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Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in adults and children (Review)

Jefferson T, Jones MA, Doshi P, Del Mar CB, Hama R, Thompson MJ, Spencer EA, Onakpoya IJ, Mahtani KR, Nunan D, Howick J, Heneghan CJ

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[Intervention Review]

Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in adults and children

Tom Jefferson¹, Mark A Jones², Peter Doshi³, Chris B Del Mar⁴, Rokuro Hama⁵, Matthew J Thompson⁶, Elizabeth A Spencer⁷, Igho J Onakpoya⁷, Kamal R Mahtani⁷, David Nunan⁷, Jeremy Howick⁷, Carl J Heneghan⁷

¹Centre for Evidence Based Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. ²School of Public Health, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. ³Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. ⁴Centre for Research in Evidence-Based Practice (CREBP), Bond University, Gold Coast, Australia. ⁵Japan Institute of Pharmacovigilance, Osaka, Japan. ⁶Department of Family Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA. ⁷Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Contact: Tom Jefferson, Centre for Evidence Based Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX2 6GG, UK. jefferson.tom@gmail.com, jefferson@assr.it.

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ABSTRACT

Background

Neuraminidase inhibitors (NIs) are stockpiled and recommended by public health agencies for treating and preventing seasonal and pandemic influenza. They are used clinically worldwide.

Objectives

To describe the potential benefits and harms of NIs for influenza in all age groups by reviewing all clinical study reports of published and unpublished randomised, placebo-controlled trials and regulatory comments.

Search methods

We searched trial registries, electronic databases (to 22 July 2013) and regulatory archives, and corresponded with manufacturers to identify all trials. We also requested clinical study reports. We focused on the primary data sources of manufacturers but we checked that there were no published randomised controlled trials (RCTs) from non-manufacturer sources by running electronic searches in the following databases: the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL), MEDLINE, MEDLINE (Ovid), EMBASE, Embase.com, PubMed (not MEDLINE), the Database of Reviews of Effects, the NHS Economic Evaluation Database and the Health Economic Evaluations Database.

Selection criteria

Randomised, placebo-controlled trials on adults and children with confirmed or suspected exposure to naturally occurring influenza.

Data collection and analysis

We extracted clinical study reports and assessed risk of bias using purpose-built instruments. We analysed the effects of zanamivir and oseltamivir on time to first alleviation of symptoms, influenza outcomes, complications, hospitalisations and adverse events in the intention-to-treat (ITT) population. All trials were sponsored by the manufacturers.

Main results

We obtained 107 clinical study reports from the European Medicines Agency (EMA), GlaxoSmithKline and Roche. We accessed comments by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), EMA and Japanese regulator. We included 53 trials in Stage 1 (a judgement of appropriate study design) and 46 in Stage 2 (formal analysis), including 20 oseltamivir (9623 participants) and 26 zanamivir trials (14,628 participants). Inadequate reporting put most of the zanamivir studies and half of the oseltamivir studies at a high risk of selection bias. There were inadequate measures in place to protect 11 studies of oseltamivir from performance bias due to non-identical presentation of placebo. Attrition bias was high across the oseltamivir studies and there was also evidence of selective reporting for both the zanamivir and oseltamivir studies. The placebo interventions in both sets of trials may have contained active substances.

Time to first symptom alleviation. For the treatment of adults, oseltamivir reduced the time to first alleviation of symptoms by 16.8 hours (95% confidence interval (CI) 8.4 to 25.1 hours, $P < 0.0001$). This represents a reduction in the time to first alleviation of symptoms from 7 to 6.3 days. There was no effect in asthmatic children, but in otherwise healthy children there was (reduction by a mean difference of 29 hours, 95% CI 12 to 47 hours, $P = 0.001$). Zanamivir reduced the time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults by 0.60 days (95% CI 0.39 to 0.81 days, $P < 0.00001$), equating to a reduction in the mean duration of symptoms from 6.6 to 6.0 days. The effect in children was not significant. In subgroup analysis we found no evidence of a difference in treatment effect for zanamivir on time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults in the influenza-infected and non-influenza-infected subgroups ($P = 0.53$).

Hospitalisations. Treatment of adults with oseltamivir had no significant effect on hospitalisations: risk difference (RD) 0.15% (95% CI -0.78 to 0.91). There was also no significant effect in children or in prophylaxis. Zanamivir hospitalisation data were unreported.

Serious influenza complications or those leading to study withdrawal. In adult treatment trials, oseltamivir did not significantly reduce those complications classified as serious or those which led to study withdrawal (RD 0.07%, 95% CI -0.78 to 0.44), nor in child treatment trials; neither did zanamivir in the treatment of adults or in prophylaxis. There were insufficient events to compare this outcome for oseltamivir in prophylaxis or zanamivir in the treatment of children.

Pneumonia. Oseltamivir significantly reduced self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified pneumonia (RD 1.00%, 95% CI 0.22 to 1.49); number needed to treat to benefit (NNTB) = 100 (95% CI 67 to 451) in the treated population. The effect was not significant in the five trials that used a more detailed diagnostic form for pneumonia. There were no definitions of pneumonia (or other complications) in any trial. No oseltamivir treatment studies reported effects on radiologically confirmed pneumonia. There was no significant effect on unverified pneumonia in children. There was no significant effect of zanamivir on either self reported or radiologically confirmed pneumonia. In prophylaxis, zanamivir significantly reduced the risk of self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified pneumonia in adults (RD 0.32%, 95% CI 0.09 to 0.41); NNTB = 311 (95% CI 244 to 1086), but not oseltamivir.

Bronchitis, sinusitis and otitis media. Zanamivir significantly reduced the risk of bronchitis in adult treatment trials (RD 1.80%, 95% CI 0.65 to 2.80); NNTB = 56 (36 to 155), but not oseltamivir. Neither NI significantly reduced the risk of otitis media and sinusitis in both adults and children.

Harms of treatment. Oseltamivir in the treatment of adults increased the risk of nausea (RD 3.66%, 95% CI 0.90 to 7.39); number needed to treat to harm (NNTH) = 28 (95% CI 14 to 112) and vomiting (RD 4.56%, 95% CI 2.39 to 7.58); NNTH = 22 (14 to 42). The proportion of participants with four-fold increases in antibody titre was significantly lower in the treated group compared to the control group (RR 0.92, 95% CI 0.86 to 0.97, I^2 statistic = 0%) (5% absolute difference between arms). Oseltamivir significantly decreased the risk of diarrhoea (RD 2.33%, 95% CI 0.14 to 3.81); NNTB = 43 (95% CI 27 to 709) and cardiac events (RD 0.68%, 95% CI 0.04 to 1.0); NNTB = 148 (101 to 2509) compared to placebo during the on-treatment period. There was a dose-response effect on psychiatric events in the two oseltamivir "pivotal" treatment trials, WV15670 and WV15671, at 150 mg (standard dose) and 300 mg daily (high dose) ($P = 0.038$). In the treatment of children, oseltamivir induced vomiting (RD 5.34%, 95% CI 1.75 to 10.29); NNTH = 19 (95% CI 10 to 57). There was a significantly lower proportion of children on oseltamivir with a four-fold increase in antibodies (RR 0.90, 95% CI 0.80 to 1.00, $I^2 = 0\%$).

Prophylaxis. In prophylaxis trials, oseltamivir and zanamivir reduced the risk of symptomatic influenza in individuals (oseltamivir: RD 3.05% (95% CI 1.83 to 3.88); NNTB = 33 (26 to 55); zanamivir: RD 1.98% (95% CI 0.98 to 2.54); NNTB = 51 (40 to 103)) and in households (oseltamivir: RD 13.6% (95% CI 9.52 to 15.47); NNTB = 7 (6 to 11); zanamivir: RD 14.84% (95% CI 12.18 to 16.55); NNTB = 7 (7 to 9)). There was no significant effect on asymptomatic influenza (oseltamivir: RR 1.14 (95% CI 0.39 to 3.33); zanamivir: RR 0.97 (95% CI 0.76 to 1.24)). Non-influenza, influenza-like illness could not be assessed due to data not being fully reported. In oseltamivir prophylaxis studies, psychiatric adverse events were increased in the combined on- and off-treatment periods (RD 1.06%, 95% CI 0.07 to 2.76); NNTH = 94 (95% CI 36 to 1538) in the study treatment population. Oseltamivir increased the risk of headaches whilst on treatment (RD 3.15%, 95% CI 0.88 to 5.78); NNTH = 32 (95% CI 18 to 115), renal events whilst on treatment (RD 0.67%, 95% CI -2.93 to 0.01); NNTH = 150 (NNTH 35 to NNTB > 1000) and nausea whilst on treatment (RD 4.15%, 95% CI 0.86 to 9.51); NNTH = 25 (95% CI 11 to 116).

Authors' conclusions

Oseltamivir and zanamivir have small, non-specific effects on reducing the time to alleviation of influenza symptoms in adults, but not in asthmatic children. Using either drug as prophylaxis reduces the risk of developing symptomatic influenza. Treatment trials with oseltamivir or zanamivir do not settle the question of whether the complications of influenza (such as pneumonia) are reduced, because of a lack of diagnostic definitions. The use of oseltamivir increases the risk of adverse effects, such as nausea, vomiting, psychiatric effects

and renal events in adults and vomiting in children. The lower bioavailability may explain the lower toxicity of zanamivir compared to oseltamivir. The balance between benefits and harms should be considered when making decisions about use of both NIs for either the prophylaxis or treatment of influenza. The influenza virus-specific mechanism of action proposed by the producers does not fit the clinical evidence.

PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

Regulatory information on trials of oseltamivir (Tamiflu) and zanamivir (Relenza) for influenza in adults and children

Oseltamivir and zanamivir have been stockpiled in many countries to treat and prevent seasonal and pandemic influenza, before an influenza vaccine matched to the circulating virus becomes available. Oseltamivir is classified by the World Health Organization as an essential medicine.

How this review has been approached

We have updated and combined our reviews on the antiviral drugs zanamivir and oseltamivir for influenza in adults and children on the basis of the manufacturers' reports to regulators (clinical study reports) and the regulators' comments. We have called these comments and reports 'regulatory information'. Clinical study reports are unpublished, extensive documents with great detail on the trials that formed the basis for market approval. They include the protocols, methods and results. Clinical study reports have until now been confidential, seen only by the manufacturers and regulators.

Why we have taken this approach

In previous versions of this review we identified unresolved discrepancies in the data presented in published trial reports and substantial publication bias. As a consequence, we elected not to use data from journal articles but included the documents generated during licensing processes. We have accessed such data from the UK, USA, European Medicines Agency (EMA), Japanese regulators and clinical study reports from the manufacturers (after a protracted media campaign). This has enabled us to verify information from the randomised, placebo-controlled trials on adults and children with confirmed or suspected exposure to naturally occurring influenza.

Based on our assessments of the regulatory documents (in excess of 160,000 pages), we came to the conclusion that there were substantial problems with the design, conduct, reporting and availability of information from many of the trials.

What we have found

We have used data from 46 trials (20 oseltamivir and 26 zanamivir studies) in this review. We identified problems in the design of many of the studies that we included, which affects our confidence in their results. We found that both drugs shorten the duration of symptoms of influenza-like illness (unconfirmed influenza or 'the flu') by less than a day. Oseltamivir did not affect the number of hospitalisations, based on the data from all the people enrolled in treatment trials of oseltamivir. Zanamivir trials did not record this outcome. The effects on pneumonia and other complications of influenza, such as bronchitis, middle ear infection (otitis media) and sinusitis, were unreliably reported, as shown by the case report form in the trial documents. Some forms showed limitations in the diagnostic criteria for pneumonia. Regulatory comments noted problems with missing follow-up diary cards from participants. In children with asthma there was no clear effect on the time to first alleviation of symptoms.

Prophylaxis trials showed that oseltamivir and zanamivir reduced the risk of symptomatic influenza in individuals and households. There was no evidence of an effect on asymptomatic influenza or on non-influenza, influenza-like illness, but trial conduct problems prevent any definitive conclusion.

Oseltamivir use was associated with nausea, vomiting, headaches, renal and psychiatric events; these last three were when it was used to prevent influenza (prophylaxis). Its effect on the heart is unclear: it may reduce cardiac symptoms, but may induce serious heart rhythm problems. In adult treatment trials of zanamivir there was no increased risk of reported adverse events. The evidence on the possible harms associated with the treatment of children with zanamivir was sparse.

Agreement with other findings

The lack of good evidence demonstrating an effect on complications agrees with the conservative conclusions on both drugs drawn by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA only allowed claims of effectiveness of both drugs for the prevention and treatment of symptoms of influenza and not for other effects (including the interruption of person-to-person spread of the influenza virus or prevention of pneumonia). The FDA described the overall performance of both drugs as 'modest'.

Mechanism of action for beneficial effects

These findings all suggest that the low immune response with low levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines, which is induced by the action of oseltamivir carboxylate, may reduce the symptoms of influenza unrelated to an inhibition of influenza virus replication. The potential hypothermic or antipyretic effect of oseltamivir as a central nervous system depressant may also contribute to the apparent reduction of

host symptoms. Statements made on the capacity of oseltamivir to interrupt viral transmission and reduce complications are not supported by any data we have been able to access.

The mechanism of action proposed by the producers (influenza virus-specific) does not fit the clinical evidence which suggests a multi-system and central action.

BACKGROUND

This review (known as A159) reports our efforts to get to the bottom of the issue of the effects of NIs by appraising evidence from unpublished clinical study reports (see Glossary, [Appendix 1](#)) and regulatory documents containing comments and reviews. We have called the body of clinical studies and regulatory comments 'regulatory information'. For the history and evolution of the review see [Appendix 2](#).

Description of the condition

Influenza is mostly a mild, self limiting infection of the upper airways with local symptoms, including sniffles, nasal discharge, dry cough and sore throat, and systemic symptoms such as fever, headache, aches and pains, malaise and tiredness.

Occasionally patients with influenza develop complications such as pneumonia, otitis media and dehydration or encephalopathy with or without liver failure, which may be due to the effects of the influenza virus itself or associated secondary bacterial infections and/or adverse effects of drugs such as antipyretics (including salicylates and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) ([Hama 2008](#)).

Influenza is not clinically distinguishable from influenza-like illness (ILI) ([Call 2005](#)). Epidemic influenza in humans is caused by influenza A and B viruses. Currently, influenza A/H1N1, influenza A/H3N2 and influenza B cause most influenza infections worldwide ([CDC 2013](#)).

Description of the intervention

Neuraminidase inhibitors (NIs) comprise inhaled zanamivir (Relenza, GlaxoSmithKline), oral oseltamivir (Tamiflu, Gilead Sciences and F. Hoffman-La Roche), parenteral peramivir (BioCryst Ltd), inhaled laninamivir (Daiichi Sankyo Co. Ltd) ([Sugaya 2010](#)) and others still under development ([Hayden 2009](#)). The use of NIs has increased dramatically since the outbreak of A/H1N1 in April 2009, partly because of the rise in amantadine/rimantadine resistance and, in the early stages of the outbreak, the lack of a vaccine, which meant that NIs became a widespread public health intervention. The World Health Organization (WHO) had previously encouraged member states to stockpile and gain experience of using NIs ([WHO 2002a](#); [WHO 2002b](#); [WHO 2004](#)).

How the intervention might work

Although NIs may reduce the ability of the virus to penetrate the mucus in the very early stage of infection ([Bhatia 2007](#); [Matrosovich 2004](#); [Moscona 2005](#); [Ohuchi 2006](#)), their main mechanism of action is thought to lie in their ability to inhibit influenza viruses from exiting host cells ([Liu 1995](#); [Moscona 2005](#)). The manufacturers state that oseltamivir does not prevent infection, nor affect antibody production ([Smith 2006](#)), but it reduces symptom duration probably by reducing viral load, spread and release of cytokines ([Hayden 1999](#); [WV15670](#)), diminishing the chance of complications and interrupting person-to-person viral spread.

Oseltamivir phosphate (Tamiflu) is the pro-drug of oseltamivir carboxylate, the effective form. Oseltamivir phosphate dissociates in the gastrointestinal tract to form oseltamivir, which is absorbed and metabolised into oseltamivir carboxylate by hepatic carboxylesterase (h-CE). Oseltamivir may have a central depressant

action ([Hama 2008](#)) and may also inhibit human sialidase ([Li 2007](#)), causing abnormal behaviour.

Inhaled zanamivir reaches a far lower plasma concentration compared to its intravenous administration ([Cass 1999](#)).

Any treatment that reduces the complications of influenza (for example, pneumonia) and the excretion of the virus from infected people might be a useful public health measure to contain an epidemic by limiting the impact and spread of the virus. In addition to symptomatic treatment, prophylactic use for interrupting the spread of disease has informed pandemic planning over the past decade.

Why it is important to do this review

There are three major reasons for conducting this review, in addition to questions of efficacy associated with the clinical use of NIs for influenza:

1. Influenza antivirals are a commonly used and stockpiled drug against past and future pandemics on the basis of international and national recommendations. These recommendations are based on the claimed and assumed ability of the drug to reduce complications and transmission ([HHS 2005](#); [WHO 2007](#)). In theory, containing the spread of influenza allows time for an organised response with longer-term interventions (such as vaccines), which take time to produce ([WHO 2007](#)).
2. There are legitimate reasons to doubt these claims and the results of previous Cochrane reviews of NIs in adults ([Jefferson 2006](#); [Jefferson 2009a](#)) and children ([Shun-Shin 2009](#)), due to the risk of reporting bias, including the certainty of publication bias ([Doshi 2012a](#); [Doshi 2012b](#)).
3. Oseltamivir is now on the list of WHO essential drugs ([WHO 2013a](#); [WHO 2013b](#)).

Process

A159 is an amalgamation of two long-standing Cochrane reviews on the effects of NIs for influenza in healthy adults ([Jefferson 2010a](#), also published as [Jefferson 2009a](#)) and children ([Matheson 2007](#)), and it is based on the assessment of trials through their clinical study reports and other regulatory information: a decision we made after finding substantial reporting bias in the journal publications of the relevant trials.

For the rationale for this process see [Appendix 2](#).

Examples of discrepancies and reporting bias

We identified that 60% (3145/5267) of patient data from randomised, placebo-controlled, phase III treatment trials of oseltamivir have never been published. This includes [M76001](#), the biggest treatment trial ever undertaken on oseltamivir (with just over 1400 people of all ages). Exclusion of unpublished data changed our previous findings regarding the ability of oseltamivir to reduce the complications of influenza ([Doshi 2009](#); [Jefferson 2009a](#)). In some cases, mistakes in the attribution of adverse events were only discovered through matching summary tables with individual participant listings ([Gravenstein 2013](#); [Peters 2001](#); [WV15825](#)).

A modified approach

We have modified the routine Cochrane processes to improve our previous methods, which we now consider inadequate. To resolve inconsistencies and under-reporting, we changed our approach by no longer including trial data as reported in papers published in biomedical journals. Instead, we treated clinical study reports as our basic unit of analysis. Clinical study reports are often sent to national drug regulators such as the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) (formerly EMEA), which require far more stringent standards for completeness and accuracy of reporting than biomedical journals. Journal articles can be regarded as a very succinct synthesis of a clinical study report. In addition to seeking clinical study reports, we decided to read and review regulatory documentation. The FDA in particular (and the EMA to a far lesser extent) make many of its scientific reviews available on its website. Unlike Cochrane review authors, regulators can have access to the whole data set and their comments can provide useful insight, helping to achieve a better understanding of trial programmes.

Clinical study reports generally remain hidden from public view and are not readily available for wider scientific scrutiny, despite the wealth of information they contain for those willing and able to spend the time reading them and despite calls to make all relevant trial data public (Doshi 2013; Godlee 2009), as well as the known problems with reporting biases (McGauran 2010; Wieseler 2013).

Implications

This modified approach to a Cochrane review aims to provide patients, clinicians and policy-makers with the most transparent and independent information possible about NIs for influenza. In addition, it should contribute to improving a European regulatory and pharmacovigilance legal framework, which commentators consider weak (Cohen 2009; Godlee 2009). We believe that as NIs have become public health drugs, recommended and stockpiled globally, independent scrutiny of all the evidence relating to harms and effects on complications is necessary to provide patients, policy-makers and physicians with a complete and unbiased view of their risks and benefits.

Implication for A/H1N1 (2009) influenza

In response to our 2010 review (Jefferson 2009a; Jefferson 2010a), some have argued that its findings cannot be applied to the 2009 A/H1N1, suggesting that it is a new virus and thus we need new evidence (JAID 2010; Maugh 2009; Nebehay 2009; NHS 2009; NHS 2010). Novel A/H1N1 is a new strain of a subtype that has been circulating since 1977, but it also resembles the A/H1N1 strain that has been circulating since before 1957 (CDC 2009) or before the 1918 pandemic (Itoh 2009). Influenza subtype A/H1N1 was indeed circulating in the clinical trials we have included in our previous reviews. In addition, oseltamivir and zanamivir were approved by regulators worldwide for the treatment and prevention of influenza types A and B, not specific subtypes or strains of influenza A and B. The expectation of regulatory approval is thus that the effects of these drugs demonstrated in clinical trials will apply to future strains of influenza A and B. Use of these drugs during the pandemic was not off-label. It was approved use because of the assumption that the clinical trial evidence underpinning regulatory approval applied to novel A/H1N1. We reviewed the clinical trial evidence with the expectation that our results, similar to regulators, will apply to all influenza viruses.

Wider implications

The modified approach in this Cochrane review grew out of a realisation that prior methods employed to review NIs were inadequate. There seems to be no compelling reason to think that the lessons learned are limited to these particular drugs (Godlee 2009; Rodgers 2013; Vedula 2009; Vedula 2013; Wieseler 2013). For this reason, our independent scrutiny, using all possible trial information, may inform both the wider debate on the adequacy of existing regulatory frameworks in the adoption of new drugs and the question of whether other systematic reviews should move to this new, more rigorous, approach, which focuses on trial programmes rather than single trials (Eyding 2010; Ioannidis 2010) (see Glossary, Appendix 1). Although there is substantial evidence for the effects of reporting bias in estimates of effectiveness, less is known of its impact on the evidence of harms (Chou 2005). We decided to quantify the additional resources required to follow our modified methodological approach to assess the feasibility of other systematic reviews proceeding in a similar fashion.

See the [Differences between protocol and review](#) section for the previous version of the objectives of this review.

OBJECTIVES

To describe the potential benefits and harms of NIs for influenza in all age groups by reviewing all clinical study reports of published and unpublished randomised, placebo-controlled trials and regulatory comments.

METHODS

Criteria for considering studies for this review

Types of studies

We included evidence from randomised controlled trials (RCTs) testing the effects of NIs for prophylaxis, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and treatment of influenza. Prophylaxis is the mode of use of NIs when there is expectation of possible near-future exposure to influenza. PEP is the use of NIs following probable exposure to influenza but before symptoms develop. Treatment is the use of NIs in persons showing probable signs of influenza.

Due to discrepancies between published and unpublished reports of the same trials, we decided to include only those trials for which we had unabridged clinical study reports (for example, with consecutively numbered pages), even though they may be parts of clinical study reports (i.e. Module 1 only) and information on reports of trials that were considered "pivotal" (i.e. first or second-line evidence to regulators in support of the registration application).

Types of participants

We included previously healthy people (children and adults). 'Previously healthy' includes people with chronic illness (such as asthma, diabetes, hypertension), but excludes people with illnesses with more significant effects on the immune system (such as malignancy or HIV infection). We included only trials on people exposed to naturally occurring influenza with or without symptoms. We targeted the intention-to-treat (ITT) and safety populations as our prior review discovered compelling evidence that the intention-to-treat-influenza-infected (ITTI), the sub-population deemed to be influenza-infected, were not

balanced between treatment groups in the Roche oseltamivir trials. In addition, estimates from the ITT population will be more generalisable to clinical practice, where routine testing for influenza is not common in many countries (and even where used, remains of variable accuracy).

Types of interventions

NIs administered by any route compared with placebo during the period in which medication was assumed and during the follow-up (on- and off-treatment: on-t and off-t) periods.

Types of outcome measures

Primary outcomes

Primary outcome measures for treatment studies

1. Symptom relief
2. Hospitalisation and complications
3. Harms

Primary outcome measures for prophylaxis studies

1. Influenza (symptomatic and asymptomatic, always with laboratory confirmation) and influenza-like illness (ILI)
2. Hospitalisation and complications
3. Interruption of transmission (in its two components, reduction of viral spread from index cases and prevention of onset of influenza in contacts)
4. Harms

Secondary outcomes

Secondary outcome measures for treatment studies

1. Symptom relapse after finishing treatment
2. Drug resistance
3. Viral excretion
4. Mortality

Secondary outcome measures for prophylaxis studies

1. Drug resistance
2. Viral excretion
3. Mortality

Whilst overall symptom reduction is well documented, our interest was particularly focused on complications and adverse events, as this is where evidence is currently scarce or inconclusive (Jefferson 2009a; Shun-Shin 2009). Our preliminary examination of some regulatory documents and some published versions of the studies had identified that some symptoms and sequelae of influenza (such as pneumonia) had been classified as either a 'complication of influenza' or as an 'adverse event of the treatment', or both. This is somewhat confusing and we intended to analyse 'compliharms' (see Glossary, Appendix 1) irrespective of the classification as a 'complication of influenza' or as an 'adverse event of the treatment' (Appendix 3) in oseltamivir trials. Complications of particular interest included pneumonia, bronchitis, otitis media and sinusitis as these were the secondary illnesses often collected in the Roche oseltamivir trials and we agreed that these events are clinically important. Initially we constructed a table to illustrate the design methodology used for each complication by study (Table 1). The table included

the following variables: definition of which events are termed complications; where complications are first defined in the clinical study report; diagnosis method; and availability of data. We then stratified our analysis by method of diagnosis with three possible criteria: (1) laboratory-confirmed diagnosis (e.g. based on radiologically or microbiologically confirmed evidence of infection); (2) clinical diagnosis without laboratory confirmation (diagnosed by a doctor after a clinical examination); (3) other type of diagnosis such as self reported by patient. We conducted analysis of any complication (pneumonia, bronchitis, otitis media and sinusitis) that was classified as serious or led to study withdrawal.

In all cases of influenza complications reporting (pneumonia, bronchitis, sinusitis, otitis media) there is a variable degree of participant self reporting, of investigator mediation (for example, in writing down the details in the case report form) and lack of verification with investigations such as culture or imaging. The 'self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified' title is relevant to all complications but for brevity we use it as sparingly as possible.

For harms we were limited by the frequency of occurrence of the adverse events collected in the trials. Consequently we meta-analysed (1) all serious adverse events; (2) all adverse events leading to study withdrawal; (3) all withdrawals; (4) all adverse events within a clinical study report's defined body system; as well as (5) a small group of common adverse events as defined in the FDA drug label for oseltamivir. There were too few events to meta-analyse (1) deaths; (2) serious adverse events by body system; and (3) any events that had an overall incidence of less than 0.5%. We did not meta-analyse outcomes with fewer than 10 events in total. We conducted analyses separately for on-treatment and off-treatment periods. However, in two cases where (on-treatment) treatment effects were borderline statistically significant (prophylaxis with oseltamivir: renal body system on-treatment and psychiatric body system on-treatment), we conducted additional analysis combining on- and off-treatment periods to maximise statistical power. We conducted dose-response harms analysis for two treatment trials (WV15670 and WV15671) combined and one prophylaxis study (WV15673/WV15697), as these trials investigated the active agent at multiple doses. These studies included standard-dose and high-dose oseltamivir arms. For these analyses we used logistic regression, adjusting for study effects if appropriate (i.e. for the two treatment trials) and testing for trend using a likelihood ratio test. We tested the hypothesis that increased dose of drug leads to increased incidence of adverse effects.

Search methods for identification of studies

To identify trials in the manufacturer-funded clinical trial programmes for NIs, as well as non-manufacturer-funded clinical trials of NIs, we used a variety of methods applied to a variety of sources from the literature, manufacturers and from regulatory bodies. These methods, as well as our methodology for identifying and obtaining relevant clinical study reports, are detailed in Appendix 4, Appendix 5 and Appendix 6.

Electronic searches

We used electronic searches to identify trials not identified by the methods outlined in Appendix 4, particularly for non-manufacturer-funded clinical trials. See Appendix 5 for details. For the 2012 review, we updated our searches of the electronic

databases of published studies that were previously carried out for the Cochrane reviews on NIs in children (Matheson 2007) and healthy adults (Jefferson 2010a), and then updated the searches again on 22 July 2013.

Searching other resources

For the description of our searches for regulatory information (FDA, EMA, Roche, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Japanese Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA)), see Appendix 6.

Data collection and analysis

Collection and inventory of the evidence base was facilitated by the tools specifically developed for the review (Appendix 7). The overall risk of bias is presented graphically in Figure 1 and summarised in Figure 2.

Figure 1. 'Risk of bias' graph: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item presented as percentages across all included studies.

'Other bias' includes potentially active placebos.

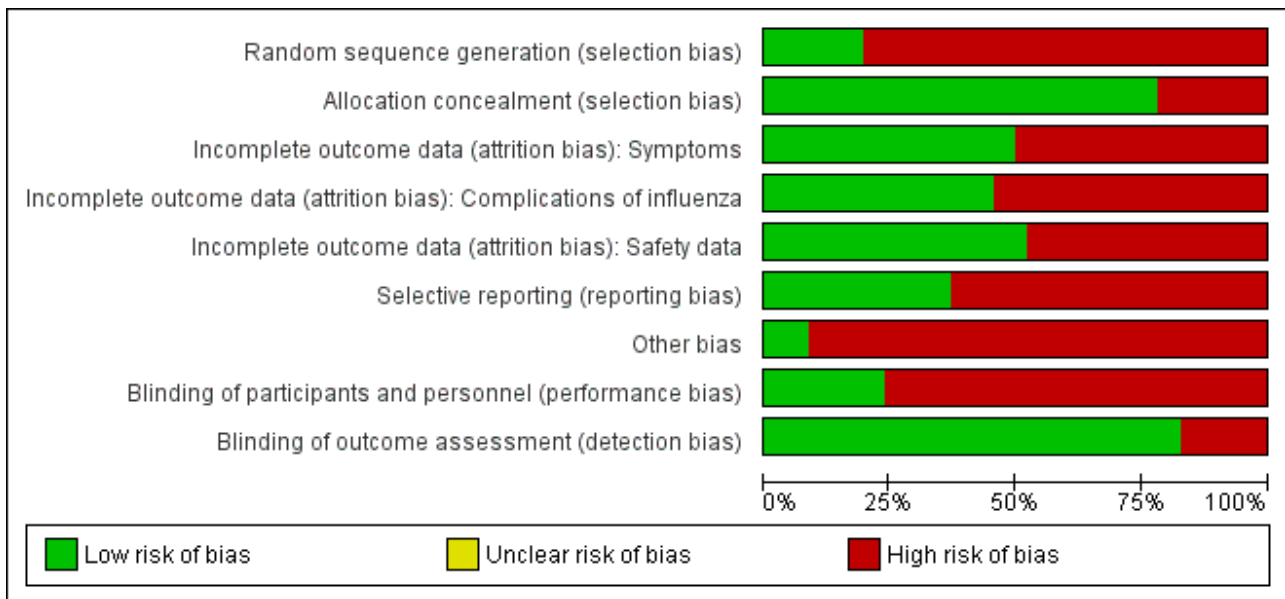


Figure 2. 'Risk of bias' summary: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study.

'Other bias' includes potentially active placebos.

	Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias): Symptoms	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias): Complications of influenza	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias): Safety data	Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Other bias	Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)
167-101	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
JNAI-01	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
JNAI-04	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JNAI-07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JV15823	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JV15824	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
M76001	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
ML16369	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-
NAI30008	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
NAI30009	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
NAI30010	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAI30011	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAI30012	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAI30015	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+
NAI30020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NAI30028	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+
NAI30031	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
NAI30034	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+

Figure 2. (Continued)

NAI30034	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIA/B2008	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
NAIA/B2009	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIA2005	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIA2006	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIA3002	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
NAIA3003	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIA3004	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIA3005	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIB2005	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIB2006	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+
NAIB2007	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
NAIB3001	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NAIB3002	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
NV16871	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
PE-01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WW15670	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
WW15671	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
WW15673/WW15697	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
WW15707	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
WW15708	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
WW15730	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
WW15758	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
WW15759/WW15871	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
WW15799	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
WW15812/WW15872	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
WW15819/WW15876/WW15978	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
WW15825	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
WW16277	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-

Selection of studies

For this 2013 review, two authors (PD, TJ) reapplied the inclusion criteria for the oseltamivir clinical study reports and resolved disagreements by discussion. Two review authors (ES, IO) applied

the criteria for the zanamivir clinical study reports while one review author (CH) arbitrated.

For the procedures followed in the 2012 review, see [Appendix 8](#) and [Appendix 9](#).

Data extraction and management

The sizeable quantity of available data led us to subdivide the extraction, appraisal and analysis of the data into a two-stage exercise. In Stage 1 we assessed the reliability and completeness of the identified trial data. We decided to include in Stage 2 of the review (full analysis following standard Cochrane methods) only data that satisfied the following three criteria.

1. **Completeness.** Clinical study reports/unpublished reports include both identifiable CONSORT statement-specified methods to enable replication of the study. Identifiable CONSORT statement-specified results (primary outcomes, tables, appendices) must be available.
2. **Internal consistency.** All parts (for example, denominators) of the same clinical study reports/unpublished report are broadly consistent.
3. **External consistency.** Consistency of data as reported in regulatory documents, other versions of the same clinical study reports/unpublished reports and other references, to be established by cross-checking.

This was a different approach to that used in the previous version of the current review (Jefferson 2012), since we only had incomplete information at that time and only applied the second and third criteria.

Stage 1

For details of the use of the CONSORT-based extraction template and the assessment for Stage 1 inclusion in the A159 (Jefferson 2012) review, see Appendix 7. In this review assessment for inclusion in Stage 1 was part of the inclusion procedure.

Stage 2

In Stage 2, one review author extracted data and a second review author checked it. We extracted data onto standard forms, checked and recorded it.

Use of regulatory information

We used regulatory information to assess the possible correlation between citation frequency of oseltamivir treatment trials in the FDA regulatory documents and trial size.

Post-protocol analyses

After publication of the A159 protocol in December 2010, but before validation of our CONSORT-based extractions in the Northern Hemisphere spring of 2011, we decided to carry out analyses (which we called post-protocol analyses) to test five null hypotheses that we had formulated while reading, summarising and reconstructing the clinical study reports. The hypotheses originated from our observations of discrepancies and other unexpected observations in the clinical study reports' data and were informed by reading regulatory information. Appendix 10 reports the rationale, methods to formulate and test, and the results of the hypotheses.

The hypotheses reflect the uncertainty prevailing in the evidence base at a time when full clinical study reports were not available for all studies.

Assessment of risk of bias in included studies

Previous studies comparing regulatory with published or internal company sources of evidence have reported a variety of different biases that affect medical knowledge (Chou 2005; MacLean 2003; McGauran 2010; Wieseler 2013). We will report in detail elsewhere our comments on using the Cochrane 'Risk of bias' tool (Higgins 2011) to appraise clinical study reports and for trial programmes, and our efforts to construct an instrument for assessing risk of bias in complete clinical study reports. A full description of the methods used to quantify biases will be published in another paper.

Measures of treatment effect

To estimate treatment effects we first calculated the risk ratios (RRs) and used the average (mean) control event rate and the pooled RRs reported in the figures to calculate the risk differences (RD). For consistency we adopted this method for both the 'Summary of findings' tables and for the RDs reported in the text. For the analysis we chose to report the RRs as they are more consistent across the studies, and we have reported the heterogeneity for the pooled RR. We reinterpreted the results using the RD as this result is applicable to clinical decision-making. We calculated mean differences (MDs) for time to first alleviation of symptoms. For time to first alleviation of symptoms we also estimated the treatment effect as the percentage reduction in the average time to first alleviation of symptoms in the placebo group. Most zanamivir clinical study reports only reported treatment effects in terms of medians in each treatment group as well as P values from a hypothesis test comparing the time-to-event distributions. These data are insufficient for conducting meta-analysis. However, often sufficient time-to-event data were reported to allow us to estimate restricted means and standard deviations. Restricted means are based on the maximum time reported where alleviation occurred. There were some patients where alleviation was censored at the maximum follow-up time, therefore restricted means are underestimates of the true means. However, the proportion of patients censored was generally low and similar in both treatment arms, hence this limitation is unlikely to have led to bias. The length of follow-up varied across trials and this has led to high variation in the estimated means and standard deviations (SDs) across trials.

A post hoc analysis was undertaken after we discovered seven zanamivir trials provided data on time to first alleviation of symptoms with and without relief medication. Each patient in the studies may or may not have taken relief medication during the trial. Alleviation of symptoms may have occurred while the patient was taking relief medication and the "standard" comparison was made using this scenario. However, an additional analysis used a stricter definition where alleviation of symptoms could only be achieved without the use of relief medication. For example, a patient may have achieved alleviation using relief medication after five days but took seven days to achieve alleviation without the use of relief medication. The comparison we reported is for all patients where we used the stricter definition for the zanamivir group (alleviation without relief medication) and the less strict definition for the placebo group (alleviation with relief medication).

We planned to use the tri-dimensional dose-relatedness, timing and patient susceptibility (DoTS) methodology to assess the likelihood of harms causality (Aronson 2003), but the quality of the data available did not allow for this.

Unit of analysis issues

Problems with unit of analysis are described in the 'Risk of bias' and 'Post-protocol hypotheses' sections.

Dealing with missing data

We developed a comprehensive strategy for dealing with data that we know are missing at the trial level, i.e. unpublished trials (see [Search methods for identification of studies](#) section and [Appendix 4](#), [Appendix 5](#) and [Appendix 6](#)) and unreliable published records, which are a very concentrated summary of clinical study reports. For example, in the oseltamivir trial programme, some trials' clinical study reports (e.g. [WP16263](#)) consist of 8545 pages. This has a 1000-fold greater length compared to its published version ([Dutkowski 2010](#)), which consists of seven pages. The purpose of this review is to provide as complete a picture as possible of trial programmes, without reliance on the published literature. [Appendix 11](#) reports an example of the content of a typical Roche clinical study report.

Assessment of heterogeneity

We used Tau² (inverse variance method) and the I² statistic to estimate between-study variance as measures of the level of statistical heterogeneity and the Chi² test to test for heterogeneity.

Assessment of reporting biases

We carried out assessment of reporting biases (comparing clinical study report with the relevant publication) only in the first publication of A159. For this version, as we had complete clinical study reports for the trial programmes of the two drugs, we expected to find all relevant information in these documents and adopted a binary assessment (high risk, low risk or unclear bias).

Data synthesis

We used the random-effects approach of DerSimonian and Laird based on MDs for analysis of time to first alleviation of symptoms. For all other outcomes we used the random-effects approach for binary data of DerSimonian and Laird, where Tau² was estimated using the inverse variance method.

Whilst overall symptom reduction is well documented, our interest was particularly focused on complications and adverse events, as this is where evidence is currently scarce or inconclusive ([Jefferson 2009a](#); [Matheson 2007](#); [Shun-Shin 2009](#)). Our preliminary examination of clinical study reports identified that some symptoms and sequelae of influenza (such as "pneumonia") had been classified as either a 'complication of influenza' or as an 'adverse event of the treatment' or both. We called this somewhat confusing classification 'compliharms'. We decided to deal with compliharms as follows. We identified complications of particular clinical interest as "pneumonia", bronchitis, otitis media and sinusitis. We tabulated the type of data capture used for each complication ("secondary illness") by study including the following variables: definition of what events are termed complications, which part of the clinical study report captured data on complications, who reported and captured the data, which diagnostic method was used, whether and where the diagnostic pathway was (usually a form) and whether prescription for treatment were captured. We then aimed to stratify our analysis by method of diagnosis with three possible criteria: (1) laboratory-confirmed diagnosis (e.g. based on radiological-

or microbiologically-confirmed evidence of infection); (2) clinical diagnosis without laboratory-confirmation (diagnosed by a doctor/investigator after a clinical examination); (3) other type of diagnosis such as self-reported by patient. We also conducted analysis of any complication (such as "pneumonia", bronchitis, otitis media and sinusitis) that was classified as serious or led to study withdrawal.

We tested the effects of oseltamivir in prophylaxis of influenza and influenza-like illness. However the clinical study reports of prophylaxis trials do not define influenza-like illness but report eight different definitions for influenza with laboratory-confirmation (see web extra influenza definitions).

This is a complex and confusing set of definitions where, for example, the definition for Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTI) with systemic disturbance is the same as one of the definitions for asymptomatic influenza. After discovering the absence of a definition for influenza-like illness and the complex and confusing definitions for laboratory-confirmed influenza, we classified influenza-like illness as two or more symptoms from the following: nasal congestion, headache, chills/sweats, sore throat, cough, fatigue, myalgia and fever. These were the symptoms reported in the efficacy listing of individual patients in Module 3 of the prophylaxis trials clinical study reports.

In two oseltamivir treatment trials ([WV15670](#); [WV15671](#)) and one prophylaxis study ([WV15673/WV15697](#)) there were three treatment arms comparing placebo, standard dose and high dose. For time to first alleviation of symptoms we restricted comparison to placebo versus standard dose (as this is how it was reported in the original report). However, for all other outcomes we combined the standard and high-dose treatment arms. There was little apparent difference in the incidence of outcomes between the standard and high-dose arms and combining the arms did not appear to cause heterogeneity. However, in two cases there was some evidence of a dose-response effect. These cases are described more fully in the [Results](#) section under 'Analysis of harms'.

The majority of zanamivir trials compared placebo with inhaled zanamivir. However, some trials also included an intranasal zanamivir treatment arm and a combined arm of inhaled and intranasal treatment. The multiple zanamivir arms were generally combined for meta-analysis as effects appeared similar and did not appear to cause heterogeneity.

Subgroup analysis and investigation of heterogeneity

We investigated the robustness of complications outcomes using subgroup analysis by method of diagnosis. We investigated high estimates of heterogeneity, where possible, using subgroup analysis. For example, we conducted subgroup analysis of time to first alleviation of symptoms in studies of oseltamivir treatment in children by partitioning studies into those of otherwise healthy children and those of children with chronic illness (asthma). Based on a referee's comment, we conducted a subgroup analysis on time to first alleviation of symptoms by infection status for zanamivir. We could not do a similar analysis for oseltamivir because we did not have data on the non-influenza-infected patients and we could not correctly identify the patients with influenza infection due to the effect of oseltamivir on antibodies.

In the trial programmes for both oseltamivir and zanamivir there was large variation in treatment effects for pneumonia across

the populations studied (i.e. adults and children as well as treatment and prophylaxis), hence we conducted meta-regression to investigate this heterogeneity. We included all studies that reported pneumonia (32 studies in total) and investigated the four binary factors: age group (adults versus children); drug (oseltamivir versus zanamivir); indication (treatment versus prophylaxis) and method of diagnosis. For oseltamivir studies, the method of diagnosis was either based on data collected on non-specific adverse events or secondary/intercurrent illness forms or data collected on specific "diagnosis of secondary illness" forms that included objective criteria such as X-ray confirmation. For zanamivir, two trials included X-ray confirmation of pneumonia. We conducted meta-regression in Stata/SE, version 13 for Windows using the *metareg* command. There were some studies where one treatment group had zero events, therefore we added 0.5 events to all treatment groups for all studies prior to analysis. The dependent variable in the regression was log relative risk. A further post hoc analysis was undertaken after we discovered seven trials provided data on time to first alleviation of symptoms with and without relief medication. Each patient in the studies may or may not have taken relief medication during the trial. Alleviation of symptoms may have occurred while the patient was taking relief medication and the "standard" comparison was made using this scenario. However, an additional analysis used a stricter definition where alleviation of symptoms could only be achieved without the use of relief medication. For example, a patient may have achieved alleviation using relief medication after five days but took seven days to achieve alleviation without the use of relief medication. The comparison we reported is for all patients where we used the stricter definition for the zanamivir group (alleviation without relief medication) and the less strict definition for the placebo group (alleviation with relief medication).

Sensitivity analysis

Sensitivity analyses applicable to our post-protocol analyses have been covered earlier in the Methods section of this review. We used the fixed-effect method of Mantel and Haenszel as a sensitivity analysis to supplement our primary analyses using the random-effects method of DerSimonian and Laird. Random-effects meta-analysis is known to be overly conservative with sparse data. Hence we conducted sensitivity analysis using Peto's method on two occasions where we had sparse data and borderline statistically significant results (prophylaxis with oseltamivir: renal body system on-treatment and psychiatric body system on-treatment).

RESULTS

Description of studies

We searched trial registries, electronic databases and regulatory archives, corresponded with manufacturers to identify all trials and requested clinical study reports. Although this review focuses on the primary data sources of manufacturers, we checked that there were no published randomised controlled trials (RCTs) from non-manufacturer sources by running electronic searches in the following databases: the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL 2013, Issue 6), limited to year published 2010 to 2013 (20 search results); MEDLINE (January 2011 to July week 2, 2013) (56 search results) and MEDLINE (Ovid) from 1 January 2011 to July week 2, 2013 (56 search results); EMBASE (January 2011 to July 2013) (90 search results) and Embase.com from 1 January 2011 to July 2013 (90 search results); and PubMed (not MEDLINE)

with no date limit (21 records). We searched PubMed to identify publisher-submitted records that will never be indexed in MEDLINE and the most recently added records not yet indexed in MEDLINE. To identify reviews that may possibly have referenced further trials we searched: the Database of Reviews of Effects (DARE) (2013, Issue 2 of 4 April) (four search results); the NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHSEED) (Issue 2 of 4 April 2013) (two search results), both resources part of *The Cochrane Library* (accessed 22 July 2013), and the Health Economic Evaluations Database (HEED) (searched 22 July 2013) (three search results).

Results of the search

Use of regulatory information

We were able to download 2673 pages from the FDA website. The table of contents is in [Table 2](#), [Table 3](#), [Table 4](#) and [Table 5](#). We used these pages to identify all trials that had been conducted within a drug's trial programme. There was no correlation between citation frequency of oseltamivir treatment trials in the FDA regulatory documents and trial size. The biggest treatment trial ([M76001](#)) is cited only four times in three documents, while other contemporary treatment trials are cited far more ([WV15670](#); [WV15671](#); [WV15730](#); [WV15812](#)/[WV15872](#); [WV15707](#)). [WV15670](#), for example, is cited 46 times in the FDA documents. However, the combined enrolled denominator of the four treatment trials completed at the time ([WV15670](#); [WV15671](#); [WV15707](#); [WV15730](#)) was 1442, smaller than [M76001](#) (1459). This suggested that the FDA's regulatory evaluation of Roche's New Drug Application was based predominantly on what Roche had offered them as "pivotal" or trials that best demonstrated the properties of oseltamivir, not the complete evidence base of all oseltamivir trials. One possible alternative explanation for this observation could have been the interval between trial completion, generation of the report and New Drug Applications (NDA) submission. This explanation is supported by the relatively brief interval between completion of the [M76001](#) trial (19 February 1999) and submission (on 30 April 1999) of NDA 021087 to the FDA. However, the core part of the submission (the clinical development programme) contains data from two (at the time) ongoing trials ([WV15819](#)/[WV15876](#)/[WV15978](#); [WV15812](#)/[WV15872](#)).

The basis of the selection of trials to regulators is therefore unclear but appears to be dictated by criteria other than availability and size. The importance of trials (to manufacturers and possibly to regulators) may not be based on the same criteria that systematic reviewers would use (i.e. the capability of the trial to answer questions).

Due to the vast size of FDA documents, sometimes hundreds of pages long, it was difficult to determine important emerging themes solely by reading. To identify items of interest in the FDA comments we used word clouds ([Feinberg 2009](#)). Word clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source document. The resulting graphic representation showed words such as 'diary' and 'baseline' to be heavily mentioned in the relevant (abridged) text from the FDA's Medical Officer Review ([FDA 1999c](#), PDF page 19). Examining the 'diary' entry in more detail, we found the following FDA comment:

"The majority of subjects participating in the treatment trials had only used the first diary card. The second diary card was issued in 15% to 20% of participants. In response to FDA's request, the applicant provided a summary of diary card dispensing in the 8/6/99 submission. It became apparent that instructions on

when to start a second diary card were not uniformly followed in [WV15670](#), [WV15671](#), and [WV15730](#) trials. There were examples of patients who had alleviated symptoms yet also received a second diary card. Conversely, there were also examples of patients who did not alleviate all symptoms but did not receive a second diary card. Thus the second diary card was used inconsistently which is viewed as a flaw of these trials. The lack of consistency in collecting symptom information after alleviation precluded a complete documentation of symptom fluctuation. Also missing second diary cards in subjects who had not alleviated symptoms were responsible for the majority of censored data which may have potentially influenced the results of efficacy analysis. In order to address the impact of censoring, the applicant performed several sensitivity analyses which will be summarized in the Integrated Summary of Efficacy".

This comment highlights problems with the follow-up procedure of treatments trials, which may have impaired the regulator's ability to draw conclusions on the duration of effect of oseltamivir. It also provides a good example of how graphic methods can help identify crucial comments in vast regulatory files.

Several other experiments with text from the same FDA document showed that the choice of text to be represented as a Word cloud heavily influenced cloud construction, visibility of words and hence our ability to detect important comments. It is for this reason that we decided to adopt a mixed approach: mapping citations while reading FDA comments and integrating such comments in our appraisal of the evidence. Regulatory comments were all the more important, because at the time we developed this method we had few clinical study reports and comments helped to identify the gaps in our knowledge of the trial programmes.

Once the table of contents had been constructed, we postulated that given the huge work involved in reviewing lots of regulatory

files, our new instrument could also help us by indicating which parts were more important than others, thus focusing our efforts. We experimented with a variety of methods reported in the [Data collection and analysis](#) section.

Clinical study reports

After prolonged correspondence and media pressure ([Appendix 2](#)), we were able to access the trial programmes for both oseltamivir and zanamivir without clauses restricting their accessibility to third parties.

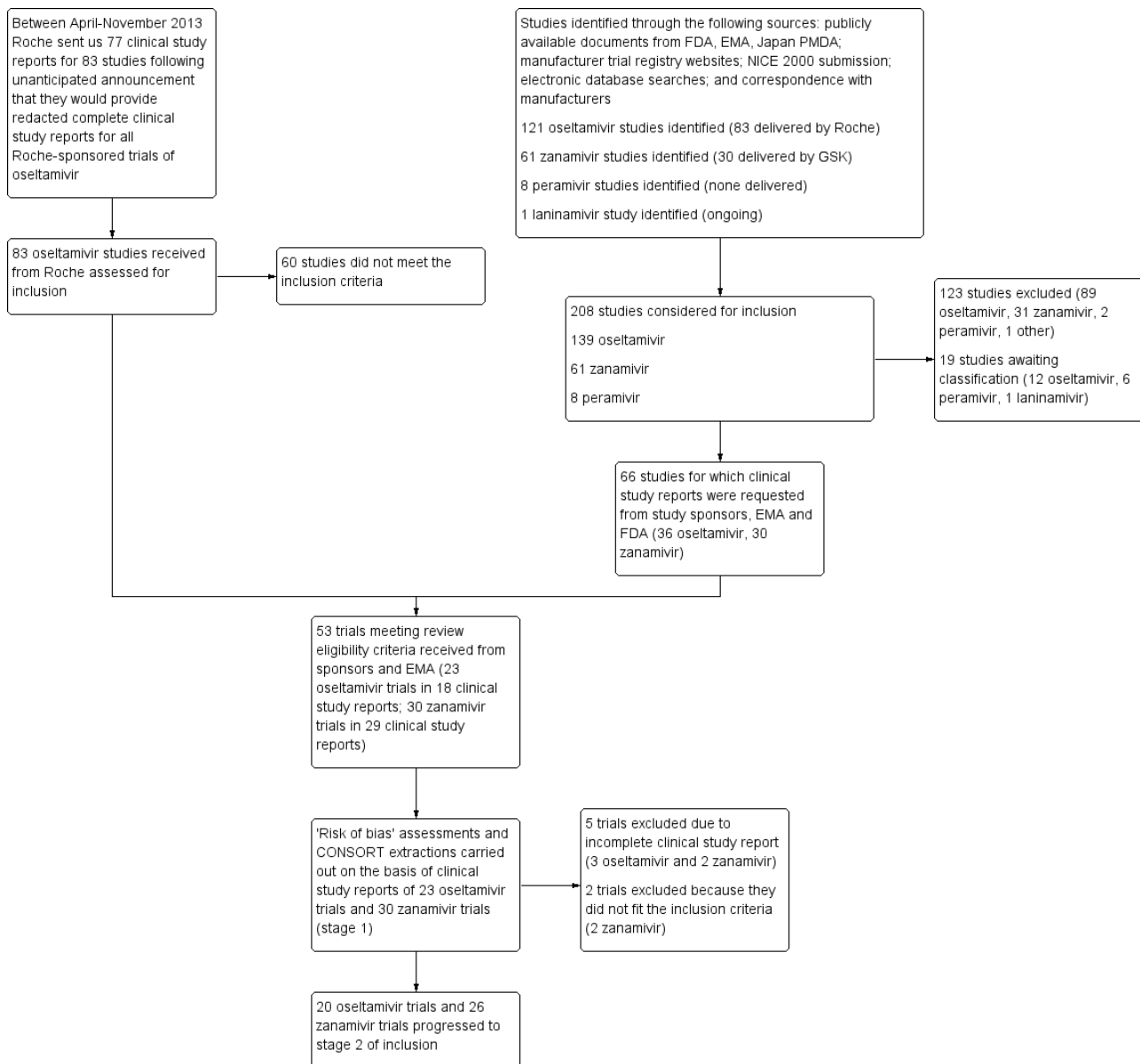
Electronic searches

Two review authors (CDM, MT) independently scanned the titles and abstracts of the electronic searches. Three identified studies ([NCT00980109](#); [NCT01032837](#); [JPRN-JapicCTI-111647](#)) were published versions of trials possibly unknown to us. We wrote to the first trial author to ask for clinical study reports or equivalent on 12 November 2013 who confirmed that the trials had not been completed.

Included studies

The absence of documentation of trial programmes for both drugs, listing all sponsored trials completed or underway, meant we had to rely on a variety of sources for the reconstruction of the trial programmes and identification of relevant clinical study reports. This complexity is reflected in the flowchart presented in [Figure 3](#), illustrating the study selection process for this review. The two main pathways were the spontaneous release of 77 full clinical study reports by Roche (long after our request for 36 of them) and the requests to regulatory authorities and GSK for all the relevant reports.

Figure 3. Flow diagram describing the number of studies identified, inclusion, exclusion and progression from identification to stage 1 to stage 2 of the review. NB Because of the absence of trial programmes for both drugs listing all sponsored trials completed or underway, we had to rely on a variety of sources for the reconstruction of the trial programmes and retrieval of relevant clinical study reports. This complexity is reflected in the flowchart, illustrating the study selection process for this review. The two main pathways were the spontaneous release of 77 clinical full clinical study reports by Roche and the requests to regulatory authorities and GSK for all the relevant reports. There was overlap in trial reports retrieved following the different pathways



We carried out the inclusion into Stage 1 using the clinical study reports, titles, abstracts and any other relevant information. Through this process we identified 208 potentially relevant studies (139 oseltamivir trials, 61 zanamivir trials and eight peramivir trials). We excluded 123 studies (listed in the [Characteristics of excluded studies](#) table) as clearly ineligible. A further 19 studies are awaiting classification (see [Characteristics of studies awaiting classification](#)). We requested 66 trials from study sponsors, the EMA and the FDA. From these different methods the total number of trials available for assessment for inclusion in our review at Stage 1 was 53.

Twenty three studies of oseltamivir (JV15823; JV15824; M76001; ML16369; NV16871; WV15670; WV15671; WV15673/WV15697; WV15707; WV15708; WV15730; WV15758; WV15759/WV15871; WV15799; WV15812/WV15872; WV15819/WV15876/WV15978; WV15825; WV16277) and 28 of zanamivir (167-101; JNAI-01; JNAI-04; JNAI-07; NAI30008; NAI30009; NAI30010; NAI30011; NAI30012; NAI30015; NAI30020; NAI30028; NAI30031; NAI30034; NAIA/B2008; NAIA/B2009; NAIA2005; NAIA2006; NAIA3002; NAIA3003; NAIA3004; NAIA3005; NAIB2005; NAIB2006; NAIB2007; NAIB3001; NAIB3002; PE-01) were included in Stage 1. It was not uncommon for more than one trial to be reported

in the same clinical study reports. This was either due to the amalgamation of two or more trials because of low influenza virus circulation and difficulties in recruitment (for example, [WV15812/WV15872](#)), or because the trials bore different ID numbers when in reality they followed the same protocol, albeit in two different hemispheres (for example, [WV15759/WV15871](#)).

We also identified six completed or ongoing studies of peramivir in dose-response or placebo-controlled studies ([NCT00419263](#); [NCT00453999](#); [NCT00486980](#); [NCT00610935](#); [NCT00705406](#); [NCT00958776](#)).

The included trials were predominantly conducted in adults during influenza seasons in both hemispheres. A small number of studies were conducted in older people residing in care homes and in people with underlying respiratory diseases. All trials were sponsored by the manufacturers.

Oseltamivir

Of the 23 oseltamivir trials in Stage 1, 15 were multicentre trials conducted in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, while eight were done in only one country (USA five, Japan two and China one). In total 9623 participants were included (6574 in treatment trials and 3049 in prophylaxis trials). The age of the participants ranged from 1 to 82 years and the duration of follow-up varied from 6 to 42 days.

Two of the trials were conducted within nursing homes; 20 were within free-living populations; one was performed in in- and out-patient departments. Three trials were conducted in children, while participants in 20 trials were adults. In some trials the eligible population included participants at increased risk of influenza complications, or with diagnoses of asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, but the majority included only otherwise healthy adults. In one trial ([WV15730](#)), participants were stratified by smoking status, while those in another trial were stratified by the presence or absence of otitis media ([WV15758](#)).

All trials compared orally administered oseltamivir (either as capsules or reconstituted powder) with placebo.

Of the 23 trials, we included 20 RCTs for the analysis examining the use of oseltamivir compared with placebo. Two were excluded from the meta-analysis because they were only synopsis reports ([JV15823](#); [JV15824](#)) and another because it was not a full clinical study report ([ML16369](#)).

We finally included 20 oseltamivir trials into Stage 2: 11 on treatment in adults ([M76001](#); [WV15670](#); [WV15671](#); [WV15707](#), [WV15730](#); [WV15812/WV15872](#); [WV15819/WV15876/WV15978/WV16277](#)), four in children ([NV16871](#); [WV15758](#); [WV15759/WV15871](#)), and five on prophylaxis: two in adults ([WV15673/WV15697](#)), two in the elderly ([WV15708](#); [WV15825](#)) and one in households ([WV15799](#)). Of the 15 included treatment trials of oseltamivir only three ([M76001](#); [WV15670](#); [WV15758](#)) were successful in recruiting the a priori planned sample size.

Zanamivir

Of the 28 included zanamivir trials, 18 were multicentre trials done in both the Northern and Southern Hemisphere and 10 were done in only one country (Japan five, USA three, Finland and Germany one each). In total 14,628 participants were included (7678 in treatment

trials and 6950 in prophylaxis trials). Participants' age ranged from 5 to 12 years to over 65 and duration of follow-up varied from 5 to 35 days.

Two of the trials were performed within nursing homes; several were within free-living populations; one was performed within a university student population. In some trials the eligible population included participants at increased risk of influenza complications, or with diagnoses of asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, but the majority included only adults who were otherwise healthy.

Zanamivir was administered as an intranasal spray, an inhalation or a combination of both and placebos were designed to match. Administration was by the participant in the majority of trials and by nursing staff in the trials within nursing homes. Twenty-two trials compared inhaled zanamivir with placebo and six trials compared inhaled zanamivir, or intranasal zanamivir, with placebo or usual care.

Of the 28 trials we included 26 RCTs for the analysis examining the use of zanamivir compared with placebo. Two were excluded from the meta-analysis because one was only a synopsis ([NAI30020](#)) and one compared zanamivir to usual care and not placebo ([NAIA3003](#)).

We finally included 26 zanamivir trials: 14 on treatment in adults ([JNAI-01](#); [JNAI-04](#); [JNAI-07](#), [NAI30008](#); [NAI30011](#); [NAI30012](#); [NAI30015](#); [NAIA/B2008](#); [NAIA2005](#); [NAIA3002](#); [NAIB2005](#); [NAIB2007](#); [NAIB3001](#); [NAIB3002](#)), two in children ([NAI30009](#); [NAI30028](#)) and 10 trials in prophylaxis ([167-101](#); [NAI30034](#); [NAIA/B2009](#); [NAIA2006](#); [NAIA3004](#); [NAIA3005](#); [NAIB2006](#); [PE-01](#); [NAI30010](#); [NAI30031](#)).

Our attempt at collecting sufficient information from regulatory files to reconstruct missing clinical study reports also failed because the information appeared insufficient for a reliable reconstruction.

Excluded studies

We excluded 123 studies from entering Stage 1 for various reasons. Some were pharmacokinetic studies, or had an active comparator, or compared higher- versus lower-dose schedules, or were ongoing trials. A further 19 trials are awaiting assessment ([Characteristics of studies awaiting classification](#)).

Risk of bias in included studies

Study level assessments are reported in the 'Risk of bias' tables. To address the problem of reporting bias, we ignored published trial reports and directed our attention to clinical study reports and regulatory information. Our problems in reviewing the copious material at our disposal were how to identify and analyse important details in the midst of thousands of pages of information and how to construct a coherent appraisal of large and complex trial programmes.

In addition, since we gained unrestricted access to the full clinical study reports (apart from personal de-identifying redactions) we took the view that all information needed to judge risk of bias should be present. Therefore when this information was not available, we judged the corresponding risk of bias element as at 'high' risk of bias. For example, when details of the random sequence generation are missing from journal publications of clinical trials, it is customary to record this as "unknown" risk of bias. This judgment usually carries the assumption that the random

sequence generation details are available in more detailed reports. But when these details were still missing in even full clinical study reports, we chose to rate this risk of bias element at "high" risk of bias.

In the following paragraphs we report some of the salient findings using the current Cochrane format but applying the logic of reviewing regulatory data.

Allocation

In 10 of the 20 oseltamivir studies included in Stage 2 the description of random sequence generation is missing. The reporting of all zanamivir trials but one ([NAI30028](#)) was biased by the absence of description of random sequence generation.

Blinding

The placebo and active drug capsule cap were not identical in 11 of the 20 trials of oseltamivir. This may have compromised blinding of participants. For all but one of the zanamivir trials we did not have the certificates of analysis to enable us to reconstruct the appearance, taste and texture of the two principles.

Incomplete outcome data

In addition to the missing diary cards in three treatment trials (see [Results of the search](#) section), we were unable to identify all data for all outcomes in all oseltamivir trials and in eight of the zanamivir trials. For example, hospitalisations were not reported in zanamivir trials and inconsistently reported in oseltamivir trials. The relevant data in this review come from a table of hospitalisations sent to us by Roche in late 2013. In addition, in some trials we were unable to track individual participants through tables, narratives and individual listings. The issue of compliharms impeded the ascertainment of harms in oseltamivir treatment trials ([Appendix 1](#)). We had difficulty in following the logic of compliharms, even with access to full clinical study reports. The definition of adverse events in the RCTs of oseltamivir and zanamivir is different from the ordinary definition of the International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) E2D guideline, which is as follows: "An adverse event (AE) is any untoward medical occurrence in a patient administered a medicinal product and which does not necessarily have to have a causal relationship with this treatment. An adverse event can therefore be any unfavourable and unintended sign (for example, an abnormal laboratory finding), symptom, or disease temporally associated with the use of a medicinal product, whether or not considered related to this medicinal product". (http://www.ich.org/fileadmin/Public_Web_Site/ICH_Products/Guidelines/Efficacy/E2D/Step4/E2D_Guideline.pdf accessed 27 December 2013).

As an example, the definition of adverse events in the [WV15671](#) study is as follows (PDF page 35): "following the alleviation of influenza-like symptoms, the recurrence of a single respiratory or constitutional symptom was recorded as an adverse event, however, the reappearance of more than one symptom was recorded as influenza-like syndrome (i.e. secondary illness) and therefore do not appear as adverse events" and [WV15670](#): "**any adverse change from the subject's baseline (pre-treatment) condition**, which occurred during the course of the study after treatment had started, whether considered related to treatment or not". Treatment included **all** investigational agents (including

placebo and comparative agents) administered during the course of the study" (our emphasis). As a consequence, adverse events that are similar to the symptoms of influenza (such as headache and mild gastrointestinal adverse events) tend to be excluded from the treatment trials.

We identified a report of a site inspection for the adult prophylaxis trial [WV15673/WV15697](#). The FDA carried out the inspection in September 2000 at various trial sites in the US including the West Virginia site (which was responsible for enrolling many hundreds of participants). An FDA official letter reported several violations including failure to report serious harms to the sponsor (Roche) as the protocol required and in addition stated: "... we view the statement in the payment section of the consent form used in the study that subjects '...will receive \$300.00 for participating in and completing the study. No payment will be made to you if you withdraw from the study for personal reasons...' to be an improper procedure. When subjects are to be paid for participating in a study, the payment should be prorated for the subject's actual participation in the study in order to avoid the possibility of coercion" ([FDA 2000e](#), PDF page 177). However, the FDA allowed the data (which had been published a year earlier in a prime journal) to stand in support of Roche's application for the prophylaxis indication. We do not know whether the participant contract was standard (i.e. whether the observation of possible improper procedures could be generalised to other sites and other trials), but the document cited by the FDA inspector is the subject of one of our (as yet unfulfilled) Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. The possibility of financial pressure, if confirmed, could seriously confound drop-out rates because of harms or any other causes in prophylaxis trials.

The significantly higher incidence of diarrhoea in placebo recipients of treatment trial [WV15671](#) was identified by the FDA reviewers who remarked "Diarrhea was reported more frequently among subjects receiving placebo than among subjects receiving Ro 64-0796 [oseltamivir]. Diarrhoea, although not specified as an inclusion criterion, has been documented to be a clinical manifestation of influenza infection. The reduction in the incidence of diarrhoea for the treatment groups compared with the placebo group could be considered as a possible treatment effect of Ro 64-0796" ([FDA 1999c](#)). However, according to the Japanese Summary Basis for Approval (JSBA) of oseltamivir capsules for prophylaxis, diarrhoea was reported more frequently in the oseltamivir arm (49/986) than in the placebo group (38/973) in the summarised table of adverse events from three trials ([WV15673/WV15697](#); [WV15708](#); [WV15825](#)). Our findings are inconsistent with the explanation by the FDA.

Selective reporting

All oseltamivir trials and almost half of the zanamivir trials had selected reporting. The oseltamivir trials showed a consistent trend of missing original protocols (except for [M76001](#)), changing outcome definitions while the trial was running, protocol amendments even after the trial had been completed, inconsistent approaches to outcome data collection, missing statistical analysis plans, missing date of unblinding and the use of self reported outcomes such as pneumonia ([M76001](#); [WV15670](#); [WV15671](#); [WV15707](#); [WV15730](#); [WV16277](#)). This represent 55% of pneumonia event data. As an example, in trial [WV15670](#), secondary illnesses were patient reported. The body of the clinical study report states that complications requiring antibiotic treatment were specified a

priori but even in the final version of the protocol, for which we have the full text, there is no predefined list of secondary illnesses (i.e. no mention of pneumonia, bronchitis, sinusitis or otitis in the protocol), nor did complications have anything to do with antibiotic treatment according to the protocol, nor does the Case Report Form mention specific secondary illnesses by name. Zanamivir trials reported outcomes not specified in the protocol provided.

We found evidence of possible selective reporting bias when we analysed the JSBA data on prophylaxis. The regulatory data reports tables for individual trials as well as 10 pages of summarised tables for three trials of prophylaxis ([WV15673/WV15697](#); [WV15708](#); [WV15825](#)). Tables for individual trials include data for high-dose arms but report few psychiatric adverse events overall. However, the summarised tables list a variety of psychiatric adverse events including psychotic and suicidal adverse events, but not adverse events from the high-dose group. As a preliminary exploratory analysis, we combined the following suspected serious adverse events collectively: hallucination and delusion that are classified grade 3 (serious) by the National Cancer Institute-Common Toxicity Criteria Version 2.0 (NCI-CTC V2.0), psychosis (hallucination and delusion are the two major symptoms of this disease), suicidal attempt that is classified grade 3 (serious) by the Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE) Version 4.0 (CTCAE V4.0) and hostility that includes aggression, hostility, violence, murder and commonly considered as serious events though not listed in the NCI-CTC V2.0 or CTCAE V4.0. Numbers of suspected serious psychotic/suicidal adverse events (including hallucination, psychosis, schizophrenia, paranoia, aggression/hostility and attempted suicide) were five in the oseltamivir group and zero in the placebo group during the on-treatment period. When the off-treatment period data are added the total was eight versus one. The prophylaxis programme is crucial in understanding the harms profile of the drug as the potential for harms witnessed to be confounded by the apparently numerous symptoms and signs of influenza infection is far less, as many participants do not become infected with influenza. This makes a causality assessment more straightforward.

Other potential sources of bias

All but three of the oseltamivir treatment trials were under-recruited. Several of the zanamivir trials were also under-recruited. We noted the use of different relief medication across different centres within the same trial and in one zanamivir trial ([NAI30031](#)), according to the protocol participants receiving antibiotics for bacterial respiratory tract infection should have been excluded but in the trial this did not happen. In the zanamivir trial [NAI30034](#), the definition of "confirmed influenza" was amended after protocol closure.

We also noted several other items that were not included in all full clinical study reports:

- Study protocols dated prior to participant enrolment (missing for many oseltamivir trials).
- Certificates of analysis for the intervention/placebo preparations.

- Patient enrolment dates explicitly reported (only trial inception and cessation dates are given; in zanamivir trials these are partially redacted).
- Explicitly reported date of trial unblinding. We frequently noted the statement "the database was authorized on xxxx" to identify the unblinding date but an explicit date is important to report. In some cases, the date of unblinding was reported but the actual date within the month was redacted. This practice also applied to zanamivir protocol amendments.
- Authorship and accountability for the writing of the clinical study reports.
- Statistical analysis plans in some cases.
- Patient consent forms (missing from most zanamivir trials).
- Patient information form (missing from most zanamivir trials).
- List of randomisation codes (variably included).
- Case report form templates in zanamivir trials do not allow for determining who completes the form (patient or clinician).
- Core data sheet.

Other important documents that we did not have included:

- Study manual of procedures.
- Minutes of safety data monitoring committee meetings.

The placebo interventions in both sets of trials may have contained active substances. The placebo for zanamivir trials contained lactose powder, which can potentially cause bronchospasm, while the placebo for oseltamivir trials contained dehydrocholic acid and dibasic calcium phosphate dehydrate, which can cause gastrointestinal symptoms.

Data on participants by influenza-infected status (in treatment trials) and for participants with influenza-like illness (in prophylaxis trials) were not reported in the oseltamivir clinical study reports.

Finally, data on the effects of rescue or relief medication (mainly paracetamol/acetaminophen) were incomplete in clinical study reports of oseltamivir trials and not reported separately in all zanamivir trials.

Effects of interventions

Analysis of time to first symptom alleviation

In adult treatment, oseltamivir reduced the time to first alleviation of symptoms by 16.8 hours (95% confidence interval (CI) 8.4 to 25.1 hours, I^2 statistic = 0%), representing a 10% reduction from 7 days to 6.3 days ([Analysis 1.1](#); [Figure 4](#)). There was no significant effect in asthmatic children: increased by 5.2 hours (95% CI 11.1 hours lower to 21.4 hours higher, I^2 statistic = 0%). But there was an effect in otherwise healthy children, based on one trial: 29 hours, 95% CI: 12 to 47 hours, $P = 0.001$. ([Analysis 1.46](#)). Zanamivir reduced time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults by 0.60 days (95% CI 0.39 to 0.81 days, I^2 statistic = 9%), which equates to a 14.4 hours (10%) reduction in symptoms from 6.6 days to 6.0 days ([Analysis 3.1](#); [Figure 5](#)). There was no significant effect in children: time to first alleviation of symptoms was 1.08 days lower in the zanamivir group (95% CI 2.32 lower to 0.15 days higher, I^2 statistic = 72%) ([Analysis 3.14](#)).

Figure 4. Forest plot of comparison: 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, outcome: 1.1 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (ITT population) [hours].

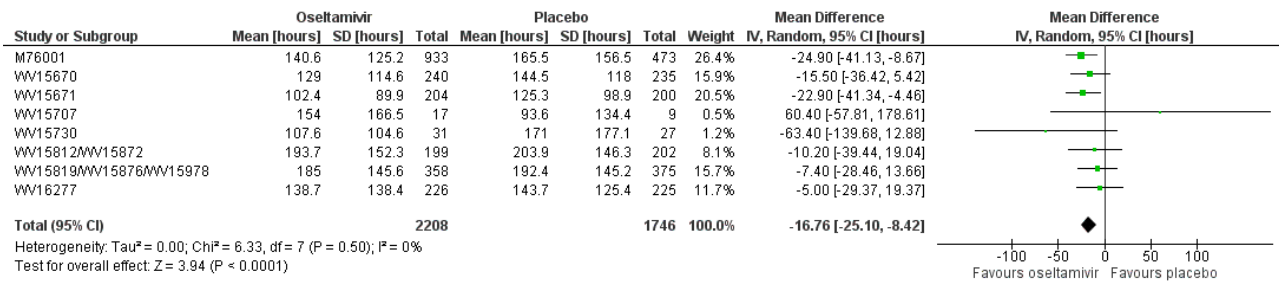
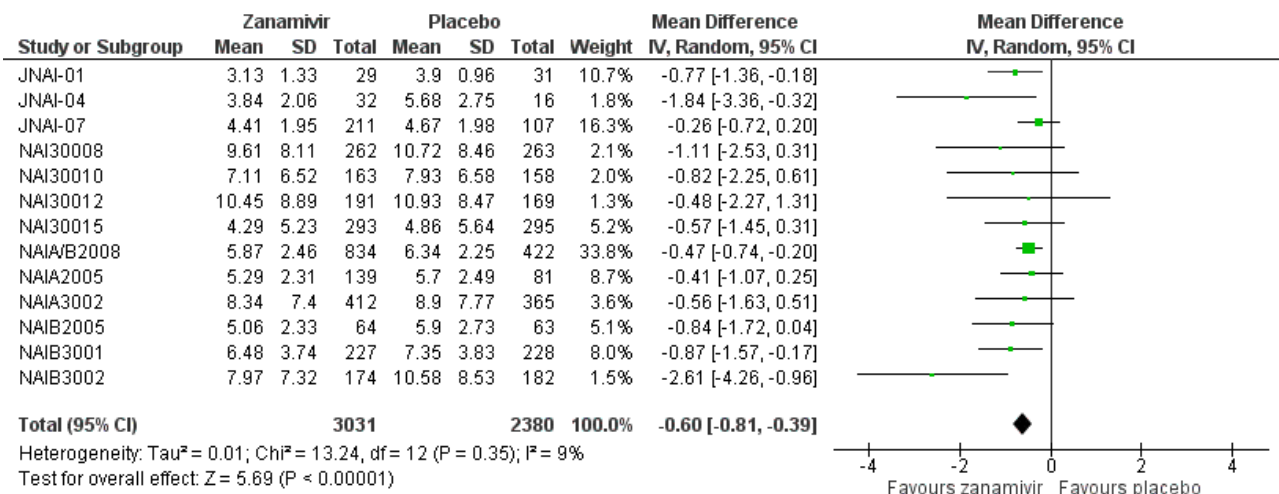


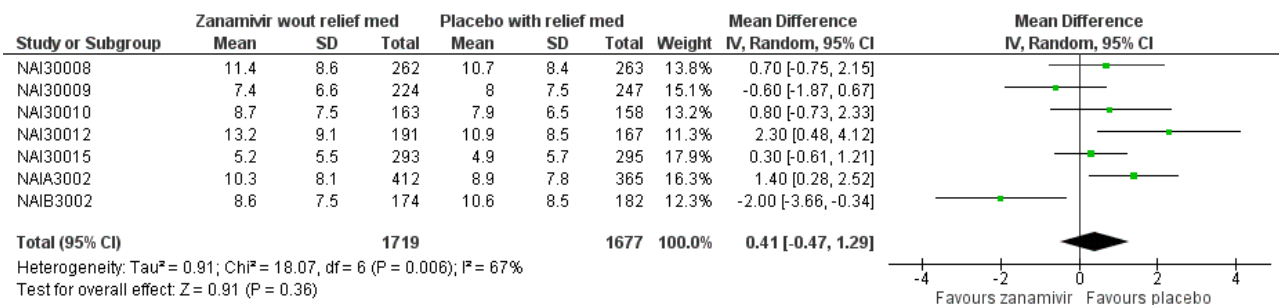
Figure 5. Forest plot of comparison: 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, outcome: 3.1 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (days).



In eight zanamivir trials that reported on use of relief medication, in all participants the median days to alleviation in both the placebo and the treatment arms was less when compared to those who did not use relief medications (Table 6). In seven zanamivir trials, time to first alleviation of symptoms was also reported with and without rescue medication. Using these data we were able to compare zanamivir without rescue medication with placebo with rescue

medication. Overall there was a non-significant 0.41 day decrease (95% CI 0.47 days lower to 1.29 days higher, I² statistic = 67%) in time to first alleviation of symptoms in the placebo with rescue medication group, suggesting that zanamivir itself is no better than rescue medication and possibly even less effective, although the varying levels of use of rescue medication in the seven trials did give rise to large heterogeneity (Analysis 3.68; Figure 6).

Figure 6. Forest plot of comparison: 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, outcome: 3.68 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults with/without relief medication [days].



In subgroup analysis of time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults by infection status, we found no evidence of a difference in

treatment effect for zanamivir on the influenza-infected subgroup compared to the non-influenza-infected subgroup (P = 0.53). The

treatment effect was 0.67 days (95% CI 0.35 to 0.99 days, I² statistic = 17%) for influenza-infected patients and 0.52 days (95% CI 0.18 to 0.86 days, I² statistic = 0%) for non-influenza-infected patients (Analysis 3.69).

Analysis of hospitalisations

In oseltamivir treatment of adults, there was no significant difference in hospitalisation rate between treatment groups (risk ratio (RR) 0.92, 95% CI 0.57 to 1.50, I² statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.2), or in treatment of children (RR 1.92, 95% CI 0.70 to 5.23, I² statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.47), with wide CIs; or in prophylaxis (RR 1.14, 95% CI 0.66 to 1.94, I² statistic = 0%) (Analysis 2.7). Data on hospitalisations for the zanamivir studies were not reported.

Analysis of influenza complications

Pneumonia

In adult treatment trials, oseltamivir significantly reduced self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified pneumonia (RR 0.55, 95% CI 0.33 to 0.90, I² statistic = 0%; risk difference (RD) 1.00%, 95% CI 0.22 to 1.49; number needed to treat to benefit (NNTB) = 100, 95% CI 67 to 451) in the treated population. The effect was significant in the six trials that collected data on non-specific adverse events

or secondary/intercurrent illness forms (RR 0.44, 95% CI 0.22 to 0.88, I² statistic = 0%; RD 0.99%, 95% CI 0.21 to 1.38; NNTB = 101, 95% CI 73 to 470). However, it was not significant in the five trials (two clinical study reports) that used more detailed diagnostic data collection forms, and in no studies that reported on radiological confirmation of pneumonia (Figure 7; Analysis 1.17). There was no significant effect on pneumonia in children (RR 1.06, 95% CI 0.62 to 1.83, I² statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.52). In two zanamivir adult trials (NAI30012; NAI30015), pneumonia reporting was based on a stricter definition of X-ray confirmation and there was also no significant treatment effect (RR 1.02, 95% CI 0.35 to 3.02, I² = 39%) (Analysis 3.3). In nine zanamivir trials (NAI30008; NAI30010; NAI30011; NAIA/B2008; NAIA2005; NAIA3002; NAIB2007; NAIB3001; NAIB3002), pneumonia was a self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified outcome (Figure 8; Figure 9). Overall, there was no significant effect of zanamivir on mixed verified and unverified pneumonia in adult treatment (RR 0.90, 95% CI 0.58 to 1.40, I² statistic = 0%) (Analysis 3.2). Analysis 4.5 shows that in prophylaxis trials, zanamivir reduced the risk of self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified pneumonia in adults (RR 0.30, 95% CI 0.11 to 0.80, I² statistic = 0%; RD 0.32%, 95% CI 0.09 to 0.41; NNTB = 311, 95% CI 244 to 1086).

