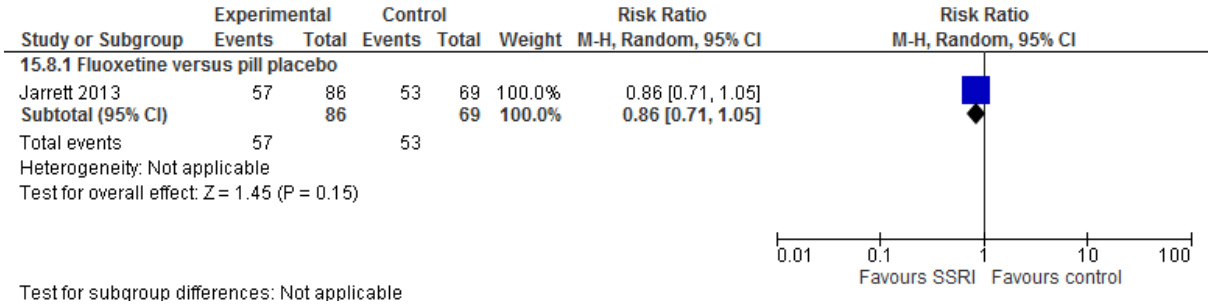
Relapse at 15-month follow-up



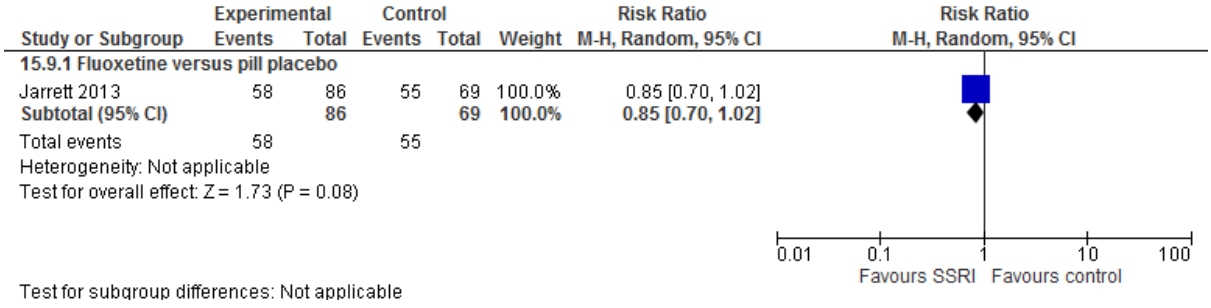
Relapse at 18-month follow-up



Relapse at 21-month follow-up

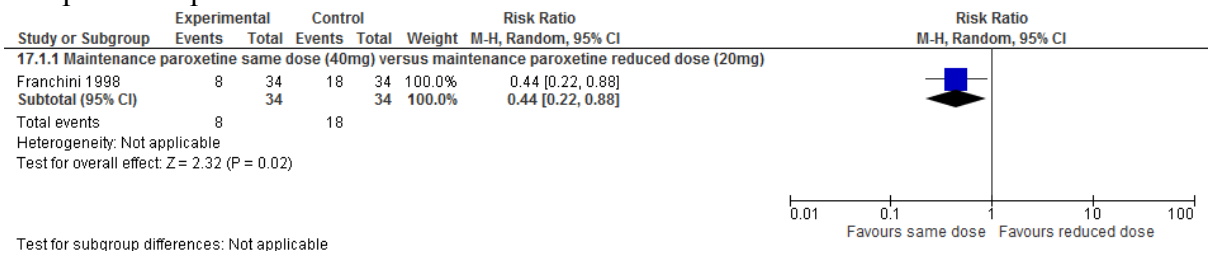


Relapse at 2-year follow-up



SSRI maintenance same dose versus SSRI maintenance reduced dose

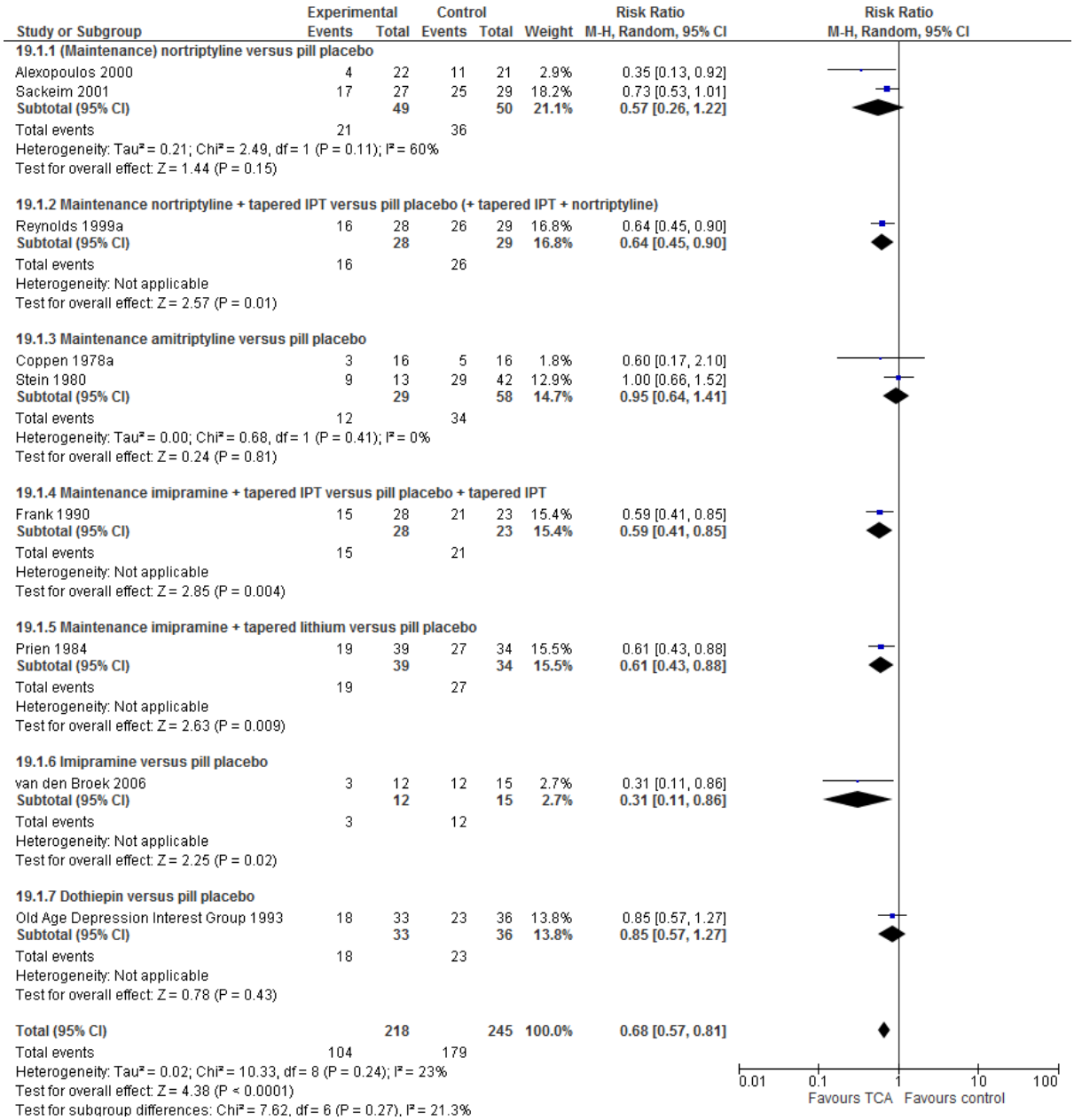
Relapse at endpoint



TCAs versus control

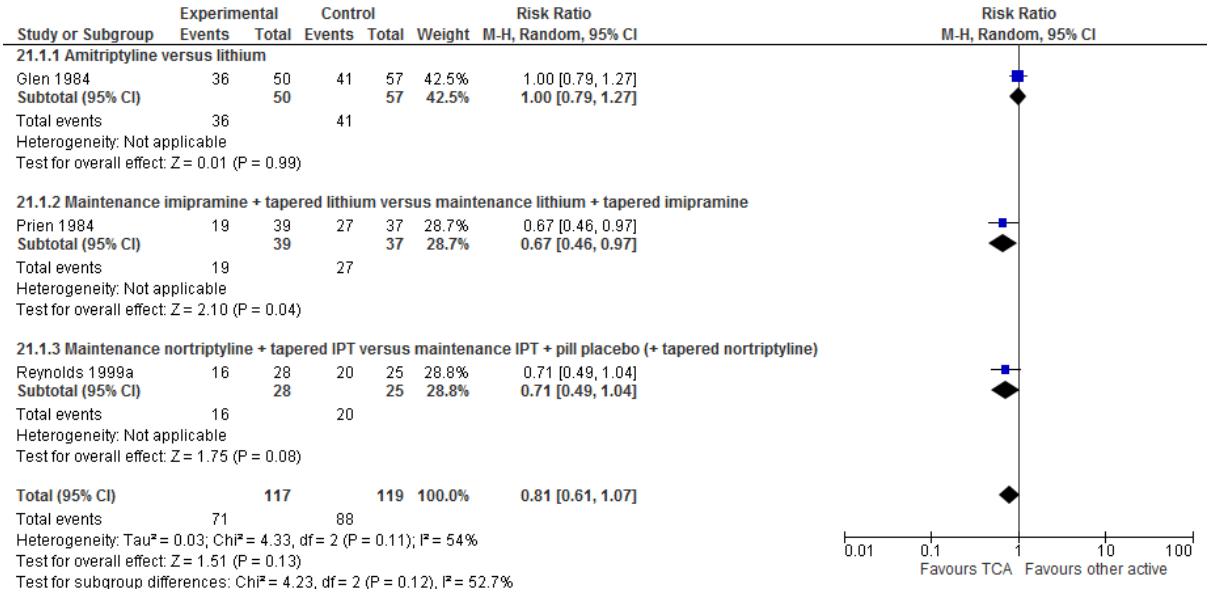
