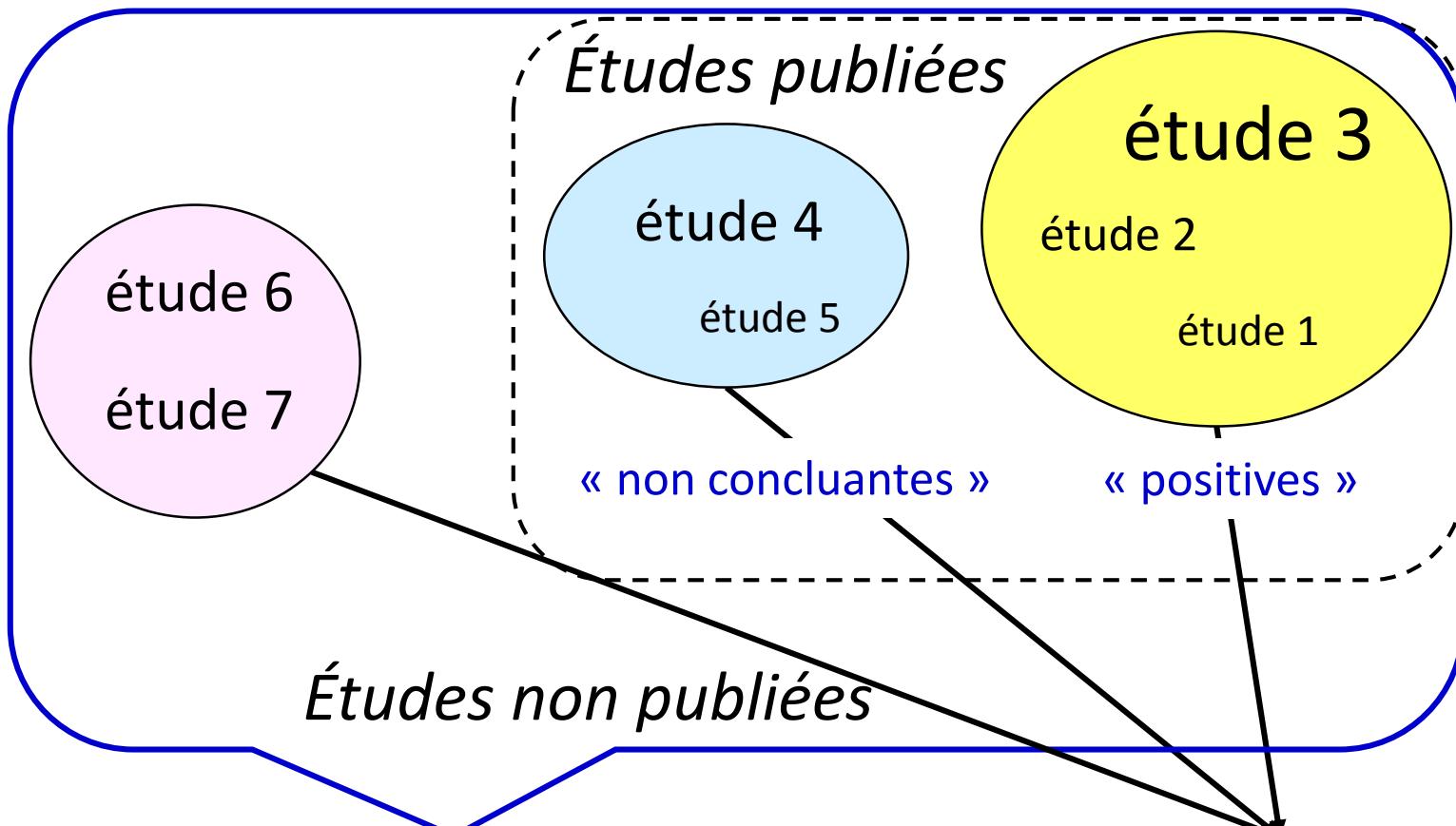


# Hypertension Artérielle: résultats des méta-analyses et revues systématiques

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# Revue systématique et Méta-analyse: définition



## Revue Systématique:

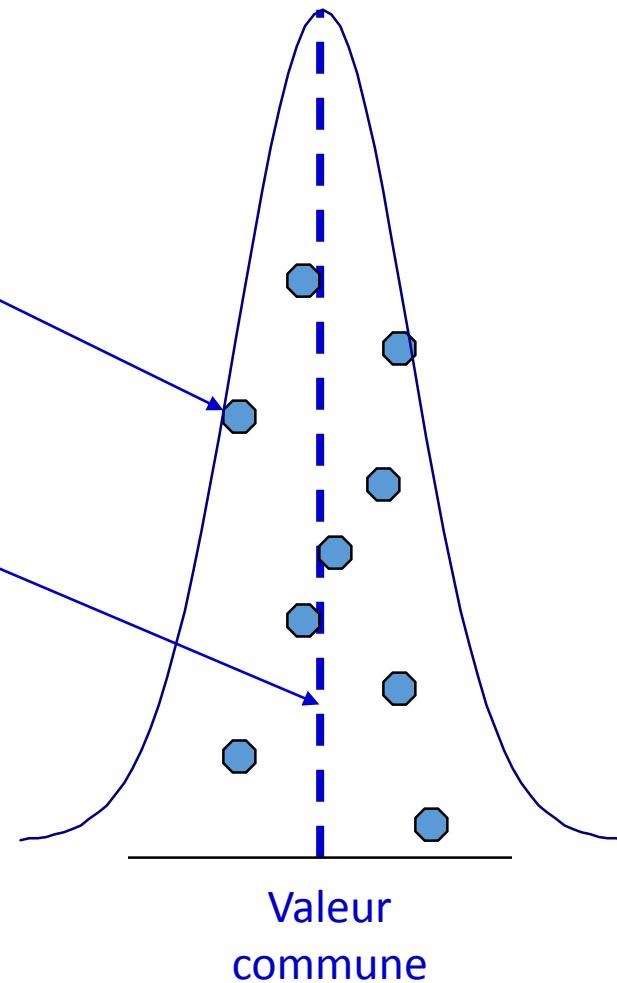
Collecte des résultats de toutes les études réalisées – méthode explicite

## Méta-analyse:

Synthèse quantitative de l'effet commun du traitement

# Hypothèse - Modèle

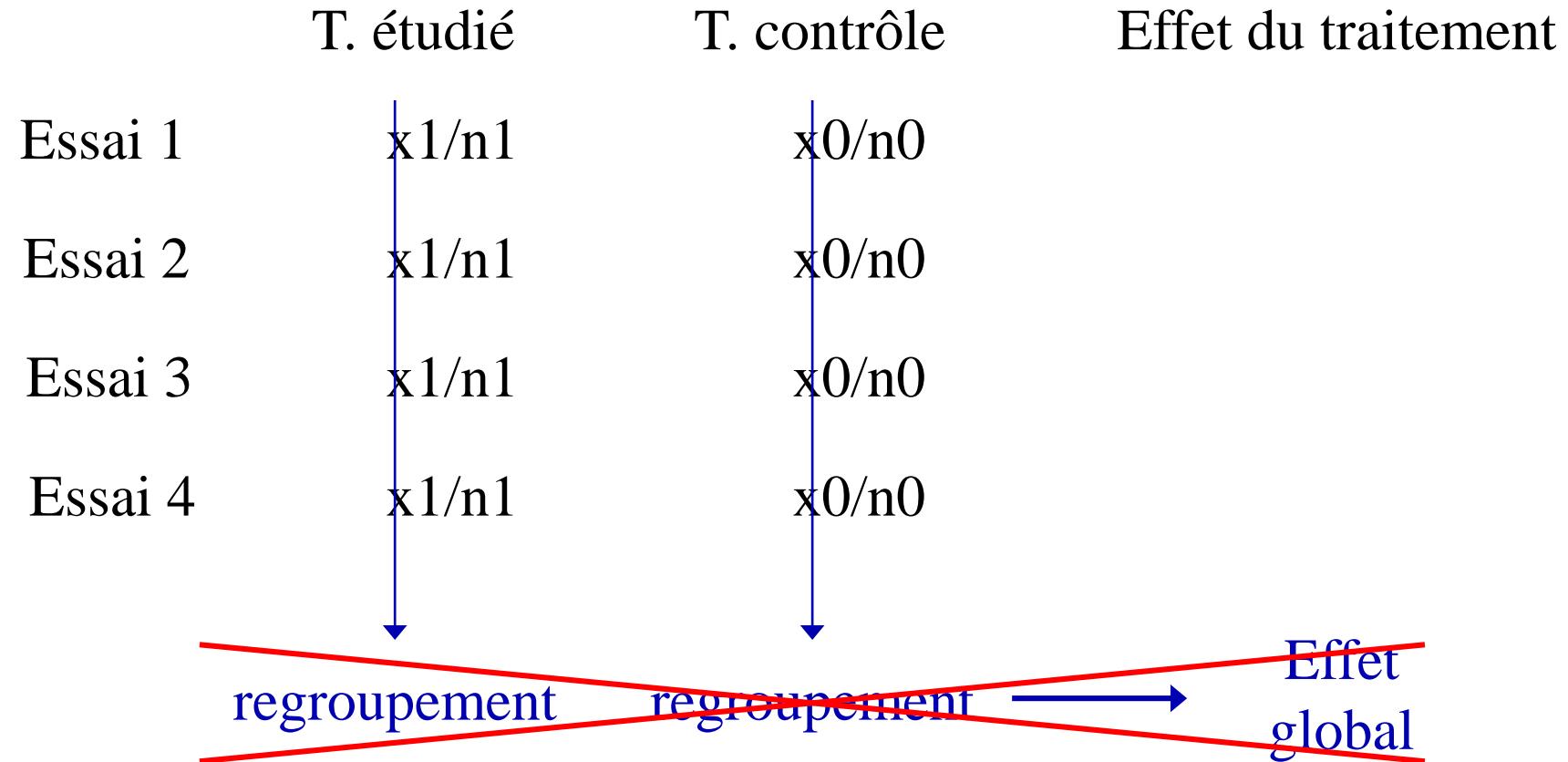
- Les résultats des essais varient d'un essai à l'autre du fait du hasard : « estimations » de l'effet tt
- Ces résultats fluctuent de manière aléatoire autour d'une valeur commune : « vraie » effet du tt
- But de la MA : estimer cette valeur commune



# Principe statistique

- Le but de la MA est de prendre en compte ces fluctuations dues au hasard (suppression du bruit de fond)
- et de fournir une estimation moins sujette à ces variations que l'estimation donnée par un seul essai

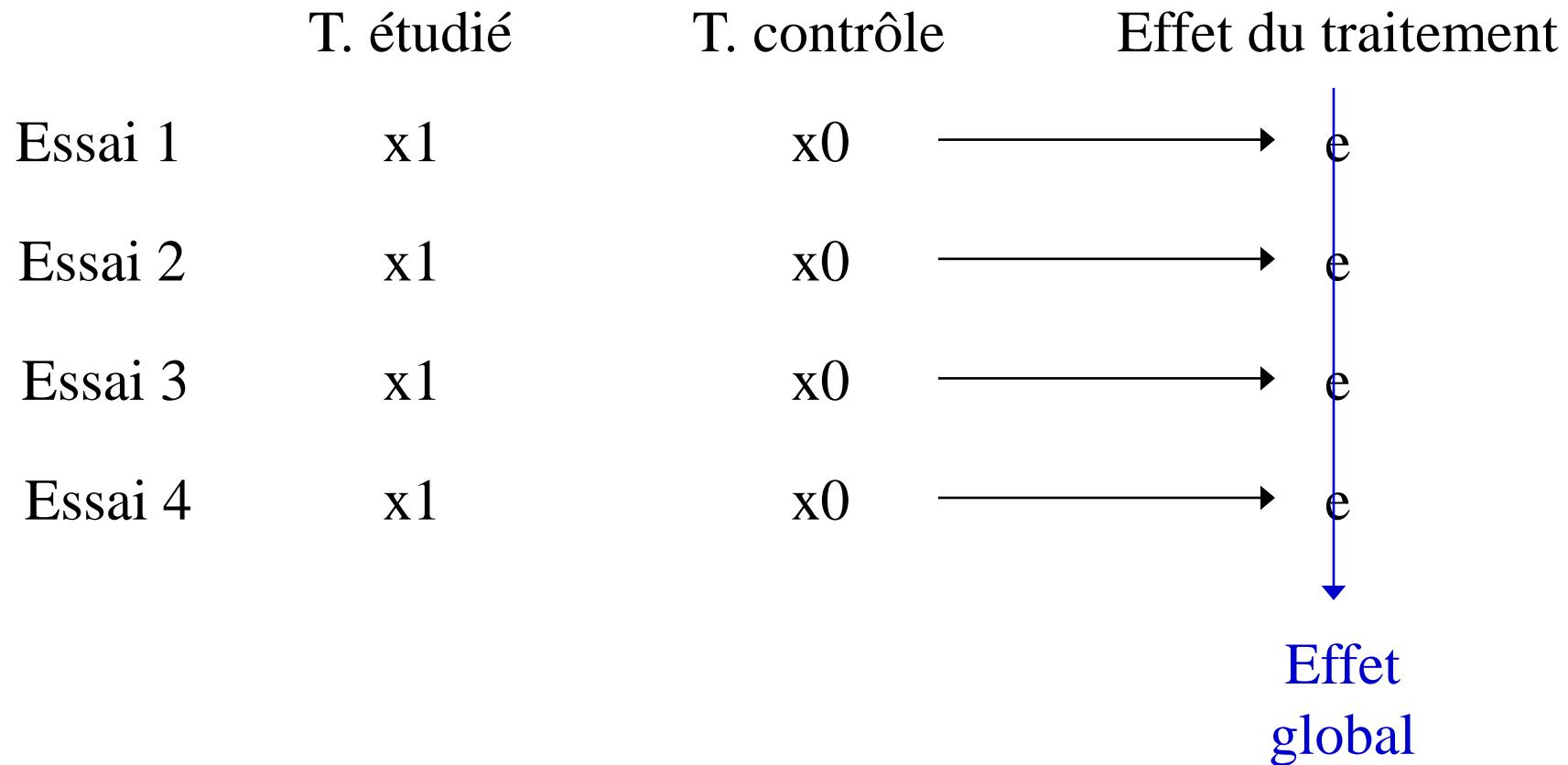
# Combinaison des effets traitements incorrecte



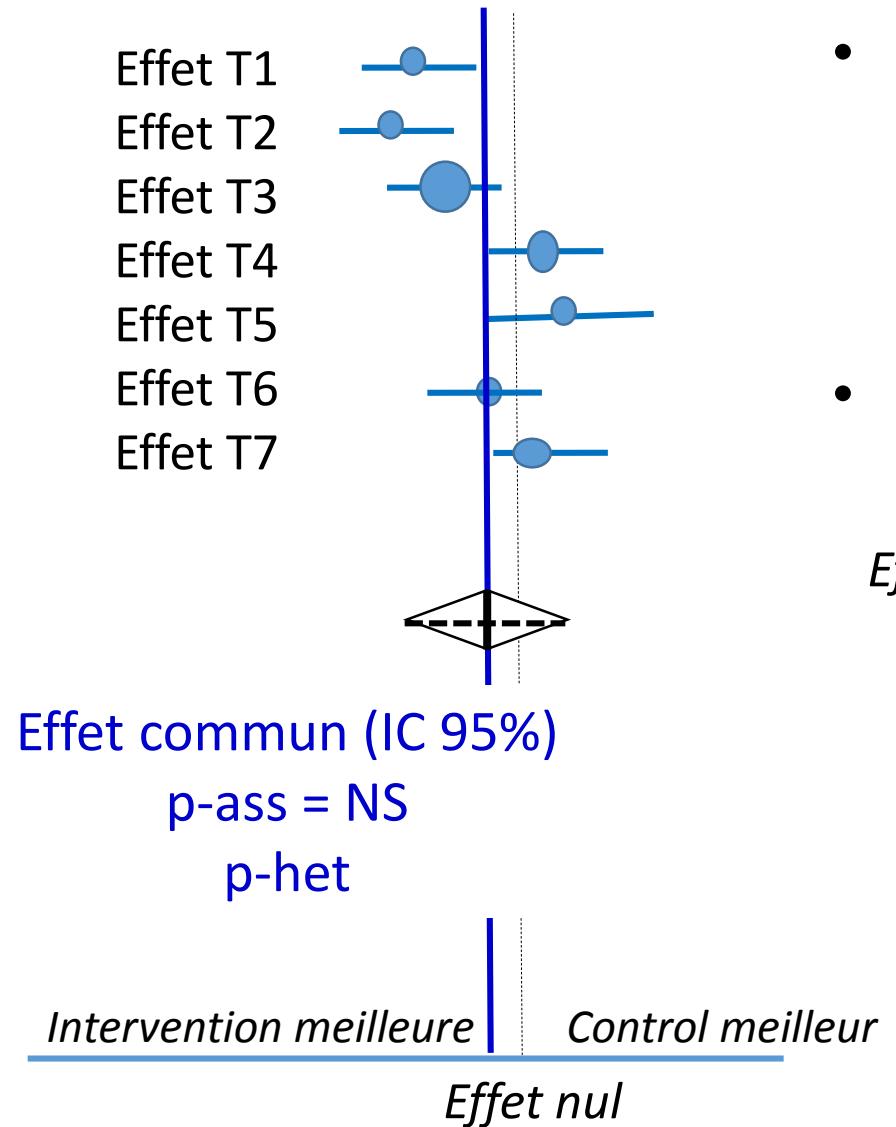
# Paradoxe de Simpson

Essai	C	T	OR
1	18/60 30%	36/120 30%	<b>1.00</b>
2	84/120 70%	42/60 70%	<b>1.00</b>