Figure 7. Forest plot of comparison: 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, outcome: 1.17 Complications: pneumonia in adult treatment.

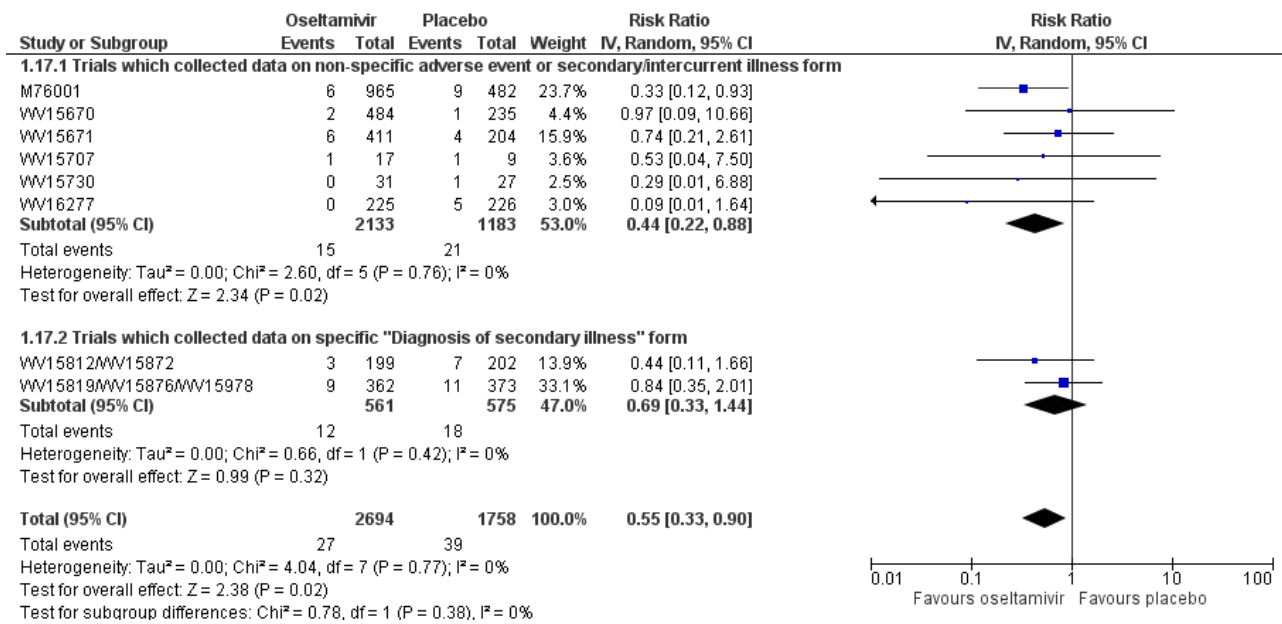


Figure 8. Example Diary card from case-report form for Zanamivir trial

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Protocol code: NAIB3002 Session number: [] Subject initials: [] Subject number: []

DAY 6
Post-Treatment Visit

Date of assessment: []/ []/ [] VSDT (07) [R]

Diary Card DARJON 9:500 A1
 Was the subject's Diary Card (Days 1-5) reviewed for accuracy and completeness? Yes No
 Please resolve any discrepancies in the Diary Card with the subject. OCCUR (A1) [R] [YES/NO]

Global Assessment of Symptoms S1EVV (A1) [R]
 How would you rate the subject's overall influenza-like symptoms? [VSDT]
 None Mild Moderate Severe

Influenza Complications FULLCP (A1) [R] [Y/N/ALL]
 Has the subject experienced any complications, since the last visit, as a result of their influenza-like illness? Yes No
 If YES, please check ALL complications below: CPTX (A2) [R] [CPTX]

Pulmonary	Cardiovascular
Pneumonia <input type="checkbox"/>	Congestive heart failure <input type="checkbox"/>
Exacerbation of COPD* <input type="checkbox"/>	Angina <input type="checkbox"/>
Exacerbation of asthma <input type="checkbox"/>	Myocardial infarction <input type="checkbox"/>
Bronchitis <input type="checkbox"/>	Arrhythmia <input type="checkbox"/>
Respiratory failure <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/> or Specify: CPTX (A66) [R]
Other <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: CPTX (A66) [R]	

*COPD = Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Ear/Nose/Throat Infections	Other Complications
Sinusitis <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/> or Specify: CPTX (A66) [R]
Otitis <input type="checkbox"/>	
Pharyngitis <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: CPTX (A66) [R]	

Record ALL complications of influenza on the NON-SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENT page or SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENT page.
Any medication used to treat an Influenza Complication should be recorded on the Concurrent Medications page.

Figure 9. Example Diary card from case-report form for Zanamivir trial (cont)

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Protocol code: NAIB3002 Session number: Subject visit: Subject number: **DAY 28**
Follow-up Visit Site: P. 2.

Date of assessment: VSDT (29) [CR]

Diary Card

Was the subject's Diary Card for Days 6-14 and 15-28 (if applicable), reviewed for accuracy and completeness? Yes No

Please resolve any discrepancies in the Diary Card with the subject. DC-HEC (A1) [CR] [V-RESAW]

Influenza Complications FLUCP (A1) [CR] SYNALL [CR]

Has the subject experienced any new complications, since the last visit, as a result of their influenza-like illness? Yes No

If YES, please check ALL complications below: CPTY (A3) [CR] [VCPTY]

Pulmonary	Cardiovascular
Pneumonia <input type="checkbox"/>	Congestive heart failure <input type="checkbox"/>
Exacerbation of COPD* <input type="checkbox"/>	Angina <input type="checkbox"/>
Exacerbation of asthma <input type="checkbox"/>	Myocardial infarction <input type="checkbox"/>
Bronchitis <input type="checkbox"/>	Arrhythmia <input type="checkbox"/>
Respiratory failure <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: CPTX (A66) [CR]
Other <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: CPTX (A66) [CR]	

*COPD = Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Ear/Nose/Throat Infections	Other Complications
Sinusitis <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: CPTX (A66) [CR]
Otitis <input type="checkbox"/>	
Pharyngitis <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: CPTX (A66) [CR]	

Record ALL complications of influenza on the NON-SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENT page or SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENT page.

Any medication used to treat an Influenza Complication should be recorded on the Concurrent Medications page.

In meta-regression of 'pneumonia' based on 32 studies, treatment effects were not statistically different by age group ($P = 0.22$), drug ($P = 0.89$) or indication ($P = 0.14$). However, treatment effects were statistically different by method of diagnosis ($P = 0.025$). For unclear objective diagnosis of pneumonia, the treatment effect was RR 0.51 (95% CI 0.35 to 0.75, I^2 statistic = 0%), whereas for objective diagnosis data collection of pneumonia, the treatment effect was 1.01 (95% CI 0.69 to 1.47, I^2 statistic = 0%). A subgroup analysis of pneumonia for all 32 studies by method of diagnosis is shown in Analysis 5.1. Please note that estimates in the subgroup analysis are slightly different to those obtained in meta-regression due to the different methodologies.

Serious complications and study withdrawals

In oseltamivir trials, treatment did not significantly affect complications classified as serious or those that led to withdrawal from the trial in adults (RR 0.91, 95% CI 0.40 to 2.06, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.20) or in children (RR 1.98, 95% CI 0.58 to 6.72, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.55). This outcome could not be assessed in oseltamivir prophylaxis due to an insufficient number of events. There was no significant effect of zanamivir, in adult treatment, in reducing the risk of any complication classified as serious or which led to study withdrawal (RR 1.10, 95% CI 0.46 to 2.63, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 3.7) or in prophylaxis (RR 1.09, 95% CI 0.36 to 3.26, I^2

statistic = 0%) (Analysis 4.8). This outcome could not be assessed in children due to an insufficient number of events.

Bronchitis, sinusitis and otitis media

Neither zanamivir (Analysis 4.6; Analysis 4.7) nor oseltamivir (Analysis 2.8; Analysis 2.9) significantly reduced the risk of bronchitis or sinusitis in prophylaxis trials. In adults, treatment with oseltamivir did not significantly reduce the risk of bronchitis (RR 0.75, 95% CI 0.56 to 1.01, I^2 statistic = 36%) (Analysis 1.16), sinusitis (RR 1.03, 95% CI 0.76 to 1.40, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.18) or otitis media (RR 1.11, 95% CI 0.57 to 2.15, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.19). The result for bronchitis was sensitive to the methods used, as a fixed-effect analysis showed a significant effect ($P = 0.02$). Oseltamivir did not significantly affect complications in treatment of children (Analysis 1.52 ; Analysis 1.50; Analysis 1.53), including otitis media (RR 0.80, 95% CI 0.62 to 1.02, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.51).

Treatment with zanamivir significantly reduced the risk of bronchitis in adults (RR 0.75, 95% CI 0.61 to 0.91, I^2 statistic = 0%; RD 1.80%, 95% CI 0.65 to 2.80; NNTB = 56, 95% CI 36 to 155) (Analysis 3.4), but did not reduce the risk of sinusitis (Analysis 3.5) or otitis media (Analysis 3.6). In children, zanamivir treatment did not significantly reduce the risk of sinusitis (RR 0.87, 95% CI 0.12 to

6.45, I^2 statistic = 40%) (Analysis 3.17) or otitis media (RR 1.00, 95% CI 0.59 to 1.72, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 3.18).

See Table 1 for a summary of the methodology used for collecting and assessing complications in oseltamivir treatment trials. See Table 7 for the overall results for oseltamivir in adults and Table 8 for children. See Table 9 for the overall results for zanamivir in adults and Table 10 for children.

Analysis of influenza outcomes in prophylaxis studies

Symptomatic influenza was lower in the oseltamivir arms compared to placebo in studies of prophylaxis (RR 0.45, 95% CI 0.30 to 0.67, I^2 statistic = 0%; RD 3.05%, 95% CI 1.83 to 3.88; NNTB = 33, 95% CI 26 to 55) (Analysis 2.1); but there were no differences for all other influenza outcomes including overall influenza-like-illness reported as an adverse event on-treatment. In household prophylaxis, one small study with missing outcome data and selective reporting, including 405 participants, showed a significant reduction of symptomatic influenza in the oseltamivir arm compared to placebo (RR 0.20, 95% CI 0.09 to 0.44; RD 13.6%, 95% CI 9.52 to 15.47) (Analysis 2.3), but in the same study there was no significant reduction in asymptomatic influenza (RR 1.14, 95% CI 0.39 to 3.33) (Analysis 2.4). Asymptomatic influenza was not significantly reduced and there was no non-influenza, influenza-like illness reported throughout the study period.

In prophylaxis trials we could not analyse effects on influenza-like illness because of a lack of definition in the clinical study reports. However, using our definition (see methods), oseltamivir did not reduce influenza-like illness in participants (RR 0.95, 95% CI 0.86 to 1.06).

The Roche trial programme assessing the effects of oseltamivir in post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) submitted to the FDA on 22 May 2000 consisted of two trials: WV15799 and WV16139. We included only trial WV15799 because WV16139 was not placebo-controlled. WV15799 was a double-blind, cluster-randomised trial in which contact clusters of index cases were randomised to oseltamivir 75 mg a day or placebo for seven days. The manufacturer concluded that the trial proved that oseltamivir could prevent influenza in contacts by interrupting transmission from index cases. Interruption of transmission has two components: reduction of viral spread from index cases (measured by nasal shedding of influenza viruses) and prevention of onset of influenza in contacts measured with a mixture of symptoms and signs and 'laboratory confirmation' (i.e. viral culture from the upper airways and/or at least a four-fold rise in antibody titres measured between baseline and two to three weeks later). The design of the WV15799 is weak. All index cases were left untreated except for a paracetamol rescue pack, making it impossible to assess the effect of oseltamivir on nasal voidance of index cases. Nasal viral voidance was measured only in symptomatic participants thereby missing out on potential asymptomatic infected people.

Zanamivir similarly significantly reduced the risk of symptomatic influenza for individuals (RR 0.39, 95% CI 0.22 to 0.70, I^2 statistic = 45%; RD = 1.98%, 95% CI: 0.98 to 2.54; NNTB = 51, 95% CI 40 to 103) (Analysis 4.1), as well as households (RR 0.33, 95% CI 0.18 to 0.58, I^2 statistic = 40%; RD = 14.84%, 95% CI 12.18 to 16.55, NNTB = 7, 95% CI 6 to 9) (Analysis 4.3). However, it did not reduce the risk of asymptomatic influenza in the prophylaxis of individuals (RR 0.97, 0.76 to 1.24, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 4.2) or asymptomatic

individuals in post-exposure prophylaxis of households (RR 0.88, 95% CI 0.65 to 1.20, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 4.4). See Table 11 for the overall results for oseltamivir in adults and Table 9 for children. See Table 12 and Table 13 for the overall results for zanamivir in adults and Table 14 for children.

Analysis of harms

Oseltamivir treatment

Nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea

Oseltamivir in the treatment of adults is associated with increased risk of nausea (RR 1.57, 95% CI 1.14 to 2.15, I^2 statistic = 43%; RD 3.66%, 95% CI 0.90 to 7.39; number needed to treat to harm (NNTH) = 28, 95% CI 14 to 112) (Analysis 1.5) and vomiting (RR 2.43, 95% CI 1.75 to 3.38, I^2 statistic = 12%; RD 4.56%, 95% CI 2.39 to 7.58; NNTH = 22, 95% CI 14 to 42) (Analysis 1.6). It is associated with a decreased risk of diarrhoea (RR 0.67, 95% CI 0.46 to 0.98, I^2 statistic = 44%; RD 2.33%, 95% CI 0.14 to 3.81; NNTB = 43, 95% CI 27 to 709) (Analysis 1.7) when compared to placebo during on-treatment periods. Both nausea and vomiting were associated with significant heterogeneity where treatment effects appeared larger in otherwise healthy adults compared to the elderly and the chronically ill. However, one trial of otherwise healthy adults also showed smaller effects (WV16277). Vomiting was more common in those children on oseltamivir treatment compared to those on placebo (RR 1.70, 95% CI 1.23 to 2.35, I^2 statistic = 0%; RD 5.34%, 95% CI 1.75 to 10.29; NNTH = 19, 95% CI 10 to 57) (Analysis 1.63).

Cardiac effects

The cardiac effects of oseltamivir are unclear. Exposure to oseltamivir may reduce cardiac general events compared to placebo (RR 0.49, 95% CI 0.25 to 0.97, I^2 statistic = 0%; RD 0.68%, 95% CI 0.04 to 1.00; NNTB = 148, 95% CI 101 to 2509), excluding WV16277 in which ECG was included in the safety parameters (Analysis 1.27). However, exposure to oseltamivir may increase QTc prolongation (including borderline) as reported in trial WV16277 (RD 4.0%, 95% CI 0.71 to 7.30; NNTH = 25, 95% CI 14 to 140) compared to placebo during on-treatment periods.

Psychiatric effects

In treatment trials, there was no significant increase in risk between oseltamivir and on-treatment psychiatric adverse events overall (Analysis 1.32). However, there was a dose-response effect in the two "pivotal" treatment trials. In the identically designed trials WV15670 and WV15671 there were two active treatment groups: 150 mg (standard dose) and 300 mg (high dose) oseltamivir per day. In the dose-response analysis there was an increased risk of psychiatric body system adverse events over the entire follow-up period ($P = 0.038$ based on likelihood ratio test). In trial WV15670, the event rates were: 1/204, 1/206 and 4/205 in the placebo, 75 mg and 150 mg arms respectively, whereas trial WV15671 had rates of 2/235, 0/242 and 5/242, respectively.

Effect on antibodies (post-protocol hypotheses)

The proportion of patients being diagnosed as influenza-infected in oseltamivir treatment of adults was significantly lower in the treated compared to the control group (RR 0.95, 95% CI 0.91 to 0.99, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.3). The proportion of patients with four-fold increases in antibody titre was significantly lower in the treated group compared to the control group (RR 0.92, 95% CI 0.86 to 0.97, I^2

statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.4). This represents an absolute difference of 5% between treatment groups. There was a lower proportion of children on oseltamivir with a four-fold increase in antibodies (RR 0.90, 95% CI 0.80 to 1.00, I² statistic = 0%) (Analysis 1.49).

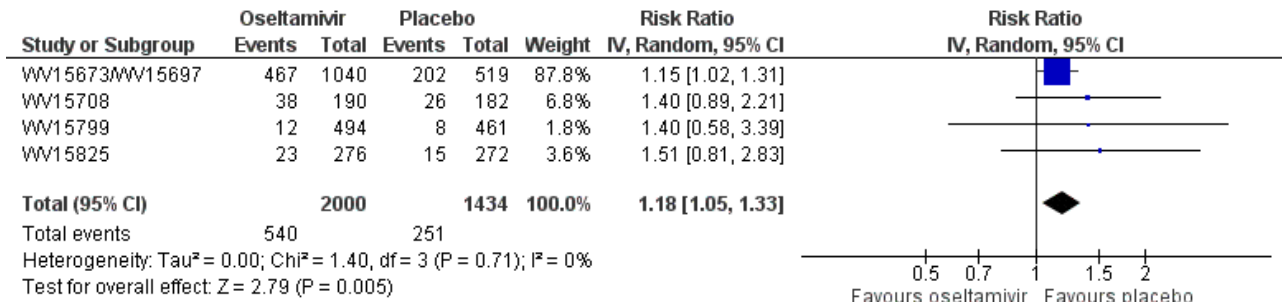
Osetamivir prophylaxis

Headaches and nausea

In oseltamivir prophylaxis, there was an increased risk of headaches on-treatment (RR 1.18, 95% CI 1.05 to 1.33, I² statistic =

0%; RD 3.15%, 95% CI 0.88 to 5.78; NNTH = 32, (95% CI 18 to 115) (Analysis 2.19; Figure 10) and nausea on-treatment (RR 1.96, 95% CI 1.20 to 3.20, I² statistic = 49%; RD 4.15%, 95% CI 0.86 to 9.51; NNTH = 25, 95% CI 11 to 116) (Analysis 2.20). There was also a dose-response effect for headaches in study WV15673/WV15697 (P = 0.013 based on likelihood ratio test), where on-treatment rates were: 202/519, 225/520 and 242/520 in the placebo, standard-dose and high-dose arms, respectively.

Figure 10. Forest plot of comparison: 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, outcome: 2.19 Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



Psychiatric effects

Figure 11 (Analysis 2.54) shows that in prophylaxis trials of oseltamivir there was a significant increase in patients with psychiatric adverse events over the on- and off-treatment periods (RR 1.80, 95% CI 1.05 to 3.08, I² statistic = 0%; RD 1.06%, 95%

CI 0.07 to 2.76; NNTH = 94, 95% CI 36 to 1538). Initial analysis of patients with psychiatric adverse events in the on-treatment period showed a borderline statistically significant result (P = 0.06), hence we conducted sensitivity analysis using Peto's method (P = 0.05) as well as the analysis reported in Figure 11.

Figure 11. Forest plot of comparison: 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, outcome: 2.54 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult prophylaxis (on- and off-treatment).

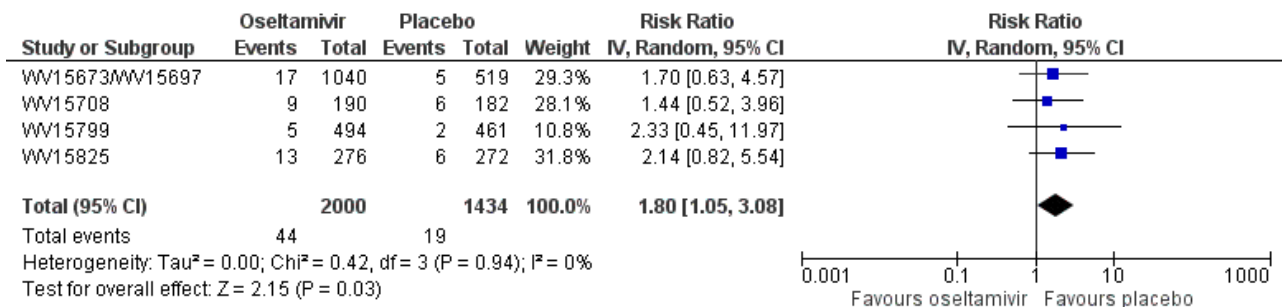


Table 15 shows a summary of all psychiatric adverse events in oseltamivir prophylaxis trials. Of particular note was an oseltamivir patient in study WV15825 who had severe confusion on day 27 and was hospitalised. On day 28 the patient was taken off medication and the event resolved. On day 29 the patient was discharged from hospital and subsequently resumed medication. However, confusion reappeared on day 32. The initial event was misclassified in the clinical study report as "mental impairment" but has since been corrected in an erratum published in the same journal that published the original trial manuscript (Gravenstein 2013; Peters 2001).

Renal effects

There was a non-significant increase in renal events on-treatment (RR 3.17, 95% CI 0.96 to 10.49, I² statistic = 0; RD 0.67%, 95% CI -2.93 to 0.01; NNTH = 150, 95% CI NNTH 35 to ∞ to NNTB > 1000) (Analysis 2.38). However, in sensitivity analysis using Peto's method the result for renal events was statistically significant (P = 0.02).

Zanamivir

Serious adverse events

There was no significant effect on serious adverse events in adult treatment trials (RR 0.86, 95% CI 0.49 to 1.50, I² statistic = 0%) (Analysis 3.11).

Nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea

In treatment trials, there was no significant effect on diarrhoea in adults (RR 0.87, 95% CI 0.66 to 1.14, I^2 statistic = 5%) (Analysis 3.33) or headache (RR 0.84, 95% CI 0.60 to 1.18, I^2 statistic = 0) (Analysis 3.35). However, during the on-treatment phase, nausea and vomiting were significantly less frequent in the zanamivir arm (RR 0.60, 95% CI 0.39 to 0.94, I^2 statistic = 0%; RD 1.63%, 95% CI 0.24 to 2.48%; NNTB = 62, 95% CI 41 to 411) (Analysis 3.32).

Renal, psychiatric and other harms

There was no significant effect observed on the renal system (RR 0.84, 95% CI 0.41 to 1.72, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 3.45), or the psychiatric system (RR 1.16, 95% CI 0.57 to 2.38, I^2 statistic = 0%) (Analysis 3.48). In adult treatment trials of zanamivir, there was no significantly increased risk of any other reported adverse events and there was no significant increase in adverse effects observed in prophylaxis trials, including psychiatric (Analysis 4.29) and renal effects (Analysis 4.30) on-treatment. There was no significant increase in harms associated with zanamivir treatment of children but data were sparse.

Effect on antibodies

There was no significant effect of zanamivir treatment on influenza diagnosis (Analysis 3.8) or probability of a four-fold increase in antibody titre (Analysis 3.9; Analysis 3.10).

Deaths

In oseltamivir treatment trials, there was one death overall. This event occurred due to acute respiratory syndrome in a placebo patient without influenza in study WV15812/WV15872. In prophylaxis trials, there were four deaths in total, all in elderly patients, with two in the placebo group and two in the oseltamivir group. Causes of death were reported as two cancers, one myocardial infarction and one intestinal perforation. However, for both deaths in the oseltamivir arms the participants experienced acute renal failure on-treatment prior to death.

There were eight deaths in total in the zanamivir trials. Six of the deaths were caused by neoplasias or cardiovascular events in elderly patients with multiple pathologies. However, two deaths were reported as due to influenza A pneumonia. One participant was on inhaled rimantadine plus placebo and the other on zanamivir.

The results of post-protocol hypotheses are in [Appendix 10](#).

DISCUSSION

Oseltamivir and zanamivir have small, non-specific effects on reducing time to alleviation of influenza-like illness symptoms in adults, but not in asthmatic children. Using either drug as prophylaxis reduces the risk of developing symptomatic influenza. Treatment trials with oseltamivir or zanamivir do not settle the question of whether complications of influenza such as pneumonia are reduced, because of a lack of diagnostic definitions. Use of oseltamivir increases the risk of adverse effects such as nausea, vomiting, psychiatric effects and renal events in adults and the risk of vomiting in children. The lower bioavailability may explain the lower toxicity of zanamivir compared to oseltamivir. The influenza virus-specific mechanism of action proposed by the producers does not fit the clinical evidence.

Reconstructing trial lists and indexing regulatory comments

Calls for incorporating unpublished data to supplement published trial data in systematic reviews and meta-analyses highlight deficiencies in the current methods for obtaining the most complete understanding of a drug's effects (Godlee 2010). Our methodological approach entailed comprehensive searching of unpublished sources, with a particular emphasis on obtaining unpublished and internal reports from drug manufacturers intended for regulatory submission and comments from national regulatory bodies. Our decision not to use published evidence as a basis for trial appraisal and data extraction meant that we had to reconcile and synthesise information from multiple unpublished sources. We had to devise a new method of searching, indexing, retrieving and reviewing trial data and to combine this understanding with regulatory comments to produce an informative review. The first step in this process entailed the need to develop our own reconstruction of the trial programme without initial help from outside sources. The reconstructed list of trials and then programmes took a whole-time-equivalent (WTE) researcher 20 days to compile. Due to the complexity of the task we suggest that in the future some of the essential phases, such as trial ID checking, be conducted in pairs.

One of the comments received on our protocol suggested that discrepancies between published and unpublished versions of the same data set could be due to mistakes in the non-peer reviewed, unedited clinical study reports (which may be corrected by the time of publication). Our experience, especially with the non-reporting of serious adverse events, points to the opposite being the case (Jefferson 2011b). Considering the fact that unintentional errors can occur, we believe the response should not be a resort to published papers as 'most accurate' and best unit of analysis, but rather that clinical study reports - as by far the most comprehensive record of a trial - remain the key unit of analysis, with the expectation that they be amended and kept as accurate as possible over time, with complete documentation of reasons for any amendments. We believed that the results of our review would be undermined without accessing a more complete body of evidence that we knew to be outside the public domain.

In theory, trial registers would be expected to provide a comprehensive picture of a drug's trial programme. However, registers were not our primary instruments to reconstruct zanamivir and oseltamivir trial programmes. Both drugs' programmes were mainly run in the late 1990s, before trial registration became the norm. In addition, registers may suffer from some of the problems that we were trying to address. Bourgeois 2011 audited entries for 546 trials of five major classes of drugs on ClinicalTrials.gov, the biggest prospective register of clinical trials, and found evidence of risk of reporting bias and delay in reporting of results. Another review of 152 trials found that the description of 123 (or 81%) of the trials in the sample had been changed in at least one key element in the time between registration and publication. The most frequent changes regarded outcomes (Huic 2011). Despite the current limits of registers, both specifically to this review and in the way they are run and updated, we believe that registers are an obvious first choice to start reconstruction of trials programmes. Searching for unpublished material has not yet become standard practice in conducting Cochrane reviews (Van Driel 2009), and is currently variably reported (Ghersli 2010).

The indexing and review of regulatory files was also a very laborious task. It took a WTE researcher three days to review the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulator's comments and gain a basic understanding of the content. Four additional days were needed to read and annotate the FDA zanamivir files and 28 days for reading and annotating the oseltamivir files and building the Table of Contents-Evidence (TOCE). The exercise had to be repeated several times to cross-check content and expand annotations. Construction of the Table of Contents (TOC) was laborious. A first attempt at electronic mapping the TOC content took 12 and 8 hours respectively for the FDA and National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) regulatory documents. This was carried out using the Adobe Acrobat Optical Character Recognition (OCR) search facility, which enabled mapping of citation counts by document and by trial ID. Initially we used the trial prefix followed by the serial number ('WV15670') as ID. This procedure, however, had one major drawback linked to the nature of regulatory documents. As regulatory documents consist of notes, correspondence and reviews, the same trial is cited in a non-standardised way. For example, trial [WV15670](#) is cited as 'WV15670' 15 times, as 'WV_15670' 12 times and simply as '15670' 19 times). Thorough searches must be conducted using all the different terms. As this can be very time-consuming, we decided to compare an Acrobat search with a Boolean string strategy containing all possible citation formats (for example, [WV15758](#) OR WV 15758 OR Trial 15758 OR Trial15758 OR Trials 15758 OR Trials15758 OR 15758 OR study 15758 OR study15758) (this is logically equivalent to 'WV 15758 OR WV 15758') with a term-by-term search (i.e. separately searching for WV15758 and then for WV 15758 and so on). We reasoned that if the yield were comparable, the Boolean strategy would have been faster. The yield of citations of the two strategies was the same for six of seven 'tracker' studies but use of a Boolean string was considerably faster (an average of 3 versus 14 hours) than the term-by-term strategy. The National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) submission citations took two hours to list in a TOC using a Boolean strategy. We adopted the Boolean search strategy to construct our TOC. Ultimately it is possible that a search with the trial numerals ('15670') may be sufficient to identify the vast majority of citations. To validate this method of searching further our methods should be repeated on other sets of regulatory documents.

Once we had reconstructed the trial programmes we submitted the results to GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Roche for their input. We received detailed feedback from both but as late as 2011 Roche's list of trials was incomplete. Despite the laboriousness of the methods, we believe we ended up with a far more comprehensive and less biased set of evidence than that available through the current system of journal-based publications. This shift in our data synthesis paradigm was made necessary by the numerous and documented discrepancies between regulatory and published evidence and by the sizeable risk of publication bias of the oseltamivir trial programme. The importance of reconstructing the trial programme by first generating a complete trial list was further reinforced upon discovering bias and oversights in regulators' handling of the trial programme. Regulators focus on a few mutually agreed "pivotal" trials whose data analyses are replicated by the FDA but not by the European Medicines Agency (EMA). Both largely ignored trial [M76001](#), the largest oseltamivir treatment trial conducted prior to initial registration of the drug (and still unpublished). While the manufacturer may not have offered it as a "pivotal" trial, far smaller and even ongoing studies were

included in the evidence base to support Roche's year 1999 New Drug Application number 021087 (Treatment of uncomplicated acute illness due to influenza infections in adults who have been symptomatic for no more than two days). The depth of the EMA scrutiny is harder to assess as we could find no reports of trial site visits or of data analysis replication, but we identified a pooled analysis of treatment trials, very similar to the [Kaiser 2003](#) analysis which formed the basis for the EMA conclusion that oseltamivir affected complications reported, for example, on EMA's 4 October 2012 Summary of product characteristics (SmPC) (<http://www.bmj.com/tamiflu/ema>). We requested Modules 3, 4 and 5 (individual listings, demographic data and the statistical analysis report) from the EMA. However, for most oseltamivir trials, the EMA do not have the relevant documents and neither apparently do National Competent Authorities (email from the EMA, 24 May 2011; email from Dutch regulator MEB, 20 July 2011). This means that the Modules do not appear to have been either submitted to or requested by regulators, raising questions as to the extent of scrutiny of the clinical trials during the regulatory review of oseltamivir in Europe.

Our new method

Reviewing huge quantities of complicated data and linked comments is a very difficult and delicate process. The main problem is not so much the appraisal following standard rules and possible synthesis of data (as when we review published information), but the reconstructions and logical threading of a trial programme generating huge amounts of data needing appraisal. Also the manufacturer's full regulatory submission, which may have even more information than a full clinical study report, remains confidential. Most of the essential data required are available in clinical study reports, together with masses of less important data, but as we have explained even in this case there may be important omissions, such as mislaid diary cards for follow-up. Manufacturers are under obligation to provide regulators with all data requested to enable them to reach a decision: in doing so they produce vast submissions. None of the authors (all experienced systematic reviewers) had any experience of reviewing regulatory information. Given the laborious and painstaking process we tried to identify a quicker and equally reliable way of reviewing regulatory information but could not find any obvious shortcuts. However, we believe that providing a critical overview of a trial programme rather than minute dissection of each trial is necessary. This can be done by identifying the important topics in the trial programme (such as the effects of the drug on symptoms, infection, complications, transmission and well-being) and following them throughout the programme, knitting the evidence into a coherent narrative. This includes carrying out a high-level overview of the mode of action of the drug in different populations for different indications. Understanding any drug's mode of action is core to correct reporting of its strengths and limitations. In addition, a large part of the regulatory submission is made up of chemistry, microbiological, animal model pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic studies, which are important for shedding light on the trial programme but which seldom feature in systematic reviews. We are unsure as to whether this information could be considered as core information but an exhaustive review of a trial programme should include reviews dedicated to such topics.

These methods were crucial in discovering major concerns in trial conduct and validity, including the lack of comparability between arms induced by subset analysis and by the randomisation-analysis fork, high positivity rate of influenza, high gastrointestinal events in the placebo arms, possibly active placebo content and possible procedural breaches several trials, which are concerning. Overall, the safest and more conservative option appears to carry out analyses on the basis of the intention-to-treat (ITT) population, in which units of randomisation and analysis are the same and many of the potential problems listed are either not present or minimised.

Our novel methodology remains a work in progress.

Regulatory comments

Reviewing regulatory comments was an essential way to deepen our understanding of the trial programme. From early on in our review we hoped that a close reading of regulatory material would allow us to understand the reason for discrepancies between US and European regulators' conclusions regarding the effects of oseltamivir, particularly (but not limited to) their purported effect on complications (Doshi 2009). We were interested in what led the FDA to have far more cautious and conservative statements - as witnessed in the Tamiflu product label and FDA letters - in comparison to European regulators. Our access to huge amounts of FDA regulatory data allowed for many insights but gave us little visibility of manufacturers' responses.

Some of the statements made by the manufacturer in the clinical study reports, and subsequently in contemporaneous publications and advertisements, appeared unsupported by the evidence provided at the time. The FDA drug regulatory reviewers' comments, although laborious to summarise and contextualise (because of the non-availability of the whole pharmaceutical submission), were confirmed by our reading of the clinical study reports. However, we were unable to find a statement explaining how the FDA reviewed each New Drug Application (NDA). FDA reviewing methods appeared to be a mixture of spot checks, re-run of statistical analyses and on-site inspections. An FDA methods volume or standard operational procedure may be among the documents not available from the web but accessible through a Freedom of Information (FOI) request. Neither the FDA nor the EMA have inventories of held documents, making it very difficult to know what to ask for under FOI rules. We concentrated on downloading or asking for specific clinical study reports and related documents or reviewers' comments on a particular NDA. The quantity of information held by regulators is likely to be large. For example, New Drug Application 21-246, the use of Tamiflu in the treatment of influenza in children submitted to the FDA on 15 June 2000 consisted of 137 volumes of study documents and possibly several electronic files. Although we do not know exactly how long a volume was, we have seen references to up to hundreds of pages in each volume.

Requesting specific documents and packages of information is especially important to allow a more efficient and timely reviewing process when confronted with a large volume of evidence, most of which could be of peripheral value. A request for a specific document is likely to be dealt with far more efficiently than a generic request for "all documentation relating to oseltamivir". This is one of the reasons why developing a TOC for any drug or family of drugs (no matter how time-consuming) is an absolute prerequisite for any serious attempt at reviewing regulatory evidence. This

introduces another very difficult problem: how to handle huge quantities of structured information and the ethics of drawing conclusions from what is still a fragmentary (albeit sizeable) evidence base.

Overall the FDA assessment of the performance of oseltamivir was "modest". This adjective appears six times in a 50-page review document (FDA 1999c). For example, in the Division Director Memorandum dated 25 October 1999, under the heading "Public health role of antiviral treatment" the FDA states: "The clinical relevance of the modest treatment benefit is a highly subjective question" (FDA 1999c, PDF page 3). The FDA refused to accept claims of oseltamivir's effects on influenza complications as "false or misleading" statements in promotional materials (FDA 2000f). An FDA warning letter seems to imply, for example, that oseltamivir's mode of action is "proposed" or "possibly" [that proposed by the manufacturers] i.e. not certain (FDA 2000f). However, FDA reviewers appear to have missed important problems in Roche's clinical trials (such as the imbalance in the numbers of individuals classified as influenza-infected in oseltamivir treatment trials). Most of all, no one seems to have questioned the coherence of the evidence with the proposed mode of action of the drug.

Summary of main results

For the first time a Cochrane review is based on all relevant full clinical study reports of a class of drugs integrated by regulatory comments. Also for the first time, all clinical study reports of trials in a manufacturer's programme (regardless of their relevance to the review) are available to readers without any restriction (apart from minimal redactions to protect anonymity further). The role of Roche and GSK in making this possible should be recognised, as well as that of the *BMJ*, which kept the issue in the public eye until it was resolved.

The evidence we have presented and synthesised shows that both neuraminidase inhibitors (NIs) in this review have symptom-relieving effects, especially for self reported outcomes. They appear to have symptom-relieving properties that make people with influenza-like illness and self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified pneumonia feel better by shortening symptom duration and reducing the frequency of symptoms such as cough. For oseltamivir, this effect perhaps extends to cardiac symptoms, despite the short duration of treatment (five days). We are unsure what to make of this finding but we think it deserves further investigation.

The issue which triggered our change of evidence-seeking methods is partly resolved: no definitions of secondary illnesses were given anywhere in the clinical study reports (for example "pneumonia" was defined as "pneumonia" in the case report forms (Table 1) and diagnostic criteria were not given); clinical diagnosis in the absence of criteria and without X-ray has only a moderate chance of being correct.


We could not decide the level of diagnostic ascertainment of diagnosis of pneumonia and other complications, as it is unclear from the clinical study reports. Definitions of pneumonia were not given and the algorithm for classification of an event as pneumonia was not supplied. In oseltamivir trials, the case report form trigger for recording of adverse events and secondary illness was a question to the participant posed by the investigator. A typical phrasing is as follows: "Secondary illness reminder: Has

the patient reported any sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, other chest infection or pneumonia since baseline?" This was followed by a yes/no box to be ticked and an additional form was to be filled out by the investigator for collecting details on the secondary illness. A record of medications outside trial allocation was elicited in addition to the participant's diary card. The original and Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities (MedDRA) terms suggest diagnoses for all secondary illnesses and adverse events but there is no indication how the original and preferred terms were assigned. We therefore considered these outcomes to be "self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified" outcomes. For a subset of trials, secondary/intercurrent illness and adverse event data were collected on a


single, one-page form. In our meta-analyses, we called this sub-analysis "Trials which collected data on non-specific adverse events or secondary/intercurrent illness form". For a different subset of trials, case report forms contained space to record diagnostic tests such as chest X-rays, tympanometry and sinus X-rays for all secondary illness but there was no reporting of such variables in the clinical study reports (Figure 12; Figure 13; Figure 14; Figure 15). In our meta-analyses, we called this sub-analysis "Trials which collected data on specific 'Diagnosis of Secondary Illness' form". None of the complications were defined as primary outcomes in any trial, which may explain the poverty of data definition.

Figure 12. Sample "Adverse event or intercurrent illness" form (oseltamivir study M76001)

Tamiflu® (oseltamivir phosphate)



170 - 145
PART IV - CLINICAL DOCUMENTATION



Adverse event or intercurrent illness

Page 31 Patient initials¹ [] [] [] []

V 0512 CRTN: _____ CRF number: _____

Adverse event or intercurrent illness:

Initial assessment

Event² _____
Record only one event on this page (maximum of 100 characters)

Date of onset [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] Initial intensity
 mild
 moderate
 severe
 life threatening

Follow-up information

Is this a serious adverse event?
 yes → *report within one working day of occurrence to Innovex by telephone or telex*
 no

SAE number⁶ [] [] [] [] [] []

Test drug adjustment³
 none
 discontinued → *complete patient's completion of study record*

Is this event a secondary illness⁹ related to influenza? yes
no

Relationship to test drug
 unrelated
 remote
 possible
 probable

Most extreme intensity^{4,7}
 mild
 moderate
 severe
 life threatening

Outcome
 resolved - no sequelae → *specify date* Date resolved [] [] [] [] [] []
 resolved - with sequelae → *specify date*
 unresolved¹⁰
 death⁵ → *complete patient death record*

Did this adverse event lead to hospitalization?
 yes → *record on next page*
 no

Comments on AE _____

Was treatment given for this event*
 yes → *complete below*
 no


	Name of treatment ⁵ (or medical procedure) <i>(maximum of 40 characters)</i>	Start date mm/dd/yy	End date mm/dd/yy	Continuing at outcome of AE
1	_____	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	_____	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	_____	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	_____	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	_____	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []	<input type="checkbox"/>

*If there are more than 5 treatments please mark . Record additional treatments on the additional treatments page.


M76001

Figure 13. Sample "Secondary illness" form (oseltamivir study WV15670)

Tamiflu® (oseltamivir phosphate)



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Secondary illness

page 37

Secondary illness^{1, 2}

If a secondary illness became a SAE, please complete adverse event page.

Event _____
Record only one event on this page

Date of onset | | | | |
 ds mn yy

Date resolved | | | | |
 dd mm yy

Was treatment given for this event

yes → record any drug therapy below


no

	Treatment ³ (or medical procedure) for this event Name of treatment (or medical procedure)	Total daily dose ⁴ mg	Date dd/mm/yy
1	_____		start end
2	_____		start end
3	_____		start end

24sep97
100v1.02
WV15670


Figure 14. Sample "Diagnosis of secondary illness" form, page 1/2 (oseltamivir study WV15978)

Tamiflu® (oseltamivir phosphate)



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Diagnosis of secondary illness

Date of diagnosis |_|_| |_|_| |_|_|
mm dd yy

Diagnostic confirmation: Pneumonia, LRTI, Bronchitis

Diagnosis Pneumonia
 Bronchitis
 Lower respiratory tract infection → specify _____

acute
 chronic

Which lung(s) are affected? right
 left
 bilateral

Duration of respiratory secondary illness |_|_| Days¹

Symptoms	present	absent	duration (days) ¹
1. Cough	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_ _
2. Chest pain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Haemoptysis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Tachypnea	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Dyspnea	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Purulent sputum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Non-purulent sputum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. Rigors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Convulsion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Chest examination

	RIGHT		LEFT	
	anterior	posterior	anterior	posterior
10. Rales	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Ronchi	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Crepitations	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Bronchial breath sounds	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Pleural rub	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	upper <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	middle <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	lower <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

crf-6a


24sep09


183v1.0

WV15978

Figure 15. Sample "Diagnosis of secondary illness" form, page 2/2 (oseltamivir study WV15978)

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Tamiflu® (oseltamivir phosphate) 



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**Diagnosis of
secondary illness**

Diagnostic confirmation: Pneumonia, LRTI, Bronchitis (continued)

Vital signs

Temperature¹ °F

Sitting measurement

Respiratory rate per minute

Chest X ray

Was chest X ray performed?
 yes
 no

Are there any clinically significant abnormalities noted in the chest X ray?

yes → Specify infiltrate
 no consolidation
 other → specify _____

Microbiology

Was sputum gram stain performed?

yes → Specify below
 no

epithelial cells cells/Lpf

WBC cells/Lpf

organisms present
absent

Was sputum culture performed?

yes → If organism/pathogen found specify below
 no

organism/pathogen

colony count cfu/Lpf

coll-enc
 24sep99 185v1.0 WV15978

In meta-regression of all 32 included studies that reported on "pneumonia", we found evidence that treatment effects for pneumonia are statistically different depending on the method of diagnosis. Unclear objective diagnosis was associated with an apparent 46% reduction in pneumonia due to treatment with neuraminidase inhibitors, whereas the use of objective criteria in the data collection showed no evidence of effect, with a risk ratio (RR) of 1.0. Age group (adults versus children), drug (oseltamivir versus zanamivir) and indication (treatment versus prophylaxis) showed no evidence of association with treatment effect.

Meaningful conclusions on the effect of either NI on complications of influenza are difficult to draw based on the trial evidence. In part this was due to the lack of standardised definitions. In addition, meta-analyses of these outcomes that lacked definitions were based on few events and therefore not robust. Caution is therefore urged in interpreting the meta-analysis result, which suggests that 100 patients (67 to 451) need to be treated with oseltamivir for one less self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified pneumonia. The same applies to the zanamivir treatment result, which suggests a reduced risk of self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified bronchitis in adults (number needed to treat to benefit (NNTB) 56, 95% confidence interval (CI) 36 to 155). The evidence suggested oseltamivir had a similar effect, although the result was non-significant.

As stated above, there is no evidence that definitions of complications in either paediatric, elderly or adult trials were ever prepared and incorporated in the trials' design. Therefore, the reporting of cases of 'otitis media', 'pneumonia', 'sinusitis' or 'bronchitis' are of unclear significance and importance, making it impossible to attribute a cause and draw conclusions (FDA 2000d). This is probably why the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved oseltamivir package insert, since 17 November 2000, has consistently stated: "serious bacterial infections may begin with influenza-like symptoms or may coexist with or occur as complications during the course of influenza. TAMIFLU has not been shown to prevent such complications." The original product label did not contain such a statement but on 14 April 2000, after oseltamivir was approved for sale in the United States, the FDA sent Roche an untitled letter about "Misleading Efficacy Claims" that the FDA had noted in Roche's promotional materials (FDA 2000a, PDF page 3). One of the statements that Roche made was: "Tamiflu reduces incidence of secondary complications (i.e. bacterial infections) by 45%." The FDA commented: "Further, you have claimed reductions in severity and incidence of secondary infections with Tamiflu that are misleading because they are not supported by substantial evidence" (FDA 2000a, PDF page 3). We do not know how Roche responded to the FDA but in subsequently available Roche promotional material information, Roche's statements were consistent with the FDA's demands (Doshi 2009).

There is uncertainty in the "complications" and "secondary illnesses" outcome definition therefore we carried out an analysis on the data from adult treatment trials on those complications classified as serious or those which led to study withdrawal. For oseltamivir, there was no evidence that treatment affected such complications (risk difference (RD) 0.07%, 95% CI -0.78 to 0.44) (Analysis 1.20; Analysis 1.55). This outcome could not be assessed in oseltamivir prophylaxis due to an insufficient number of events. For zanamivir, there was no significant evidence of a treatment effect

on such complications (RD -0.04%, 95% CI -0.64 to 0.24) (Analysis 3.7; Analysis 4.8). This outcome could not be assessed in children due to an insufficient number of events.

Contrary to the FDA, the European Medicines Agency (EMA)'s oseltamivir 'Summary of Product Characteristics' states that oseltamivir significantly reduces the incidence of "specified lower respiratory tract complications (mainly bronchitis) treated with antibiotics" in individuals of 13 years of age and older. This claim is based on "a pooled analysis of all influenza-positive adults and adolescents (N = 2413) enrolled into treatment studies", of which 1063 were in the placebo group and 1350 were in the oseltamivir-treated population (EMA 2010). This statement appears in the EMA files as early as 2001 (EMA 2001). These exact denominators appear in the Kaiser 2003 meta-analysis.

The design of the trials, as defined in the protocol with amendments, statistical analysis plan and case report forms, does not allow any further inferences. The effect on outcomes that were originally considered of secondary or tertiary importance (such as bronchitis and pneumonia) would have been clarified with better clinical definitions and investigations, as some of the serious adverse events were. These benefited from a paragraph-length narrative, which reported most of the salient features of the event.

Our previous decision to analyse the effects of oseltamivir and zanamivir on the ITT population has been confirmed for oseltamivir with the demonstration of the effect on antibody responses in participants in treatment trials, although no such effect is discernible for zanamivir. This effect leads to the introduction of selection bias with a significantly reduced probability of being diagnosed with influenza and an imbalance in the two arms if the intention-to-treat-influenza-infected (ITTI) population is analysed. The effect of oseltamivir on antibodies appears to be carried over to children with influenza-like illness. Its finding contradicts statements made by the manufacturer.

The seeming incomparability between arms of the influenza-infected subpopulations in the oseltamivir trials raises the question of how an appropriate analysis should be conducted. If influenza-infected groups are comparable (as appears to be the case in zanamivir treatment trials) then an appropriate analysis strategy (based on Senn 2004) would be to determine first the effect of treatment in the ITT population. If there is evidence of a treatment effect, then treatment by infected status interaction could be tested. If there was evidence of an interaction, then estimates of treatment effect could be derived separately for the influenza-infected and non-influenza-infected subpopulations. However, this analysis should be conducted on the ITT population using a single appropriate statistical model, obviating the need to conduct separate analysis on the influenza-infected subpopulation. Roche used geometric mean titres indicating antibody responses in the ITTI population to support their statement that oseltamivir does not affect antibody responses (for example, in Table 16 and linked text of Module 1 of trial WV15799). However, the use of such measures can be misleading. What are required for such an analysis are data on how many ITT population participants responded by arm, at what level of antibody response and how many were tested. Such data could not be identified with certainty. A further effect of choosing a subpopulation analysis (ITTI in treatment trials and ITTIINAB (ITT influenza-infected index cases who had negative virology at baseline) in prophylaxis trials) as the primary analysis

is the restriction of the generalisability of results. This is especially so in the case of design flaws (for example, in the case of the post-exposure prophylaxis trial [WV15799](#), where all index cases were not treated and around 55% of participants were dropped from the ITTINAB analysis). In this cluster-trial design households should be included as random-effects in the analysis to take account of within-household correlations.

A significant but slight reduction of the proportion with serum antibody (mostly haemagglutination inhibition (HAI) antibody) titre rise by four-fold or more among those who were tested was shown in this review. This was consistent with the evidence from animal tests using a sub-clinical dose of oseltamivir in influenza A/H1N1-infected mice ([Takahashi 2010](#)). [Takahashi 2010](#) reported a non-significant slight reduction of haemagglutinin (HA) specific IgG antibody in serum and spleen, while they reported about an 80% significant reduction of HA specific secretory IgA antibody (s-IgA Ab) in nasal wash and bronchoalveolar fluids (BALF) on day 12. From this evidence, they warned that the risk of re-infection may increase in patients showing a low mucosal IgA antibody response following oseltamivir administration. These experiments were done because they had the unexpected finding that paediatric influenza patients treated orally with oseltamivir for five days had significantly low levels (about 60% reduction on day five) of anti-influenza S-IgA nasopharyngeal fluids compared to levels in patients not treated with oseltamivir ([Sawabuchi 2009](#)). Their findings are consistent with our findings that serum HA inhibition (HAI) antibody response was decreased by oseltamivir administration, though s-IgA Ab could not be analysed in our study because the data were not reported in the clinical study reports ([Sawabuchi 2009](#); [Takahashi 2010](#)). These findings are also consistent with the evidence on the mode of action of oseltamivir from animal models (Module 2 of [Mendel 1998](#); [WV15670](#); [WV15671](#)) and from viral challenge, randomised, placebo-controlled studies in humans ([Hayden 1999](#)).

Pro-inflammatory cytokines, including interleukin 6 (IL-6), tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNF- α) and interferon gamma (IFN- γ), were completely suppressed by oseltamivir administered 28 hours after the experimental inoculation of influenza virus, while the reduction of viral titre in nasal lavages was partial ([Hayden 1999](#)).

There is decisive evidence that administration of oseltamivir in animals challenged by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) that lacks a neuraminidase gene showed a symptom-relieving effect (decreased weight loss) and inhibition of viral clearance ([Moore 2007](#)). These effects were accompanied by a decreased CD+8 T cell surface sialoglycosphingolipid GM1 level, which is regulated by the endogenous sialidase/neuraminidase in response to viral challenge along with suppression of cytokine expression ([Moore 2007](#)). They are consistent with those findings from the pharmaceutical company and their investigators. The findings of the study by [Moore 2007](#) suggest a risk of infection and exacerbation of infection by pathogens other than influenza virus in spite of the apparent reduction of symptoms from infection.

Sufficient plasma concentration of oseltamivir carboxylate from orally administered oseltamivir phosphate may act directly on the host endogenous neuraminidase to reduce (or suppress) the immune response even at the dose of 20 mg twice a day for five days. However, the bioavailability of inhaled zanamivir seems to be very broad: about 10% to 70%, as estimated by the area under the curve (AUC) data from the inhalation and intravenous study from the Japanese Summary Basis of Approval (JSBA). The

difference in peak concentration (C_{max}) was much larger (6 to 37-fold). This means that inhaled zanamivir could reach a high enough concentration to reduce the immune response, if it is administered at a high dose or a for long period, or if the patient is very susceptible. In fact, a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial using healthy volunteers to investigate the effect of zanamivir treatment (20 mg/day for 14 days) on the humoral immune response to influenza vaccine showed that the zanamivir group responded with significantly lower antibody titres to the H1N1 ([Cox 2001](#)). Pro-inflammatory cytokines, including IL-6, TNF- α , IFN- γ and other chemokines, were almost completely suppressed in the viral challenge randomised controlled trial (RCT) using a very high dose (600 mg) of intravenous zanamivir before inoculation of the influenza virus in human adults ([Fritz 1999](#)).

These findings all suggest that the low immune response, with a low level of pro-inflammatory cytokines, induced by the action of oseltamivir carboxylate may reduce the symptoms of influenza irrespective of an inhibition of influenza virus replication, which is widely believed to be the main mode of action of NIs.

In addition, the potential hypothermic or antipyretic effect of oseltamivir (but not zanamivir) as a central nervous system depressant may also contribute to the apparent reduction of host symptoms ([Ono 2008](#); [Ono 2013](#)).

Zanamivir had no effect on pneumonia symptoms in treatment trials, even when the diagnosis was supported by a chest X-ray; nor did it affect antibody responses, but it did affect bronchitis. We think that this shows an undeniable symptom-relieving effect of both drugs, which also applies to more severe, if undefined, syndromes. Both drugs relieve influenza-like illness symptoms by around 0.6 to 0.7 of a day, although this is first relief and not necessarily complete relief. In the case of oseltamivir, the mix up with the follow-up cards does not allow us to draw any conclusions on a possible length of the duration of symptom relief. Also of note is the fact that this important information came to light from the FDA reports and not from the clinical study reports of the relevant trials ([WV15670](#); [WV15671](#)). This points to the incomplete nature of reporting in the clinical study reports and the important role of Summary Basis of Approval (SBA) regulatory information.

In a subgroup analysis we found no evidence of a difference in treatment effect for zanamivir on time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults in the influenza-infected and non-influenza-infected subgroups. Both subgroups showed strong evidence of treatment effect of 0.5 to 0.7 days reduction in time to first alleviation of symptoms. This strongly supports our hypothesis that these drugs do not have an influenza-specific effect.

Oseltamivir relieves symptoms in otherwise healthy children, but no effect was noted with zanamivir, which may be due to the limited power of the two eligible trials with just over 700 children in total. However, oseltamivir does not have any effect on asthmatic children with influenza-like illness, a population which should benefit most from its use. One explanation for this finding is in the nature of the young asthmatic population, which is well cared for and used to regular powerful medications and close follow-up. The incremental benefit of oseltamivir is thus likely to be undetectable in such a population. An alternative explanation could be the higher susceptibility of the immune system to suppression by oseltamivir carboxylate in asthmatic children compared with those in the placebo group. The finding that oseltamivir administered

to asthmatic children reduces symptoms faster than in placebo recipients at the beginning of the study, but during the off-treatment period more recovered later than those administered placebo, gives some support to this explanation.

There is no evidence of an effect of oseltamivir on hospitalisations. Hospitalisations are an important but poorly defined outcome in the oseltamivir protocols, inconsistently reported in the clinical study reports and overlooked in the zanamivir protocols and reports.

The oseltamivir trials did not detect any influenza-related deaths, reflecting the relatively benign nature of influenza in the study populations. The zanamivir trials detected eight deaths, of which only two were likely to be due to influenza and both occurred in the intervention arms. All the trials were likely to be underpowered to detect differential effects on mortality, but the absence of deaths in placebo recipients again underlines the benign nature of influenza. In fact mortality in Japan during the 2009A/H1N1 influenza outbreak was 198 among about 20 million influenza patients (one in 100,000 infected). Early deterioration leading to death was observed more frequently in oseltamivir compared to zanamivir or no antivirals recipients (Hama 2011).

Overall the two drugs have similar benefits but quite different toxicity profiles.

On average, for every 28 (14 to 112) adults treated with oseltamivir there will be one more report of nausea and for every 22 (14 to 42) adults and 19 (10 to 57) children there will be one more report of vomiting. Oseltamivir seems to have an apparent protective effect on diarrhoea, contrary to the other evidence of gastrointestinal disturbance. This finding might be as an effect of a placebo containing dehydrocholic acid or it might be one of the results of the influenza-like illness symptom-relieving effects (similar to relief of tachycardia and palpitation). The other apparent gastrointestinal events, such as nausea and vomiting, may be the results of central nervous disorders indicated by "only day 1 increase of vomiting" in treatment trials in children.

For every 62 (41 to 411) adults exposed to zanamivir there will be one less case of nausea and vomiting, but no such effect was visible in children, probably because of a lack of power. Zanamivir does not appear to affect the frequency of bowel movements.

In the prophylaxis data set, "influenza without laboratory confirmation" (i.e. influenza-like illness) was only partially reported in the oseltamivir clinical study reports and not reported in the zanamivir clinical study reports, except for NAI30034 in which no significant reduction was observed (9% versus 10%). As a consequence we are unable to report on that outcome. The size of the reduction in influenza symptoms in oseltamivir prophylactic trials is inferior in magnitude to that seen in hand washing to prevent severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), based on seven case-control studies (odds ratio (OR) 0.77, 95% CI 0.70 to 0.84, I^2 statistic = 68%, RD -0.12, -0.16 to 0.08, I^2 statistic = 26%), the NNTB being approximately 50 for prophylaxis with oseltamivir and eight with hand washing (Jefferson 2011a).

There is a significant reduction in the proportion of patients with symptomatic influenza with both NIs. However, these findings do not reflect the true efficacy for prevention of influenza, because

they conceal the positivity of laboratory testing (measured through tests of viral shedding and four-fold antibody titre rise).

We found an apparent prophylactic effect of zanamivir on pneumonia (which was not defined in case report forms) when it was used for 14 to 28 days. However, we found no evidence of significant effects on other complications and no evidence of an effect of oseltamivir on complications or hospitalisations.

Oseltamivir induced nausea in people undergoing prophylaxis but there was insufficient evidence to show an association with vomiting.

On-treatment renal adverse events were three times more common in the oseltamivir arms compared to the placebo arms, with 150 treated patients leading to one additional event. The two participants who died in the oseltamivir arms both experienced acute renal failure while on-treatment, although only one of those events was listed as an adverse event. The unlisted event was in a 91-year old female who was "withdrawn from the study on Study Day 15 because her estimated creatinine clearance was less than 30 mL/min. The screening laboratory examinations, that were carried out 10 days before the start of study treatment, were normal". Hyperglycaemic adverse events (aggravated diabetes mellitus or hyperglycaemia) were also more common in the oseltamivir arms, with eight events in total (one in WV15673/WV15697, two in WV15708 and five in WV15825) compared to none in the corresponding placebo arms. These data are only presented descriptively as they are too few (< 10) to meta-analyse formally, as prespecified in our analysis plan.

Finally, oseltamivir caused headaches and psychiatric harms in adult prophylaxis trials. Headaches are one of the most prominent harms of oseltamivir. There is evidence of a dose-response effect in prophylaxis trials WV15673/WV15697 ($P = 0.013$), in which headaches were observed in 202/519, 225/520 and 242/520 participants in the placebo, oseltamivir 75 mg once daily and 75 mg twice daily arms, respectively.

In the psychiatric category, several rare and severe single events (nervousness, aggression, hallucinations, psychosis, suicide ideation and paranoia) were reported significantly more frequently in the intervention arm. Added to other more frequently reported but not significantly different events (such as depression and confusion) this gave a large effect and a relatively small number needed to treat to harm of 94 (36 to 1538). The importance of such a finding lies in the distribution of oseltamivir to large numbers of asymptomatic individuals following pandemic plans. There were no prophylaxis trials in children that met our inclusion criteria, therefore we cannot report on prophylaxis harms in this important population.

The question of why oseltamivir treatment trials failed to identify a clear association between oseltamivir and psychiatric harms, although a weak dose-dependent association was observed, is a moot point. It is possible that influenza-like illness and influenza symptoms masked the harms in those who were already symptomatic and therefore recruited in the treatment trials (and influenza-type symptoms were excluded as adverse events to be reported). The reporting issue of compliharms may have helped to mask such events. Alternatively, it could be that these events are rare in the populations studied and that there was insufficient power to detect an association. The CI was wide (0.43 to 2.03) and

does not rule out a doubling in risk due to treatment - as was found in the prophylaxis trials. It is also possible that the risk of psychiatric harm increases with increasing dose (as the data from trials [WV15670](#) and [WV15671](#) suggest) and increasing duration of treatment (as the prophylaxis trials suggest).

[Toovey 2008](#) assessed the issue and failed to find an association between neurological and psychiatric adverse events and oseltamivir exposure. The outcomes studied were not based on the a priori definition of psychiatric adverse events as defined in the clinical study reports. The definition was constructed post hoc based on a selected group of adverse events taken from the psychiatric, neurological and injury body systems in the reports. The issues are described fully in [Jones 2012](#) and Toovey's response is in [Toovey 2012](#). [Toovey 2008](#) reviewed only retrospective observational studies and did not review three prospective cohort studies conducted in Japan.

A meta-analysis of three prospective cohort studies of neuropsychiatric adverse events (NPAEs) in Japanese children show a pooled odds ratio for abnormal behaviours due to oseltamivir exposure of 1.55 (95% CI 1.21 to 1.98; $P = 0.0005$) without significant heterogeneity ([Hama 2010](#)). In one prospective study of several thousand children with influenza carried out to test the hypothesis of a causal relation between oseltamivir and neuropsychiatric events, abnormal behaviour was observed more frequently in oseltamivir recipient children than in controls (RR 1.57, 95% CI 1.34 to 1.83). Abnormal behaviour was observed in 3.4 per 100 person day (or 13.8%) in the oseltamivir group, compared to 2.2 per 100 person-days (or 8.8%) in the control group ([Yorifuji 2009](#)). Reanalysis of this study population, focusing on delirium and unconsciousness, also showed a significant association between oseltamivir and neuropsychiatric events, especially in the very early phase of the illness within a day of commencement of fever ([Fujiita 2011](#)). These indicate that prospective and intentional collection with this scale of participants may be necessary in treatment RCTs.

Animal toxicity study results firmly support the effect of oseltamivir on the central nervous system. One of these is the hypothermic effect of oseltamivir (but not zanamivir) administered orally, intraperitoneally ([Ono 2008](#); [Ono 2013](#)) and intracerebroventricularly ([Ono 2013](#)). The other is that intraduodenal or intravenous administration of oseltamivir to mature rats induced respiratory arrest shortly followed by cardiac arrest. These studies clearly show central depressant effects of oseltamivir ([Kimura 2012](#)). Moreover in the post-marketing toxicology phase studies by Roche, many symptoms that the manufacturer considered "item-related" were observed: alterations in respiration including decreased respiratory rate/gasping and altered mucous membrane/skin colour (pale) prior to death. Although the manufacturer denied the causality ([Freichel 2009](#)), symptoms at two hours after administration that showed dose-related increase were lack of olfactory orientation, lack of cliff aversion and low or very low arousal. Twenty-four of 52 pups that did not exhibit cliff aversion were later found dead. Fourteen of 17 animals with low or very low arousal died thereafter. These findings are consistent with the clinically observed psychiatric symptoms in the RCTs and post-marketing spontaneous reports.

Zanamivir was well tolerated. However, a potentially active placebo may have masked the occurrence of bronchospasm in zanamivir trials.

Treatment trials were mostly under-recruited and often their results pooled post hoc in two or even three trials, and yet they showed very high influenza positivity rates. One possible explanation for this lies in the intensive surveillance carried out in the predefined trial centre areas and the restricted time span of recruitment during high likelihood of positivity periods. This may be why many centres with low levels of recruitment are listed in the clinical study reports; this limits the generalisability of the results to everyday life.

In a primary or secondary prophylaxis indication the postulated central effect of oseltamivir is confined to suppressing symptoms, as infection was not prevented even when oseltamivir was administered prior to the inoculation of influenza virus both in animals ([Mendel 1998](#)) and in humans ([Hayden 1999](#)) and the prophylaxis trials. However, the central problem remains the incompatibility of the two contrasting claims of its activity against antibody production. If, as reported in many documents, oseltamivir does not interfere with antibody production (see, for example, [FDA 2011a](#); [Roche Investigators' Guide](#)), how is it possible that oseltamivir prevents cases of influenza when part of the definition of prevented cases in oseltamivir trials was based on absence of antibody response?

The apparent ability of oseltamivir to interfere with antibody response calls into question the mode of action of the drug and puts in doubt the proposed effects of oseltamivir. One possibility in treatment trials is that oseltamivir administration, by interfering with antibody production, has the effect of selecting the strongest antibody responders in the ITTI subpopulation. These individuals are classified as influenza cases and are included in the oseltamivir arm of the ITTI population. This selected subpopulation probably represents the healthiest or those least likely to experience complications. An alternative consequence could be that interference with antibody production in the oseltamivir arm led to active arm participants being more likely to develop complications due to impaired immune function.

Evidence from prophylaxis and secondary prophylaxis trials suggests that in addition to the apparent similar mode of action as in the treatment studies, suppression of viral shedding in nasal swab may be of importance. In the former, participants who become positive (i.e. who are subsequently classified as cases of influenza) in the oseltamivir arms are the few who mount a strong response despite oseltamivir interference. The remainder (who are significantly more than in the placebo arm) are classified as prevented or avoided cases. However, as prophylaxis clinical study reports do not report antibody responses and viral isolate results for the ITT populations either, it is impossible to tell whether this proposed mode of action fits all the evidence. The effect of oseltamivir on nasal shedding is consistent with the proposed mode of action of NIs in preventing the virus from leaving the host respiratory epithelial cells, which are covered by a mucous layer. Compared with the rather small reduction of symptoms of influenza-like illness and reduction in antibody rise (up to 10%) by both oseltamivir and zanamivir, the extent of the reduction of symptomatic influenza is almost half. This may be due to reduction of influenza viruses in the nasal swab sample.

In prophylaxis there is no evidence that oseltamivir reduces symptomatic influenza-like illness. Oseltamivir reduces the number of prophylaxis participants testing positive (based on antibody rise and/or culture test). However, this finding is weakened by oseltamivir's interference with the viral replication on

the swab and effect on antibody production. In addition oseltamivir does not affect asymptomatic influenza and there is no evidence that it interferes with person-to-person spread.

Similarly to the FDA (FDA 1999c; FDA 2000c) because of the problems with the design of study [WV15799](#) we could not draw any conclusions on the ability of oseltamivir to interrupt viral transmission.

This is important as the results of trial [WV15799](#) formed part of the WHO3 rationale for use of the drug to interrupt transmission from person to person and allow time before the arrival of vaccines in the event of a pandemic furnishing a seemingly powerful rationale for stockpiling oseltamivir.

This shows the importance of availability of full clinical study reports, something the WHO did not have.

Antibody suppression seems stronger for oseltamivir than zanamivir, probably due to the difference in bioavailability. It may be that evidence of other effects, such as hyperglycaemia and renal impairment (though significance was marginal) in the prophylaxis trials may be due to inhibition of the host's endogenous neuraminidase, which impairs the cell function of various organs ([Hama 2008](#)). Overall, the significance of oseltamivir for nasal shedding is unclear but problems with sampling and culture undermine any claims as to its secondary prophylactic properties, as the FDA made clear in its response ([FDA 1999c](#)).

The dose-response increase in psychiatric events in the "pivotal" oseltamivir treatment trials and the increase in vomiting only on day one in treatment trials in children may be due to the sudden onset of the central action of unchanged oseltamivir ([Hama 2008](#)). Brain concentration of unchanged oseltamivir increases during the early phase of influenza in juvenile animals ([Freichel 2009](#)), due to a reduced or low function of p-glycoprotein, a major transporter of oseltamivir at the blood-brain barrier ([Hama 2008](#); [Kimura 2012](#)). The likely centrally mediated mode of action of oseltamivir is supported by the finding of adverse events in healthy people in prophylaxis trials. However, these effects may also be derived from a delayed action associated with host endogenous neuraminidase inhibition by oseltamivir ([Hama 2008](#)), because this appeared after more than a week's exposure the drug and lasted for more than two weeks. Other effects, such as pain in the limbs, hyperglycaemia or diabetic events, reduction of antibody rise and reduction of cytokine induction, may also be due to the suppression of the host's endogenous neuraminidase by oseltamivir ([Moore 2007](#)). Pain in the limbs and metabolic control events (mainly hyperglycaemia) were in excess in the oseltamivir arms, but we did not carry out a formal meta-analysis, as they were not prespecified in our analysis plan and the number of events was below 10 for metabolic events.

Statements made about the capacity of oseltamivir to interrupt viral transmission and reduce complications are not supported by any data we have been able to access.

We have not reviewed other NIs, such as laninamivir and peramivir, or other antivirals, such as the adamantanes (amantadine and rimantadine), or antipyretic/anti-inflammatory agents either. Laninamivir and peramivir may be more potent as NIs, because their bioavailability is far higher than zanamivir and may affect the host's endogenous neuraminidase. Adamantanes are well known centrally active agents and may be more harmful than

oseltamivir and zanamivir. Anti-inflammatory antipyretics (except paracetamol) may be more toxic than NIs ([Hama 2008](#)). Hence, the other NIs, adamantanes and anti-inflammatory antipyretics may not be alternatives to oseltamivir and zanamivir.

Overall completeness and applicability of evidence

We used the Cochrane seven-domain 'Risk of bias' instrument to assess bias. The availability of partial or complete clinical study reports decreased the uncertainty and allowed definitive judgements to be made. Previous unclear risk of bias became certainty of bias or certainty of absence of bias. Certainty or low levels of uncertainty are due to our expectations regarding the complete clinical study reports. We were expecting to have all relevant and consistent information available for our reviews, but when it was not, our judgements changed because we found gaps in the availability of information and inconsistent information. We are still uncertain whether the complete study reports represent an exhaustive and coherent source of trial narrative and data.

In the case of treatment trials, conclusions and generalisations are drawn from a subpopulation in which the two arms do not appear comparable due to the apparent ability of oseltamivir to interfere with influenza antibody production. The effect of oseltamivir on the gastrointestinal tract appears to be notable, although a definitive statement will only be possible once the mode of action and dosage of dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate and dehydrocholic acid have been clarified. The high percentage of influenza infections appears to be in contrast with the need to pool or delay several trials and the small recruitment size of others because of a lack of influenza circulation. In the case of post-exposure prophylaxis trials, the selection of the infected population has the effect of excluding from the analysis large percentages (in some cases over 50%) of participants. This brings the generalisability of the results of these trials into question.

Much has been made in the trial programmes of viral nasal voidance as a marker of effect. However, its measurement was unreliable in treatment trials as this verbatim quote from the FDA review shows: "Duration of viral shedding was measured from treatment initiation to the time of the first negative virus culture with no subsequent positive cultures. Upon reviewing a list of viral shedding patterns provided by the applicant on 8/16/99, two problems emerged: (1) the pattern of virus shedding was fluctuating in at least 33 subjects (i.e. pos-neg-pos-neg, with or without a subsequent negative result). (2) In at least 100 subjects, the last virus shedding sample was the first negative sample in sequence, meaning there was not a subsequent negative confirmation. Given the fluctuating pattern of virus shedding, to estimate the duration of viral shedding based on the occurrence of a single first negative data poses a high level of uncertainty" ([FDA 1999c](#)).

In all programmes, the effect on complications was based on unclear and potentially unreliable definitions, often at the discretion of local clinicians and confirmation (e.g. radiological confirmation of pneumonia) was not consistently reported when it did occur. In the ITT population, the correct population for analysis, there is no credible effect of oseltamivir against pneumonia as the significance of the term "pneumonia" is not clarified.

In the case of post-exposure prophylaxis trial [WV15799](#), nasal voidance was measured only in symptomatic subjects as an

adjunct to protocol version H. However, this does not prevent the manufacturers from making claims of effect for all these outcomes.

Other general requirements, such as presentation within 36 to 48 hours, raise questions about the generalisability of the research evidence. However, underlying all our doubts is the conflicting evidence on the mode of action of the drug.

Most of the trials were substantially under-recruited and so had insufficient power individually to answer the research question.

Quality of the evidence

We assessed all full clinical study reports of relevant trials. An example of the kind of detail available in complete clinical study reports and the importance of the trial timeline in assessing the presence of bias is the observation that of the clinical study reports for the included trials, only one contained a protocol that predated the beginning of participant enrolment, only two had statistical analysis plans that clearly predated participant enrolment and three had clearly dated protocol amendments. No oseltamivir clinical study report included a clear date of unblinding.

All reports in our review were sponsored by the manufacturers. It is known that published studies sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry are more likely to have outcomes favouring the sponsor compared to studies which have other sponsors (Lexchin 2003; Lundh 2012). As the evidence relates to published studies, we do not know whether the findings are applicable to clinical study reports.

Potential biases in the review process

The main limitation of our study is our relative inexperience in dealing with large quantities of information and our lack of familiarity with certain trial documents, such as randomisation lists. Randomisation lists appeared to be of two types. The first was a pre-randomisation list of random codes with which participants' IDs cannot be matched with the participant IDs used within other sections of the clinical study report. The second was a post hoc randomisation list to which individual participants can be matched but the original generated codes are not shown. In both cases the truly random generation of the sequence could not be properly assessed because either the original codes are not provided or original codes cannot be matched to patients.

We have created methods and procedures to address the risk of reporting bias that we identified in published trials, but remain uncertain about the success of these new methods.

Agreements and disagreements with other studies or reviews

Several reviews of NIs are now available (Burch 2009; Cooper 2003; Falagas 2010; Tappenden 2009; Turner 2003), including several separate versions of our previous reviews (Jefferson 2006; Jefferson 2009a; Matheson 2007; Shun-Shin 2009). All are mainly based on published information and reach similar conclusions to our 2006 review, which sparked the reader's comment and subsequent investigation and change of methods.

Following publication of our review update in December 2009, Roche asked the Harvard-based academics Hernan and Lipsitch to repeat the Kaiser analysis to confirm or reject Kaiser's conclusions

(Hernan 2011). They were not provided with any funding to carry out this analysis and Roche ultimately provided them with patient-level data sets and Module 1 for the 10 Kaiser trials and one more treatment trial (WV16277). An important methodological difference between Hernan and Lipsitch's analysis and that of Kaiser was Hernan and Lipsitch's decision to privilege a true ITT analysis over the sub-population analysis featured in the Kaiser analysis. Our Cochrane review also analyses the ITT population.

The Kaiser analysis concluded that oseltamivir provided two statistically significant reductions: in lower respiratory tract complications and in hospitalisations.

Hernan and Lipsitch evaluated lower respiratory tract complications and found a statistically significant, but smaller, reduction in the risk of these complications.

Hernan and Lipsitch omitted evaluating the Kaiser paper's conclusion that oseltamivir reduced the risk of hospitalisation. They wrote, "it was not possible to assess the potential benefit for high-risk participants who are hospitalised, because the sample size of most studies was too small to consider hospitalisation as an outcome."

Hernan and Lipsitch do not elaborate on or highlight their apparent methodological disagreement with the Kaiser 2003 analysis and it is not reflected in the news article published on the Harvard website entitled "Oseltamivir effect on complications confirmed by reanalysis" (<http://ccdd.hsph.harvard.edu/NewsEvents/Oseltamivir-reanalysis>). In fact, Hernan and Lipsitch did not confirm one of the key conclusions of the Kaiser paper (Kaiser 2003).

Unfortunately, the Hernan-Lipsitch analysis has been cited by influential bodies such as the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) as "confirmation of the original Kaiser meta-analysis" (http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/activities/sciadvise/_layouts/forms/Review_DispForm.aspx?ID=561&List=a3216f4c%2Df040%2D4f51%2D9f77%2Da96046dbfd72) despite the fact that Hernan and Lipsitch did not confirm one of the key conclusions of the Kaiser paper (Kaiser 2003).

For complications, while Hernan and Lipsitch clearly produced similar results to Kaiser, we do not think that this means the result is more credible. In view of our findings, we suggest that these results should be interpreted with caution. We have published our preliminary comments (Cochrane Neuraminidase Inhibitors Review Team 2011). The approach Hernan and Lipsitch took in analysing data was insufficient to provide a credible, independent check on validity and reinforces the importance of detailed, critical assessment of entire trial programmes, with access to full-length study reports. Our analysis questions the coherence between the evidence and the proposed mode of action of oseltamivir.

The Ebell 2012 review concluded that there was "no evidence that oseltamivir reduces the likelihood of hospitalisation, pneumonia or the combined outcome of pneumonia, otitis media and sinusitis in the ITT population". This conclusion was based on Module 1 of the 10 Kaiser trials plus WV16277. These are the same 11 trials as Hernan 2011.

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS

Implications for practice

On the basis of the findings of this review, clinicians and healthcare policy-makers should urgently revise current recommendations for use of the neuraminidase inhibitors (NIs) for individuals with influenza. Our findings confirm that both oseltamivir and zanamivir reduce the time to symptomatic improvement in adults (but not asthmatic children) with influenza-like illness. The size of this effect is small, approximately half a day. It is unclear whether this is superior to treatment with commonly used antipyretic medications. However, we did not find any credible evidence that either oseltamivir or zanamivir reduce the risk of complications of influenza, particularly pneumonia, nor reduce risk of hospitalisation or death. Moreover, even in individuals at higher risk of complications, such as children with asthma or the elderly, we found no evidence of a beneficial effect for reducing risks of complications.

Based on these findings there appears to be no evidence for patients, clinicians or policy-makers to use these drugs to prevent serious outcomes, both in annual influenza and pandemic influenza outbreaks. Practice recommendations and drug labelling needs to be changed to reflect these findings.

When used as prophylactic agents to prevent the occurrence of influenza in individuals or families, our findings again suggest a minimal effect on prevention. Based on this, there is little support for their use as prophylactic agents, for example, during influenza epidemics. Given that oseltamivir is now recommended as an essential medicine for the treatment of seriously ill patients or those in higher-risk groups with influenza (H1N1 2009) ([WHO 2013a](#); [WHO 2013b](#)), this is of some concern.

Reasons why prophylaxis treatment is not clinically meaningful include: 1) according to modelling studies, for prophylactic treatment to be effective, 80% of the population require at least eight weeks of treatment, which has not been trialled ([Longini 2004](#)); 2) models assume the relative risk reduction observed in low risk populations, transfers directly to populations at higher risk (i.e. an absolute treatment effect of 31%, approximately 15-fold higher than the absolute effects we observed in prophylaxis trials ([Longini 2004](#)); 3) A high proportion of people, at least two-thirds require recognisable influenza symptoms; 4) treatment has to be effective against both asymptomatic and symptomatic infections (which it is not), in modelling studies asymptomatic infections are assumed to be 50% as infectious as symptomatic infections ([Longini 2004](#)); 5) because the influenza season can last four to five months, any secondary strategy, such as vaccination, would have to be widely available at the end of the eight week treatment period, and 6) a full understanding of the effect of the treatment in prophylaxis is unknown because symptomatic influenza-like-illness without laboratory-confirmation was only fully reported in one study. This study (NAI30034) showed no difference in proportion of patients with symptomatic influenza-like-illness (with or without lab confirmation) (RR 0.90, 95% CI 0.73 to 1.11).

The small benefits we noted in symptomatic improvement and the lack of credible evidence for an effect on serious complications needs to be balanced with the adverse effects found with these drugs in meta-analyses, especially diabetic/hyperglycaemic, renal

and neuropsychiatric effects in all those people for whom the World Health Organization (WHO) recommend use.