Relapse at endpoint

Forest plots



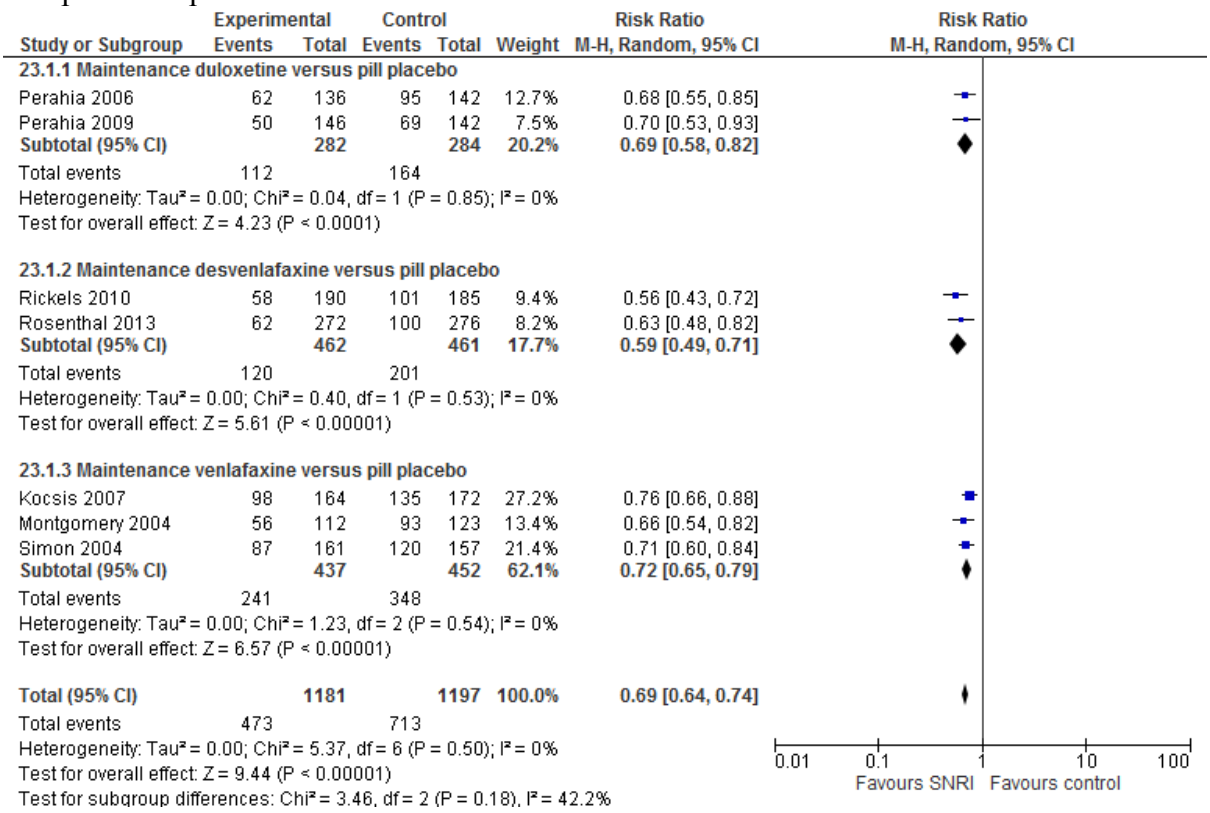
TCAs versus active intervention

Relapse at endpoint



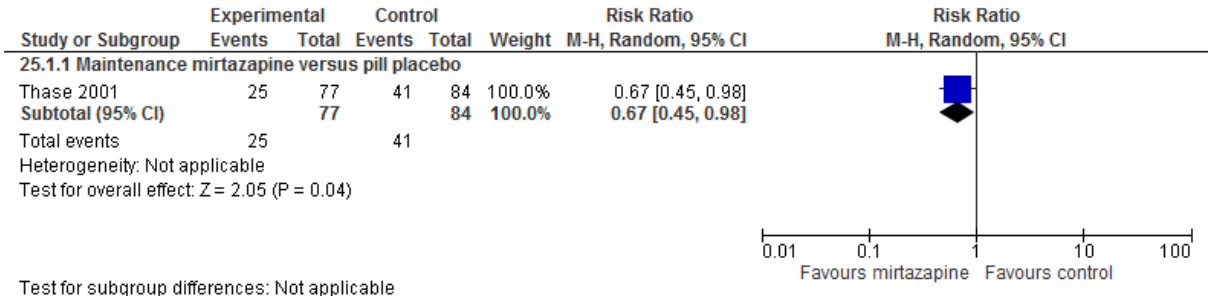
SNRIs versus control

Relapse at endpoint



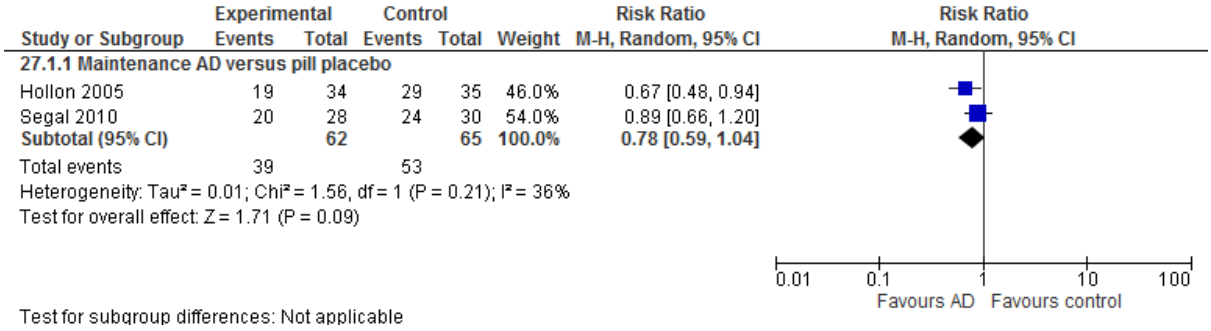
Mirtazapine versus control

Relapse at endpoint



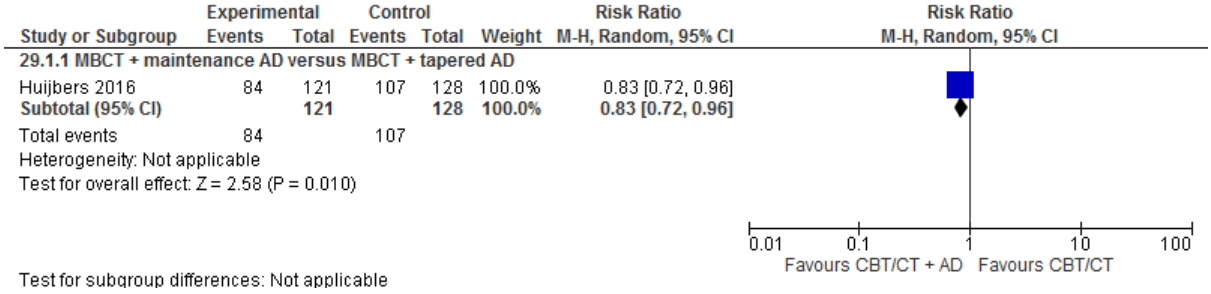
Any AD versus control

Relapse at endpoint



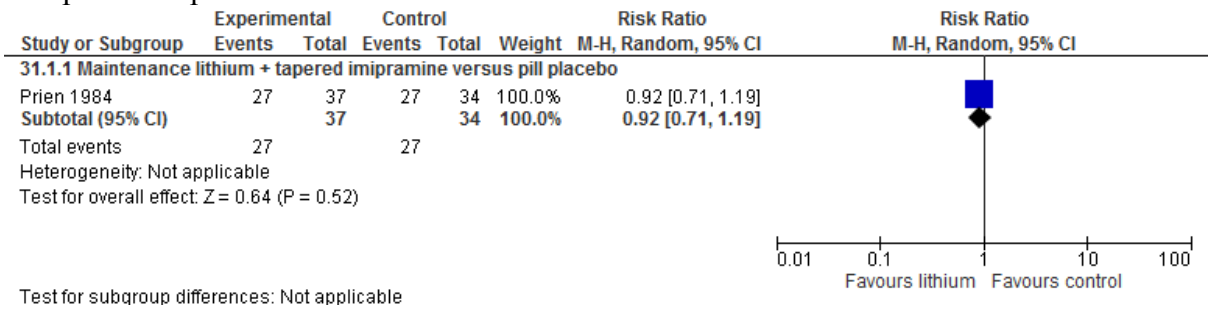