# Combinaison des effets traitements correcte



# Revue systématique et Méta-analyse: hypothèses statistiques



- Homogénéité : Modèle à effet fixe ( $\hat{T}_i = T + e_i$ )  
$$\hat{T}_i \sim N(T, v_i^2)$$

$$Effet\ observé = Effet\ réel + erreur (ET_i = ET + ei)$$

- Hétérogénéité : Modèle à effet aléatoire

$$\hat{T}_i \sim N(T, \tau^2 + v_i^2)$$

$$Effet\ observé = Effet\ réel + Var\_inter-étude + erreur$$

Effet commun (IC 95%) : moyenne pondérée

Test d'association

Test d'homogénéité (hétérogénéité)

## Hypothèse d'homogénéité

- Hypothèse omnibus

- $H_0 : \theta_1 = \theta_2 = \dots = \theta_i$

- Hétérogénéité

- rejet de l'hypothèse nulle

- Acceptation de l'hypothèse alternative:

$$\exists \theta_j, \theta_j \neq \theta_{i \neq j}$$

## Hétérogénéité

- Sous l'hypothèse d'homogénéité

$$\forall i \hat{\theta}_i = \theta$$

$\hat{\theta}_i - \hat{\theta}$  vaut en moyenne zéro

- Test d'hétérogénéité

$$Q = \sum w_i (\hat{\theta}_i - \hat{\theta})^2$$

- distance pondérée
- nulle en cas d'homogénéité parfaite
- Chi<sup>2</sup> à  $k-1$  ddl

# $I^2$ (inconsistency)

- % de la variabilité totale non explicable par le hasard, du à une vraie variabilité de l'effet traitement dans les essais

$$I^2 = \max\left(0, \frac{\chi_{het}^2 - df}{\chi_{het}^2}\right) \times 100\%$$

- varie de 0% à 100%
- Problème d'extrapolabilité du résultat si  $I^2 > 70\%$
- Il existe un autre indice important tau 2
  - Lié au modèle aléatoire

## Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death.

Ettehad D et al. Lancet. 2016 Mar 5;387(10022):957-967. PMID: 26724178

The George Institute for Global Health, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

- the benefits of BPLT for prevention of CVD are well established
  - the extent to which these effects differ by baseline BP, presence of comorbidities, or drug class is less clear
  - MEDLINE only

- MEDLINE only

- 1000 patient-years FUP

- No formal protocol for this SRMA

- 123 RCT :

>600,000 patients

## 71 active treatment vs placebo

31 different active drugs

more intensive vs less intensive BP

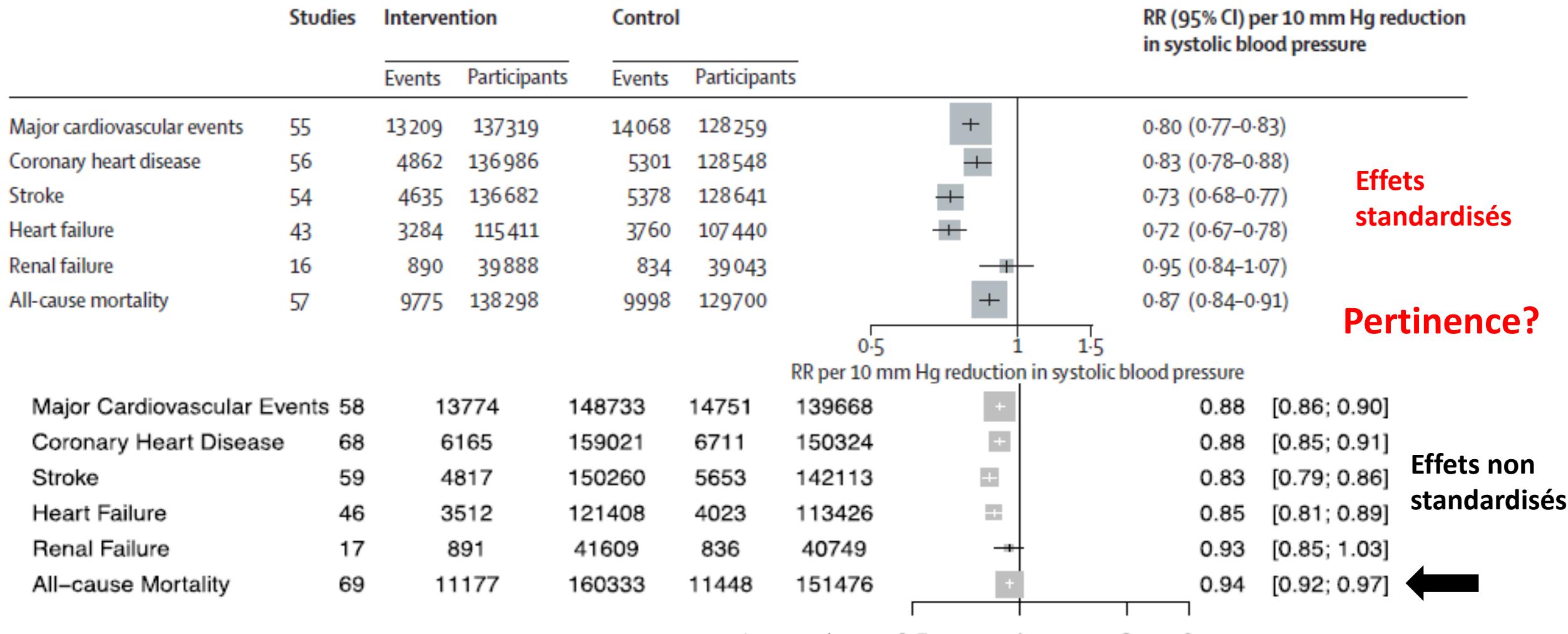
## 7 several active treatment vs placebo

5 more intensive vs less intensive BP and compared different active drugs

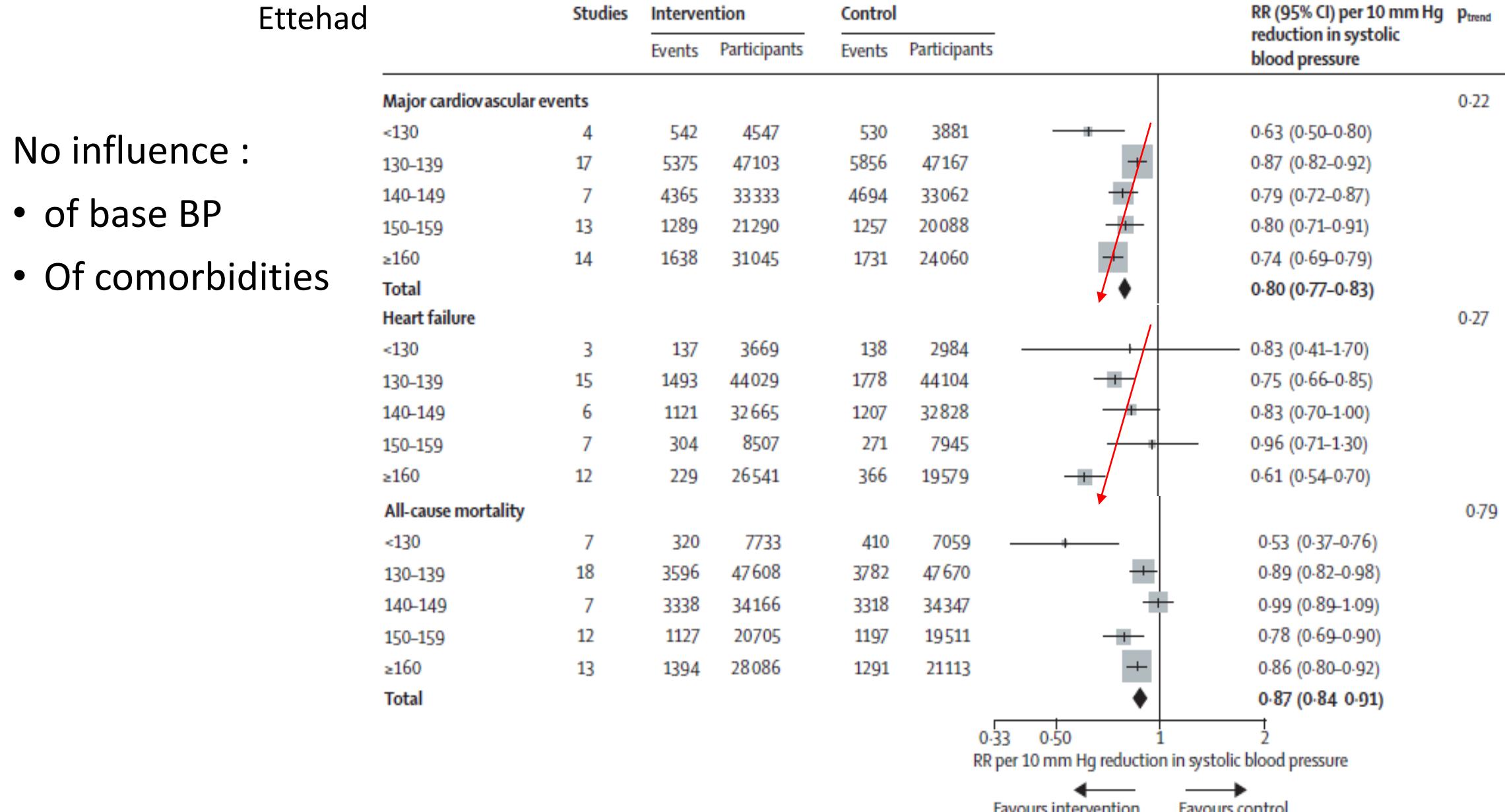
# Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death.

Ettehad D et al. Lancet. 2016 Mar 5;387(10022):957-967. PMID: 26724178

- Effect of 10 mmHg BP reduction:  $\log(RR) \times 10 / \text{deltaBP}(\text{observed in the trial})$  (règle de 3)
- Validité ???



# Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death.

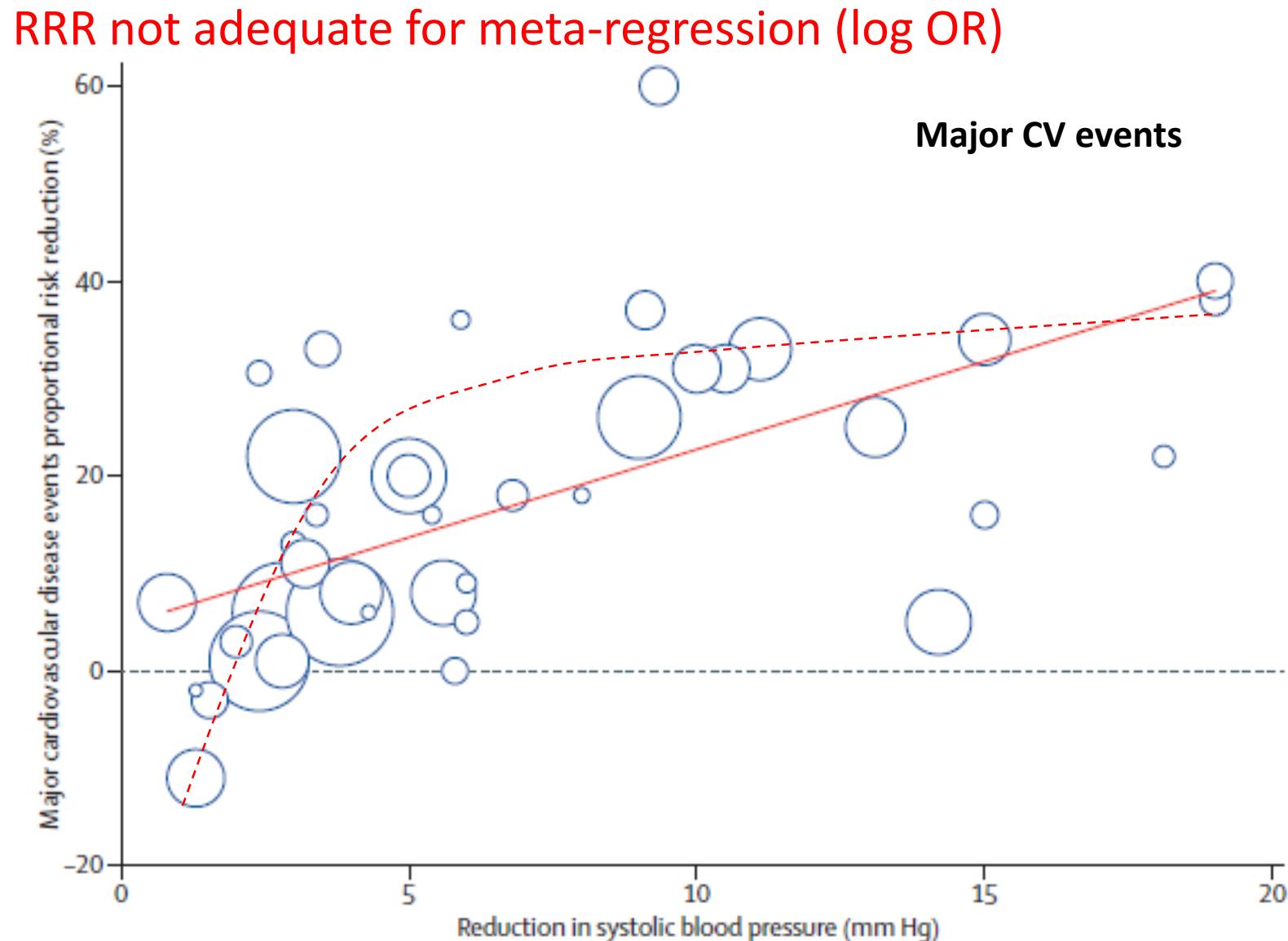


# Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death.