Our results do not discount the potential benefit of using zanamivir and oseltamivir in individuals under particular situations, for example in immunocompromised or in compassionate cases, where few other therapeutic options may exist. However, NIs themselves may be immunosuppressants. Our findings do not support the stockpiling of NIs, nor oseltamivir's inclusion in the WHO's list of essential drugs.

The rationale for undertaking the current review and the methods and pressures that needed to be employed to obtain and evaluate the evidence for these drugs has significant implications for the robustness of the scrutiny that new drugs undergo prior to entering widespread clinical use. We believe that several steps now need to be put in place to provide patients, clinicians and policy-makers with the most transparent assessment of the relative benefits and risks of new drugs.

First, our findings imply that numerous national and international bodies appear willing to accept biased or incomplete trial reports seemingly at face value. This ready willingness is in contrast with the considerable time and effort needed to change their recommendations. Second, published trials are unlikely to provide the level of detail to allow the results of a drug trial to be properly evaluated and risk presenting a partial and potentially biased report of trial conduct and findings. This has implications not only for the reporting of trials but also the weight that can be applied to published studies alone. Third, clinicians and policy-makers should be cautious in interpreting and using the findings of systematic reviews including only published studies, particularly those that comprise only a portion of an entire drug trial programme, or which contain only a portion of the results of trials. There have been many systematic reviews of NIs, none assessing the full trial programme or full trial results, thus limiting their validity. We suspect a similar situation exists for other drugs. Fourth, clinical policy-makers at the national and international level should raise the level of scrutiny needed in the cases of drugs that are likely to be used by large numbers of people who are either asymptomatic or have short, self limiting illnesses such as influenza ('public health drugs') and where the potential for benefit (and harm) is vital. Given the weight of these decisions (with serious implications for both correct and incorrect decisions), policy-makers should not face the barrier of being denied access to what sponsors regard as commercially sensitive information.

Without concerted efforts from multiple stakeholders to put the above measures in place, it is not possible to provide objective assessment of the benefits and risks of new drugs. This risks not only patients potentially missing out on effective treatments, but also patients being exposed to either ineffective (or harmful) treatments.

Implications for research

Our findings have implications for research on the mechanism of action of NIs, with special regard to any direct central action of oseltamivir and the inhibitory effect of the host endogenous neuraminidase of various organs and systems. We could not reach a consensus on whether further trials are warranted and whether current trials should be discontinued.

The considerable body of evidence from randomised controlled trials (RCTs) included in this review indicates either no effect or a relatively small absolute effect size against the complications of influenza. Such an effect, even if statistically significant, would be too small to warrant treatment with NIs in a primary care setting, especially since effective diagnosis and treatments for rare complications (such as pneumonia) are available. Lack of evidence of an effect on hospitalisations probably indicates lack of severity in the first place. Assuming an influenza incidence rate of 2% (similar to that in the control arms of oseltamivir treatment trials), to detect a 25%, clinically significant reduction in pneumonia, 21,500 participants would have to be enrolled in a clinical trial.

Our calculation is likely to underestimate population size, as the 2% incidence rate was derived from trials that used enhanced ad hoc surveillance systems. Any trial design would have to ensure that the presence of complications is ascertained using objective diagnostic criteria (for example, with confirmation using imaging or laboratory testing for pneumonia). Such trials would also have to consider the ethical implications of conducting studies where the estimate of benefit (based on 11 RCTs) in otherwise healthy people is likely to be small, and would have to be balanced against the apparent risks of adverse effects from NIs. We think research should be aimed at more effective preventive measures and early identification of complications.

Based on the length of time it has taken to provide a definitive answer on the efficacy of the NIs, the challenges in obtaining the full information and the methods that we needed to develop to conduct the evidence synthesis, we believe the main implication of our review is the need for reform of multiple components of the research and development, regulatory and assessment pathway of new drugs.

Pharmaceutical sponsors of drug trials should follow a data access and sharing procedure similar to that of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and sponsors should make all full clinical study reports available to be downloaded from their websites and shared freely once a regulatory decision has been made. Redactions should be kept to the minimum. Part of this process needs to include a full list of the entire drug development programme, to avoid assessment of an incomplete set of trials. Researchers and industry employees who are listed in trial documents should be considered to have legal responsibility for the conduct and reporting of a trial.

Regulators should post an inventory of their documentary holdings on their websites with a brief description of the main content and size of each file. They should make all information available shortly after making a registration decision on a drug and within a reasonable time period. The information should be in electronic format and anonymised (i.e. participants' details should be removed to prevent each person being identified but no further).

Trial registries have improved the reporting of new trials. However, on their own they will not be adequate to resolve the problems we encountered. The completeness of trial registries needs to be tested with a random sampling procedure. Clear instructions for the reporting and updating of their content should be promulgated and penalties imposed on breaches of these procedures. Trial registration should include the original and final versions of a trial protocol, with a full declaration of dated amendments. Procedures for trial unblinding and dates of unblinding should be routinely

reported. Registration should be made compulsory for all studies in which human beings are randomly assigned to experimental arms. Ethical and consent procedures for all trials should include obligations of the trial sponsor to ensure results are made public. Failure to report the existence of a trial on humans and to make results available should be considered as an ethical breach of conduct and subject to appropriate penalties.

The methods used to conduct our evidence synthesis need to be repeated across further interventions and by other researchers and may need to be refined further. Given the considerable resources involved in using these methods, a system is needed to prioritise reviews of important drugs so that such methods are reserved for drugs that meet certain conditions. Priority could perhaps be given to first drugs of a new family, drugs considered to be innovative or those that are likely to have a big market impact. Such reviews should be publicly funded and be independent from both regulators and manufacturers. Researchers who conduct these 'high scrutiny' reviews need to be free of recent ties to either government or the pharmaceutical industry. Systematic review groups such as The Cochrane Collaboration should consider both adopting these methods for other drugs and whether perhaps to scrutinise the published reviews of prioritised drugs.

Finally, all documentary evidence relating to a trial on humans (including clinical study reports, regulatory documents, evidence syntheses) should be archived electronically with no statute of limitations.

Authors' note: in reviewing over 2 GB of data there is the possibility of mistakes. The authors would be grateful if readers could identify these. We promise that if we concur the record will be amended accordingly.

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REFERENCES

References to studies included in this review

167-101 {published data only}

GSK. Investigation of the efficacy of GG167 (zanamivir) in the treatment of influenza viral infections (late Phase II study: dose comparison study). Data on file.

JNAI-01 {published data only}

GSK. Investigation of the efficacy of CG167 in the treatment of influenza viral infections (phase II study) (Protocol NoJNAI-01). Double blind, double dummy, randomized, placebo controlled, parallel group, multicenter study to investigate safety and route of administration of CG167 when inhaled, CG167 10 mg, or the combination of inhaled CG167 10 mg plus intranasal CG167 6.4 mg, administered twice daily for 5 days in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

JNAI-04 {published data only}

GSK. A multicenter two way layout randomized placebo-controlled double-blind trial parallel group comparative trial on the efficacy and safety of GG167 (zanamivir) 10 mg twice a day and 20 mg twice a day in the treatment of influenza type A and type B infections (late Phase II study: dose comparison study) (Protocol No. JNAI-04). Data on file.

JNAI-07 {published data only}

GSK. A multicenter two way layout randomized placebo-controlled double-blind trial parallel group comparative trial on the efficacy and safety of GG167 (zanamivir) 10 mg twice a day and 20 mg twice a day in the treatment of influenza type A and type B infections (late Phase II study: dose comparison study) (Protocol No.JNAI-07). Data on file.

JV15823 {published data only}

No authors listed. A randomized, placebo-controlled, multicenter study of oseltamivir (Ro 64-0796) in the treatment of influenza in Japanese subjects (Translation of summary Japanese report - of 29 pages). Data on file.

JV15824 {published data only}

No authors listed. Phase 3 study for prophylaxis of influenza with Ro64-0796 (15 page summary from Japanese). Data on file.

M76001 {published data only}

McGarty T. A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter study of efficacy based on the time to treatment of influenza infection with the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS 4104). Data on file.

ML16369 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled multicenter study of oseltamivir phosphate in the treatment of influenza infection in China. Data on file.

NAI30008 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel group, multi-center study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered twice daily for five days in the treatment of influenza in patients

12 years or over diagnosed with asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Data on file.

NAI30009 {published data only}

Alfors S, Keene O, Grice R, Hammond J, Hendricks V, Martin N, et al. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicenter study to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered by inhalation twice daily for five days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in children ages 5-12. Data on file.

NAI30010 {published data only}

Hunter S, Reilly L, Sharp S, West M, Alfors S, Hammond J, et al. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicenter study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered once a day for 10 days in the prevention of transmission of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections within families. Data on file.

NAI30011 {published data only}

No authors listed. A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the impact of inhaled zanamivir treatment on workplace attendance due to influenza A and B infections. Data on file.

NAI30012 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered twice daily for five days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in subjects aged over 65 years. Data on file.

NAI30015 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered twice daily for five days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in armed services personnel. Data on file.

NAI30020 {unpublished data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, multicenter study in 2 parallel groups, to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (10 mg bd. via Diskhaler), for 5 days, in high risk patients with symptomatic influenza A and / or B infection. Data on file Synopsis only available.

NAI30028 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, multicenter study in 2 parallel groups, to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (10 mg bd via Diskhaler), for 5 days, in children aged 5 to 12 years with symptomatic influenza A and / or B infection. Data on file.

NAI30031 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the

efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered once a day for 10 days in the prevention of transmission of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections within households. Data on file.

NAI30034 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered once a day for 28 days in the prevention of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in community-dwelling high-risk populations. Data on file.

NAIA/B2008 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicenter, parallel-group study to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir administered twice or four times a day for the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

NAIA/B2009 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, multicentre, parallel-group study to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir in the prevention and/or progression of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

NAIA2005 {published data only}

MacLeod A, Gummer M, Raniga K, Hirst H, Keene O, Ossi M, et al. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled multi-centre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled and intranasal zanamivir in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

NAIA2006 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir therapy in the prevention of progression of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

NAIA3002 {published data only}

Elliott M, Flack N, Keene O, Szymborski P, Vega R (PharmaResearch, Inc). A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicenter study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered twice a day for five days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in adolescents and adults. Data on file.

NAIA3003 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, parallel-group, multi-center study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered once a day compared to the standard of care in controlling nursing home influenza outbreaks. Data on file.

NAIA3004 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multi-center study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg once a day in controlling nursing home influenza outbreaks. Data on file.

NAIA3005 {published data only}

Elliott M, Hunter S, Flack N, Crisp A, Szymborski P, Vega R. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicenter study to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered once a day for 28 days in the prevention of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in community dwelling adults. Data on file.

NAIB2005 {published data only}

Leong J, Brennan J, Gummer M, Keene O, Wightman K. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multi-centre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled plus intranasal zanamivir in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

NAIB2006 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir in preventing progression of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

NAIB2007 {published data only}

Perich R, Solterbeck A, Keene O, Leong J, Raniga K, MacLeod A. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multi-centre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled and inhaled plus intranasal zanamivir in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

NAIB3001 {published data only}

Campion K, Gummer M, Keene O. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicenter study to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir administered twice daily in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections in adults. Data on file.

NAIB3002 {published data only}

Man CY, Keene ON, Challoner T (Challoner Associates). A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered twice a day for five days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in adolescents and adults. Data on file.

NV16871 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, stratified, placebo-controlled study of oseltamivir in the treatment of influenza in children with asthma. Data on file.

PE-01 {unpublished data only}

No authors listed. A trial to investigate efficacy to reduce development of influenza symptoms in influenza infected patients treated with GG167 (protocol number PE-01 phase II clinical trial). A double-blind double-dummy, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel group, multicenter study to investigate the efficacy reducing development of influenza symptoms and, safety and rout of administration of GG 157 when orally inhaled GG 167 10 mg, 6.4 mg nebulized intranasally or the combination of inhaled GG167 10 mg plus intranasal GG167 6.4 mg was administered twice day for 5 days in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections. Data on file.

WV15670 {published data only}

Dorkings J. Efficacy and safety of oseltamivir in treatment of acute influenza: a randomized controlled trial. Data on file.

WV15671 {published data only}

Dorkings J. Efficacy and safety of the oral neuraminidase inhibitor oseltamivir in treating acute influenza: a randomized controlled trial. Data on file.

WV15673/WV15697 {published data only}

No authors listed. Efficacy of Ro 64-0796 when used as chemoprophylaxis against natural influenza infection. Data on file.

WV15707 {published data only}

Grosse M. A multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel group study of oseltamivir treatment in elderly patients with influenza. Data on file.

WV15708 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind randomised placebo controlled study of Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS4104) used in elderly subjects for the prevention of clinical influenza during influenza season. Data on file.

WV15730 {published data only}

Dorkings J. A double-blind, stratified, randomized, placebo controlled study of Ro 64-0796 (GS4104) in the treatment of influenza infection in adults. Data on file.

WV15758 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, stratified, placebo-controlled study of Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS 4104) in the treatment of children with influenza. Data on file.

WV15759/WV15871 {published data only}

Gerster T. A double-blind, randomized, stratified, placebo-controlled study of oseltamivir phosphate (Ro 64-0796, also known as GS 4104) in the treatment of influenza in children with chronic asthma. Data on file.

WV15799 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind randomised placebo controlled study of Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS4104) for the prevention of clinical influenza post exposure in families. Data on file.

WV15812/WV15872 {published data only}

McCarvil M. A double-blind, stratified, randomised, placebo controlled study of Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS4104) in the treatment of influenza in chronically ill adults. Data on file.

WV15819/WV15876/WV15978 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomized, stratified, placebo-controlled study of Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS4104) in the treatment of influenza infection in elderly patients. Data on file.

WV15825 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled study of Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS4104) used in

elderly subjects for the prevention of clinical influenza during the influenza season. Data on file.

WV16277 {published data only}

No authors listed. A double-blind, randomised, stratified, placebo-controlled study of oseltamivir in the treatment of influenza infection in patients. Data on file.

References to studies excluded from this review

105934 {published data only}

A post-marketing surveillance to monitor the safety of RELENZA (zanamivir) administered in Korean subjects according to the prescribing information. Data on file.

107485 {published data only}

An open label, single-dose, five-way crossover study examining relative oral bioavailability of zanamivir with bioenhancing excipients following direct release into mid-small intestine using gamma scintigraphy and the IntelliSite Companion Capsule in healthy subjects. Data on file.

108127 {published data only}

An open-label, non-randomized, single-dose study to evaluate serum zanamivir pharmacokinetics following intravenous administration to human subjects with renal impairment compared to subjects without renal impairment. Data on file.

112311 {published data only}

Special drug use investigation for Relenza (resistant appearance). Data on file.

112312 {published data only}

Special drug use investigation for Relenza (efficacy). Data on file.

113268 {published data only}

Drug use investigation for Relenza. Data on file.

113502 {published data only}

Prophylactic efficacy of Relenza against influenza A and B. Data on file.

113625 {published data only}

A randomized, placebo controlled, 3-way crossover study to investigate the safety, tolerability, and pharmacokinetics of repeat dose zanamivir/placebo 10 mg administered twice daily for 5 days by a rotahaler compared to the diskhaler in healthy subjects. Data on file.

113678 {published data only}

An open-label, multi-center, single arm study to evaluate the safety and tolerability of intravenous zanamivir in the treatment of hospitalized adult, adolescent and pediatric subjects with confirmed influenza infection. Data on file.

114045 {published data only}

Collection of patients' background information Relenza[®] sentinel site monitoring program in Japan. Data on file.

114373 {published data only}

A phase III international, randomized, double-blind, double-dummy study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of 300 mg or 600 mg of intravenous zanamivir twice daily compared to 75 mg of oral oseltamivir twice daily in the treatment of hospitalized adults and adolescents with influenza. Data on file.

167-02 {published data only}

A study of GG167 single blind, single administration - phase I. Data on file.

167-03 {published data only}

A study of GG167 single blind, single administration - phase I. Data on file.

167-04 {published data only}

A study of GG167 single blind, single administration - phase I. Data on file.

167-05 {published data only}

A study of GG167 single blind, single administration - phase I. Data on file.

167T3-11 {published data only}

(Zanamivir trial. Title unknown). Data on file.

ADS-TCAD-PO206 {published data only}

A randomized open label study comparing the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of oral administration of amantadine and ribavirin with oseltamivir versus oseltamivir to influenza A virus infected immunocompromised subjects. Data on file.

BP21288 {published data only}

A single-center, open-label, single dose, exploratory study in Caucasian and Japanese healthy subjects to investigate the pharmacokinetics of oseltamivir and its metabolite in plasma and cerebrospinal fluid. Data on file.

C94-009 {published data only}

Cass LM, Efthymiopoulos C, Bye A. Pharmacokinetics of zanamivir after intravenous, oral, inhaled or intranasal administration to healthy volunteers. Clinical Pharmacokinetics. 1999;36 Suppl 1:1-11. Not posted to GSK CTR.

C94-085 {published data only}

Cass LM, Gunawardena KA, Macmahon MM, Bye A: Pulmonary function and airway responsiveness in mild to moderate asthmatics given repeated inhaled doses of zanamivir. Respiratory Medicine 2000;94(2):166-73. Posted to GSK CTR.

GCP/95/045 {published data only}

A study to investigate the pharmacokinetics of GG167 in subjects with impaired renal function. Data on file.

JNAI-02 {published data only}

(Zanamivir trial. Title unknown). Data on file.

JNAI-03 {published data only}

(Zanamivir trial. Title unknown). Data on file.

JP15734 {published data only}

Single ascending oral dose study of tolerability, safety and pharmacokinetics (including effect of food) of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 in healthy male volunteers. Data on file.

JP15735 {published data only}

Multiple oral dose study of the tolerability, safety and PK of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro64-0796: direct PK comparison between Japanese and Caucasian subjects. Data on file.

JV16284 {published data only}

Phase II clinical study of oseltamivir phosphate (Ro64-0796) for the treatment of influenza in children. Data on file.

JV21490 {unpublished data only}

* Post-marketing clinical study of oseltamivir phosphate on nighttime ECG in healthy adult male subjects. Data on file 2008.

M76006 {published data only}

Early administration of oral oseltamivir increases the benefits of influenza treatment. Data on file.

ML17279 {unpublished data only}

An observational study to assess the accuracy of diagnosis of influenza in community pharmacies. Data on file.

ML17713 {published data only}

Phase IV study on Tamiflu® capsule 75 in the elderly aged 80 years or older (a single dose oral administration study for assessing pharmacokinetics in the elderly not infected with influenza virus). Data on file.

ML19340 {unpublished data only}

Impact of oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) in post-exposure prophylaxis influenza on mortality and morbidity in institutionalised elderly people. [Impact de l'oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) en prophylaxie antigrippale post-exposition, sur la mortalité et la morbidité des personnes âgées institutionnalisées.]. Data on file.

ML20542 {published data only}

Evaluation of combination therapy with oseltamivir and zanamivir versus monotherapy in the treatment of virologically confirmed influenza in primary care a randomised double blind controlled trial study. Data on file.

ML21954 {published data only}

Efficacy and safety of combination therapies with oseltamivir & zanamivir or oseltamivir & amantadine versus oseltamivir monotherapy in the treatment of seasonal influenza A infection. Data on file.

ML22789 {published data only}

An unblinded, comparative, randomized study of influenza A/H1N1 2009 resistance in patients with standard and double dose oseltamivir treatment. Data on file.

ML22872 {published data only}

Viral shedding/resistance with double duration oseltamivir in infected patients (New Zealand). Data on file.

ML22879 {published data only}

Viral shedding/resistance with standard dose/duration oseltamivir in infected patients (UK). Data on file.

ML25018 {published data only}

A study of the relative oral bioavailability of the anti-flu medicine oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) in patients in the intensive care unit. Data on file.

ML25087 {published data only}

Viral shedding/resistance with double dose oseltamivir in infected patients (Australia). Data on file.

ML25094 {published data only}

Nasogastric administration of OP in infected patients with respiratory failure. Data on file.

ML25157 {published data only}

Oseltamivir pharmacokinetics in morbid obesity. Data on file.

ML25176 {published data only}

Open-label pharmacokinetic of oseltamivir in healthy obese Thai adult subjects. Data on file.

ML25179 {published data only}

A randomized, double-blinded controlled trial comparing high vs standard dose oseltamivir in severe, influenza infection in ICU. "ROSII Study". Data on file.

ML25265 {published data only}

Probing the functional expression of carboxyl esterase in preterm neonates using oseltamivir: a pragmatic observational study. Data on file.

ML25266 {published data only}

Plasma levels of oseltamivir in H1N1 infected patients supported by extracorporeal membrane oxygenation: a single-centre cohort study. Data on file.

MP20691 {published data only}

Effect of probenecid on the pharmacokinetics of oseltamivir. Data on file.

MV20043 {published data only}

A prospective study to assess household transmission of influenza and emergence and transmissibility of drug resistance to oseltamivir following treatment of children with influenza A and B. Data on file.

MV20050 {published data only}

High-dose versus standard-dose oseltamivir for the treatment of severe influenza and avian influenza: a phase II double-blind, randomized clinical trial. Data on file.

MV22926 {published data only}

A study on higher-dose oseltamivir treatment's impact on viral clearance and clinical recovery in adults hospitalized with influenza. Data on file.

MV22949 {published data only}

A study of the pharmacology of oseltamivir (Tamiflu) in pregnancy. Data on file.

MV22951 {published data only}

Pharmacokinetics of Tamiflu® (oseltamivir) in patients receiving extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) and or continuous venovenous hemodialysis (CVVHD). Data on file.

MV22963 {published data only}

Pharmacokinetics of oseltamivir in critically ill adult patients. Data on file.

MV22970 {published data only}

Observational study on the pharmacokinetics of oseltamivir in the treatment of influenza during lactation. Data on file.

NAI106784 {published data only}

Phase I, open-label study to evaluate steady-state serum and pulmonary pharmacokinetics following intravenous administration of zanamivir in healthy adult subjects. Data on file.

NAI108166 {published data only}

Phase 1, open-label study to evaluate potential pharmacokinetic interactions between orally-administered oseltamivir and intravenous zanamivir in healthy Thai adult subjects. Data on file.

NAI10901 {published data only}

A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the effect of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg od for 28 days on anti-haemagglutinin antibody production (HAI titre) following co-administration with Fluvirin™ trivalent influenza vaccine in healthy adult subjects. Data on file.

NAI10902 {published data only}

An open label, randomized evaluation of the direct measurement of zanamivir concentrations in respiratory secretions following a single dose inhalation of 10 mg RELENZA™ via DISKHALER in health volunteers. Data on file.

NAI40012 {published data only}

An open-label, multi-center study of the patient instructional leaflet for RELENZA DISKHALER. Data on file.

NAIA1009 {published data only}

Pharmacokinetics of zanamivir (GG167) following inhaled administration in pediatric subjects with signs and symptoms of respiratory illness. Data on file.

NAIA2010 {published data only}

Pilot, cluster randomised, open, single centre, parallel group study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir in controlling influenza outbreaks and preventing the development of resistant influenza cases in a high risk nursing home population, compared with usual care. Data on file.

NAIB1001 {published data only}

Cass LMR, Brown J, Pickford M, Fayinka S, Newman SP, Johansson CJ, et al. Pharmacoscintigraphic evaluation of lung

deposition of inhaled zanamivir in healthy volunteers. *Clinical Pharmacokinetics* 1999 36:Suppl 1 (21-31). Not posted to GSK CTR.

NAIB1002 {published data only}

A study to evaluate the effect of repeat doses of GG167 dry powder on pulmonary function and bronchial hyper-responsiveness in asthmatic subjects. Data on file.

NAIB1007 {published data only}

A GG167 Pharmacokinetic Study to Select a Regimen for Prophylaxis. Data on file.

NCT00297050 {published data only}

A phase I double-blind, placebo-controlled, dose-escalating study to evaluate the safety and tolerability of intravenous peramivir in healthy subjects. Data on file.

NCT00416962 {published data only}

An open-label, multiple dose, randomized, three-period crossover study in healthy volunteers to evaluate the effect of co-administration of amantadine 100 mg BID and oseltamivir 75 mg BID on the pharmacokinetic properties of amantadine and oseltamivir. Data on file.

NCT00867139 {published data only}

TCAD vs. monotherapy for influenza A in immunocompromised patients. Data on file.

NCT00957996 {published data only}

A phase 3, open-label, randomized study of the antiviral activity, safety, and tolerability of intravenous peramivir in hospitalized subjects with confirmed or suspected influenza infection. Data on file.

NCT01063933 {published data only}

A pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic and safety evaluation of investigational intravenous peramivir in children with influenza disease (CASG 117). Data on file.

Not applicable (registry) {published data only}

(Oseltamivir trial. Title unknown). Data on file.

NP15525 {published data only}

Multiple ascending oral dose study of the tolerability, safety and pharmacokinetics of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

NP15717 {published data only}

Study of the PD and PK of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 (GS4104) in the treatment of volunteers experimentally infected with human influenza B virus. Data on file.

NP15718 {published data only}

An excretion balance and pharmacokinetic study of Ro 64-0796 after a single oral dose of 14C-labelled Ro 64-0796 and an intravenous dose of 14C-labelled Ro 64-0802 in healthy male subjects. Data on file.

NP15719 {published data only}

Study of the pharmacokinetics and absolute bioavailability of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796. Data on file.

NP15728 {published data only}

An open-label study of the effect of cimetidine and probenecid on the pharmacokinetics of Ro 64-0796/GS4104 in healthy subjects. Data on file.

NP15729 {published data only}

An open-label bioequivalence and food effect study of the clinical trial and market formulations of Ro 64-0796 in healthy subjects. Data on file.

NP15743 {unpublished data only}

No authors listed. A palatability study of the neuraminidase inhibitor (Ro 64-0796), formulated as an oral formulation. Data on file.

NP15757 {published data only}

No authors listed. Study of the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 (GS4104) in the prophylaxis of experimental infection of volunteers with the human influenza B virus. Data on file.

NP15810 {published data only}

An open-label bioequivalence and food effect study of the clinical trial and market formulations of Ro 64-0796 in healthy subjects. Data on file.

NP15826 {published data only}

An open-label study of pharmacokinetics of Ro 64-0796/GS4104 in children. Data on file.

NP15827 {published data only}

Study of the pharmacodynamics of the neuraminidase inhibitor in the treatment of subjects experimentally infected with the human influenza B virus. Data on file.

NP15881 {published data only}

Palatability testing of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 in children. Research Report No. W-144154/27 October 1999. Data on file.

NP15901 {published data only}

An open-label, two-way crossover pharmacokinetic drug interaction study of neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796/GS4104 and amoxicillin in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

NP15912 {published data only}

Palatability testing of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 in children. Data on file.

NP16472 {published data only}

A single center, open label, multiple dose oral oseltamivir suspension study in end-stage-renal disease (ESRD) patients on hemodialysis (HD) and continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD). Data on file.

NP22770 {published data only}

An open-label, multiple dose, randomized, three-period crossover study in healthy subjects to evaluate the effect of co-administration of oseltamivir (RO0640796) 75 mg twice daily and rimantadine 100 mg twice daily on the pharmacokinetic properties of oseltamivir and rimantadine. Data on file.

NP25138 {published data only}

A study of intravenous oseltamivir [Tamiflu] in infants with influenza. Data on file.

NP25139 {published data only}

A study of intravenous Tamiflu (oseltamivir) in children with influenza. Data on file.

NP25140 {published data only}

PK and safety of multiple ascending doses of iv oseltamivir in healthy adults. Data on file.

NV20234 {published data only}

A randomized, double-blind trial evaluating conventional and high dose Tamiflu in the treatment of influenza in immunocompromised patients. Data on file.

NV20235 {published data only}

A double-blind, randomized, placebo controlled multicenter trial of oseltamivir for the seasonal prophylaxis of influenza in immunocompromised patients. Data on file.

NV20237 {published data only}

An influenza resistance information study (IRIS). Data on file.

NV22155 {published data only}

A randomized, multicenter trial of oseltamivir [Tamiflu] doses of 75 mg for 5 or 10 days versus 150 mg for 5 or 10 days to evaluate the effect on the duration of viral shedding in influenza patients with pandemic (H1N1) 2009. Data on file.

NV22158 {published data only}

Avian/pandemic influenza registry final report, 30 August 2012. Data on file.

NV25118 {published data only}

A randomized, multicenter, parallel study of the safety, pharmacokinetics and the effect on viral activity of intravenously administered Tamiflu [oseltamivir] in patients with influenza over 13 years of age. Data on file.

NV25182 {published data only}

A prospective, observational safety study in children \leq 24 months of age receiving oseltamivir for the treatment or prophylaxis of influenza infection. Data on file.

NV25655 {published data only}

An open-label, prospective, single oral dose study evaluating the pharmacokinetics, safety and tolerability of oseltamivir (Tamiflu) in adult subjects on peritoneal dialysis (PD) using a rapid cycle regimen to simulate automated peritoneal dialysis (APD) and in adult subjects with creatinine clearance from 10-30 mL/min not on dialysis. Data on file.

PP15974 {published data only}

A single oral dose, multi-center, open label study of the pharmacokinetics, safety and tolerability of Ro 04-0796/GS4104 in ESRD subjects on hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis. Data on file.

PP16351 {published data only}

An open label study of the pharmacokinetics of oseltamivir (Ro 64-0796) in children aged 0 - 5 years old after a single dose. Data on file.

PP16361 {published data only}

Double-blind, randomized, placebo controlled, single ascending i.v. dose study of the tolerability (with emphasis of nausea and vomiting), safety, pharmacokinetics of oseltamivir (Ro 64-0796) and its active metabolite oseltamivir carboxylate (Ro 64-0802) in healthy male volunteers. Data on file.

PV15615 {published data only}

GS97802 - challenge flu A treatment. Data on file.

PV15616 {published data only}

GS-97801 challenge flu A treatment. Data on file.

WP15517 {published data only}

Single ascending oral dose study of the tolerability, safety and pharmacokinetics (including effect of food) of the neuraminidase inhibitor GS4104 in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

WP15525 {published data only}

Multiple ascending oral dose study of the tolerability, safety and pharmacokinetics of the neuraminidase inhibitor, GS4104 in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

WP15647 {published data only}

Multiple ascending oral dose study of the tolerability, safety and pharmacokinetics of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 in healthy elderly volunteers. Data on file.

WP15648 {published data only}

Multiple oral dose study of the pharmacokinetics, tolerability and safety of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 in patients with renal impairment. Data on file.

WP15676 {published data only}

Study of the safety and pharmacokinetics of the neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 in healthy volunteers when administered concomitantly with paracetamol (acetaminophen). Data on file.

WP15979 {published data only}

An open-label, relative bioavailability study of the phase III pediatric clinical trial and market formulations of Ro 64-0796 in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

WP16094 {published data only}

An open-label, three-way crossover, pharmacokinetic drug interaction study of neuraminidase inhibitor Ro 64-0796 and aspirin in healthy subjects. Data on file.

WP16134 {published data only}

An open label bioequivalence and food effect study of the enteric coated and immediate release formulations of oseltamivir in healthy subjects. Data on file.

WP16137 {published data only}

An open-label, bioequivalence study of the phase III pediatric clinical trial and market oral suspension formulations of Ro 64-0796 in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

WP16225 {published data only}

An open-label, relative bioavailability study of the market suspension (with improved process), the clinical trial suspension and market capsule formulation of Ro 64-0796 (Tamiflu, oseltamivir) in healthy subjects. Data on file.

WP16226 {published data only}

A study of the pharmacokinetics of oseltamivir (Ro 64-796) and its active metabolite Ro 64-0802 following single oral dosing of Ro 64-0796 to healthy volunteers and patients with moderate hepatic impairment. Data on file.

WP16254 {published data only}

A pharmacokinetic drug interaction study of oseltamivir (Ro 64-0796) and antacid in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

WP16263 {published data only}

A randomized, double blind, parallel group, placebo controlled study of the effect of oseltamivir on ECG intervals in healthy subjects. Data on file.

WP16295 {unpublished data only}

* A randomized, open label study of the site of absorption of oseltamivir in healthy subjects using an Enterion capsule. Data on file.

WP17721 {published data only}

Clinical pharmacokinetics of cyclosporine or mycophenolate with and without a concurrent single dose of oseltamivir phosphate in patients with a renal transplant. Data on file.

WP18308 {published data only}

Comparison of the pharmacokinetics of Ro 64-0802 following a single dose of oseltamivir phosphate either in a capsule or a drinking solution. Data on file.

WP20727 {published data only}

A combined single ascending dose, multiple ascending dose and exploratory bioavailability study to investigate the safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics of intravenous Ro 64-0796 in healthy volunteers. Data on file.

WP20749 {published data only}

Oseltamivir treatment for children less than 24 months of age with influenza. Data on file.

WP21272 {published data only}

An open-label, randomized 2-period crossover study to investigate the pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, safety and tolerability of warfarin, and the pharmacokinetics, safety

and tolerability of oseltamivir, when given in combination. Data on file.

WP22849 {published data only}

An open label, prospective, pharmacokinetic/ pharmacodynamic and safety evaluation of oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) in the treatment of infants 0 to < 12 months of age with confirmed influenza infection. Data on file.

WV15731 {published data only}

A double-blind, randomized, stratified pilot study of Ro 64-0796 (also known as GS4104) in children with influenza. Data on file.

WV16139 {published data only}

(Oseltamivir trial. Title unknown). Data on file. [Mentioned in EMA EPAR dated 23 March 2006 pdf page 14 but possibly same trial as WV 16193]

WV16193 {published data only}

A randomized, open-label, parallel group study of oseltamivir used for management of influenza in households. Data on file.

References to studies awaiting assessment
JPRN-JapicCTI-111647 {published data only (unpublished sought but not used)}

Kashiwagi S, Watanabe A, Ikematsu H, Awamura S, Okamoto T, Uemori M, et al. Laninamivir octanoate for post-exposure prophylaxis of influenza in household contacts: a randomized double blind placebo controlled trial. *Journal of Infection and Chemotherapy* 2013;**19**:740-9.

ML20589 {published data only}

Economic and social benefits of treating and preventing influenza in aged care facilities. Data on file.

ML20910 {published data only}

A randomized, open label study to evaluate the effect of Tamiflu on viral shedding and on serum and cytoplasmic inflammatory cytokine concentrations in patients with laboratory-confirmed influenza. Data on file.

ML21776 {published data only}

Pilot study to develop a model to evaluate nosocomial transmission of influenza. Data on file.

MV21118 {published data only}

A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study of early oseltamivir treatment of influenza in children 1-3 years of age. Data on file.

MV21737 {published data only}

A phase 4, multi-center, randomized, double blind, placebo controlled study, to evaluate the safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg versus placebo and oral oseltamivir 75 mg versus placebo for influenza prophylaxis in healthy volunteers for 16 weeks. Data on file.

MV21879 {published data only}

Efficacy of oseltamivir in reducing the duration of clinical illness, viral shedding, and transmissibility reduction within households among participants in an influenza disease burden surveillance cohort in urban Dhaka, Bangladesh. Data on file.

MV22841 {published data only}

Viral shedding/resistance with standard dose/duration oseltamivir in infected patients (South Africa). Data on file.

MV22940 {published data only}

A randomised controlled trial on the effect of post-exposure oseltamivir prophylaxis on influenza transmission in nursing homes (PEPPIE). Data on file.

NCT00419263 {published data only}

A phase II, multicenter, randomized, double-mask, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of intramuscular peramivir in subjects with uncomplicated acute influenza. Data on file.

NCT00453999 {published data only}

A phase II, multicenter, randomized, double-mask, double-dummy study comparing the efficacy and safety of peramivir administered intravenously once daily versus oseltamivir administered orally twice daily in adults with acute serious or potentially life-threatening influenza. Data on file.

NCT00486980 {published data only}

A phase 3 multicenter, randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of intramuscular peramivir in subjects with uncomplicated acute influenza. Data on file.

NCT00555893 {published data only}

Monitoring influenza severity and transmission on Tamiflu (MISTT). Data on file.

NCT00610935 {published data only}

A phase 3 multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of intramuscular peramivir in subjects with uncomplicated acute influenza. Data on file.

NCT00705406 {published data only}

A phase II, multicenter, randomized, placebo-controlled, study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of intramuscular peramivir 600 mg in subjects with uncomplicated acute influenza. Data on file.

NCT00958776 {published data only}

A phase 3, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of peramivir administered intravenously in addition to standard of care compared to standard of care alone in adults and adolescents who are hospitalized due to serious influenza. Data on file.

NCT00980109 {published data only (unpublished sought but not used)}

Anekthananon T, Pukritayakamee S, Ratanasuwon W, Jittamala P, Werarak P, Charunwathana P, et al. Oseltamivir

and inhaled zanamivir as influenza prophylaxis in Thai health workers: A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled safety trial over 16 weeks. *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy* 2013;**68**:697-707. [NCT00980109]

NCT01032837 {published data only (unpublished sought but not used)}

Dharan NJ, Fry AM, Kieke BA, Coleman L, Meece J, Vandermause M, et al. Clinical and virologic outcomes in patients with oseltamivir-resistant seasonal influenza A (H1N1) infections: results from a clinical trial. *Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses* 2012;**6**:153-8.

NV20236 {published data only}

An open label, multicenter trial of oseltamivir prophylaxis of seasonal influenza in children. Data on file.

Additional references

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CDC 2013

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* Indicates the major publication for the study

CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDIES
Characteristics of included studies [ordered by study ID]

167-101

Methods	<p>A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study of zanamivir for the prophylaxis of influenza infection. Phase III study</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Japan, 5 centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 36 days</p> <p>(duration of administration: 28 days)</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not available</p> <p>Number randomised: 319 (zanamivir: 161; placebo: 158)</p> <p>Number completed (participants for efficacy analysis): 317 (zanamivir: 161; placebo: 156)</p> <p>M = 26.5%, F = 73.5% among 317</p> <p>Mean age: 33.6 years</p> <p>Baseline details: all (at least most) Japanese; 1 (0.6%) vaccinated in zanamivir group, 0 in placebo group (within 8 months)</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Male or female healthcare workers aged 18 years and above at the time of the study 2. Participants who were able to take the first dose of study medication following notification of an influenza outbreak by the investigator 3. Participants who were willing and able to give written informed consent to participate in the study (if the subject is aged less than 20 years old, written informed consent is necessary from the subject itself and from the parental authority) 4. Able to use the diskhaler properly

167-101 (Continued)

5. Participants were willing and able to adhere to the protocol and the instructions of the investigator
6. Participants who, in the opinion of the investigator, could complete the symptom-diary card

Exclusion criteria:

1. Participants who have influenza-like illness (one or more of fever 37.5 °C or more, headache, sore throat, feverishness, muscle or joint pain, or cough) prior to the study during this influenza season
2. Participants who have any underlying illness which could influence the efficacy and safety assessment
3. Participants who were known or suspected to be hypersensitive to any component of the study medication (GG167, lactose) and relief medications (acetaminophen and dextromethorphan)
4. Participants who had received an investigational drug in the previous 3 months
5. Participants who had received any influenza antiviral therapy in the previous 7 days, e.g. amantadine
6. Participants who were pregnant, breast-feeding or intending to become pregnant during the study
7. Evidence of, or history of, such things as alcoholism, drug abuse, psychiatric disorders
8. Other conditions which the investigator decide inappropriate for participants of the study

Definition of patient populations for analysis

Intention-to-treat population: N = 319 (zanamivir: 161; placebo: 158): number randomised irrespective of the study medication

This is a secondary population for the analysis of efficacy data

Population for efficacy analysis:

Full analysis set (FAS): N = 317 (zanamivir: 161; placebo: 156)

All randomised participants except those who did not take at least 1 dose of study agent or whose efficacy data were not available. This is the secondary population for the analysis of efficacy

Non-vaccinated set (NVS) (N = 316) (zanamivir: 160; placebo: 156)

All non-vaccinated randomised participants who took at least 1 dose of study drug. This is the primary population for the analysis of efficacy

Per-protocol set (PPS) (N = 315) (zanamivir: 159; placebo: 156) [needs translation]

Safety population (N = 317) (zanamivir: 161; placebo: 156)

All randomised participants except those who met the exclusion criteria and did not take at least 1 dose of study agent. Primary population for analysis of safety data. This is the secondary population for the analysis of efficacy

Interventions	Zanamivir 10 mg once daily Placebo
Outcomes	<p>The primary efficacy endpoint was the proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (d1 to d28), developed symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B infection</p> <p>(1) "Symptomatic influenza" was defined as the presence of at least 2 of the following influenza symptoms: fever of 37.5 °C or more, headache, sore throat, feverishness, myalgia, cough. Symptoms must have been present concurrently for 3 consecutive diary card entries (approximately 1.5 days)</p> <p>(2) Laboratory confirmation of influenza infection was a positive result by any of the following methods: culture or seroconversion</p>

167-101 (Continued)

The secondary efficacy endpoint

1. Proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (d 3 to d 28), developed symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B infection that satisfied the 2 conditions above (1) and (2)
2. Proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (d 1 to d 28), developed laboratory-confirmed influenza infection
3. Proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (d 1 to d 28), developed laboratory-confirmed influenza infection and developed fever of 37.5 °C or more
4. Proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (d 1 to d 28), developed fever of 37.5 °C or more irrespective of the laboratory test results
5. Number of days, out of 28, the subject recorded use of relief medications (acetaminophen and cough suppressant)
6. Maximum recorded score on diary card
7. Development of secondary complications of influenza
8. Other outcomes to explore unique aspects of zanamivir based on the results

Safety outcome:

The safety measure was adverse events. Adverse events were defined as any unwanted or unexpected events. However, symptoms that were observed or did not worsen were not included as adverse events (pg 69 to 71/122; protocol)

Notes	Study period: 20 December 1999 to 3 March 2000 There was notable inconsistency in the results across different outcomes (see 'Risk of bias' section). The time period for assessment of antibody rise may have been inappropriate and increased the risk of bias in observed effects on outcomes
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Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	1. Participants were medical workers. There may have been selection bias prior to randomisation. pg 32/96 (CSR-PTC) and pg 36/122 (protocol) 2. The protocol says (pg 43/122, protocol), "study agents were randomly allocated" before distribution of the block (kumi) of study agents. However the random sequence generation method is not described. Randomisation was done before the distribution of the block of the study agents. Each block (kumi) contained 6 packages of study agents (3 packages for zanamivir and 3 packages for placebo) for 6 participants
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Centralised randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Unequal proportion of drop-outs between groups
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Unequal proportion of drop-outs between groups

167-101 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Unequal proportion of drop-outs between groups
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	The placebo contained lactose, which may cause bronchospasm in some participants. Hence the placebo used in this study may be a good control for the efficacy analysis but is not a good control for the safety analysis, because it increases the probability of adverse events in the control (lactose) group
Other bias	High risk	Use of healthcare workers could have resulted in under-reporting of adverse events
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Both treatments were identical in colour
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	No evidence of code-breaking

JNAI-01

Methods	Double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre trial to investigate the efficacy, safety and route of administration of zanamivir in the treatment of influenza A and B
Participants	<p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <p>Subjects who met the following criteria and were judged to have influenza A or B viral infection by the investigator when influenza A or B was circulating in the region:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Otherwise healthy males or females aged 16 to 65 years old. Inpatient or outpatient 2. Have influenza-like illness (fever > 37.5 °C and at least 2 of the following symptoms: headache, myalgia, cough, sore throat) 3. Presenting within 24 hours (at most 36 hours) from influenza-like illness symptom onset 4. Willing to co-operate for the study and able to follow the investigator's instructions <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suspected bacterial infection 2. Patients with chronic respiratory disease (including bronchial asthma), cardiovascular disease (excluding hypertension without complications), chronic metabolic disease (including diabetes), hepatic or renal impairment, anaemia or immunosuppression 3. Unstable chronic illness 4. Were receiving other intranasal or oral drug for topical application 5. Females who were pregnant, of child-bearing potential, breast-feeding or trying to become pregnant during the study period 6. Had received an investigational drug in the previous 3 months 7. Judged to be inappropriate for the study by the investigator <p>Populations for efficacy analysis</p>

JNAI-01 (Continued)

Randomised and treated population: 116 cases (A37, B40, C 39). 24 cases (8 cases each) were excluded due to GCP non-compliance

(1) Intention-to-treat population: N = 92 (A29, B32, C31) (116 randomised and treated minus 24 non-compliant with GCP were considered "intention-to-treat population". This is a secondary population for the analysis of efficacy data

(2) Per-protocol population: N = 68 (A25, B19, C24)

(3) Influenza-positive population: N = 56 (A16, B18, C22)

(4) Efficacy population: N = 49 (A15, B14, C20)

Populations for safety analysis: 116 cases (A37, B40, C 39)

Interventions	GG167 10 mg inhaled GG167 inhaled plus intranasal 6.4 mg administered twice daily for 5 days Placebo
Outcomes	Primary: time to alleviation of the 3 major and 5 major influenza symptoms (3 systemic symptoms typical of influenza: fever, headache and myalgia + 2 upper respiratory symptoms: cough and sore throat) Secondary: time to alleviation of individual symptoms (fever, headache, myalgia, cough and sore throat) Safety: incidence of drug-related abnormal symptoms/abnormal laboratory changes
Notes	Random allocation was done prior to the distribution and registration of participants

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method used for sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Centrally controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	The trial was terminated prematurely
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	The trial was terminated prematurely
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	The trial was terminated prematurely
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Methods of primary outcomes were not predefined in the protocol
Other bias	High risk	Corrected data were used for analysis. Endpoints were not described in the protocol; under-recruitment

JNAI-01 (Continued)

Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Treatments were identical in colour
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	No breaking of the code allowed

JNAI-04

Methods	Double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of zanamivir in the treatment of influenza viral infection A and B. Late phase II study for dose comparison
Participants	<p>16 years or older with influenza-like symptoms</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A temperature of 37.5 °C or greater plus at least 2 of the following: headache, muscle pain, cough, sore throat 2. Presenting within 24 hours (at most 36 hours) from influenza-like illness symptom onset 3. In general, aged 16 years or more irrespective of gender and irrespective of whether outpatient or inpatient 4. Not receiving treatment elsewhere for an underlying disease 5. Patient who intends to co-operate with the study and can be expected to follow the doctor's orders <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patient suspected of having a bacterial infection 2. Patient with an unstable chronic disease 3. Pregnancy or suspicion of pregnancy as well as person planning to become pregnant during the course of the study and nursing mothers 4. Patient who was prescribed any investigational medication within the last 3 months 5. Any patient the investigator determines to be inappropriate for the study <p>Populations for efficacy analysis</p> <p>Number screened N = 53 (3 were not eligible)</p> <p>Randomised N = 50 (1 was not treated and 1 was excluded due to incomplete informed consent)</p> <p>Randomised and treated population: 48 cases</p> <p>Low-dose active group (LA): 19, high-dose active group (HA): 13</p> <p>Low-dose placebo group (LP): 10, high-dose placebo group (HP): 6</p> <p>(1) Intention-to-treat population: 48 cases (LA19, HA13, LP10, HP6)</p> <p>(2) Per-protocol population: 38 cases (LA15, HA10, LP8, HP5)</p> <p>(3) Influenza-positive population: 22 cases (LA11, HA5, LP2, HP4)</p> <p>(4) Efficacy population: 18 cases (LA9, HA4, LP2, HP3)</p>
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir 10 mg twice daily for 5 days</p> <p>Zanamivir 20 mg twice daily for 5 days</p>

JNAI-04 (Continued)

"Low" placebo twice daily for 5 days

"High" placebo twice daily for 5 days

Outcomes	Primary: time to alleviation of the 3 major influenza symptoms (fever, headache and myalgia) Secondary: - Time to alleviation of 5 major influenza symptoms (fever, headache and myalgia + cough and sore throat) - Proportion of subjects with individual influenza-like symptoms (fever, headache, myalgia, feverishness, cough, sore throat, arthralgia, lumbago, chillness, fatigue, nasal symptoms, diarrhoea and poor appetite) Safety: incidence of abnormal symptoms/abnormal laboratory changes, which were not denied as having causality by the investigator	
Notes	The primary and secondary outcomes were not defined in the protocol	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Centralised randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	The study was terminated prematurely
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	The study was terminated prematurely
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	The study was terminated prematurely
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Populations of analysis were not predefined
Other bias	High risk	The primary and secondary outcomes were not defined in the protocol
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Low and high dose differed in colour
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	High risk	Investigators were informed of the randomisation codes before unblinding

JNAI-07

Methods	A randomised, placebo-controlled trial of zanamivir in the treatment of influenza viral infection A and B. Late phase II study for dose comparison
Participants	<p>Individuals visiting a participating outpatient centre where influenza A and B were circulating, who were diagnosed as having influenza A and B based on satisfying the following inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A temperature of 37.5 °C or greater plus at least 2 of the following: headache, muscle pain, cough, sore throat 2. Presenting within 24 hours (at most 36 hours) from influenza-like illness symptom onset 3. In general, aged 16 years or more irrespective of gender and irrespective of outpatient or inpatient 4. Patient who intends to co-operate with the study and can be expected to follow the doctor's orders <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patient suspected of having a bacterial infection 2. Patient with an unstable chronic disease 3. Pregnancy or suspicion of pregnancy as well as person planning to become pregnant during the course of the study and nursing mothers 4. Patient who was prescribed any investigational medication within the last 3 months 5. Patient who was prescribed amantadine within the last 7 days 6. Any patient the investigator determines to be inappropriate for the study <p>Populations for efficacy analysis</p> <p>Number screened N = 336 (among those 4 were not eligible)</p> <p>Randomised with double-blinded state N = 333 (among those 4 were withdrawn consent)</p> <p>Randomised and treated population under double-blinded state (ITT): 329 cases</p> <p>Low-dose active group (LA): 107, high-dose active group (HA): 111</p> <p>Low-dose placebo group (LP): 54, high-dose placebo group (HP): 57</p> <p>(1) ITT (intention-to-treat) population: 329 cases (LA107, HA111, LP54, HP57)</p> <p>(2) FAS (full analysis set: ITT - 5 (consent withdrawn) - 4 (incomplete case record): 318 cases (LA101, HA110, LP51, HP56)</p> <p>(3) Per-protocol population (irrespective of influenza positivity): 244 cases (LA81, HA84, LP38, HP41)</p> <p>(4) Influenza-positive population (irrespective of protocol adherence): 225 cases (LA71, HA82, LP34, HP38)</p> <p>(5) Efficacy population (per-protocol and influenza-positive): 172 cases (LA55, HA63, LP26, HP28)</p> <p>Populations for safety analysis: 329 cases (LA107, HA111, LP54, HP57)</p> <p>Safety outcome:</p> <p>The safety measure was the incidence of abnormal symptoms/abnormal laboratory changes which include or exclude those "causality denied". "Abnormal symptoms or abnormal laboratory findings" are the adverse events defined as newly observed or remarkably worsened symptoms after treatment started or abnormal or worsened laboratory findings compared with those before treatment irrespective of the causal assessment</p>
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir 10 mg twice daily for 5 days</p> <p>Zanamivir 20 mg twice daily for 5 days</p> <p>"Low" placebo twice daily for 5 days</p>

JNAI-07 (Continued)

"High" placebo twice daily for 5 days

Outcomes

Primary: time to alleviation of the 3 major influenza symptoms (influenza, fever, headache)

Secondary: time to alleviation of 5 major influenza symptoms

Change in antibody titre

Notes

The interventions were distinguishable in appearance

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method used for sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Low and high doses of intervention differed in colour
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Case narratives not fully provided
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Only the data for hospitalisation reported
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Symptoms that were part of the subject's influenza-like illness (ILI) according to the opinion of the investigator did not need to be reported as AEs. Only new or worsened symptoms (abnormal symptoms) and laboratory test results (abnormal laboratory tests results) were required to be reported
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Populations of analysis were not predefined
Other bias	High risk	Baseline temperatures were almost significantly lower in the zanamivir group than the placebo group
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Low and high doses of intervention differed in colour
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	High risk	Low and high doses of intervention differed in colour

JV15823

Methods

Randomised, placebo-controlled, multicentre study of oseltamivir (Ro 64-0796) in the treatment of influenza in Japanese participants

Participants

Over 16 years of age; present within 36 hours of onset of symptoms of fever > 38.0 °C, plus 2 influenza symptoms

JV15823 (Continued)

Interventions	75 mg capsules, Ro 64-0796/V14 batch no. GMZ 0129/03 Matching placebo capsules: Ro 64-0796/V16 batch no. GMZ 0136	
Outcomes	Primary outcome The time to alleviation of all symptoms Secondary outcomes Total symptom score AUC Change in virus titre Time to return to the afebrile state Adverse events	
Notes	The available study report is a 29-page document in Japanese. The design and methods are similar to those of WV 15670 and 15671 (the "pivotal" treatment trials in adults) and the trial was intended as a "bridge" with the Western trial programme. The report does not contain any supporting data (i.e. statistical analysis plan, protocol, amendments, certificates of analysis and audit, randomisation lists, lists of investigators, IRB clearance and individual listings)	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	92 participants excluded in efficacy analysis because infection with influenza virus could not be verified in the efficacy analysis
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	92 participants excluded in efficacy analysis because infection with influenza virus could not be verified in the efficacy analysis
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	No drop-outs because of harms were reported but no breakdown by on- and off-treatment status reported
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available
Other bias	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available

JV15823 (Continued)
 All outcomes

JV15824

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Ro64-0796 for the prophylaxis of influenza A and B
Participants	Participants ≥ 16 years of age and without influenza-like symptoms
Interventions	Ro64-0796/V14 75 mg capsule Ro64-0796/V16 placebo capsule
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome</p> <p>Rate of occurrence of influenza</p> <p>Secondary outcomes</p> <p>Rate of occurrence for patients infected with non-clinical influenza</p> <p>Rate of occurrence for patients infected with non-symptomatic influenza</p> <p>Rate of occurrence for patients infected with influenza-like disease</p> <p>Safety</p>
Notes	The available clinical study report is a 15-page document translated into English from the Japanese original. The design and methods are similar to those of WV 15697/15673 (the "pivotal" prophylaxis trials in adults) and the trial was meant as a "bridge" with the Western trial programme. The report does not contain any supporting data (i.e. statistical analysis plan, protocol, amendments, certificates of analysis and audit, randomisation lists, lists of investigators, IRB clearance and individual listings)

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available: method of sequence generation not reported
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	ITT analysis included all randomised participants; all participants who took at least 1 dose of medication were included in the safety population (CSR G-146); no systematic differences in drop-outs
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	ITT analysis included all randomised participants
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	All participants who took at least 1 dose of medication were included in the safety population (CSR G-146); no systematic differences in drop-outs but no breakdown by on- and off-treatment status reported, only aggregate in treatment summary table

JV15824 (Continued)

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available; unclear if there were any amendments
Other bias	High risk	No reporting of methods; no protocol; 4 participants not registered received the clinical trial drug
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	High risk	Not specified as protocol and methods section were not available

M76001

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study stratified by onset of influenza symptoms. Influenza surveillance programme set up to track outbreak of virus across the United States</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA (164 centres)</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 (+/-4) days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not available</p> <p>Number randomised: 1459 (oseltamivir: 965; placebo: 482. N randomised but did not receive study drug: 12)</p> <p>Number completed: 1344</p> <p>M = 44%</p> <p>F = 56%</p> <p>Mean age: 35 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 81% Caucasian</p> <p>Inclusion criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ambulatory male and female outpatients, aged ≥ 13 to 80 years of age 2. Symptoms consistent with influenza 3. Fever ≥ 100 °F (documented in the office/clinic) PLUS at least 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal congestion) PLUS at least 1 constitutional symptom (chills/sweats (feeling feverish), headache, myalgia (aches and pains), fatigue) 4. No more than 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell 5. Negative urine pregnancy test in women of childbearing potential 6. Willing and able to comprehend and give written informed consent <p>Exclusion criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patients with unstable or uncontrolled renal, cardiac, pulmonary, vascular, neurological or thyroid disorders, diabetes, adrenal disease, hepatitis or cirrhosis. Stable disease is defined as disease not requiring a major change of therapy or hospitalisation for 8 weeks prior to the first dose of study drug 2. Transplant recipients 3. Patients taking systemic steroids or immunosuppressant therapies

M76001 (Continued)

4. Active cancer at any site (patients with basal cell carcinoma or a previous history of cancer in remission and not requiring therapy were eligible)
5. Known HIV infection
6. Pregnant or breast-feeding females
7. Female patients of childbearing potential unable to use an effective method of contraception throughout the study period and for 1 reproductive cycle following cessation of study therapy
8. Allergy to any excipients in the capsule (section oseltamivir/Ro 64-0796) or acetaminophen (paracetamol)
9. Patients who experienced a previous episode of acute upper respiratory tract infection (URTI), otitis, bronchitis or sinusitis within 2 weeks prior to study day 1
10. Received antiviral therapy for influenza within 2 weeks prior to study day 1
11. Participation in a clinical study with an investigational drug within 4 weeks prior to study entry
12. A clinically relevant history of abuse of alcohol or other drugs

Definition of patient populations for analysis

Intention-to-treat (ITT) infected population (N = 1063)

This population was the primary analysis population and was used for summaries and analyses of efficacy parameters and consisted of the same patients as the ITT population but excluded patients who did not have laboratory-confirmed infections. Patients were analysed according to the groups to which they were randomised

ITT population (N = 1447)

The ITT population consisted of all patients who took at least 1 dose of study medication and had at least 1 efficacy measurement. Patients with protocol violations or deviations were retained in the ITT population. Patients were analysed according to the groups to which they were randomised

Safety population (N = 1447)

Not defined

Standard population (N = 932)

This population was used for summaries of selected efficacy parameters. It included all patients who were randomised, who had no major protocol violations or deviations, who had laboratory-confirmed influenza and who received at least the first 6 scheduled doses

Interventions	<p>Intervention: oseltamivir (size 2 capsules) 75 mg bid</p> <p>Control: matching placebo (size 2 capsules) bid</p> <p>For each treatment arm, patients were provided with a blister pack containing 12 capsules for 10 doses (2 extra capsules in case of damage or mishandling)</p> <p>Treatment period: 5 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: 12 to 18 days post-treatment</p> <p>Co-interventions: paracetamol 500 mg was also provided for symptomatic relief, if necessary</p>
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Outcomes	<p><i>Primary outcome</i></p> <p>Duration of illness</p> <p>Length of time until alleviation of the symptoms of influenza (nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, aches and pains, fatigue, headaches and chills/sweats). The time to alleviation of all 7 symptoms corresponds to the duration over which subsequent area under the curve calculations were made</p> <p><i>Secondary outcomes</i></p> <p>1. Severity of illness</p>
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M76001 (Continued)

2. Duration of symptoms
3. Sequelae/complications due to influenza
4. Tertiary efficacy parameters
5. Serology
6. Use of symptom relief medications
7. Quality of life
8. Adverse events

Notes	The final protocol is dated 2 October 1998. There were no amendments to the protocol. The first patients received treatment on 24 December 1998. The Module 2 does not contain the statistical analysis plan, amendments or protocol amendments or certificates of analysis. As a consequence no additional information to further develop the M1 extraction was obtained
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Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Randomisation list shows random sequence and centralised phone driven system was used
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Centralised phone driven system: "The randomisation numbers were allocated by a central randomisation service, ICTI (Interactive Clinical Technologies Inc., Princeton, NJ)." "The investigator or study coordinator telephoned the Randomization Center to report their centre's identification number, the patient's initials, date of birth and time from the onset of flu symptoms. The Randomization Center then assigned a unique patient identification number and a corresponding medication number for each patient. The investigator or coordinator entered these numbers in the appropriate place on the case report form."
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	In the absence of IPD and CRFs we cannot account for all participants
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Unclear how complications of influenza were defined clinically
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events (AEs) could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting was inconsistent
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Certificate of analysis is missing
Other bias	High risk	Potentially active placebo
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Capsule size is reported but no details of colour or taste or contents
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Randomisation code was unavailable to monitors or statisticians

ML16369

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial conducted during the influenza epidemic season</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Beijing and Shanghai, China; 7 study centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not available</p> <p>Number randomised: 478 (baseline data on ITTI population only: 273 (oseltamivir: 134; placebo: 139))</p> <p>Number completed: 451</p> <p>M = (ITTI) 50%</p> <p>F = (ITTI) 50%</p> <p>Mean age: 31 years</p> <p>Baseline details: baseline information only available for the ITTI population</p> <p>Smoking history: 20%; influenza virus: A (62%); B (36.5%); unknown (1.5%)</p> <p>Inclusion criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Male/female patients with symptoms consistent with influenza: fever ≥ 37.8 °C PLUS at least 2 of the following symptoms (coryza/nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, myalgia/muscles aches and pain, fatigue, headache or chills/sweats) during an influenza outbreak in the community 2. No more than 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell 3. Aged ≥ 18 and ≤ 65 years of age 4. Willing and able to comprehend and give written informed consent 5. Patients must agree to utilise an effective method of contraception throughout the study period and for 1 reproductive cycle following cessation of study therapy and females of childbearing potential must have a negative urine pregnancy test prior to drug dosing <p>Exclusion criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation > 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell 2. Patients with active clinically significant renal, cardiac, pulmonary, vascular, neurologic, metabolic (diabetes, thyroid disorders, adrenal disease), immunodeficiency disorders, cancer, hepatitis or cirrhosis 3. High likelihood of bacterial infection, based on signs, symptoms or laboratory tests, e.g. WBC $\geq 10.0 \times 10^9/L$ or N $\geq 90\%$ 4. Patients taking steroids or immuno-suppressant therapies 5. Allergy to any excipients in the capsule (see section 8.1) or paracetamol 6. Asthmatics and patients with COPD 7. Patients who experienced a previous episode of acute upper respiratory tract infection (URTI), otitis, bronchitis or sinusitis or received antibiotics for URTI, otitis, sinusitis or bronchitis or antiviral therapy for influenza, e.g. amantadine or rimantadine, within 2 weeks prior to study day 1 8. Dementia or other psychiatric condition that might interfere with the patient's ability to assess influenza symptomatology 9. Participation in a clinical study with an investigational drug within 4 weeks prior to study entry 10. Administration of influenza vaccine less than 12 months prior to study day 1 11. A clinically relevant history of abuse of alcohol or other drugs 12. Pregnant or breast-feeding females 13. Transplant recipients 14. Known HIV infection <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p>

ML16369 (Continued)

ITT infected population (N = 273)

The population for primary efficacy analyses was the intention-to-treat-infected (ITTI) population comprising randomised participants who received at least 1 dose of study drug and had laboratory-confirmed influenza (a positive culture on day 1 and/or ≥ 4 -fold increase in HAI antibody between baseline and day 21 of the study)

ITT population (N = 451)

The ITT population consisted of all participants who took at least 1 dose of study medication. The safety population included all participants who received at least 1 dose of study medication and who had at least 1 safety follow-up, whether or not withdrawn prematurely

Safety population (N = 459)

Not defined

Interventions	Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg (Ro 64-0796) bid Control: matching placebo bid Treatment period: 5 days Follow-up period: up to day 21 Co-interventions: contents of rescue pack of medication provided to study participants not reported	
Outcomes	Primary outcome Duration of illness: the median duration was presented for each treatment group together with 95% confidence intervals. Kaplan-Meier graphs of duration of symptoms according to treatment group were provided. Although the primary analysis for the primary parameter was done using the ITTI population, an additional analysis for the primary parameter was done using the ITT population Secondary outcomes 1. Extent and severity of illness 2. Symptoms 3. Symptom relief medications consumption 4. Secondary illness 5. Adverse events	
Notes	Conducted during influenza season from January to April 2001. No further information available in 2011 to 2013	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Described as randomised; procedure generating randomisation schedule not available
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Randomisation was pharmacy-controlled
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	ITT population outcome data reported

ML16369 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the treatment groups
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Based on all participants irrespective of compliance with treatment or infection status
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Symptoms and outcomes of primary interest were available for ITT population
Other bias	High risk	No information available on placebo contents; under-recruitment
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"Participants and staff remained blinded to allocation status throughout the study. The investigator received a sealed envelope for each subject in the trial, for use in emergencies. Each envelope contained the identity of a subject's treatment."
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	High risk	Inadequate information available to ascertain whether outcome assessors were aware of treatment group assignment

NAI30008

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered twice daily for 5 days in the treatment of influenza in patients aged 12 ≥ years diagnosed with asthma or COPD</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA (46 centres); UK (36); France (23); South Africa (11); Norway (10); Canada (9); Australia (6); Germany (5); Slovakia (3); Austria (2); Belgium (2); Denmark (2); Sweden (2) Chile (1); Israel (1)</p> <p>Duration of study: 4 weeks</p>
Participants	Males or females aged ≥ 12 years with influenza-like illness
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations twice a day, via Rotadisks/modified Diskhaler</p> <p>Placebo 2 inhalations twice a day, via Rotadisks/modified Diskhaler</p>
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome:</p> <p>Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza and no use of relief medication</p> <p>Time until the subject returned to normal activities</p> <p>Sleep disturbance measured by the number of nights during the treatment period and during the study period for which the subject recorded</p> <p>Maximum daily temperature</p> <p>Total number of tablets of supplied paracetamol taken over the treatment period</p>

NAI30008 (Continued)

Total number of spoonfuls of supplied cough mixture taken over the treatment period

Incidence of complications of influenza and the incidence of associated antibiotic use

Mean PEFr as recorded on the diary card over the treatment period

FEV1 and PEFr as recorded in the clinic on days 6 and 28

Viral titres from throat swabs

Global assessment of symptoms as recorded by the physician on day 6

Notes Study period: June 1998 to April 2000. Asthmatic patients were excluded after trial commencement; discrepancies in rescue medications were reported and different allocation concealment routines occurred in different centres

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method used in sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Unblocked randomisation schedule provided by sponsor
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	ITT analysis included all randomised participants
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	The authors display data for safety and incidence of complications of influenza based on the ITT population
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	The authors display data for safety and incidence of complications of influenza based on the ITT population
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes reported as listed in protocol
Other bias	Low risk	Reasons for all protocol amendments were clearly reported
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Sealed envelopes; only in the case of an emergency, when knowledge of the study drug was essential for the clinical management or welfare of the subject, the investigator could unblind a subject's treatment assignment

NAI30009

Methods Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered by inhalation twice daily for 5 days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in children ages 5 to 12

NAI30009 (Continued)

Location, number of centres: USA (36 centres); Canada (6); France (7); Germany (6); Belgium (2); Finland (2); Spain (2); Russia (2); Sweden (2); Israel (1) United Kingdom (1)

Duration of study: 14 to 28 days

Participants	Children aged 5 to 12 years with influenza-like illness (ILI)
Interventions	Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation), 2 inhalations twice daily via Rotadisk/Diskhaler Placebo, 2 inhalations twice daily via Rotadisk/Diskhaler
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza and no use of relief medication</p> <p>Time until the participant returned to normal activities</p> <p>Incidence of complications of influenza</p> <p>Antibiotic use for complications</p> <p>Mean overall assessment of diary card symptom score over post-treatment</p> <p>Number of days out of study days 2 to 5 where cough was recorded</p> <p>Maximum daily diary card temperature</p> <p>Number of days out of study days 2 to 5 where the participant's parent recorded use of any relief medication</p> <p>Total number of 12-hour periods during which supplied paracetamol was taken over the treatment period</p> <p>Total number of 12-hour periods during which supplied dextromethorphan cough mixture (pholcodine in Europe) was taken over the treatment period</p> <p>Investigator Global Assessment of Symptoms at the study day 3 visit and at the post-treatment visit</p> <p>Day 3 viral titre from throat swab</p> <p>Temperature as measured at the clinic visit on study day 3 for those participants with this assessment</p>
Notes	Study conducted: 11 January 1999 to 19 April 1999. Different methods were used for allocation concealment in different countries

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method used for sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	An unblocked randomisation schedule was used. Eligible participants were allocated the next (i.e. lowest) sequential participant treatment number available at each centre
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	ITT population included data for patients with missing diary cards

NAI30009 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	ITT population included data for patients with missing diary cards
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	ITT population included data for patients with missing diary cards
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Per-protocol population not defined in the protocol
Other bias	High risk	Use of different relief medications across different centres
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Only in the case of an emergency, when knowledge of the study drug was essential for the clinical management or welfare of the participant, could the investigator unblind a participant's treatment assignment. If the investigator broke the blind for an individual participant, the date and reason was recorded on the "status of treatment blind" page in the CRF. The investigator did not reveal the blind to the monitor

NAI30010

Methods	A double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered once a day for 10 days in the prevention of transmission of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections within families Location, number of centres: USA (11 centres); Canada (2); Finland (1); UK (1) Duration of study: 11 days	
Participants	2 to 5 family members with at least 1 adult and 1 child with presence of influenza-like illness Definition of patient populations for analysis ITT population (N = 1158) Index cases ≥ 5 years and contact cases ≥ 5 years randomised to treatment. Index cases and contact cases < 5 years of age who did not receive treatment, were excluded from the ITT analysis. The family was included if at least 1 randomised family member was in the population Safety population (N = 1158) Index cases and contact cases who took at least 1 dose of study medication. Randomised participants excluded if there was clear evidence of failure to take study medication	
Interventions	Zanamivir powder (5 mg per inhalation) via Rotadisk/Diskhaler Placebo 2 inhalations via Rotadisk/Diskhaler Co-interventions Relief medication pack (contents not specified)	

NAI30010 (Continued)

Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: proportion of randomised families in whom at least 1 randomised contact developed symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B infection</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Proportion of randomised families in whom at least 1 randomised contact developed laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B infection</p> <p>Proportion of randomised families in whom at least 1 randomised contact developed laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B infection and where symptoms began anytime from start of treatment to day 11</p> <p>Proportion of randomised families in whom at least 1 randomised contact developed a febrile illness during days 1 to 11</p> <p>Proportion of randomised families in whom at least 1 contact case developed laboratory-confirmed influenza infection</p> <p>Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms for randomised index cases</p> <p>Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms and no use of relief medication for randomised index cases</p> <p>Number of days unable to perform normal activities</p> <p>Number of days of use of relief medication</p> <p>Proportion of randomised families in whom at least 1 randomised contact developed a secondary infection</p> <p>Temperature of randomised index case at clinic visit on study day 5</p>
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Notes	In Europe, it was discovered that clinical supplies were incorrectly packed [CSF pg 9]; recruitment was stopped and procedures were put in place to correct this error; all randomised family members received the same treatment as the index case [CSF pg 10] Study period: October 1998 to May 1999
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Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method used to generate sequence unspecified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Blocked randomisation provided by sponsor
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	All randomised participants included in ITT population for efficacy; low number of drop-outs
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	All randomised participants included in ITT population for efficacy; low number of drop-outs
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Safety population based on randomised participants
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes reported as specified in protocol and statistical analyses plan

NAI30010 (Continued)

Other bias	High risk	Protocol amendment before participant recruitment Protocol amendments were undertaken during the study, which involved the changing of endpoints and removal of laboratory tests, as well as including new exclusion criteria. In Europe, it was discovered that clinical supplies were incorrectly packed; recruitment was stopped and procedures were put in place to correct this error; all randomised family members received the same treatment as the index case
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Incorrect packing of supplies; use of different colours for index and contact cases; randomising all families to same treatment. No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Breaking of the randomisation code was forbidden

NAI30011

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the impact of inhaled zanamivir treatment on workplace attendance and healthcare outcomes due to influenza A and B infections	
Participants	Males or females aged 18 years and above with influenza-like illness	
Interventions	4 x 5 mg doses of micronised zanamivir (as dry powder, lactose blend) Matching placebo (lactose only)	
Outcomes	Primary outcome: time to alleviation of influenza symptoms Secondary outcomes: Time absent from work due to influenza symptoms Time to perception of influenza symptom improvement	
Notes	Protocol amendments were undertaken during the study which involved the changing of endpoints and removal of laboratory tests, as well as including new exclusion criteria	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	The ITT population is included in the safety data
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Low risk	The ITT population is included in the safety data

NAI30011 (Continued)

Complications of influenza

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	The ITT population is included in the safety data
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes reported as specified in the protocol
Other bias	High risk	2 protocol amendments occurred during trial; in 1 of these, there was re-defining of endpoints and removal of a laboratory test for antibody detection
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Only in the case of an emergency, when knowledge of the study drug was essential for the clinical management or welfare of the participant, could the investigator unblind a participant's treatment assignment. The investigator was not to reveal the blind to the monitor

NAI30012

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered twice daily for 5 days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in participants aged > 65 years
Participants	Male or female participants aged > 65 years (with or without underlying medical conditions) with ILI
Interventions	Zanamivir (GG167) powder (5 mg inhalations), 2 inhalations, twice daily, for 5 days, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler Placebo, 2 inhalations, twice daily, for 5 days, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler
Outcomes	Primary outcome: time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza Secondary outcomes: Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms and no use of relief medication Complications of influenza Complications of influenza requiring antibiotic use Time to alleviation of individual symptoms Time to afebrile status Use of supplied paracetamol Global assessment of symptoms by the investigator Time to return to 'how I felt before influenza illness' Time to return to normal activities Viral titre levels at day 2/3, day 6 and day 14

NAI30012 (Continued)

Notes More participants in the placebo group had a high-risk medical condition compared with the zanamivir group, in both the ITT and influenza-positive populations. 2 deaths reported; neither were considered to be related to the drugs but case narratives are blanked out

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Randomisation code provided by sponsor; unblocked randomisation schedule and sequential participant treatment number
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	All randomised participants were analysed in the ITT sample for efficacy
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	All randomised participants were analysed in the ITT sample for efficacy
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	The safety population included all participants randomised to treatment and who took at least 1 dose of study medication
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	All outcomes specified in the protocol reported
Other bias	High risk	More participants in the placebo group had a high-risk medical condition compared with the zanamivir group, in both the ITT and influenza-positive populations; protocol was amended 8 times during the trial
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Breaking of the code by opening the hidden portion of the detachable drug label or hidden entry envelope was expressly forbidden. Only in the case of an emergency, when knowledge of the study drug was essential for the clinical management or welfare of the participant, could the investigator unblind a participant's treatment assignment. The investigator was not to reveal the blind to the monitor

NAI30015

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered twice daily for 5 days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B infections in armed service personnel
Participants	Participants were conscripts of the Finnish Army, living in residential units with influenza-like illness
Interventions	Inhaled zanamivir 10 mg (2 x 5 mg blisters), twice daily, for 5 days, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler

NAI30015 (Continued)

Placebo (2 blisters), twice daily, for 5 days, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler

Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza and no relief medication</p> <p>Time to afebrile status</p> <p>Total symptom score</p> <p>Viral load data</p> <p>Complications</p> <p>Maximum daily diary temperature during treatment</p> <p>Total number of 12-hour periods during which supplied paracetamol was taken over the treatment period</p> <p>Global assessment of symptoms</p> <p>Time to alleviation of individual symptoms</p>	
Notes	No explicit report on randomisation and blinding procedures provided	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided; no information on method of sequence generation
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	All randomised participants were analysed in the ITT sample for efficacy
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	All randomised participants were analysed in the ITT sample for efficacy
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	The safety population comprised all randomised participants
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Protocol listed "MEP abnormalities (in a sub-set of participants)" as a secondary endpoint but it was not reported in the CSR
Other bias	Low risk	Only 1 protocol amendment comprising typographical corrections
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided

NAI30015 (Continued)

Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Investigators received hidden entry envelopes that contained the code break for each treatment number. Breaking of the code by opening the hidden entry envelopes was expressly forbidden except in the event of a medical emergency where the identity of the drug was necessary in order to treat the participant properly. In the event of such an emergency, it was requested that the investigator make every effort to contact the study monitor or designee prior to breaking the code
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NAI30020

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre study in 2 parallel groups, to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (10 mg bid via Diskhaler), for 5 days, in high-risk patients with symptomatic influenza A and/or B infection	
Participants	<p>Eligible participants were adults aged ≥ 18 years, with symptomatic influenza A and/or B infection: feverishness (> 37.8 °C) and at least 2 of the 4 following symptoms: headache, muscle pains, myalgia, sore throat and cough, also with influenza-quick-test positive and categorised as "high risk"</p> <p>High risk was defined as: males and females aged > 60 years, participants living in an old peoples' home, participants with respiratory disorders including COPD or asthma, participants with diabetes mellitus, chronic renal failure or cardiovascular disorders</p> <p>Exclusions included pregnant women or women at risk of becoming pregnant during the study; participants with a suspected bacterial respiratory infection; participants with a known sensitivity to components of the intervention or placebo treatments or the emergency medications</p>	
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) twice daily for 5 days</p> <p>Placebo 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) twice daily for 5 days</p> <p>Participants were additionally provided with paracetamol and cough syrup as symptomatic medication, with guidance to take these only if there was "an acute need"</p>	
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time to alleviation of fever (time to first measurement with a temperature < 37.8 °C, maintained for the following 24 hours)</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Time to alleviation of the other clinically relevant symptoms</p> <p>Time to return to normal activity</p> <p>Incidence of complications</p> <p>Loss of productivity assessed by number of days taken off work</p> <p>Use of medical services</p>	
Notes	<p>Only a synopsis was provided for this trial; a full clinical study report was not available</p> <p>The total number of patients analysed was not clearly reported</p> <p>It appears that intention-to-treat analysis was not performed</p> <p>43/329 randomised participants took the study drug but were excluded from the analysis according to prespecified exclusion criteria (temperature too low, no diary available, fever stopped before medication taken - Clinical Research Associate findings at investigator's site)</p>	

Risk of bias

NAI30020 (Continued)

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method used for sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Concealment of allocation was not reported
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Blinding of participants and personnel was not reported
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Blinding of outcome assessors was not reported
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Blinding of participants, personnel and assessors was not reported
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Statistical analysis plan was not available and it is not possible to know the pre specification of outcomes
Other bias	High risk	The trial appeared to under-recruit but the numbers of participants are not clearly reported
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Blinding of participants and personnel was not reported
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	High risk	Blinding of outcome assessors was not reported

NAI30028

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre, comparative study in parallel groups to investigate the efficacy and tolerability of inhaled zanamivir, administered 2 x daily for 5 days
Participants	Children aged from 5 to 12 years with symptomatic influenza A and/or influenza B infection
Interventions	Zanamivir (dry powder for oral inhalation) in a circular foil pack (Rotadisks®) with 4 regularly distributed blisters each containing 5 mg zanamivir blended with 20 mg lactose Placebo Rotadisks® containing 25 mg lactose
Outcomes	Primary outcome: time to alleviation of all the clinically significant symptoms of influenza Secondary outcomes: Time to return to normal activities Complications

NAI30028 (Continued)

Notes The 2 SAEs (febrile convulsion and stomach ache) were considered by the investigators to be zanamivir-related

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Computer-generated random blocks
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	5 participants were excluded from the analysis of efficacy due to insufficient diary card data
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	5 participants were excluded from the analysis of efficacy due to insufficient diary card data
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	5 participants were excluded from the analysis of efficacy due to insufficient diary card data
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	The primary endpoint was originally the time to alleviation of the main signs/symptoms of influenza but this was later adjusted to the time to alleviation of fever. The presence of fever was indicated for all participants but the value was not recorded for 11 participants; data for these participants was, therefore, excluded from the per-protocol analysis
Other bias	Low risk	Low number of drop-outs in both groups; reasons reported. All participants included in safety population. There were no protocol amendments
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Identical Rotadisks used in both groups; placebo was reported to be lactose. No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Investigators were only allowed to break the study blind in an emergency, where knowledge of the participant's study medication was essential on clinical grounds

NAI30031

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered once a day for 10 days in the prevention of transmission of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections within households
Participants	The index case was the first household member for whom a clinical diagnosis of ILI could be made
Interventions	Zanamivir (GG167) powder (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations via Rotadisk/Diskhaler Placebo, 2 inhalations via Rotadisk/Diskhaler

NAI30031 (Continued)

Outcomes

Primary outcome: the proportion of randomised households in which at least 1 randomised contact case developed symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B infection

Secondary outcomes:

The proportion of randomised households in which at least 1 randomised contact case developed laboratory-confirmed influenza infection

The proportion of randomised households for which at least 1 randomised contact case developed symptomatic influenza-like illness (irrespective of laboratory confirmation).