Combined CT/CBT + AD versus CT/CBT

Relapse at 13-month follow-up



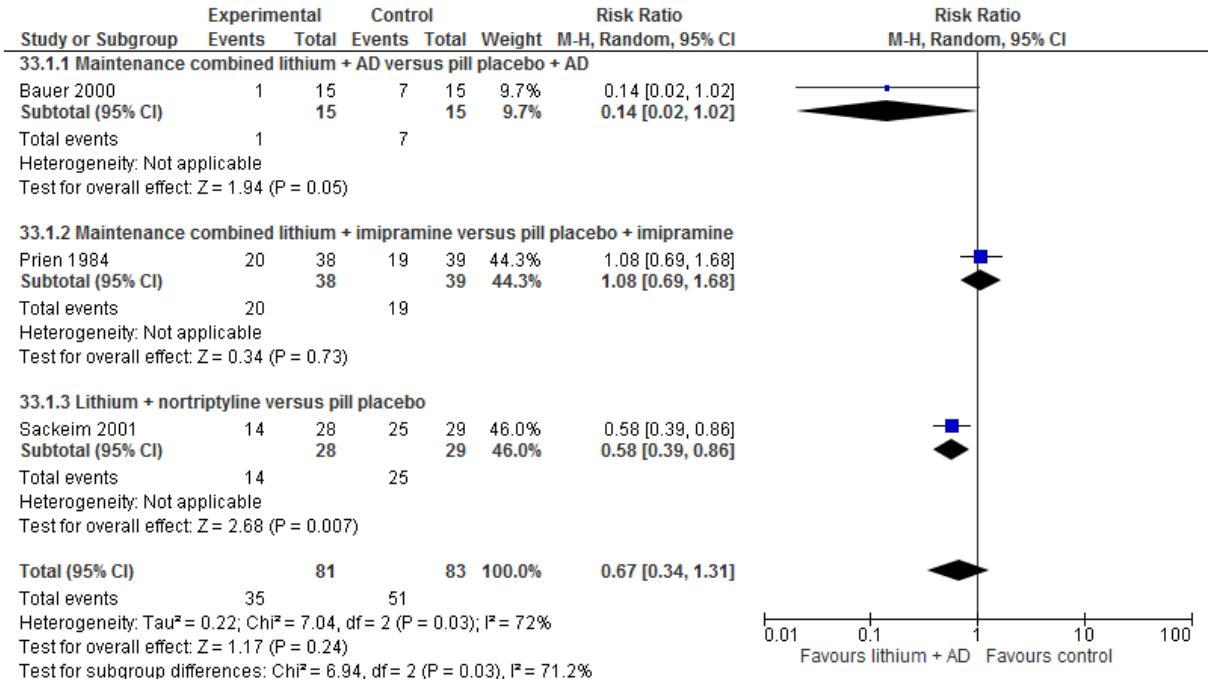
Lithium versus control

Relapse at endpoint



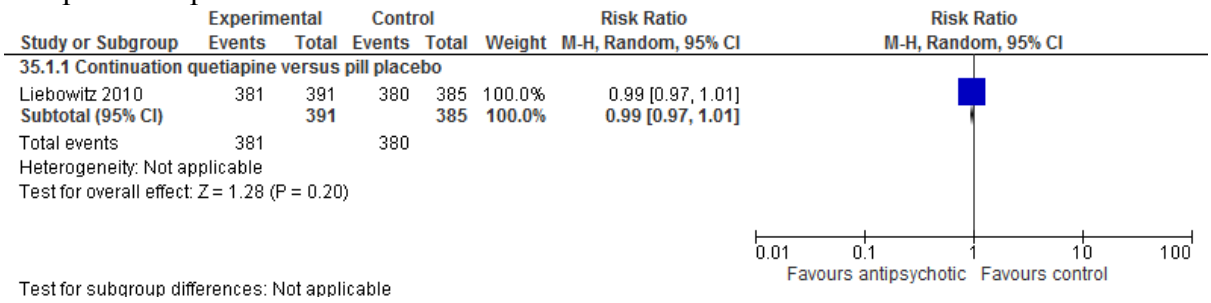
Lithium augmentation versus control

Relapse at endpoint



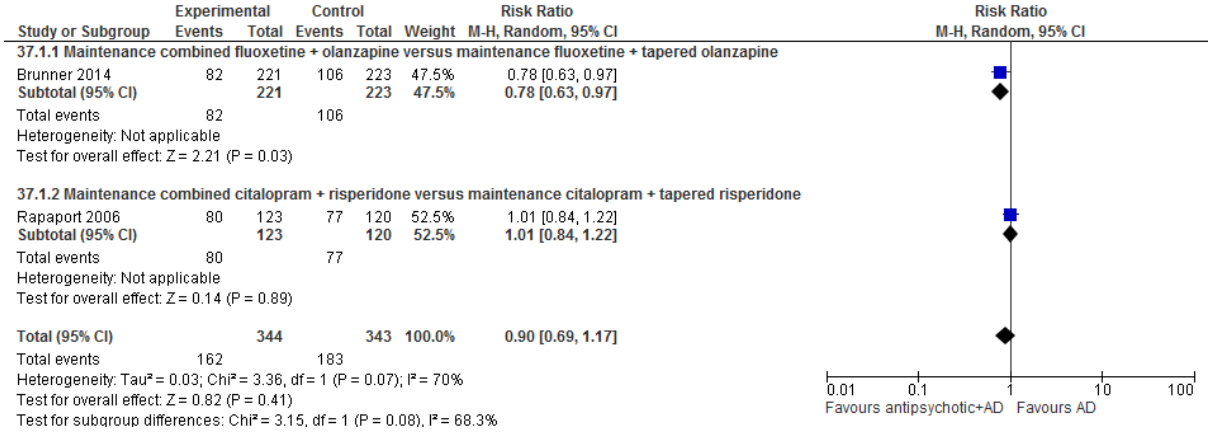
Antipsychotic versus control

Relapse at endpoint



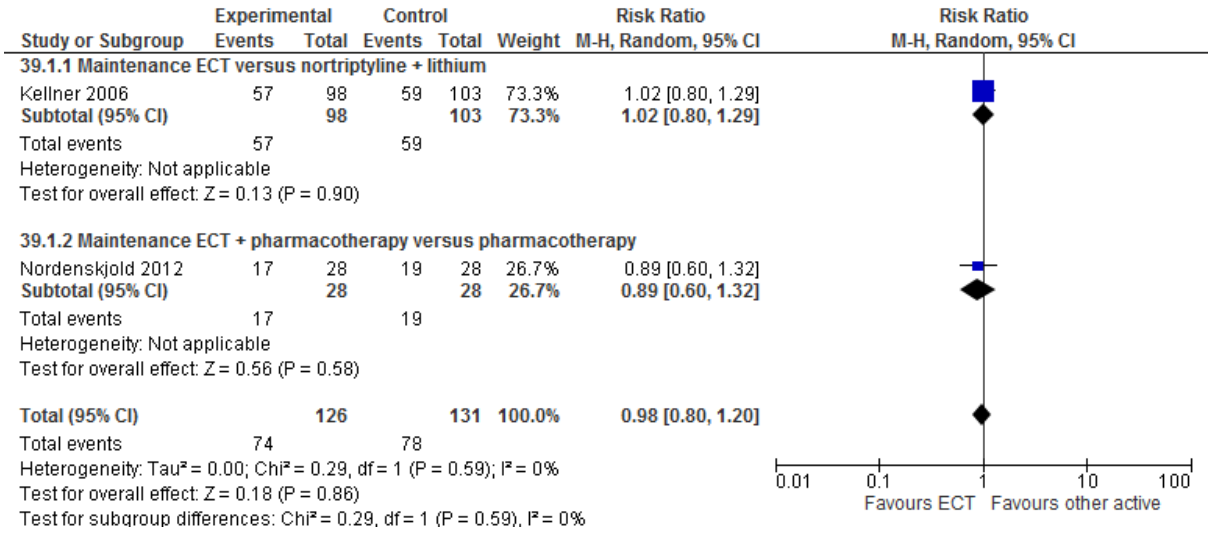
Antipsychotic augmentation versus AD monotherapy