Ettehad D et al. Lancet. 2016 Mar 5;387(10022):957-967. PMID: 26724178

## Meta-regression:

- Adjusted by baseline BP
- And comorbidities: pre-existing CVD or not (HF excluded)



# Blood pressure lowering for prevention

Ettehad D et al. Lancet. 2016 Mar 5;387:

BB less effective than control for

- MCVE
- Stroke
- Renal failure
- All-cause mortality

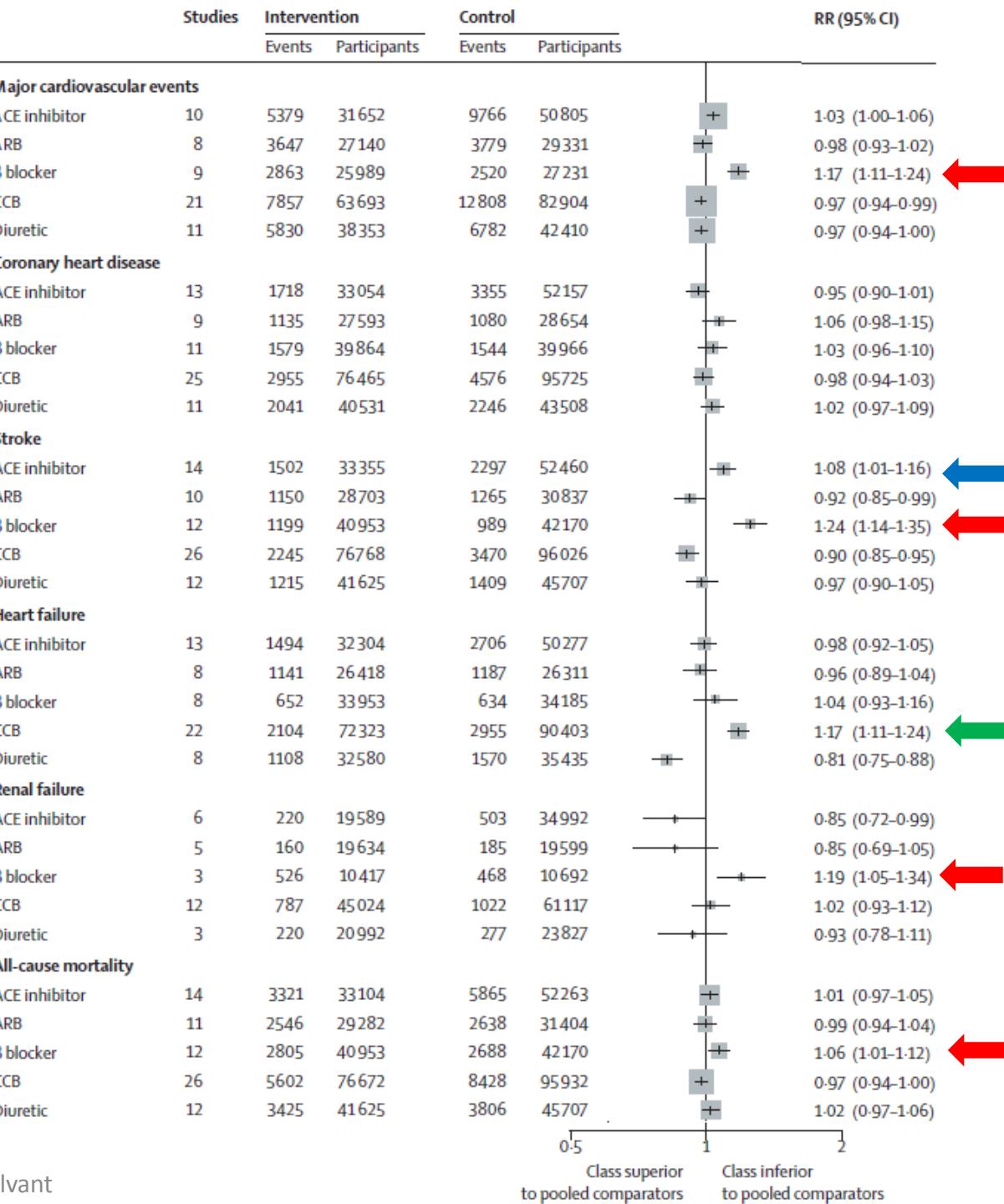
ACE-I less effective than control for

- stroke

CCB less effective than control for

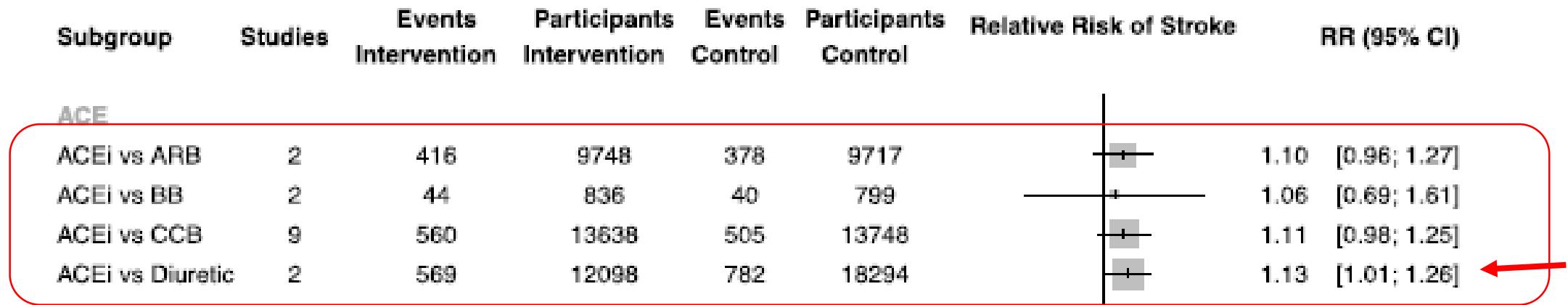
- Heart failure

The problem: What is « control »



# Blood pressure lowering for prevention of cardiovascular disease and death.

Ettehad D et al. Lancet. 2016 Mar 5;387(10022):957-967. PMID: 26724178



inverse variance weighted fixed effects MA because heterogeneity was low and random-effects MA might apply inappropriately large weights to smaller studies: correct

ACEi vs DIU	- ALLHAT / lisinopril (very rarely used in France) / chlorthalidone (not used in France) / 55-80 years / double blind / High CV risk, 35% blacks (ACEi less effective) / RR= 1.15 [1.15-1.30] - ANBP2 / open-label, physicians unblinded, events adjudicated / 65-84 years / Low CV risk / only 58% of ACEi and 62% DIU were still on tt at the end of the study / free adjustment of ttt after first line / RR= 1.02 [0.78-1.33]
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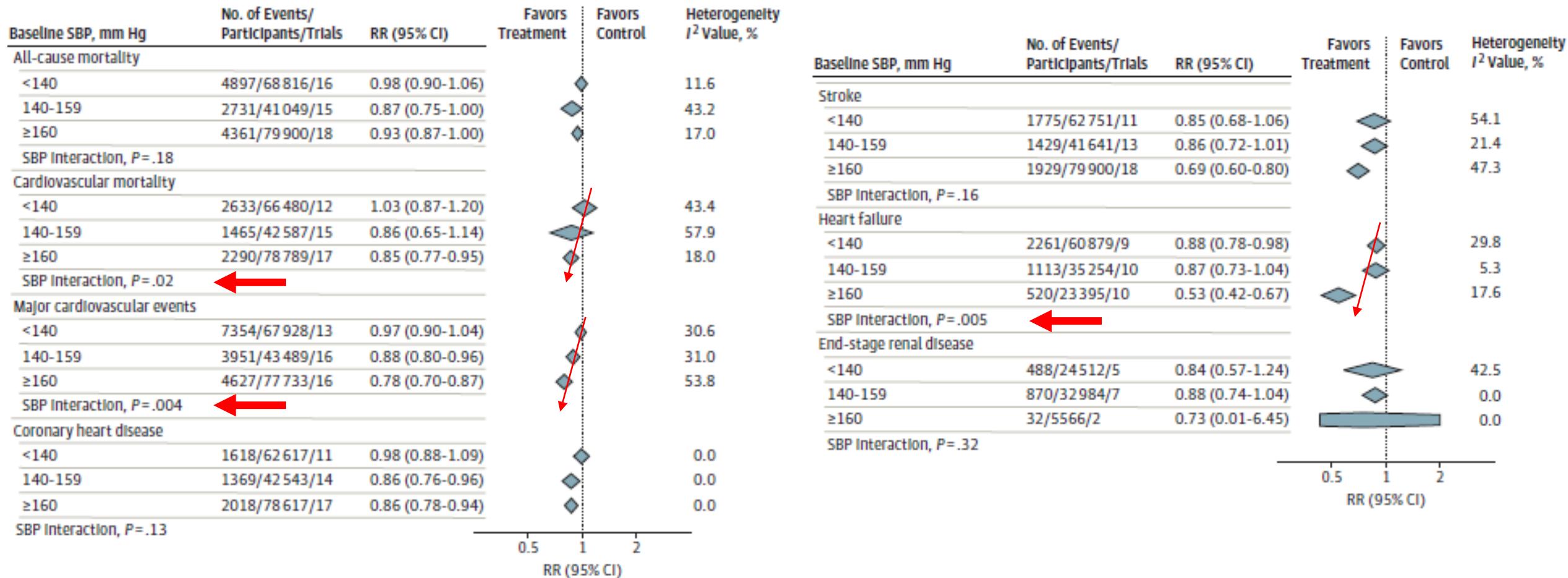
# Association of Blood Pressure Lowering With Mortality and Cardiovascular Disease Across Blood Pressure Levels

Brunström M et Carlberg B. JAMA Intern Med. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29131895

- All trials comparing BPLT vs placebo or diff BP targets (**comparable criteria with Ettehad MA**)
- >1000 FUP
- **No formal protocol** for this SRMA
- 74 trials, ~300,000 patients; 1ry/2ry prevention trials (<50 / >50% CVD)
- Meta-regression adjusted by age, sex, diabetes N/Y (<50, >50%), trt duration
- Sensitivity: exclusion of HF trials, « true » 1ry/2ry prevention trials

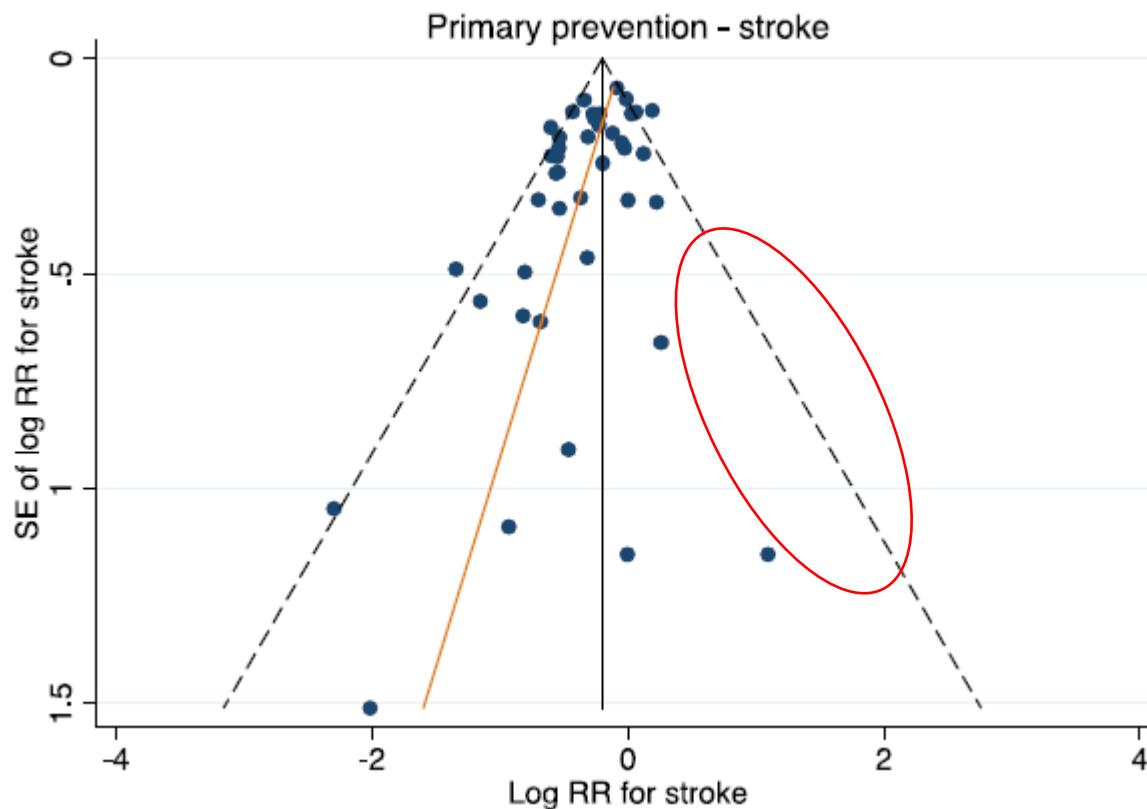
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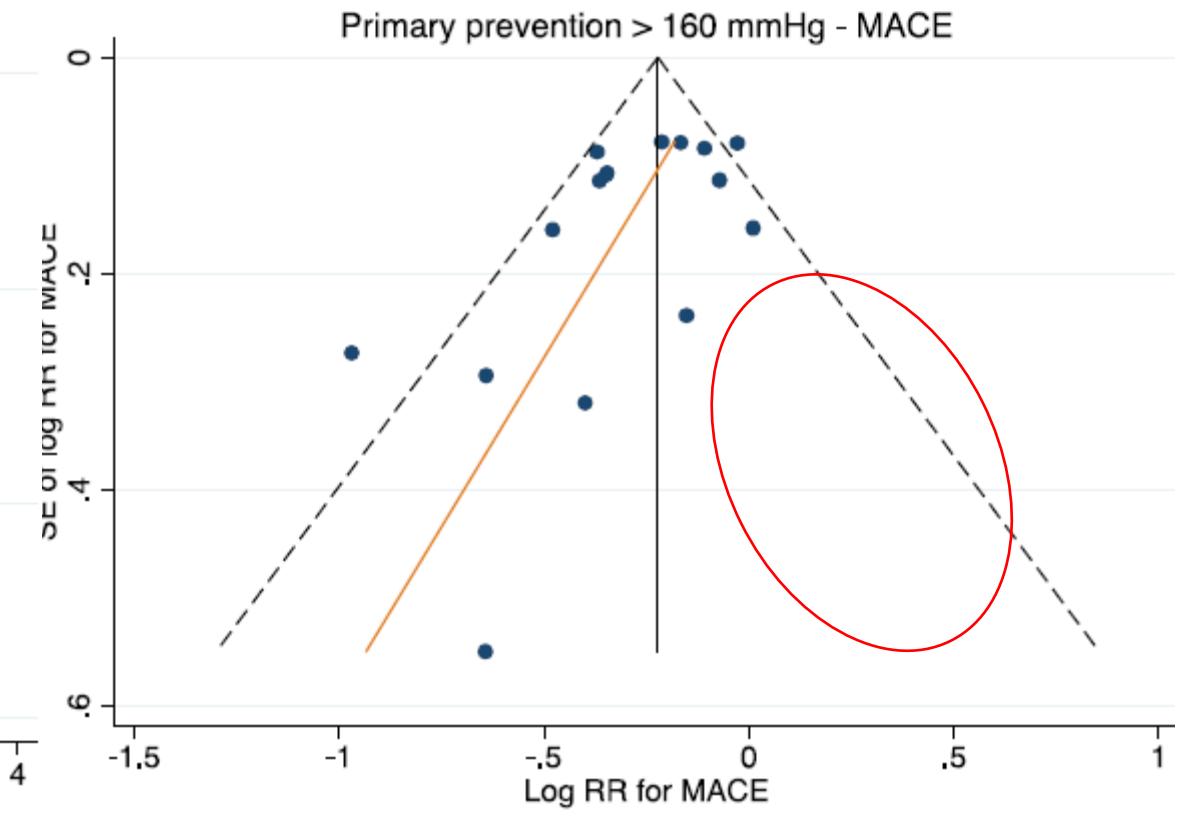
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Egger's test for small-study effect: p=0.006

Harbord's modified test for small-study effect: p=0.007



Egger's test for small-study effect: p=0.062

Harbord's modified test for small-study effect: p=0.049

# Cardiovascular events and target organ damage in primary aldosteronism compared with essential hypertension

Monticone S et al. Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol 2017 Nov 9. PMID: 29129575

Division of Internal Medicine and Hypertension Unit, University of Turin, Italy

- Rationale for increased CV risk and TOD in PA: increased vascular inflammation, oxydative stress & fibrosis, insulin resistance...
- MEDLINE & CDSR
- PROSPERO: CRD42017073696
- Stroke/CAD main outcomes
- 31 studies comparing outcomes in PA vs essential HT, 10 prospective, 15 matched, 29 provided outcomes at diagnosis (prevalence) and only 2 provided outcomes at FUP (incidence)