The proportion of randomised households in which at least 1 randomised contact case developed symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza infection, excluding any failures that occurred within 1 day of the start of prophylaxis

The proportion of randomised households in which at least 1 randomised contact case developed laboratory-confirmed influenza and a febrile illness

The number of days out of 28 at least 1 randomised contact case was unable to perform all their normal activities

The number of days out of 28 at least 1 randomised contact case recorded the use of relief medication

The proportion of randomised households in which at least 1 randomised contact case developed any secondary complication of influenza

The proportions of randomised households in which at least 1 randomised contact case develops symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza and the flu type of the index case matches that of all the contact cases who develop influenza

Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza in contact cases developing symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza during prophylaxis

Notes

Some outcomes in the clinical study reports were not listed in the protocol

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided, but sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Blocked randomisation schedule was used. Each randomised household contact case was allocated the next (i.e. lowest) sequential treatment number available for that household
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	ITT population available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	ITT population available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	The safety population was defined as all contact cases randomised to treatment who took at least 1 dose of study medication
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Several outcomes reported in clinical study reports were not listed in the protocol

NAI30031 (Continued)

Other bias	High risk	Patients receiving antibiotics for bacterial RTI were excluded in the protocol but not in the clinical study reports
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Breaking of code only permitted in emergency

NAI30034

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir 10 mg administered once a day for 28 days in the prevention of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in community-dwelling, high-risk participants aged ≥ 12 years	
Participants	Community-dwelling males and females aged ≥ 12 years at greatest risk for developing complications from influenza	
Interventions	Zanamivir powder (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations, once daily for 28 days, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler Placebo, 2 inhalations, once daily for 28 days, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler	
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: the proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis (days 1 to 28), developed symptomatic, influenza A or B infection confirmed by culture/serology</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who developed influenza confirmed by culture/serology</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed influenza-like illness (ILI); developed a febrile illness</p>	
Notes	Protocol states several other secondary outcome measures; these modifications are not listed in the protocol amendment section: the total number of over-the-counter medications used; the proportion of randomised participants who require a prescription medication; the total number of prescription medications used; the proportion of randomised participants who have an unscheduled healthcare contact; and the total number of unscheduled healthcare contacts	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided; method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation; a blocked randomisation schedule was used. Eligible participants were always allocated the next (i.e. lowest) sequential treatment number available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Low number of drop-outs, reasons reported. There were the same number of participants in the safety population and the ITT population

NAI30034 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Low number of drop-outs, reasons reported. There were the same number of participants in the safety population and the ITT population
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Low number of drop-outs, reasons reported. There were the same number of participants in the safety population and the ITT population
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes reported as specified in protocol
Other bias	High risk	5 protocol amendments, with 1 after trial commencement; amended the definition of confirmed influenza
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Investigators, participants and study monitors were unaware of which treatment a participant was randomly assigned to receive. Only in the case of an emergency, when knowledge of the study drug was essential for the clinical management or welfare of the participant, was the investigator permitted to unblind a participant's treatment assignment

NAIA/B2008

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre, parallel-group study to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir administered twice or 4 times a day for the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections
Participants	Males and females aged ≥ 13 years with influenza-like illness; ≥ 18 years in some centres
Interventions	Zanamivir was provided as a solution for intranasal administration at a concentration of 16 mg/ml in saline and as a dry powder for inhalation Placebo was normal saline (for intranasal spray) and dry lactose powder to match zanamivir (for inhalation)
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: Time until the alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Secondary outcomes: Time to eradication of major influenza symptoms Time to alleviation of each of the symptoms in the diary card Combined symptom analysis Time until the patient returned to normal activities Number of days that the overall symptom assessment was recorded Number of days that at least 1 symptom was recorded Number of days that sleep disturbance was recorded as 'not at all' or 'slightly' over the whole period covered by the diary card</p>

NAIA/B2008 (Continued)

Maximum daily temperature

Mean daily number of administrations of supplied paracetamol (acetaminophen) over the treatment period

Mean daily number of administrations of supplied cough mixture over the treatment period

Investigator-rated global assessment of symptoms

Number of cases of hospitalisation resulting from influenza infection

Notes Combined symptom analysis as a secondary endpoint was added to the final analysis plan after the trial commenced (14 May 1996). The symptoms of feverishness, headache, myalgia, cough and sore throat were summarised by the mean symptom score to provide a measure of overall severity

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation codes provided; but method used for sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Generated using GWRD program (PACT)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Similar number of withdrawals in both groups (6%)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Similar number of withdrawals in both groups (6%)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	ITT population was safety population
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Several secondary endpoints were changed; 1 was added to the clinical study reports that was not in the protocol
Other bias	High risk	Protocol amendments do not list changes to secondary endpoints; variation in minimum age for inclusion
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Each investigator was provided with a sealed envelope containing the individual code-break envelopes for patients in their centre. These were only to be opened in a medical emergency, where knowledge of the study treatment was essential for further management of the patient

NAIA/B2009

Methods	Multicentre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial was designed to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir (inhaled, intranasal, inhaled combined with intranasal versus placebo) in the prevention of and/or reduction in progression of influenza (post-exposure prophylaxis)
Participants	Individuals without flu symptoms aged ≥ 13 years (aged ≥ 18 years in 3 European countries) at risk of developing influenza having been in close contact with an index case
Interventions	Zanamivir (16 mg/mL), 2 intranasal sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray) twice daily plus placebo 2 inhalations twice daily Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation), 2 inhalations twice daily plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril twice daily Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation), 2 inhalations twice daily plus zanamivir (16 mg/mL), 2 intranasal sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray) twice daily Placebo 2 inhalations twice daily plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril twice daily
Outcomes	Primary: the proportion with symptomatic influenza, with laboratory confirmation, during treatment period Secondary: The proportion of patients with a fever (temperature 37.8 °C) during the treatment period Number of days over the study period (day 1 to 5) that the patient recorded any symptom on the diary card as 'none' or 'mild' Number of days over the study period (day 1 to 5) that the patient recorded the overall symptom assessment on the diary card as 'none' or 'mild' Investigator-rated global assessment of symptoms (GAS)
Notes	The study aimed to recruit 840 but randomised 575 participants; the protocol was amended 6 times

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Symptom outcomes analysed with intention-to-treat population (all randomised)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Outcomes analysed with intention-to-treat population (all randomised)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Safety outcomes analysed with safety population (all randomised who took at least 1 dose of study treatment)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Primary and secondary outcomes reported as stated in protocol

NAIA/B2009 (Continued)

Other bias	High risk	Patient-rated assessment not reported as outcome; lack of statistically significant power
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The monitors were blinded as to the study treatment administered. No investigator revealed the blind for study medication prior to trial completion

NAIA2005

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled multicentre trial, designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of inhaled and intranasal zanamivir in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections
Participants	Eligible participants were individuals aged ≥ 13 years generally in good health, enrolled within 48 hours of the onset of influenza-like illness
Interventions	Zanamivir 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) twice a day plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril twice a day Zanamivir 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) twice a day plus zanamivir (16 mg/mL) 2 intranasal sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray) twice a day Co-interventions Paracetamol, dextromethorphan hydrobromide and pseudoephedrine hydrochloride
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time to alleviation of major influenza symptoms</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Time (in days from initiation of treatment) to alleviation of feverishness, headache and myalgia</p> <p>Time (in days from initiation of treatment) to eradication of major signs and symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Time (in days from initiation of treatment) to alleviation and eradication of individual symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Combined symptom analysis</p> <p>Mean daily temperature over the study treatment period</p> <p>Number of days (from initiation of treatment) until the patient was able to return to normal activities</p> <p>Number of days out of days 1 to 10 that the patient recorded any symptom as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Number of days out of days 1 to 10 that the patient recorded their overall symptom assessment (OSA) as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Number of days out of days 2 to 10 that the patient recorded sleep disturbance as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Mean supportive drug use (e.g. paracetamol, cough mixtures and decongestants) over the study treatment period</p> <p>Investigator global assessment of symptoms</p>

NAIA2005 (Continued)

Day at which viral shedding fell below limit of quantitation (core centres only). Area under the viral shedding curve (core centres only)

Notes

A protocol amendment changed 1 exclusion criterion from patients with influenza vaccines administered since August 1993 to patients with influenza vaccines administered since 1 October 1994 during the recruitment period

Major protocol amendments

1. Modified the inclusion criteria to specify fever as a temperature ≥ 37.8 °C or 100.1 °F
2. Changed patient populations from S = subset of patients at centres with experience in virology and X = all patients to C = core centre patients (centres with experience in virology), T = target patients (patients with whom symptom assessments and diary cards were reviewed by study site personnel) and X = all patients
3. Defined target patient population as 1 out of every 6 patients (except core centre patients) who was targeted for additional face-to-face diary card review and clinical symptom assessment by site study staff on days 2, 4 and 8
4. Modified adverse events to include those that were temporally related to study drug administration
5. Clarified the clinical symptom assessment and the diary card review for the core centre and target patients
6. Added section on unscheduled visits and clarified the withdrawal information
7. Revised statistical methods section
8. Changed 1 exclusion criterion from patients with influenza vaccines administered since August 1993 to patients with influenza vaccines administered since 1 October 1994

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Described as randomised; procedure generating randomisation schedule not available
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Centrally generated, pharmacy-controlled randomisation "Each investigator was provided with a sealed envelope containing the individual code break envelopes for patients in their centre."
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Withdrawals included in ITT analyses for both efficacy and safety. Data from infected and non-infected participants were available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Insufficient evidence to indicate that administration of zanamivir affects antibody response in similar way to oseltamivir. The influenza-positive population is less likely to reflect a non-randomised comparison
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Safety population based on randomised participants
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Change in SAP before trial commencement; outcomes reported as outlined in protocol
Other bias	High risk	Exposure to lactose in test drugs may have underestimated true risk of asthma events
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided

NAIA2005 (Continued)

All outcomes

Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The investigator, all study staff, patients and the monitors were blinded as to the study treatment (zanamivir or placebo) administered; each investigator was provided with a sealed envelope containing the individual code-break envelopes for patients in their centres. These were to be opened in a medical emergency only, where knowledge of the study treatment was essential for further management of the patient
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NAIA2006

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial investigating efficacy and safety of zanamivir in preventing progression of influenza A and B from asymptomatic to symptomatic, among cases exposed to suspected index cases	
Participants	Eligible participants were aged ≥ 13 years, with no signs or symptoms of influenza	
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir (16 mg/mL) 2 intranasal sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray) twice a day plus placebo 2 inhalations twice a day</p> <p>Zanamivir 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) twice a day plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril twice a day</p> <p>Zanamivir 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) twice a day plus zanamivir (16 mg/mL) 2 intranasal sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray) twice a day</p> <p>Placebo 2 inhalations twice a day plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril twice a day</p>	
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: the proportion of patients with laboratory-confirmed influenza during treatment plus at least 2 clinically significant symptoms of influenza of 'moderate' or 'severe' severity during the study treatment period</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>The proportion of patients with influenza</p> <p>The proportion of patients with a fever (temperature 37.8 °C) during the treatment period</p> <p>Number of days over the study period (day 1 to 5) that the patient recorded any symptom on the diary card as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Number of days over the study period (day 1 to 5) that the patient recorded the overall symptom assessment on the diary card as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Number of days over the study period (day 1 to 5) that the patient recorded 'moderate' or 'severe' sleep disturbance</p> <p>Number of days over the study period (day 1 to 5) that the patient recorded that they were unable to perform normal activities</p>	
Notes	The aim was to recruit 380 participants. Only 64 contact case participants were recruited and randomised	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified

NAIA2006 (Continued)

Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled; codes were in sealed envelopes. No investigator revealed the blind for study medication prior to trial completion
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	ITT and safety population included all randomised and all who took at least 1 dose of medication respectively
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	ITT and safety population included all randomised and all who took at least 1 dose of medication respectively
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	ITT and safety population included all randomised and all who took at least 1 dose of medication respectively
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes were reported as stated in the protocol
Other bias	High risk	Inability to recruit adequate numbers, as initially planned
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The investigator, all study staff, patients and the monitors were blinded as to the study treatment administered (zanamivir or placebo). Codes were to be opened in a medical emergency only, where knowledge of the study treatment was essential for further management of the patient

NAIA3002

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial to investigate the safety and efficacy of inhaled zanamivir in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B in adolescents and adults</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA (72 centres); Canada (12)</p> <p>Duration of study: 28 days</p>
Participants	Individuals aged ≥ 12 years, with ILI, in locations with influenza circulating in the community
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation), 2 inhalations twice daily via Rotadisk/Diskhaler</p> <p>Placebo, 2 inhalations twice daily, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler</p> <p>Treatment period: 5 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: 23 days post-treatment</p> <p>Co-interventions: relief pack of medication (paracetamol and cough mixture)</p>
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time until alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza and no use of relief medication</p>

NAIA3002 (Continued)

Maximum daily temperature summarised by area under the curve (AUC) over the treatment period

Time until the participant returned to normal activities

Time to alleviation of each individual symptom

Mean overall influenza score

Mean symptom score for each of the individual symptoms collected on the diary card

Total number of tablets of supplied paracetamol taken

Total number of spoonfuls of supplied cough mixture taken

Global assessment of symptoms at the post-treatment visit

Incidence of complications of influenza

Day 3 viral titre from throat swab

Productivity and healthcare resource utilisation outcomes

Notes

Major protocol amendments

1. Reference to 5 mL spoonfuls of dextromethorphan was deleted
2. Study personnel recorded in CRF, instead of diary card, whether first dose of study medication was given before or after 14:00 hours
3. Secondary complications would be recorded in the CRF
4. Second diary card was to be completed twice a day
5. Appendix 4 defined categories of influenza complications

Study period: October 1997 to April 1998

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	"...packs containing zanamivir or matching placebo were provided by the Pharmaceutical Supplies Department of Glaxo Wellcome Research and Development to Glaxo Wellcome Inc. The supplies were labelled and packed in Clinical Supply Operations at GWI for distribution to the study centres by Simirex, Inc., Mt. Laurel, NJ."
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Data for ITT and IP populations available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	All randomised participants included in ITT for efficacy; and all who took at least 1 dose of medication included in ITT for safety
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	All who took at least 1 dose of medication included in safety population
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	All outcomes reported as specified in protocol

NAIA3002 (Continued)

Other bias	Low risk	Protocol amendments were explained and do not appear to have any influence on the outcomes
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The investigator, all staff, participants and study monitors were blinded as to the study treatment administered. Breaking of the code by opening the hidden portion of the detachable drug label was expressly forbidden except in the event of a medical emergency where the identity of the drug had to be known in order to treat the participant properly

NAIA3003

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial investigating the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir compared with standard care in controlling outbreaks of influenza in nursing homes	
Participants	Participants in nursing homes were randomised when healthy and followed until an outbreak of influenza was declared in that nursing home	
Interventions	Zanamivir 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) once a day plus 1 placebo tablet once a day Placebo 2 inhalations once a day plus 1 rimantadine tablet (100 mg) once a day	
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: the proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed a new sign or symptom and had laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed febrile illness</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis (days 1 to 15) or anytime during the study (days 1 to 28), developed complications of influenza and had subsequent associated laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis (days 1 to 15) or anytime during the study (days 1 to 28), took an antibiotic due to complications of influenza and had subsequent associated laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during days 3 to 15 of prophylaxis, developed a new sign or symptom with subsequent associated laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, had laboratory-confirmed influenza infection</p>	
Notes	4 protocol amendments were made and do not appear to have any influence on the outcomes. Adverse event data were not extracted from this study because of exposure to rimantadine	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified

NAIA3003 (Continued)

Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	All randomised participants included in ITT for efficacy
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	All randomised participants included in ITT for efficacy
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	All who took at least 1 dose of medication included in ITT for safety
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes were reported as specified in the protocol and analysis plan
Other bias	High risk	2 protocol amendments for interim safety analysis; some re-randomisation of patients occurred
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	This study was double-blind. As such, the investigators, participants and study monitors were unaware of which treatment a participant was randomly assigned to receive. Breaking of the code by opening the hidden portion of the detachable drug label was expressly forbidden except in the event of a medical emergency where the identity of the drug was necessary in order to treat the participant properly

NAIA3004

Methods	Randomised, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial performed in 12 nursing homes in Lithuania, the Netherlands and Israel
Participants	Participants without ILI, living in nursing homes
Interventions	Zanamivir 2 inhalations (5 mg per inhalation) once a day Placebo 2 inhalations once a day
Outcomes	<p>Primary: the proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed a new sign or symptom and had laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p> <p>Secondary:</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed febrile illness (defined as a temperature of > 99.0 °F or > 37.2 °C) and had laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis (days 1 to 15) or anytime during the study (days 1 to 28), developed complications of influenza and had laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p>

NAIA3004 (Continued)

The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis (days 1 to 15) or anytime during the study (days 1 to 28), took an antibiotic due to complications of influenza and had laboratory confirmation of influenza infection

The proportion of randomised participants who, during days 3 to 15 of prophylaxis, developed a new sign or symptom with laboratory confirmation of influenza infection

The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, had laboratory-confirmed influenza infection

Notes There were 12 SAEs during the study. There were 3 deaths, causes as follows: MI during post-prophylaxis follow-up; liver cirrhosis and congestive heart failure (6 months after study completion); pleural effusion and probable lung cancer (3 months after the study). Some re-randomisation of patients occurred

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Symptom outcomes were reported using the intention-to-treat population (all randomised) as specified in the protocol and analysis plan
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Outcomes were reported using the intention-to-treat population (all randomised) as specified in the protocol and analysis plan
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Safety outcomes were reported using the safety population (all randomised who took at least 1 dose of study medication) as specified in the protocol and analysis plan
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes were reported as specified in the protocol and analysis plan
Other bias	High risk	The protocol was amended 4 times; twice to allow for interim safety analysis and once to allow for extra recruitment. Some re-randomisation of patients occurred
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Investigators, participants and study monitors were unaware of which treatment a participant was randomly assigned to receive. Breaking of the code by opening the hidden portion of the detachable drug label was expressly forbidden except in the event of a medical emergency where the identity of the drug was necessary in order to treat the participant properly

NAIA3005

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study designed to investigate the efficacy and safety of zanamivir given by the inhaled route in the prevention of symptomatic disease caused by influenza A and B viral infections in community-dwelling adults</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA, 2 centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 35 days</p>
Participants	<p>Males or females 18 years or greater from a university community without symptoms indicative of influenza prior to the prophylaxis phase of the study</p> <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p><i>Intention-to-treat population (N = 1107)</i></p> <p>Not specified.</p> <p><i>Safety (N = 1107)</i></p> <p>All randomised participants who took 1 dose of study drug. Primary population for analysis of safety data</p> <p><i>Non-vaccinated population (N = 948)</i></p> <p>All non-vaccinated randomised participants who took at least 1 dose of study drug. Primary population for the analysis of efficacy</p> <p><i>Per-protocol (N = 891)</i></p> <p>Not specified</p>
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation), 2 inhalations once a day via Rotadisk/Diskhaler</p> <p>Placebo, 2 inhalations once a day, via Rotadisk/Diskhaler</p> <p>Treatment period: 28 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: 7 days post-treatment</p> <p>Co-interventions: relief medication provided as paracetamol and cough mixture</p>
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: the proportion of non-vaccinated randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza A or B infection</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who developed laboratory-confirmed influenza infection</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during days 3 to 28 of prophylaxis, developed symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza infection</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed a febrile illness with laboratory confirmation of influenza infection. A febrile illness was defined as a temperature of 37.8 °C</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who during prophylaxis developed a febrile illness irrespective of laboratory confirmation of influenza</p> <p>The maximum recorded score during days 1 to 28 for each of the symptoms recorded on the diary card</p> <p>The number of days out of 28 the participant was unable to perform all their normal activities</p> <p>The number of days out of 28 the participant recorded use of relief medication</p> <p>The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed a secondary complication of influenza and had subsequent associated laboratory confirmation of influenza infection</p>

NAIA3005 (Continued)

The proportion of randomised participants who, during prophylaxis, developed a secondary complication of influenza, irrespective of laboratory confirmation of influenza

The proportion of randomised participants who required antibiotics

The proportion of randomised participants who required an OTC medication

The proportion of randomised participants who required a prescribed medication

The proportion of randomised participants who had an unscheduled healthcare contact plus the mean number of unscheduled healthcare contacts

The proportion of randomised participants confined to bed/incapacitated plus the mean duration of incapacity because of influenza

The proportion of randomised participants who missed at least 1/2 day from work/school because of influenza and the mean duration missed from work/school

Notes	<p>ITT population comprised all randomised participants. However, patients who had no diary card data from days 1 to 5 or were withdrawn prematurely from study treatment were not included</p> <p>Patients who were at risk of developing complications were excluded from the study and the investigators did not list complications as an outcome</p> <p>Inconsistencies occurred in the Protocol Summary, Study Plan and Study Procedures (Protocol 2 Amendment); cough and sore throat were listed as primary symptoms in clinical study reports but not in the protocol and the investigator global assessment was not listed in the protocol but was listed in the clinical study reports</p> <p>Study performed prior to influenza season in 1997</p>
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Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided; but method used to generate randomisation sequence not stated in clinical study reports
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Similar number of participant adverse events in zanamivir and placebo
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Similar number of participant adverse events in zanamivir and placebo
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Similar number of participant adverse events in zanamivir and placebo
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	All outcomes listed in protocol reported
Other bias	High risk	Exposure to lactose in test drugs may have underestimated true risk of asthma events. The protocol was amended twice during the course of the study; case narratives and CRFs blank

NAIA3005 (Continued)

Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Placebo described as "matching"; no certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Breaking of the code by opening the hidden portion of the detachable drug label was expressly forbidden except in the event of a medical emergency where the identity of the drug had to be known in order to treat the participant properly

NAIB2005

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled and intranasal zanamivir in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Belgium (3 centres); Finland (1); France (5); Germany (1); Italy (2); Netherlands (1); Norway (6); Spain (5); Sweden (4); UK (4)</p> <p>Duration of study: 28 days</p>
Participants	<p>Male or female aged ≥ 18 years with influenza-like illness for < 48 hours</p> <p>Number screened: not available</p> <p>Number randomised: 197 (zanamivir (inhaled): 64; zanamivir (inhaled and intranasal): 70; placebo: 63)</p> <p>Number completed: 185</p> <p>M = 53</p> <p>F = 47</p> <p>Mean age: 34 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 96% Caucasian; 24% smokers</p> <p>Inclusion criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Male or female ≥ 18 years 2. Duration of ILI ≤ 48 hours (i.e. feverish and at least 2 of the following symptoms: headache, myalgia, cough, sore throat) 3. In good health except for current respiratory illness 4. Able to use diskhaler and aqueous nasal spray devices 5. Willing and able to adhere to protocol 6. Willing and able to give informed consent to participate in the study 7. Fluent and literate in the language spoken by the investigator and staff <p>Exclusion criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suspected bacterial infection 2. Influenza vaccine administered within previous year 3. At risk of developing complications from influenza infections (e.g. chronic active disorders of cardiovascular or pulmonary systems, chronic metabolic disease, hepatic or renal dysfunction, or immunosuppression) 4. Unstable chronic illness 5. Concurrent medical condition that could interfere with evaluations of safety or efficacy (e.g. perennial rhinitis, vasomotor rhinitis)

NAIB2005 (Continued)

6. Currently receiving intranasal or inhaled medication
7. Influenza antiviral therapy in previous 7 days
8. Pregnancy/lactation or likely to become pregnant during study
9. Received investigational drug in previous 30 days
10. Evidence or history of abuse of any drug substance
11. Use of antibiotic within the previous 7 days
12. Intolerance to lactose

Definition of patient populations for analysis

Influenza-positive population (N = 151)

All participants in the ITT population with laboratory-confirmed influenza determined either from pre-treatment diagnostic sample or a positive serology result. If diagnostic sample and serology were both positive but indicated different influenza types, influenza type was assigned according to diagnostic sample result. Secondary population for assessment of efficacy

Intention-to-treat population (N = 197)

All randomised participants included in the treatment group to which they were assigned even if no medication was taken. Primary population for assessment of efficacy

Safety (N = 196)

Participants randomised to treatment who took at least 1 dose of study medication. Participants excluded if there was clear evidence of failure to take any study medication. Used for safety data

Interventions	<p>Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations twice a day plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray) twice a day</p> <p>Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations twice a day plus zanamivir (16 mg/mL) 2 sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray, equivalent to 1.6 mg zanamivir) twice a day</p> <p>Placebo 2 inhalations twice a day plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril (0.1 mL per spray) twice a day</p> <p>Treatment period: 5 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: 23 days post-treatment</p> <p>Co-interventions: relief medication described and measured as an outcome but not clear whether this was administered as co-intervention</p>
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Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time to alleviation of major influenza symptoms</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Time (in days from initiation of treatment) to eradication of major signs and symptoms of influenza</p> <p>Combined symptom analysis</p> <p>Mean daily temperature over the study treatment period (days 1 to 5)</p> <p>Number of days (from initiation of treatment) until the patient was able to return to normal activities</p> <p>Number of days out of days 1 to 10 that the patient recorded any symptom as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Number of days out of days 1 to 10 that the patient recorded their overall symptom assessment (OSA) as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Number of days out of days 2 to 10 that the patient recorded sleep disturbance as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Mean supportive drug use</p>
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NAIB2005 (Continued)

Investigator global assessment of symptoms

Day at which viral shedding fell below limit of quantitation (core centres only)

Area under the viral shedding curve (core centres only)

Notes

The original intention was for 273 patients (91 patients per treatment group) to be recruited but due to the relatively low incidence of influenza, this target was not achieved.

The protocol for this study was amended twice. Both of these amendments were implemented prior to the commencement of recruitment. As a result of both internal discussions and external discussions with regulatory authorities, the statistical methods employed were substantially different from those documented in the protocol.

Cough and sore throat were reported as major symptom in clinical study reports but not in the protocol and discrepancies occurred between the protocol and clinical study reports regarding evaluation of viral shedding

Study period: November 1994 to April 1995

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided; but method used to generate randomisation sequence not stated in clinical study reports
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Data from ITT and IP populations available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	No systematic differences in drop-out
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Based on randomised participants
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	All outcomes listed in protocol reported
Other bias	High risk	As a result of both internal discussions and external discussions with regulatory authorities, the statistical methods employed were substantially different from those documented in the protocol
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	The blind was maintained by ensuring that trial medication and placebo had an identical appearance, shape, administration schedule, smell and taste; no certificates of analysis were provided.
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The investigator, all study staff, patients and the monitors were blinded as to the study treatment administered. The blind was maintained by ensuring that trial medication and placebo had an identical appearance, shape, administration schedule, smell and taste. 1 envelope was opened for a patient 3 months after the conclusion of their treatment but as this was some time after treat-

NAIB2005 (Continued)

ment, it was not seen to affect the trial. The blind was not broken for any other patients entered into this study

NAIB2006

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir in the prevention of progression of influenza A and B viral infections
Participants	Male or female ≥ 18 years exposed to an index case with symptoms of influenza-like illness within the previous 48 hours
Interventions	Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation), 2 inhalations twice a day by Rotadisk/Diskhaler Placebo to match zanamivir, 2 inhalations twice a day by Rotadisk/Diskhaler
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: the proportion of patients with laboratory-confirmed influenza during treatment plus at least 2 clinically significant symptoms of influenza of 'moderate' or 'severe' severity during the study treatment period</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Proportion of patients with a documented fever during the study (temperature > 37.8 °C)</p> <p>Number of days with any 'moderate' or 'severe' symptoms</p> <p>Number of days overall assessment of symptoms as 'moderate' or 'severe'</p> <p>Number of days with moderate or severe sleep disturbance</p> <p>Number of days patient was unable to perform normal activities</p> <p>Investigator global assessment</p>
Notes	<p>Statistical methods section were revised to allow for stratification of vaccinated participants</p> <p>In the efficacy evaluations, nasal symptoms (nasal congestion, rhinorrhoea) were changed to nasal congestion (blocked, runny nose)</p> <p>Safety and non-vaccinated populations were not defined in the protocol</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided, but method used for sequence generation not specified in clinical study reports
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Patients who had no diary card data from days 1 to 5 were withdrawn prematurely from study treatment. Page numbers in clinical study reports blanked
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	High risk	Patients who were at risk of developing complications were excluded from the study and the investigators did not list complications as an outcome. Page numbers in clinical study reports blanked

NAIB2006 (Continued)

Complications of influenza

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Patients were removed from the safety population if there was documented evidence of failure to take any study medication. Page numbers in clinical study reports blanked
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	All outcomes listed in the protocol were reported in the clinical study reports. Pages number blanked
Other bias	High risk	Inconsistencies in the protocol summary, study plan and study procedures. Clinical study report pages for this information were censored
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Investigators and participants reported to be blinded but the colour and appearance of the inhalers not described [clinical study reports page blanked out]; no certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	No investigator revealed the blind for study medication prior to trial completion [clinical study reports page blanked out]

NAIB2007

Methods	<p>Placebo-controlled, double-blind trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir and the combination of inhaled plus intranasal zanamivir in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Australia, New Zealand, South Africa (24 centres)</p> <p>Duration of study: 28 days</p>
Participants	<p>Male or females, aged 13 years and above (aged 16 and above, or aged 18 and above in some centres) with laboratory-confirmed influenza or influenza-like illness as defined by symptoms of feverishness and at least 2 of the following: headache, myalgia, cough, sore throat of less than or equal to 48 hours duration</p> <p>Number screened: not available</p> <p>Number randomised: 554 (inhaled zanamivir: 188; inhaled and intranasal zanamivir: 183; placebo: 183)</p> <p>Number completed: 456</p> <p>M = 52%</p> <p>F = 48%</p> <p>Mean age: 30 years</p>
Interventions	<p>Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations twice daily plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril (0.5 mL per spray) twice daily</p> <p>Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations twice daily plus zanamivir (1 mg/mL) 2 sprays per nostril (0.5 mL per spray) twice daily</p> <p>Placebo 2 inhalations twice daily plus placebo 2 sprays per nostril (0.5 mL per spray) twice daily</p> <p>Treatment period: 5 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: 23 days post-treatment</p>

NAIB2007 (Continued)

Co-interventions: paracetamol was provided for symptomatic relief

Outcomes

Primary outcome: time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza

Secondary outcomes:

Time (in days from initiation of treatment) to alleviation of individual symptoms of influenza (feverishness, headache, myalgia, cough, sore throat, nasal congestion, weakness and loss of appetite). Alleviation of an influenza symptom was defined as a score of 'none' or 'mild', which had to be maintained over the next 24 hours

Time (in days from initiation of treatment) until the patient returned to normal activities. This had to be maintained for the following 24 hours

Time (in days from initiation of treatment) until the patient was able to return to usual daily activities and perform these as well as normal

Mean symptom score. The 5 symptoms of feverishness, headache, myalgia, cough and sore throat were summarised by the mean symptom score over days 1 to 5 of treatment

Number of days over the study period (days 1 to 5) that the patient recorded their overall symptom assessment (OSA) as 'moderate' or 'severe'

Number of days over the study period (days 1 to 5) that at least 1 symptom was rated as 'moderate' or 'severe'

Number of days over the study period (days 2 to 5) that sleep disturbance was recorded as 'moderate' or 'severe'

Maximum daily temperature summarised over the study treatment period (days 1 to 5)

Mean daily paracetamol use over the study treatment period (days 1 to 5)

Investigator-rated global assessment of symptoms (GAS). The influenza infection status of patients rated by the investigator at the post-treatment visit as 'none', 'mild', 'moderate' or 'severe'

Incidence of secondary infections

Notes

Due to logistic difficulties in receiving the results of influenza diagnostic tests within 48 hours of influenza symptom onset, some patients were recruited on the basis of a clinical diagnosis of influenza

Cough and sore throat were reported as major symptoms in clinical study reports but not in the protocol

Protocol amendment 3 necessitated revising the definition of serious adverse events and time line changes for the reporting adverse events. Amendments were also made to definitions for primary and secondary efficacy parameters and statistical analyses were modified

Protocol amendment 4 was made to the age range included (13 to 65 years, 16 to 65 years and 18 to 65 years, respectively) and inclusion or exclusion of patients with asthma, to meet local regulatory and ethics committee requirements

Study period: May 1995 to May 1996

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided; method of sequence generation not described in clinical study reports
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled allocation

NAIB2007 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	ITT and IP population data available for symptom relief
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Attrition does not appear to be significantly different between groups; reasons for attrition reported
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Based on randomised participants
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Protocol amendment 3, which necessitated revising the definition of serious adverse events and timeline changes for reporting adverse events. Cumulative day of alleviation used to report primary outcome rather than mean or median; this was not specified in the protocol
Other bias	High risk	Exposure to lactose in test drugs may have underestimated true risk of asthma events. Amendments were also made to definitions for primary and secondary efficacy parameters, inclusion/exclusion of participants; and statistical analyses were modified
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Each investigator was provided with a sealed envelope containing the individual code-break envelopes for patients in their centres but colour and appearance were not reported; no certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"...the monitors were blinded as to the study treatment administered." No investigator broke the blind for study medication prior to trial completion

NAIB3001

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir administered twice daily in the treatment of influenza A and B viral infections in adults</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Australia (6 centres); New Zealand (4); South Africa (3)</p> <p>Duration of study: 28 days</p>
Participants	<p>Males or females aged ≥ 12 years (age mean 37) with laboratory-confirmed influenza or influenza-like illness</p> <p>Number screened: not specified</p> <p>Number randomised: 455 (zanamivir: 227; placebo: 228)</p> <p>Number completed: 428</p> <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p><i>Influenza-positive population (N = 321)</i></p> <p>Secondary population for assessing efficacy. Defined as all participants the safety population who had confirmed influenza. Participants were included in this population if baseline culture test was positive</p>

NAIB3001 (Continued)

or if rapid diagnostic test was positive or if serology results confirmed influenza infection (≥ 4 -fold increase in influenza antibody from day 1 to day 28)

Sensitivity analysis also performed for primary endpoint on population of patients confirmed as influenza-positive by either culture or serology

ITT population (N = 455)

Primary population for assessing efficacy. All randomised patients, regardless of whether or not the study drug was actually taken or completion of study. Participants analysed according to assigned treatment group irrespective of which medication they took during the study

Safety population (N = 455)

Primary population for the analysis of safety data. Defined as all participants randomised to treatment who took at least 1 dose of study medication. Randomised patients were excluded if there was clear evidence of failure to take study medication. Participants were analysed according to treatment group of the actual medication they took the majority of the time

High risk population (N = 76)

All patients in safety population at greater risk of complications if they became infected with influenza. Analysis of 'high risk' population restricted to primary endpoint, complications, adverse event incidence and serious adverse event incidence

All participants ≥ 65 years were in this population. In addition, conditions thought to predispose patients to greater risk of complications from influenza included concurrent cardiovascular conditions (excluding hypertension), concurrent respiratory conditions (asthmatics excluded if unmedicated), concurrent metabolic conditions and those who were immunocompromised

Interventions

Zanamivir (5 mg per inhalation) 2 inhalations twice a day

Placebo 2 inhalations twice a day

Treatment period: 5 days

Follow-up period: 23 days post-treatment

Co-interventions: paracetamol and cough mixture were provided for symptomatic relief

Outcomes

Primary outcome: time until alleviation of major signs and symptoms of influenza

Secondary outcomes:

Time to eradication of major signs and symptoms of influenza. Major signs and symptoms of symptoms of influenza were defined as fever, headache, myalgia, sore throat and cough. Eradication was defined as a score of 'none' for all symptoms, which had to be maintained over the next 24 hours

Time to alleviation of each of the diary card symptoms calculated separately

Time until the patient returned to normal activities. This was defined as the first day on which the patient recorded that they were able to carry out all their usual daily activities. This was required to be maintained for 24 hours (2 consecutive diary card entries)

Mean symptom score over post-treatment assessments on days 1 to 5 and on days 1 to 14

Maximum daily temperature, the maximum of the temperatures was obtained for each day. The weighted mean of these values was calculated over the study treatment period. The AUC was calculated using trapezoidal methods

Sleep disturbance. The definition of sleep disturbance described in the protocol (i.e. mean number of days when sleep was disturbed 'not at all' or 'slightly') was changed to number of days out of days 2 to

NAIB3001 (Continued)

14 for which the patient recorded 'moderate', 'quite a bit' or 'severe' sleep disturbance. This change was made prior to blinding the study and described in the data analysis plan (DAP)

Number of tablets of paracetamol taken over the treatment period (days 1 to 5) and days 1 to 14

Number of spoonfuls of cough mixture taken over the treatment period (days 1 to 5) and days 1 to 14

Incidence of complications of influenza and associated antibiotic use

Investigator global assessment of symptoms

Notes

The study was conducted by 22 investigators in 3 countries (Australia, New Zealand and South Africa); only 13 of these investigators recruited patients

The protocol defined the influenza-positive population as a subset of the intention-to-treat population. This was changed in the data analysis plan to be a subset of the safety population. For this study, both populations were the same so the change was irrelevant

Investigator global assessment of symptoms was not described in the protocol but planned prior to blinding the study

Protocol amendment:

At 3 Australian centres an additional study protocol was designed to collect pharmacoeconomic data was instigated. This involved interviews with influenza-positive patients after their day 28 visit

Study period: recruitment commenced in May 1997 and rolled over to 1998

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided; but method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	Based on ITT and IP populations
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Insufficient evidence to indicate that administration of zanamivir affects antibody response in similar way to oseltamivir. The influenza-positive population is less likely to reflect a non-randomised comparison
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Based on randomised participants. The safety population included all patients randomised to treatment who took at least 1 dose of study medication
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Outcomes listed in protocol reported in clinical study reports
Other bias	High risk	Exposure to lactose in test drugs may have underestimated true risk of asthma events. Investigator global assessment of symptoms was not defined in the protocol but was planned prior to unblinding the study and specified in the DAP. It is not clear why the patient assessment was not included to assess concordance

NAIB3001 (Continued)

Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Unclear if Rotadisks were identical in shape and appearance; no certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	No code-break envelopes were opened in this study

NAIB3002

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of inhaled zanamivir (GG167) 10 mg administered twice a day for 5 days in the treatment of symptomatic influenza A and B viral infections in adolescents and adults</p> <p>Location, number of centres: multicentre study in Europe: Belgium (2 centres); Denmark (3); Finland (2); France (10); Germany (5); Holland (1); Italy (2); Norway (7); Spain (1); Sweden (6); UK (3)</p> <p>Duration of study: 28 days</p>
Participants	<p>Males or females aged ≥ 12 years (mean age: 37 years) with influenza-like illness (ILI)</p> <p>Number screened: not available</p> <p>Number randomised: 356 (zanamivir: 174; placebo: 182)</p> <p>Number completed: 349</p> <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p><i>Influenza-positive population (N = 277)</i></p> <p>Primary population for assessing efficacy. Defined as all participants in safety population with confirmed influenza. Participants considered influenza-positive if positive result obtained from any of: baseline culture or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay, or if participants showed seroconversion (≥ 4-fold increase in convalescent antibody titres compared with baseline demonstrated by haemagglutination inhibition)</p> <p><i>ITT population (N = 356)</i></p> <p>All randomised participants, regardless of whether study drug was taken or study completion. Participants who did not take medication to which they were randomised included in treatment group assigned. This was the secondary population for assessing efficacy</p> <p><i>Safety population (N = 356)</i></p> <p>All participants who took at least 1 dose of study medication. Participants only excluded from safety population if clear evidence of failure to take study medication. Participants who did not take medication to which they were randomised would have been included in the treatment group of the actual medication they took the majority of the time. This was the primary population for the analysis of safety data</p> <p><i>High risk (N = 32)</i></p> <p>Defined as those who could experience more prolonged or severe illness, or suffer complications from influenza due to age or underlying medical condition</p>
Interventions	<p>Four 5 mg doses of micronized zanamivir (as dry powder, lactose blend) or matching placebo (lactose only)</p>

NAIB3002 (Continued)

Treatment period: 5 days

Follow-up period: 23 days post-treatment

Co-interventions: paracetamol and cough mixture were provided for symptomatic relief

Outcomes

Primary outcome: time until alleviation of clinically significant symptoms of influenza

Secondary outcomes:

Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms and no use of relief medication

Time until the participant returns to normal activities

Time to alleviation of each individual symptom score

Mean overall influenza score

Mean symptom score for each of the individual symptoms collected on the diary card

Maximum daily temperature

Total number of tablets of supplied paracetamol

Total number of spoonfuls of supplied cough mixture

Global assessment of symptoms at the post-treatment visit

Incidence of complications of influenza and associated antibiotic use

Notes

Protocol amendments

1. Reference to '5 mL' spoonfuls of dextromethorphan deleted
2. Study personnel recorded whether first dose of study medication given before or after 14:00 hours
3. Secondary complications were to be recorded in the CRF
4. The second diary card including symptom assessments and relief medication use, to be completed twice a day. Questions relating to productivity and normal activities completed once a day
5. Consent form amended to include statement that participant's doctor/nurse would also need to take a throat swab on day 6
6. Categories to be used to document influenza complications were defined
7. Protocol amendment 2 applied to all centres in Denmark, France, Holland, Italy and Norway: minimum age for inclusion was to be 18 years in response to Ethics/Regulatory issues in those countries
8. Protocol amendment 3 was standard administrative amendment to meet requirements of French law no. 88-1138, of 20 December 1988 and modified by French Law No. 94-630, of 25 July 1994
9. Protocol amendment 01 was applicable to all of the investigators. It corrected typographical errors and inconsistencies and included further categories to be used to assess secondary complications of influenza

Study period: recruitment planned for between October 1997 and April 1998

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation list provided; but method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Pharmacy-controlled randomisation
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Low risk	Based on ITT and IP populations

NAIB3002 (Continued)

Symptoms

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	Low risk	Insufficient evidence to indicate that administration of zanamivir affects antibody response in similar way to oseltamivir. The influenza-positive population is less likely to reflect a non-randomised comparison
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	All 356 participants randomised to treatment were included in the safety population; missing diary cards were accounted for in analysis
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	Primary and secondary endpoints reported as specified in protocol
Other bias	High risk	3 protocol amendments in the course of the study
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Unclear if Rotadisks were identical in shape and appearance; no certificates of analysis were provided
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"...study monitors were blinded as to the study treatment administered." The code-break envelopes were to be opened only in the event of a medical emergency where knowledge of the treatment received was absolutely necessary for management of the participant. Prior to breaking the blind the investigator was asked to discuss the matter with the study monitor or designee

NV16871

Methods	Randomised, double-blinded, placebo-controlled, parallel-group trial of the effect of treatment with oseltamivir on improving rate of recovery from influenza-mediated asthma symptoms and exacerbations in children (6 to 17 years) with asthma Location, number of centres: 50 centres in 10 countries mostly in Eastern Europe
Participants	A total of 329 randomised of whom 28.6% (i.e. less than estimated rate of 50%) had laboratory-confirmed influenza; ITTI population had 51 placebo and 43 oseltamivir patients
Interventions	Oseltamivir by weight dosing bid for 5 days or placebo
Outcomes	Primary efficacy outcome was % change in FEV1 from days 1 to 2 to day 6 measured by spirometry. Study stratified for asthma severity at baseline (mild or moderate/severe) and time from influenza symptoms onset to first study drug dose (< 24 hours or ≥ 24 hours)
Notes	<p>There was no significant difference in outcomes between the 2 groups, though a trend in favour of oseltamivir was reported. Secondary outcomes based on diary symptoms appeared to show faster recovery, reduced rate of complications and reduced use of antibiotics in the oseltamivir group. In terms of safety the overall incidence of adverse events was higher in the oseltamivir group than the placebo group (24% versus 21%). This was mainly due to a higher incidence of gastrointestinal events (10% versus 6%), of which vomiting (8% versus 2%) was most significant</p> <p>The definition of the M2 Module itself was not clear in the 614 page PDF reviewed and despite page by page review some things, e.g. the certificates of analysis, were not found and protocol amendments or statistical analysis plan amendments were also not reported. No additional information from M2 changes the original summary and risk of bias</p>

Risk of bias

NV16871 (Continued)

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Randomisation list shows random sequence and centralised phone-driven system was used
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Centralised phone system
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	In the absence of IPD and CRFs we cannot account for all participants
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Unclear how complications of influenza were defined clinically
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified either as symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same participant in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	SAP and certificates of analysis and amendments are missing. GCP infringements noted in 2 centres
Other bias	High risk	Placebo content unclear
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Placebo colour and taste not clear
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Centrally randomised scheme

PE-01

Methods	A double-blind, double-dummy, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel group, multicentre study to investigate the efficacy and safety of oral and inhaled GG167 in reducing the development of influenza symptoms
Participants	<p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <p>Index case:</p> <p>Individuals who the investigator diagnosed as having symptoms of influenza A and B by the following criteria: individuals who satisfied the following conditions for influenza infection between the commencement of the symptoms and the first presentation to the participating centre, were willing to participate in the study and could be expected to follow the investigator's orders:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participants with feverishness or a temperature of 37.5 °C or greater at the first presentation 2. At least 2 of the following: headache, muscle pain, sore throat, cough <p>Contact:</p>

PE-01 (Continued)

Person who had any following chance of contact with an index case within 4 days after the commencement of influenza symptoms of the index case and was diagnosed that he/she may be infected with influenza:

1. Sleeping in the same room as the index case (such as inpatients)
2. Working in the same room as the index case (such as co-workers)
3. Living in the same home as the index case (such as family)

Participants had to be at least 16 years old, understand how to use the investigational agents and intend to co-operate with the study and could be expected to follow the investigator's orders

Exclusion criteria:

1. Person who had feverishness within 48 hours prior to the first presentation day or a temperature 37.0 °C or more at the first presentation day
2. Person who had 2 or more symptoms of the following symptoms within 48 hours prior to the first presentation day: headache, muscle pain, sore throat, cough, nasal symptoms and general fatigue
3. Person who had at least 1 of the following symptoms of "score 2" or more: headache, muscle pain, sore throat, cough, nasal symptoms and general fatigue
4. Person suspected of having a bacterial infection
5. Patient with an unstable chronic disease
6. Pregnancy or suspicion of pregnancy as well as person planning to become pregnant during the course of the study and nursing mothers
7. Patient who was prescribed any investigational medication within the last 3 months
8. Patient who received influenza vaccine within the last 1 year
9. Any patient the investigator determines to be inappropriate for the study

Definition of patient populations for analysis

ITT population N = 44 (IH 11, IN 11, IH + IN 11 and PL 11)

Protocol compatible population: N = 40 (IH9, IN 11, IH + IN 10, PL 10)

Safety population: N = 44 (IH 11, IN 11, IH + IN 11 and PL 11)

Safety outcome

The safety measure was the incidence of abnormal symptoms/abnormal laboratory changes in which causality determinations were not completely denied. "Abnormal symptoms or abnormal laboratory findings" are the adverse events defined as newly observed or remarkably worsened symptoms after treatment started or clinically untoward abnormal or abnormally changed laboratory findings after treatment started irrespective of the causal assessment

Interventions	<p>Orally inhaled zanamivir 10 mg + intranasally nebulised placebo</p> <p>Orally inhaled placebo + intranasally nebulised zanamivir 6.4 mg</p> <p>Orally inhaled zanamivir 10 mg + intranasally nebulised zanamivir 6.4 mg</p> <p>Orally inhaled placebo + intranasally nebulised placebo</p>
Outcomes	<p>Primary: the proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (day 1 to day 5), developed symptomatic influenza</p> <p>Secondary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (day 6 to day 10), developed symptomatic influenza • The proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (day 1 to day 10), developed symptomatic influenza

PE-01 (Continued)

- The number and proportion of subjects who, during prophylaxis (day 1 to day 5 or day 6 to day 10), developed symptomatic influenza

Notes —

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Method of sequence generation not specified
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Not described
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	The trial was terminated prematurely
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	The trial was terminated prematurely
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	The trial was terminated prematurely
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Analysis, including primary outcomes, was planned after study unblinding
Other bias	High risk	Under-recruitment
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificate of analysis
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	High risk	Not described

WV15670

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in people with symptoms of influenza. Centres were activated to recruit participants during an influenza outbreak in the locality, detected using standardised surveillance techniques</p> <p>Location, number of centres: 51 centres in Europe, 11 in Canada and 1 in Hong Kong</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 (+/- 4 days)</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not available</p> <p>Number randomised: 719 (oseltamivir 75 mg: 242; oseltamivir 150 mg: 242; placebo: 235)</p> <p>Number completed: 688</p>

WV15670 (Continued)

M = 51%

F = 49%

Mean age: 37.4

Baseline details

Inclusion criteria:

1. Fever ≥ 38 °C
2. At least 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal symptoms)
3. At least 1 constitutional symptom (headache, myalgia (aches/pains), sweats/chills (feeling feverish), prostration (fatigue))
4. No more than 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell
5. Aged ≥ 18 and ≤ 65 years of age
6. Willing and able to comprehend and give written, informed consent
7. Willing to utilise an effective method of contraception throughout the study period and for 1 reproductive cycle following cessation of study therapy
8. Negative urine pregnancy test prior to drug treatment (females of childbearing potential)

For the purposes of analysis and definition of the study populations, the criteria were adjusted to accept a baseline temperature of 37.8 °C and entry into the studies up to 40 hours post onset of illness, thereby accounting for differences between criteria evaluated at time of entry and criteria at time of first dose

Exclusion criteria:

1. Active, clinically significant, renal, cardiac, pulmonary, vascular, neurologic, metabolic (diabetes, thyroid disorders, adrenal disease) or immunodeficiency disorders, cancer, hepatitis or cirrhosis
2. Transplant recipients
3. Use of steroids or immuno-suppressant therapies
4. Pregnant or breast-feeding females
5. Known HIV infection
6. Allergy to any excipients in the capsule or paracetamol
7. Asthmatics in receipt of chronic therapy for asthma
8. Participants who experienced a previous episode of acute upper respiratory tract infection (URTI), otitis, bronchitis or sinusitis within 2 weeks prior to study day 1
9. Receipt of antibiotics for URTI, otitis, sinusitis or bronchitis or antiviral therapy for influenza within 2 weeks prior to study day 1
10. Participation in a clinical study with an investigational drug within 4 weeks prior to screen/study day 1
11. Administration of influenza vaccine less than 12 months prior to study day 1
12. A clinically relevant history of abuse of alcohol or other drugs
13. Presentation > 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell

Definition of patient populations for analysis

ITTI population (N = 425)

Participants who were discovered to have been infected with laboratory-confirmed influenza

ITT population (N = 726)

All randomised participants irrespective of influenza status

Interventions

Intervention:

1. Oseltamivir 75 mg bid, given as size 2 capsules (total daily dose 150 mg)

WV15670 (Continued)

2. Oseltamivir 150 mg bid, given as size 2 capsules (total daily dose 300 mg)

Control: placebo size 2 capsules

Treatment period: 5 days

Follow-up period: 12 to 20 days post-treatment

Co-interventions: participants were provided with a rescue pack of paracetamol (500 mg) for symptomatic relief. The amount of medication was noted on the participant's diary card. Participants were requested not to use any other medication for the relief of symptoms during the study treatment period. However, if any other medication was taken, this was to be recorded

Outcomes

Primary outcome: duration of illness, defined as the length of time to first alleviation of the symptoms of influenza (nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, aches and pains, fatigue, headaches and chills/sweats). This was calculated from 'time 0' (study drug initiation) to the time at which all 7 symptoms were alleviated

Secondary outcomes:

1. Severity of symptoms
2. Virus shedding
3. Serology
4. Symptoms
5. Temperature
6. Proportion of participants with fever
7. Symptom relief medication use
8. Secondary illnesses, predefined as sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, pneumonia and other chest infections (as well as recurring symptoms noted on the diary card once alleviation of that symptom had been considered to occur)
9. Proportion of household contacts who developed an influenza-like illness following the illness of the trial participant
10. Virology
11. Return to baseline health status (i.e. pre-flu health)
12. Virus type (e.g. A/H1N1, A/H3N2, B, etc.)
13. Time to afebrile state
14. Symptom relief medication usage over the dosing period
15. Viral resistance
16. Proportion with infection
17. Pharmacokinetic evaluation: plasma and urine samples
18. Adverse events

Notes
Protocol amendments

1. (7 January 1998) defined the exclusion and withdrawal criteria for participants participating in the study at the Hong Kong centre who were found to be infected with the influenza A/H5N1 virus. Since May 1997, 18 individuals have been diagnosed with influenza infection caused by a new human pathogen influenza A/H5N1, of whom 6 have died as a result. This virus, previously associated with avian influenza, has apparently crossed species and resulted in a pathogenic infection in man. The vast majority of influenza infections occurring in Hong Kong at the time of the study were of the non-virulent strain types influenza A/H1N1, H3/N2 or influenza B. However, it was considered that in view of the apparent virulence of the A/H5N1 strain type, participants enrolled into this study, which was placebo-controlled, might be placed at undue risk. This risk was specific to Hong Kong, as this strain type has not so far been identified outside of this region
2. The influenza A/H5N1 virus type is known to be sensitive to amantadine. Throat swabs were taken from all participants entered into the trial prior to the first dose of study drug. In the Hong Kong region, a rapid diagnostic technique (the polymerase chain reaction, PCR) was used to test the swab eluates for the presence or absence of influenza A/H5N1. If any participant was found to be harbouring this strain type, they were to be withdrawn from the study without breaking the blind and offered

WV15670 (Continued)

amantadine at the discretion of the investigator and if the participants condition merited such intervention

3. (16 February 1998) revised the analyses and definition of secondary and tertiary parameters in the study. Following an experiment to assess the use of a standardised protocol for quantitative viral culture, significant variability was detected between the 2 virology laboratories with respect to these assays. Further work continued in order to elucidate the mechanisms of this variability and to further validate the methods. However, due to the lengthy period of time required to complete this work, virus titre was removed as a secondary parameter in this study and the information analysed post-database close. The major virology parameter in these studies thus became the duration of virus shedding following inclusion into the trial. It was also believed that peak virus titre might have occurred prior to baseline for a significant number of participants entering the trial and hence this particular parameter was not analysed

Study period: December 1997 to April 1998

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Some discrepancies noted from the Module 2 summary regarding the treatment group assignment of participants experiencing adverse events. This does not necessarily affect the method for generating the randomisation sequence but could affect ITT and safety populations
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	"The randomisation numbers were generated by a central randomisation service, ICTI (Interactive Clinical Technologies inc., Princeton, NJ, USA)." "The investigator telephoned the centre to report the participant's initials, date of birth and smoking history. The randomisation number was then supplied by the centre in the form of a message on an interactive voice response system (IVRS). The investigator entered the randomisation number in the appropriate place on the case report form."
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Appendix 19 (time to alleviation of all symptoms (ITT population)) has summary info for ITT. However, the extent of missing data is unknown for this outcome
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Incomplete outcome data on complications is very likely given the inadequacies present in the way info on complications was collected. In summary, this was to ask patients to self report complications at day 8 and day 21 (follow-up visit at end of the study)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	AEs could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza and AEs. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	<p>Secondary illnesses were patient-reported</p> <p>The body of the clinical study reports states that complications requiring antibiotic treatment were specified a priori, but even in the final version of the protocol for which we have the full text, there is no predefined list of secondary illnesses (i.e. no mention of pneumonia, bronchitis, sinusitis or otitis in the protocol), nor did complications have anything to do with antibiotic treatment according to the protocol, nor does the CRF mention specific secondary illnesses by name</p> <p>In addition, the protocol does not pre-specify any secondary illnesses. They first appear in the RAP and are in the core report (Module 1). The protocol indicates that the data would be collected, so the absence of mention of secondary illnesses as an outcome (even tertiary) is not easily explicable</p>

WV15670 (Continued)

In addition, the decision of ITTI selection for primary outcome for reporting itself may be the selective reporting bias at the start, because this could break the balance between both groups. This bias may have both factor of patient selection (selection bias) and reporting selection (reporting bias), although they were prespecified

Other bias	High risk	The protocol reports that dehydrocholic acid and dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate were in the oseltamivir as well as placebo capsules. It is not clear why it is reported in another clinical study report that the dehydrocholic acid was added to the placebo to match the bitter taste of oseltamivir The certificate of analysis reports capsule No 1 (placebo) contains 6.13 mg of dehydrocholic acid. Placebo contained dehydrocholic acid but the dosage was not reported
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"In order to maintain blinding, each participant had 2 bottles of medication for each dose interval. 1 capsule was administered from each bottle twice per day at approximately 12 hour intervals. The first dose was administered during the first (day 1) visit Each bottle was labelled with the participant number and contained identical capsules of either active compound or placebo. Those participants receiving 75 mg bid received 1 capsule containing 75 mg from 1 bottle and a matching-capsule containing placebo from the other bottle at each dosing. Participants receiving doses of 150 mg bid received 1 capsule containing 75 mg active drug from each bottle at each dosing."
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"No open key to the randomisation code was available at the Study centre, to the Roche Monitors, Statisticians or at Roche Headquarters. In the event of a medical emergency the blind could be broken, if this was considered absolutely necessary to properly manage the participant, by contacting the randomisation centre. The blinding was not required to be broken for any participant during the study."

WV15671

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study design in participants presenting with influenza-like illness Location, number of centres: USA, 57 centres Duration of study: 12 days (+/- 4 days)
Participants	Number screened: not described Number randomised: 627 (oseltamivir 75 mg bid: 209; oseltamivir 150 mg bid: 210; placebo: 208) Number completed: 581 M = 49% F = 51% Mean age: 32.6

WV15671 (Continued)

Baseline details

Inclusion criteria:

Fever ≥ 100 °F plus

1. 1 of cough, sore throat or nasal symptoms, plus:
2. 1 constitutional symptom (headache, malaise, (feeling unwell), myalgia (aches and pains), sweats/chills (feeling feverish), prostration (fatigue))
3. No more than 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell (protocol violation up to 40 hours)
4. ≥ 18 and ≤ 65 years
5. Comprehension/willingness to give written consent
6. Agreement to utilise an effective method of contraception throughout study period and for 1 reproductive cycle following cessation of study therapy. Negative urine pregnancy test prior to dosing

Exclusion criteria:

1. Clinically significant disorders/conditions (renal, cardiac, pulmonary, vascular, neurologic, metabolic (diabetes, thyroid disorders, adrenal disease), immunodeficiency disorders, cancer, hepatitis or cirrhosis)
2. Receipt of transplant
3. Steroids/immuno-suppressant therapies
4. Pregnant or breast-feeding females
5. HIV infection
6. Allergy to any excipients in the capsule or paracetamol
7. Chronic therapy for asthma
8. Previous episode of acute upper respiratory tract infection (URTI), otitis, bronchitis or sinusitis or received antibiotics for URTI, otitis, bronchitis or sinusitis or antiviral therapy for influenza within 2 weeks prior to study day 1
9. Participation in a clinical study with an investigational drug within 4 weeks prior to study entry
10. Vaccination against influenza less than 12 months prior to study day 1
11. Clinically relevant history of abuse of alcohol or other drugs
12. Presentation > 36 hours post onset of symptoms

Definition of patient populations for analysis

Intention-to-treat infected population (N = 375)

All participants who took 1 dose of the study drug and were subsequently discovered to have laboratory-confirmed influenza

Standard population (N not presented)

As for the ITTI population, except that this was further restricted to those who took at least 5 doses of the study drug

ITT population (N = 615)

All participants who took at least 1 dose of the study drug. Following a request from the regulators this population was included in hypothesis testing for the primary efficacy endpoint

Interventions

Intervention:

1. Oseltamivir 75 mg bid, given as size 2 capsules (total daily dose 150 mg)
2. Oseltamivir 150 mg bid, given as size 2 capsules (total daily dose 300 mg)

Control: matching placebo capsules (2) for Ro 64-0796 (GS 4104) orally bid for 5 days

Treatment period: 5 days

Follow-up period: 12 to 20 days post-treatment

WV15671 (Continued)

Co-interventions: rescue pack consisting of paracetamol (500 mg) for symptomatic relief

Outcomes

Primary outcome: time to alleviation of symptoms (nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, aches and pains, fatigue, headache and chills/sweats) as derived from participant symptom questionnaire. Calculated from time 0 (study drug initiation) to the time at which all 7 symptoms were alleviated. Participants who withdrew prior to the alleviation of symptoms were censored at the time of withdrawal

Secondary outcomes:

1. Extent and severity of illness
2. Viral shedding
3. Serology
4. Symptoms
5. Temperature
6. Proportion of participants with fever
7. Symptom relief medication usage
8. Adverse events

Notes

Protocol amendments

Protocol amendment D (16 February 1998) revised the analyses and definition of secondary and tertiary parameters in the study. Virus titre was removed as a secondary outcome following the detection of significant variability between 2 virology laboratories with respect to these assays. The major virology parameter in these studies thus became the duration of virus shedding following inclusion into the trial. It was also believed that peak virus titre might have occurred prior to baseline for a significant number of participants entering the trial and hence this particular parameter was not analysed

Study period: December 1997 to April 1998

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Telephone access available
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	"Randomisation was conducted by a central randomisation service by telephone. The investigator/study coordinator telephoned the randomisation centre giving the participants initials, date of birth and smoking history and the treatment number was then supplied by the centre. The randomisation number was entered in the appropriate place on the participant's Case Report Form by the investigator."
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Missing data imputed but number missing not provided. Higher attrition in treatment groups for fever
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Diagnosis of complication not standardised and based on objective criteria. Method of diagnosis was based on local centre definitions. Unknown what effect this could have on classification of outcome
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	AEs could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza and AEs. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Missing summary table of hospitalisations. ITT data provided in Modules 3 to 5

WV15671 (Continued)

Other bias	High risk	Unknown what effect additional substances in placebo could have on AEs. Number of centres in Module 1 not consistent with Module 2 (60 versus 57)
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Matching placebo used "In order to maintain the double blind nature of the study, participants received 2 capsules twice daily for all treatments." "The identification number was added by the investigator at the time of randomisation" "No open key to the code was available at the Study centre..."
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"The identification number was added by the investigator at the time of randomisation." "No open key to the code was available at the Study centre, to the Monitors, Statisticians or at Gilead/Roche Headquarters"

WV15673/WV15697

Methods	<p>Combined analysis of 2 randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials. Participants were requested to return to the clinic when investigators determined that influenza was present in the community</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA; 6 centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 8 weeks</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not specified</p> <p>Number randomised: 1562 (oseltamivir 75 mg: 520; oseltamivir 150 mg: 521; placebo: 521)</p> <p>Number completed: 1505</p> <p>M = 37%</p> <p>F = 63%</p> <p>Mean age: 34 years.</p> <p>Baseline details: 80% Caucasian; 11% African-American; 3% Hispanic</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Healthy adults 2. 18 to 65 years of age <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recent vaccination <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p>ITT population Not applicable</p> <p>ITT population (N = 1559) All participants randomised to treatment and who took at least 1 dose of study medication</p>
Interventions	Intervention:

WV15673/WV15697 (Continued)

1. Oseltamivir 75 mg once daily plus placebo (total daily dose: 75 mg)
2. Oseltamivir 75 mg twice daily (total daily dose: 150 mg)

Control: placebo twice daily

Treatment period: 6 weeks

Follow-up period: 2 weeks post-treatment

Co-interventions: none specified

Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: laboratory-confirmed clinical influenza during the 6-week treatment period</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asymptomatic influenza infection (virus shedding/4-fold increase in antibody to influenza virus in the absence of clinical symptoms of influenza) 2. Non-clinical influenza (symptoms not meeting the criteria for clinical influenza but confirmed to be influenza virus infection through detection of influenza virus shedding/4-fold increase in antibody to influenza virus) 3. Influenza-like illness not caused by influenza virus 4. On- and off-treatment adverse events
Notes	Study period not specified

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Absence of information on randomisation procedure
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	The Module 1 (PDF page 23) reports: "The participant's randomisation numbers were generated by Roche and incorporated into double-blind labeling. No open key was available at any of the study sites or to any Roche personnel involved with the study". We presume this means that Roche generated the codes and stuck them on the packaging and ICTI allocated through phone in.
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Effect of oseltamivir on antibody response impacting on diagnosis
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the treatment groups
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Original protocol missing
Other bias	High risk	The data set for the study is aggregated from 2 separate trials. The placebo event rates for influenza infection are very different and their aggregation conceals the variation between the results of the different studies. We tried

WV15673/WV15697 (Continued)

separating estimates of effect for individual participants in the 2 trials. We failed because although participants' ID codes and centres were known, centre codes were redacted from individual participant listings, which meant that we could not disaggregate results by trial for use in meta-analysis

Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Capsule size but no details of colour, taste or contents was reported
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"No open key to the code was available"

WV15707

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study. Stratification by vaccination status (current season or not) and chronic obstructive airways disease (present/absent)</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Australia, South Africa and South America, 13 centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 +/-4 days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not described</p> <p>Number randomised: 26 (oseltamivir: 17; placebo: 9)</p> <p>Number completed: 25</p> <p>M = 59%</p> <p>F = 41%</p> <p>Mean age: 71.5 years</p> <p>Baseline details</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Male or female patients 2. ≥ 65 years 3. Symptoms of influenza, including temperature (> 37.5 °C) 4. At least 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat or nasal congestion) 5. At least 1 constitutional symptom (chills/sweats, headache, myalgia (aches and pains) fatigue) <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <p>Not described</p> <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p>ITTI population (N = 12)</p> <p>Analysis of participants according to the groups to which they were randomised, having received at least 1 dose of study treatment and laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection</p> <p>ITT population (N = 26)</p>

WV15707 (Continued)

Analysis of participants according to the groups to which they were randomised, having received at least 1 dose of study treatment, irrespective of influenza infection status

Standard population (N not reported)

Population with no major protocol violations or deviations and laboratory-confirmed influenza, who received at least the first 6 scheduled doses within 72 hours/first 5 doses within 72 hours and went on to take 9 or 10 doses. Analysis according to treatment received

Interventions	Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg bid (total daily dose 150 mg) Control: placebo (provided as size 2 capsule containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate) Treatment period: 10 days Follow-up period: 7 to 15 days post-treatment Co-interventions: not specified	
Outcomes	Primary outcome: duration of illness (time to alleviation of symptoms) Secondary outcomes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Area under the curve (AUC) of the composite symptom score 2. Virus shedding 3. Quality of life 4. Adverse events 	
Notes	Study period not specified No viral swab data were collected on South American patients. This population was therefore excluded from the analysis	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Central randomisation service by phone
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Central randomisation service
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	In the absence of IPD and CRFs we cannot account for all participants
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the treatment groups
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Outcomes of primary interest for the ITT population not made available to the review authors

WV15707 (Continued)

Other bias	High risk	Placebo contained dehydrocholic acid at a dose of 6.3 mg. Placebo contained dehydrocholic acid at a dose of 6.3 mg
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Presentation of placebo described as identical
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Centrally generated randomisation code

WV15708

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, multicentre study carried out in elderly persons in residential homes. Participants were randomised to treatment when a local outbreak was detected. Stratification factors were vaccine status and presence or absence of COPD</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Brazil (14 centres)</p> <p>Duration of study: 8 weeks</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not described</p> <p>Number randomised: 372 (oseltamivir: 190; placebo: 182)</p> <p>Number completed: 335</p> <p>M = 41%</p> <p>F = 59%</p> <p>Mean age: 79 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 99% Caucasian; 69% vaccinated against influenza; 12% had COPD. 90% participants had other pre-existing diseases, of which diabetes was more common in oseltamivir than placebo (17.4% versus 8.8% respectively)</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <p>Resident in care home</p> <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <p>Not listed</p> <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p>ITT population</p> <p>Not described. Incidence of influenza was low</p>
Interventions	<p>Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg od (total daily dose: 75 mg)</p> <p>Control: matching placebo</p> <p>Treatment period: 6 weeks</p> <p>Follow-up period: 2 weeks post-treatment</p> <p>Co-interventions: not specified</p>

WV15708 (Continued)

Outcomes **Primary outcome:** laboratory-confirmed clinical influenza, defined as: fever (temperature > 99 °F) plus 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal symptoms) and 1 constitutional symptom (headache, myalgia, sweats/chills, fatigue). Laboratory confirmation by either virus shedding within 2 days of symptom onset or 4-fold increase in influenza antibody

Secondary outcomes:

1. Adverse events
2. Mortality

Notes Study period not specified

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Randomisation numbers generated by Roche but more details of method and randomisation schedule not available
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Insufficient details given
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the treatment groups. Low rates of attrition from treatment groups were noted
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Patient-reported outcomes
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Postdate changes to protocol after closure of enrolment. Outcome changes should be consistent with data collected
Other bias	High risk	Placebo contents and colour and similarity to active drug not described; very low rates of influenza or ILI in trial, so could not analyse for primary outcome of efficacy
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Information on appearance of placebo capsules not available
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Centrally generated randomisation code

WV15730

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study. Participants were stratified by current smoking behaviour (smoker/non-smoker). Centres activated to recruit participants during an influenza outbreak in the locality, detected using standardised surveillance techniques</p> <p>Location, number of centres: Australia and South Africa, 12 centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 +/- 4 days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not described</p> <p>Number randomised: 58 (oseltamivir: 31; placebo: 27)</p> <p>Number completed: 56</p> <p>M = 52%</p> <p>F = 48%</p> <p>Mean age: 35 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 93% Caucasian; 21% smoking history</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fever ≥ 38 °C 2. 1 or more respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal symptoms) 3. 1 or more constitutional symptom (headache, myalgia, (aches and pains), sweat/chills (feeling feverish), prostration (fatigue)) 4. ≤ 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell 5. Between 18 and 65 years of age 6. Willing and able to comprehend and give written informed consent 7. Participants were to utilise an effective method of contraception throughout the study period and for 1 reproductive cycle following cessation of study drug 8. Females of childbearing potential had to have negative urine pregnancy test prior to drug dosing <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Active clinically significant renal, cardiac, pulmonary, vascular, neurologic, metabolic (diabetes, thyroid disorder, adrenal disease) disease, immunodeficiency disorders, cancer, hepatitis or cirrhosis 2. Receipt of transplant 3. Steroids or immuno-suppressant therapy 4. Pregnant or breast-feeding females 5. Known HIV infection 6. Allergy to any excipients in capsule or paracetamol 7. Chronic therapy for asthma 8. Previous episode of acute upper respiratory tract infection (URTI): otitis, bronchitis or sinusitis; or received antibiotics for URTI, otitis, sinusitis or bronchitis, or antiviral therapy for influenza within 2 weeks prior to study entry 9. Participation in a clinical study with an investigational drug within 4 weeks prior to study entry 10. Administrations of influenza vaccine less than 12 months prior to study entry 11. The use of the antiviral drugs for influenza such as rimantadine, ribavirin, zanamivir and amantadine was not permitted during this study 12. A clinically relevant history of abuse of alcohol or other drugs 13. Presentation > 36 hours post the onset of feeling unwell <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p>ITTI population (N = 38)</p>

WV15730 (Continued)

Participants analysed according to groups to which they were randomised providing they had received at least 1 dose of study treatment and had laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection

ITT population (N = 58)

The ITT population consisted of the same participants as the ITTI population; also included participants who did not have laboratory-confirmed influenza but took at least 1 dose of study medication. Participants analysed by groups to which they were randomised

Safety population (N = 58)

All participants randomised, who received at least 1 dose of study medication and at least 1 safety follow-up, whether or not they had withdrawn prematurely. Participants who received therapy other than intended were analysed according to therapy received

Standard population (N = 38)

All randomised participants without major protocol violations or deviations, with laboratory-confirmed influenza and who received at least the first 6 scheduled doses within 72 hours or who received the first 5 doses within 72 hours and went on to take 9 or 10 doses. Participants analysed according to treatment received

Interventions	<p>Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg bid (total daily dose: 150 mg), given as size 2 capsule</p> <p>Control: placebo, given as size 2 capsule</p> <p>Treatment period: 5 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: between 12 and 20 days post-treatment</p> <p>Co-interventions: rescue medication pack</p>	
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time to alleviation of symptoms. Assessed as alleviation of nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, aches and pains, fatigue, headache and feeling feverish. Time to alleviation of symptoms calculated from study drug initiation to time at which all symptoms were alleviated. Participants withdrawing prior to alleviation of all symptoms were censored at the time of withdrawal</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extent and severity of illness 2. Duration of viral shedding 3. Serology 4. Symptoms 5. Rescue medication consumption 6. Household contacts developing ILI 7. Viral resistance 8. Quality of life 9. Pharmacokinetics 10. Adverse events 	
Notes	Study period not specified	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Original randomisation list not provided

WV15730 (Continued)

Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Central randomisation service
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Missing data imputed; number missing not reported
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Diagnosis of complication not standardised and based on objective criteria. Method of diagnosis was based on local centre definitions. Unknown what effect this could have on classification of outcome
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	70% under-recruitment
Other bias	High risk	Placebo capsule contained dehydrocholic acid. Unknown what effect this could have had on AEs Mentioned in protocol amendment that South American (SA) sites could not diagnose influenza by culture due to delays in processing, however there is no mention in M1 or rest of M2 that SA sites were included
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Certificates of analysis show identical colour and size
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"No open key to the code was available at the study centre, to the monitors, statistician or at Roche Headquarters. In the event of a medical emergency the blinding was to be broken if considered absolutely mandatory to properly manage the patient by contacting the randomisations centre. The blinding was not broken for any participant during the study."

WV15758

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study stratified for the presence of acute otitis media</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA and Canada, 80 centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 28 +/-4 days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not described</p> <p>Number randomised: 698 (oseltamivir: 342; placebo: 356)</p> <p>Number completed: 655</p> <p>M = 50%</p> <p>F = 50%</p> <p>Mean age: 5.34 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 65% Caucasian; 18% otitis media</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p>

WV15758 (Continued)

1. Temperature ≥ 100 °F or 37.8 °C plus at least 1 respiratory symptom (either cough or coryza)
2. Between 1 and 12 years
3. Less than 48 hours between onset of feeling unwell and administration of first dose of study medication
4. Parent/guardian willing and able to comply with study requirements and give consent
5. Participant able to comply with study requirements and willing to give assent, if appropriate

Exclusion criteria:

1. RSV-positive, using a rapid diagnostic test
2. Steroids or immuno-suppressant therapy
3. HIV infection
4. Uncontrolled significant diseases (renal, vascular, neurologic or metabolic disease (diabetes, thyroid disorders, adrenal disease), hepatitis, cirrhosis or pulmonary disease (other than mild asthma), or participants with known chronic renal failure). Uncontrolled defined as requiring change of therapy (increased dose or change of medication) or hospitalisation 4 weeks or less before first dose of study drug
5. Active cancer
6. Hospitalised participants (participants hospitalised for less than 24 hours were not excluded)
7. Major transplant recipients
8. Allergy to study drug or paracetamol
9. Antiviral treatment for influenza in the previous 2 weeks
10. Females of childbearing potential
11. Participation in a clinical trial with an investigational drug within 4 weeks prior to study entry

Definition of patient populations for analysis
ITTI infected population (N = 452)

Participants analysed according assigned treatment provided they received at least 1 dose of study treatment with some follow-up efficacy data and had laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection as determined post entry into the study

ITT population (N = 695)

All participants who took at least 1 dose of study medication with some follow-up efficacy data irrespective of influenza virus infection. Participants analysed according to the groups to which they were randomised

Safety population (N = 695)

Participants who received at least 1 dose of study medication and who received at least 1 safety follow-up, whether or not withdrawn prematurely. Participants analysed according to treatment received

Standard population (N = 396)

Used for summaries of efficacy parameters. All participants who had no major protocol violations or deviations, who had laboratory-confirmed influenza and who received at least the first 6 scheduled doses within 72 hours or who received the first 5 doses within 72 hours but went on to take 9/10 doses. Participants analysed according to the treatment received

Interventions	Intervention: oseltamivir 2 mg/kg (not exceeding a maximum of 100 mg/dose) bid Control: placebo bid Study drugs administered as dry powder to be reconstituted with water Treatment period: 5 days Follow-up period: 19 to 27 days post-treatment
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WV15758 (Continued)

Co-interventions: relief medication was provided but details not specified

Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome:</p> <p>Time to freedom from illness: defined as the length of time taken from the start of treatment to the point at which all of the following criteria were met</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A score of '0' (no problem) or '1' (minor problem) for cough and nasal symptoms (items 14 and 15 of the CARIFS scale) 2. Return to normal activities 3. Return to afebrile state <p>The duration of the event was calculated from 'time 0' (study drug initiation) to the time at which all the above 3 conditions were simultaneously met and remained true for a minimum of 24 hours</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Time to return to normal health and activity 2. Duration of symptoms 3. Extent and severity of symptoms 4. Secondary illnesses and associated antibiotic use 5. Symptom relief medication use 6. Medically attended visits and hospitalisation 7. Serology 8. Virology and viral resistance 9. Adverse events 	
Notes	<p>Protocol amendments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligibility: temperature at entry into the study from 101.3 °F to 100.0 °F (38.5 °C to 37.8 °C) so as not to exclude several febrile children who otherwise met the entry criteria at baseline since parents had administered antipyretic medication prior to the clinic (screening) visit 2. Composite outcome: normal health was based on combination of parental global assessment and the absence or alleviation of the key objective signs/symptoms including fever, cough and coryza which defined the illness for the purposes of inclusion into the protocol <p>Study period: December 1998 to April 1999</p>	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Original randomisations not provided in randomisation list
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	"Randomization was conducted by a central randomisations service, ICTI (Interactive Clinical Technologies Inc., Princeton, NJ). The investigator telephoned the centre to report the participant's date of birth, sex and weight. The randomisations number was then supplied by the centre in the form of a message on an interactive voice response system (IVRS). The investigator entered the randomisations number in the appropriate place on the case report form. The participant randomisation numbers were allocated sequentially within a stratum in the order in which participants were enrolled."
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Primary outcome changed during trial. Missing data imputed, number missing not reported

WV15758 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Diagnosis of complications not standardised and based on objective criteria. Method of diagnosis was based on local centre definitions. Unknown what effect this may have had on classification of outcome
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Original protocol missing
Other bias	High risk	Dehydrocholic acid in placebo. Unknown what impact this could have had on adverse events
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Certificates of analysis available
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"No open key to the code was available (...) to the Roche monitors, statisticians or at Roche Headquarters."

WV15759/WV15871

Methods	Randomised, double-blind, stratified placebo-controlled study. Stratification by asthma severity Location, number of centres: not available Duration of study: not available
Participants	Number screened: not provided Number randomised: not provided (oseltamivir: NA; placebo: NA) Number completed: not provided M = NA F = NA Mean age: NA Baseline details: NA Inclusion criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chronic asthma 2. 6 to 12 years 3. Symptoms of influenza (as fever ($\geq 37.8^\circ\text{C}$ or $\geq 100.0^\circ\text{F}$), plus 1 respiratory symptom (cough or coryza) Exclusion criteria: None specified Definition of patient populations for analysis ITTI population (N = NA)

WV15759/WV15871 (Continued)

Not specified

ITT population (N = NA)

Not specified

Interventions	Intervention: oseltamivir: 2.0 mg/kg bid Control: matching placebo bid Study drugs administered as dry powder Treatment period: 5 days Follow-up period: not specified Co-interventions: not specified	
Outcomes	Primary outcome: Composite of all of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First alleviation of cough and nasal congestion segment of the CARIFS score 2. First return to normal health and activity 3. First return to afebrile state (temperature < 37.2 °C or 98.9 °F) Secondary outcomes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Return to normal health and activity 2. Duration of symptoms 3. Extent and severity of symptoms 4. Secondary illnesses 5. Lung function 6. Symptoms 7. Adverse events 	
Notes	Study period not specified	
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Only treatment received provided on randomisation lists
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Central randomisation service provided by telephone
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Missing data imputed for primary outcome but numbers missing not provided
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Diagnosis of complications not standardised and based on objective criteria. Method of diagnosis was based on local centre definitions. Unknown what effect this may have had on classification of outcome
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories

WV15759/WV15871 (Continued)

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Missing data for hospitalisations ITT population
Other bias	High risk	Placebo capsule contained dehydrocholic acid. Unknown what effect this may have had on adverse events
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Certificates of analysis show identical colour and size
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"No open key to the code was available (...) to the Roche monitors, statisticians or at Roche Headquarters."