Relapse at endpoint

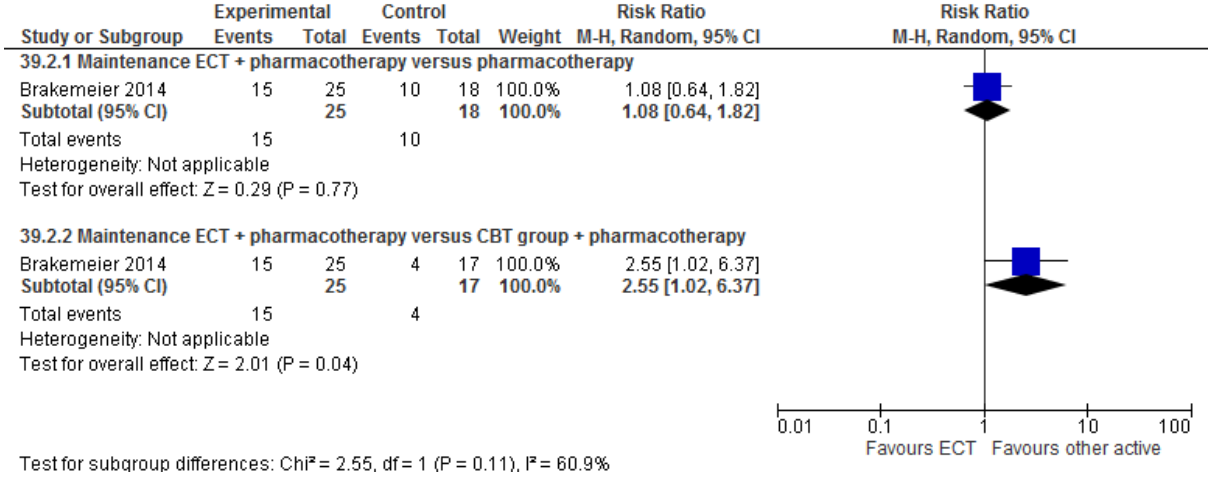


ECT versus active intervention

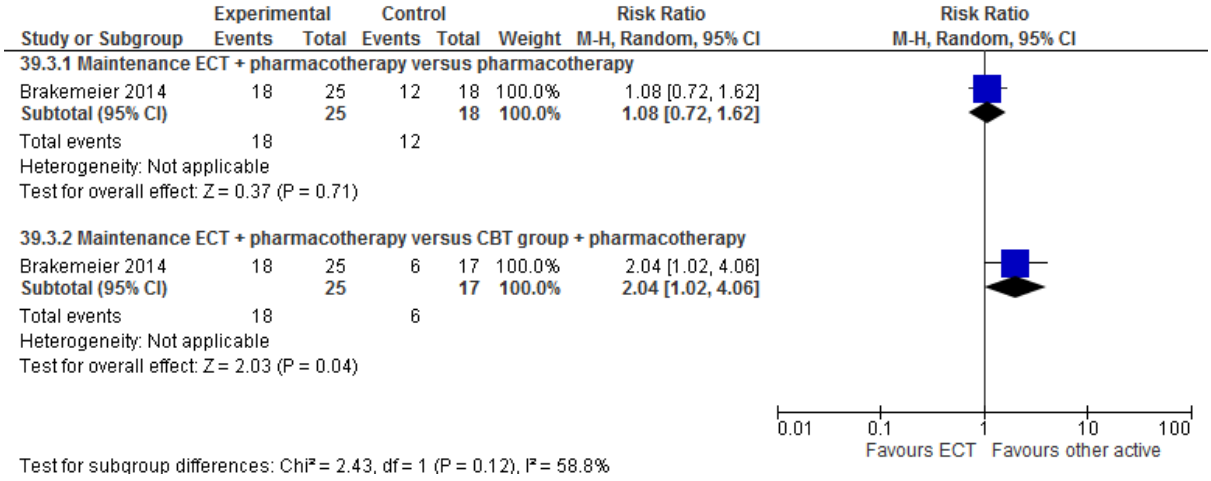
Relapse at endpoint



Relapse at 3-month follow-up



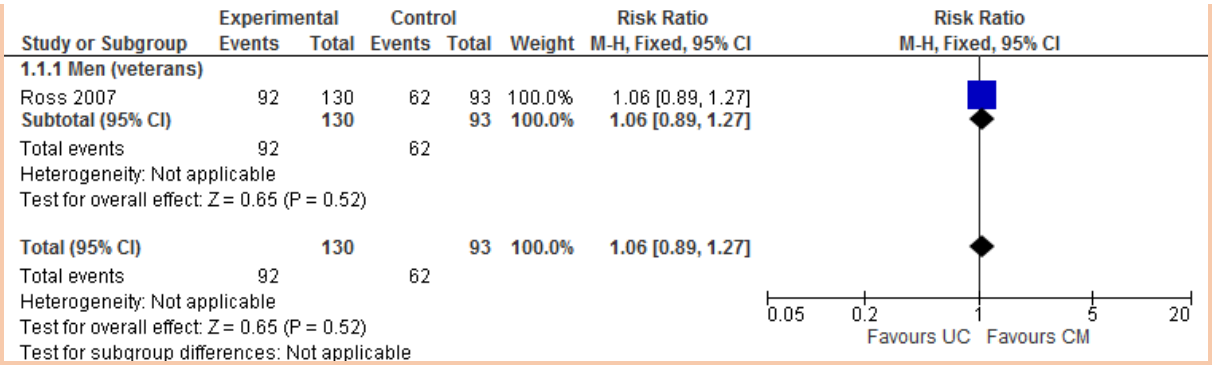
Relapse at 9-month follow-up



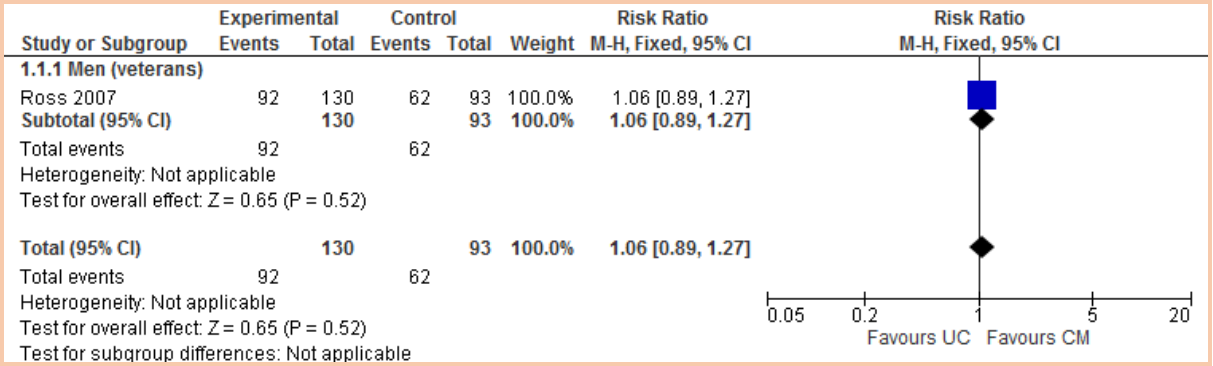
Access to services (chapter 12)

Close monitoring versus usual care (men [veterans])