# Cardiovascular events and target organ damage in primary aldosteronism compared with essential hypertension

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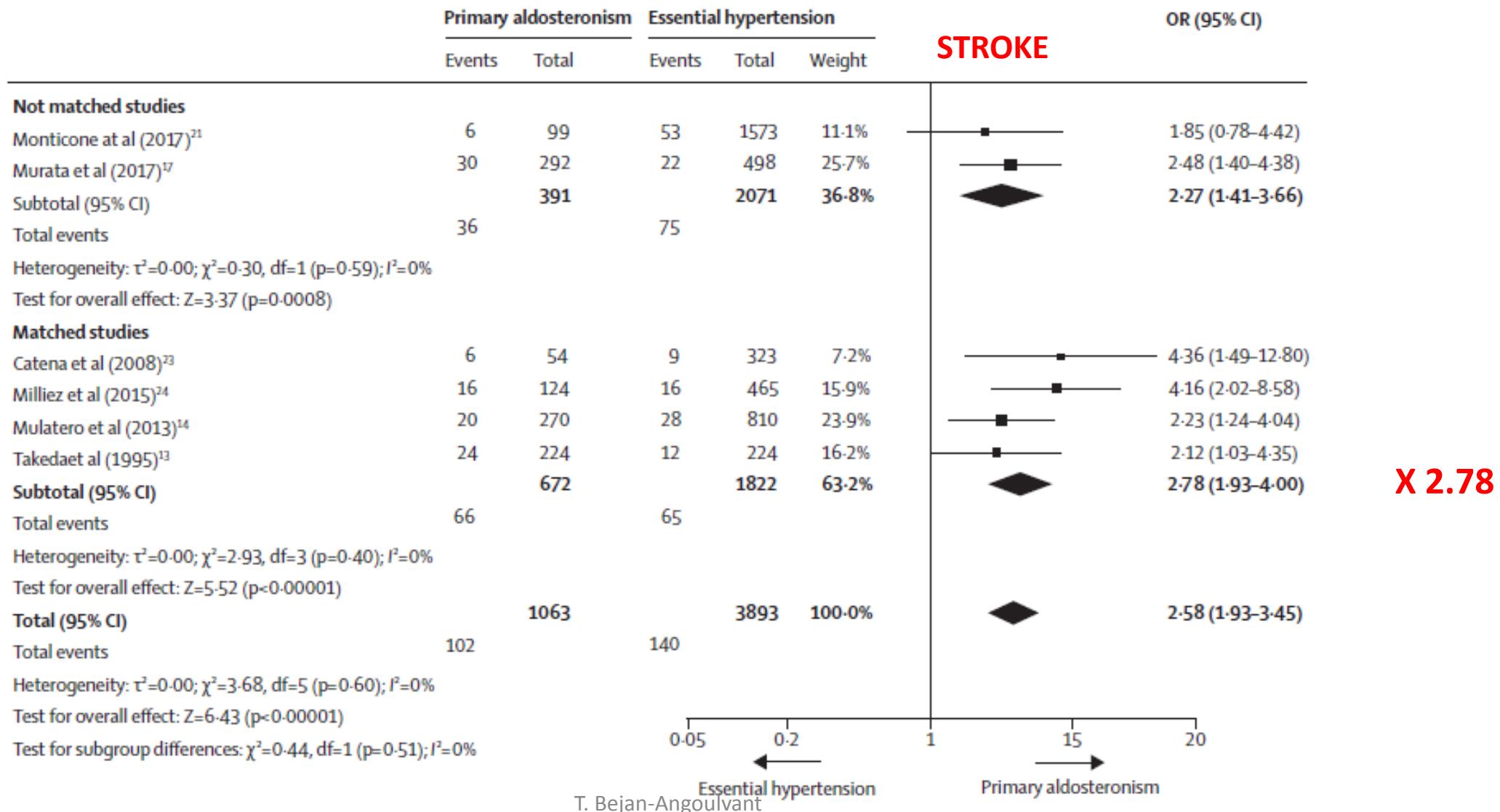
Division of Internal Medicine and Hypertension Unit, University of Turin, Italy

Parameter (n of studies / n of patients)	3,838 patients with PA	9,284 patient with EH	Biochemical parameters (n of studies / n of patients)	3,838 patients with PA
Age (years) (22/12,166)	53 [48-55]	53 [52-54]	Serum creatinine ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) (9/909)	79.6 [70.7-88.4]
Female gender (%) (28/12,992)	28 [26-33]	32 [31-39]	Serum $\text{K}^+$ (mEq/L) (7/506)	3.3 [3.1-3.6]
Diabetes mellitus (%) (10/8,874)	17 [15-21]	14 [9-17]	PRA (ng/mL/h) (10/661)	0.3 [0.1-0.6]
Hyperlipidemia (%) (11/9,850)	51 [42-56]	49 [4-55]	Aldosterone (pmol/L) (25/3,072)	
BMI ( $\text{Kg}/\text{m}^2$ ) (18/9,957)	28 [22-32]	23 [21-29]	- serum (1/99)	859 [609-1,188]
Duration of hypertension (years) (15/8,143)	8.8 [6.2-10.7]	7.2 [5.7-9.8]	- plasma (24/2,973)	922 [663-1100]

# Cardiovascular events and target organ damage in primary aldosteronism compared with essential hypertension

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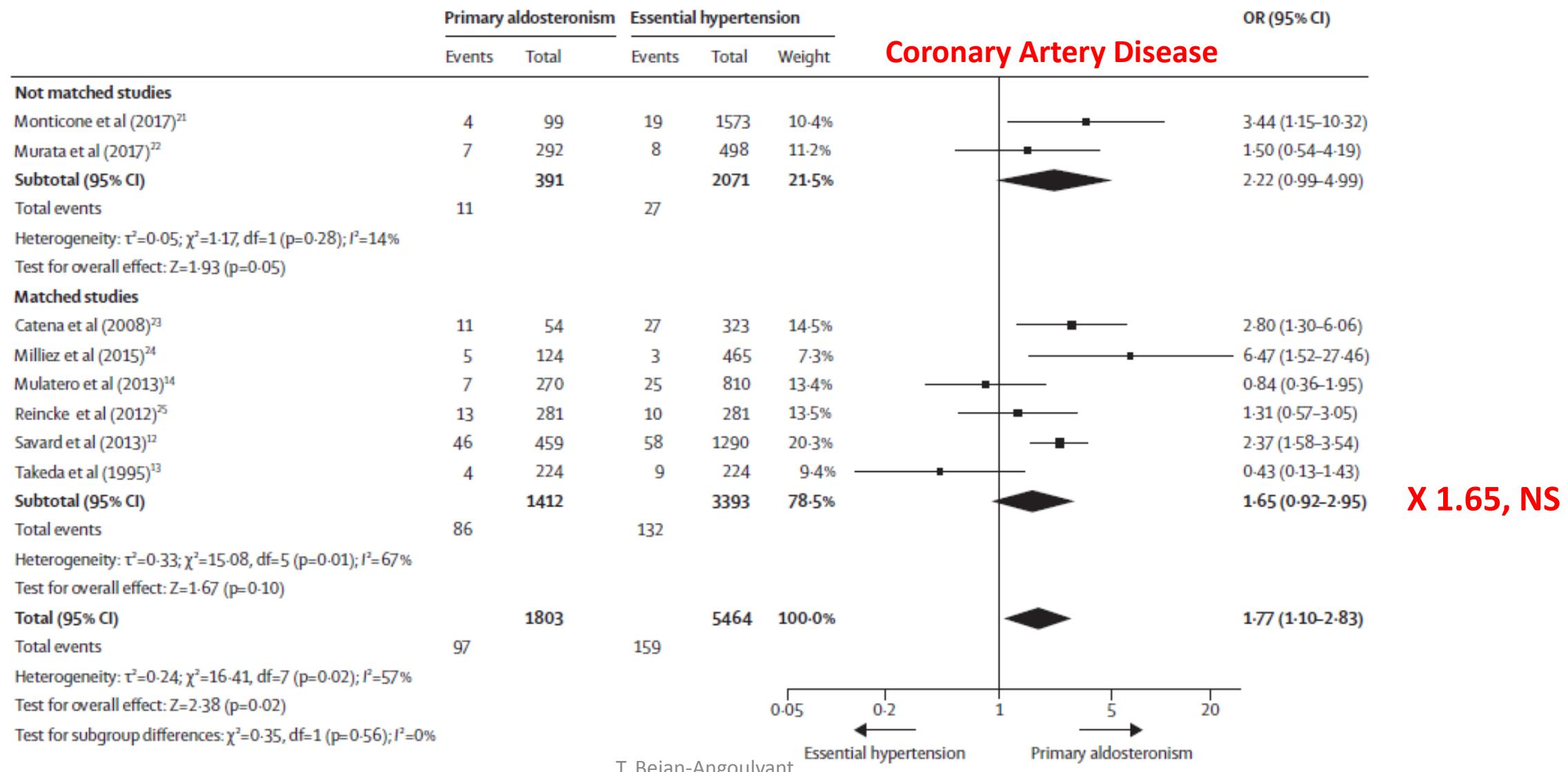
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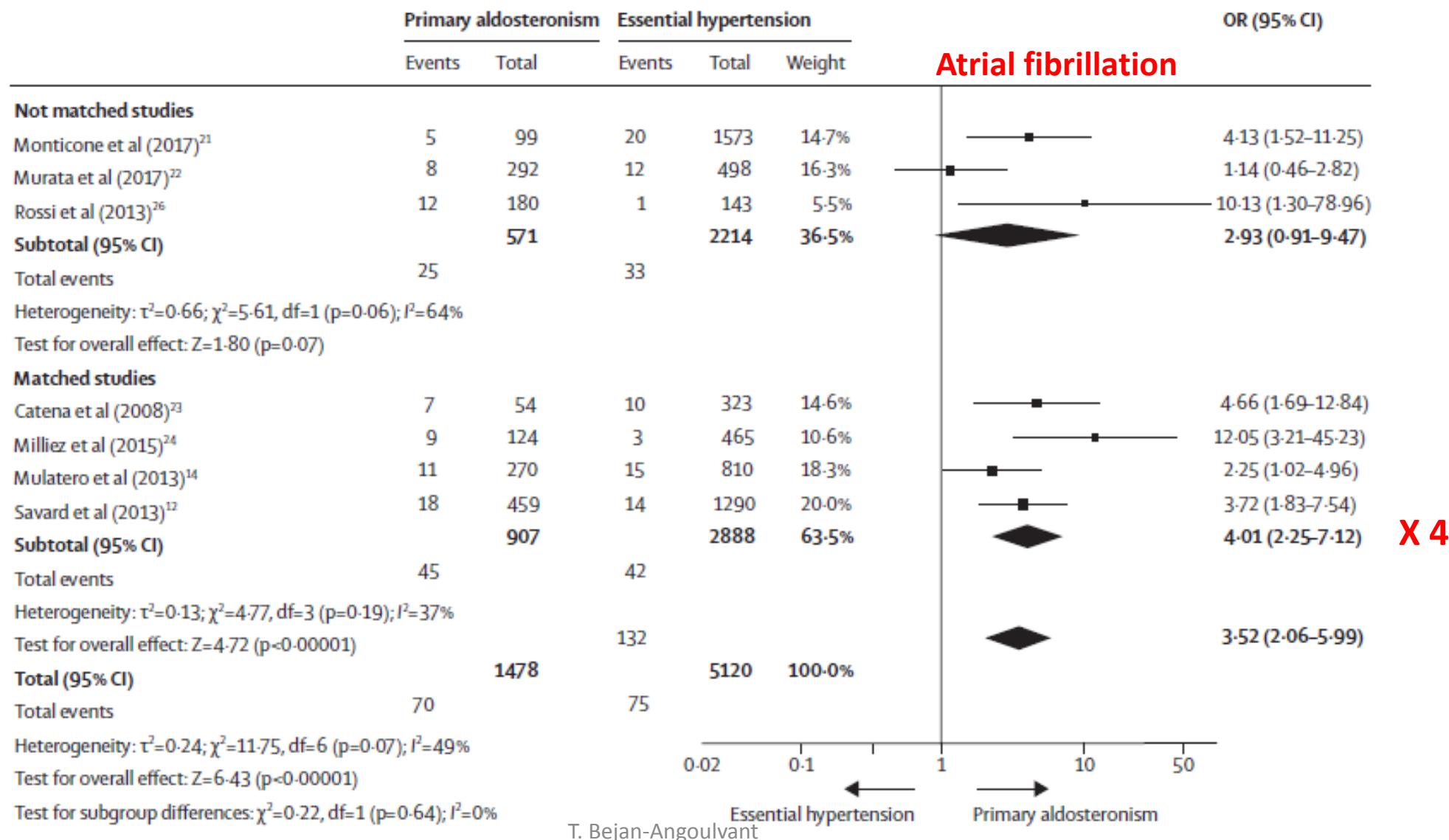
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	low risk	medium risk	high risk	unknown
selection bias	3	20	0	8
attrition bias	28	3	0	0
adjudication bias	0	3	28	0

Main outcomes

# Cardiovascular events and target organ damage in primary aldosteronism compared with essential hypertension

Monticone S et al. Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol 2017 Nov 9. PMID: 29129575

Division of Internal Medicine and Hypertension Unit, University of Turin, Italy

“ In this meta-analysis of 31 studies that included 3838 patients with PA and 9284 patients with EH, we found **robust evidence (transparency?)** for a significant increase in

- cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events,
- target organ damage (left ventricular hypertrophy),
- metabolic syndrome,
- and diabetes,

in patients with primary aldosteronism compared with patients with essential hypertension »

- In the exclusive analysis of matched studies (**only 3-4 studies, all retrospectives**), **this association was independent from blood pressure levels, age, and sex**, suggesting that aldosterone can induce adverse cardiovascular effects through mechanisms that are at least partly independent of its effects on blood pressure

Systematic Review for the 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/  
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Reboussin DM et al. Hypertension. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29133355

- 1. Is there evidence that self-measured BP without other augmentation is superior to office-measured BP for achieving better BP control?*
  - 2. Is there evidence that self-measured BP without other augmentation is superior to office-measured BP for preventing adverse clinical outcomes that are related to elevated BP?*
- 
- Doctor Evidence: PubMed & Embase only

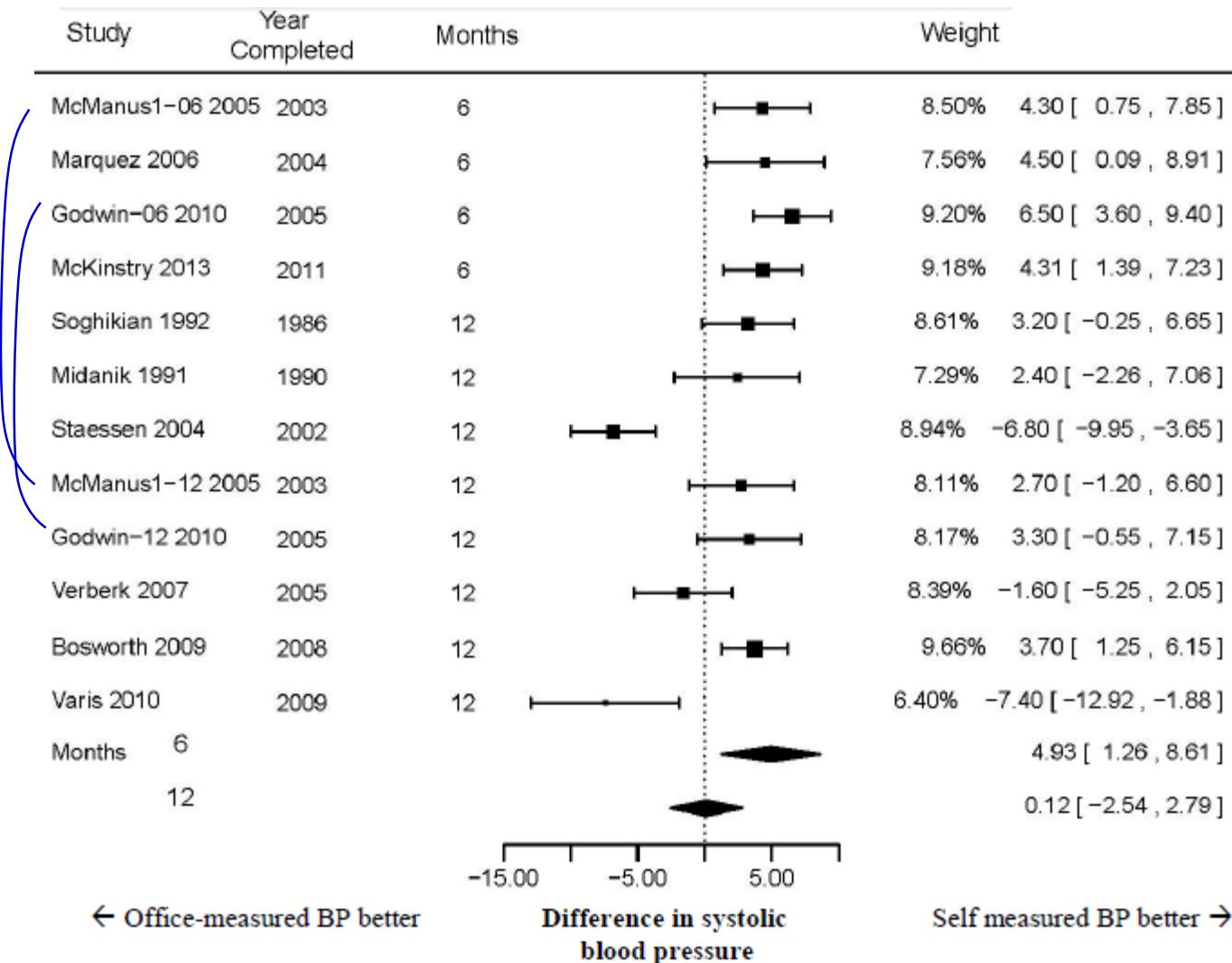
# Systematic Review for the 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults

Reboussin DM et al. Hypertension. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29133355

- 10 studies; effect sizes ranged from a **7.4 mmHg worsening** of systolic BP to a **6.5 mmHg improvement** in **systolic BP** with self-measured BP compared with office-measured BP
- **None reported a significant intervention effect regarding % achieving BP target**

There may be some bias against publication of null and negative studies !