WV15799

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled cluster trial recruiting families of 3 to 8 members. Households recruited if any member developed an influenza-like illness during an influenza outbreak within the community (index case)</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA (35 centres); Canada (11 centres); Denmark (1 centre); Finland (6 centres); Germany (6 centres); Netherlands (3 centres); Norway (2 centres); Switzerland (1 centre); UK (8 centres)</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 +/- 4 days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not described</p> <p>Number randomised: 962 (oseltamivir: 498; placebo: 464)</p> <p>Number completed: 944</p> <p>M = not reported</p> <p>F = not reported</p> <p>Mean age: range from 1 to 76 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 13% contacts had received influenza vaccination in the same season. 40% contacts had pre-existing diseases (most frequently reported: asthma (3.0%), hypertension (5.7%), drug hypersensitivity (3.9%) and depression (2.9%))</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Household contact of someone who developed ILI 2. Participants had to live in same home for at least 2 days before and 3 days after index case identification 3. Maintain daily contact with the index case <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <p>Not specified</p> <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p>ITT (contacts: N = 550; index cases: 370)</p> <p>People residing in the same house as an index case (someone with ILI, irrespective of baseline infection status)</p>

WV15799 (Continued)

ITTI (contacts: N = 405; index cases: 163)

People residing in the same house as a positive index case (somebody with confirmed influenza at baseline)

Standard population: N = unclear

Mentioned but not described

Interventions	Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg od (total daily dose: 75 mg) Control: placebo Treatment period: 7 days Follow-up period: 10 to 18 days post-treatment Co-interventions: index case received paracetamol
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome:</p> Incidence of laboratory-confirmed clinical influenza in contacts of the index case. Defined as fever plus at least 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal congestion) and 1 constitutional symptom (fatigue, aches and pains, headache, feeling feverish), all recorded on the same day (either by the investigator as an illness visit report on the CRF, or by the participant on their diary card) plus laboratory confirmation of influenza infection
	<p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incidence of laboratory-confirmed non-clinical influenza 2. Laboratory-confirmed asymptomatic influenza 3. Laboratory-confirmed influenza infection 4. The incidence of viral shedding irrespective of whether participants had symptoms of influenza or not
Notes	Study period not specified

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Described as randomised; procedure generating randomisation described
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Adequate information to ascertain concealment of allocation available
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the intervention groups. Only symptomatic participants were swabbed. Low rates of attrition from treatment groups were noted
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the treatment groups
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories

WV15799 (Continued)

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Original protocol missing
Other bias	High risk	Diagnosis breakdown by culture and/or antibody titre rises not reported
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Certificates of analysis show identical colour
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Centrally generated randomisation code. Randomisation key only available to the clinical trial supplies group for packaging purposes. Some participant numbers in M1 could not be found on the randomisation list (e.g. 3913 and 3921)

WV15812/WV15872

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group design. Stratification performed by presence of chronic obstructive airways disease (COAD)</p> <p>Location, number of centres: northern hemisphere (80 centres) and southern hemisphere (20 centres) during influenza seasons</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 +/- 4 days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not reported</p> <p>Number randomised: 404 (oseltamivir: 200; placebo: 204)</p> <p>Number completed: 393</p> <p>M = 44%</p> <p>F = 56%</p> <p>Mean age: 52 years</p> <p>Baseline details: COAD 76%; vaccination: 28%; smoking: 22%</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adults (≥ 13 years of age (Norway and Sweden ≥ 18 years of age) with chronic cardiac (excluding chronic idiopathic hypertension) or pulmonary disorders (including bronchopulmonary dysplasia and asthma but excluding cystic fibrosis) severe enough to require regular medical follow-up or hospital care. In study WV15872 the following clarification was also given: pulmonary disorders were defined as COAD, which permanently reduces the FEV1. Asymptomatic patients with a previous valve replacement or bypass surgery were also eligible Symptoms consistent with influenza: fever ≥ 38 °C (100 °F) if patients aged < 65 years or fever ≥ 37.5 °C (99.5 °F) if patients aged ≥ 65 years plus 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal symptoms) and 1 constitutional symptom (chills/sweats (feeling feverish), malaise (feeling unwell), headache, myalgia (aches and pains), prostration (fatigue)) Presentation such that the first dose may be taken no later than 36 hours post onset of feeling unwell Legally effective written informed consent available Mental Status Questionnaire (MSQ) ≥ 7 Not in need of or awaiting residential care Women of childbearing potential provided they had a negative urine pregnancy test prior to drug dosing and they agreed to utilise an effective method of contraception throughout the study period and for 1 reproductive cycle following cessation of study therapy. (Male patients whose partners were of

WV15812/WV15872 (Continued)

childbearing potential were to agree to use an effective method of contraception throughout the study and for 3 months after completing the trial – added by amendment to protocol WV15872)

Exclusion criteria:

1. Uncontrolled disease (renal, vascular, neurologic, metabolic (diabetes, thyroid disorders, adrenal disease), hepatitis or cirrhosis, defined as disease requiring change of therapy or hospitalisation within 4 weeks preceding the first dose of study drug)
2. Creatinine clearance (measured or estimated) ≤ 30 mL/min
3. Frank jaundice or with transaminase values within or greater than grade III of the WHO scale
4. New York Heart Association (NYHA) class IV
5. COAD stage III
6. Major transplant recipients
7. Immuno-suppressant therapy (inhaled steroids or systemic steroids less than or equivalent to 5 mg/day prednisolone were allowed)
8. Pregnant or breast-feeding females
9. Active cancer (basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma of the skin or a previous history of cancer in remission and not requiring therapy were permitted)
10. HIV infection
11. Allergy to any excipients in capsule or paracetamol
12. Previous episode of acute upper respiratory tract infection (URTI), otitis, bronchitis or sinusitis or received antibiotics for URTI, otitis, sinusitis or bronchitis or antiviral therapy for influenza within 2 weeks prior to study day 1
13. Participation in a clinical study with an investigational drug within 4 weeks prior to study entry
14. A clinically relevant history of abuse of alcohol or other drugs
15. Presentation > 36 hours post the onset of feeling unwell

Definition of patient populations for analysis

ITTI population (N = 231)

All patients who had at least 1 dose of study medication and who had a laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection. Data were analysed according to treatment assignment at randomisation

ITT population (N = 402)

All randomised patients who received at least 1 dose of study medication

Safety population (N = 401)

Randomised participants who received at least 1 dose of study medication and had at least 1 post-baseline safety assessment

Standard population (N = 236)

Participants from ITTI population without major protocol violations and who received at least the first 6 scheduled doses within 72 hours, or received the first 5 doses within 72 hours and went on to take 9 out of the 10 doses

Interventions	<p>Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg bid (total daily dose 150 mg)</p> <p>Control: placebo bid</p> <p>Treatment period: 10 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: 7 to 15 days</p> <p>Co-interventions: pack of paracetamol (500 mg)</p>
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome: time to alleviation of illness (derived from a patient-rated symptom questionnaire). The 7 symptoms assessed in the questionnaire were:</p>

WV15812/WV15872 (Continued)

1. Nasal congestion
2. Sore throat
3. Cough
4. Aches and pains
5. Fatigue
6. Headache
7. Chills/sweats

Secondary outcomes:

1. Extent and severity of symptoms
2. AUC of individual symptoms
3. Use of symptom relief medication
4. Quality of life
5. Virology
6. Adverse events

Notes Study period: WV15812: January to April 1999; WV15872: June to October 1999

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Central randomisation service, block randomisation (block size = 4)
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Central randomisation service
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Missing symptoms data not reported. Available data analysed by ITTI population and not ITT
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Missing symptoms data not reported. Available data analysed by ITTI population and not ITT
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Original protocol for WV15812 missing
Other bias	High risk	Placebo contained dehydrocholic acid. Dosage not available. Active drug Ro 64-0796 batches GMZ 0124/03 and GMZ 0129/03; matching placebo GMZ 0136
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	No certificate of analysis to confirm same shape/size/colour
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	From Module 1: "No open key to the code was available at the Study Centre, to the Monitors, Statisticians or at Roche Headquarters. The blind was to be broken only in the event of a medical emergency if considered absolutely necessary to manage the patient."

WV15819/WV15876/WV15978

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group design. Participants were stratified according to vaccination status (vaccinated in the current influenza season or not) and coexistence or not of chronic obstructive airways disease (COAD)</p> <p>Location, number of centres: France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Israel, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, Canada USA, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia; 169 centres</p> <p>Duration of study: 21 +/- 4 days</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not reported</p> <p>Number randomised: 726 (oseltamivir: 362; placebo: 374)</p> <p>Number completed: 715</p> <p>M = 43%</p> <p>F = 57%</p> <p>Mean age: 73 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 98% Caucasian; COAD: 8%; vaccination: 43%</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Age \geq 65 years 2. Symptoms consistent with influenza: fever \geq 37.5 °C (\geq 97.5 °F) plus 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal symptoms), plus 1 constitutional symptom (headache, myalgia (aches and pains), sweats/chills (feeling feverish), fatigue) 3. No more than 36 hours since onset of feeling unwell 4. Willingness and ability to understand and give written informed consent 5. Mental Status Questionnaire (MSQ) score \geq 7 6. Living independently, capable of self care, ambulant and not in need of or awaiting residential care (residents of retirement homes were eligible provided they fulfilled these criteria) 7. If male with a partner of childbearing potential, agreement to use an effective method of contraception throughout the study and for 3 months after completing the trial <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unstable or uncontrolled disease (renal, cardiac, pulmonary, vascular, neurologic or metabolic disease, hepatitis or cirrhosis) 2. Creatinine clearance $<$ 30 mL/min 3. Known significant liver dysfunction associated with frank jaundice or transaminase 4. Concentrations of WHO grade 3 or greater 5. Significant cardiac failure resulting in limitation of physical activity and clinical signs of cardiac failure including pitting oedema, elevated jugular venous pressure and/or evidence of pulmonary oedema 6. Transplant recipient 7. Active cancer at any site 8. HIV infection 9. Allergy to any excipients in the capsules/paracetamol 10. Acute upper respiratory tract infection (URTI), otitis media, bronchitis or sinusitis, or antibiotic therapy for URTI, otitis media, bronchitis or sinusitis, or antiviral therapy for influenza, within 2 weeks before study entry 11. Use of the antiviral drugs rimantadine, ribavirin, zanamivir and amantadine 12. Previous or concomitant treatment with neuraminidase inhibitor (inhaled or oral) 13. Participation in a clinical study of an investigational drug within 4 weeks before study entry

WV15819/WV15876/WV15978 (Continued)

14. Clinically relevant history of abuse of alcohol or other drugs

Definition of patient populations for analysis
ITTI population (N = 477)

Primary analysis population for efficacy. Participants analysed according to the groups to which they were randomised, provided they received at least 1 dose of study treatment and had laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection. Participants with protocol violations or deviations were retained in the ITTI population

ITT population (N = 735)

All participants who took at least 1 dose of study medication. Participants analysed according to the groups to which they were randomised

Safety population (N = 736)

All randomised participants who received at least 1 dose of study medication and who had at least 1 safety follow-up, whether or not withdrawn prematurely. Data from participants were analysed according to therapy they received

Standard population (N = 445)

All randomised participants who had no major protocol violations or deviations, laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection and who received at least the first 6 scheduled doses within 72 hours or who received the first 5 doses within 72 hours but went on to take 9 out of 10 total doses. Participants were analysed according to treatment received

Interventions	<p>Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg bid (total daily dose 150 mg) given as size 2 capsules</p> <p>Control: matching placebo size 2 capsules</p> <p>Treatment period: 5 days</p> <p>Follow-up period: 12 to 20 days post-treatment</p> <p>Co-interventions: rescue pack of paracetamol</p>
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome:</p> <p>Duration of illness given as summary measures from Kaplan-Meier survival curves</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extent and severity of illness 2. Virus shedding 3. Serology 4. Symptoms 5. Temperature and fever 6. Rescue medication use 7. Secondary illness 8. Hospitalisation 9. Quality of life 10. Adverse events 11. Vital signs (blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate)
Notes	<p>Protocol amendments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protocol WV15819 amendment B and protocol WV15876 amendment B. Originally, symptoms, signs and common sequelae of influenza were to be reported as adverse events. After this protocol amendment, such symptoms, signs and common complications were excluded from reporting as adverse

WV15819/WV15876/WV15978 (Continued)

events, unless they fulfilled the criteria for reporting as serious adverse events or the criteria for secondary illness

2. Protocol WV15876 amendment B also added a requirement for male participants whose partners were of childbearing potential to use effective contraception during the study and for 3 months after completing the study, to follow Roche current standard operating procedures
3. Protocol WV15819 amendment D and protocol WV15876 amendment C made changes to the secondary efficacy parameters. The secondary efficacy parameter reflecting the antiviral effect of treatment was changed from the duration of viral shedding to the proportion of participants shedding virus on day 3. This change was made because the intermittent sampling schedule used in the study meant that the true duration of viral shedding could not be assessed exactly, whereas the proportion of participants shedding virus could be determined. The incidence of secondary illnesses requiring antibiotics was included as a new secondary endpoint and the secondary illnesses were defined as sinusitis, LRTI, otitis media, bronchitis and pneumonia. The method of analysis of the proportion of participants shedding virus and for the proportion of participants with predefined secondary illnesses (Fisher's 2-tailed exact test) was added to the statistical methods. Protocol WV15978 included an additional exclusion criterion around previous or concomitant treatment with a neuraminidase inhibitor

Study period: Northern Hemisphere centres recruited during flu seasons in 1998 and 1999; Southern Hemisphere centres recruited during flu seasons in 1999

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Randomisation list provided
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Central randomisation service provided by telephone
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Missing data imputed but number missing unknown
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the treatment groups. Also diagnosis not based on standardised objective criteria but based on local centre definitions. Unknown what effect this may have had on classification of outcome
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Selection of symptom reporting after major protocol amendment
Other bias	High risk	Module 1 implies active contains dehydrocholic acid but certificate of analysis suggests otherwise. Unknown what effect this may have had on adverse events
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Certificates of analysis show identical colour and size
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"No open key to the code was available at the study centres, to the monitors, statisticians or at Roche headquarters. In the event of a medical emergency

WV15819/WV15876/WV15978 (Continued)

the blind could be broken, if considered absolutely mandatory to properly manage the subject, by contacting the randomisations centre."

WV15825

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in residential homes for elderly people. Participants were recruited when a local outbreak was detected, defined as 2 cases in immediate vicinity within 7 days or 1 case in the home itself</p> <p>Location, number of centres: USA (16 centres), UK (1 centre), France (4 centres), Belgium (2 centres) and the Netherlands (3 centres)</p> <p>Duration of study: 8 weeks</p>
Participants	<p>Number screened: not reported</p> <p>Number randomised: 548 (oseltamivir: 276; placebo: 272)</p> <p>Number completed: 493</p> <p>M = 31%</p> <p>F = 69%</p> <p>Mean age: 82 years</p> <p>Baseline details: 92% Caucasian; 4% Black; 4% Hispanic. 80% vaccinated; 14% COAD</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <p>No inclusion criteria detailed. Study conducted in residential homes for the elderly</p> <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <p>Not specified</p> <p>Definition of patient populations for analysis</p> <p>Prophylaxis study, differentiation between populations at baseline not undertaken</p>
Interventions	<p>Intervention: oseltamivir 75 mg (frequency of administration not specified)</p> <p>Control: placebo</p> <p>Treatment period: not specified</p> <p>Follow-up period: 8 weeks</p> <p>Co-interventions: not specified</p>
Outcomes	<p>Primary outcome:</p> <p>Laboratory-confirmed clinical influenza. Defined as fever (temperature > 99 °F) plus 1 respiratory symptom (cough, sore throat, nasal symptoms) plus 1 constitutional symptom (headache, myalgia, sweats/chills, fatigue) confirmed by either virus shedding within 2 days of symptom onset or 4-fold increase in influenza antibody</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Adverse events</p>
Notes	—

WV15825 (Continued)

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Centrally generated randomisation code. No details reported. Randomisation key only available to the clinical trial supplies group for packaging purposes. Some participant numbers in M1 could not be found on the randomisation list (e.g. #3913 and #3921)
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	In the Module 1 at page 21: "The subject randomisation numbers were generated by Roche and incorporated into double-blind labeling. No open key was available at any of the study sites or to any Roche personnel involved with the study". Roche generated the codes and stuck them on the packaging and ICTI allocated through phone-in system
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the intervention groups. Only symptomatic participants were swabbed. Low rates of attrition from treatment groups were noted
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Possible effect of oseltamivir on antibody production makes the assessment of influenza status and associated complications in the infected subpopulation non-comparable between the treatment groups
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	High risk	Adverse events could be classified as either symptoms of influenza, complications of influenza or adverse events. Reporting is inconsistent and some trials reported the same outcome in the same patient in different categories
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	No definitions given – see pg 69 and protocol 367. Events after positive swab are 3 in placebo group and 1 in oseltamivir group (pg 70 also pg 330-1) Participants with ILI in adverse events table are not included in efficacy analysis
Other bias	High risk	Retrospective changes to protocol and reporting analysis plan
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Certificate of analysis available. Placebo contained dehydrocholic acid. Dosage not available. More information needed on whether patients and personnel could distinguish between the 2 treatments
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	Low risk	"No open key will be available"

WV16277

Methods	<p>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study. Patients were stratified by age, gender, vaccination status (vaccinated in current season or not) and coexistence of chronic obstructive airways disease (present/absent). The objectives of the study were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To investigate the clinical efficacy of oseltamivir in patients with influenza - To investigate the safety and tolerability of oseltamivir in patients with influenza - To investigate the effect of oseltamivir on well being and daily disruption of patients with influenza
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WV16277 (Continued)

- To investigate the antiviral efficacy of oseltamivir in patients with influenza (in selected patients)

Participants	<p>Patients aged 13 or more years (or 18 or more in countries with local IRB requirements) presenting with symptoms of influenza (fever 37.8 °C or more with at least 2 of the following symptoms: cough, sore throat, nasal congestion, chills/sweats, headache, myalgia (aches and pains), fatigue)</p>
Interventions	<p>Oseltamivir was provided as size 2 capsules containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate</p> <p>Matching placebo was provided as size 2 capsules, containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate, pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate</p> <p>The following batch numbers of drugs were used in all centres:</p> <p>Oseltamivir: 75 mg capsules, Ro 64-0796/V14, batch number PT2247C01</p> <p>Matching placebo capsules: Ro 64-0796/V16, batch number GMZ 0163</p> <p>The medication was to be taken within 36 hours of first symptom onset at the clinic</p>
Outcomes	<p>This study was designed to investigate whether oseltamivir suppressed the main clinical symptoms (fever and cough) of patients with laboratory-confirmed influenza. For all time-to-event analyses, time zero was defined as coinciding with the initiation of treatment. For all endpoints defined in this section that involve 'alleviation' of symptoms, alleviation occurred at the start of the 24-hour period in which the symptom was less than or equal to 1 (mild) and remained less than or equal to 1 for at least 24 hours</p> <p>Primary outcome:</p> <p>The primary efficacy parameter was the proportion of patients alleviated of cough (none or mild for at least 24 hours) and without fever (37.2 °C or less) at 36 hours after initiation of study medication</p> <p>Secondary outcomes:</p> <p>Symptoms</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The efficacy parameter to reflect the duration of illness was the length of time until alleviation of all symptoms. This was calculated from Time 0 (study drug initiation) to the length of time over which the area under the curve (AUC) for symptoms was to be calculated. Participants withdrawing prior to alleviation of symptoms were censored at last assessment 2. The efficacy parameter to reflect the extent and severity of illness was the AUC for symptoms. This was calculated from Time 0 (study drug initiation) to the time at which all symptoms were alleviated. Scores were calculated twice daily by totaling the separate symptoms that form the symptom scale. The AUC of these scores was then calculated for each patient using the trapezoidal rule. The base-line for each symptom was defined as the assessment prior to first study drug intake even though this might be before Time 0 3. Proportion of participants who were afebrile (oral temperature 37.2 °C or less) at 24 hours, 36 hours and 48 hours 4. Proportion of patients with fever each day (fever was defined as an oral temperature of 37.8 °C or higher at any assessment during that day) 5. At 12-hourly intervals over the first 2 days, the proportion of patients with alleviation of cough and no fever (37.2 °C or less), with a reduction in ≥ 1 symptom score, with alleviation of cough, with alleviation of myalgia and with alleviation of cough and no fever (38 °C or less)
Notes	<p>ECGs were collected for a subset of (intensive) patients only, on day 1, day 3 and day 5. Further measurements were to be taken at day 10 or day 21 if abnormal results were observed at the previous visit. ECG tests were not part of the protocol but are mentioned as part of a "sub-study" at PDF pg 63</p>

WV16277 (Continued)

Blank CRFs, searches under bronchitis, secondary identified only cases of bronchitis classified as harms or pre-existing conditions. Modules 3 and 4 table of content pages (PDF pages 660 and 3011) do not report listings of complications. H&L meta-analysis shows confidence interval without recognisable point estimate

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	ICTI-run central randomisation scheme
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Different coloured caps in size 2 capsules. Content of capsules stated, certificate of analysis missing perhaps because the August 2000 certificates from WP16263 are sufficient, but are not referenced. Concentration of dehydrocholic acid and CaPO4 unreported
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Symptoms	Low risk	No systematic differences in drop-out rates between intervention groups; outcomes reported as specified in the protocol
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Complications of influenza	High risk	Great difficulty in reconciling rationale with focus on cardiac complications of influenza with design and reporting of trial
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Safety data	Low risk	Narratives for serious adverse events and drop-outs are reported with centre ID redacted
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Undated amendment to text indicates sub-study of selected "intensive" population on the basis of viral isolates at baseline reported in the CRF: PDF page 388 "In selected patients (qualified as intensive patients in the Case Report Form), ECG's will be taken at baseline, day 3 and day 5. In these intensive patients, nose and throat swabs will be taken for virus culture at screening and on study days 3 and 5. In these patients also, a blood sample for laboratory safety measurements will be taken on days 1, 3 and 5 (and day 10/21 if indicated by the day 5/10 results)." Reason for change: "The sampling for the virology at baseline has been restricted to the selected intensive patients and the collection of the pharmaceutical data in the questionnaire has been updated"
Other bias	High risk	Certificate of analysis missing. Grossly underpowered trial
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes	High risk	Different coloured capsules (identified through batch numbers and certificates of analysis of other study reports)
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) All outcomes	High risk	Different coloured capsules unknown concentration of content

AEs: adverse events
 AUC: area under the curve
 bid: twice daily
 CSR: clinical study report
 CARIF: severity score

CDC: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 COAD: chronic obstructive airways disease
 CONSORT: Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials
 COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
 CPK: inflammation marker
 CRF: clinical report form
 d: day
 DAP: data analysis plan
 ECG: electrocardiogram
 EMA: European Medicines Agency
 EMEA: formerly EMA
 f: female
 FAS: full analysis set
 FEV1: forced expiratory volume (at interval 1 in spirometry testing)
 FDA: US Food and Drug Administration
 GCP: good clinical practice
 h: hour
 HAI: anti-haemagglutinin antibody
 IH: inhaled
 ILI: influenza-like illness
 IN: intranasal
 IP: infection-positive
 IPD: individual participant data
 IRB: institutional review board
 ITT: intention-to-treat (population)
 ITTI: intention-to-treat (influenza)-infected (population)
 LRTI: lower respiratory tract infection
 m: male
 MEP: middle ear pressure
 MI: myocardial infarction
 N: number
 NA: not applicable
 od: once daily
 OTC: over-the-counter
 PCR: polymerase chain reaction
 PEFR: peak expiratory flow rate
 P-R: 1 of the segments of the ECG trace
 QRS: 1 of the segments of the ECG trace
 QT: 1 of the segments of the ECG trace
 QTc: 1 of the segments of the ECG trace
 RAP: reporting analysis plans
 R-R: risk ratio
 RSV: respiratory syncytial virus
 RTI: respiratory tract infection
 SAE: serious adverse event
 SAP: statistical analysis plan
 URTI: upper respiratory tract infection
 WBC: white blood cell
 WHO: World Health Organization

Characteristics of excluded studies *[ordered by study ID]*

Study	Reason for exclusion
105934	Post-marketing study
107485	Dose-ranging study
108127	Non-randomised study

Study	Reason for exclusion
112311	Pharmaco-availability study
112312	Pharmaco-availability study
113268	Pharmaco-availability study
113502	Non-comparative study
113625	Pharmacokinetics study
113678	Non-comparative study
114045	Survey
114373	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
167-02	Dose ranging phase 1 in volunteers, no influenza exposure
167-03	Dose ranging phase 1 in volunteers, no influenza exposure
167-04	Dose ranging phase 1 in volunteers, no influenza exposure
167-05	Dose ranging phase 1 in volunteers, no influenza exposure
167T3-11	An open-label trial of 20 mg CG167 (zanamivir) in the treatment of influenza viral infection in children aged ≤ 5 and < 15 years old (open-label study). Non-randomised; the intervention group was compared to a survey group. 18 page summary available with no title
ADS-TCAD-PO206	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
BP21288	Pharmacokinetics study
C94-009	Pharmacokinetics study
C94-085	Pharmacokinetics study
GCP/95/045	Pharmacokinetics study
JNAI-02	Unknown study. Only ID traced
JNAI-03	Unknown study. Only ID traced
JP15734	Pharmacokinetics non-comparative study
JP15735	Does not test treatment, prophylaxis or PEP and there was no exposure to influenza
JV16284	Open-label, no control
JV21490	No influenza circulation, phase IV study with unusual oseltamivir dosages
M76006	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML17279	CSR bears no title. Study of community pharmacist availability
ML17713	Non-comparative study

Study	Reason for exclusion
ML19340	Text in French. Community pharmacist availability study
ML20542	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML21954	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML22789	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML22872	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML22879	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML25018	Bioavailability study
ML25087	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML25094	Non-comparative study
ML25157	Pharmacokinetics study
ML25176	Pharmacokinetics study
ML25179	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
ML25265	Non-comparative observational study
ML25266	Pharmacokinetics study
MP20691	Pharmacokinetics study
MV20043	Transmission study
MV20050	Dose-ranging study
MV22926	Non-comparative study
MV22949	Pharmacokinetics study
MV22951	Pharmacokinetics study
MV22963	Pharmacokinetics study
MV22970	Pharmacokinetics study
NAI106784	Pharmacokinetics study
NAI108166	Pharmacokinetics study
NAI10901	Comparator is vaccine
NAI10902	Pharmacokinetics study
NAI40012	Instructional leaflet study
NAIA1009	Pharmacokinetics study

Study	Reason for exclusion
NAIA2010	Open-label, rimantadine-controlled, cluster-randomised trial
NAIB1001	Pharmacokinetics study
NAIB1002	Pharmacokinetics study
NAIB1007	Pharmacokinetics study
NCT00297050	Dose-ranging study
NCT00416962	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
NCT00867139	Not placebo/do nothing controlled in immunocompromised people
NCT00957996	Peramivir study - does not have placebo/do nothing comparator
NCT01063933	Pharmacokinetics study
Not applicable (registry)	Unknown study. Only ID traced. Identified from Reddy D. J Antimicrob Chemother 2010; 65 Suppl 2: ii35–40 (doi:10.1093/jac/dkq014) Table 2. http://jac.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/65/suppl_2/ii35/DKQ014TB2
NP15525	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15717	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15718	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15719	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15728	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15729	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15743	Palatability study, open-label
NP15757	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15810	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15826	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15827	Pharmacodynamics study
NP15881	Palatability study in children
NP15901	Pharmacokinetics study
NP15912	Palatability study in children
NP16472	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
NP22770	Pharmacokinetics study
NP25138	Not placebo/do nothing controlled

Study	Reason for exclusion
NP25139	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
NP25140	Pharmacokinetics study
NV20234	Immunocompromised participants
NV20235	Immunocompromised participants
NV20237	Resistance study
NV22155	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
NV22158	Registry study
NV25118	Pharmacokinetics study
NV25182	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
NV25655	Open-label pharmacokinetics study
PP15974	Pharmacokinetics study
PP16351	Pharmacokinetics study
PP16361	Pharmacokinetics study
PV15615	Viral challenge study
PV15616	Viral challenge study
WP15517	Pharmacokinetics study
WP15525	Pharmacokinetics study
WP15647	Pharmacokinetics study
WP15648	Pharmacokinetics study
WP15676	Pharmacokinetics study
WP15979	Bioavailability study
WP16094	Pharmacokinetics study
WP16134	Bioequivalence study
WP16137	Bioequivalence study
WP16225	Bioequivalence study
WP16226	Pharmacokinetics study
WP16254	Pharmacokinetics study
WP16263	No influenza circulation, phase IV study

Study	Reason for exclusion
WP16295	Open-label absorption study
WP17721	Pharmacokinetics study
WP18308	Pharmacokinetics study
WP20727	Pharmacokinetics study
WP20749	Not placebo/do nothing controlled
WP21272	Pharmacokinetics study
WP22849	Pharmacokinetics study
WV15731	No placebo arm
WV16139	Unknown study. Only ID traced. ID could be a typo
WV16193	Not placebo/do nothing controlled

CSR: clinical study report
 ID: identity number
 PEP: post-exposure prophylaxis

Characteristics of studies awaiting assessment [ordered by study ID]

JPRN-JapicCTI-111647

Methods	A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to confirm the efficacy in the prevention of influenza virus infection (Phase 3 study) Duration of the study 2011-10-1 to 2012-6-30 Sponsor: Daiichi Sankyo Co., Ltd
Participants	—
Interventions	Laninamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

ML20589

Methods	Economic and social benefits of treating and preventing influenza in aged care facilities Sponsor: The University of Sydney, Australia anzctr.org.au number ACTRN12606000278538
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, 3 different regimens

ML20589 (Continued)

Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

ML20910

Methods	A study of Tamiflu (oseltamivir) treatment in laboratory-confirmed influenza Sponsor: Hoffmann-La Roche NCT00436124
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

ML21776

Methods	Study to evaluate nosocomial transmission of influenza Sponsor: University Hospitals, Leicester NCT00798421
Participants	—
Interventions	—
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

MV21118

Methods	Early oseltamivir treatment of influenza in children 1 to 3 years of age Sponsor: Hospital District of Southwestern Finland NCT00593502
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

MV21737

Methods	Long-term influenza prophylaxis with inhaled zanamivir or oral oseltamivir Sponsor: University of Oxford NCT00980109
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, zanamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

MV21879

Methods	Oseltamivir randomised controlled efficacy trial Sponsor: International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh NCT00707941
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

MV22841

Methods	An observational clinical trial of influenza A/H1N1 2009 resistance under standard duration oseltamivir treatment Sponsor: not known
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

MV22940

Methods	A randomised controlled trial on the effect of post-exposure oseltamivir prophylaxis on influenza transmission in nursing homes
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MV22940 (Continued)

Sponsor: National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), The Netherlands
NCT01053377

Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00419263

Methods	Evaluation of the efficacy and safety of peramivir in subjects with uncomplicated acute influenza Sponsor: BioCryst Pharmaceuticals
Participants	—
Interventions	Peramivir
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00453999

Methods	Evaluation of the efficacy and safety of peramivir in adults with acute serious or potentially life-threatening influenza Sponsor: BioCryst Pharmaceuticals
Participants	—
Interventions	Peramivir
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00486980

Methods	Intramuscular peramivir for the treatment of uncomplicated influenza Sponsor: BioCryst Pharmaceuticals
Participants	—
Interventions	Peramivir

NCT00486980 *(Continued)*

Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00555893

Methods	Efficacy study of early versus late oseltamivir administration for treating and preventing influenza
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00610935

Methods	Intramuscular peramivir in subjects with uncomplicated acute influenza Sponsor: Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation
Participants	—
Interventions	Peramivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00705406

Methods	A phase II, multicentre, randomised, placebo-controlled, study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of intramuscular peramivir 600 mg in subjects with uncomplicated acute influenza Sponsor: BioCryst Pharmaceuticals
Participants	—
Interventions	Peramivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00958776

Methods	A study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of IV peramivir in addition to standard of care compared to standard of care alone in adults and adolescents who are hospitalised due to influenza
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NCT00958776 (Continued)

	Sponsor: BioCryst Pharmaceuticals
Participants	Peramivir
Interventions	—
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT00980109

Methods	Long-term influenza prophylaxis with inhaled zanamivir or oral oseltamivir Sponsor: University of Oxford
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, zanamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NCT01032837

Methods	A study of Tamiflu (oseltamivir) for treatment of influenza with a focus on (H1N1) 2009 flu strain Sponsor: Hoffmann-La Roche
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir, placebo
Outcomes	—
Notes	Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

NV20236

Methods	A study of Tamiflu (oseltamivir) for seasonal prophylaxis of influenza in children Sponsor: Hoffmann-La Roche NCT00412555
Participants	—
Interventions	Oseltamivir
Outcomes	—

NV20236 (Continued)

Notes

Awaiting assessment as we do not yet have the clinical study reports for this study

DATA AND ANALYSES

Comparison 1. Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (ITT population)	8	3954	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-16.76 [-25.10, -8.42]
2 Hospital admission in adult treatment (safety population)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.57, 1.50]
3 Defined as influenza-infected at baseline in adult treatment	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.91, 0.99]
4 Antibody rise four-fold or greater in adult treatment	8	4025	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.86, 0.97]
5 Adverse events - nausea in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.57 [1.14, 2.15]
6 Adverse events - vomiting in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.43 [1.75, 3.38]
7 Adverse events - diarrhoea in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.67 [0.46, 0.98]
8 Withdrawal from adult treatment trial due to adverse events	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.56, 1.48]
9 All withdrawals from adult treatment	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.73, 1.41]
10 Adverse events - cough in adult treatment (on-treatment)	6	3943	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.63 [0.41, 0.96]
11 Adverse events - abdominal pain in adult treatment (on-treatment)	6	4368	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.00 [0.64, 1.55]
12 Adverse events: dizziness in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.77 [0.51, 1.18]
13 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (on-treatment)	7	4426	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.17 [0.72, 1.90]
14 Serious adverse events: overall in adult treatment (on-treatment)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.51, 1.80]
15 Serious adverse events: overall in adult treatment (off-treatment)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.73 [0.39, 1.37]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
16 Complications: bronchitis in adult treatment	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.75 [0.56, 1.01]
16.1 Trials which collected data on non-specific adverse event or secondary/intercurrent illness form	6	3316	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.66 [0.42, 1.03]
16.2 Trials which collected data on specific "Diagnosis of secondary illness" form	2	1136	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.61, 1.26]
17 Complications: pneumonia in adult treatment	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.55 [0.33, 0.90]
17.1 Trials which collected data on non-specific adverse event or secondary/intercurrent illness form	6	3316	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.44 [0.22, 0.88]
17.2 Trials which collected data on specific "Diagnosis of secondary illness" form	2	1136	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.69 [0.33, 1.44]
18 Complications: sinusitis in adult treatment	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.76, 1.40]
18.1 Trials which collected data on non-specific adverse event or secondary/intercurrent illness form	6	3316	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.74, 1.50]
18.2 Trials which collected data on specific "Diagnosis of secondary illness" form	2	1136	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.52, 1.80]
19 Complications: otitis media in adult treatment	6	4368	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.57, 2.15]
19.1 Trials which collected data on non-specific adverse event or secondary/intercurrent illness form	4	3232	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.46, 2.12]
19.2 Trials which collected data on specific "Diagnosis of secondary illness" form	2	1136	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.57 [0.41, 6.02]
20 Complications in adult trials classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal	6	3675	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.40, 2.06]
21 Culture-positive at baseline in adult treatment	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.95, 1.07]
22 Adverse events: general body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.88 [0.67, 1.17]
23 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.80, 1.38]
24 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.81 [0.65, 1.00]

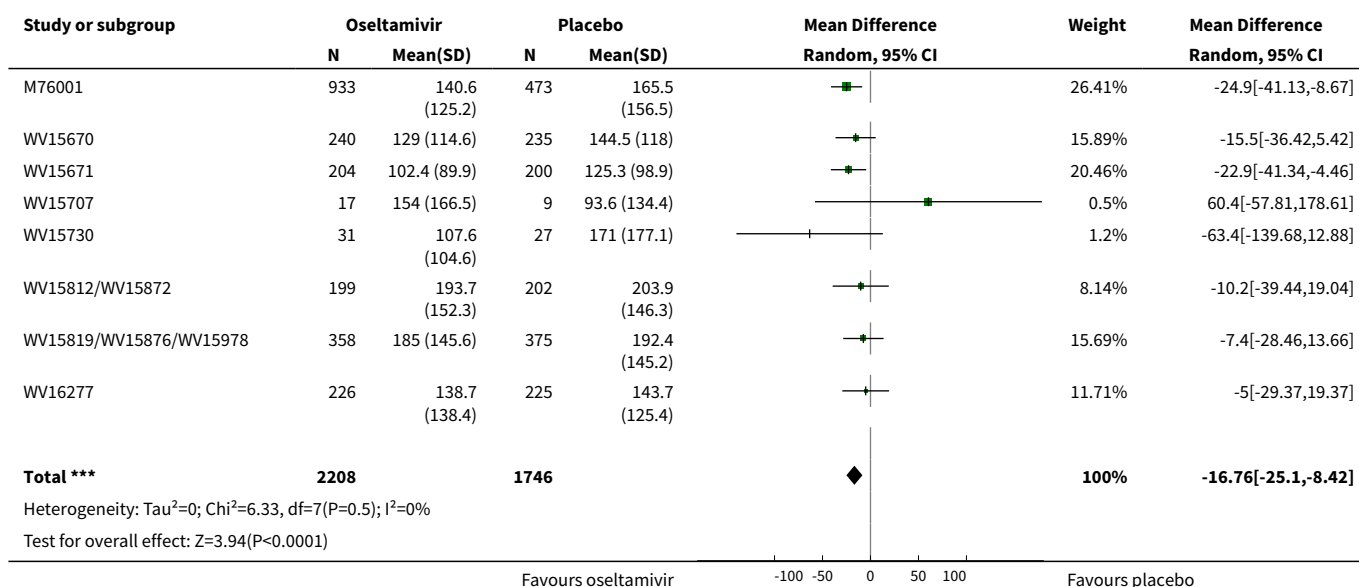
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
25 Adverse events: infection body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.85 [0.71, 1.01]
26 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.25 [1.08, 1.45]
27 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	6	3943	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.49 [0.25, 0.97]
28 Adverse events: ear body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	7	4426	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.61, 1.60]
29 Adverse events: eye body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	7	4426	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.00 [0.52, 1.92]
30 Adverse events: metabolism body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.81 [0.46, 1.43]
31 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.59, 1.73]
32 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	7	4426	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.43, 2.03]
33 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	7	4426	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.63, 2.06]
34 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.21 [0.55, 2.64]
35 Adverse events: ear body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	6	4368	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.17 [0.57, 2.42]
36 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.08 [0.74, 1.58]
37 Adverse events: general body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.50, 1.62]
38 Adverse events: infection body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	7	4426	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.80 [0.61, 1.03]
39 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	7	4394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.84 [0.54, 1.30]
40 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	6	4368	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.29 [0.87, 1.91]
41 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.71, 1.24]
42 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.81 [0.42, 1.56]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
43 Adverse events: cough in adult treatment (off-treatment)	8	4452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.55, 1.85]
44 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (off-treatment)	6	4368	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.34 [0.83, 2.15]
45 Adverse events: nausea in adult treatment (off-treatment)	6	4368	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.50, 2.23]
46 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in child treatment [hours]	3	1329	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-8.04 [-33.34, 17.26]
46.1 Otherwise healthy children	1	669	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-29.40 [-47.04, -11.76]
46.2 Children with chronic asthma	2	660	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.18 [-11.06, 21.41]
47 Hospital admission in child treatment (safety population)	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.92 [0.70, 5.23]
48 Defined as influenza-infected at baseline in child treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.84, 1.01]
49 Antibody rise four-fold or greater in child treatment	2	909	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.80, 1.00]
50 Complications: bronchitis in child treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.65 [0.27, 1.55]
51 Complications: otitis media in child treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.80 [0.62, 1.02]
52 Complications: pneumonia in child treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.06 [0.62, 1.83]
53 Complications: sinusitis in child treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.00 [0.58, 1.72]
54 Complications: pneumonia in child treatment by on- and off-treatment	3		Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	Subtotals only
54.1 On-treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.48, 1.60]
54.2 Off-treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.83 [0.52, 15.31]
55 Complications in trials of children classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.98 [0.58, 6.72]
56 Withdrawal from child treatment trial due to adverse events	2	1029	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.33, 3.01]

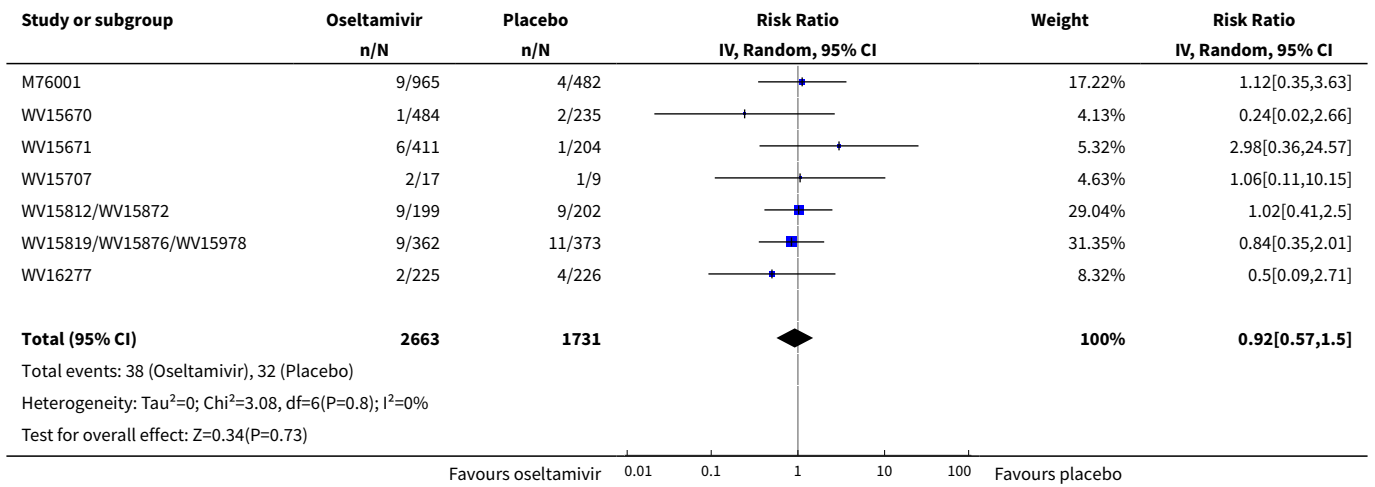
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
57 All withdrawals from child treatment	2	1029	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.56, 1.60]
58 Serious adverse events: overall in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	1029	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.97 [0.59, 6.56]
59 Serious adverse events: overall in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.80 [0.38, 8.46]
60 Adverse events: abdominal pain in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.10 [0.62, 1.95]
61 Adverse events: diarrhoea in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.58, 1.28]
62 Adverse events: nausea in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.50, 1.51]
63 Adverse events: vomiting in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.70 [1.23, 2.35]
64 Adverse events: abdominal pain in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.39, 2.11]
65 Adverse events: cough in child treatment (off-treatment)	2	1029	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	0.71 [0.27, 1.85]
66 Adverse events: diarrhoea in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	0.71 [0.36, 1.40]
67 Adverse events: headache in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.13 [0.55, 2.34]
68 Adverse events: vomiting in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.07 [0.57, 2.02]
69 Adverse events: ear body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.18 [0.30, 4.56]
70 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.18 [0.96, 1.44]
71 Adverse events: general body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.47, 1.92]
72 Adverse events: infection body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.75 [0.59, 0.95]
73 Adverse events: neurological body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.66 [0.17, 2.62]
74 Adverse events: respiratory body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.73, 1.43]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
75 Adverse events: skin body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.26 [0.71, 2.22]
76 Adverse events: ear body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.10 [0.52, 2.32]
77 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	2	1029	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.15 [0.69, 1.91]
78 Adverse events: general body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.00 [0.54, 1.86]
79 Adverse events: infection body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.82, 1.58]
80 Adverse events: neurological body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.07 [0.51, 2.26]
81 Adverse events: respiratory body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	3	1358	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.65, 1.35]
82 Culture-positive at baseline in child treatment	3	1359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.83, 1.04]

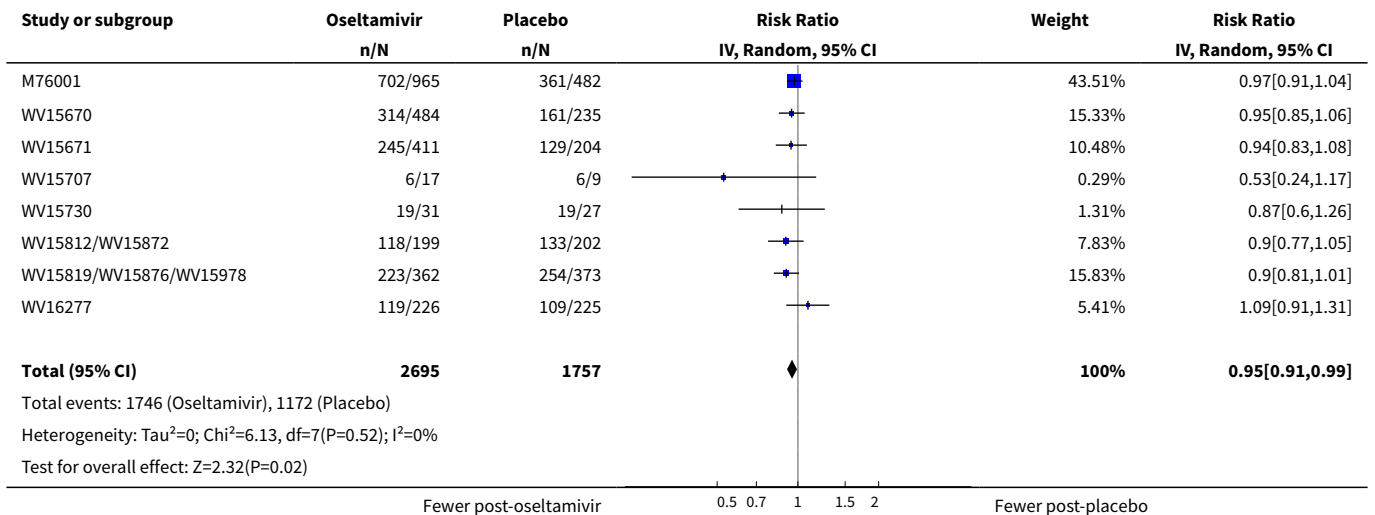
Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 1 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (ITT population).



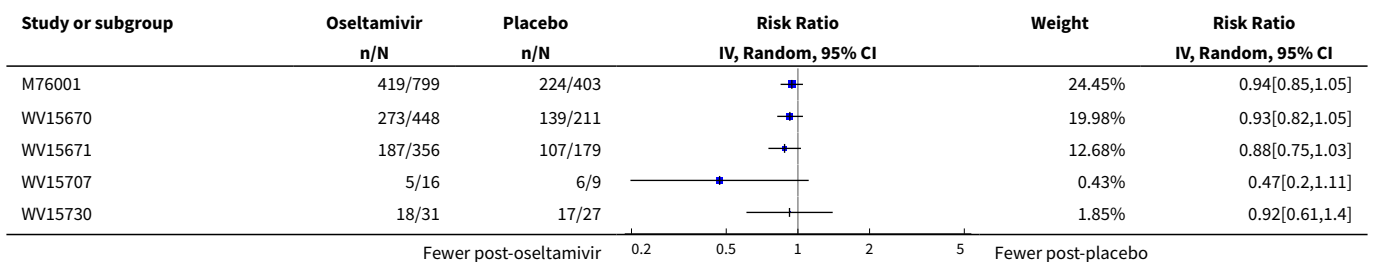
Analysis 1.2. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 2 Hospital admission in adult treatment (safety population).

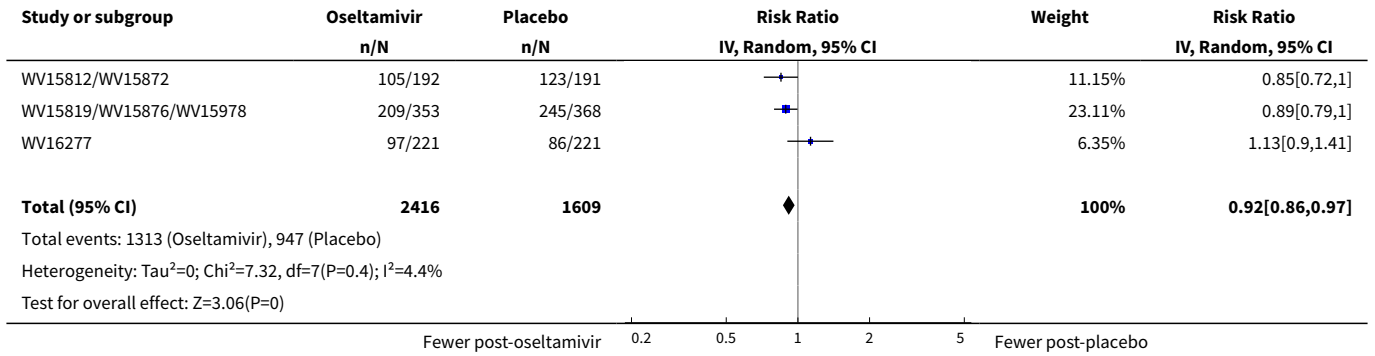


Analysis 1.3. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 3 Defined as influenza-infected at baseline in adult treatment.

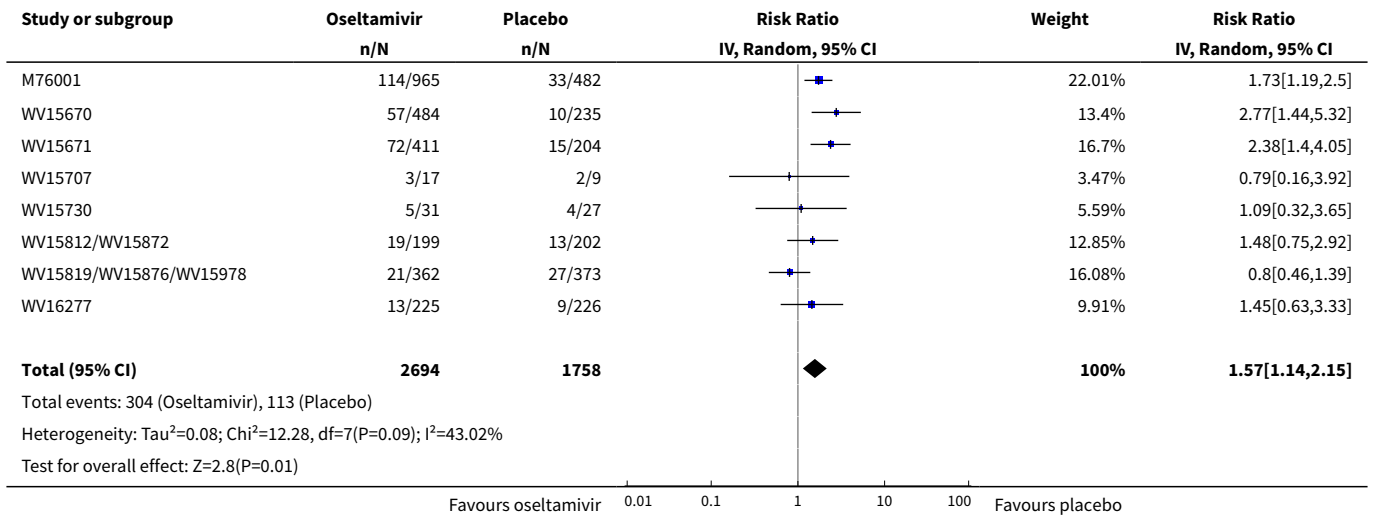


Analysis 1.4. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 4 Antibody rise four-fold or greater in adult treatment.

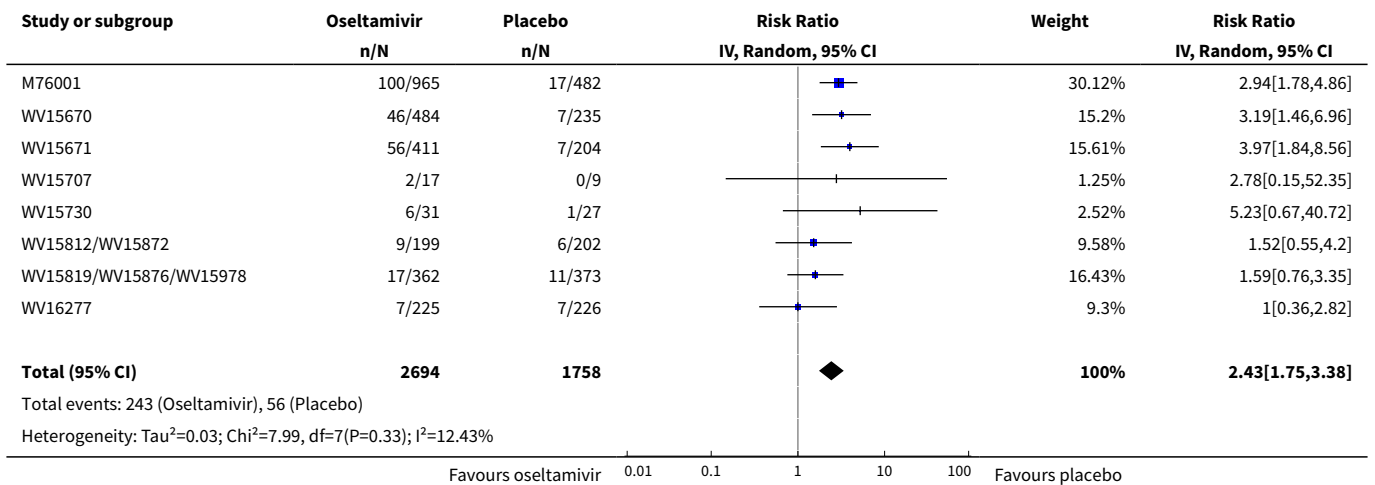


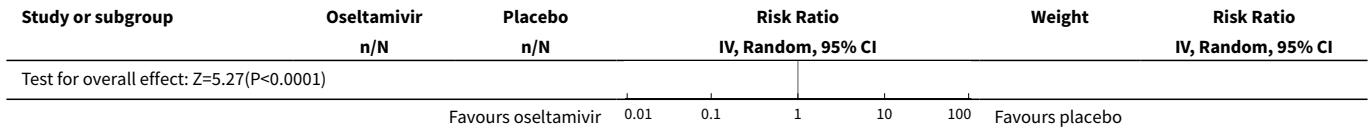


Analysis 1.5. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 5 Adverse events - nausea in adult treatment (on-treatment).

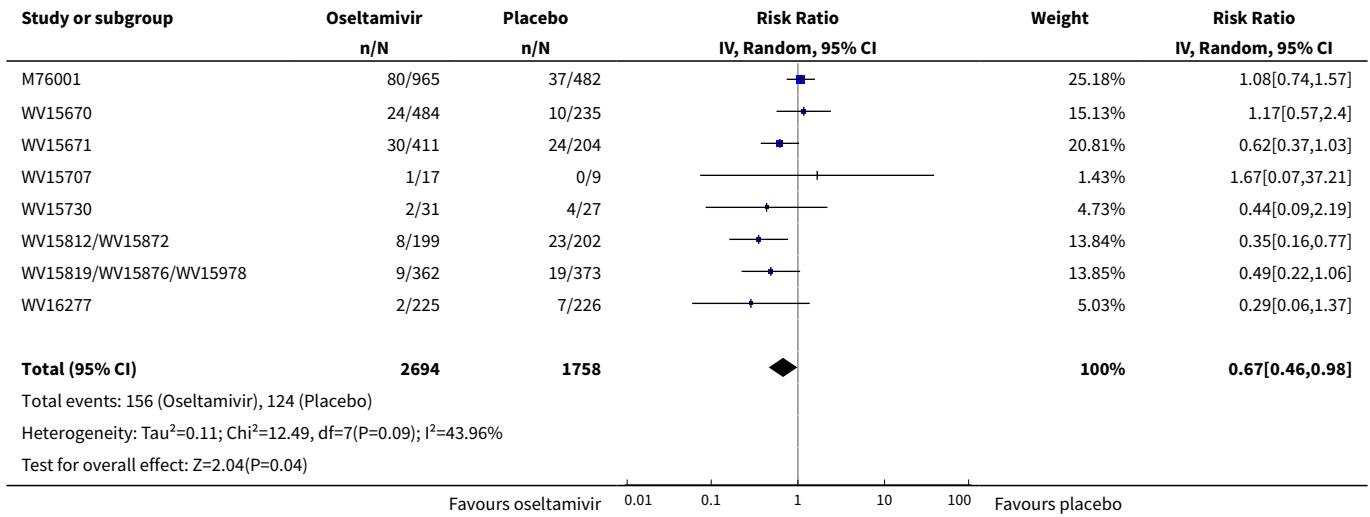


Analysis 1.6. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 6 Adverse events - vomiting in adult treatment (on-treatment).

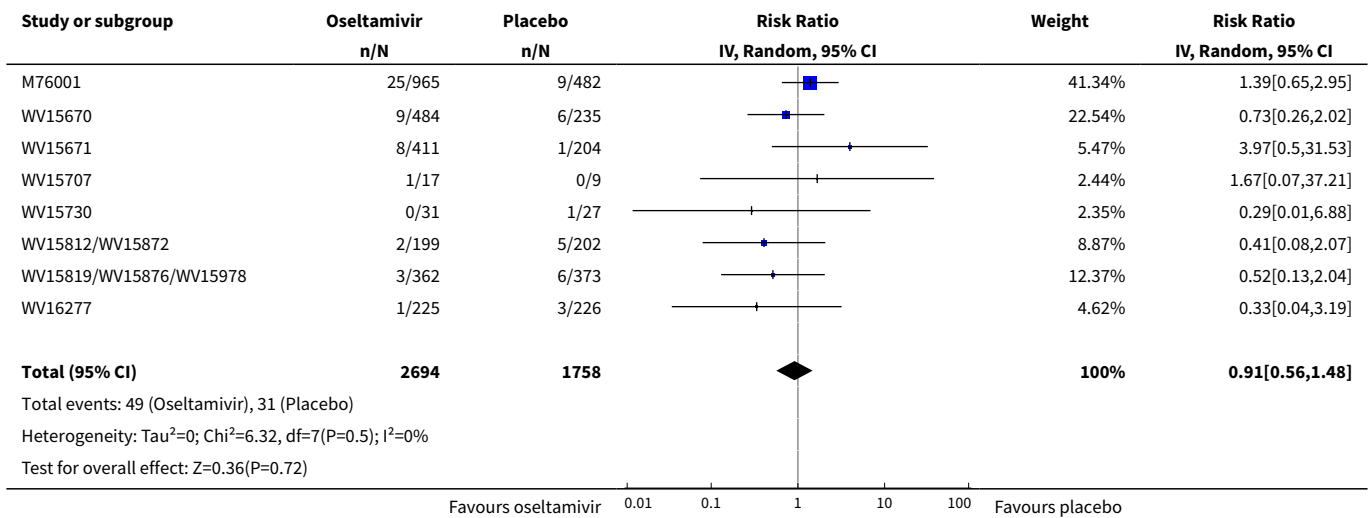




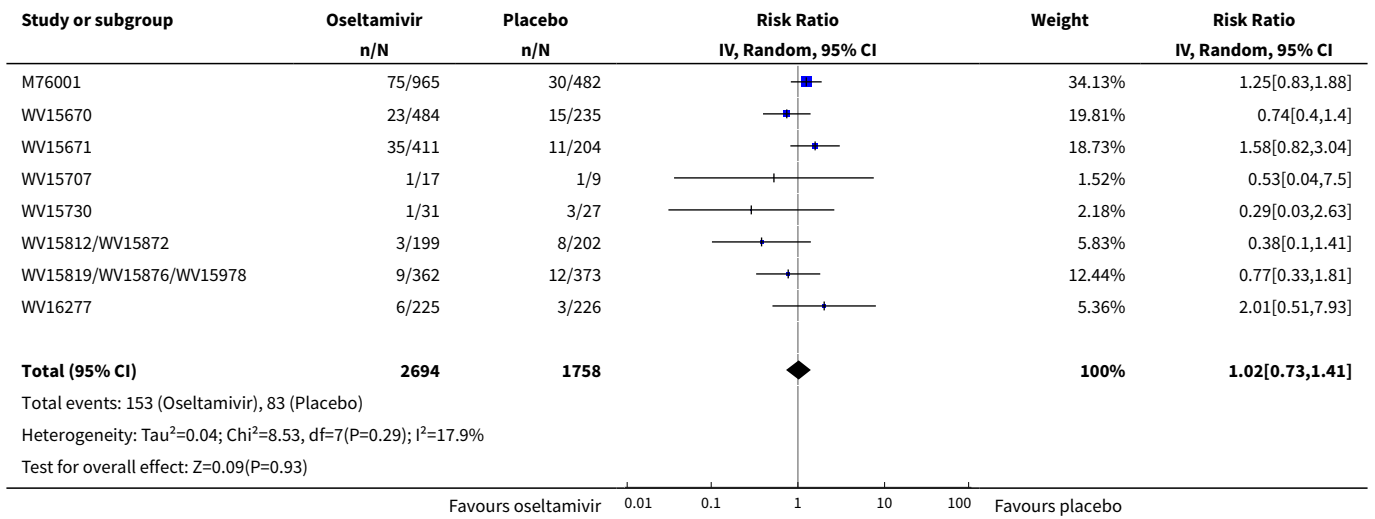
Analysis 1.7. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 7 Adverse events - diarrhoea in adult treatment (on-treatment).



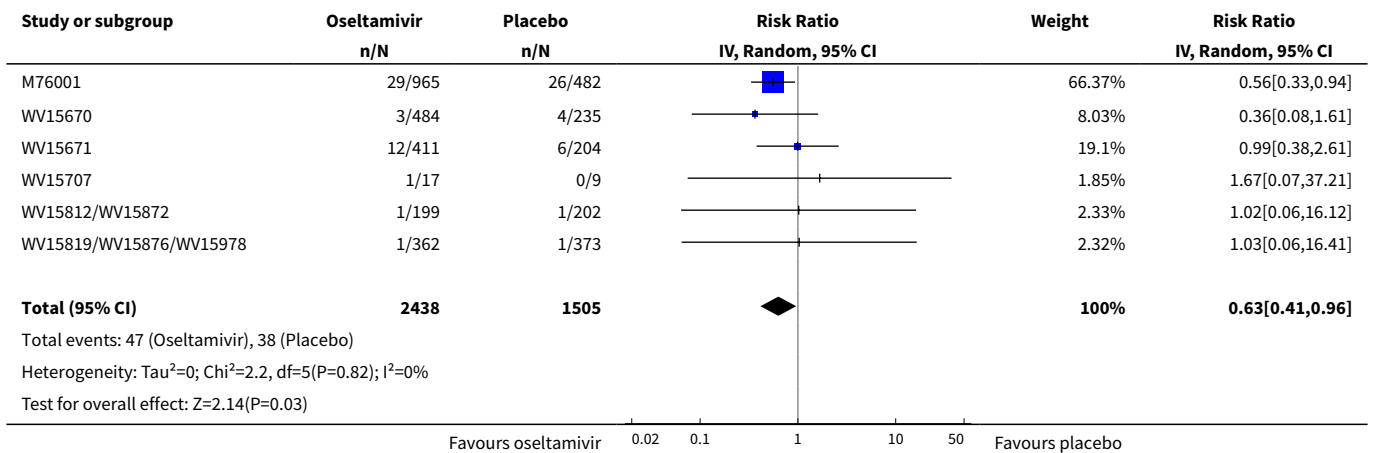
Analysis 1.8. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 8 Withdrawal from adult treatment trial due to adverse events.



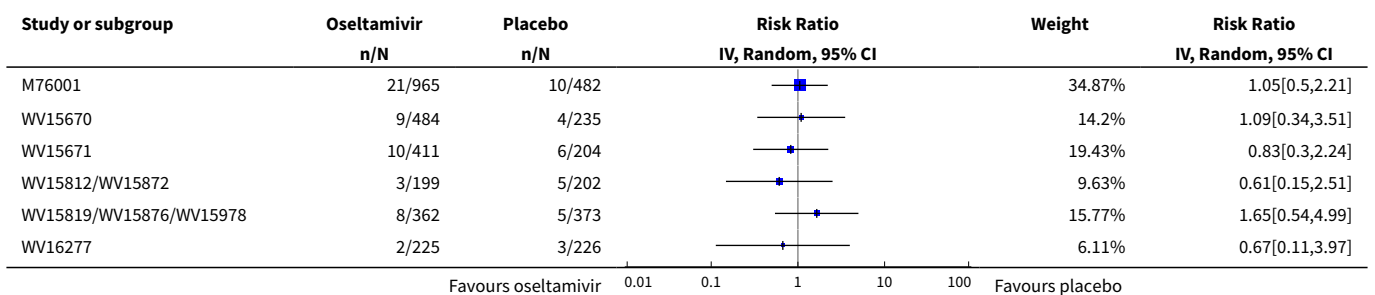
Analysis 1.9. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 9 All withdrawals from adult treatment.

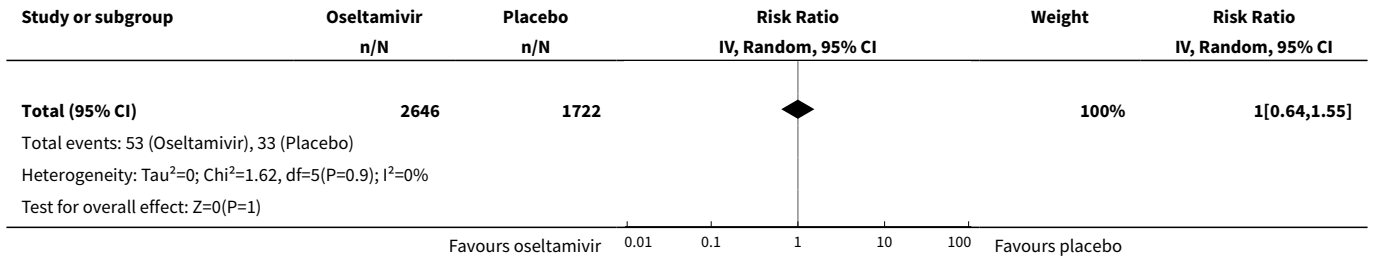


Analysis 1.10. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 10 Adverse events - cough in adult treatment (on-treatment).

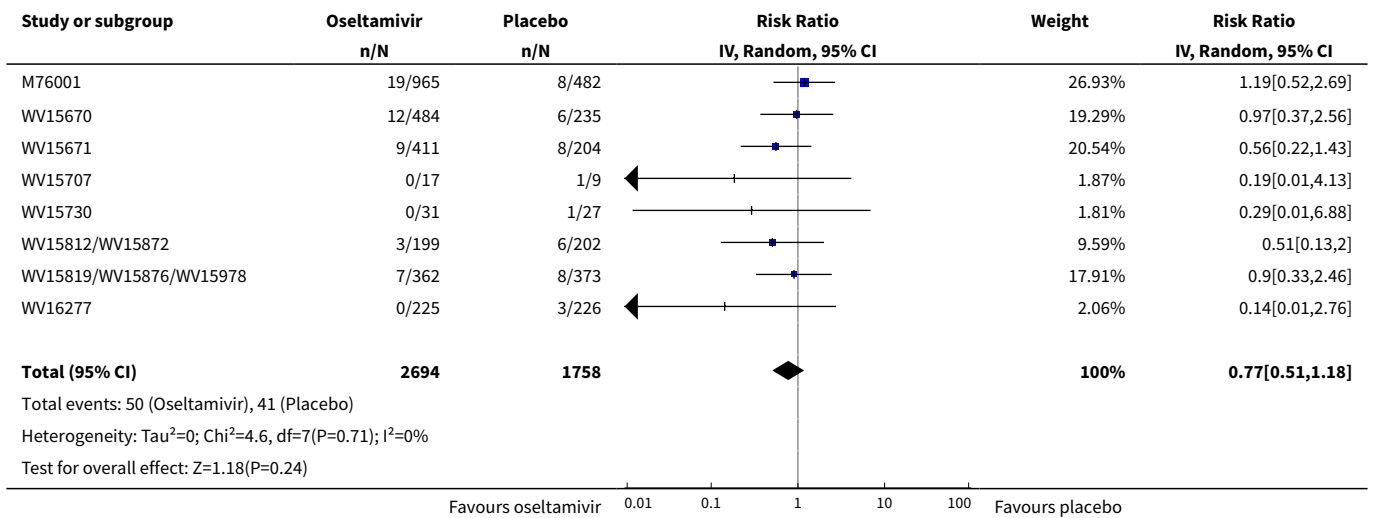


Analysis 1.11. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 11 Adverse events - abdominal pain in adult treatment (on-treatment).

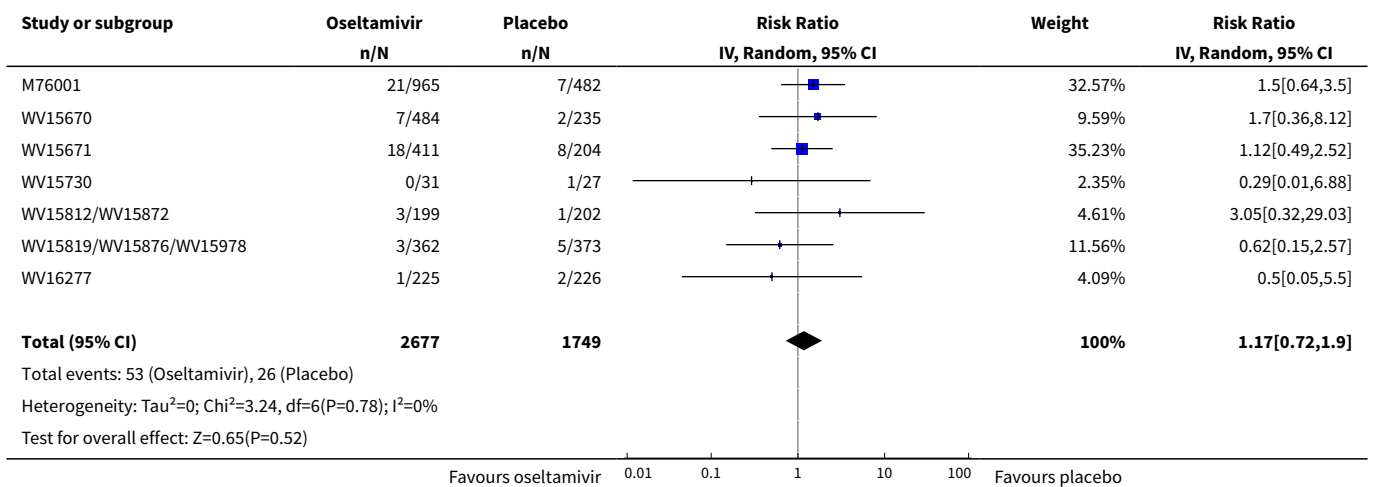




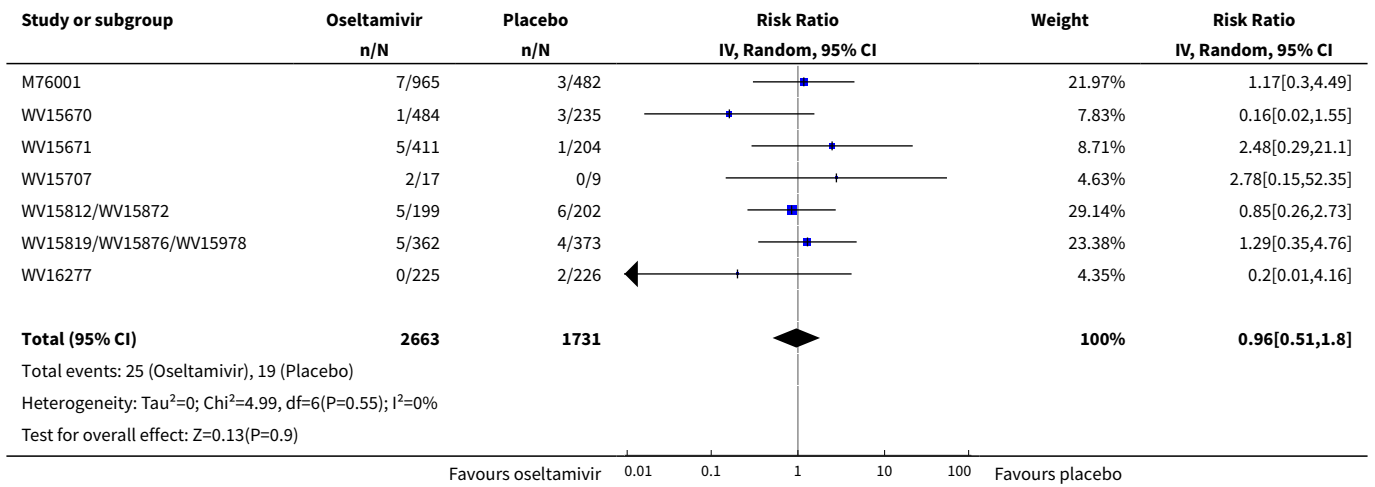
Analysis 1.12. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 12 Adverse events: dizziness in adult treatment (on-treatment).



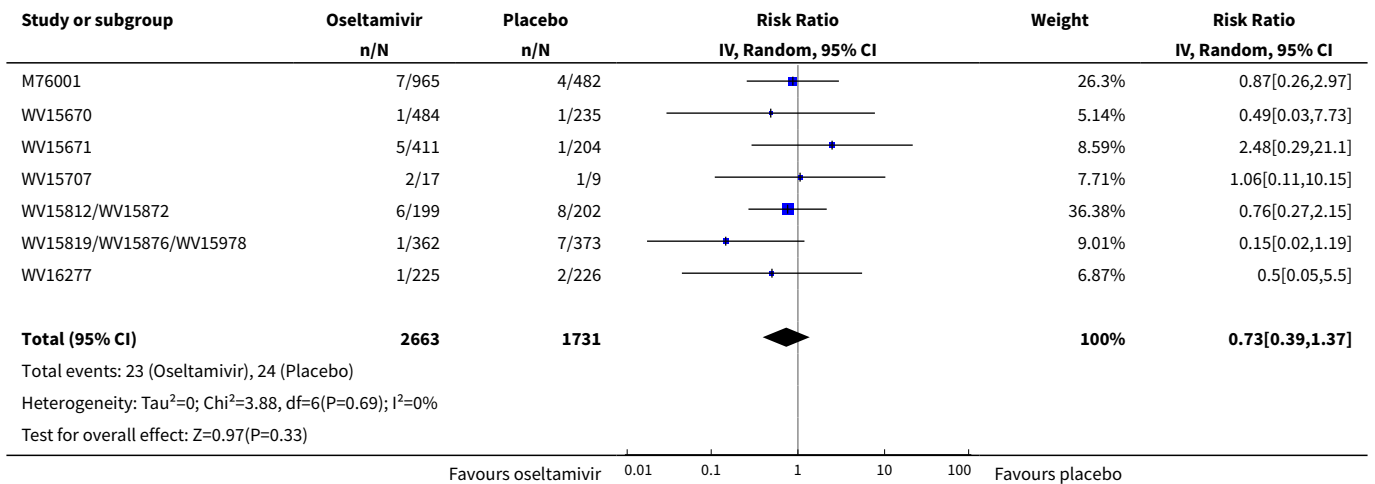
Analysis 1.13. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 13 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (on-treatment).



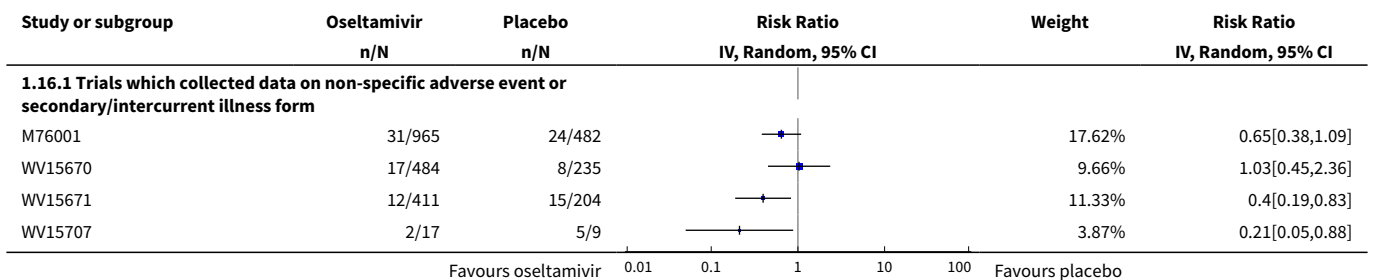
Analysis 1.14. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 14 Serious adverse events: overall in adult treatment (on-treatment).

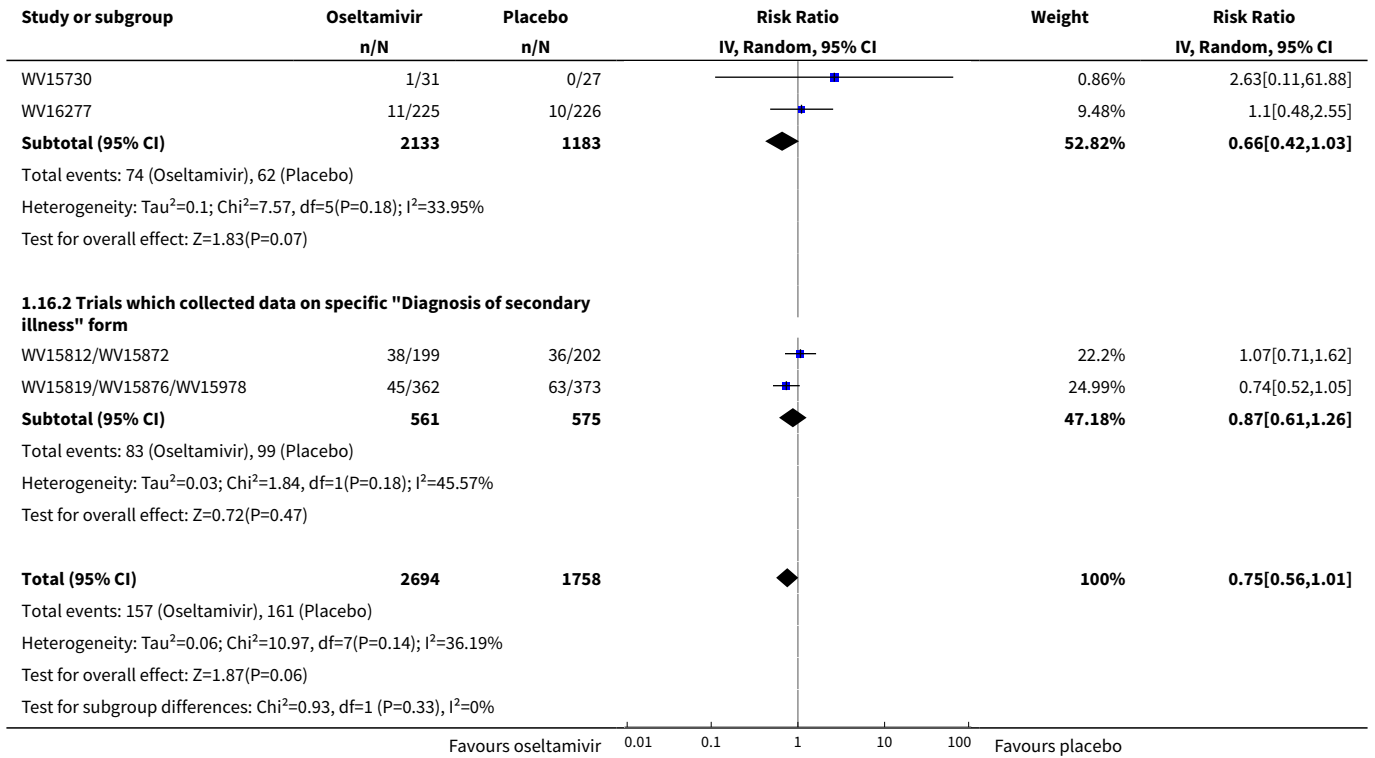


Analysis 1.15. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 15 Serious adverse events: overall in adult treatment (off-treatment).