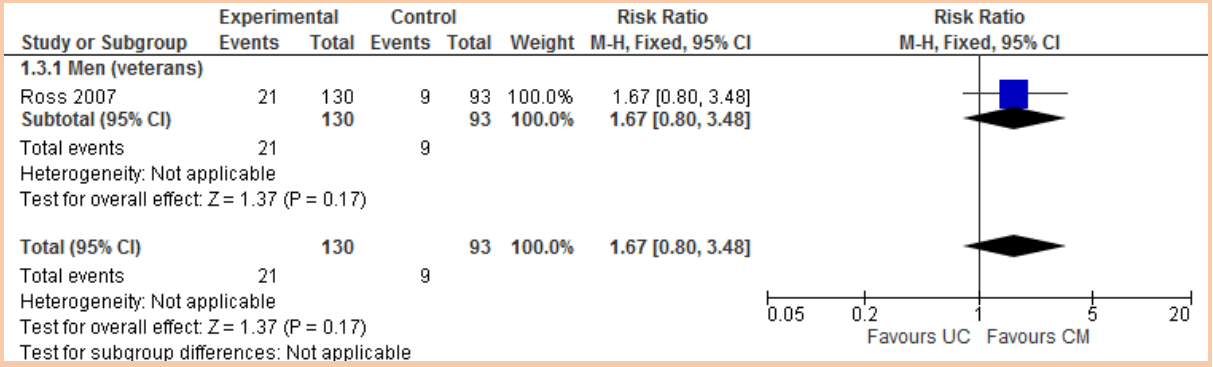
Number attending primary care visits during study period (case review)



Number who had any MH care [including behavioural health specialist] during the study period (case review)

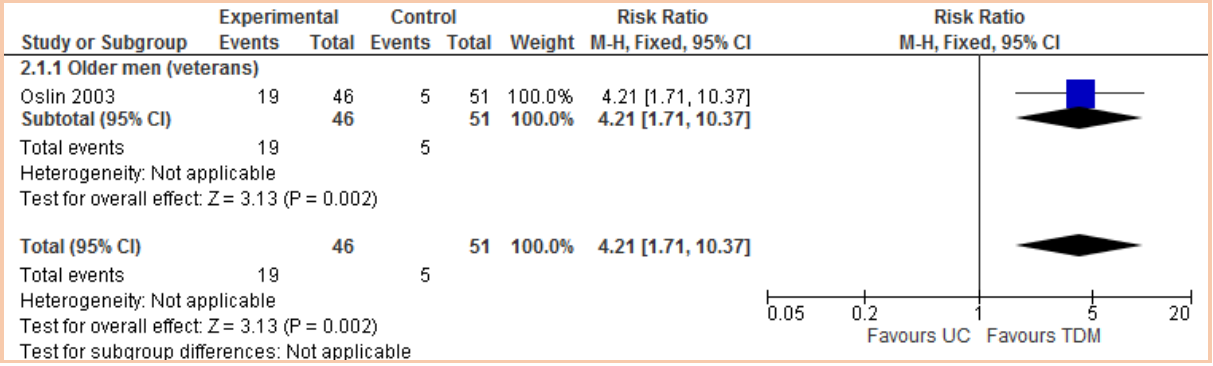


Number who started an antidepressant during the study period (case review)



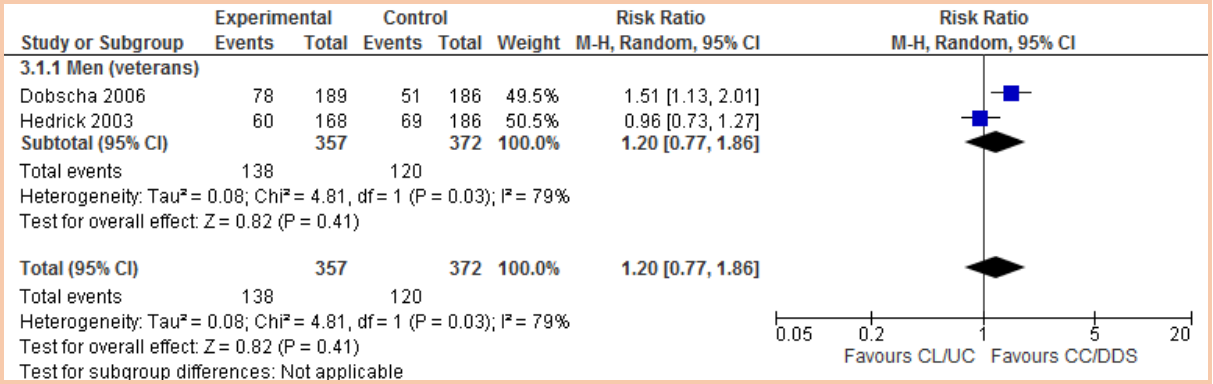
Telephone disease management versus usual care (older men [veterans])

Number completing at least one mental health/substance abuse appointment (assessed by self-report)

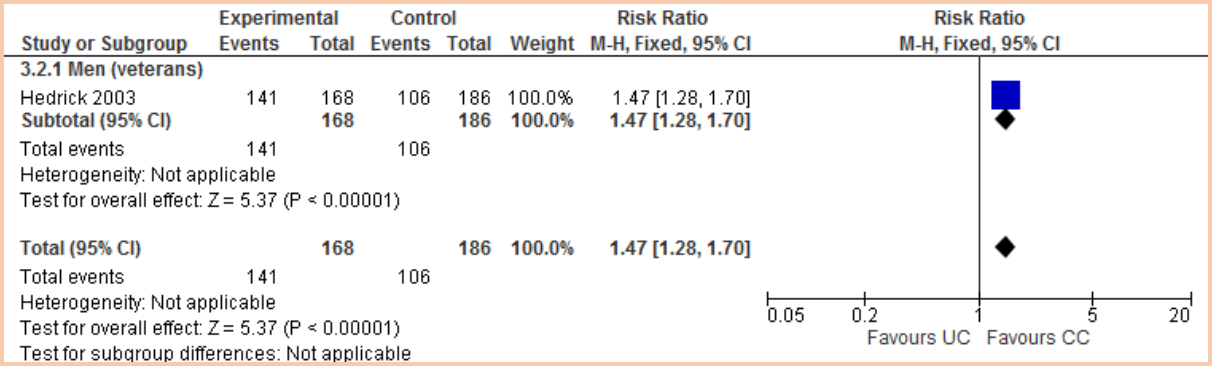


Simple collaborative care versus usual care (men [veterans] and older adults)

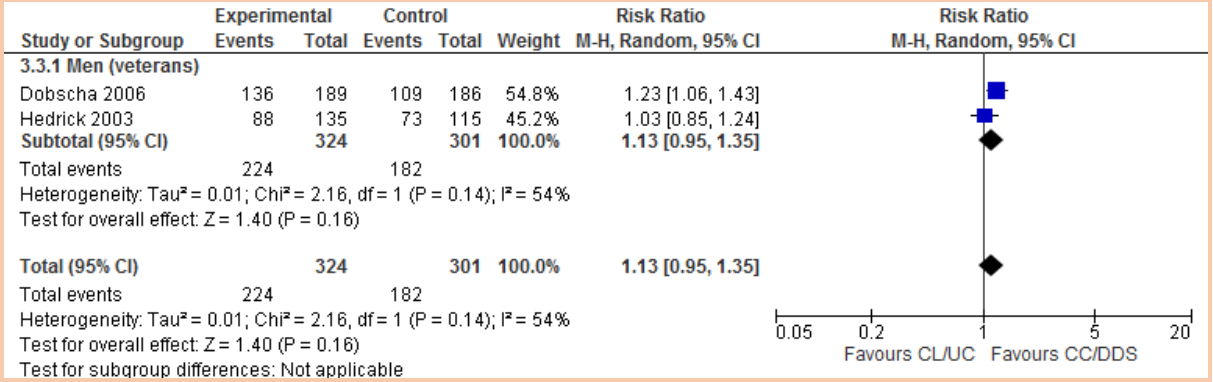
Number who attended ≥1 appointment with mental health specialist