- Stroke, MI, and CV mortality: no data ( $\geq 4$  studies) no MA
- Total mortality: 4 studies, but the number of events was small and details of how mortality data were ascertained were unclear. No significant difference; overall RR was not different from 1.0



# Systematic Review for the 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults

Reboussin DM et al. Hypertension. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29133355

## Limitations: Part 1

This meta-analysis has several limitations. As with any meta-analysis, we may be limited by unpublished data. There were differences in study design even among the studies that used only self-measured BP, which may have limited our ability to detect more substantial improvements in BP control with self-measured BP. We were also limited by our inability to comment on outcomes other than systolic BP, such as medication adherence, or clinical outcomes, such as end-organ damage or clinical events.

## Conclusions: Part 1

In summary, we found a modest but significant improvement in systolic BP in RCTs of self-measured BP versus office-based BP. However, the improvement was not sustained for longer than 6 months. Well-run studies of self-measured BP, in conjunction with additional support, have demonstrated more substantial improvements in BP control, but study design is highly variable. Our results suggest that, for selected patients and their providers, self-measured BP may be a helpful adjunct to routine office care.

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Reboussin DM et al. Hypertension. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29133355

*Targets for Blood Pressure Lowering During Antihypertensive Therapy in Adults ?*

- **Via Doctor Evidence.**
- ROB: low risk if all criteria were low risk; high risk if 1 or more criteria were high risk
- Random-effect MA if  $\geq 3$  studies: “lower vs higher”, “ $<130$  mmHg vs higher”
- 130 mmHg: lower limit of high-normal BP and goal BP set by other guidelines for certain subpopulations
- Of the 15 included trials, 12 showed high risk of bias for the blinding of study participants and personnel
- Two studies showed high risk of bias due to inadequately addressing incomplete outcome data
- Included studies showed low or unclear risk of bias for all other domains.

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Reboussin DM et al. Hypertension. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29133355

**Table 2.7. Relative Risk (95% Confidence Interval) for a Given Outcome for any Intensive [Lower] Blood Pressure Target Versus any Standard [Higher] Blood Pressure Target.**

Outcome	Studies included, N	Study participants included, N	Events, N (%)		RR	(95% CI)	Heterogeneity		Funnel Plot Asymmetry	
			Intensive BP target	Standard BP target			I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value	P-value for Kendall's Tau	P-value for Egger's Regression Test
All-cause mortality	15	49,934	952 (4.0)	1,001 (4.3)	0.89	(0.77, 1.02)	49.30	0.02	0.24	0.50
CVD mortality	10	40,266	268 (1.3)	504 (2.5)	0.86	(0.67, 1.12)	46.44	0.06	0.38	0.38
Major Cardiovascular Disease Events	7 <sup>a</sup>	23,617	682 (5.8)	828 (7.0)	0.81	(0.70, 0.94) ←	41.34	0.12	0.56	0.55
Fatal or non-fatal myocardial infarction	11	31,926	415 (2.6)	419 (2.7)	0.86	(0.76, 0.99) ←	0.00	0.99	0.76	0.28
Fatal or non-fatal stroke	12	33,018	389 (2.3)	475 (2.9)	0.77	(0.65, 0.91) ←	26.43	0.18	0.74	0.41
Fatal or non-fatal heart failure	8	23,066	222 (1.9)	278 (2.4)	0.75	(0.56, 0.99) ←	49.12	0.06	0.55	0.72
Renal Events	8 <sup>b</sup>	18,286	334 (3.8)	353 (4.2)	1.01	(0.89, 1.15)	0.00	0.80	1.00	0.68

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Reboussin DM et al. Hypertension. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29133355

**Table 2.8. Relative Risk (95% Confidence Interval) for a Given Outcome for Intensive [Lower] Blood Pressure Target <130 mm Hg Systolic Versus any Standard [Higher] Blood Pressure Target**

Outcome	Studies included, N	Study participants included, N	Events, N (%)		RR	(95% CI)	Heterogeneity		Funnel Plot Asymmetry	
			Intensive BP target	Standard BP target			I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value	P-value for Kendall's Tau	P-value for Egger's Regression Test
All-cause mortality	9 <sup>a</sup>	24,569	493 (4.0)	546 (4.4)	0.92	(0.79, 1.06)	15.59	0.30	0.12	0.91
CVD mortality	5 <sup>b</sup>	19,039	117 (1.2)	145 (1.5)	0.81	(0.58, 1.14)	31.42	0.21	0.82	0.79
Major Cardiovascular Disease Events	5 <sup>a</sup>	19,814	610 (6.2)	724 (7.3)	0.84	(0.73, 0.99)	40.70	0.15	0.82	0.82
Fatal or non-fatal myocardial infarction	6	22,077	269 (2.4)	316 (2.9)	0.85	(0.73, 1.00)	0.00	0.99	0.47	0.45
Fatal or non-fatal stroke	7	23,169	274 (2.4)	339 (2.9)	0.82	(0.70, 0.96)	0.00	0.45	1.00	0.90
Fatal or non-fatal heart failure	4	16,296	175 (2.2)	220 (2.7)	0.81	(0.58, 1.14)	53.42	0.09	1.00	0.92
Renal Events	5 <sup>b</sup>	9,641	347 (7.4)	346 (7.0)	1.01	(0.89, 1.16)	0.00	0.99	1.00	0.48

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Reboussin DM et al. Hypertension. 2017 Nov 13. PMID: 29133355

The results of our meta-analysis are consistent with other recent meta-analyses which demonstrate that **BP lowering significantly reduced the risk of cardiovascular morbidity** and **mortality** (“marginally significant reduction” 0.89, 0.77-1.02, 95%CI) regardless of meta-analytic method, comorbid condition, or mean age of study participant.

Additionally, we have shown that **BP lowering to a target of <130 mmHg may reduce the risk of several important outcomes including risk of MI, stroke, heart failure (NS), and major cardiovascular events.**

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*First-Line Antihypertensive Drug Class Comparisons in Adults*

- network meta-analysis (**via Doc Evidence**)
- trials that compared any 2 classes of antihypertensive therapies used as first-line : thiazide and thiazide-like diuretics (THZs), ACEIs, angiotensin-receptor blockers (ARBs), calcium channel blockers (CCBs), and beta blockers.
- Our objective was to examine the comparative benefits and harms of different antihypertensive classes in adults with hypertension

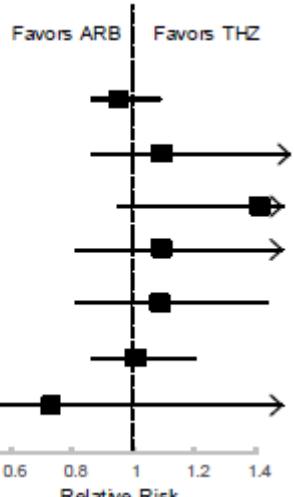
# Systematic Review for the 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults

## Pooled Network Relative risks associated with first line antihypertensive medication classes compared to THZ

### Panel A: ARB vs THZ

Outcome    RR (95% CI)

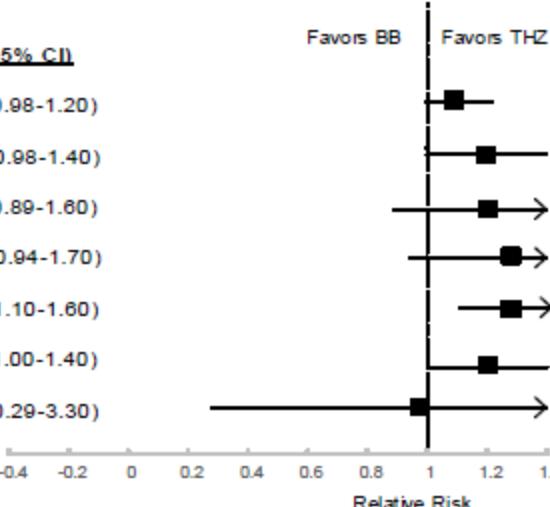
All-Cause Mortality	0.99 (0.88-1.10)
CV Mortality	1.10 (0.87-1.50)
Myocardial Infarction	1.40 (0.95-2.10)
Heart Failure	1.10 (0.79-1.60)
Stroke	1.10 (0.88-1.40)
CV Composite	1.00 (0.89-1.20)
Renal	0.76 (0.09-5.60)



### Panel B: BB vs THZ

Outcome    RR (95% CI)

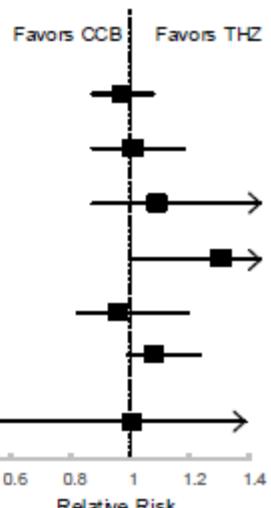
All-Cause Mortality	1.10 (0.98-1.20)
CV Mortality	1.20 (0.98-1.40)
Myocardial Infarction	1.20 (0.89-1.60)
Heart Failure	1.30 (0.94-1.70)
Stroke	1.30 (1.10-1.60)
CV Composite	1.20 (1.00-1.40)
Renal	0.98 (0.29-3.30)



### Panel C: CCB vs THZ

Outcome    RR (95% CI)

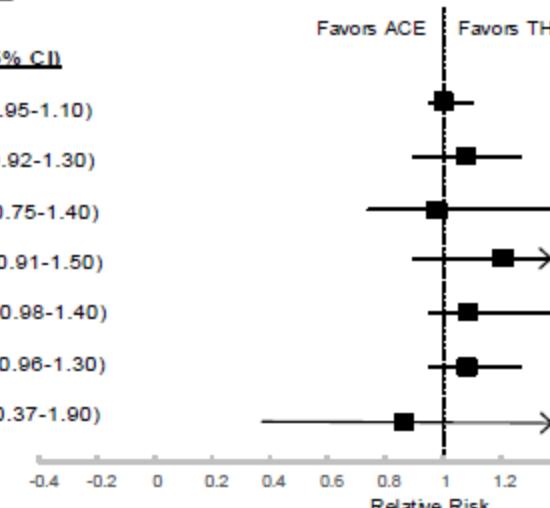
All-Cause Mortality	0.97 (0.90-1.10)
CV Mortality	1.00 (0.86-1.20)
Myocardial Infarction	1.10 (0.89-1.60)
Heart Failure	1.30 (1.00-1.60)
Stroke	0.96 (0.83-1.20)
CV Composite	1.10 (0.98-1.20)
Renal	1.00 (0.46-2.50)



### Panel D: ACE vs THZ

Outcome    RR (95% CI)

All-Cause Mortality	1.00 (0.95-1.10)
CV Mortality	1.10 (0.92-1.30)
Myocardial Infarction	0.98 (0.75-1.40)
Heart Failure	1.20 (0.91-1.50)
Stroke	1.10 (0.98-1.40)
CV Composite	1.10 (0.96-1.30)
Renal	0.86 (0.37-1.90)



Systematic Review for the 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/  
ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and  
Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults

Pooled Network Relative risks associated with first line antihypertensive medication classes compared to thiazides (THZ)

“In summary, we found that THZs were associated with a lower risk of many cardiovascular outcomes compared with other antihypertensive drug classes. This large and contemporary network meta-analysis supports prior findings that recommend THZs as the choice for first-line antihypertensive treatment among individuals with uncomplicated hypertension. Future studies should continue to examine whether these results are consistent across subgroups that vary by demographic or clinical characteristics.”



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Advance Search

PICO

Abstract View

Reference List

All Studies	11 RCT Placebo	7 RCT Head To Head	25 Prospective Cohort	2 Case Control	1 Case Series	5 Sub-Group Analysis	4 Retrospective Cohort	6 Retrospective Observational	7 Prospective Observational		
	MedlineID	Authors	Reference Title		Journal	Publication Date	Study Design	Full Text	Abstract	Favourites	Sharing
1	16947782	Maini R N, Taylor...	Double-blind randomized controlled clinical trial of the interleukin-6 receptor antagonist...	Arthritis and rhe...	2006 Sep	RCT Head to Head	<a href="#">Full Text</a>	<a href="#">Abstract</a>			
2	19019888	Nishimoto N, Miy...	Long-term safety and efficacy of tocilizumab, an anti-IL-6 receptor monoclonal antibo...	Annals of the rh...	2009 Oct	Prospective Cohort	<a href="#">Full Text</a>	<a href="#">Abstract</a>			

# Optimal database combinations for literature searches in systematic reviews: a prospective exploratory study

Systematic Reviews  
Bramer et al. Systematic Reviews (2017) 6:245  
DOI 10.1186/s13643-017-0644-y

Wichor M. Bramer<sup>1\*</sup>, Melissa L. Rethlefsen<sup>2</sup>, Jos Kleijnen<sup>3,4</sup> and Oscar H. Franco<sup>5</sup>

**Table 4** Performance of several databases and database combinations in terms of sensitivity and precision

	# results	# includes (N = 1746)	Overall recall <sup>a</sup>	Median recall <sup>b</sup>	Minimum recall <sup>c</sup>	Percentage 100% recall <sup>d</sup>	Precision <sup>e</sup>	Number needed to read <sup>f</sup>
Embase (EM)	85,521	1500	85.9%	87.3%	45.8%	13.8%	1.8%	57
MEDLINE (ML)	56,340	1375	78.8%	82.9%	50.0%	8.6%	2.4%	41
Web of Science (WoS)	48,561	1189	68.1%	72.5%	13.2%	6.9%	2.4%	41
Google Scholar (GS)	10,342	601	34.4%	38.0%	8.3%	5.2%	5.8%	17
EM-ML	100,444	1621	92.8%	94.6%	66.7%	24.1%	1.6%	62
EM-WoS	104,444	1585	90.8%	93.8%	57.9%	27.6%	1.5%	66
EM-GS	91,411	1570	89.9%	93.3%	65.8%	25.9%	1.7%	58
ML-WoS	75,263	1481	84.8%	87.1%	60.0%	15.5%	2.0%	51
ML-GS	62,230	1459	83.6%	89.8%	63.2%	15.5%	2.3%	43
WoS-GS	54,451	1320	75.6%	85.7%	23.7%	13.8%	2.4%	41
EM-ML-GS	106,334	1674	95.9%	97.4%	78.9%	41.4%	1.6%	64
EM-ML-WoS	119,367	1674	95.9%	97.1%	71.1%	37.9%	1.4%	70
EM-WoS-GS	110,334	1638	93.8%	98.1%	65.8%	44.8%	1.5%	67
ML-WoS-GS	81,153	1528	87.5%	92.6%	70.0%	29.3%	1.9%	53
EM-ML-GS-WoS	125,257	1716	98.3%	100.0%	78.9%	74.1%	1.4%	73

<sup>a</sup>Overall recall: The total number of included references retrieved by the databases divided by the total number of included references retrieved by all databases

<sup>b</sup>Median recall: The median value of recall per review

<sup>c</sup>Minimum recall: The lowest value of recall per review

<sup>d</sup>Percentage 100% recall: The percentage of reviews for which the database combination retrieved all included references

<sup>e</sup>Precision: The number of included references divided by the total number of references retrieved

<sup>f</sup>Number Needed to Read: The total number of references retrieved divided by the number of included references