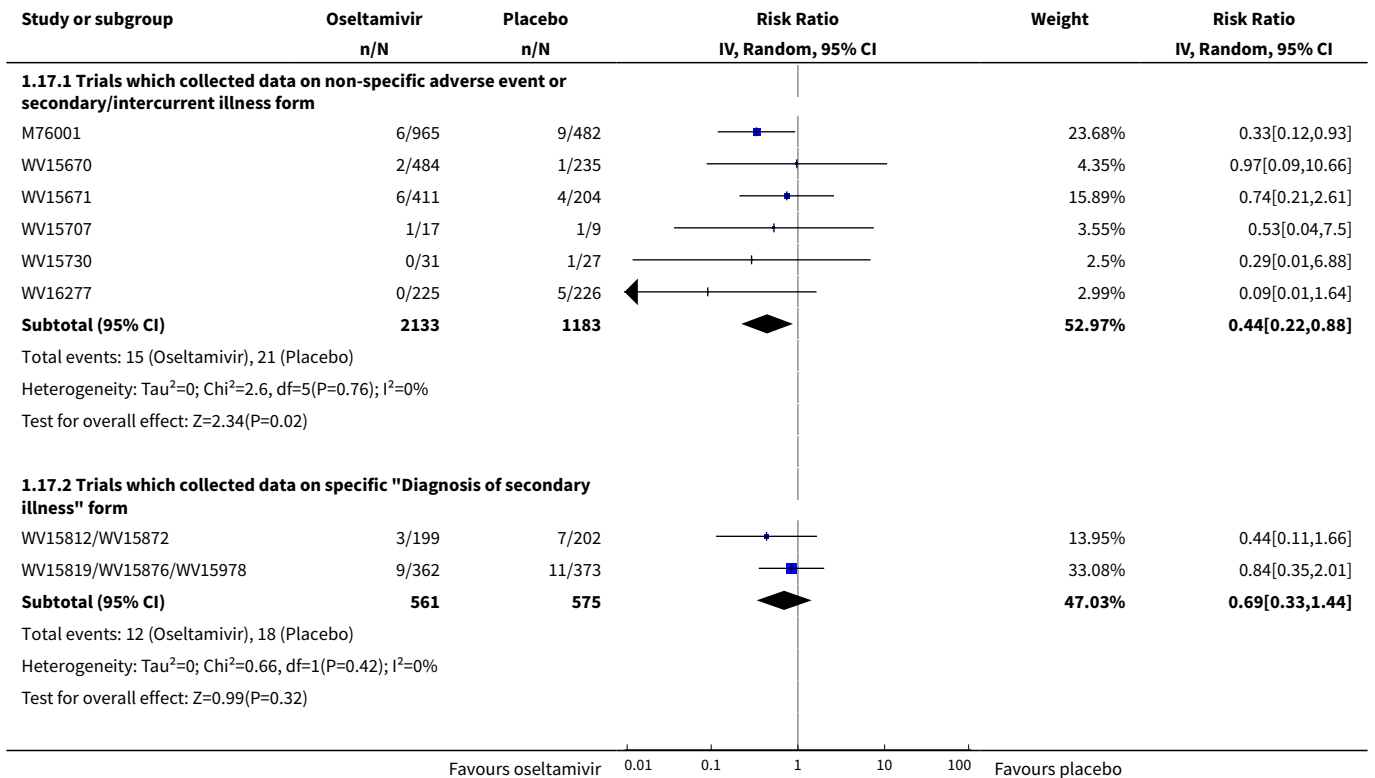


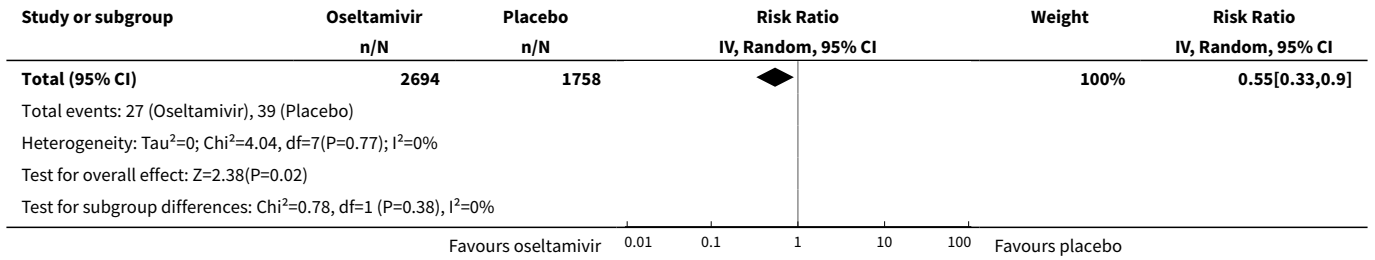
Analysis 1.16. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 16 Complications: bronchitis in adult treatment.



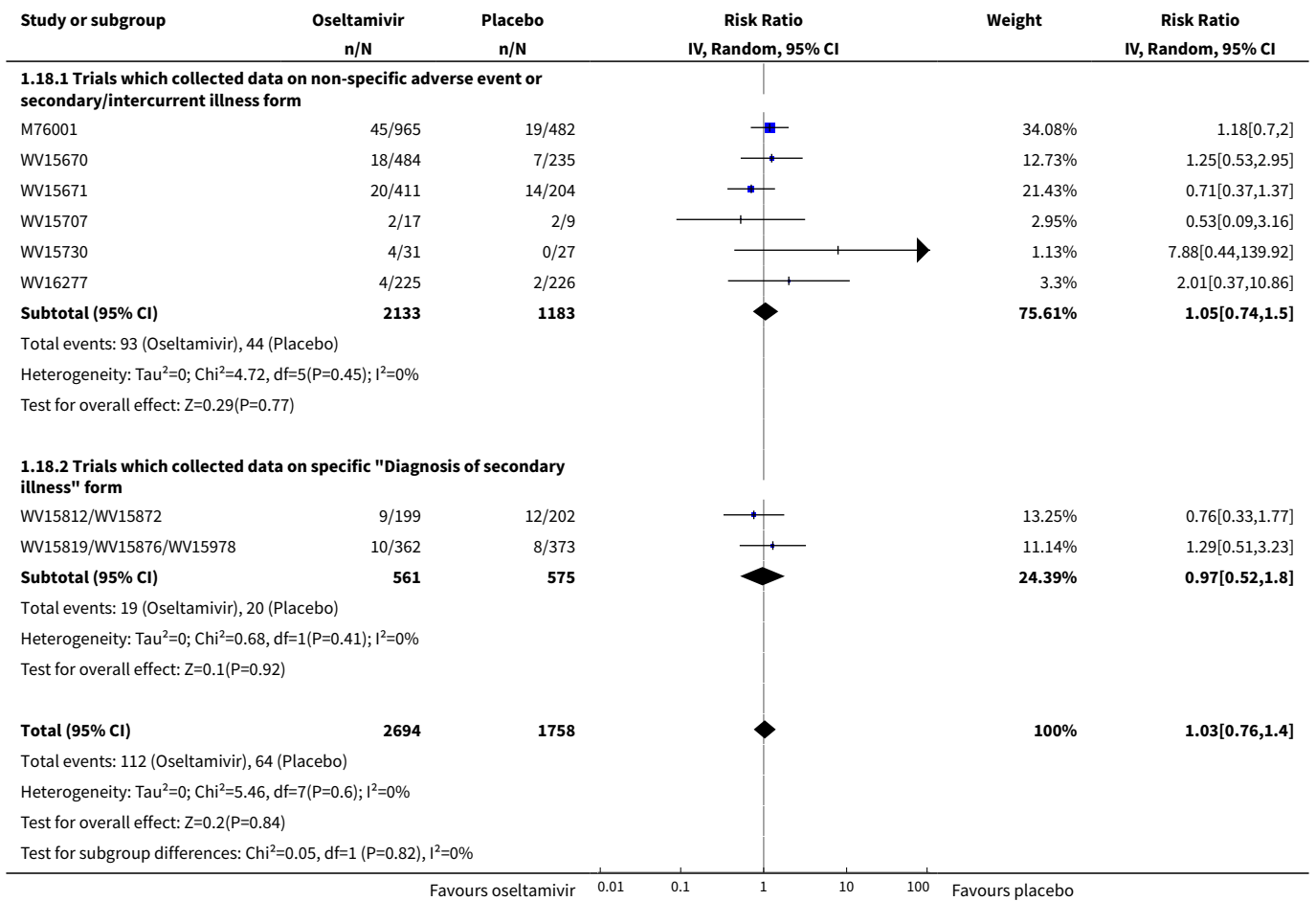


Analysis 1.17. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 17 Complications: pneumonia in adult treatment.

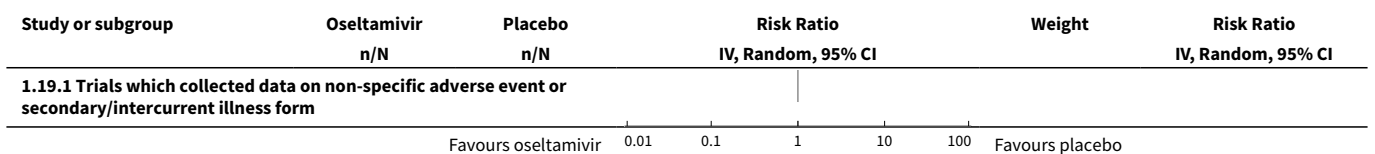


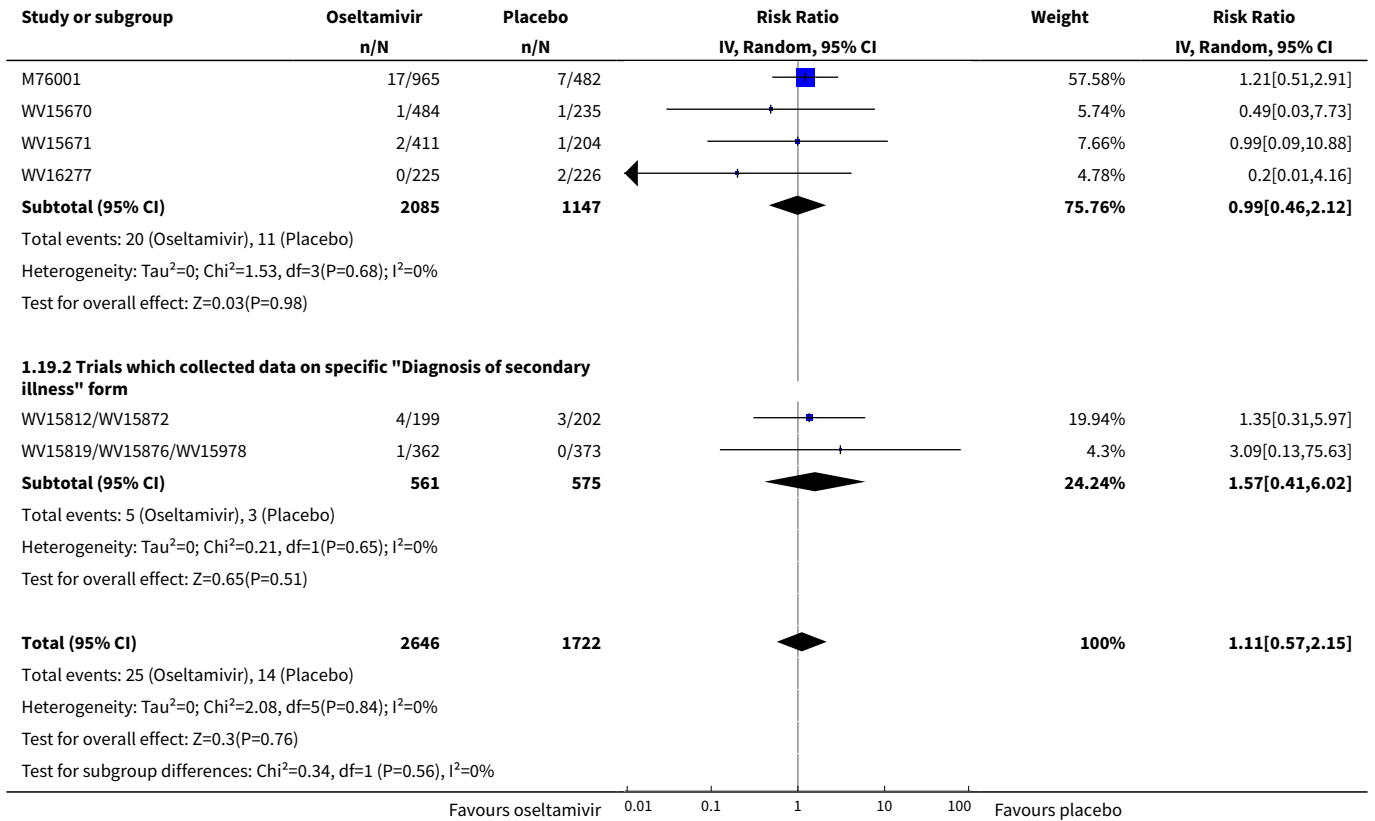


Analysis 1.18. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 18 Complications: sinusitis in adult treatment.

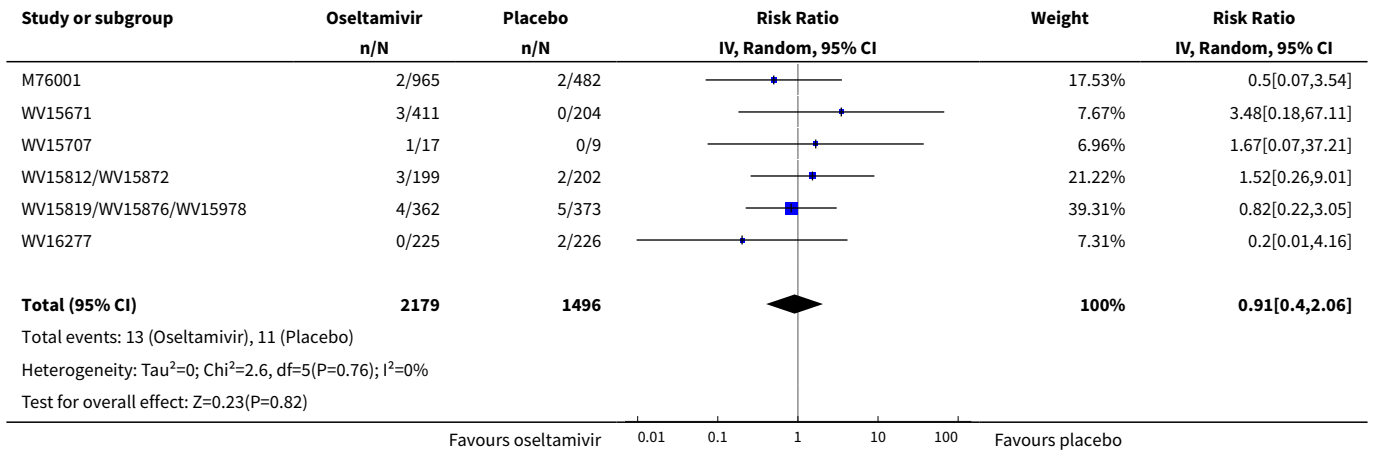


Analysis 1.19. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 19 Complications: otitis media in adult treatment.

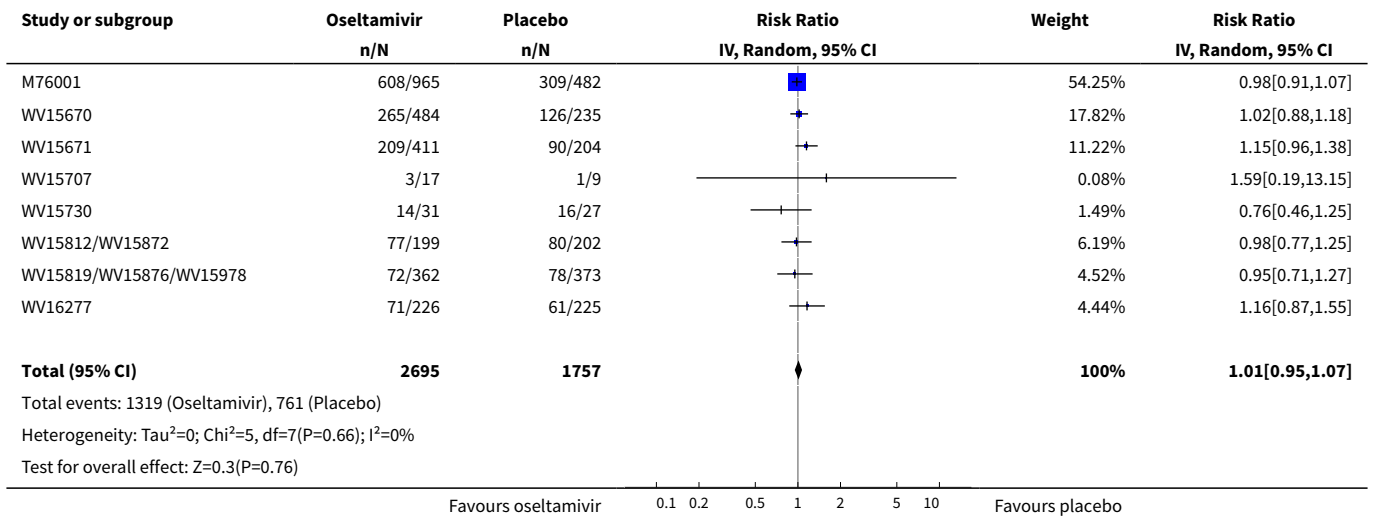




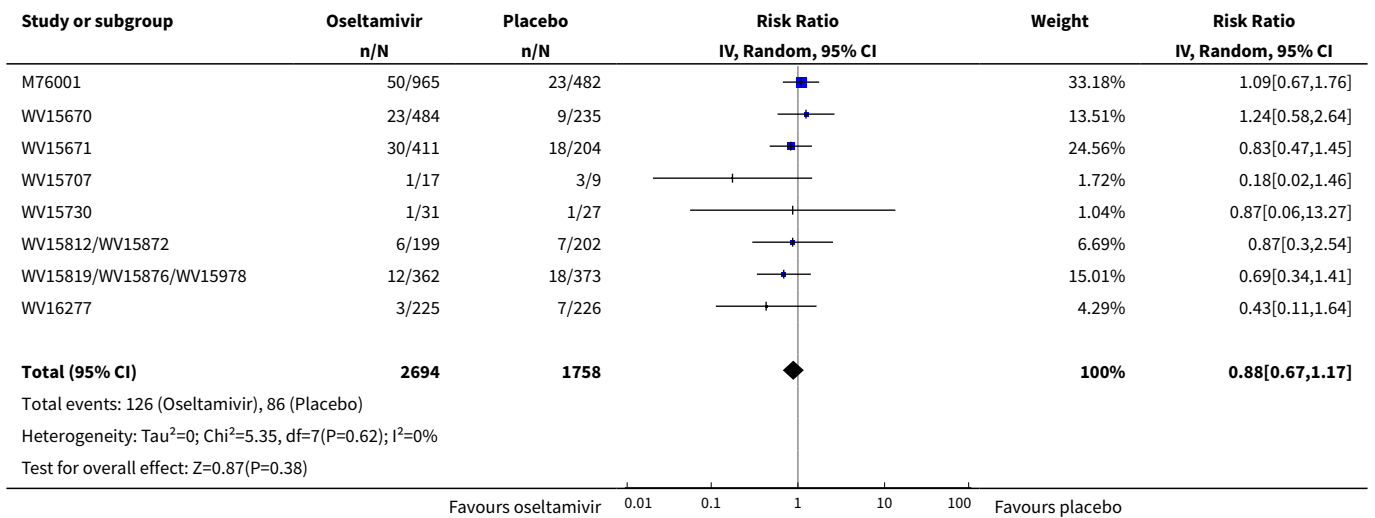
Analysis 1.20. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 20 Complications in adult trials classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal.



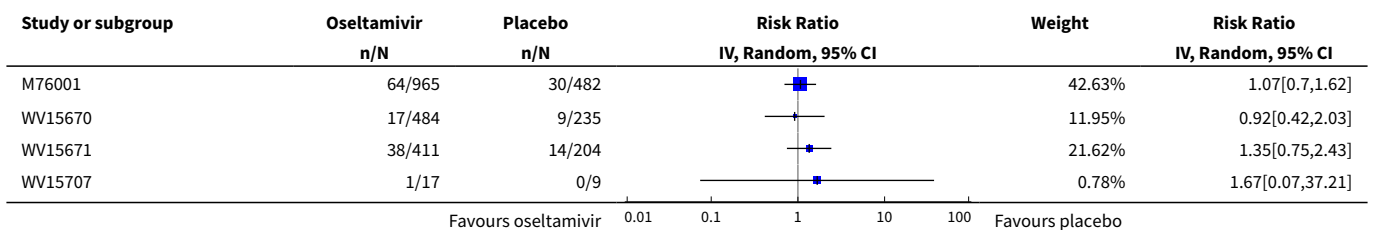
Analysis 1.21. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 21 Culture-positive at baseline in adult treatment.

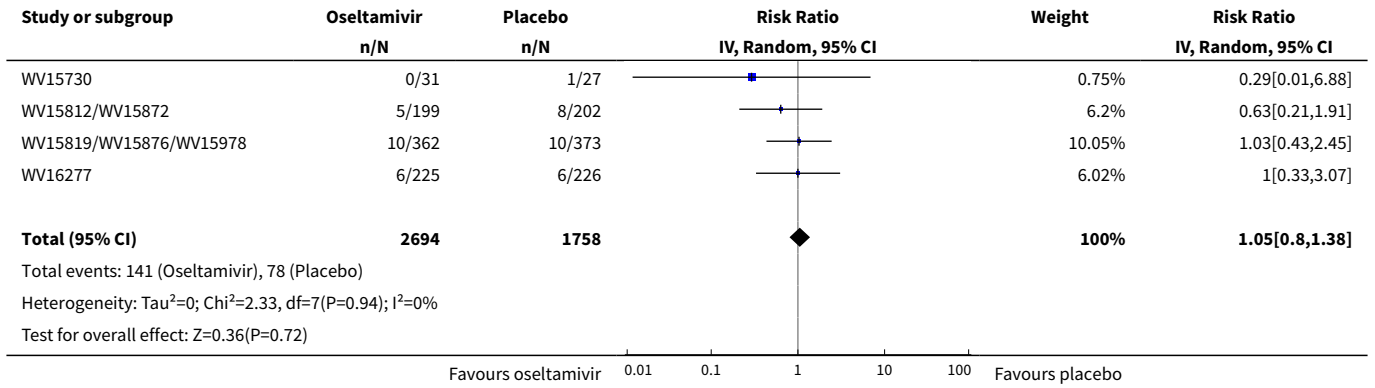


Analysis 1.22. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 22 Adverse events: general body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

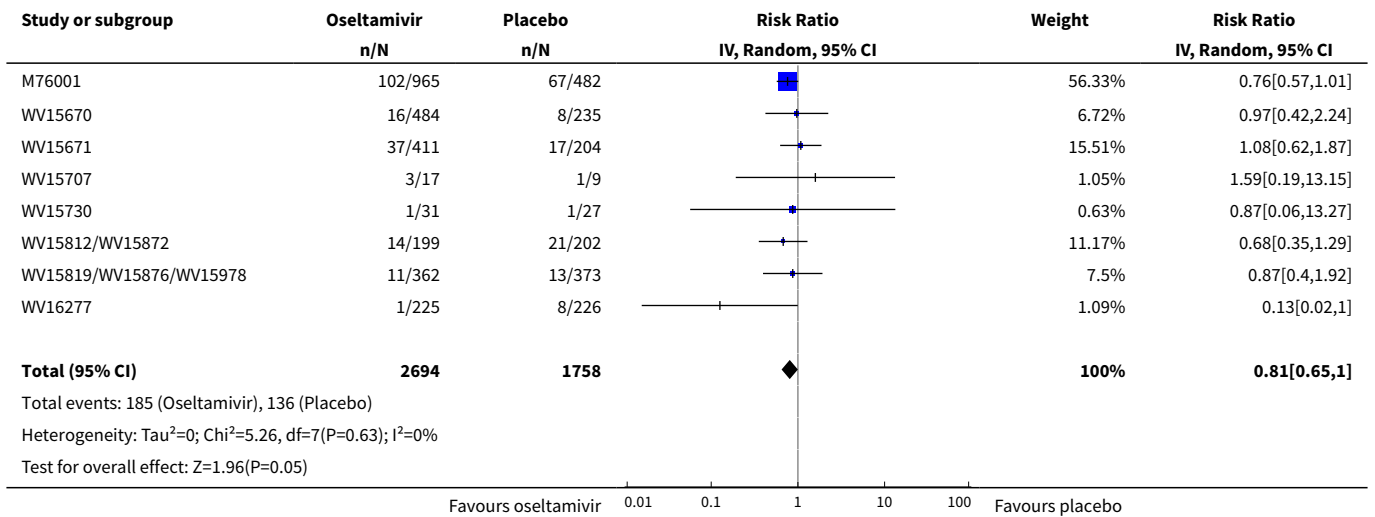


Analysis 1.23. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 23 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

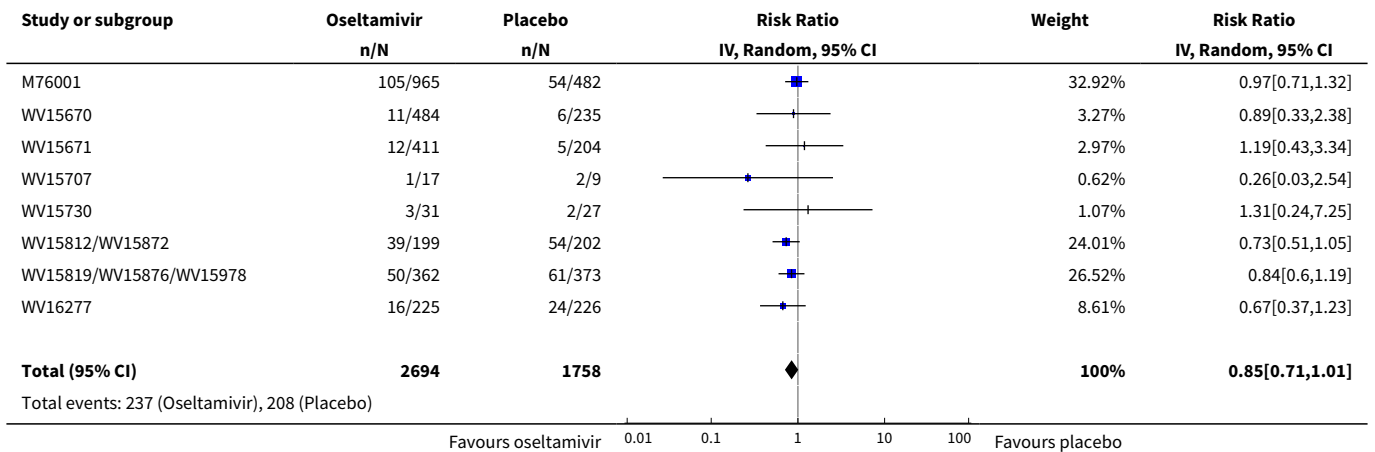


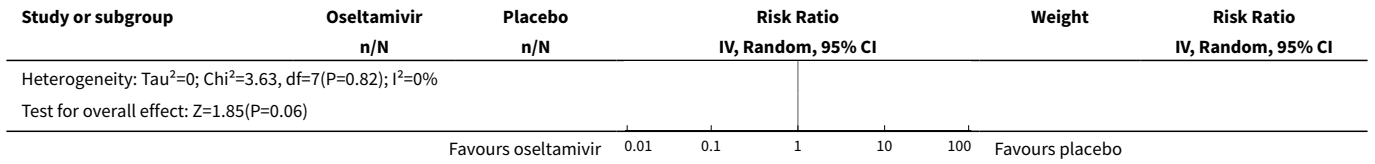


Analysis 1.24. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 24 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

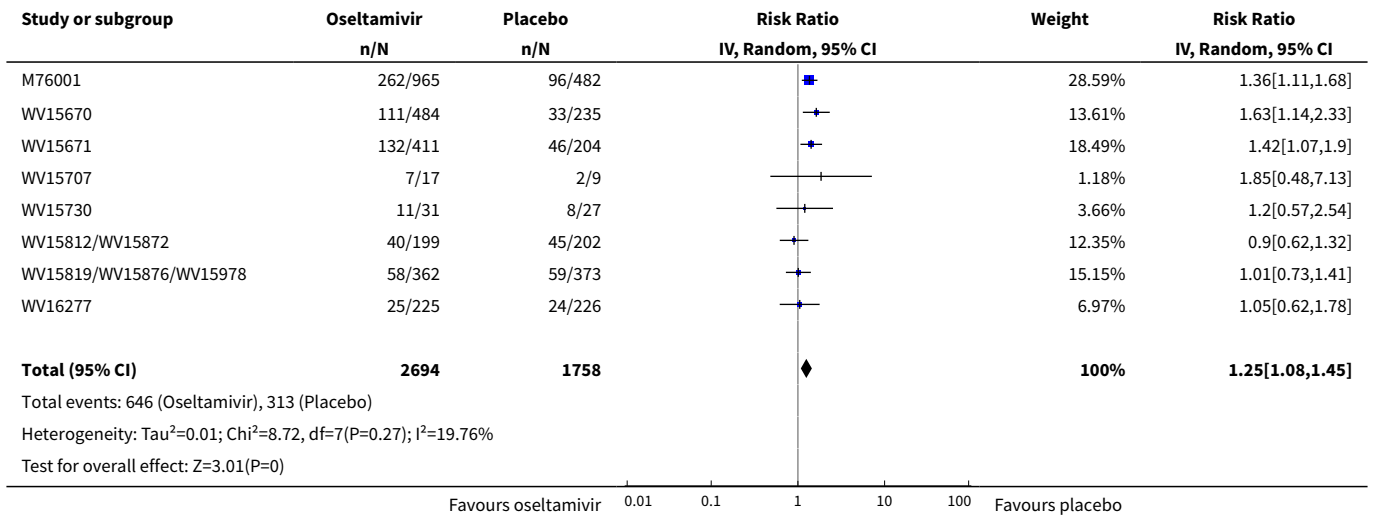


Analysis 1.25. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 25 Adverse events: infection body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

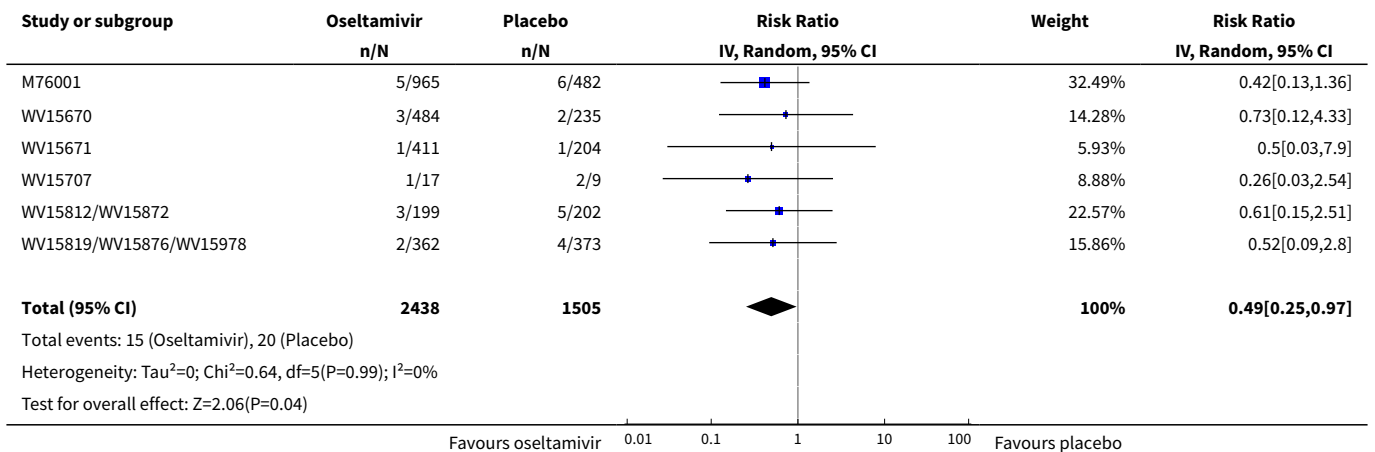




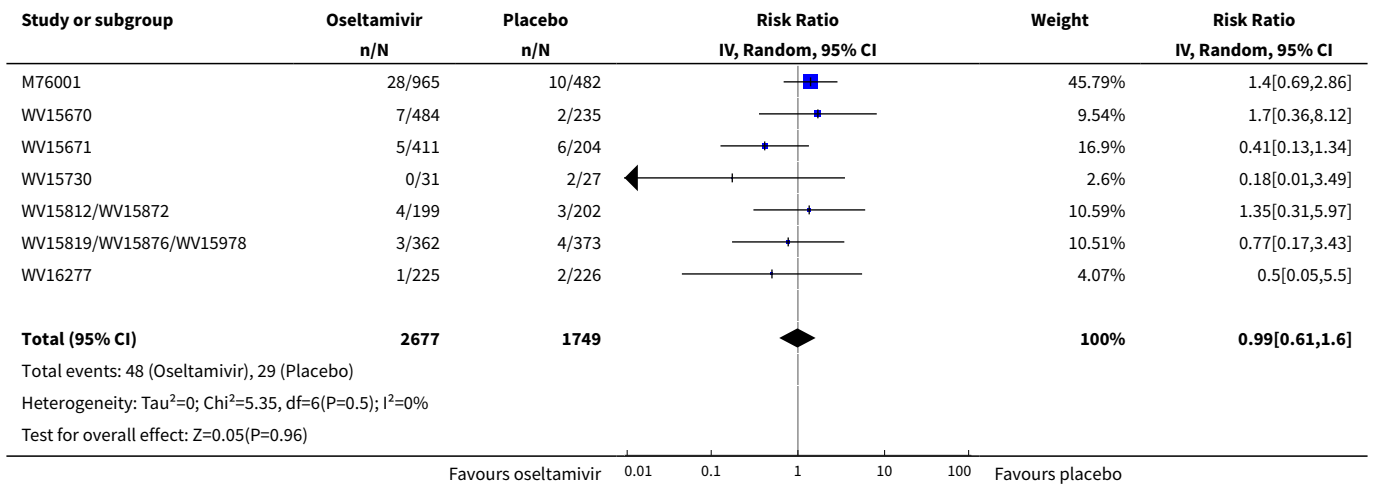
Analysis 1.26. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 26 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



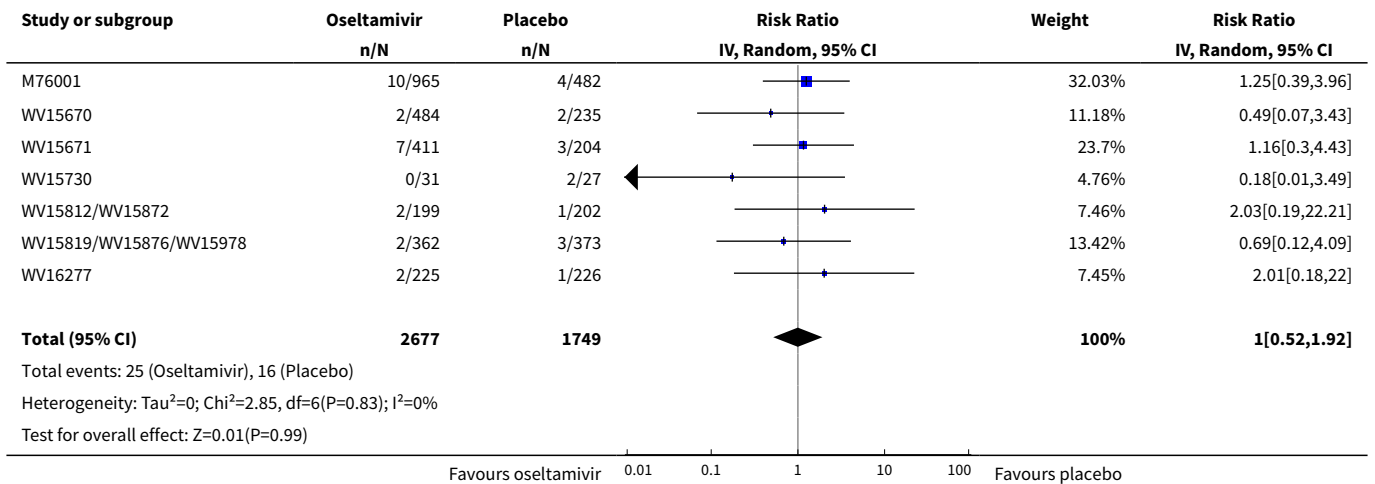
Analysis 1.27. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 27 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



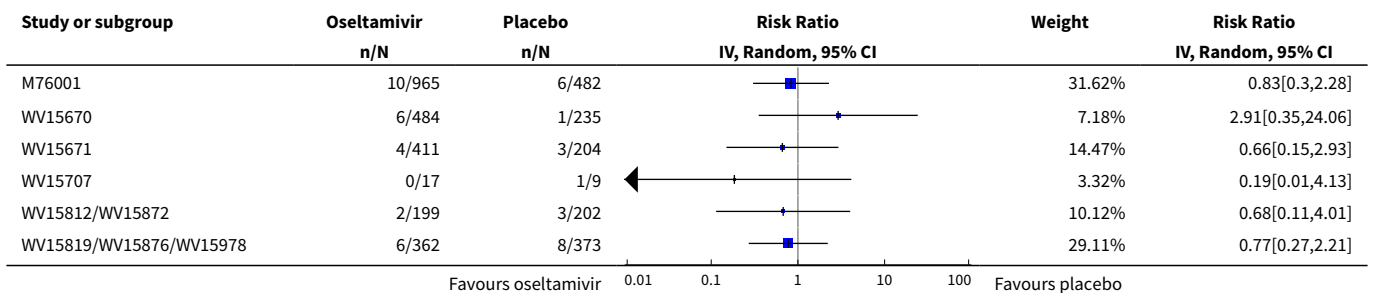
Analysis 1.28. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 28 Adverse events: ear body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

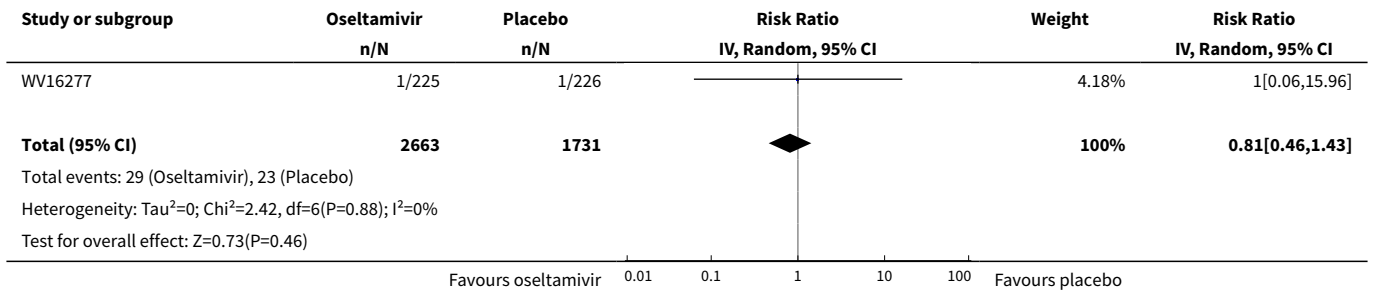


Analysis 1.29. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 29 Adverse events: eye body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

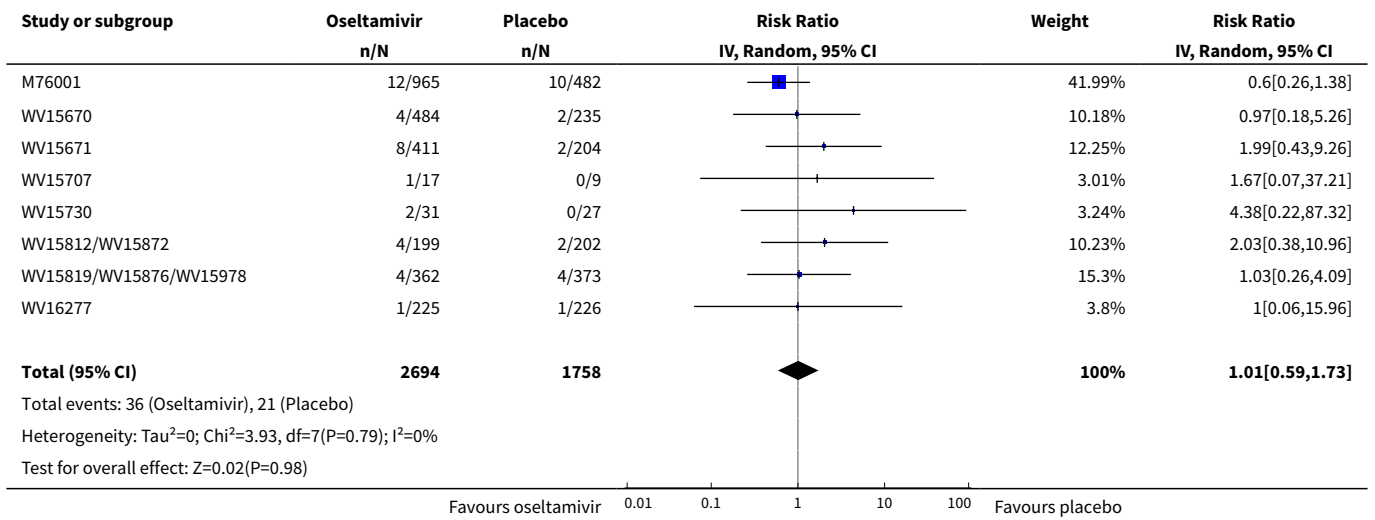


Analysis 1.30. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 30 Adverse events: metabolism body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

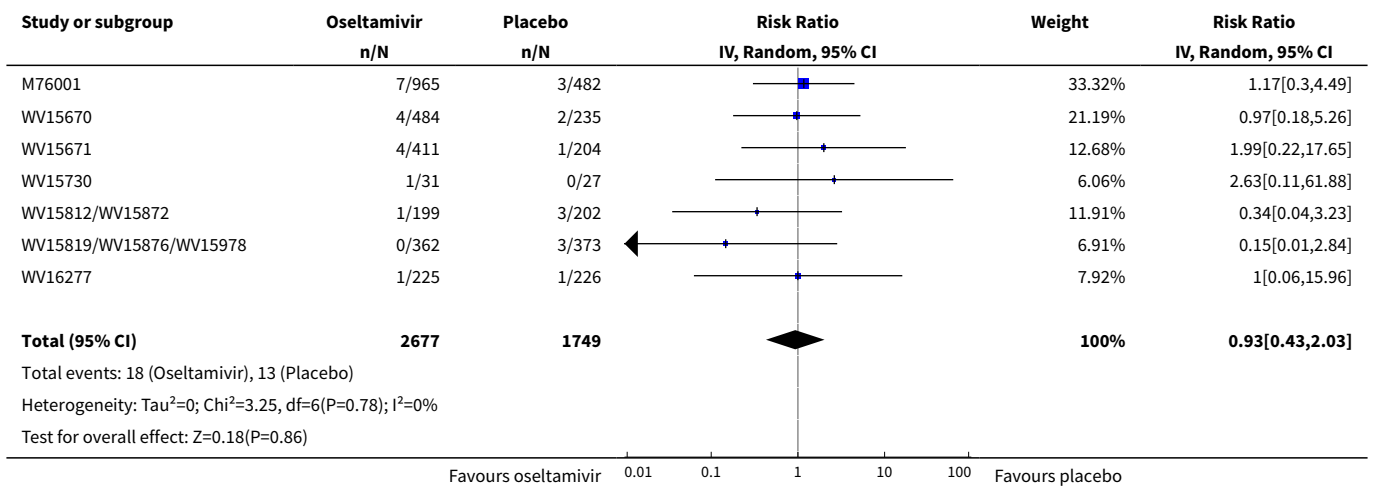




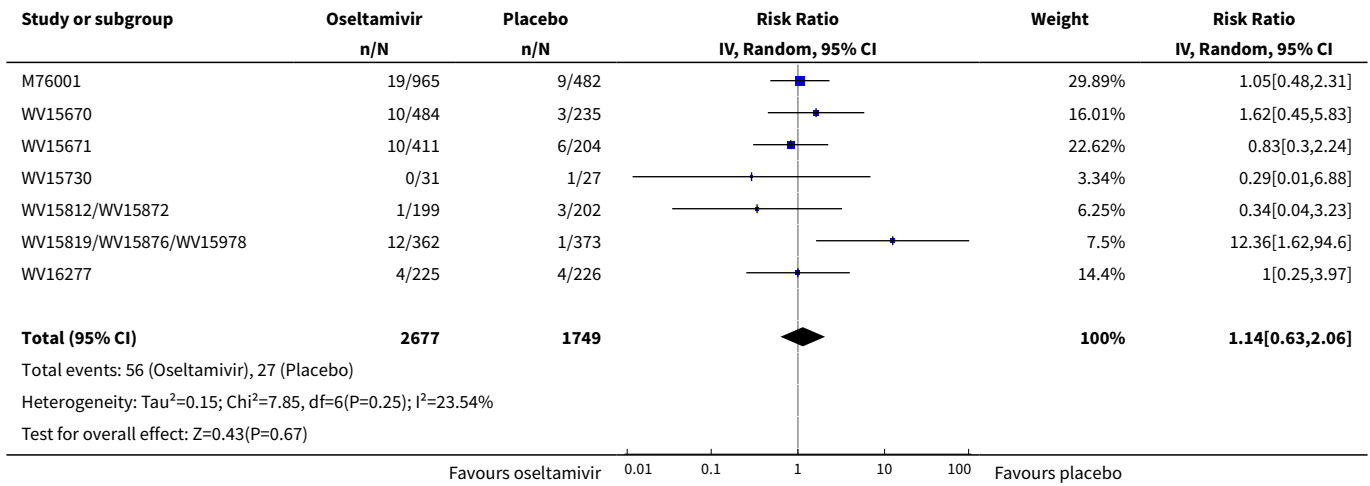
Analysis 1.31. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 31 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



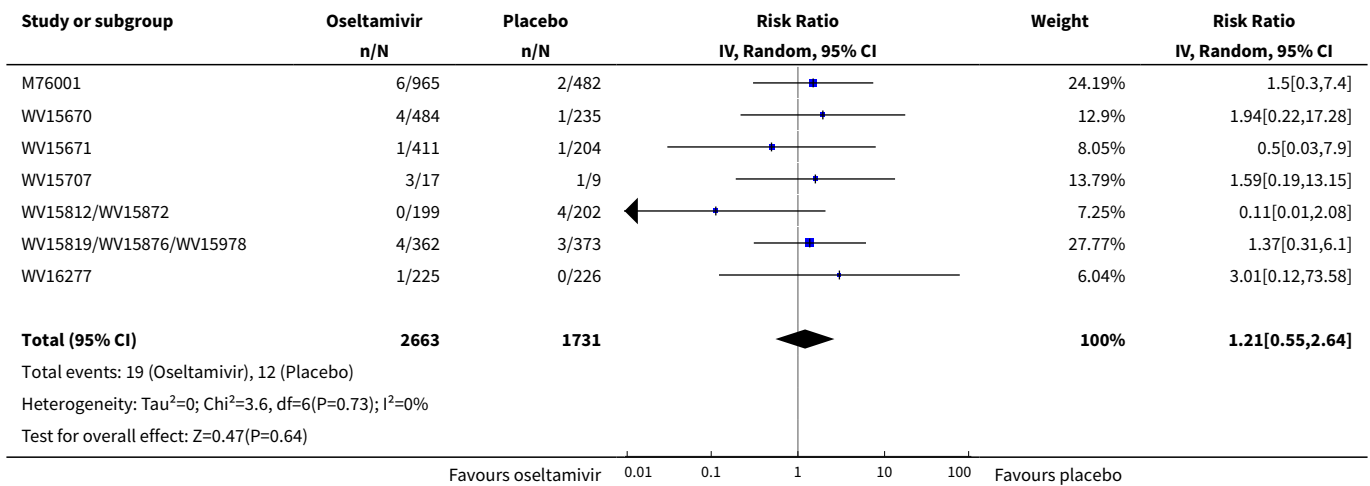
Analysis 1.32. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 32 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



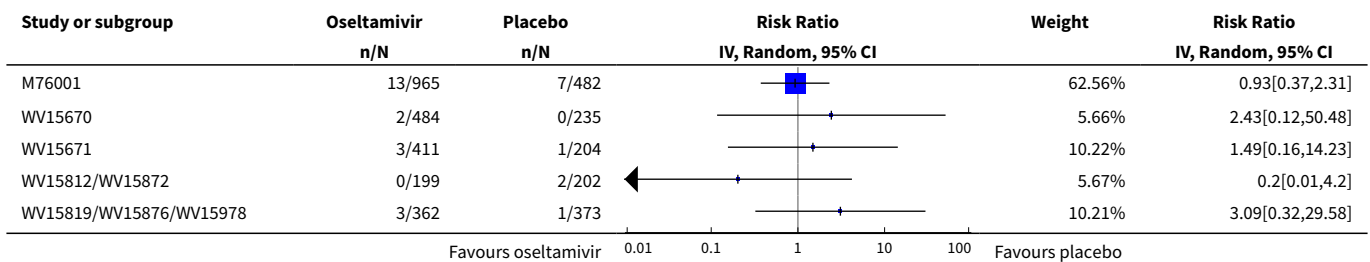
Analysis 1.33. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 33 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

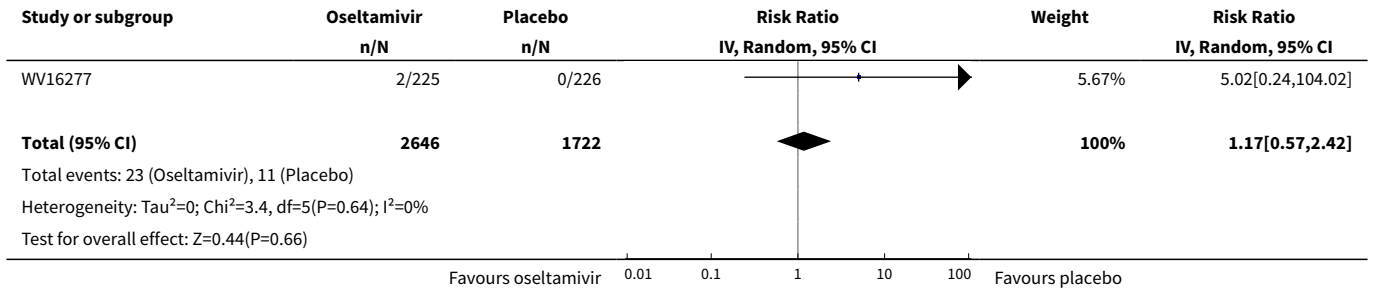


Analysis 1.34. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 34 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

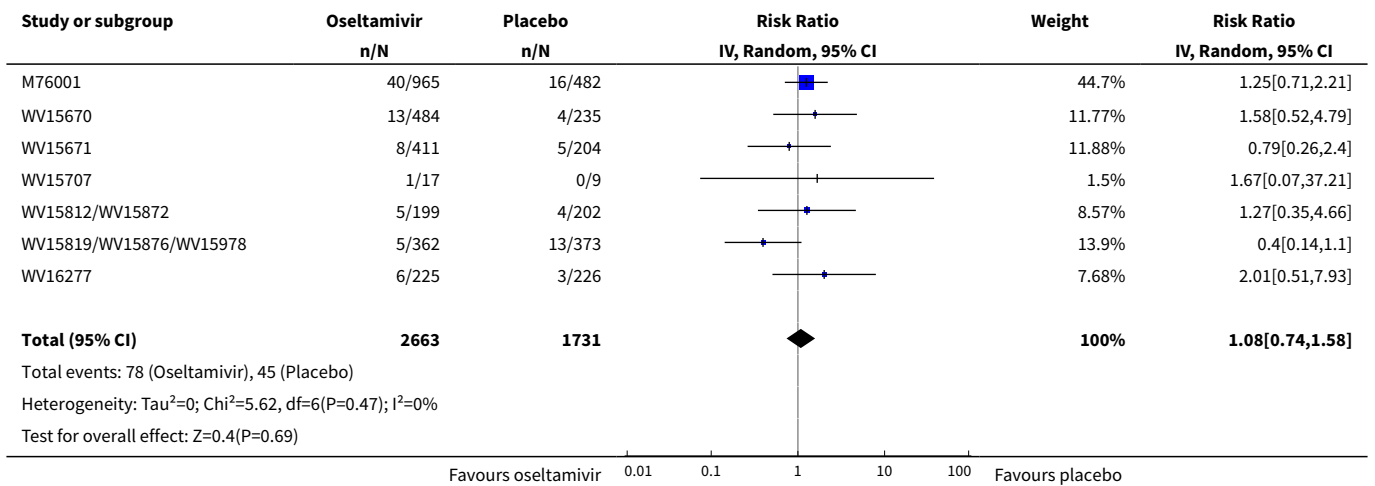


Analysis 1.35. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 35 Adverse events: ear body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

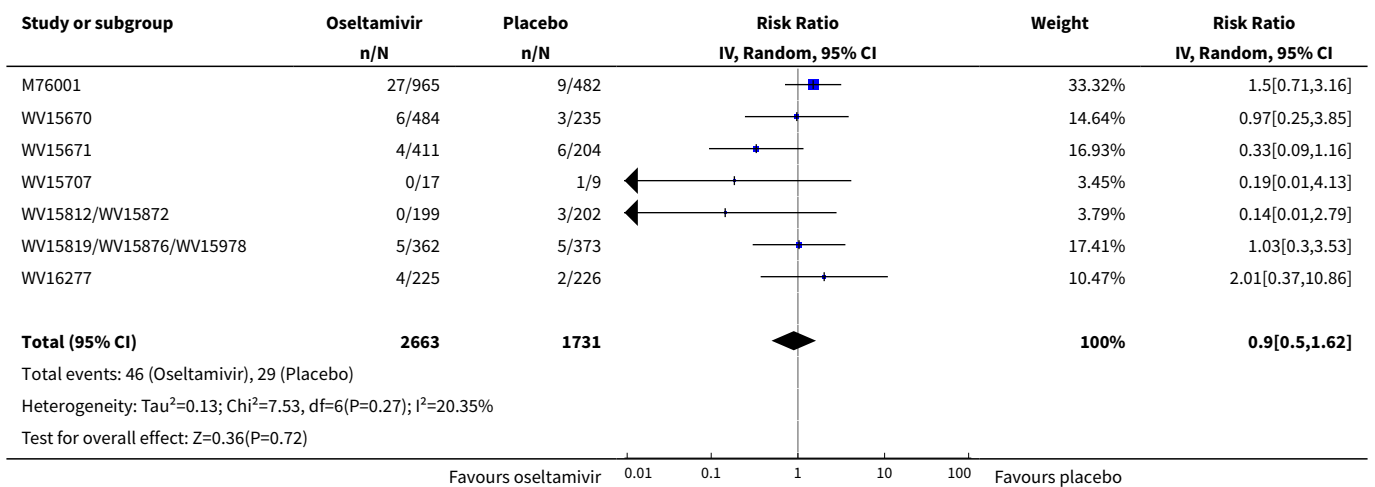




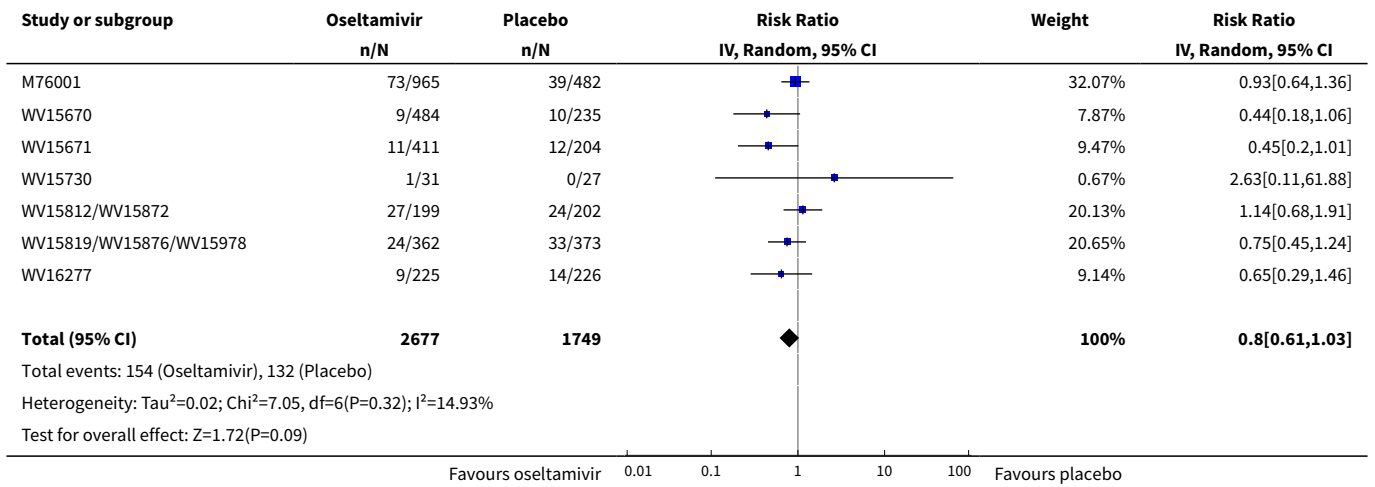
Analysis 1.36. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 36 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).



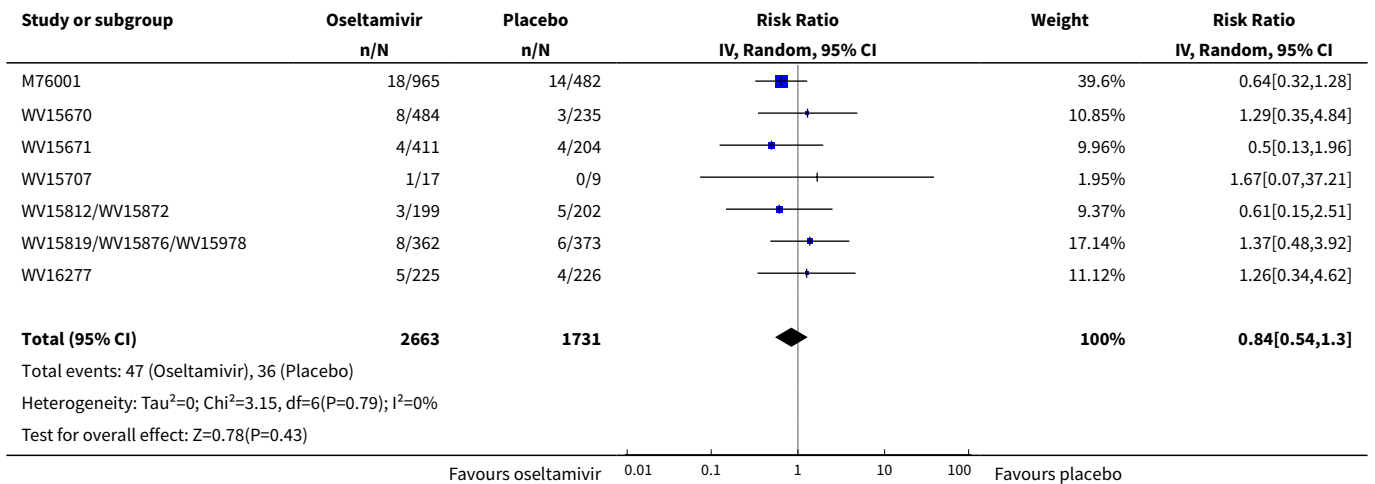
Analysis 1.37. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 37 Adverse events: general body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).



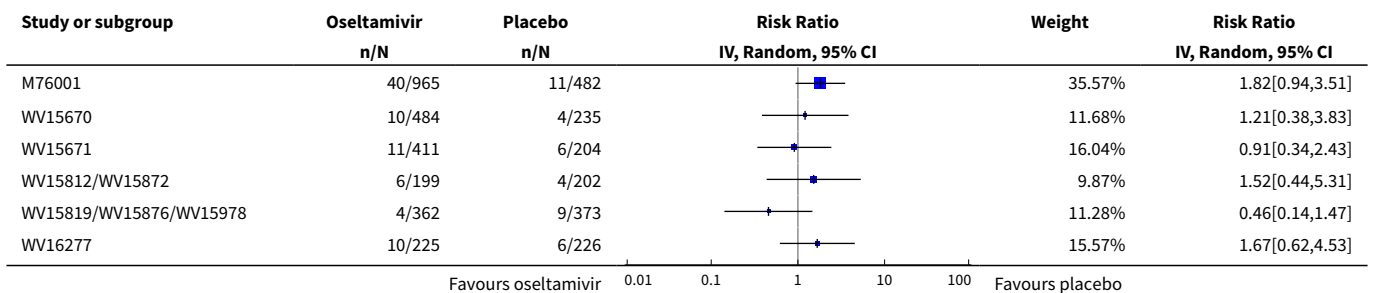
Analysis 1.38. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 38 Adverse events: infection body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

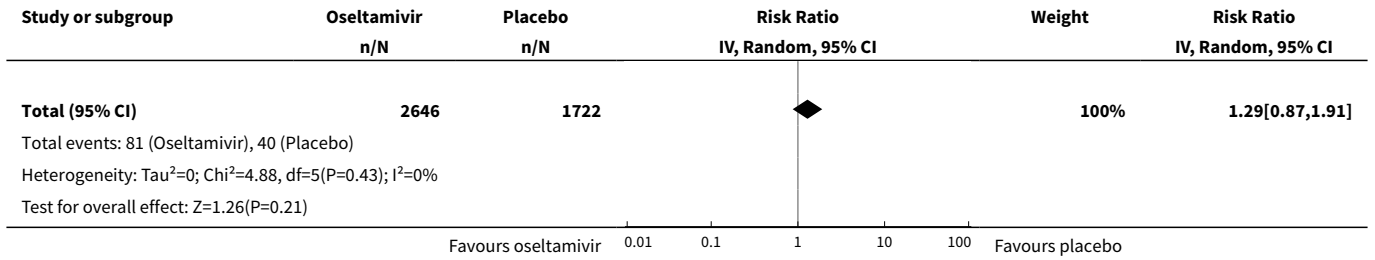


Analysis 1.39. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 39 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

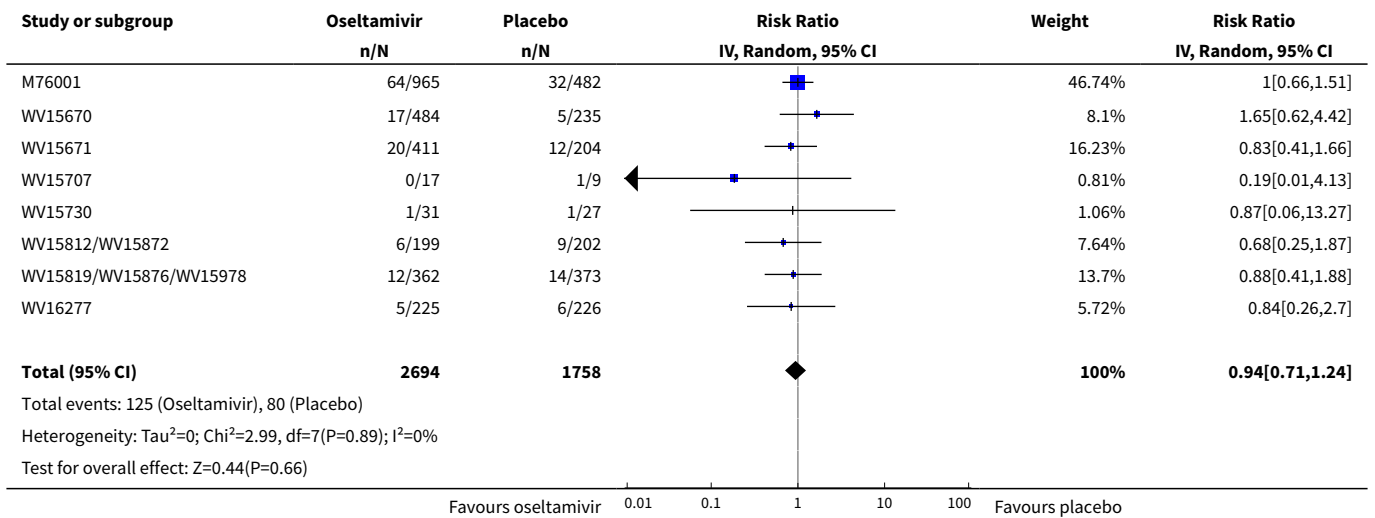


Analysis 1.40. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 40 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

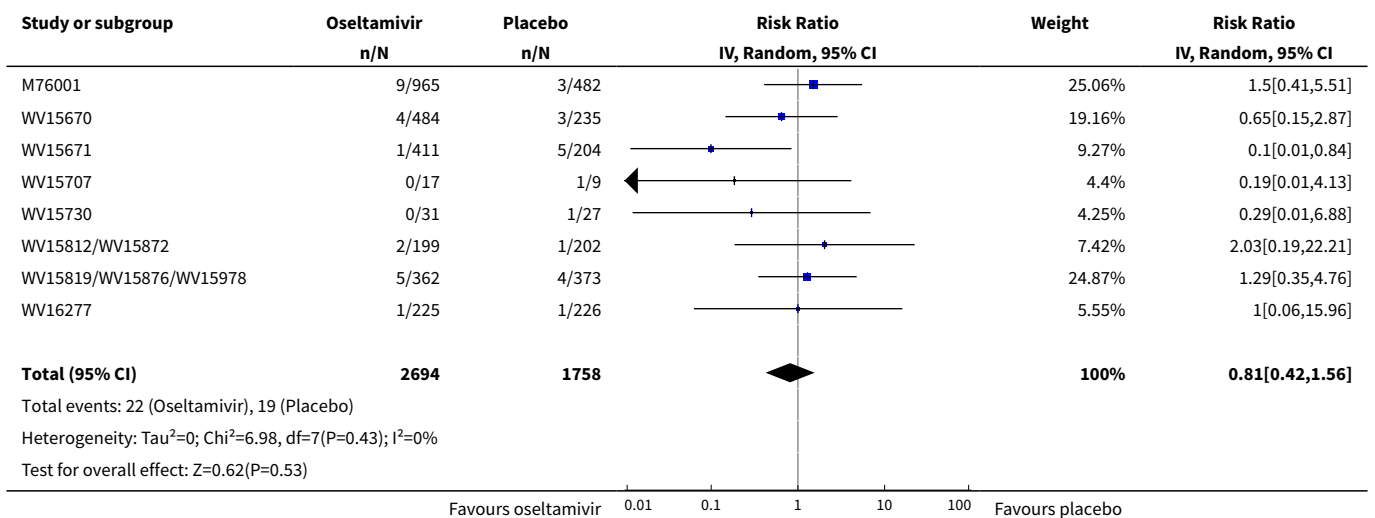




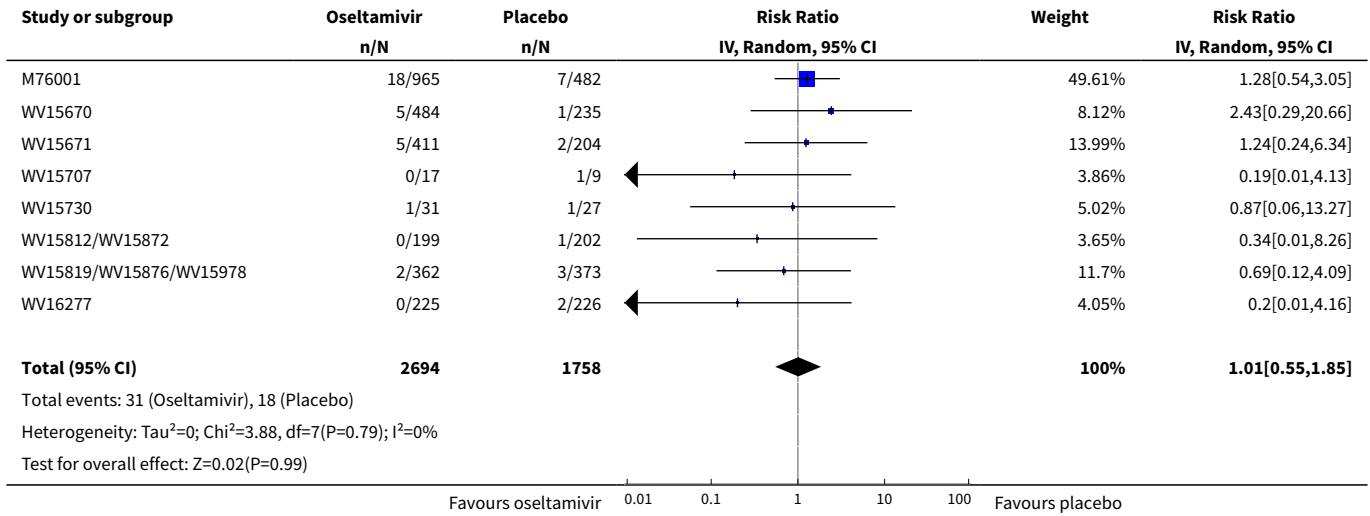
Analysis 1.41. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 41 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).



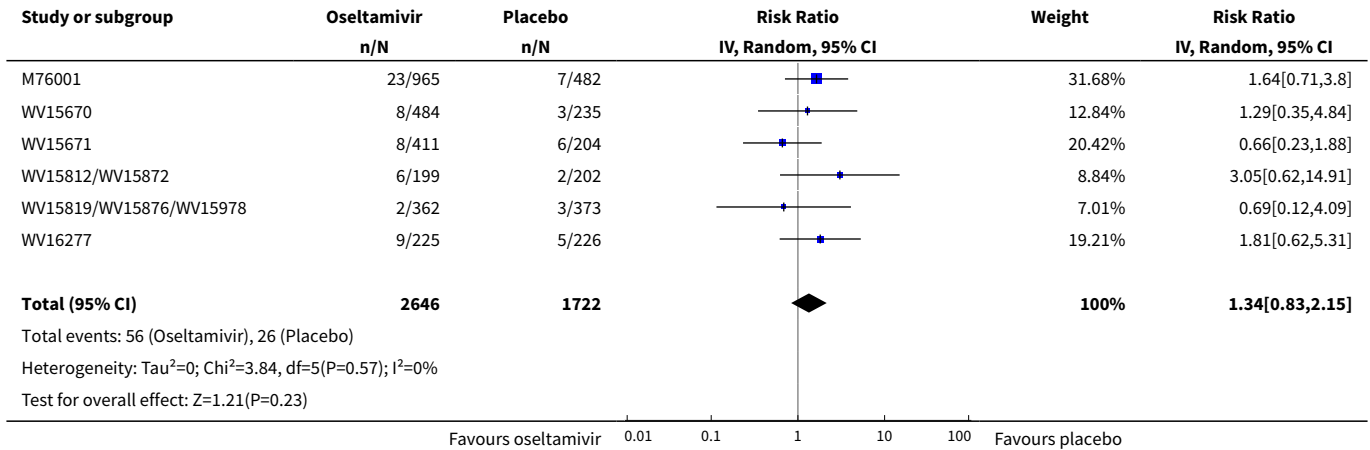
Analysis 1.42. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 42 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).



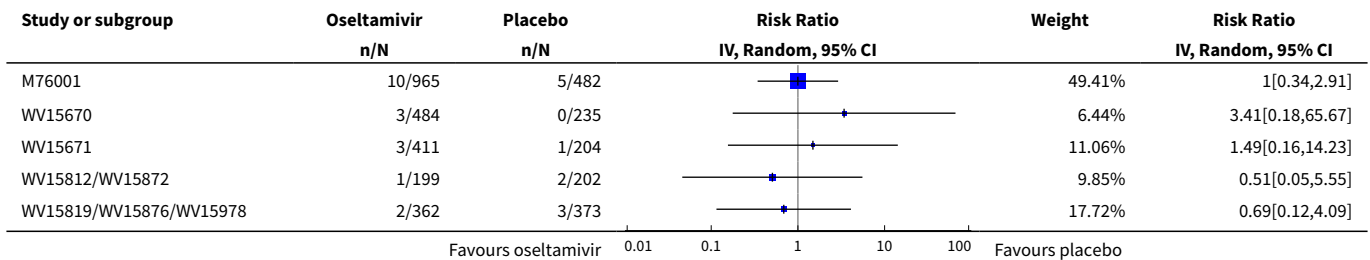
Analysis 1.43. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 43 Adverse events: cough in adult treatment (off-treatment).

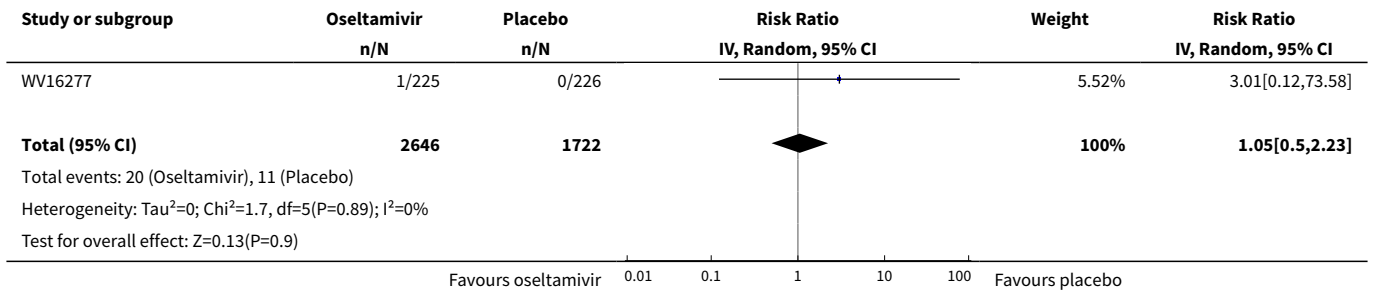


Analysis 1.44. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 44 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (off-treatment).

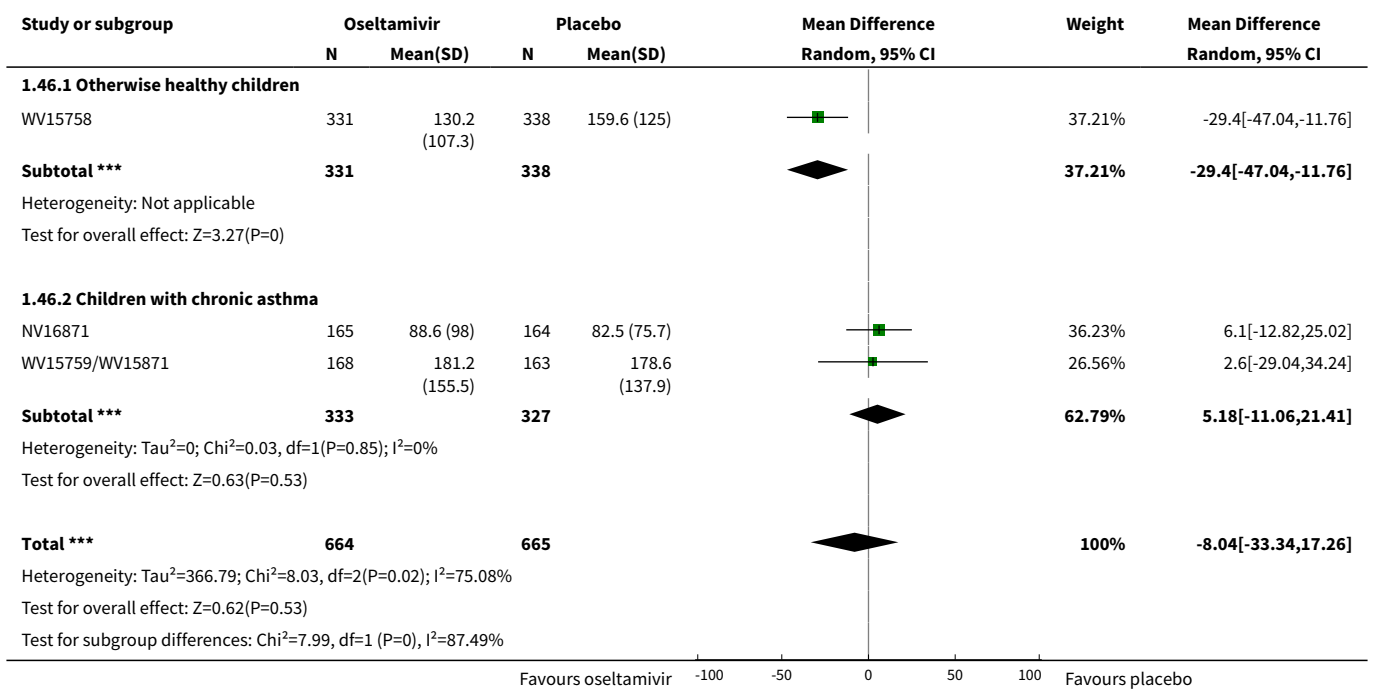


Analysis 1.45. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 45 Adverse events: nausea in adult treatment (off-treatment).