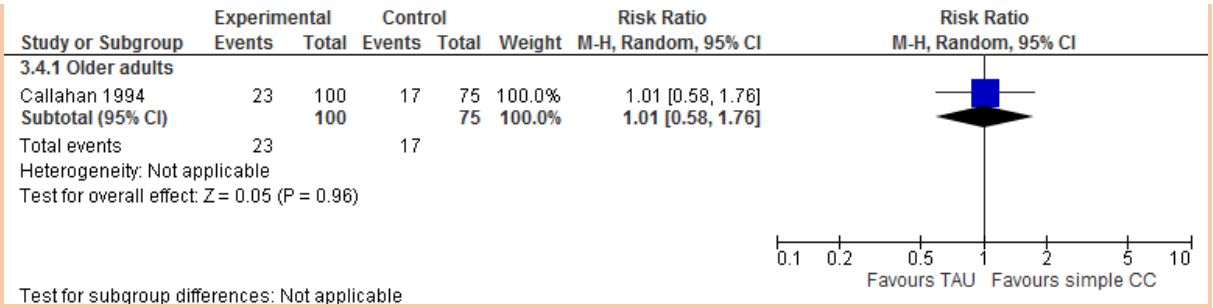
Number who have had a depression-related primary care visit



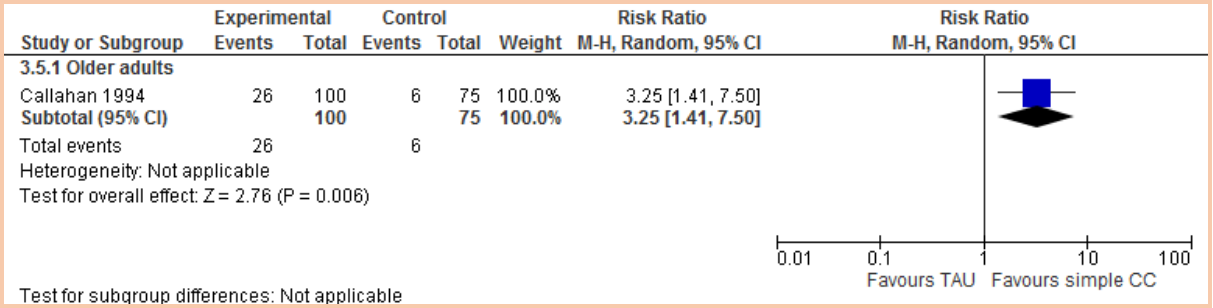
Received ≥ 90 days of therapy with a minimally therapeutic dosage of antidepressant



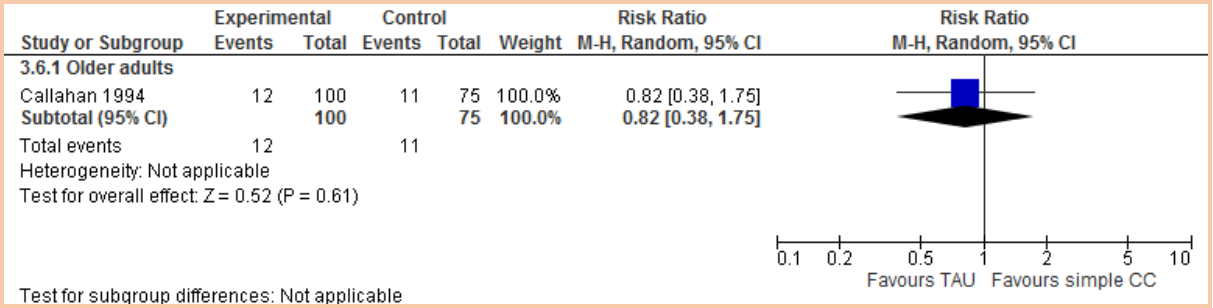
Number of patients whose unhelpful medications (those potentially exacerbating depression) were terminated



Number of people starting an antidepressant

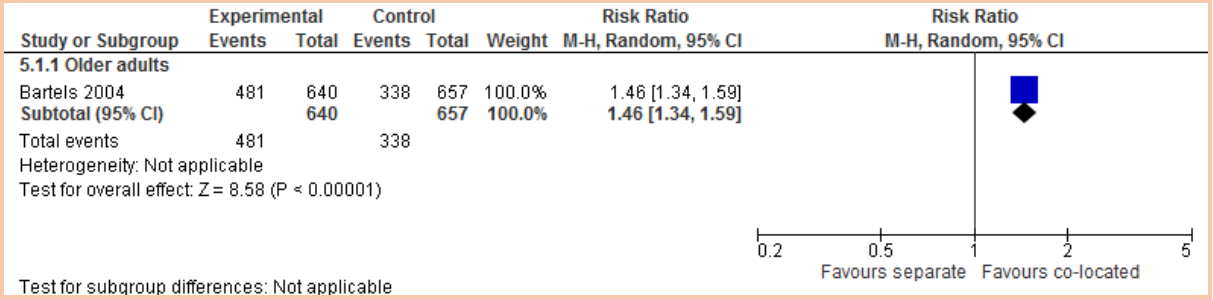


Number of patients for whom a psychiatric consultation was sought

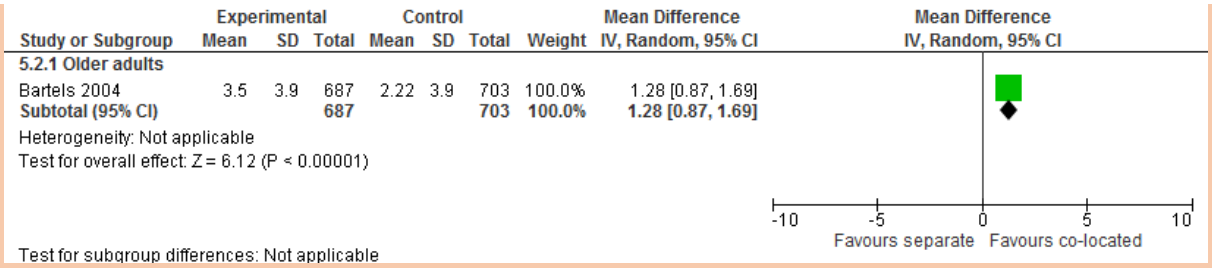


Co-located services versus geographically separate services (older adults)

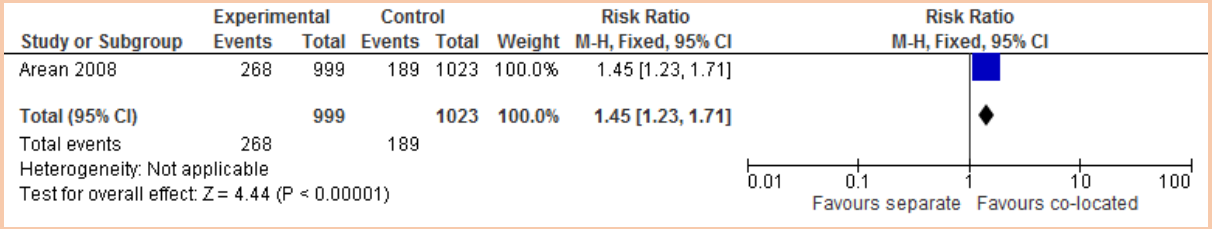
Mean number of patients who engaged with treatment