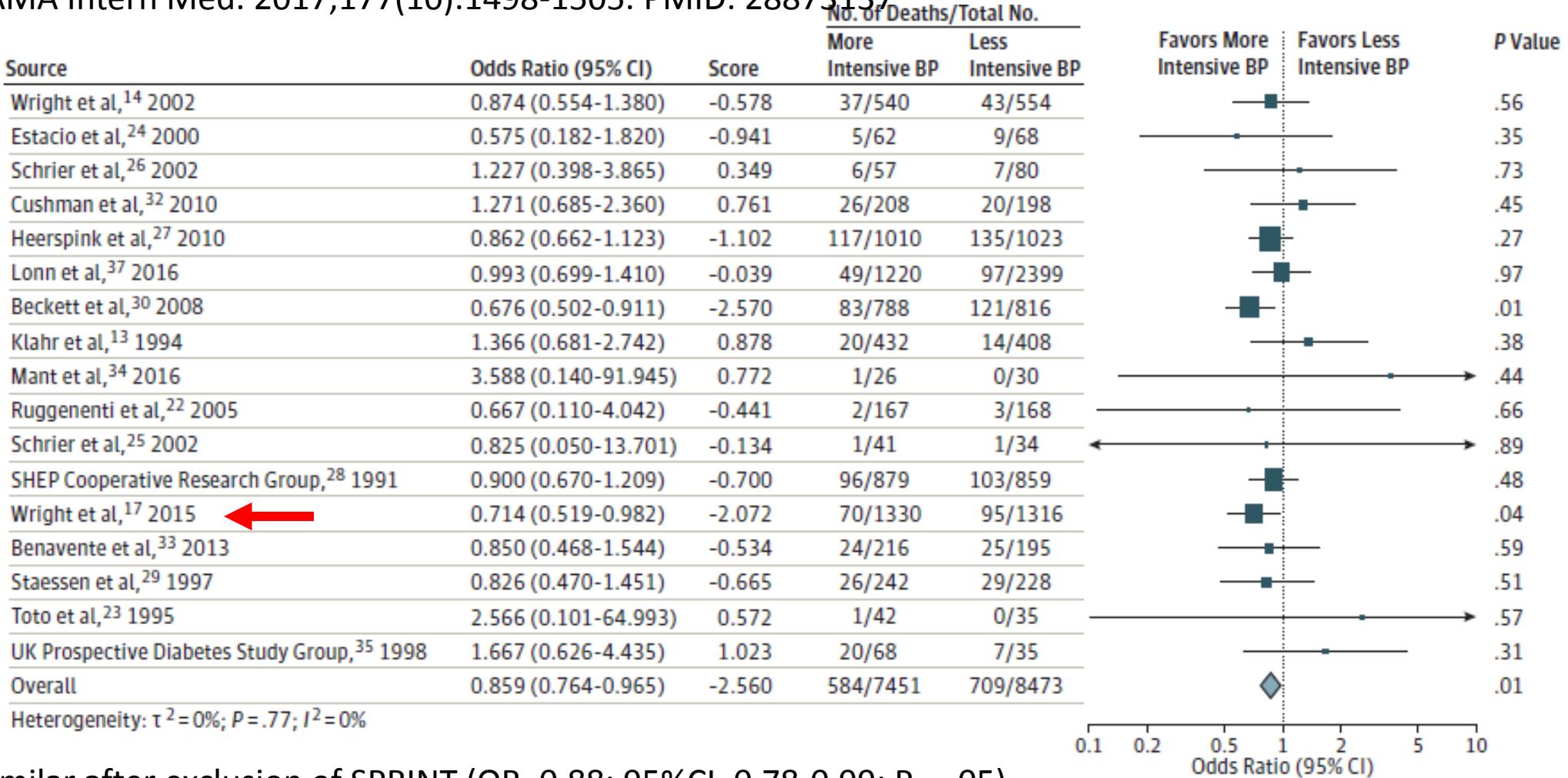
# Association Between More Intensive vs Less Intensive Blood Pressure Lowering and Risk of Mortality in Chronic Kidney Disease Stages 3 to 5

Malhotra R et al. JAMA Intern Med. 2017;177(10):1498-1505. PMID: 28873137

- MEDLINE, Cochrane Library, EMBASE, PubMed, Science Citation Index, Google Scholar, and clinicaltrials.gov
- trials comparing BPLT vs placebo or diff BP targets
- DFG <60 ml/min/1,73 m<sup>2</sup>

**Random**

**No heterogeneity**



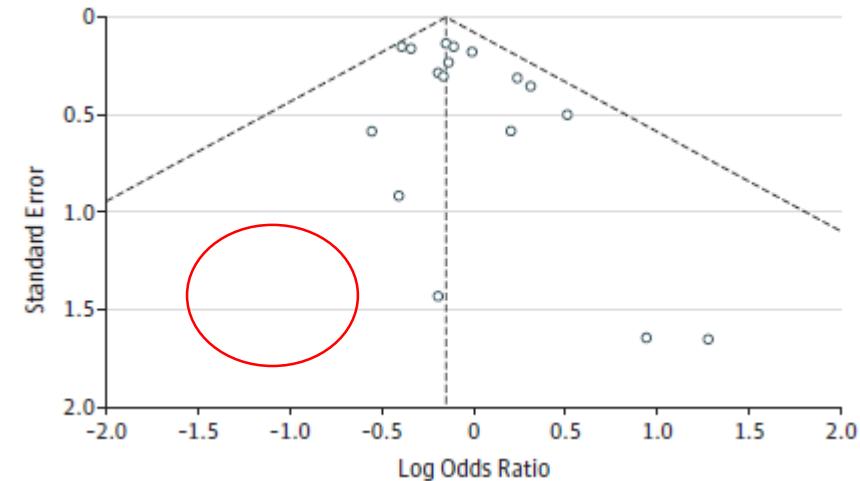
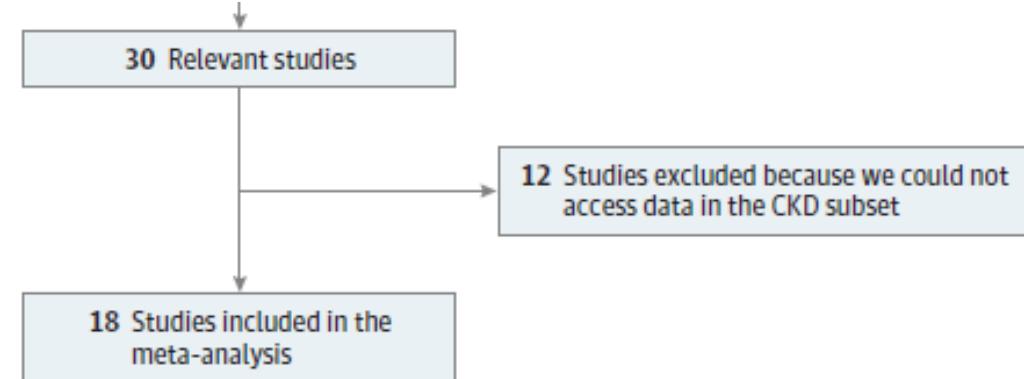
The results were similar after exclusion of SPRINT (OR, 0.88; 95%CI, 0.78-0.99; P = .05).

Greater mortality benefit in trials with higher differences in achieved BP across treatment arms: difference in SBP of at least 12mm Hg / OR = 0.76, trials with differences 6 to 12 / OR = 0.97, and trials those with differences <6 mmHg / OR 1.06; p-heterogeneity .06

# Association Between More Intensive vs Less Intensive Blood Pressure Lowering and Risk of Mortality in Chronic Kidney Disease Stages 3 to 5

Malhotra R et al. JAMA Intern Med. 2017;177(10):1498-1505. PMID: 28873137

- Significant -14% decrease in overall mortality
- But only 18/30 studies reported results regarding mortality in subgroups of patients with low DFG

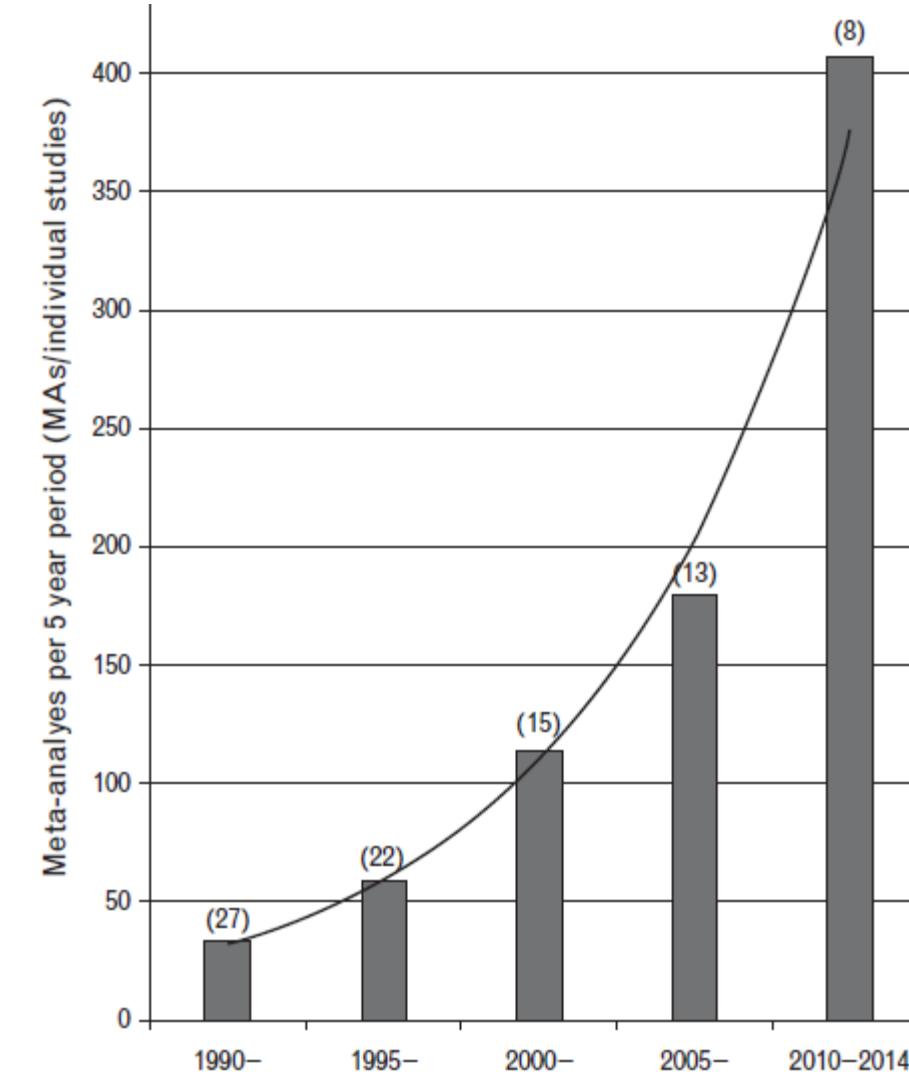


no evidence of publication bias based on visual inspection or by performing Begg and Mazumdar rank correlation ( $P = .23$ ) and Egger regression ( $P = .08$ ) tests

# Quality of meta-analyses for randomized trials in the field of hypertension: a systematic review

Roush GC et al. J Hypertens. 2016 Dec;34(12):2305-2317. PMID: 27755384

- 25-year increase in new, study-level, hypertension-related MA from PubMed
- Parentheses contain, in the field of hypertension, the ratio of individual studies to meta-analyses.
- The increase in metaanalyses and individual studies is 12-fold and 4-fold, respectively.
- The correlation,  $r$ , between time period and the log (number of meta-analyses) is 0.997 (i.e., a nearly perfect exponential increase).
- On average, the number of MA has been doubling every 5.6 years.
- In the last 2 years, the number of these meta-analyses has average 2.1 per week.



# Quality of meta-analyses for randomized trials in the field of hypertension: a systematic review

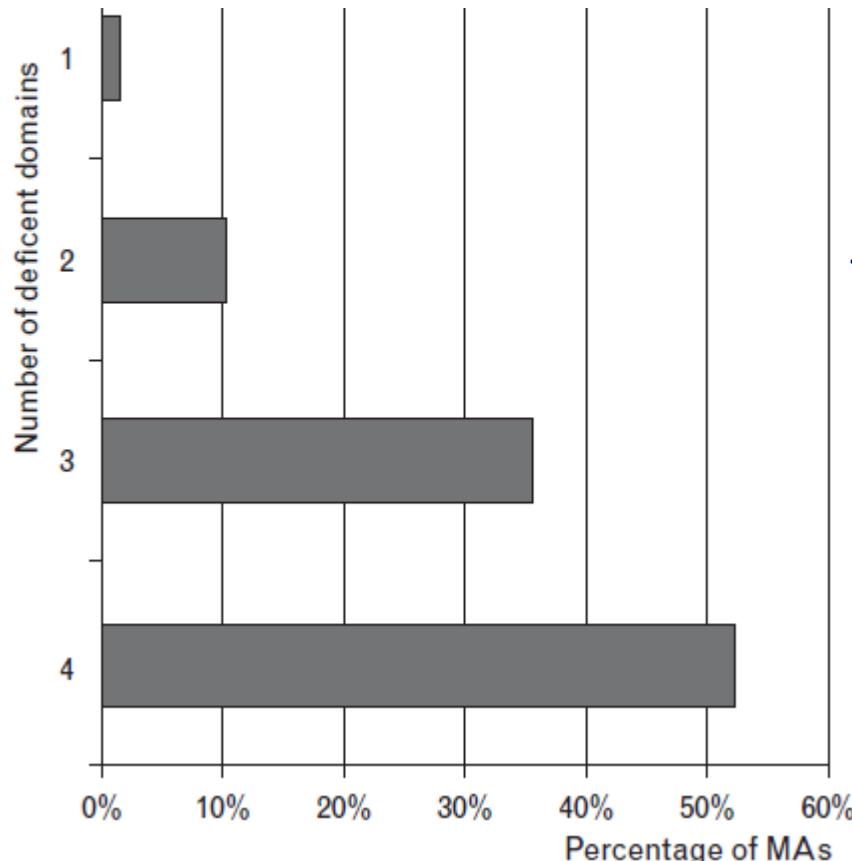
Overall study quality	
Low	16
Medium	33
High	18
Unable to tell	33
$\chi^2$ for heterogeneity	
0	16
1–24	15
25–49	15
50–74	29
75–100	24
Publication bias	
Not present	58
Present	17
Not reported	25
Test for publication bias provided	
Yes	43
No	57
Types of tests for publication bias <sup>c</sup>	
Egger's linear regression	34
Begg's rank correlation	7
Duvall & Tweedie's trim and fill	9
Other tests	2
Statistical power of the meta-analysis	
Calculates power ( <i>post hoc</i> )	1
Acknowledges power limitation of the meta-analysis	22
No mention of power of the meta-analysis	77

- MA since 2012
- Excluded: network, IPD, meta-regression, <5 trials
- % characteristics for 143 MA retrieved (table)
- Domain 1: assessing the quality of the individual trials
  - 5 features
- Domain 2: assessing heterogeneity across trials
  - 10 features
- Domain 3: assessing publication bias
  - 5 features
- Domain 4: providing transparency for Domains 1–3 ('abstract' and 'discussion')
  - 3 features

**4 domains, 23 features**

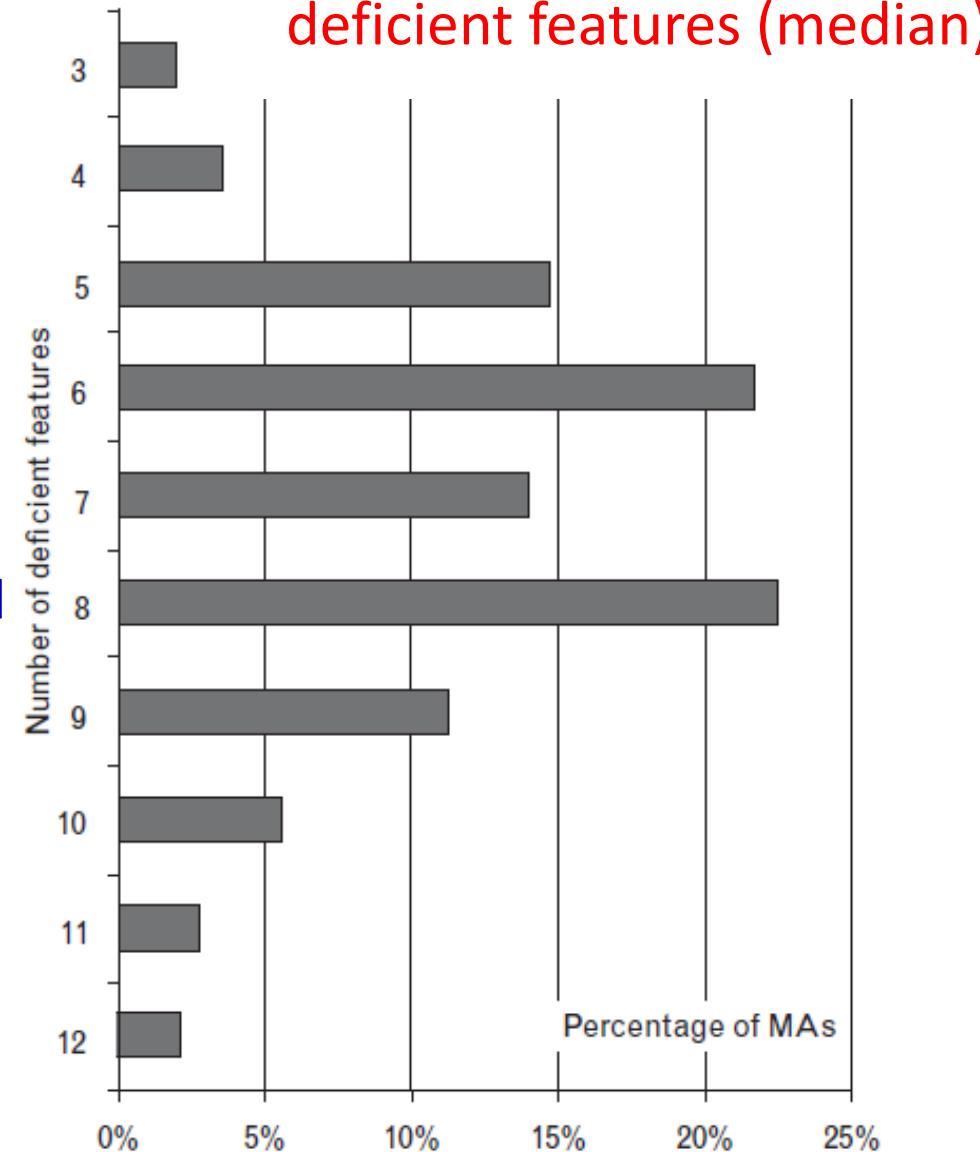
# Quality of meta-analyses for randomized trials in the field of hypertension: a systematic review