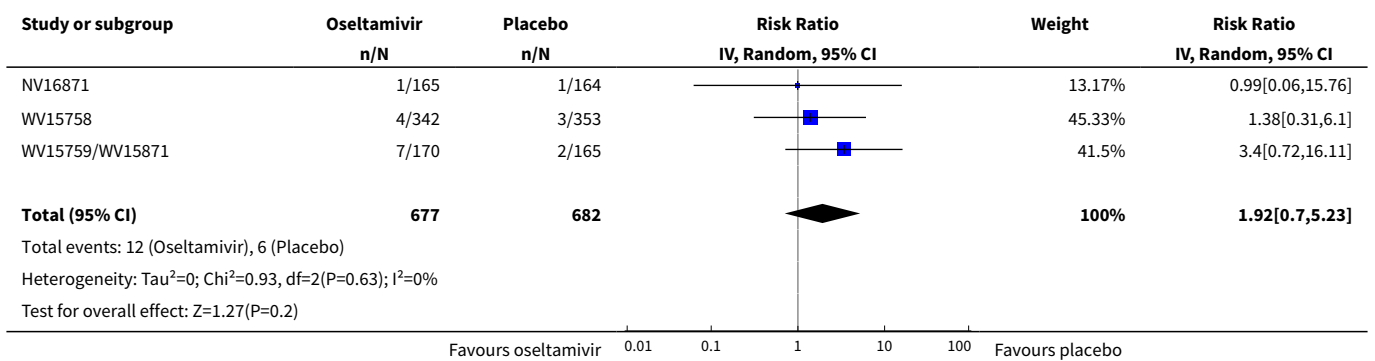




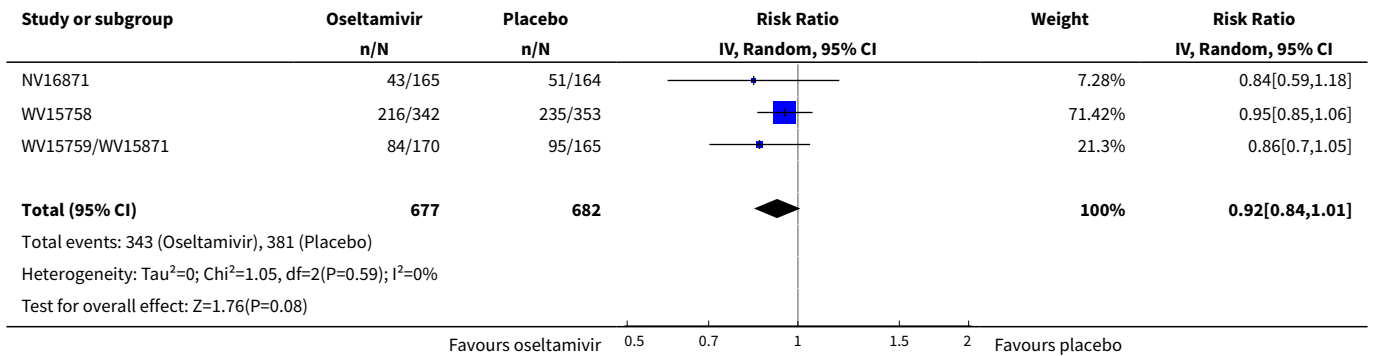
Analysis 1.46. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 46 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in child treatment [hours].



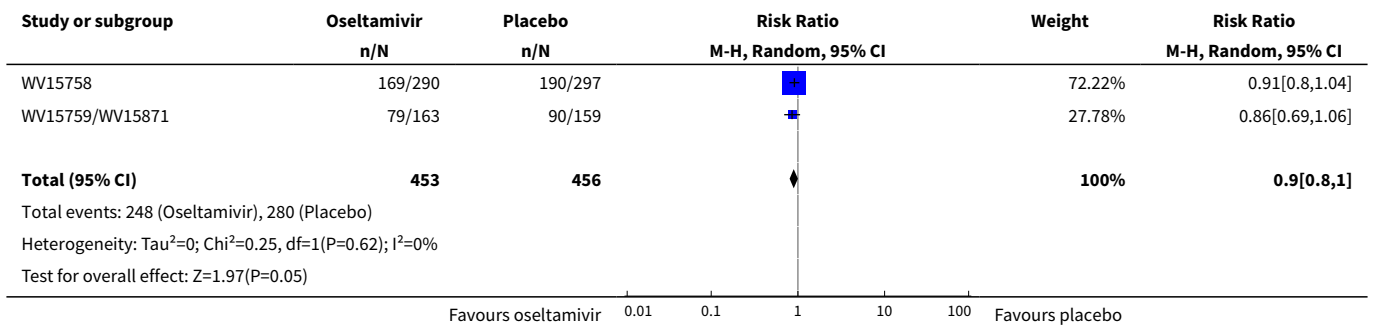
Analysis 1.47. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 47 Hospital admission in child treatment (safety population).



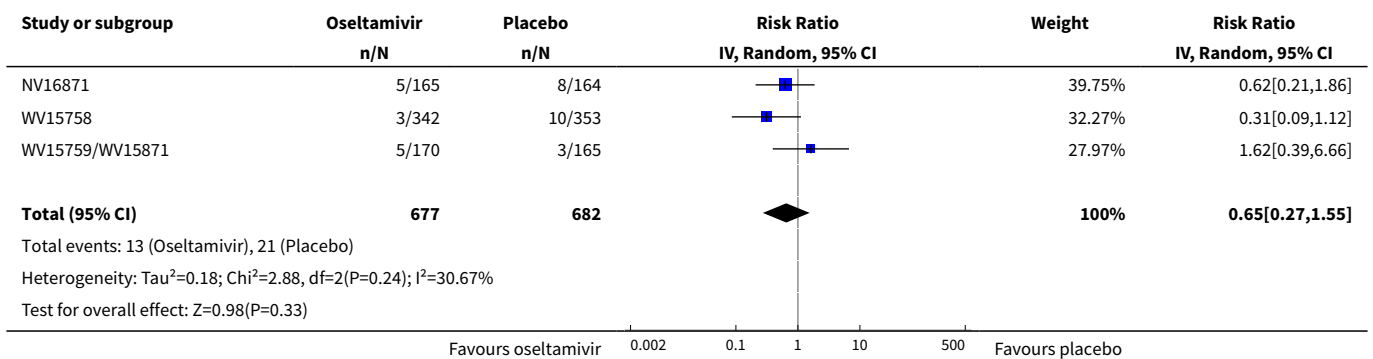
Analysis 1.48. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 48 Defined as influenza-infected at baseline in child treatment.



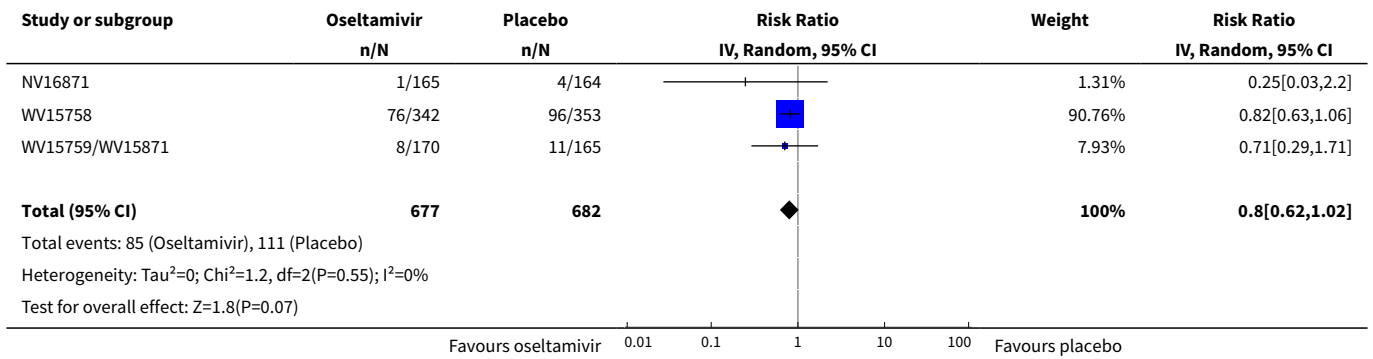
Analysis 1.49. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 49 Antibody rise four-fold or greater in child treatment.



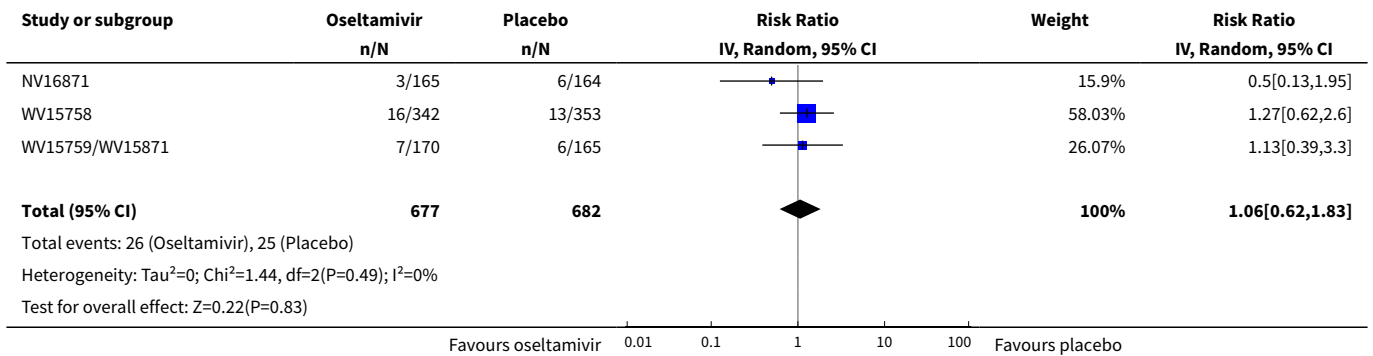
Analysis 1.50. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 50 Complications: bronchitis in child treatment.



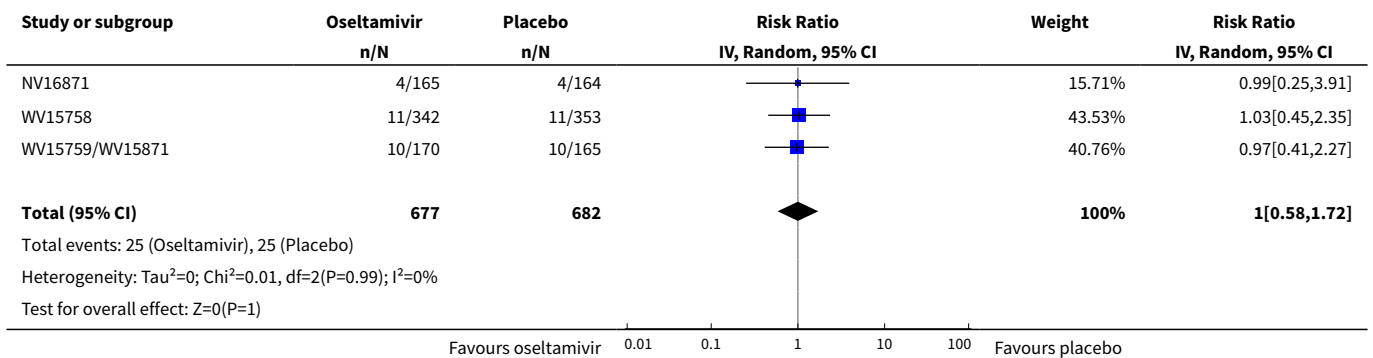
Analysis 1.51. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 51 Complications: otitis media in child treatment.



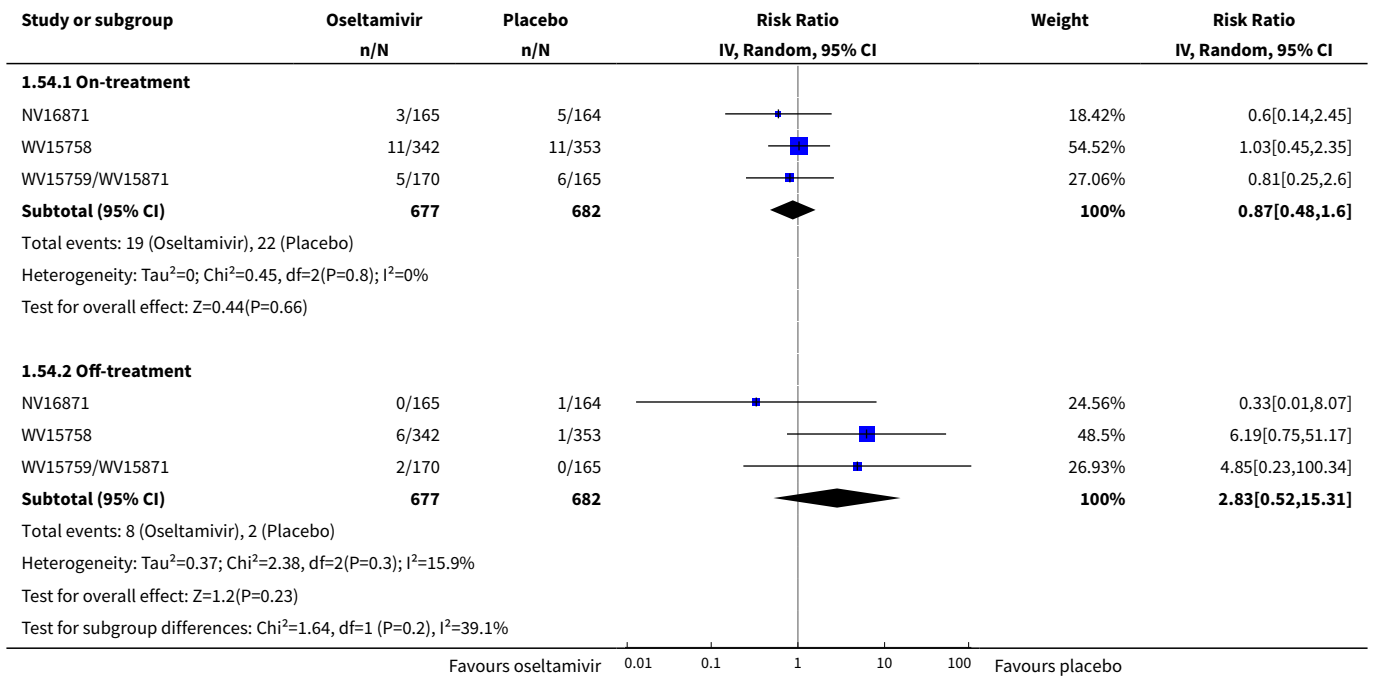
Analysis 1.52. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 52 Complications: pneumonia in child treatment.



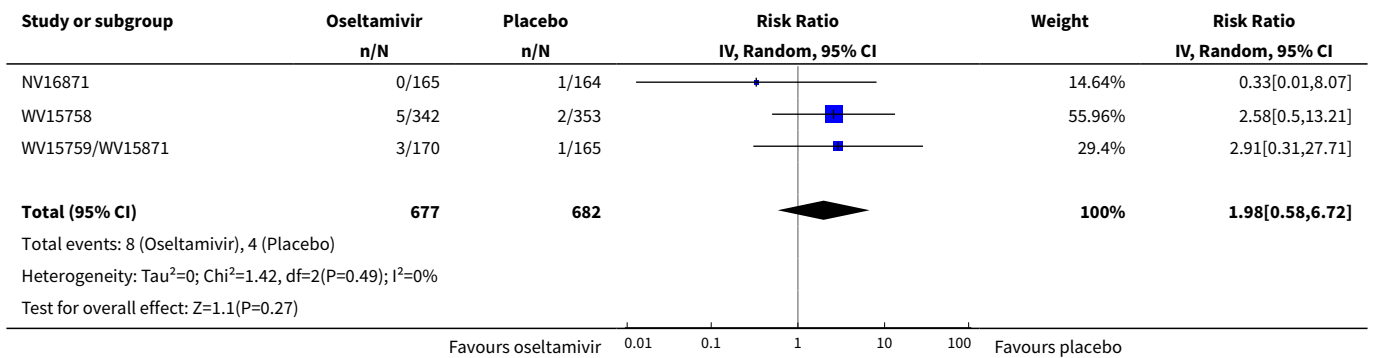
Analysis 1.53. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 53 Complications: sinusitis in child treatment.



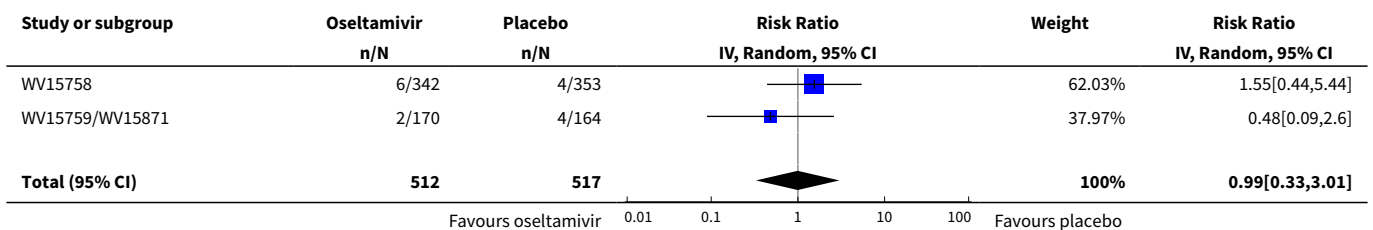
Analysis 1.54. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 54 Complications: pneumonia in child treatment by on- and off-treatment.

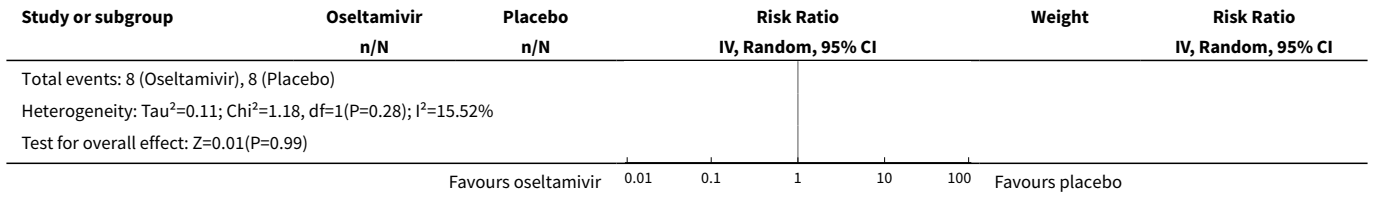


Analysis 1.55. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 55 Complications in trials of children classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal.

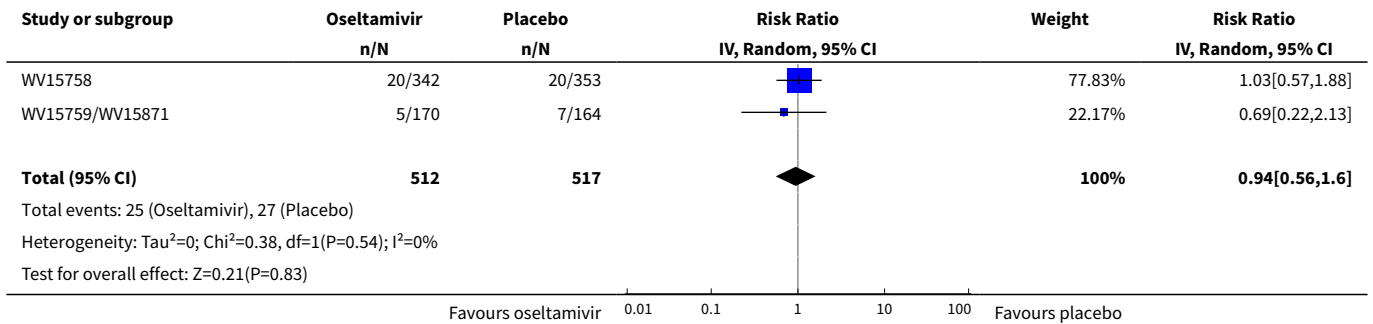


Analysis 1.56. Comparison 1 Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 56 Withdrawal from child treatment trial due to adverse events.

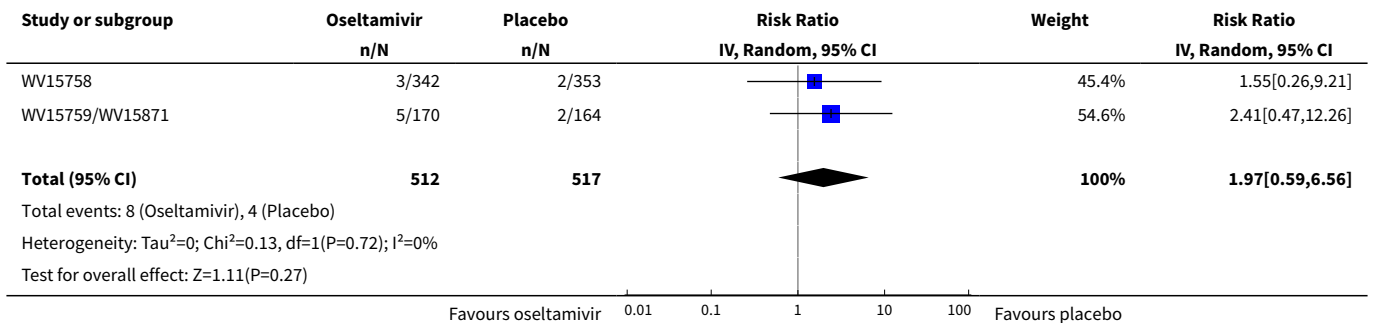




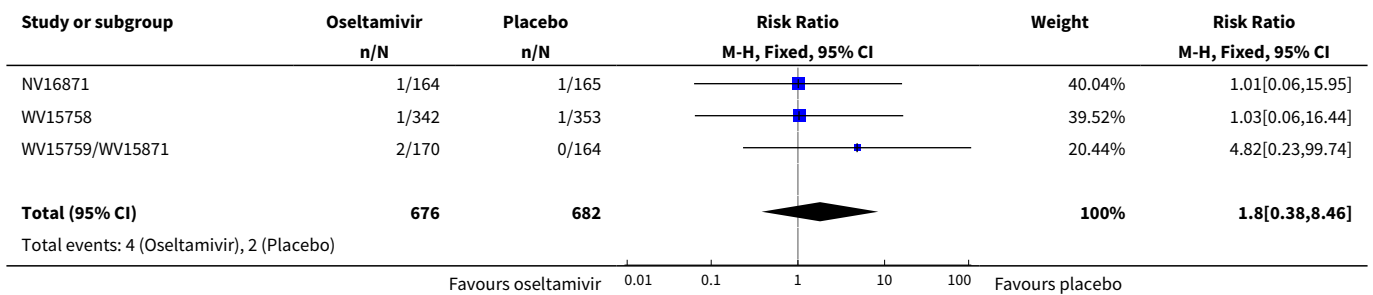
Analysis 1.57. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 57 All withdrawals from child treatment.

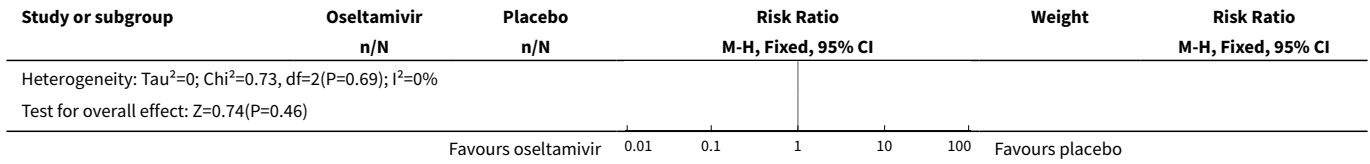


Analysis 1.58. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 58 Serious adverse events: overall in child treatment (on-treatment).

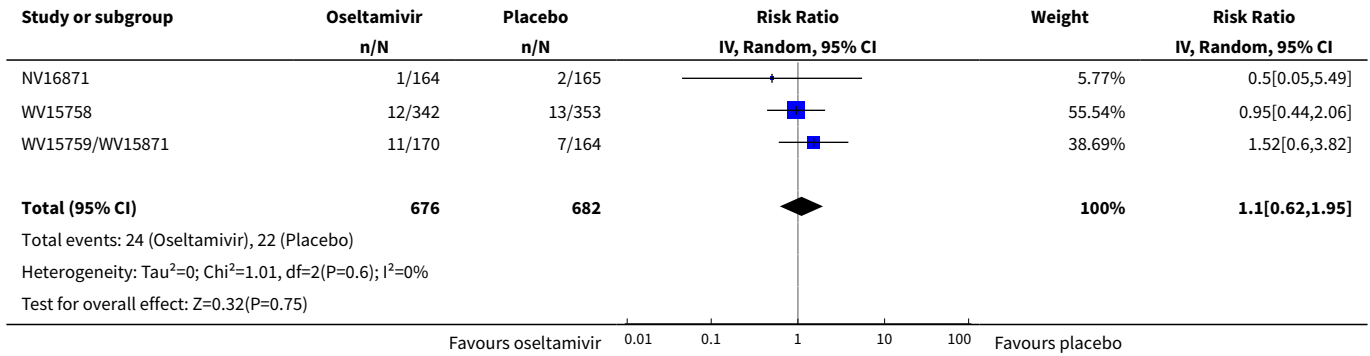


Analysis 1.59. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 59 Serious adverse events: overall in child treatment (off-treatment).

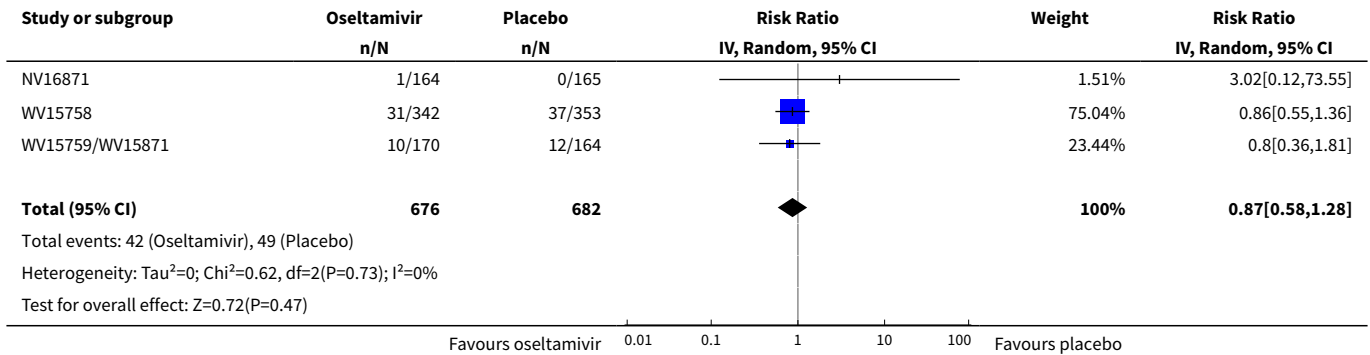




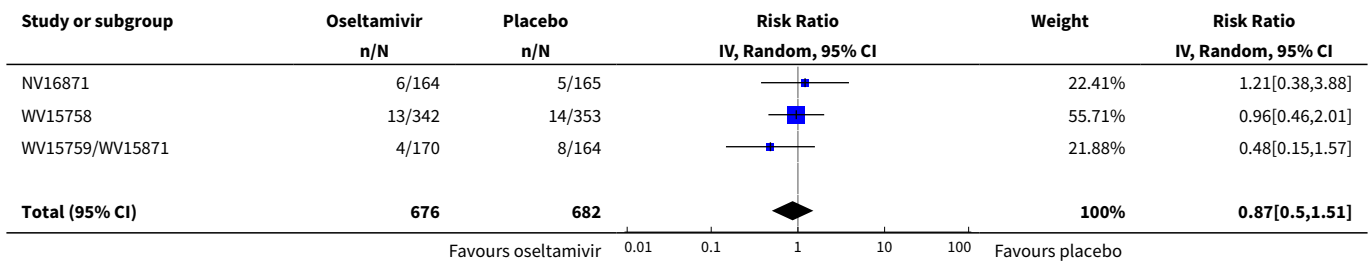
Analysis 1.60. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 60 Adverse events: abdominal pain in child treatment (on-treatment).

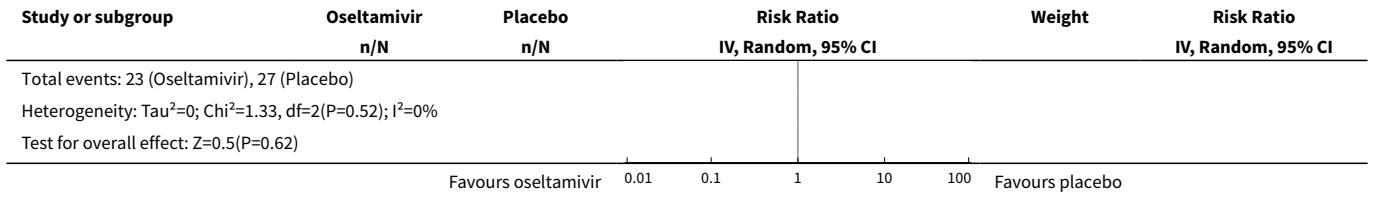


Analysis 1.61. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 61 Adverse events: diarrhoea in child treatment (on-treatment).

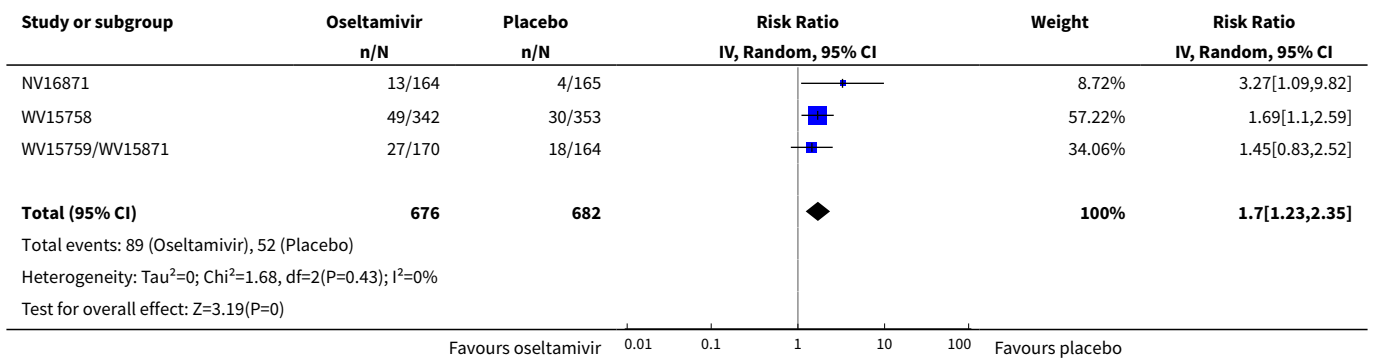


Analysis 1.62. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 62 Adverse events: nausea in child treatment (on-treatment).

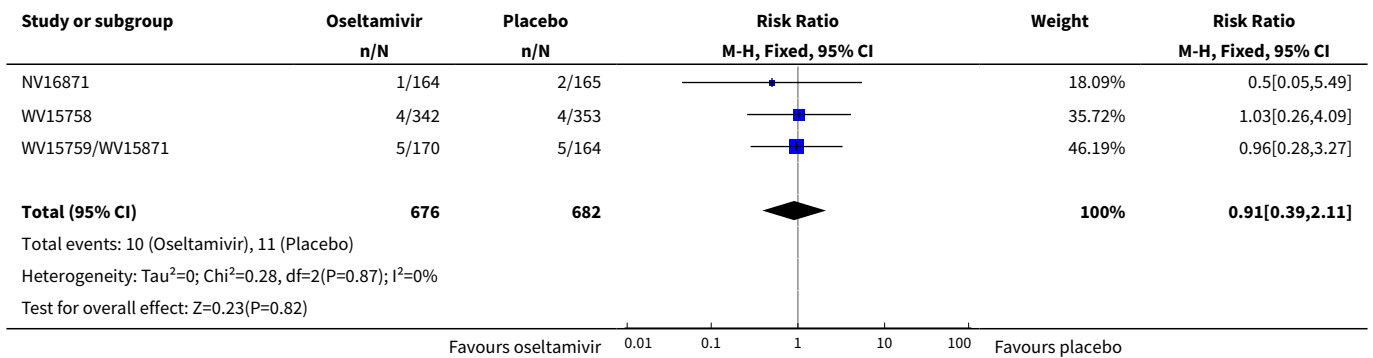




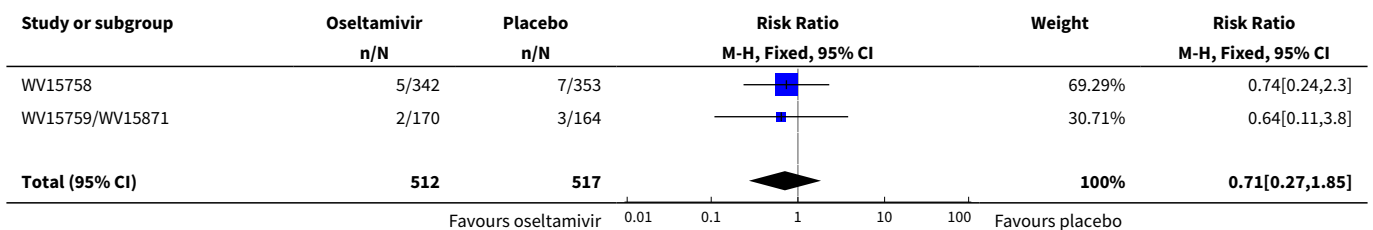
Analysis 1.63. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 63 Adverse events: vomiting in child treatment (on-treatment).

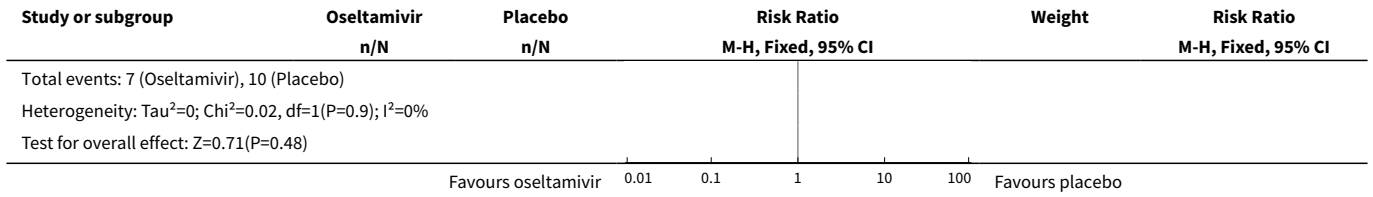


Analysis 1.64. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 64 Adverse events: abdominal pain in child treatment (off-treatment).

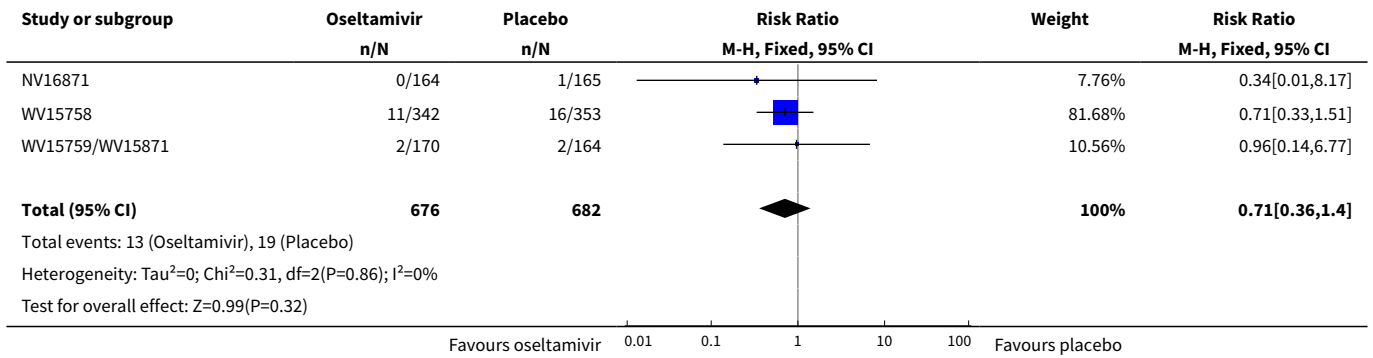


Analysis 1.65. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 65 Adverse events: cough in child treatment (off-treatment).

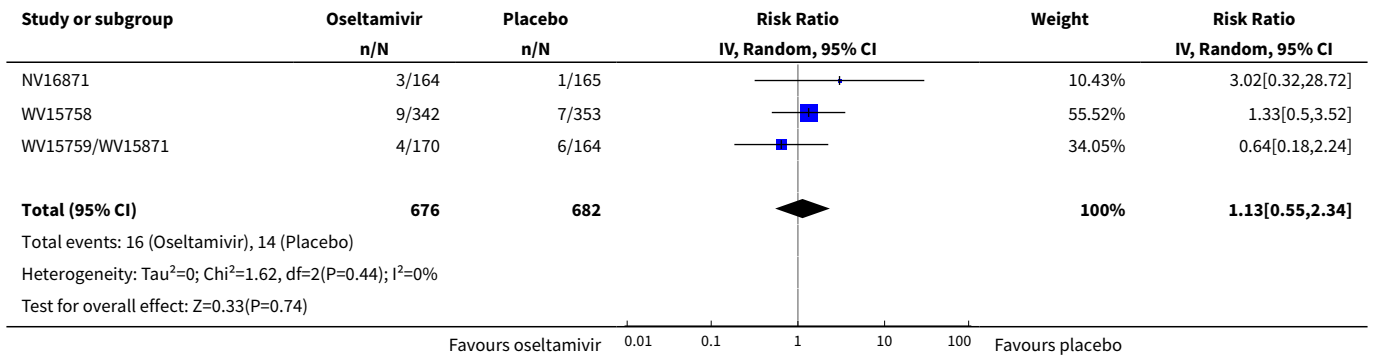




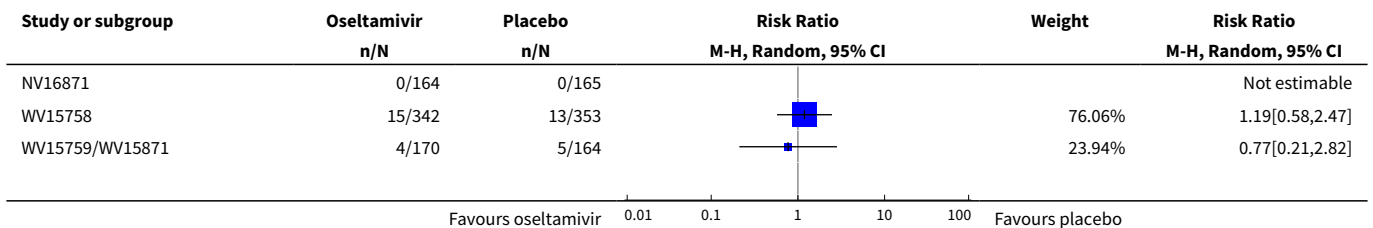
Analysis 1.66. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 66 Adverse events: diarrhoea in child treatment (off-treatment).

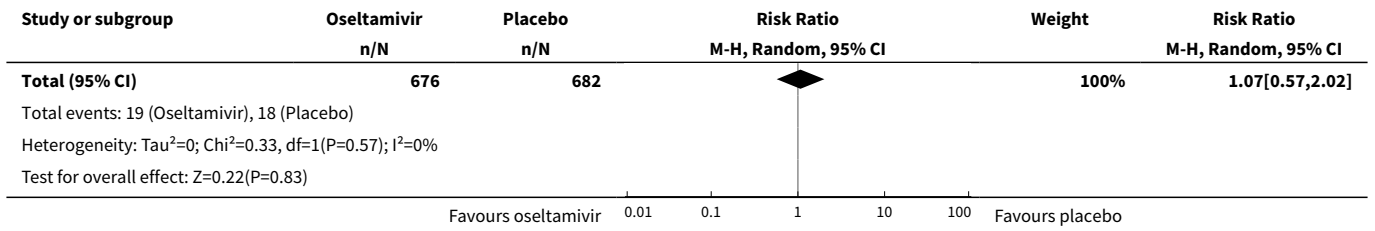


Analysis 1.67. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 67 Adverse events: headache in child treatment (off-treatment).

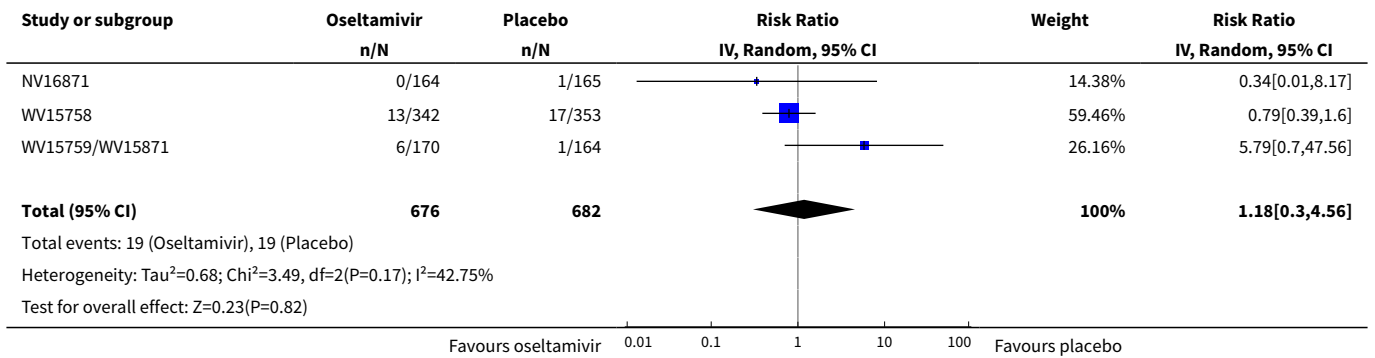


Analysis 1.68. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 68 Adverse events: vomiting in child treatment (off-treatment).

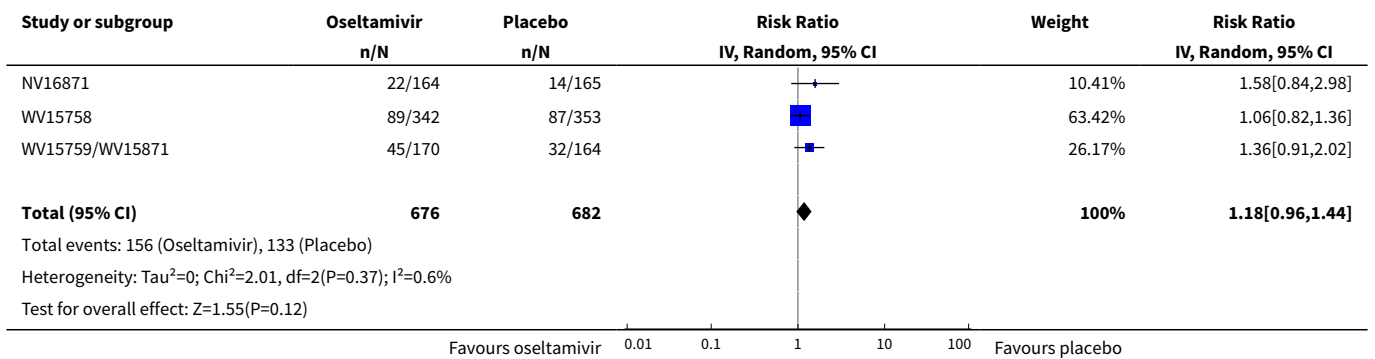




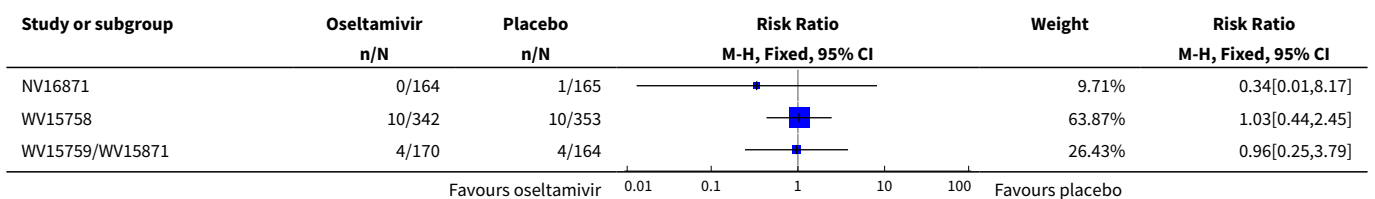
Analysis 1.69. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 69 Adverse events: ear body system in child treatment (on-treatment).

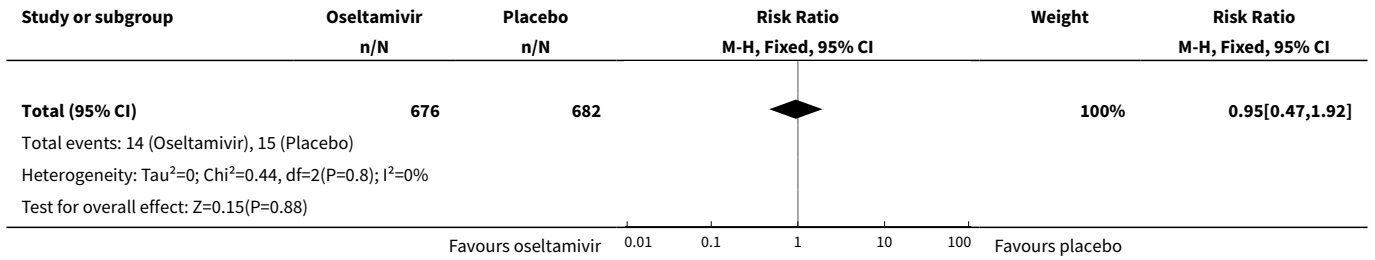


Analysis 1.70. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 70 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (on-treatment).

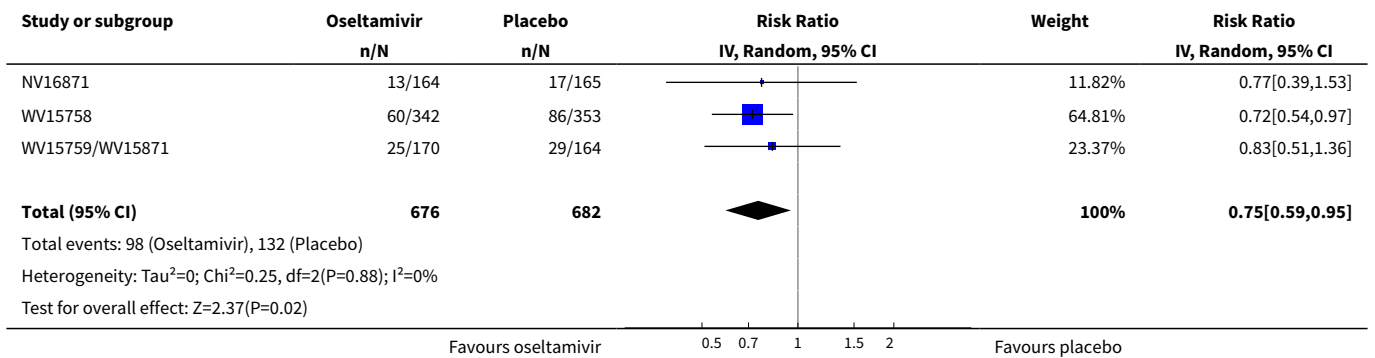


Analysis 1.71. Comparison 1 Osetamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 71 Adverse events: general body system in child treatment (on-treatment).

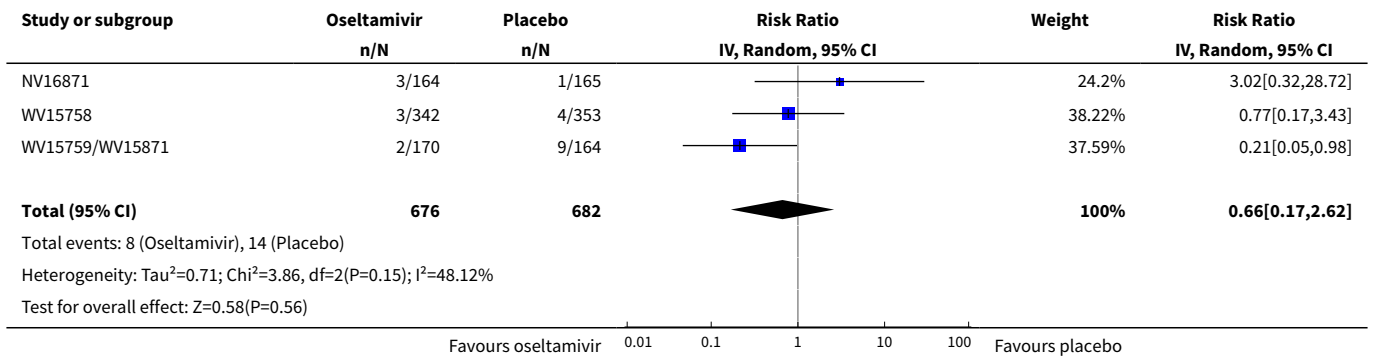




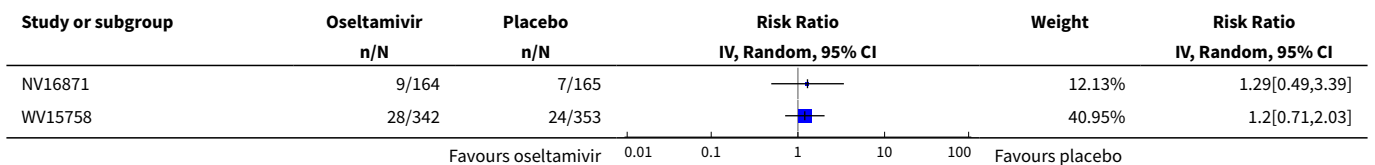
Analysis 1.72. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 72 Adverse events: infection body system in child treatment (on-treatment).

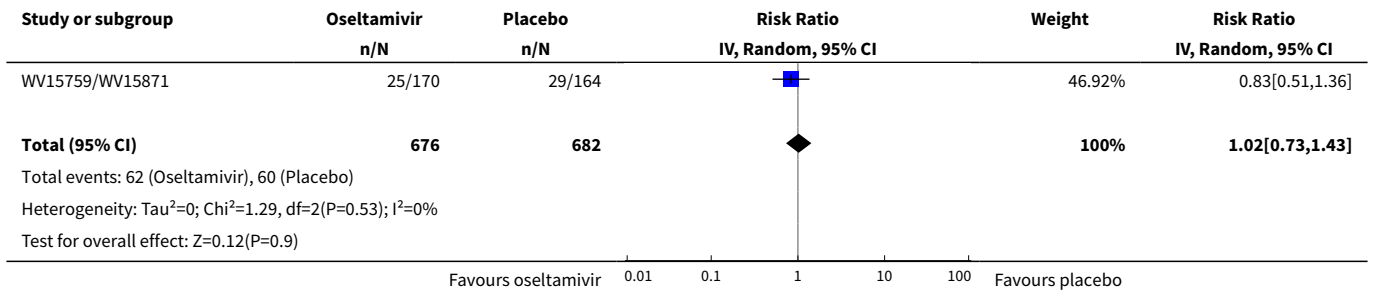


Analysis 1.73. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 73 Adverse events: neurological body system in child treatment (on-treatment).

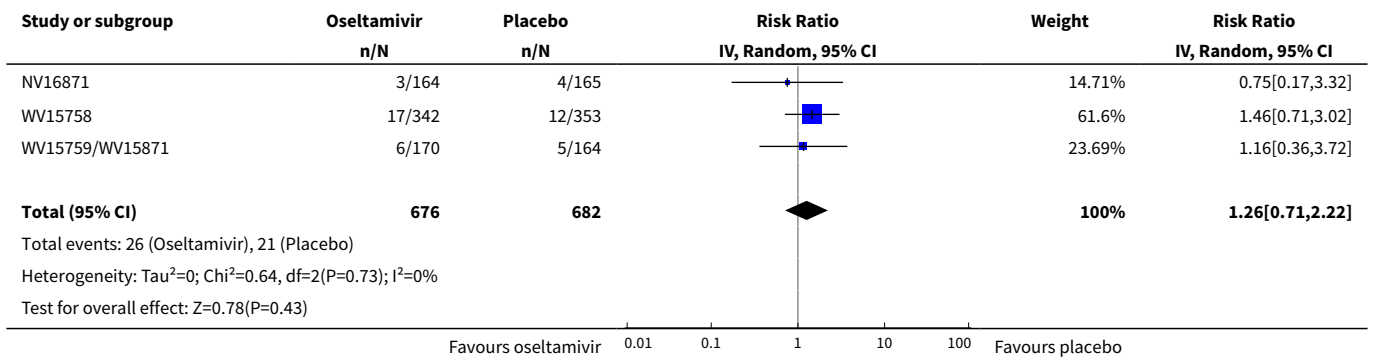


Analysis 1.74. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 74 Adverse events: respiratory body system in child treatment (on-treatment).

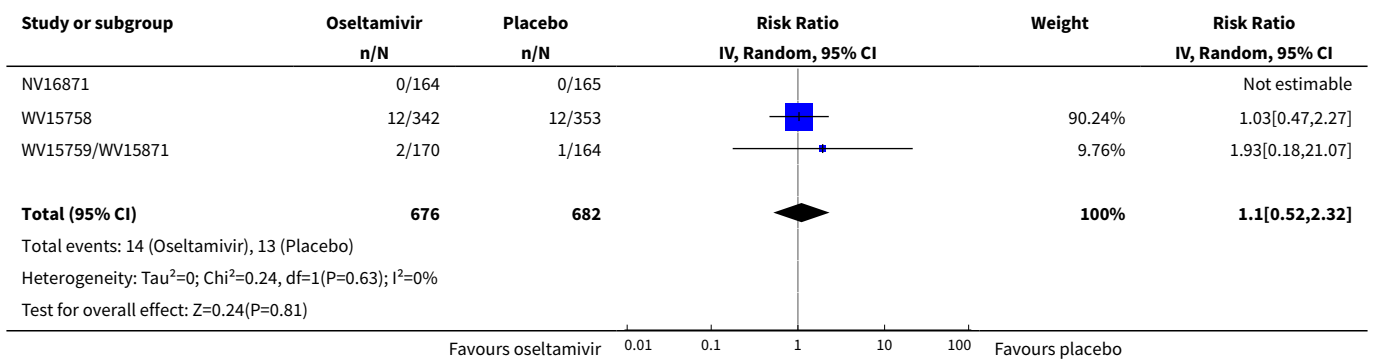




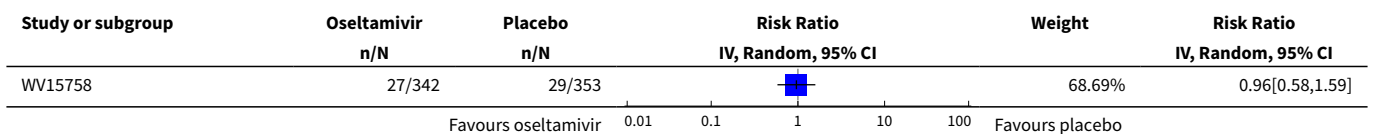
Analysis 1.75. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 75 Adverse events: skin body system in child treatment (on-treatment).

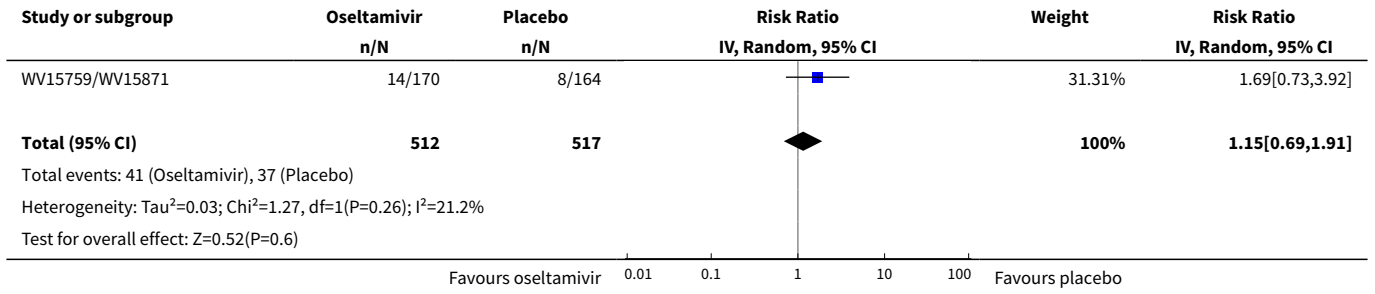


Analysis 1.76. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 76 Adverse events: ear body system in child treatment (off-treatment).

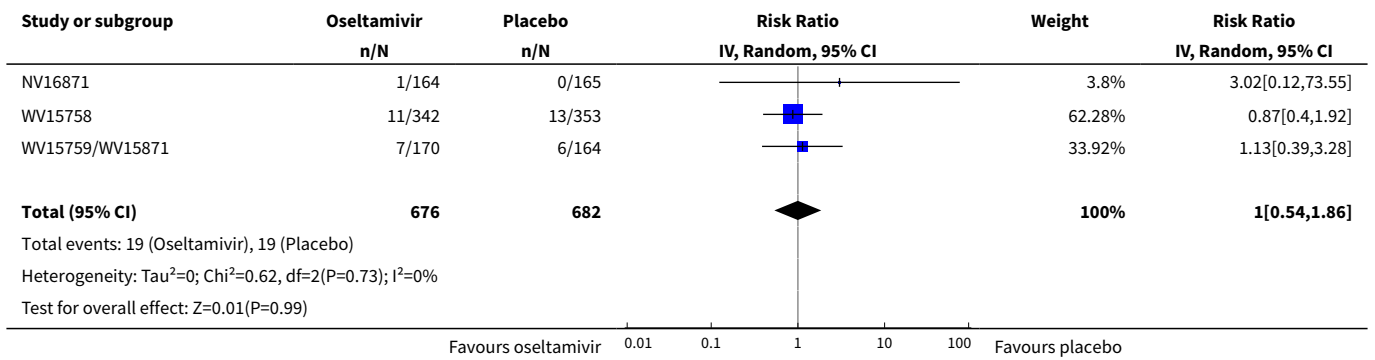


Analysis 1.77. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 77 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (off-treatment).

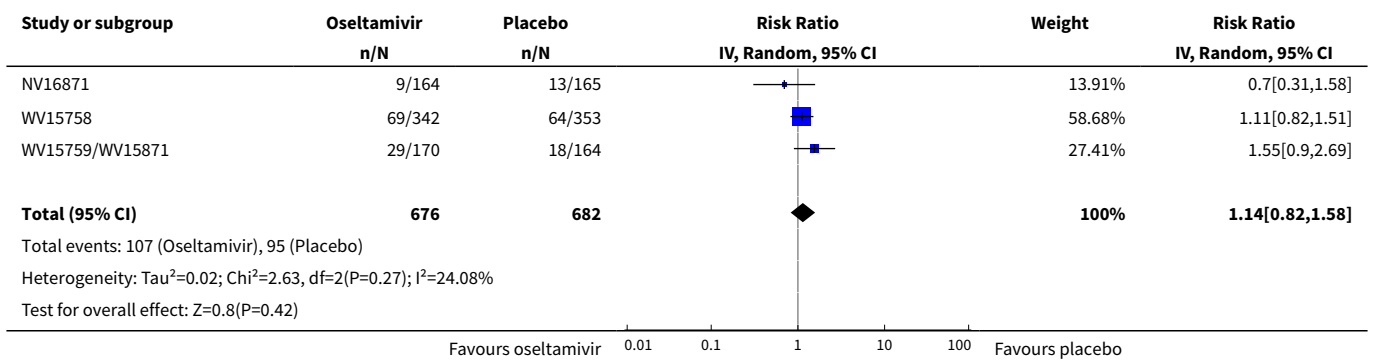




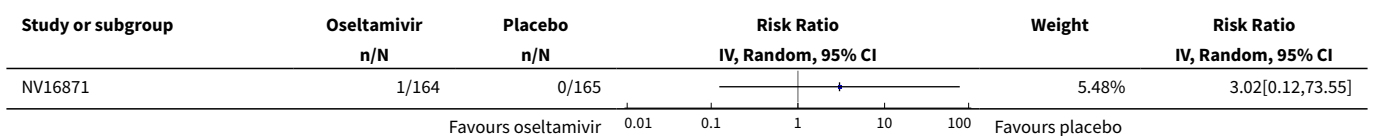
Analysis 1.78. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 78 Adverse events: general body system in child treatment (off-treatment).

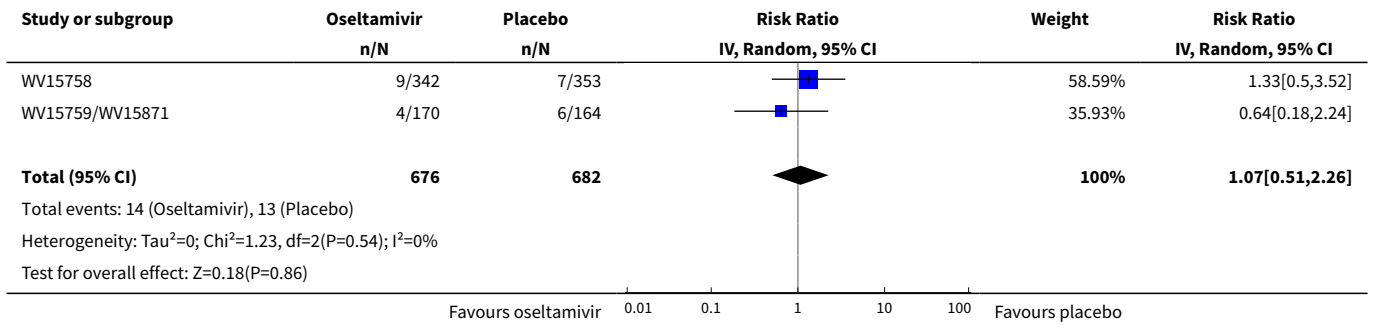


Analysis 1.79. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 79 Adverse events: infection body system in child treatment (off-treatment).

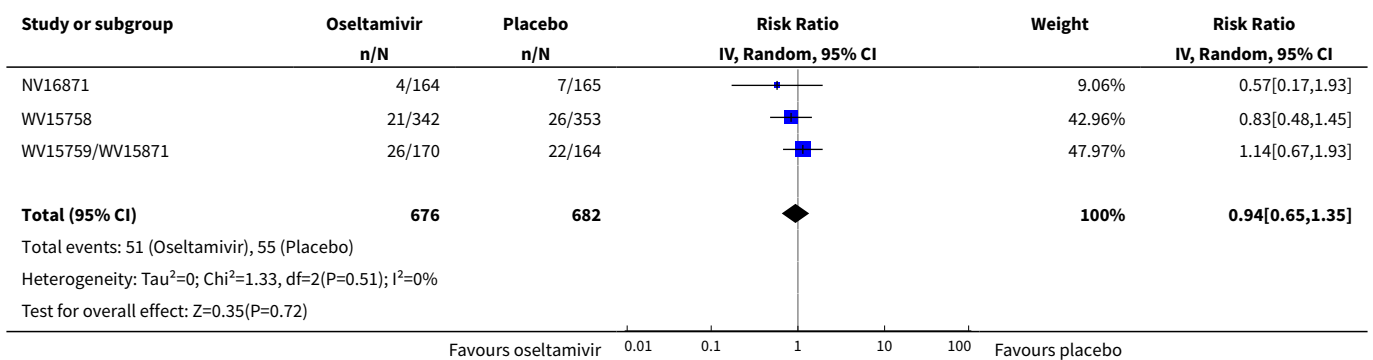


Analysis 1.80. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 80 Adverse events: neurological body system in child treatment (off-treatment).

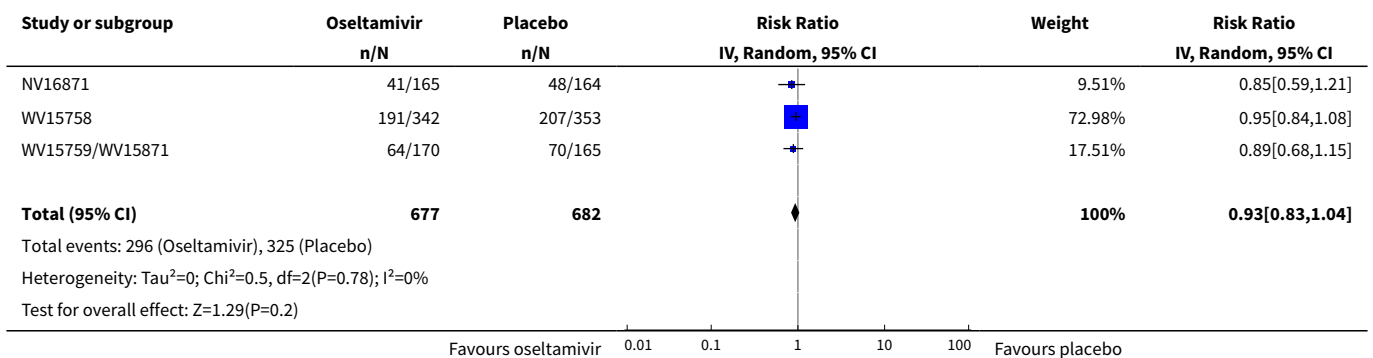




Analysis 1.81. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 81 Adverse events: respiratory body system in child treatment (off-treatment).



Analysis 1.82. Comparison 1 Osetlamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 82 Culture-positive at baseline in child treatment.



Comparison 2. Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis

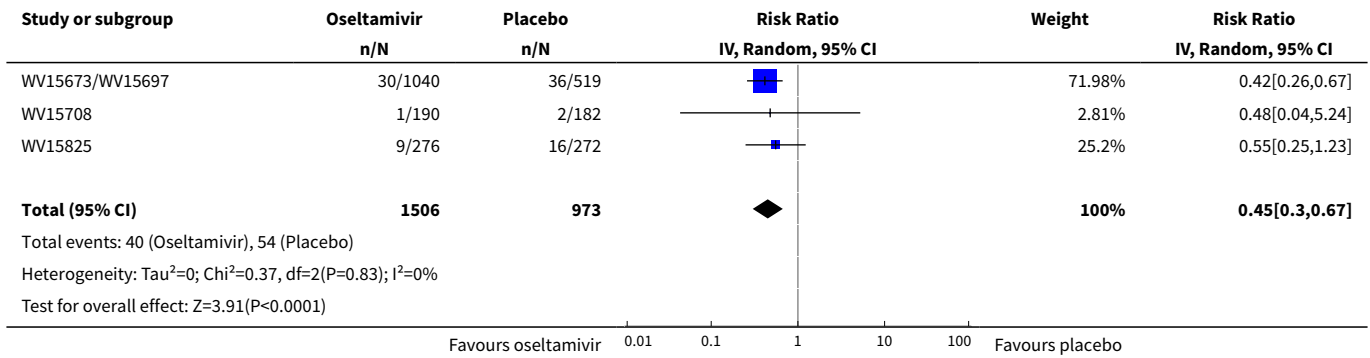
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Symptomatic influenza in adult prophylaxis of individuals	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.45 [0.30, 0.67]
2 Asymptomatic influenza in adult prophylaxis of individuals	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.78 [0.49, 1.24]
3 Symptomatic influenza in household prophylaxis	1	405	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.20 [0.09, 0.44]
4 Asymptomatic influenza in household prophylaxis	1	405	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.39, 3.33]
5 Influenza-like illness reported as adverse event (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.73, 1.35]
6 Influenza-like illness reported as adverse event (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.62 [0.34, 1.16]
7 Hospitalisation in adult prophylaxis (safety population)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.66, 1.94]
8 Complications: bronchitis in adult prophylaxis	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.74 [0.41, 1.35]
9 Complications: sinusitis in adult prophylaxis	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.41 [0.75, 2.62]
10 Adverse events leading to study withdrawal in adult prophylaxis	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.57, 2.18]
11 All withdrawals in adult prophylaxis	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.15 [0.82, 1.61]
12 Serious adverse events in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.53, 1.66]
13 Serious adverse events in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.21 [0.57, 2.60]
14 Adverse events: abdominal pain in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.18 [0.77, 1.82]
15 Adverse events: cough in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.68, 1.36]
16 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.09 [0.64, 1.86]
17 Adverse events: dizziness in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.15 [0.66, 2.01]
18 Adverse events: fatigue in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.12 [0.89, 1.40]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
19 Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.18 [1.05, 1.33]
20 Adverse events: nausea in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.96 [1.20, 3.20]
21 Adverse events: vomiting in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.91 [0.70, 5.22]
22 Adverse events: cough in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.72 [0.36, 1.45]
23 Adverse events: fatigue in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.33 [0.57, 3.13]
24 Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.88 [0.63, 1.24]
25 Adverse events: blood body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.30, 3.25]
26 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.75 [0.36, 1.58]
27 Adverse events: ear body system in adult prophylaxis (on treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.44 [0.61, 3.40]
28 Adverse events: eye body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.56, 1.81]
29 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [1.17, 1.63]
30 Adverse events: general body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.88, 1.20]
31 Adverse events: infection body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.84, 1.11]
32 Adverse events: immune body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	1	1559	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.86 [0.45, 1.64]
33 Adverse events: injury body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.60, 1.56]
34 Adverse events: metabolism body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.36 [0.73, 2.54]
35 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.79, 1.22]
36 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.21 [1.03, 1.42]

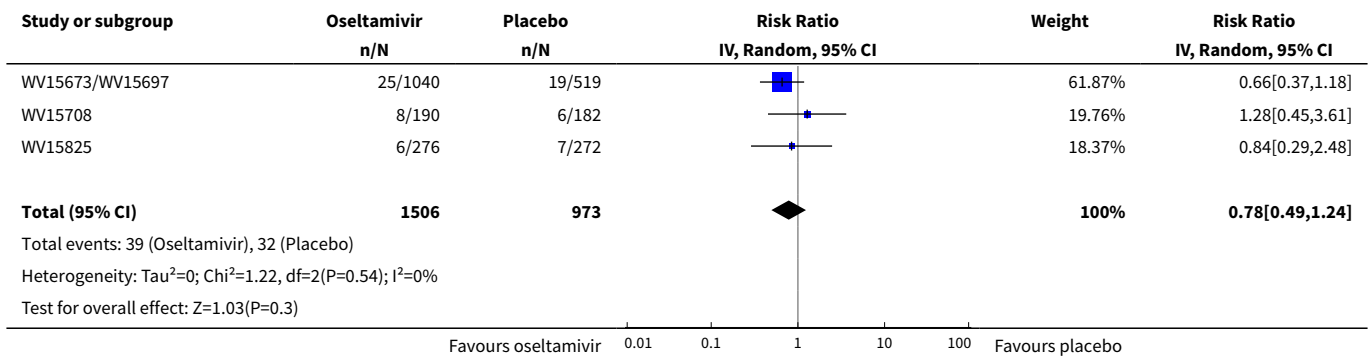
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
37 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.81 [0.97, 3.37]
38 Adverse events: renal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.17 [0.96, 10.49]
39 Adverse events: reproductive body system in adult prophylaxis (on treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.77, 1.42]
40 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.90, 1.20]
41 Adverse events: skin body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.63, 1.34]
42 Adverse events: surgical events in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.42, 2.29]
43 Adverse events: vascular body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	3	2479	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.45, 1.80]
44 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.50 [0.67, 3.35]
45 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.62, 1.53]
46 Adverse events: general body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.69, 1.49]
47 Adverse events: infection body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.89 [0.68, 1.17]
48 Adverse events: injury body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.49, 2.09]
49 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.63, 1.72]
50 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.68, 1.28]
51 Adverse events: reproductive body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	2	2514	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.49 [0.24, 1.00]
52 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.69, 1.32]
53 Adverse events: skin body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.73 [0.32, 1.69]
54 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult prophylaxis (on and off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.80 [1.05, 3.08]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
55 Adverse events: renal body system in adult prophylaxis (on and off-treatment)	4	3434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.01 [0.74, 5.47]

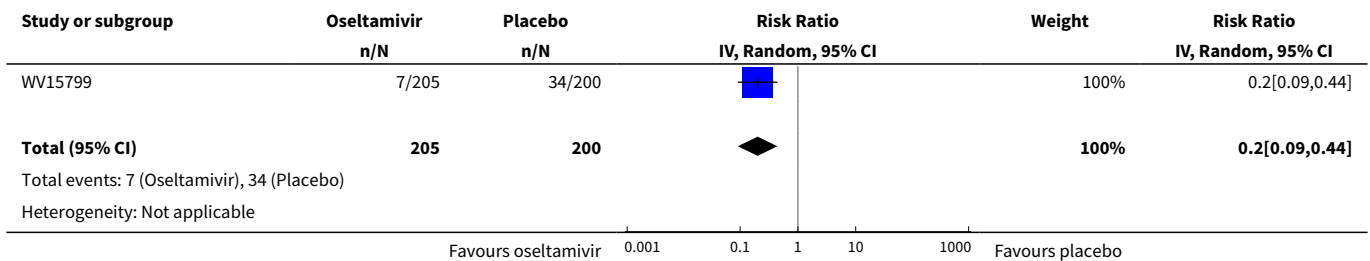
Analysis 2.1. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 1 Symptomatic influenza in adult prophylaxis of individuals.

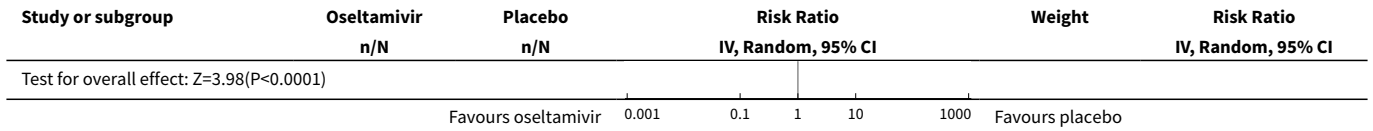


Analysis 2.2. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 2 Asymptomatic influenza in adult prophylaxis of individuals.

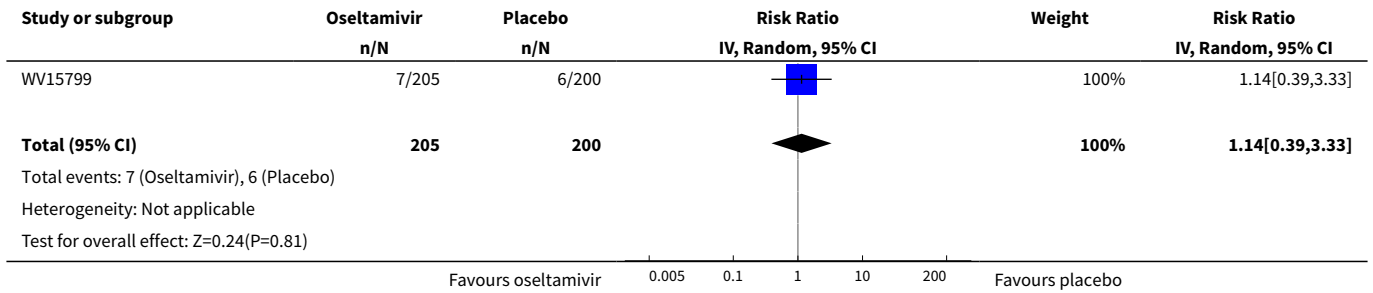


Analysis 2.3. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 3 Symptomatic influenza in household prophylaxis.

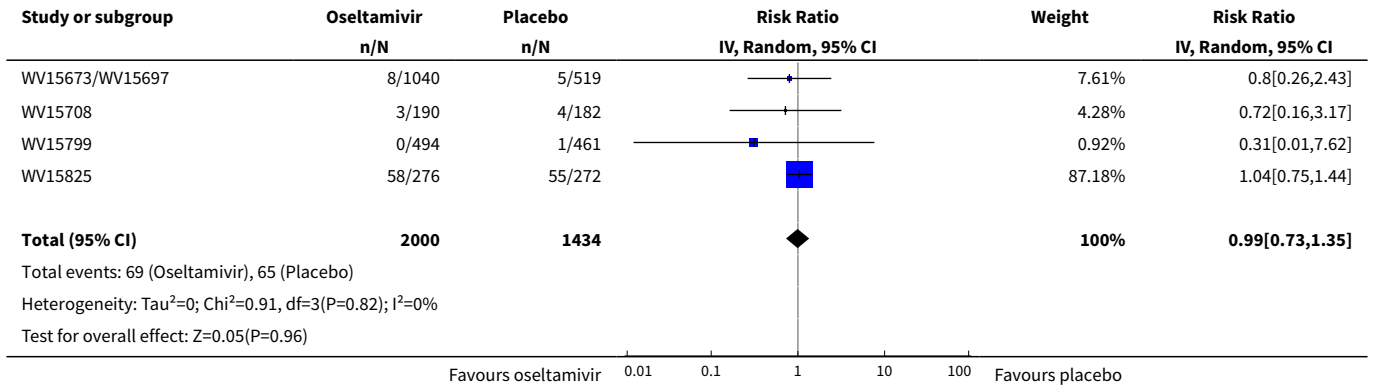




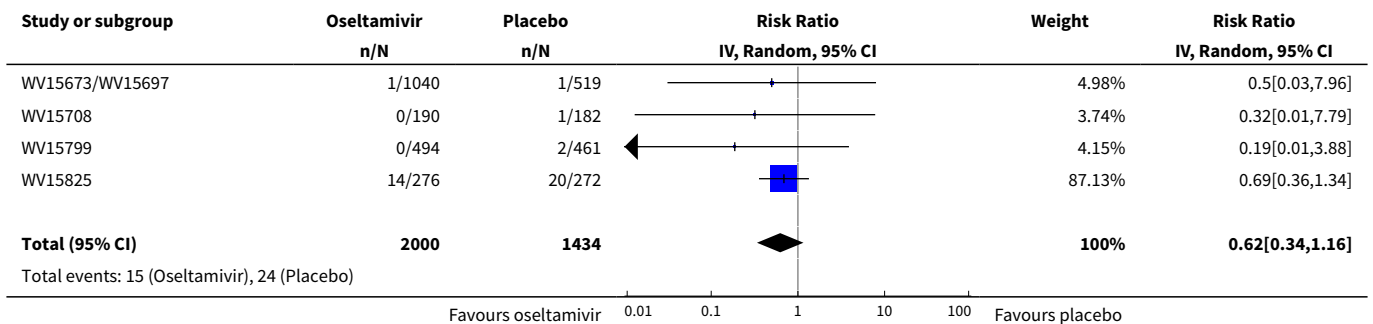
Analysis 2.4. Comparison 2 Osetlamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 4 Asymptomatic influenza in household prophylaxis.

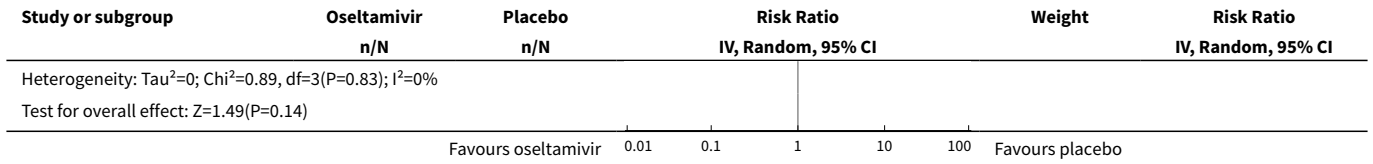


Analysis 2.5. Comparison 2 Osetlamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 5 Influenza-like illness reported as adverse event (on-treatment).

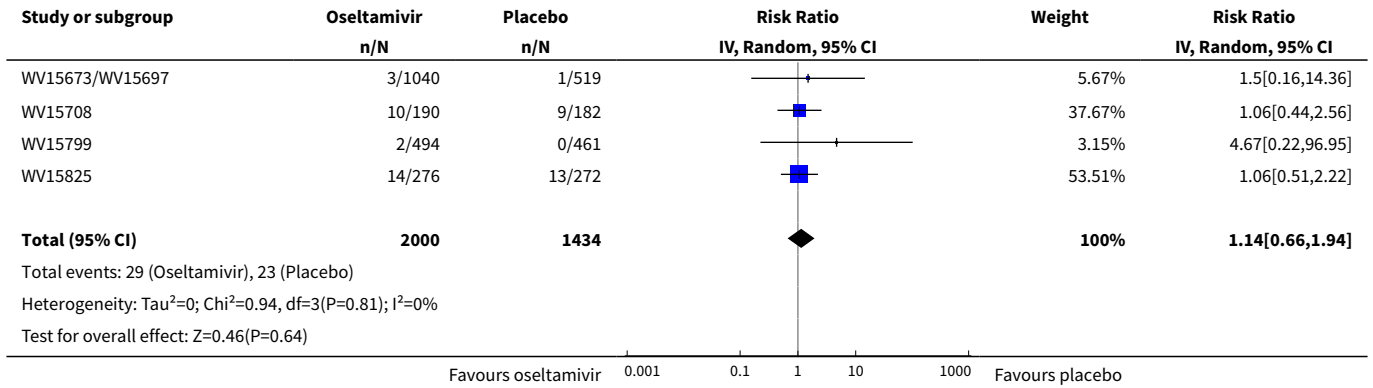


Analysis 2.6. Comparison 2 Osetlamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 6 Influenza-like illness reported as adverse event (off-treatment).