Number of treatment visits

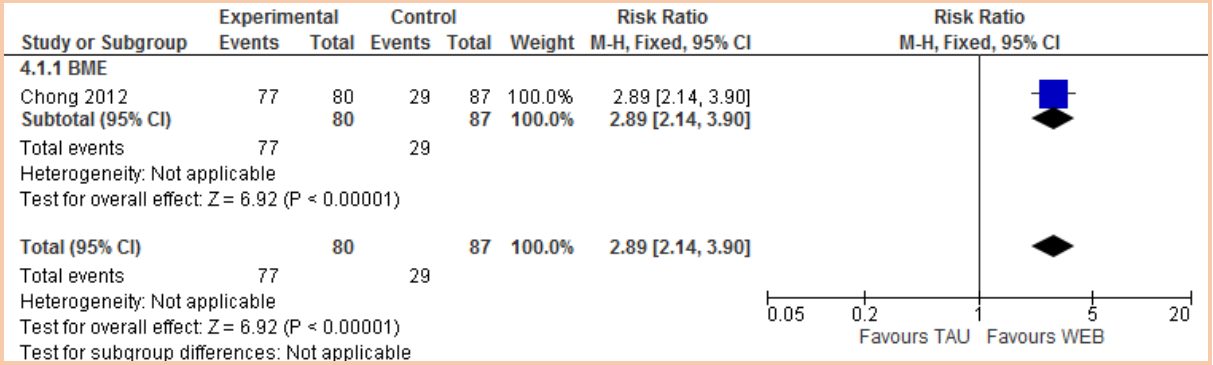


Proportion of patients who had at least one mental health visit

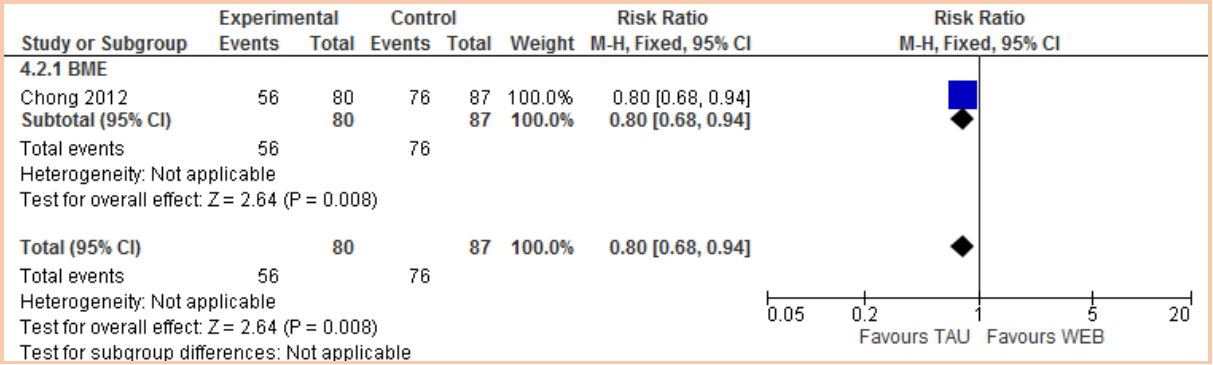


Clinic-based tele-psychiatry (using a webcam) versus TAU (BAME)

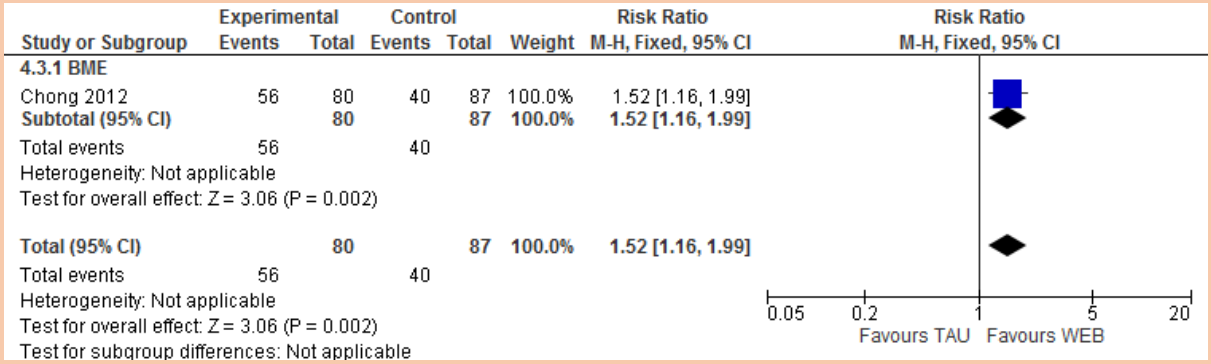
Number of subjects who made a mental health appointment



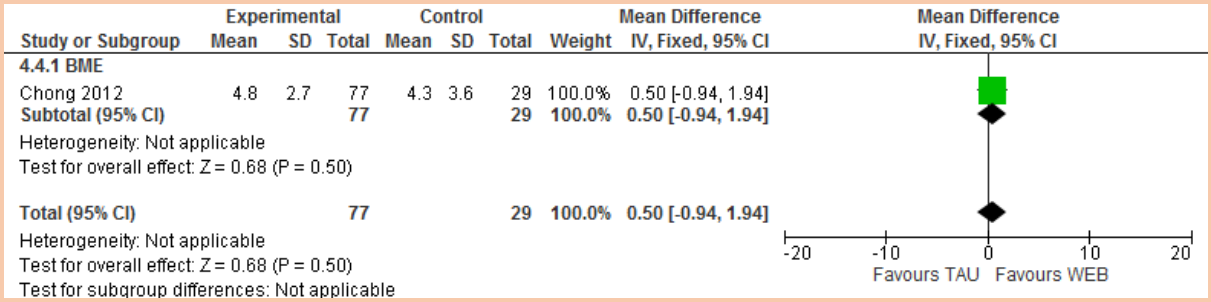
Number of subjects who made a primary care appointment



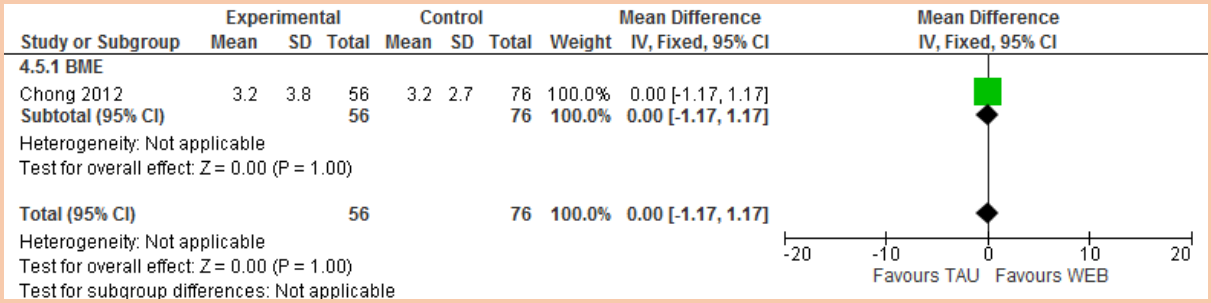
Number used antidepressants



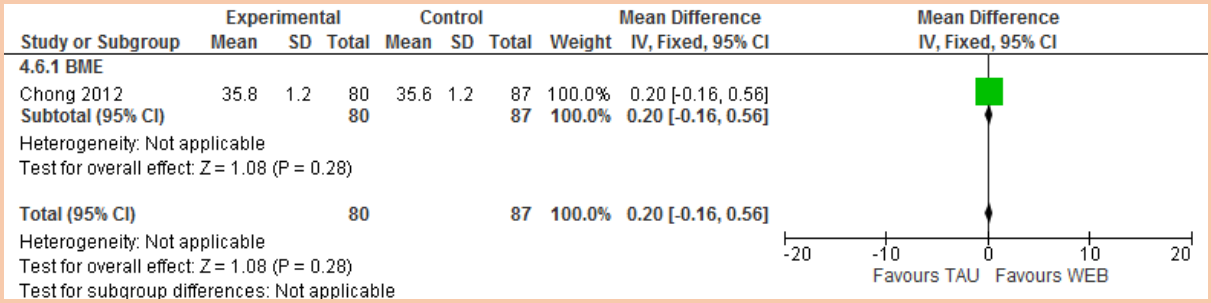
Mean number of completed mental health appointments



Mean number of completed primary care appointments

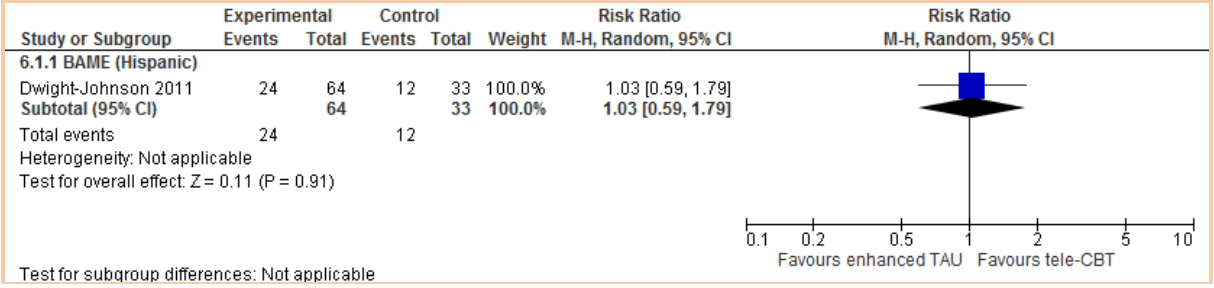


Satisfaction (visit specific satisfaction questionnaire [VSQ-9] range 0-36, higher better)