- 55% of meta-analyses had all 4 domains deficient= at least one item in the domain
- 0% MA had all 4 domains deficient= half of features deficient



This was not associated with the IF of the journal

- A total of 44% MA had 8+ deficient features (median)



# Quality of meta-analyses for randomized trials in the field of hypertension: a systematic review

## Conclusions

- Quality did not improve over time.
- Thirty articles (21%) reported statistically significant results ( $P<0.05$ ) from inappropriate DerSimonian–Laird models, whereas unreported, appropriate, Knapp–Hartung models gave statistical nonsignificance; 88% of these 30 articles reported the incorrect results in their abstracts.
- A total of 60% of all MA failed to conduct analyses in subgroups of quality when indicated, 63% failed to report Tau and Tau2, 57% omitted testing for publication bias, none conducted a cumulative analysis for publication bias, and 71–77% omitted mentioning in their abstracts problems of trial quality, heterogeneity, and publication bias.
- Deficiencies in hypertension-related meta-analyses are readily corrected and do not represent flaws inherent in the meta-analytic method

The quality of the MA depends on the quality of the studies included

GIGO phénoménon

**GIGO = Garbage In → Garbage Out**

‘essais biaisés’ → ‘synthèse MA biaisée’ → conclusions érronnées pour la pratique

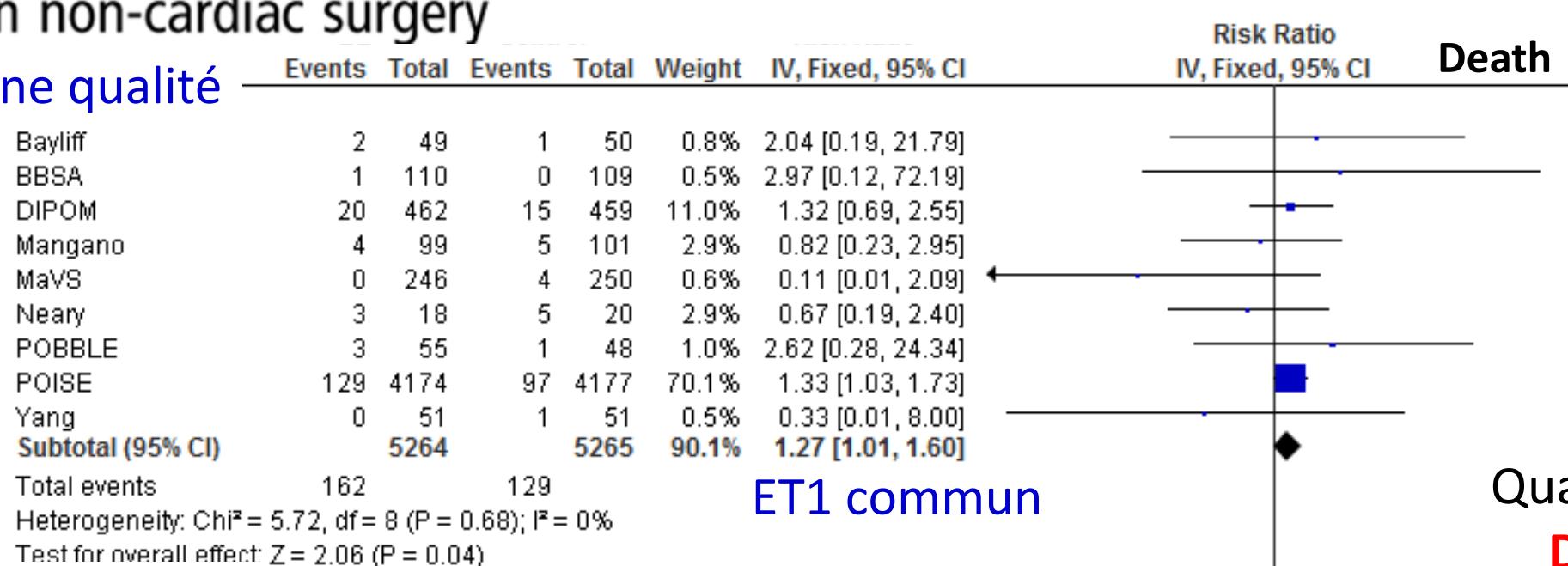
→ MA pas une « méthode magique » permettant de gommer les biais des études

→ MA permet seulement d’en « atténuer » la portée par « dilution » par ajout d’essais de bonne qualité à des essais de mauvaise qualité

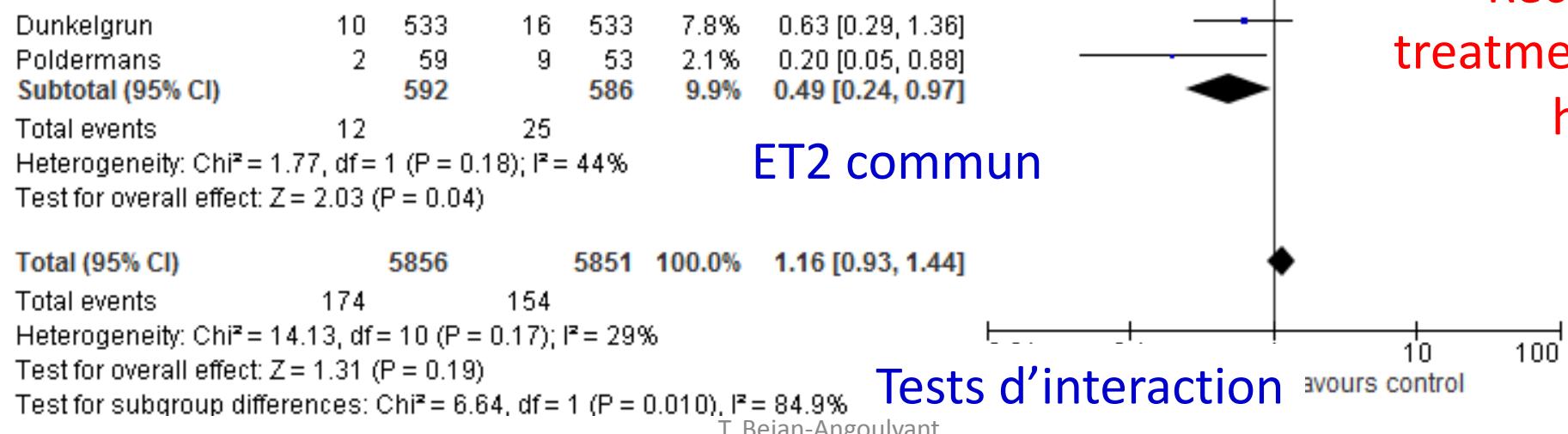
# Meta-analysis of secure randomised controlled trials of $\beta$ -blockade to prevent perioperative death in non-cardiac surgery

Bouri S et al. Heart 2014; 100:456-464

## Bonne qualité



## Qualité douteuse

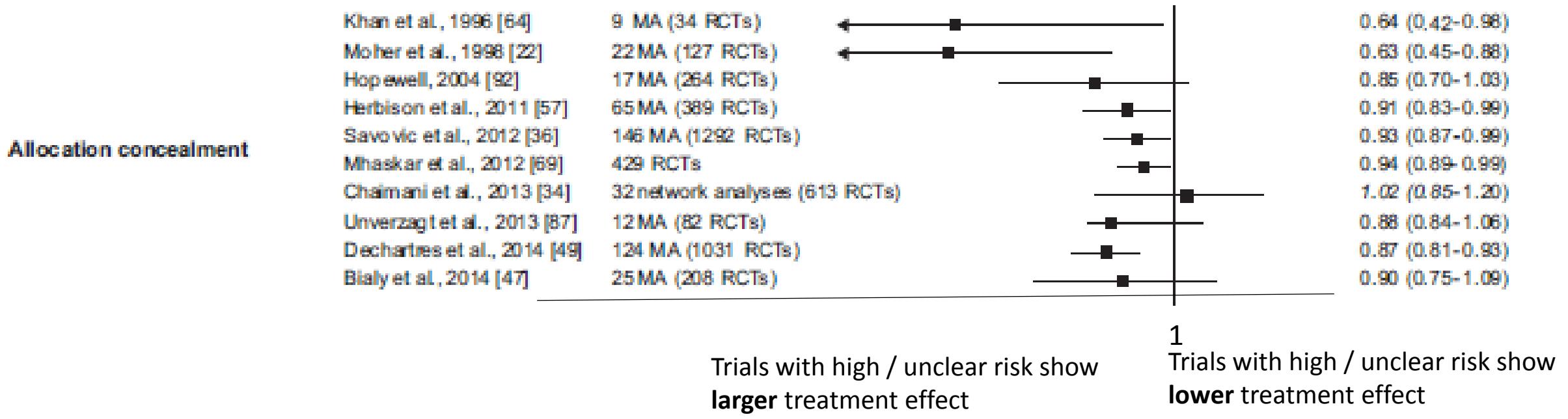


Qualitatif Bias

**DANGER**

Recommend a treatment that may be harmfull

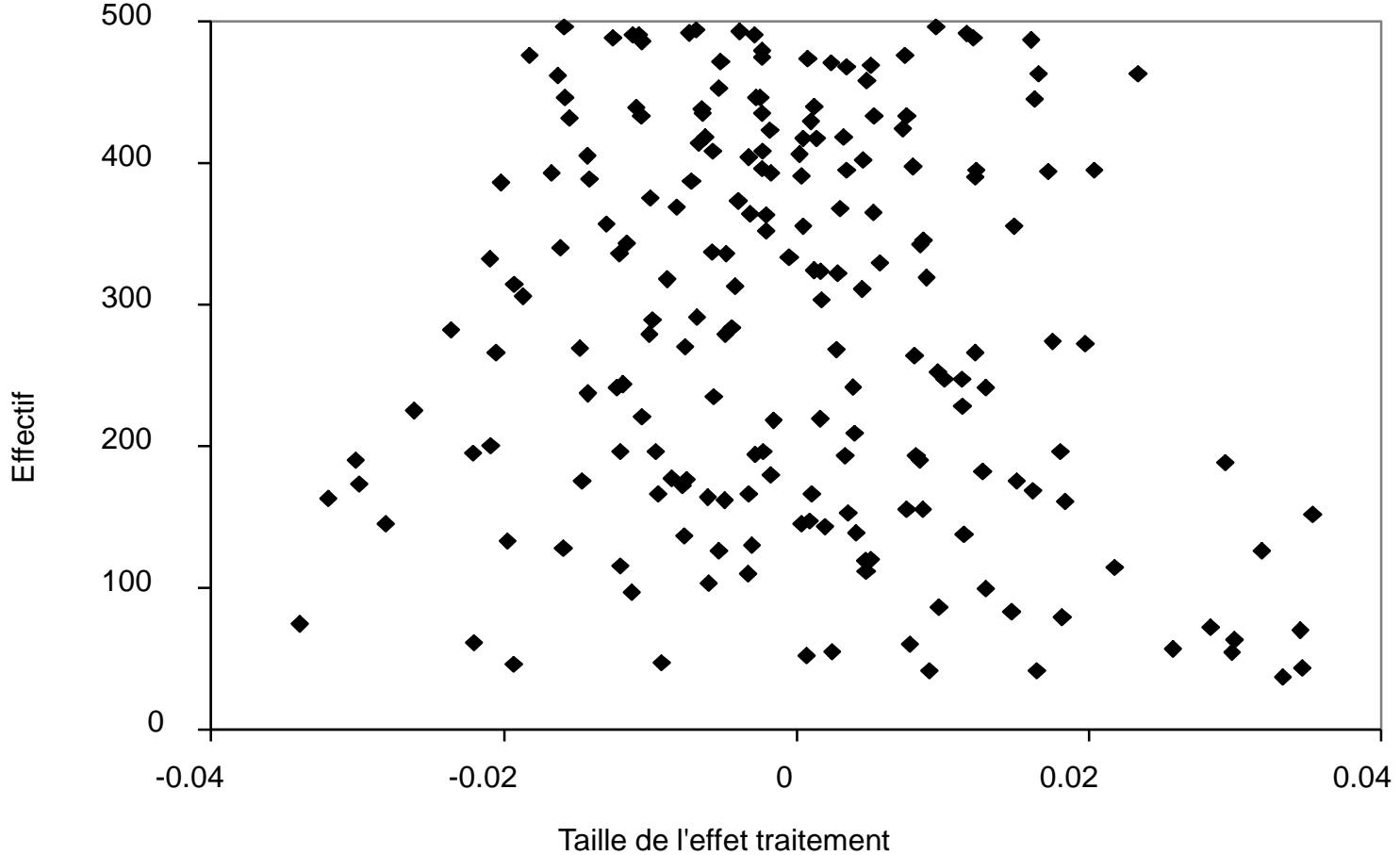
# Influence of bias: allocation concealment randomisation



Dechartres A. JCE 2016

# Funnel plot - sans biais de publication

- Graphique entre
  - les effets traitements
    - DR, effect size
    - Log(OR), log(RR)
  - et la taille (n)/précision (ET) des études
- Biais de publication si asymétrique



# Biais de publication

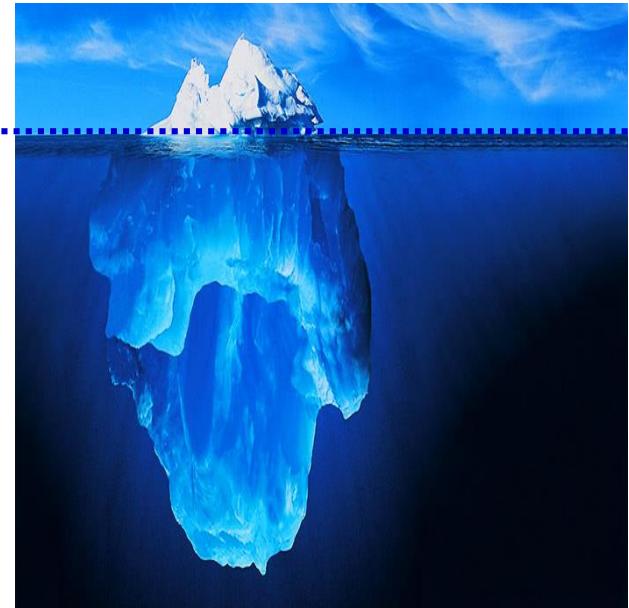
ECR publiés ‘positifs’

MA ‘positive’ faussement → recommander un  
trt qui n’est pas réellement efficace

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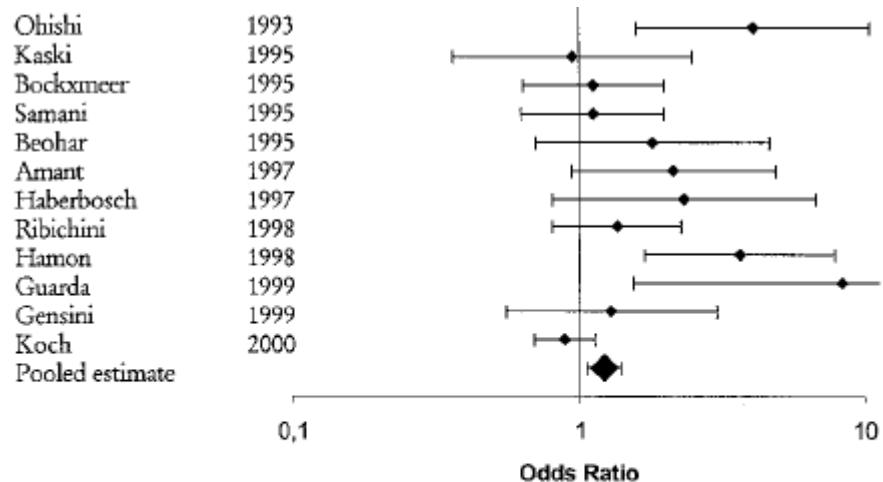
ECR non publiés ‘négatifs’

MA ne retrouvant pas d’effet

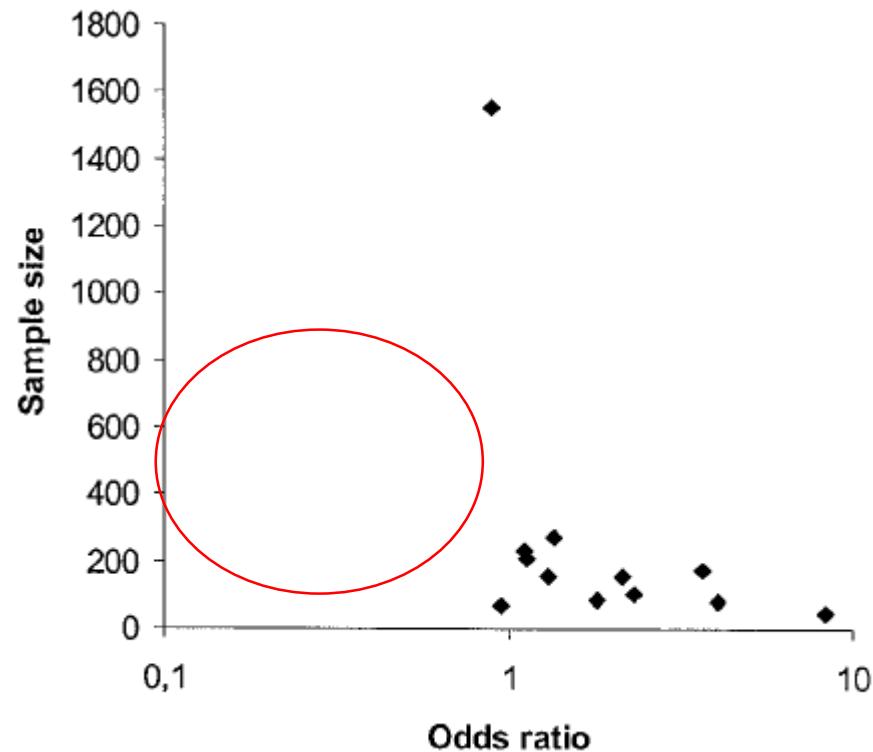


# A meta-analysis of the angiotensin-converting enzyme gene polymorphism and restenosis after percutaneous transluminal coronary revascularization: Evidence for publication bias.

Willem R. P. Agema, et al, The Netherlands . Am Heart J 2002; 144:760-8.



Effect size per study. The individual studies are presented with odds ratios for restenosis and confidence intervals for the DD genotype versus II and I/D genotypes.



Funnel plot of all studies combined. The funnel plot provides a visual aid to detect publication bias. When no publication bias is present, the data should form a normal distribution. Because the distribution is skewed to the left, evidence for publication bias is present.



## GRADE approach to evaluating the quality of evidence: a pathway

### Topics

- Planning a review
- Analysing evidence
- Analysing results
- GRADE and interpreting results
- Summary of Findings tables
- Writing a review
- Software and tools
- GRADEPro

Assessing the quality of the body of evidence is a mandatory item in the Methodological standards for the conduct of new Cochrane Intervention Reviews (MECIR). GRADE is the Cochrane's recommended approach for grading the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations. It was proposed and developed by the Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE) Working Group.

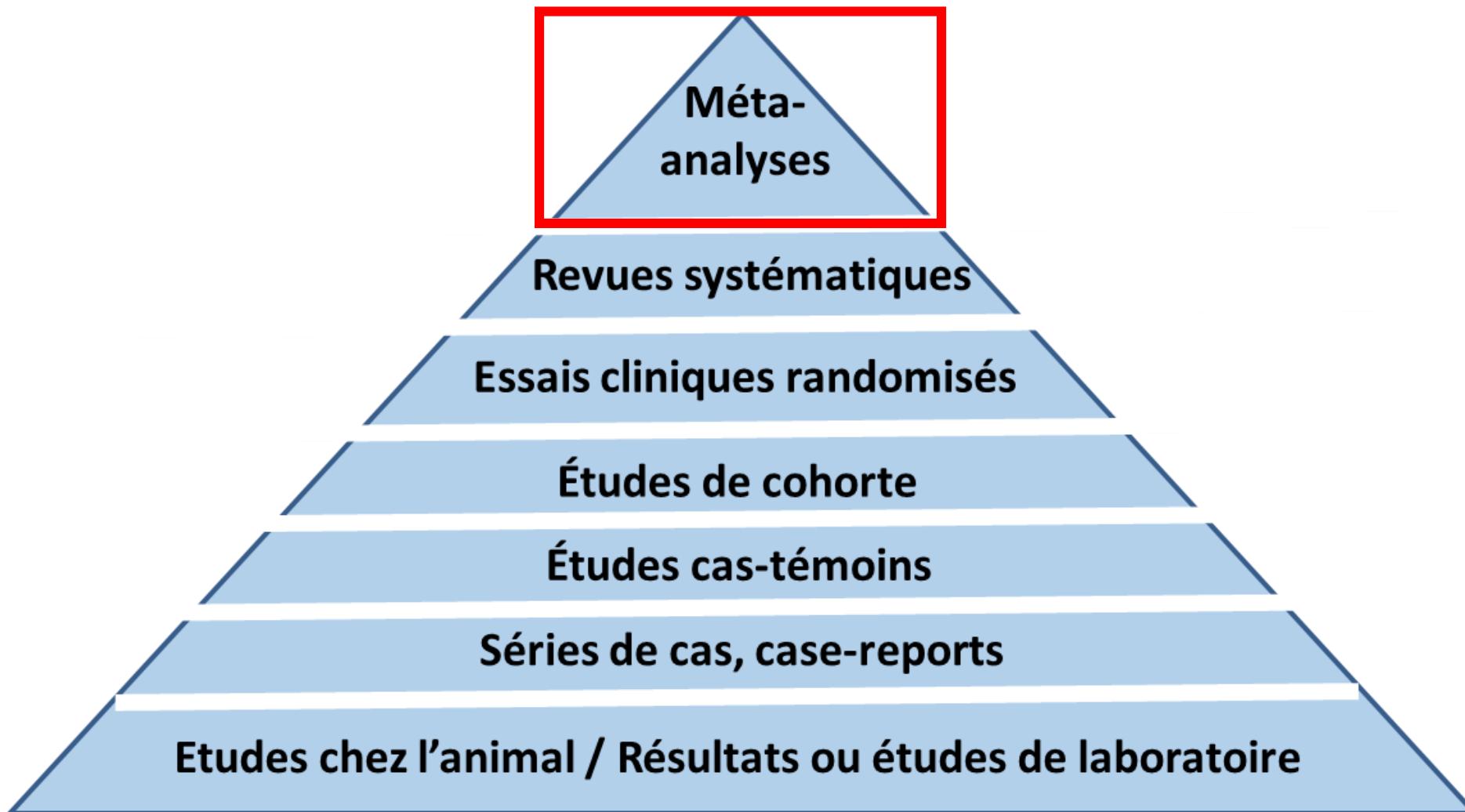
This set of online learning resources will help you understand the GRADE approach and use it in the preparation of your Cochrane Review. The set consists of video slidecasts, a guidance document on incorporating GRADE in Cochrane Reviews, and links to additional resources, including the GRADE Handbook. Each resource is designed to be a standalone learning unit although they are presented here as a progressive learning pathway. You may choose to access the resources in any order you wish, although those new to GRADE approach may find it most productive to work through the resources in the order presented.

An introductory series of slidecasts developed by the McMaster University is a good place to start with. The series has been designed to help authors learn how to use the GRADE approach to grade the evidence in systematic reviews and create a 'Summary of findings' (SoF) table.

# Qualité de l'évidence scientifique

System	Description
<p>The Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation <b>GRADE</b></p>	<p><b>4 Levels of quality of evidence (confidence in estimates):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High</li><li>• Moderate</li><li>• Low</li><li>• Very low</li></ul> <p>RCTs start as high and observational studies start as low, then multiple factors that can raise or lower confidence are applied to reach a final rating.</p> <p><b>Strength of recommendation:</b> 1 (strong) or 2 (weak)</p>
<p>American College of Cardiology Foundation/American Heart Association <b>ACC/AHA</b> <b>ESC</b></p>	<p><b>Certainty in evidence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• level A evidence is derived from multiple RCTs or meta-analyses</li><li>• level B is derived from a single RCT or nonrandomized studies</li><li>• level C is derived from consensus opinion of experts, case studies, or standards of care</li></ul> <p><b>Classification of Recommendations:</b> Class I, Class II, , Class IIa, Class IIb, Class III</p>

# Pyramide du niveau de preuve

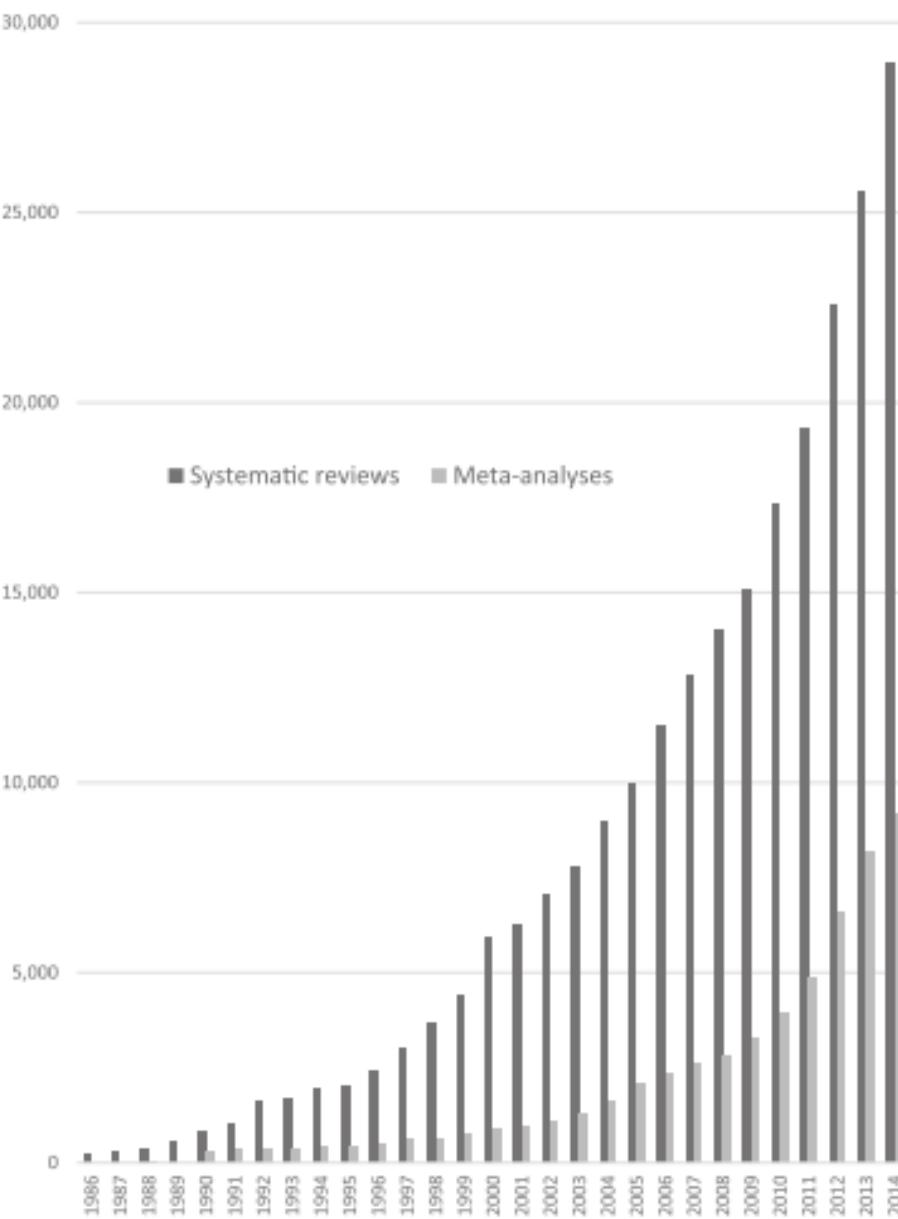


# The Mass Production of Redundant, Misleading, and Conflicted Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

JOHN P.A. IOANNIDIS

*Stanford University School of Medicine; Stanford University School of Humanities and Sciences; Meta-Research Innovation Center at Stanford (METRICS), Stanford University*

Figure 1. Number of PubMed-Indexed Articles Published Each Year Between 1986 and 2014 That Carry the Tag "Systematic Review" or "Meta-analysis" for Type of Publication



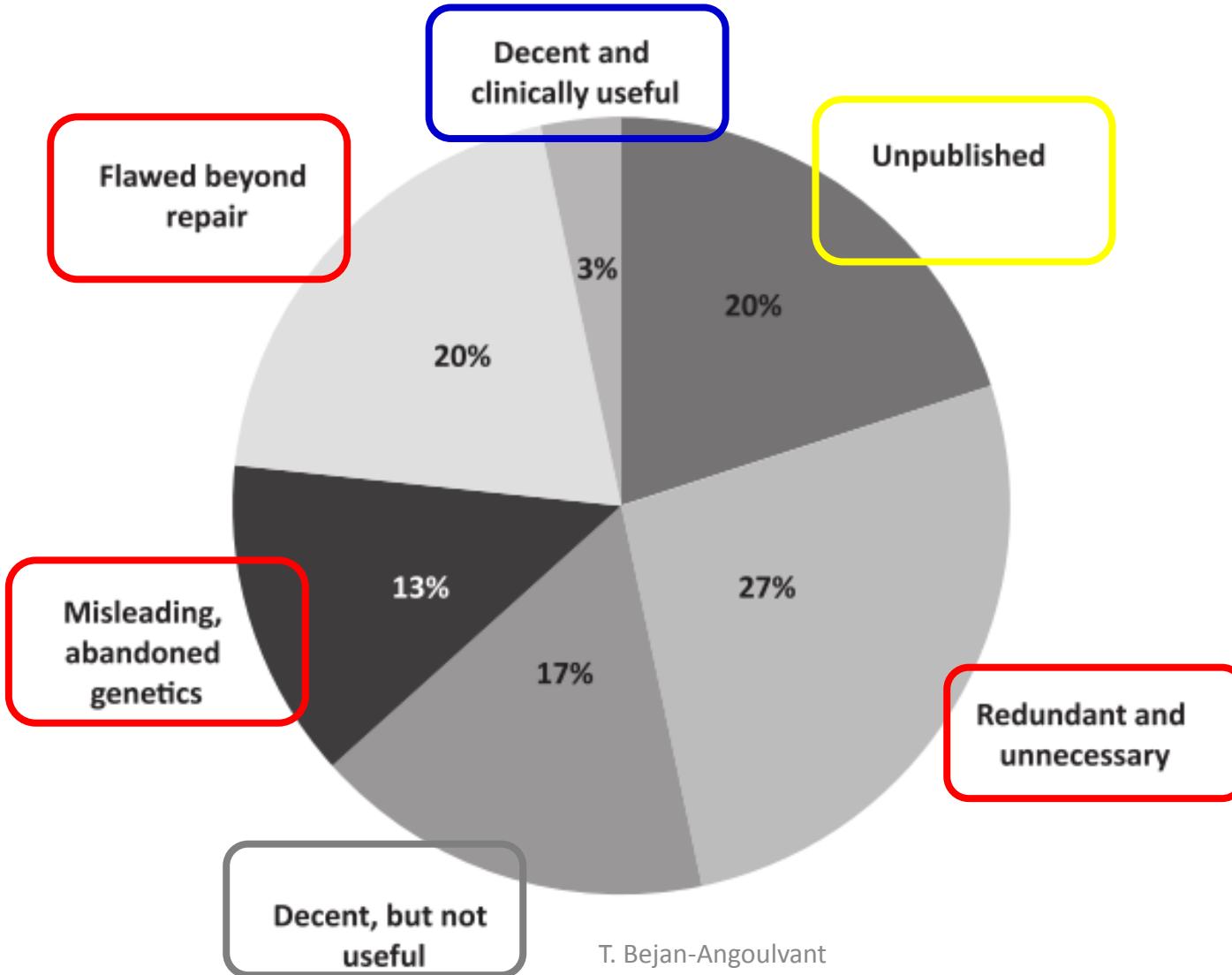
The Milbank Quarterly, Vol. 94, No. 3, 2016 (pp. 485-514)

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T. Bejan-Angoulvant

# The Mass Production of Redundant, Misleading, and Conflicted Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

Figure 4. A Summary Overview of Currently Produced Meta-analyses



# Circulation

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## FRAME OF REFERENCE

### Are Meta-Analyses a Form of Medical Fake News?

Thoughts About How They Should Contribute to Medical Science and Practice

Milton Packer

**DOI** <https://doi.org/10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.117.030209>

Circulation. 2017;136:2097-2099

Originally published November 27, 2017