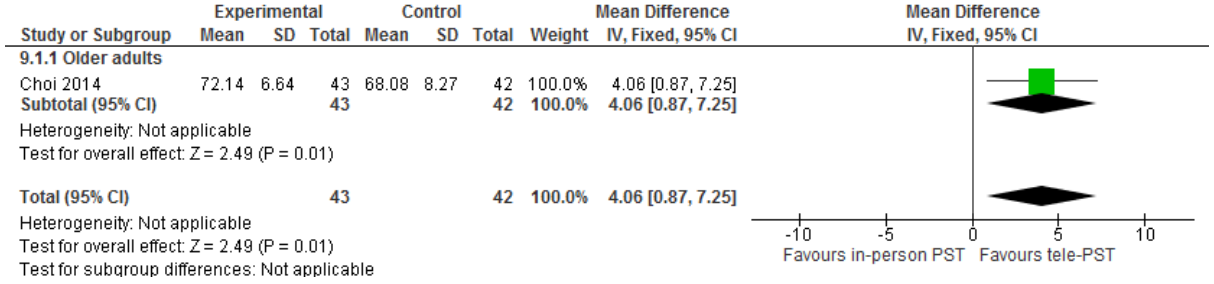


Telephone CBT versus enhanced usual care (BAME)

Number reporting they were satisfied with the treatment provided

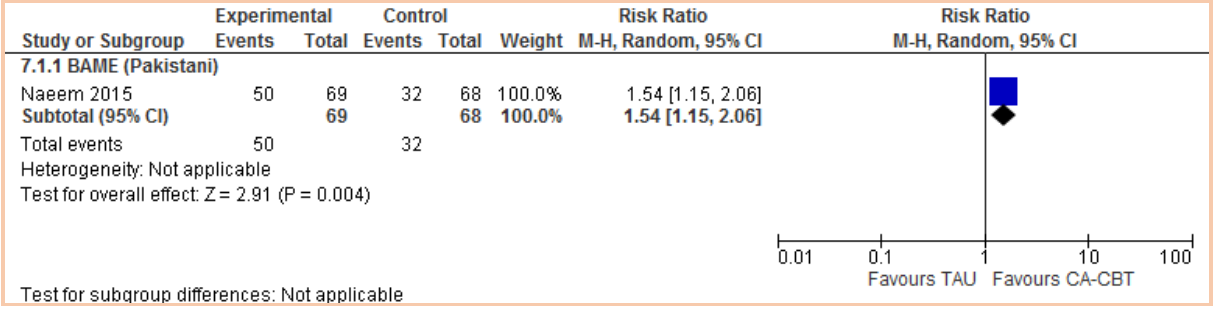


Tele-problem solving therapy versus in-person problem solving therapy



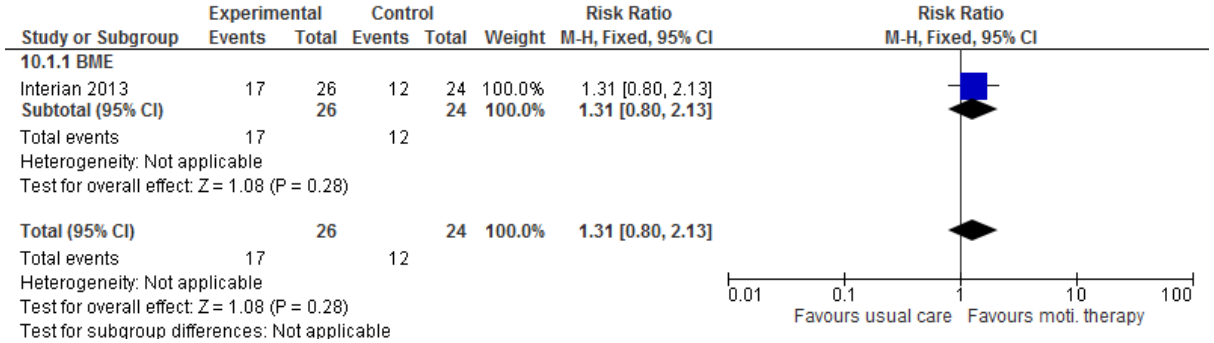
Culturally-adapted CBT versus TAU (BAME)

Number of participants stating they were 'very satisfied' with the treatment

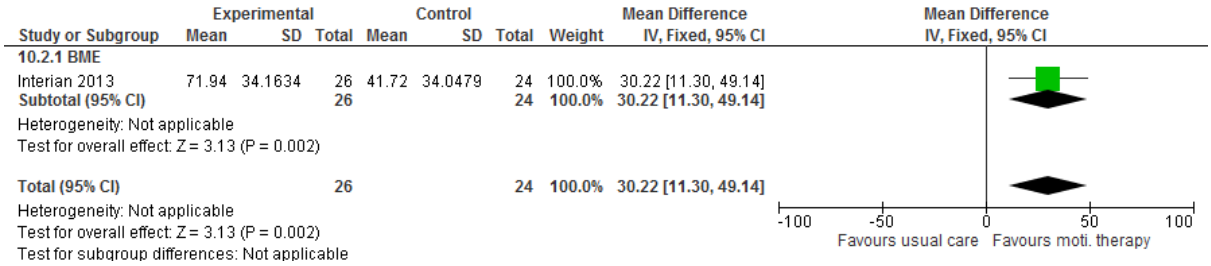


Culturally adapted motivational therapy versus usual care (BAME)

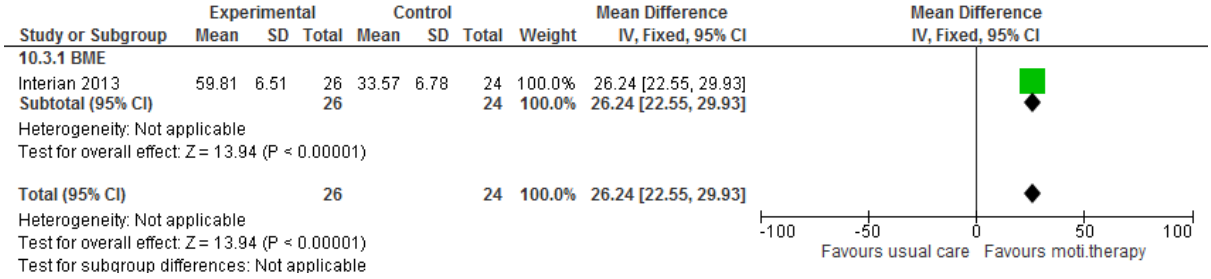
Number of patients who attended at least one psychotherapy session



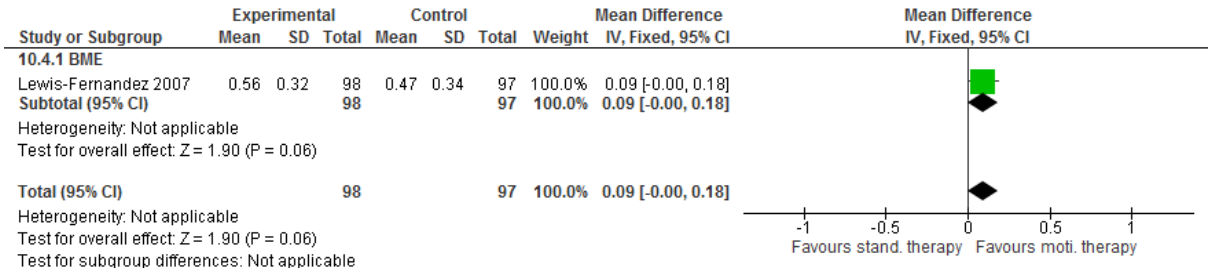
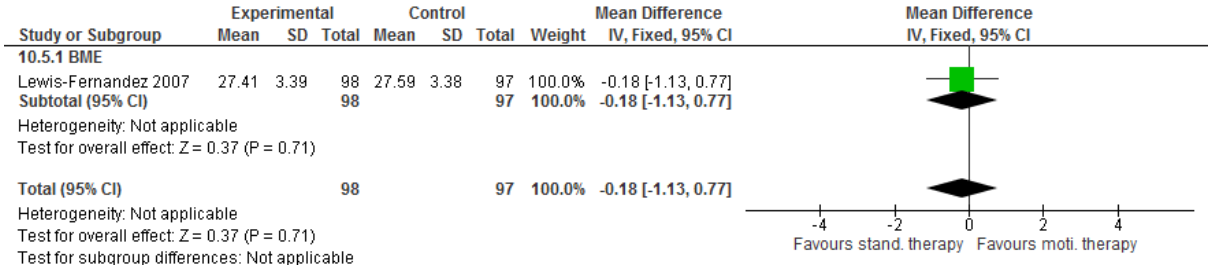
[Time 2] adherence score as measured by the Medication Event Monitoring System (MEMS)



[Time 3] adherence score as measured by the Medication Event Monitoring System (MEMS)



Proportion of fully attended days as measured by the Composite Adherence Score (CAS)



Patient satisfaction as assessed by the Client Satisfaction Questionnaire (CSQ)