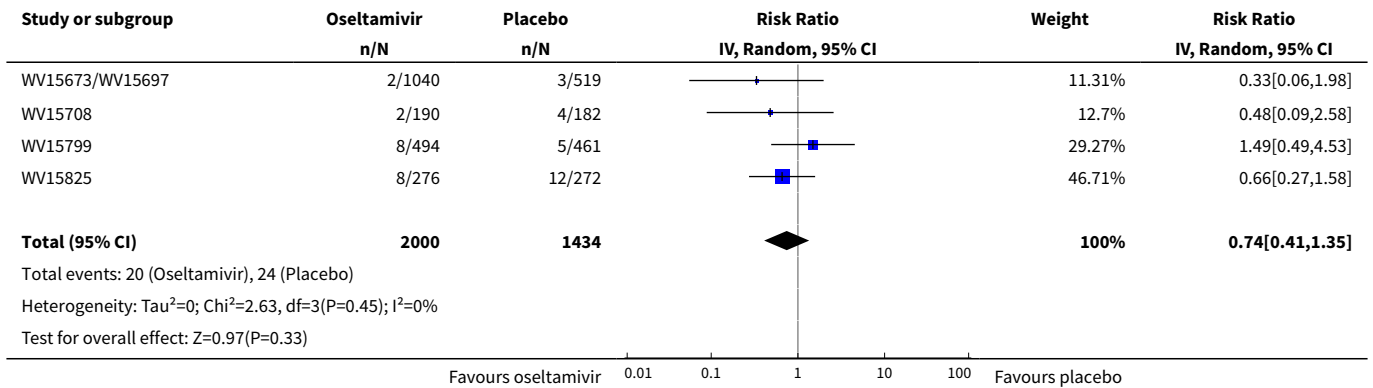




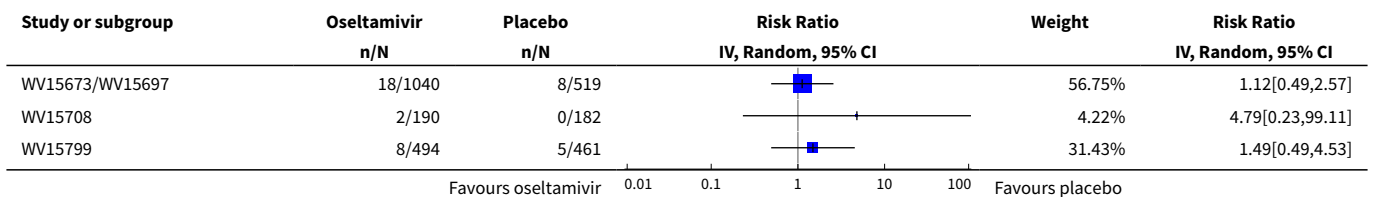
Analysis 2.7. Comparison 2 Osetamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 7 Hospitalisation in adult prophylaxis (safety population).

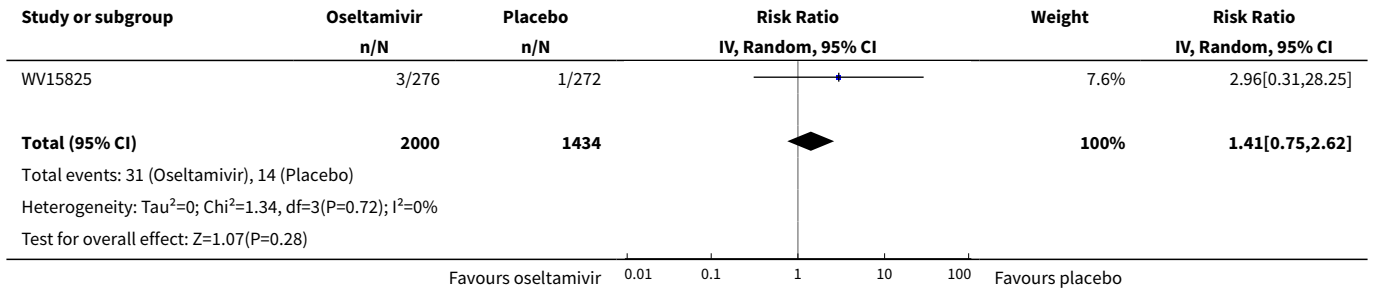


Analysis 2.8. Comparison 2 Osetamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 8 Complications: bronchitis in adult prophylaxis.

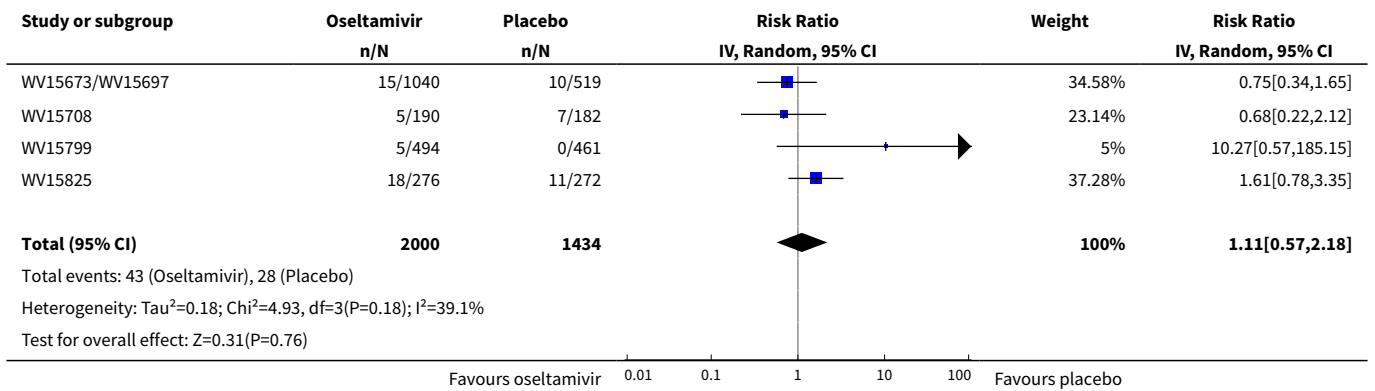


Analysis 2.9. Comparison 2 Osetamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 9 Complications: sinusitis in adult prophylaxis.

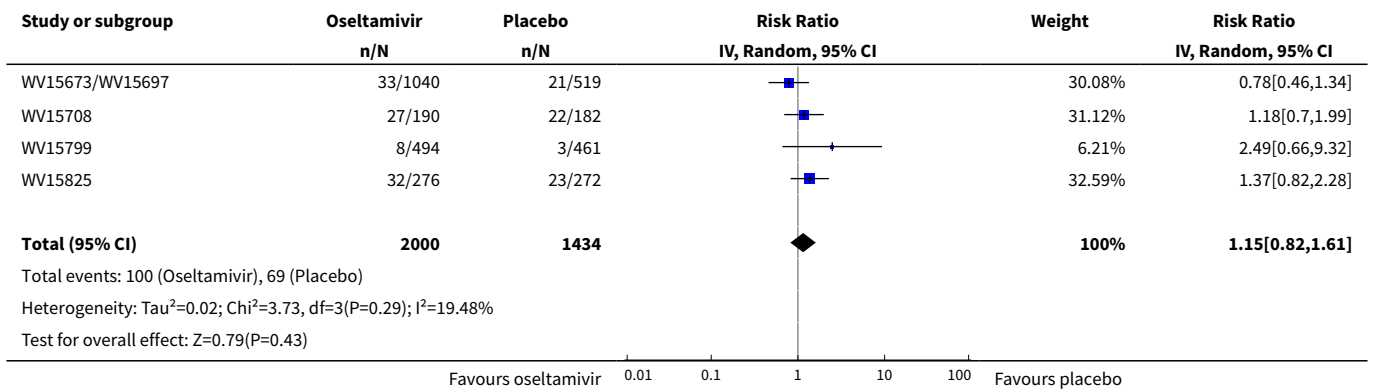




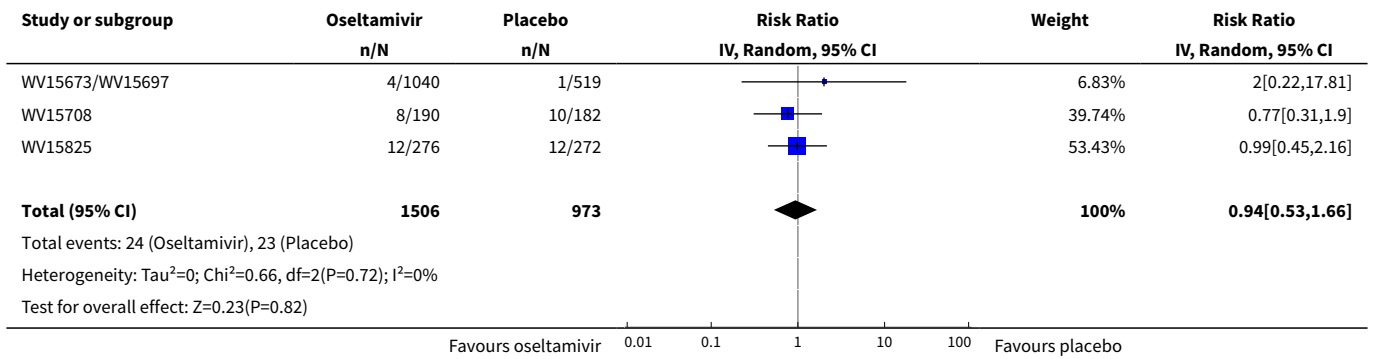
Analysis 2.10. Comparison 2 Osetlamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 10 Adverse events leading to study withdrawal in adult prophylaxis.



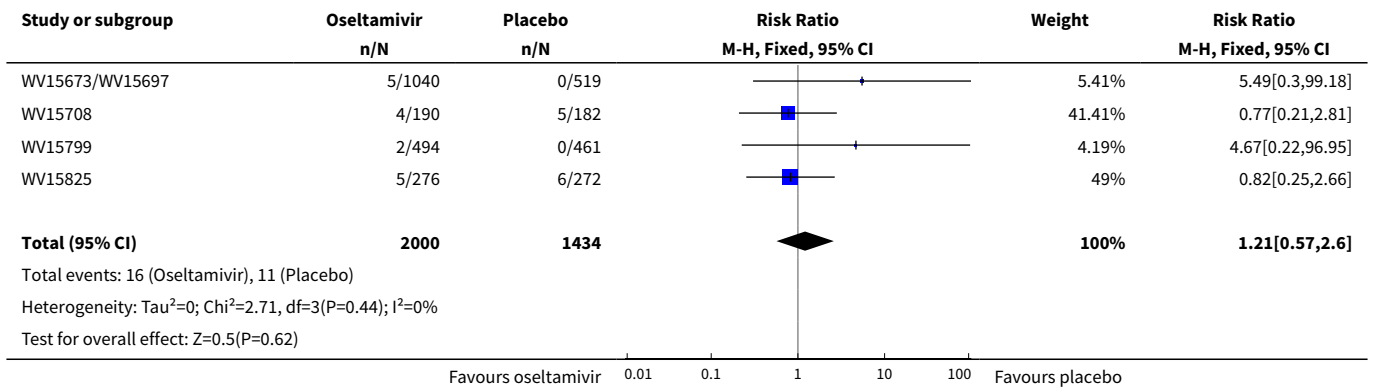
Analysis 2.11. Comparison 2 Osetlamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 11 All withdrawals in adult prophylaxis.



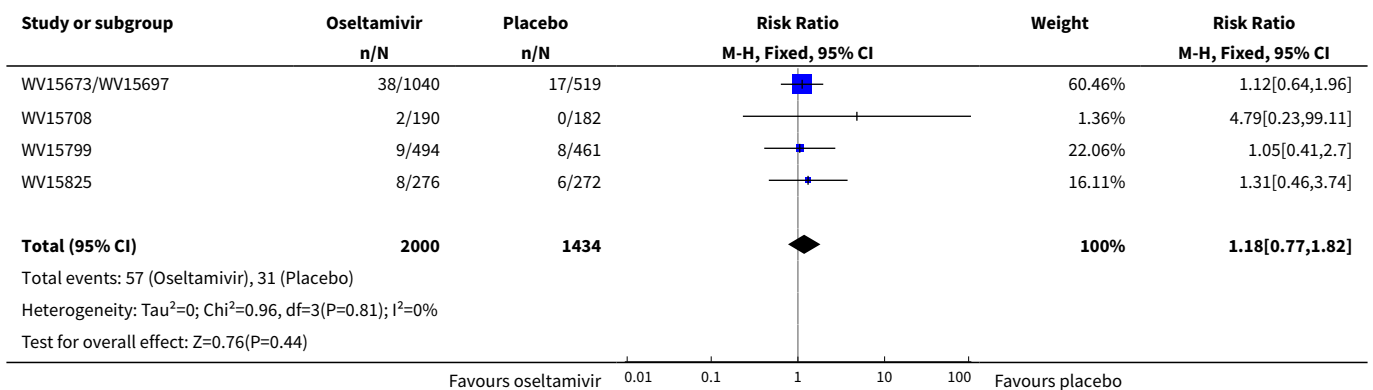
Analysis 2.12. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 12 Serious adverse events in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



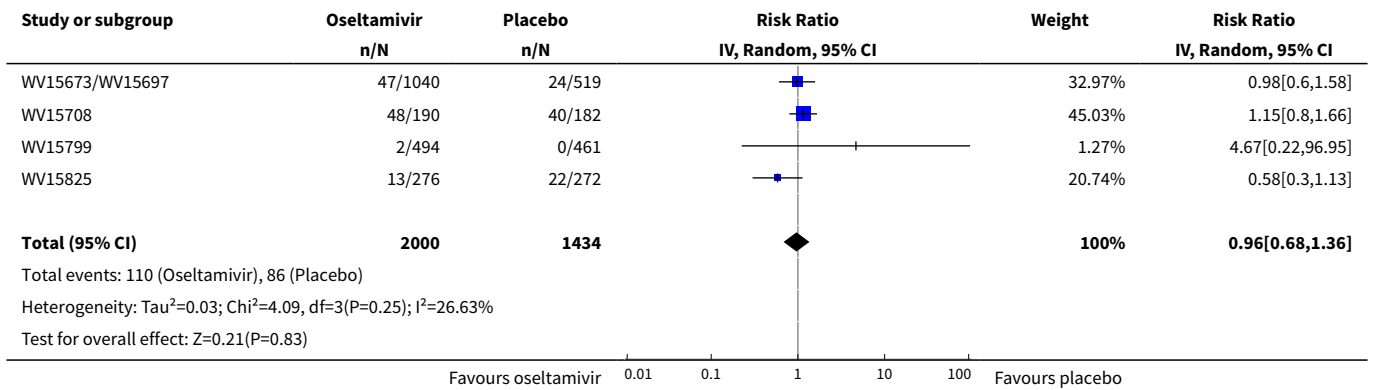
Analysis 2.13. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 13 Serious adverse events in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



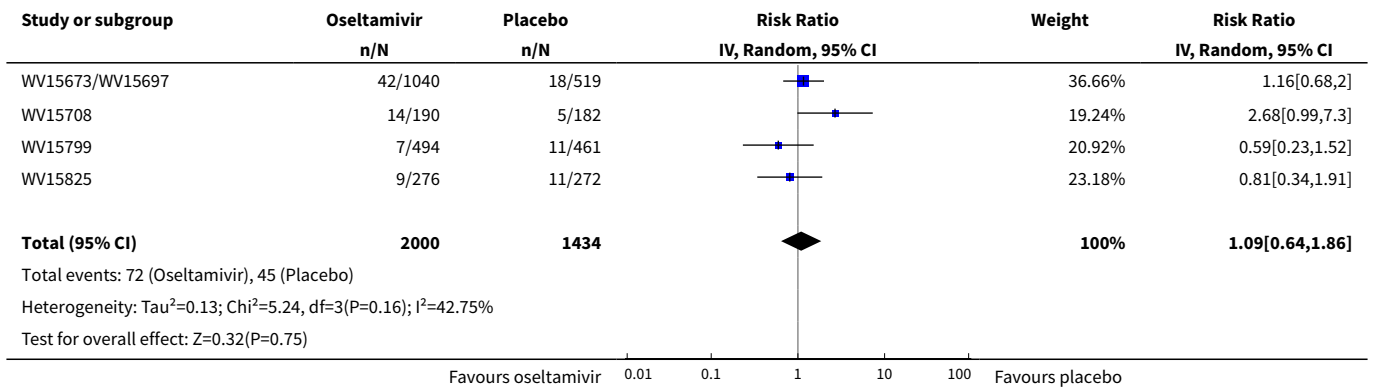
Analysis 2.14. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 14 Adverse events: abdominal pain in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



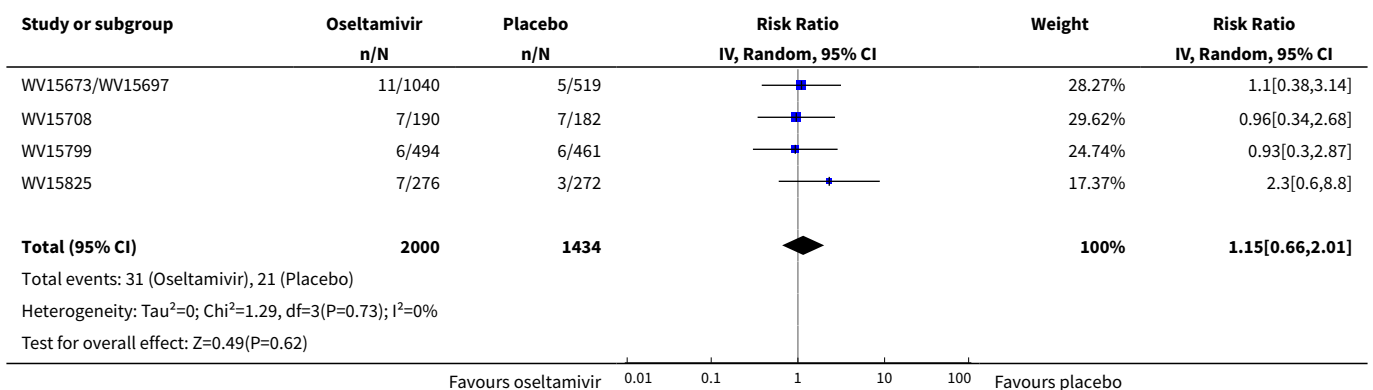
Analysis 2.15. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 15 Adverse events: cough in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



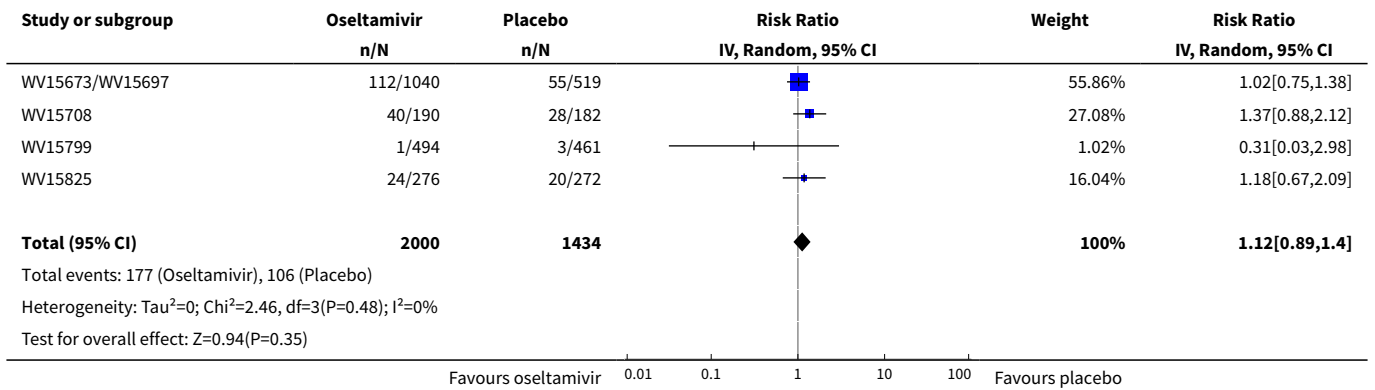
Analysis 2.16. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 16 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



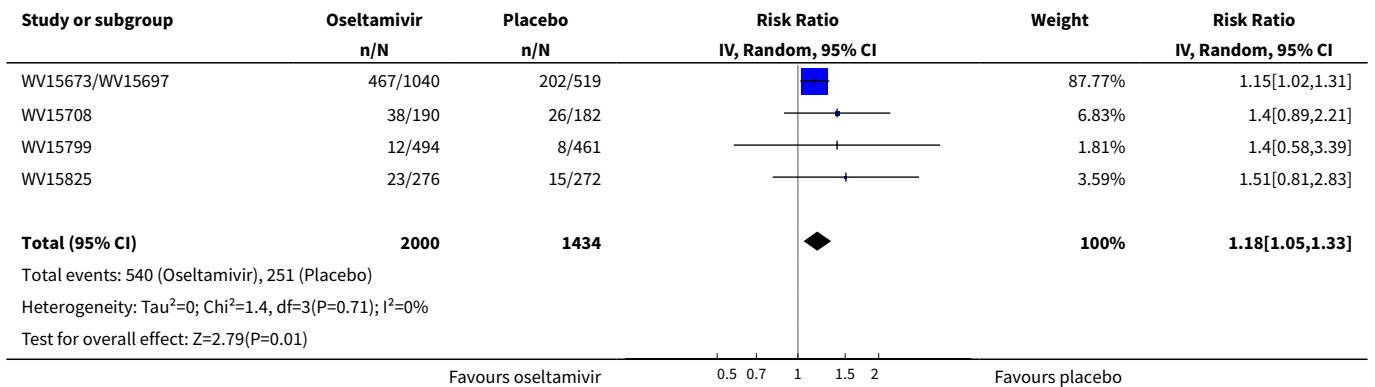
Analysis 2.17. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 17 Adverse events: dizziness in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



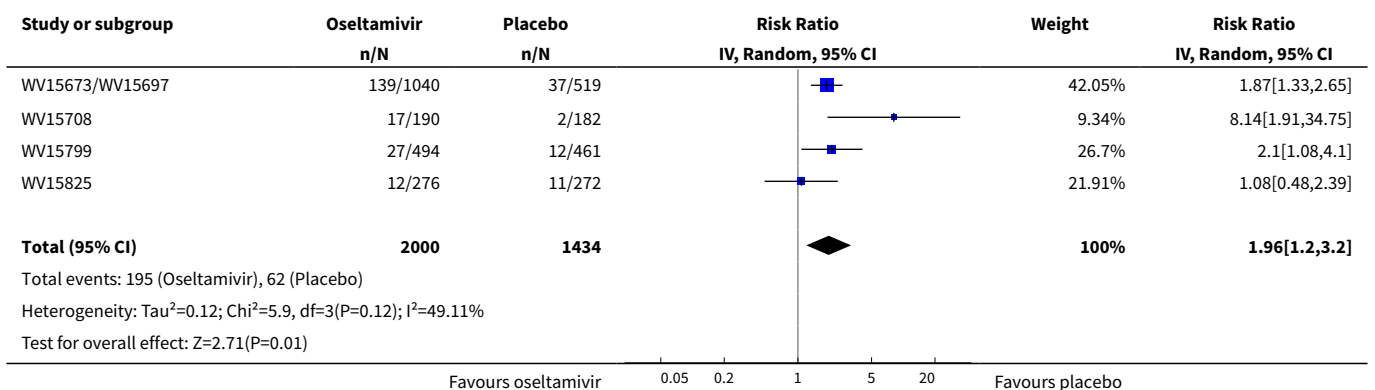
Analysis 2.18. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 18 Adverse events: fatigue in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



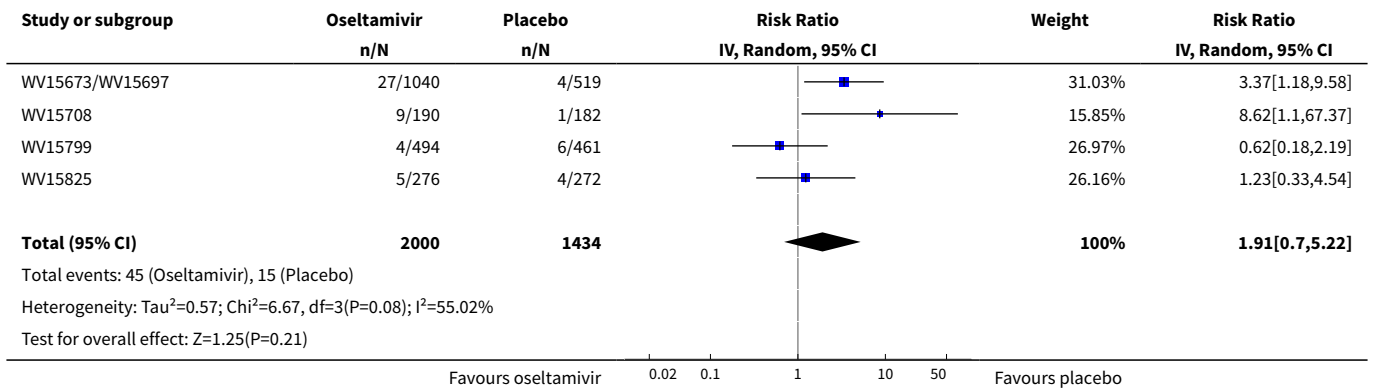
Analysis 2.19. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 19 Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



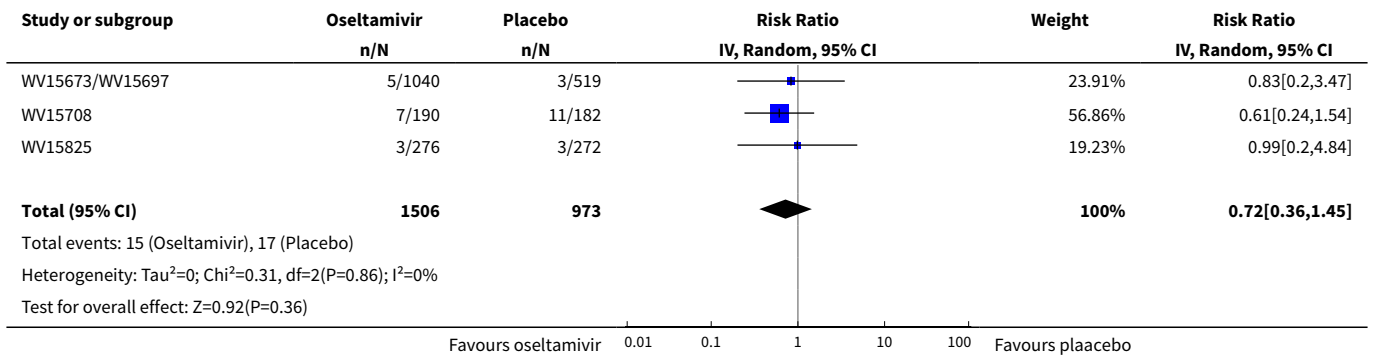
Analysis 2.20. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 20 Adverse events: nausea in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



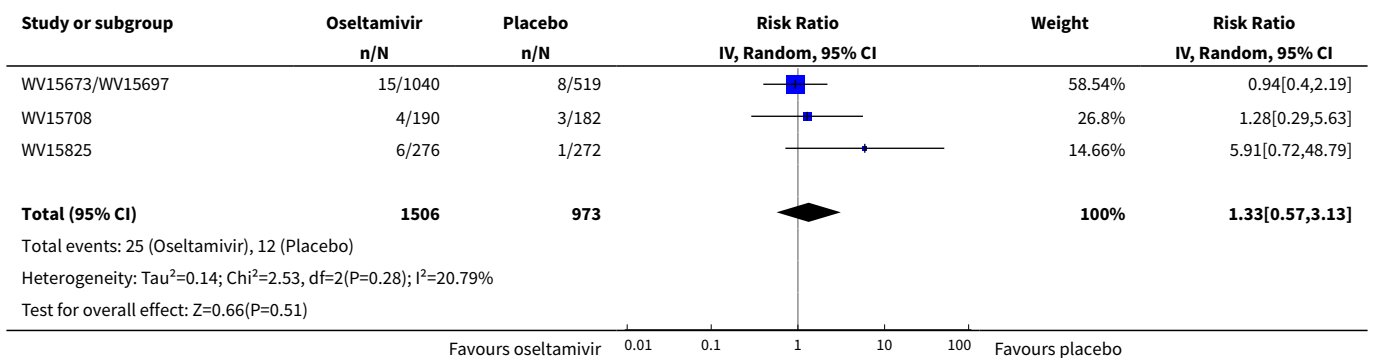
Analysis 2.21. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 21 Adverse events: vomiting in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



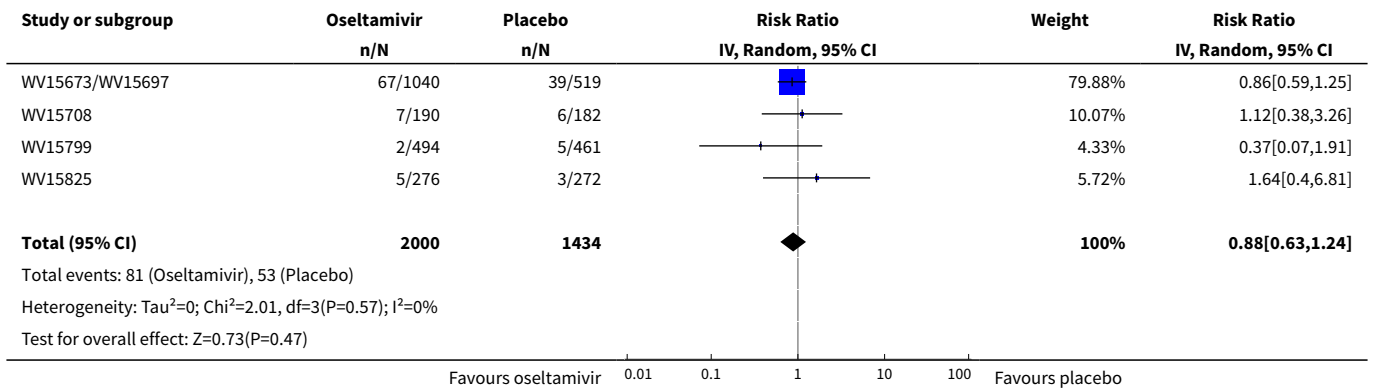
Analysis 2.22. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 22 Adverse events: cough in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



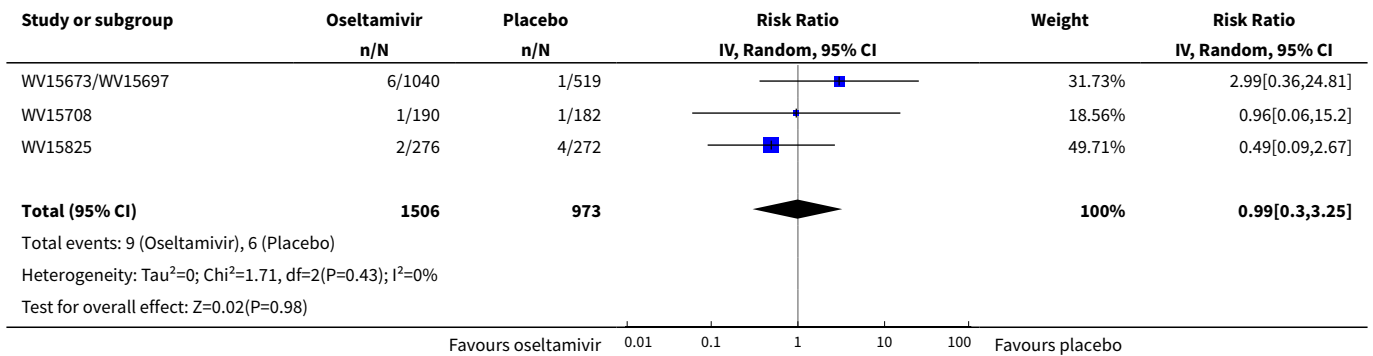
Analysis 2.23. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 23 Adverse events: fatigue in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



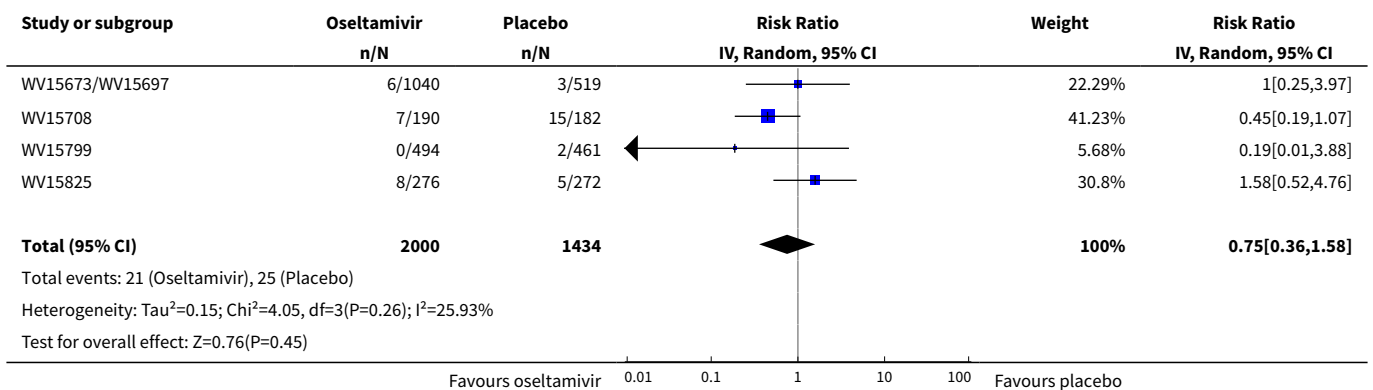
Analysis 2.24. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 24 Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



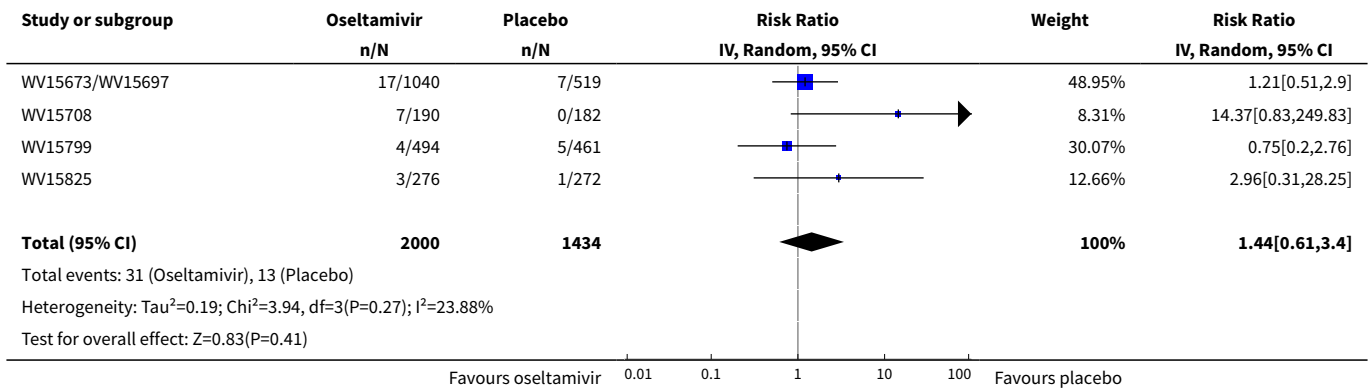
Analysis 2.25. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 25 Adverse events: blood body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



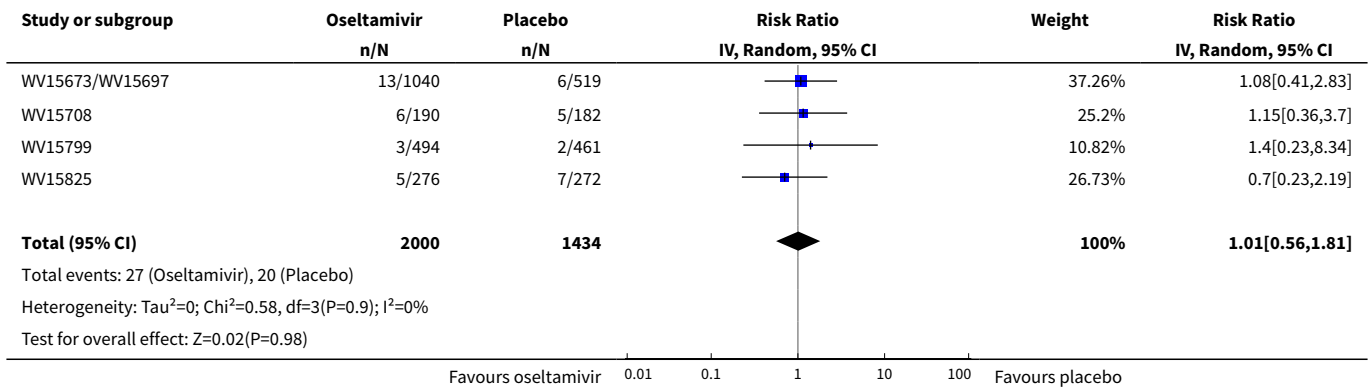
Analysis 2.26. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 26 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



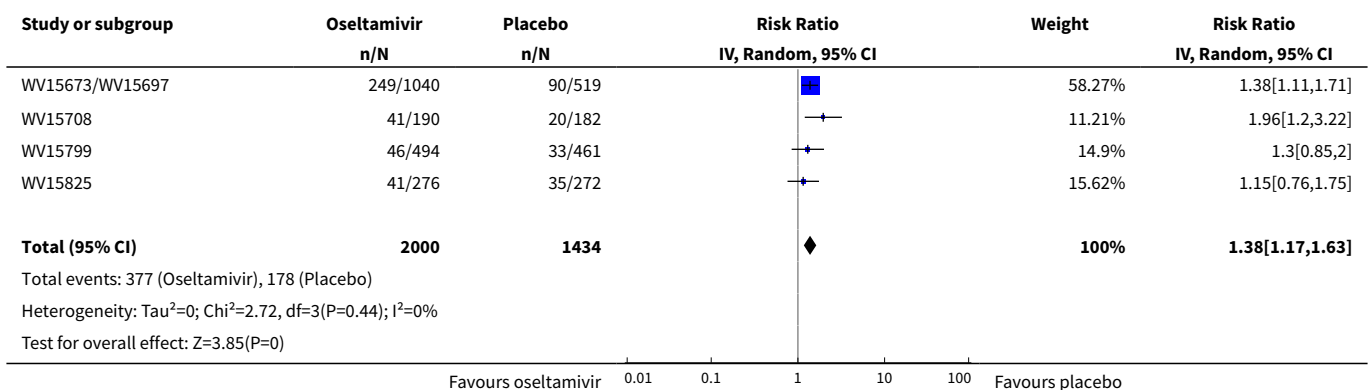
Analysis 2.27. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 27 Adverse events: ear body system in adult prophylaxis (on treatment).



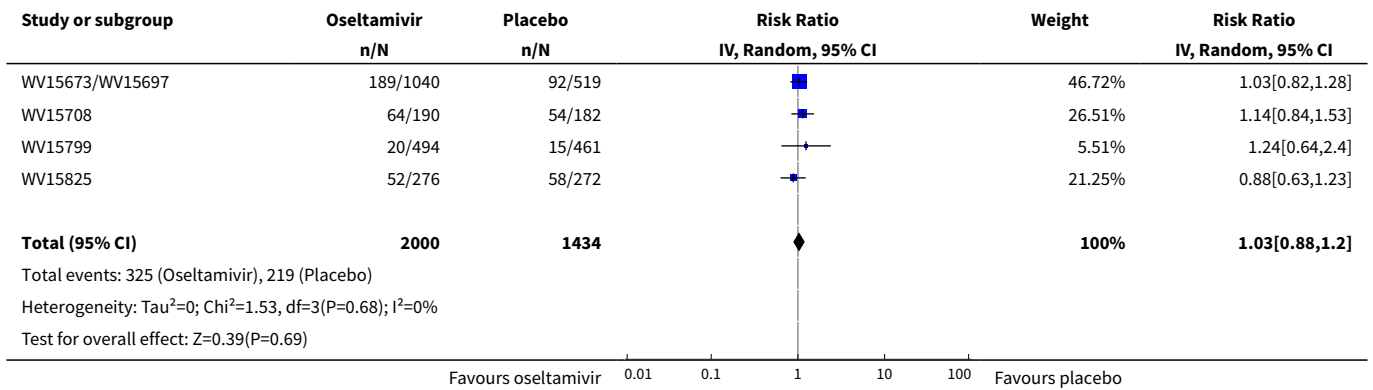
Analysis 2.28. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 28 Adverse events: eye body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



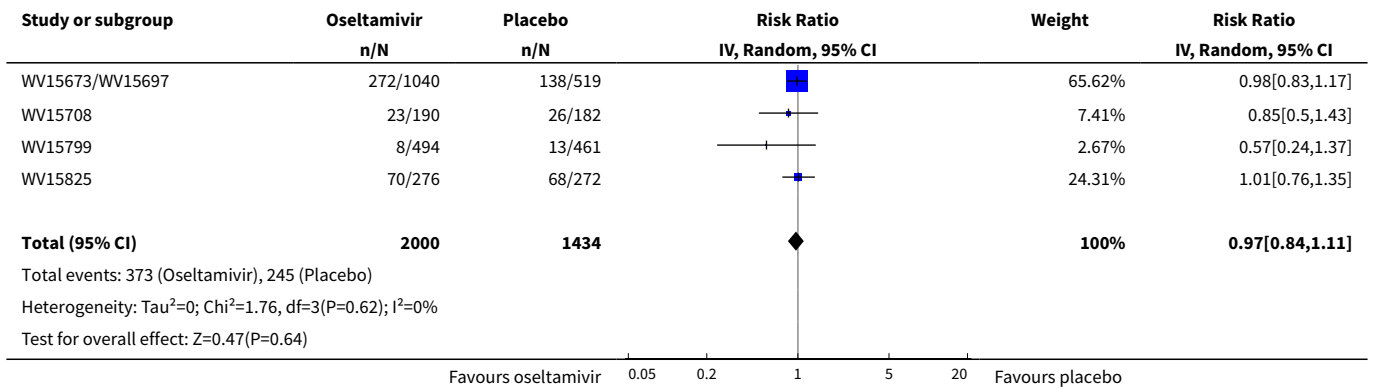
Analysis 2.29. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 29 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



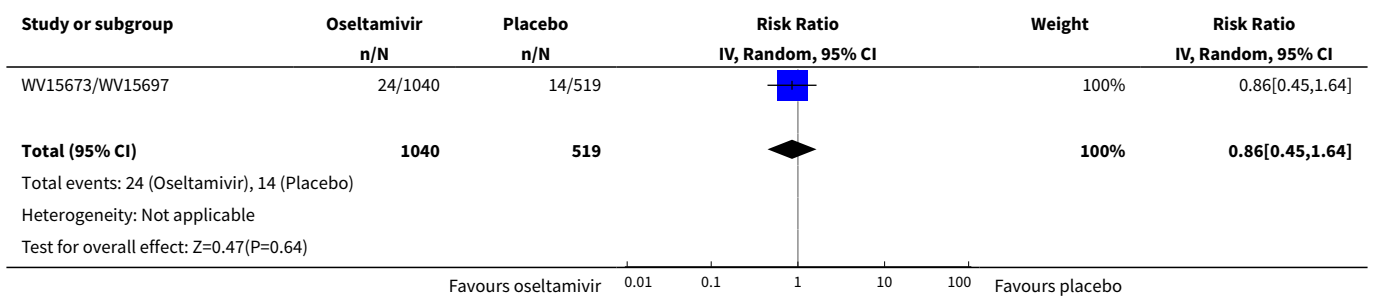
Analysis 2.30. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 30 Adverse events: general body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



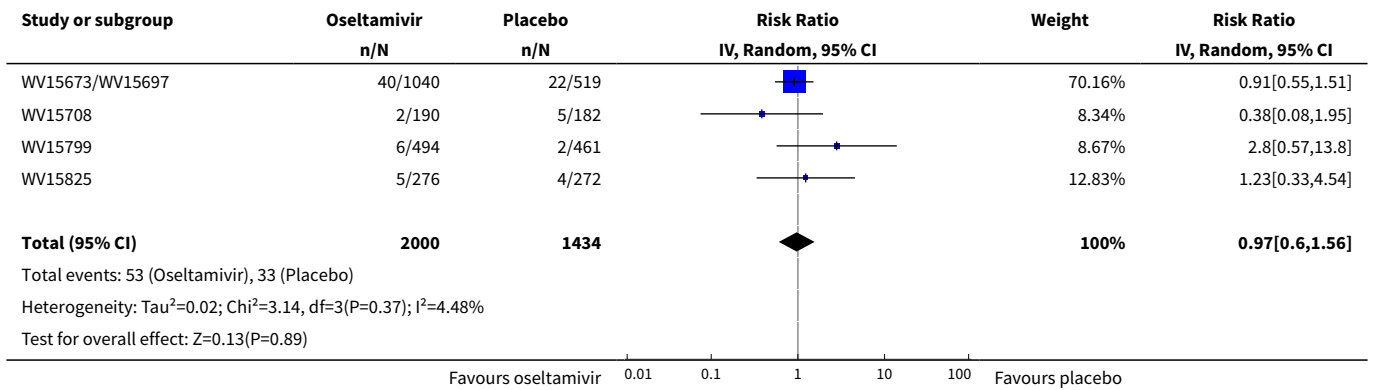
Analysis 2.31. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 31 Adverse events: infection body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



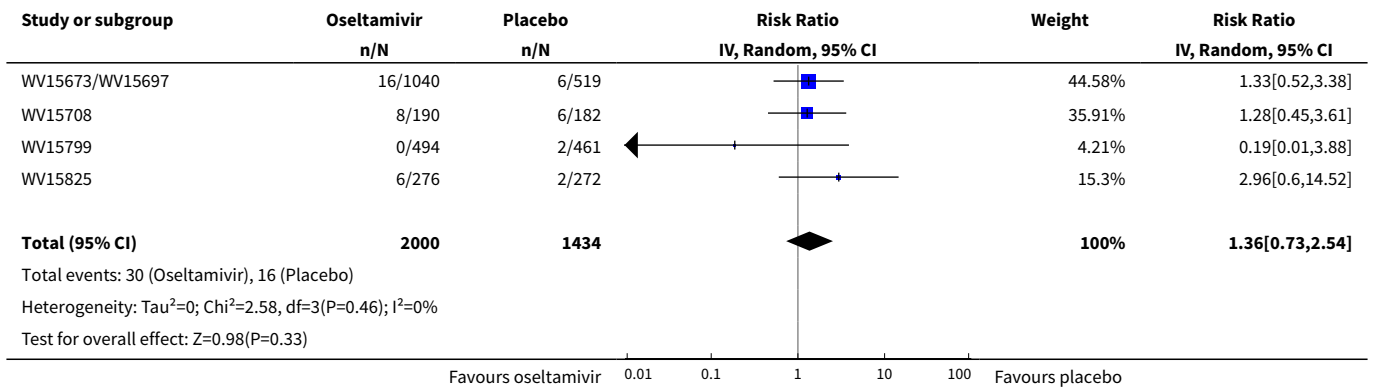
Analysis 2.32. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 32 Adverse events: immune body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



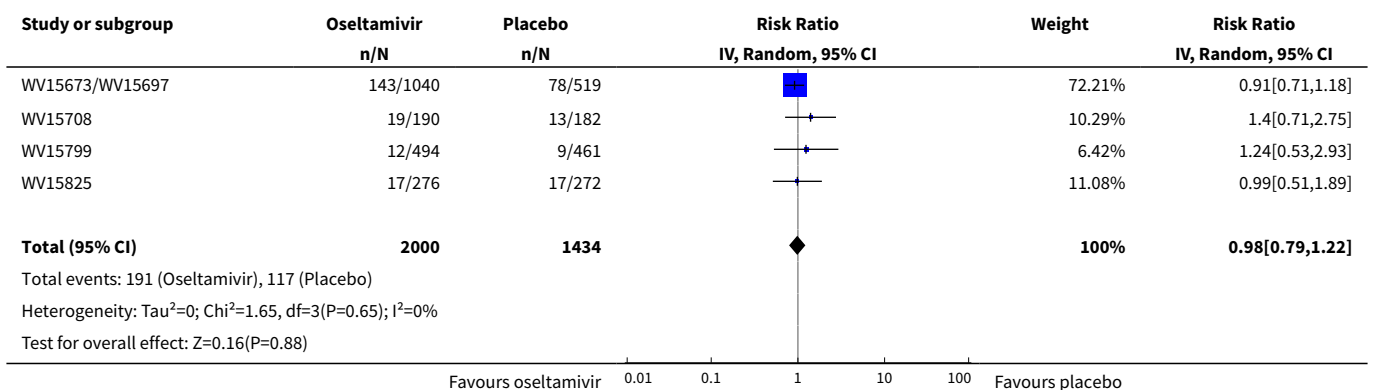
Analysis 2.33. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 33 Adverse events: injury body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



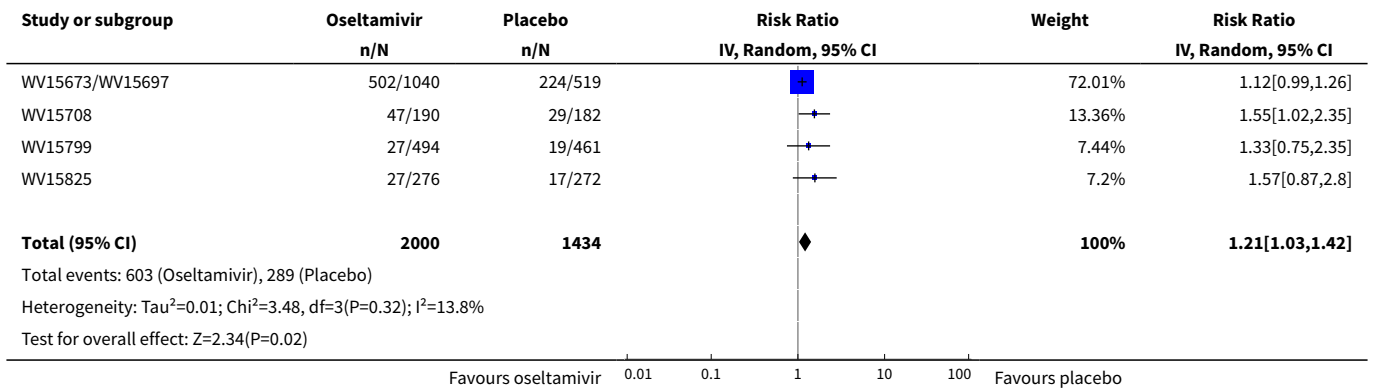
Analysis 2.34. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 34 Adverse events: metabolism body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



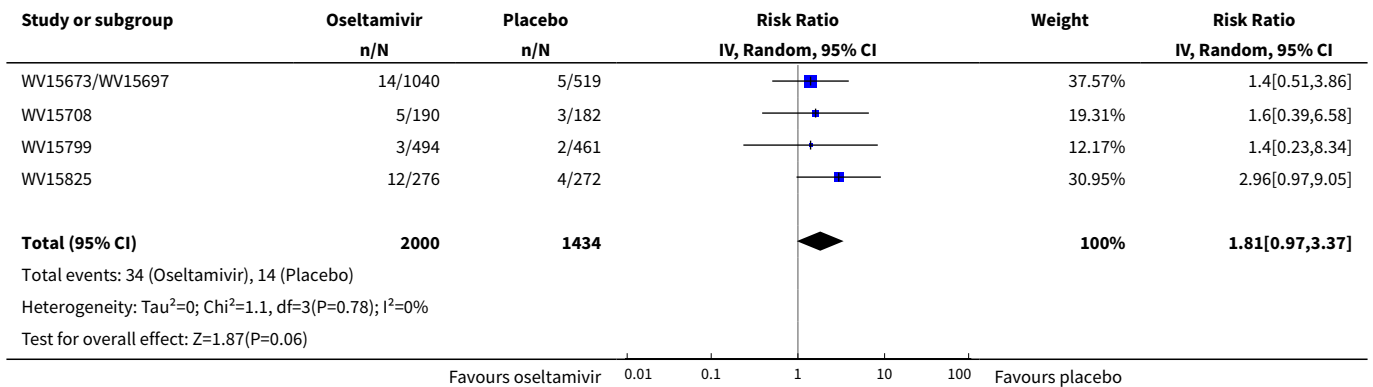
Analysis 2.35. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 35 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



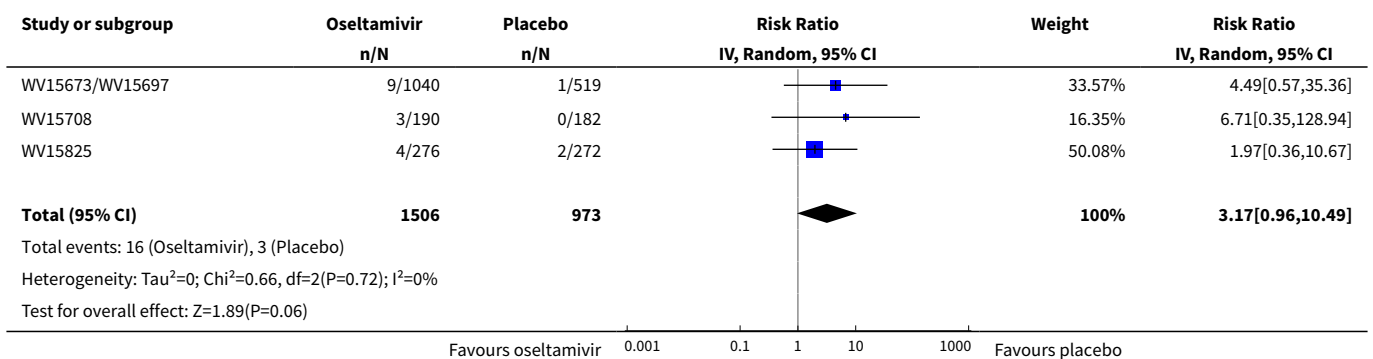
Analysis 2.36. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 36 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



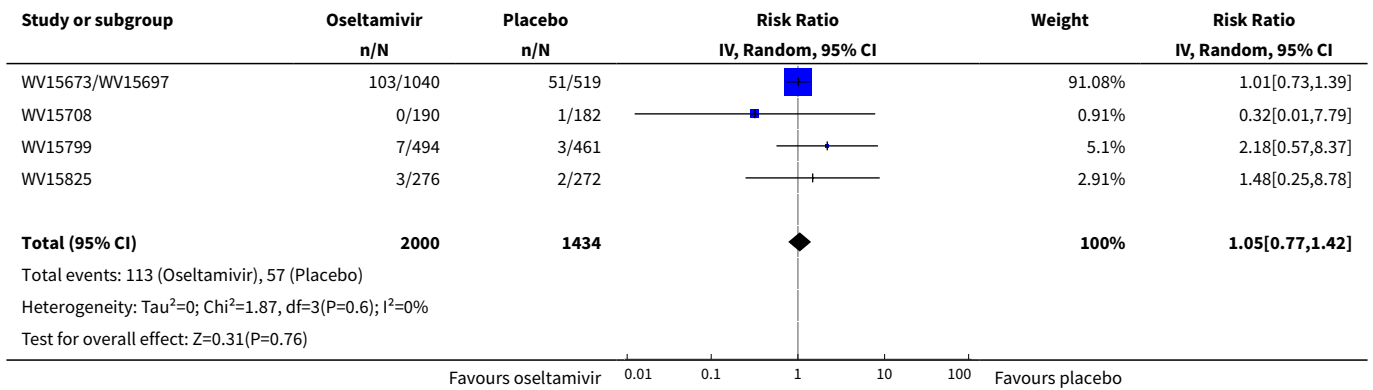
Analysis 2.37. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 37 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



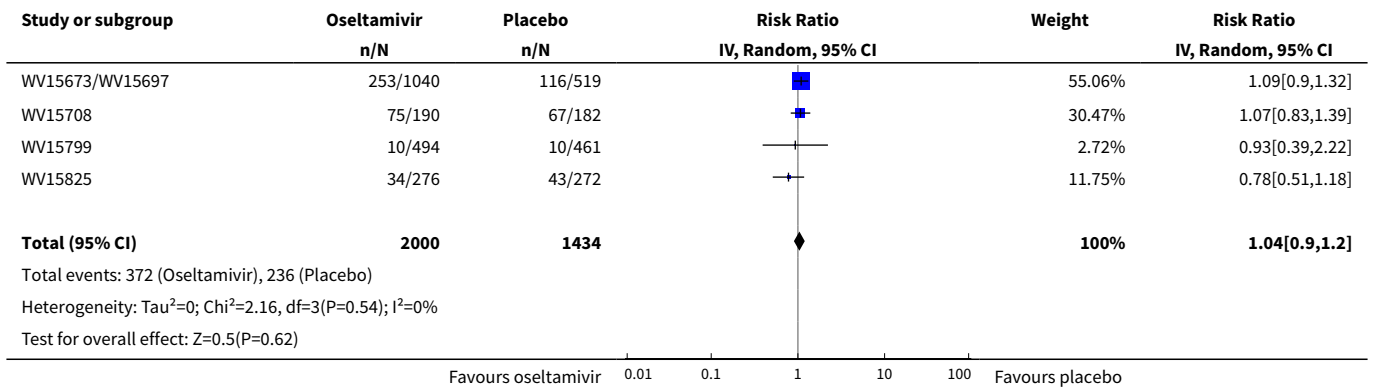
Analysis 2.38. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 38 Adverse events: renal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



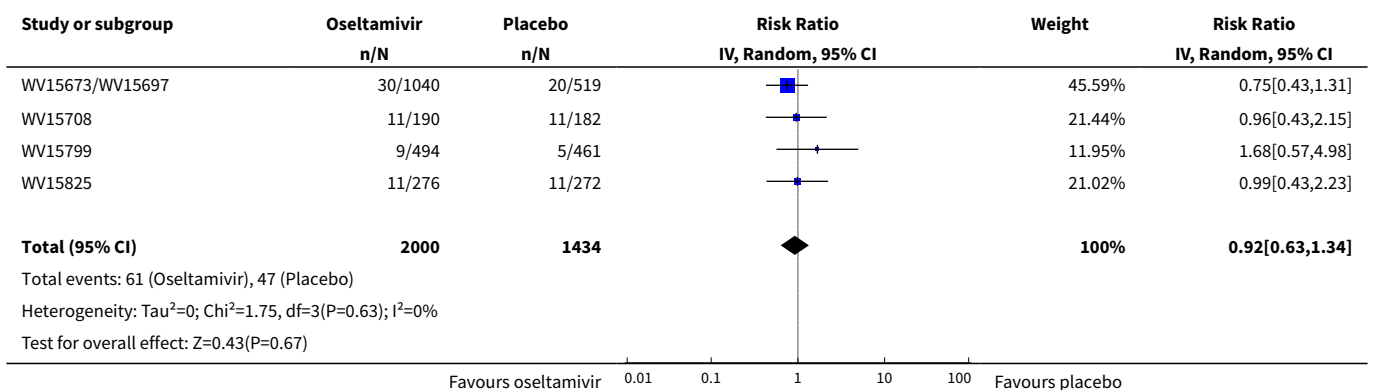
Analysis 2.39. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 39 Adverse events: reproductive body system in adult prophylaxis (on treatment).



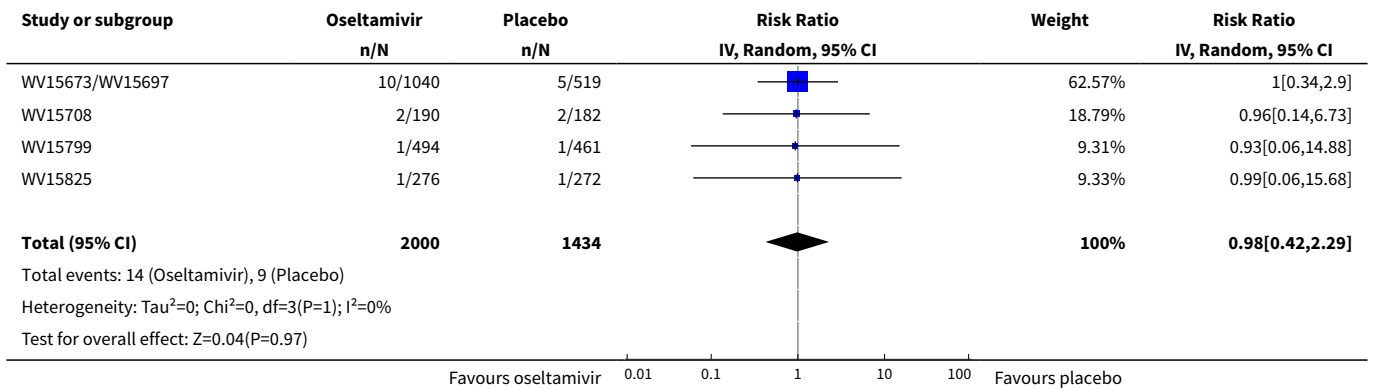
Analysis 2.40. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 40 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



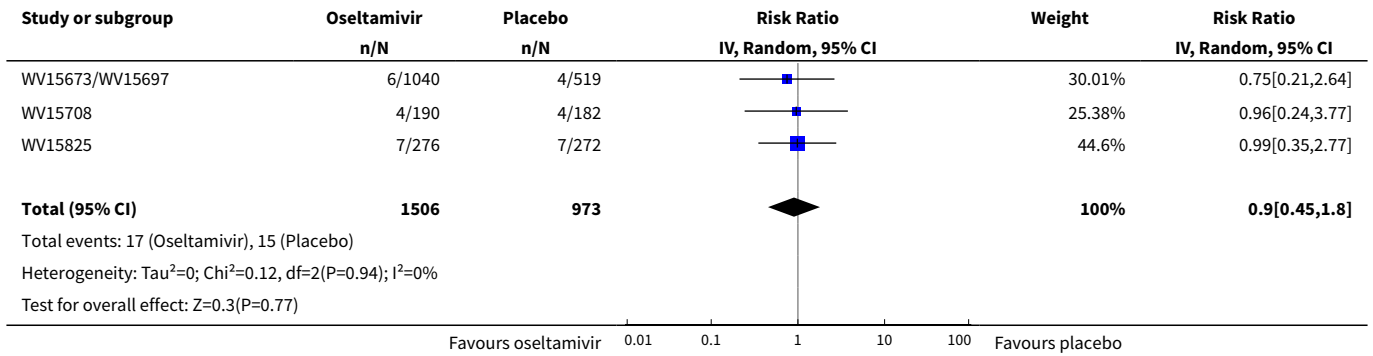
Analysis 2.41. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 41 Adverse events: skin body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



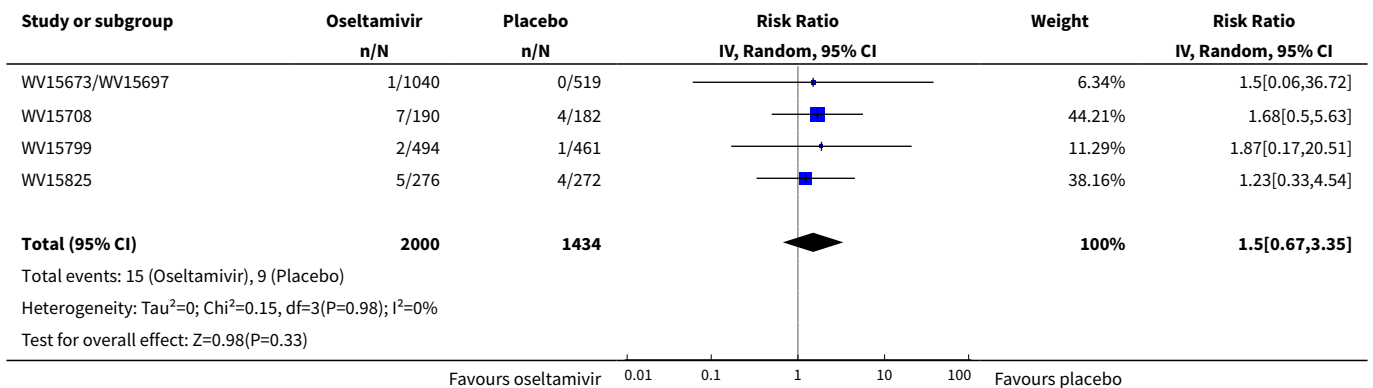
Analysis 2.42. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 42 Adverse events: surgical events in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



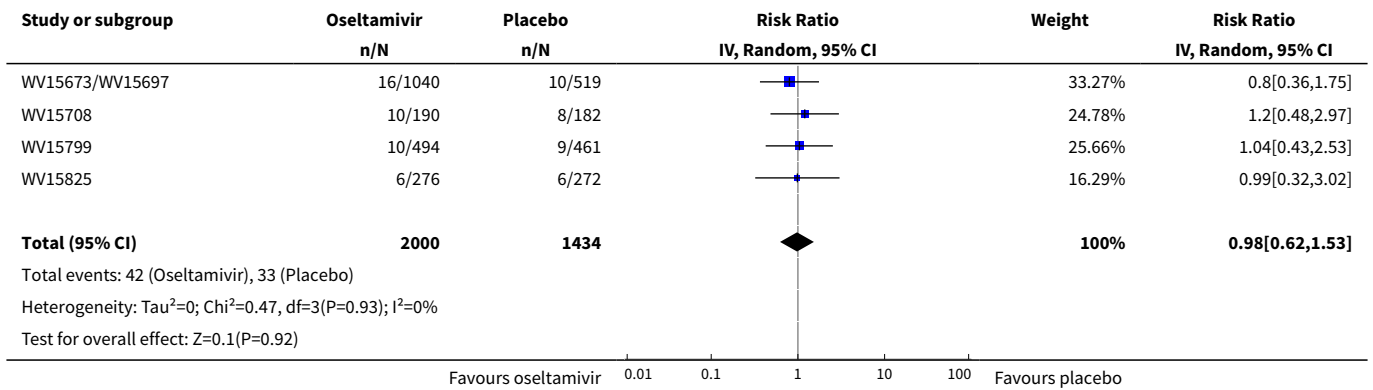
Analysis 2.43. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 43 Adverse events: vascular body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



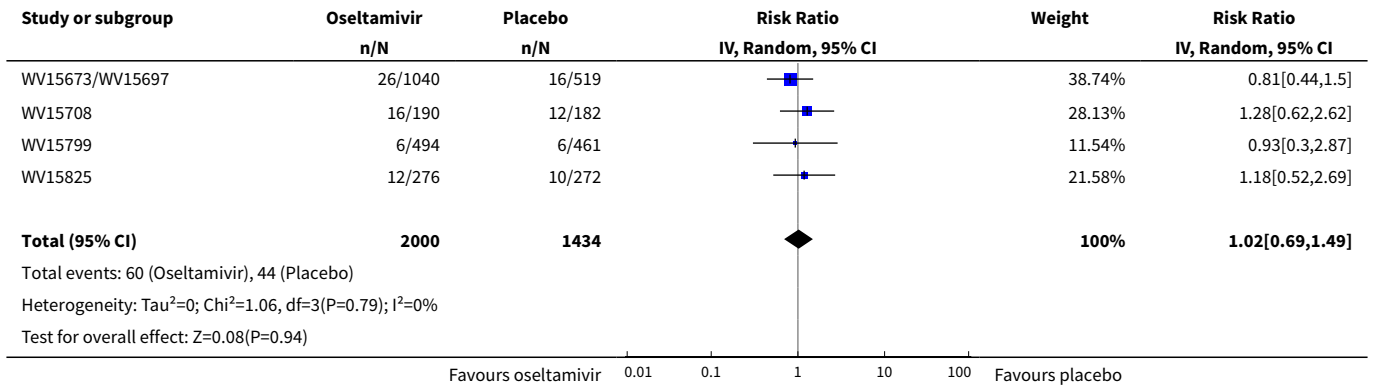
Analysis 2.44. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 44 Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



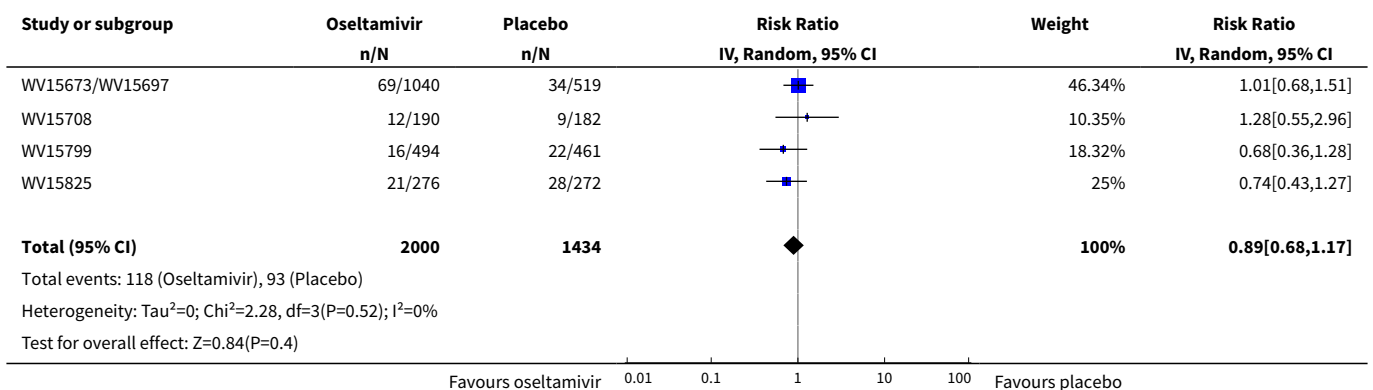
Analysis 2.45. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 45 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



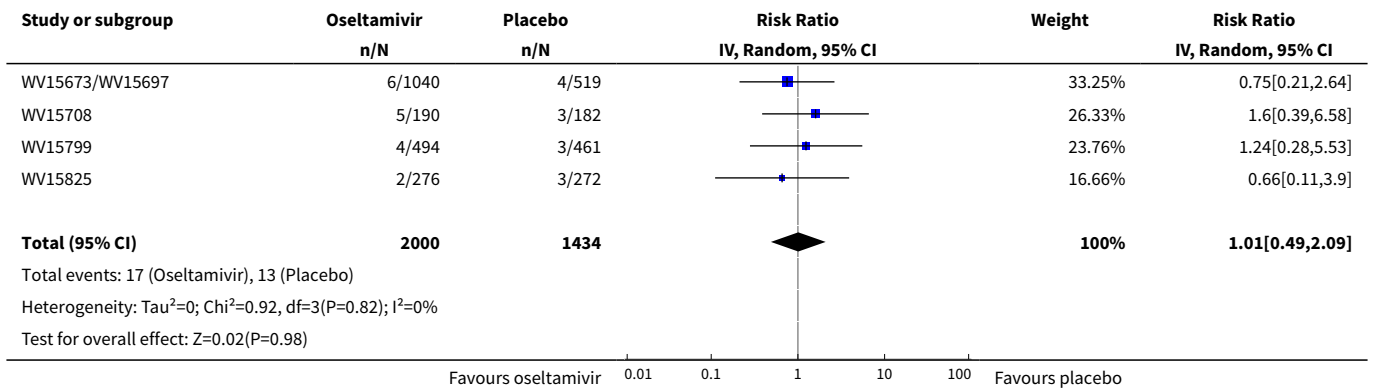
Analysis 2.46. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 46 Adverse events: general body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



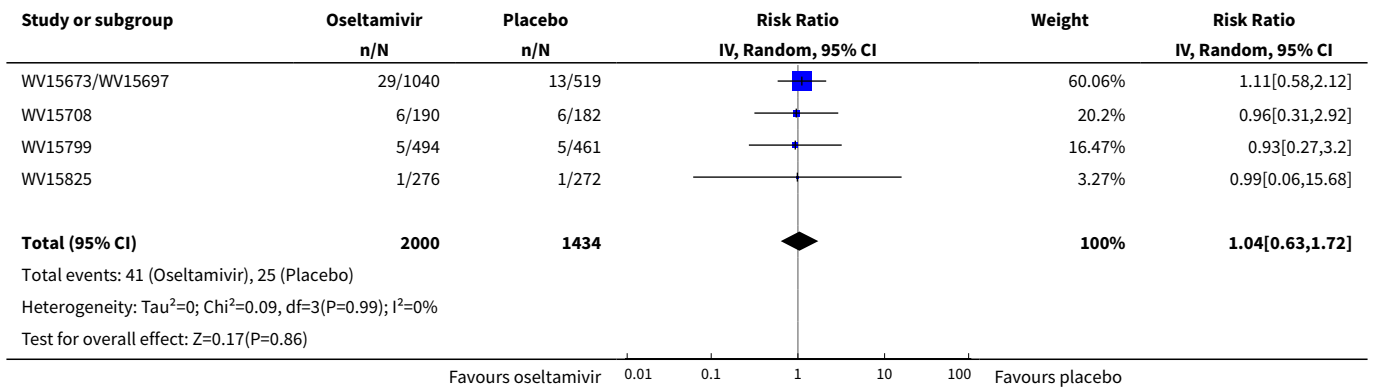
Analysis 2.47. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 47 Adverse events: infection body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



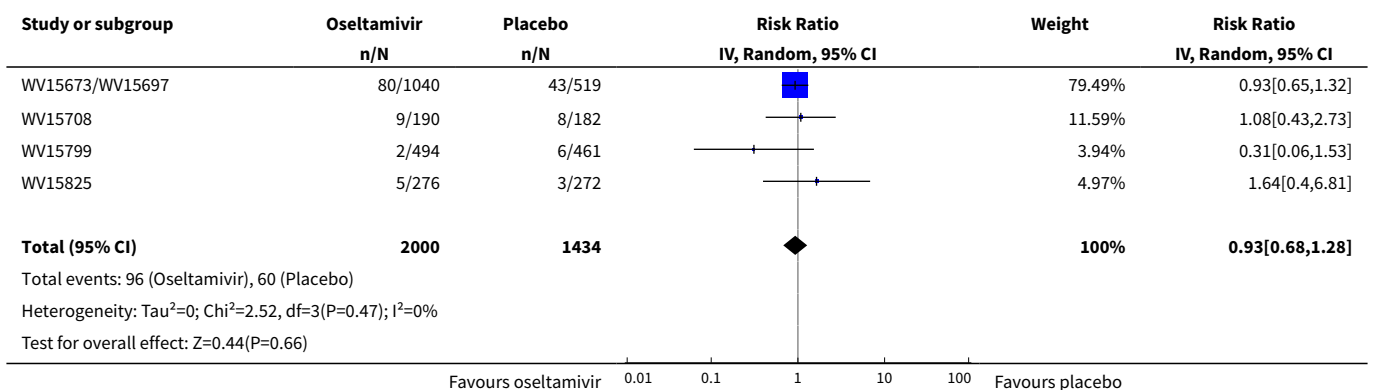
Analysis 2.48. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 48 Adverse events: injury body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



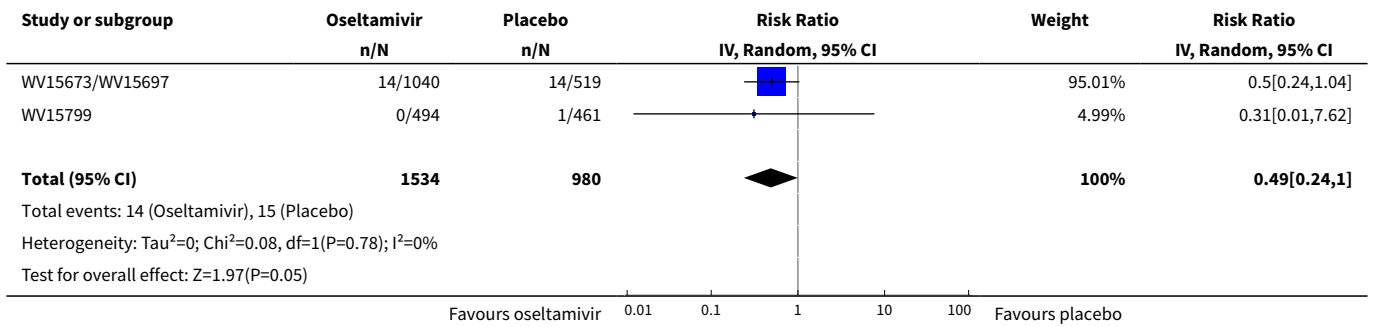
Analysis 2.49. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 49 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



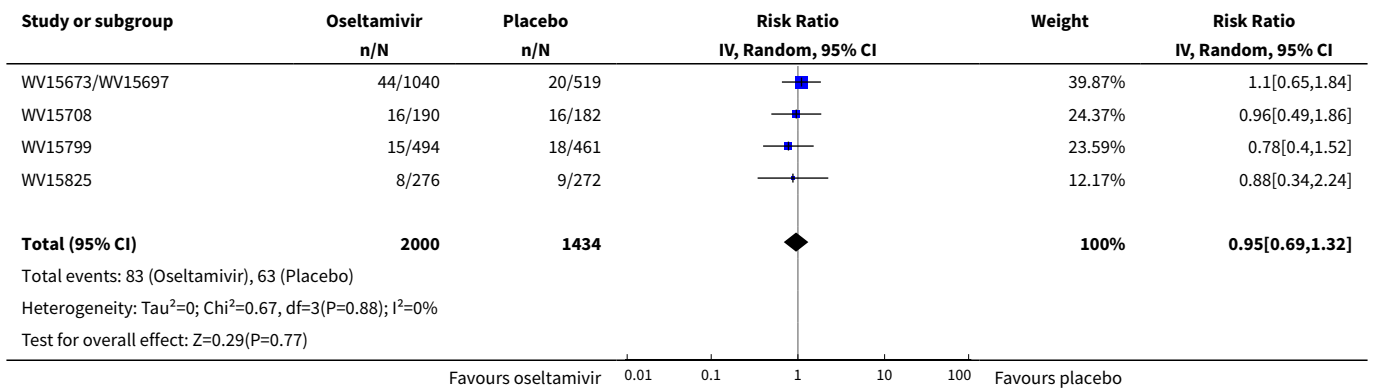
Analysis 2.50. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 50 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



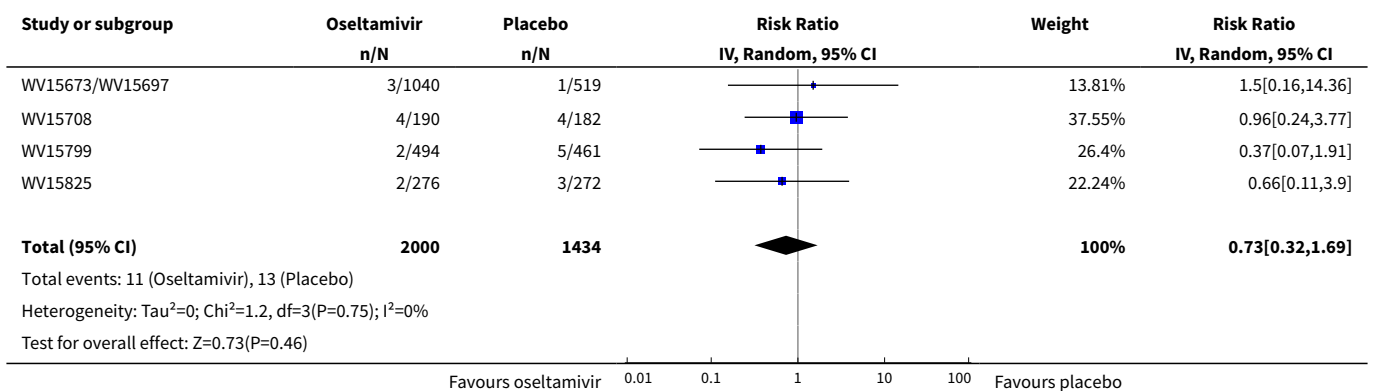
Analysis 2.51. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 51 Adverse events: reproductive body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



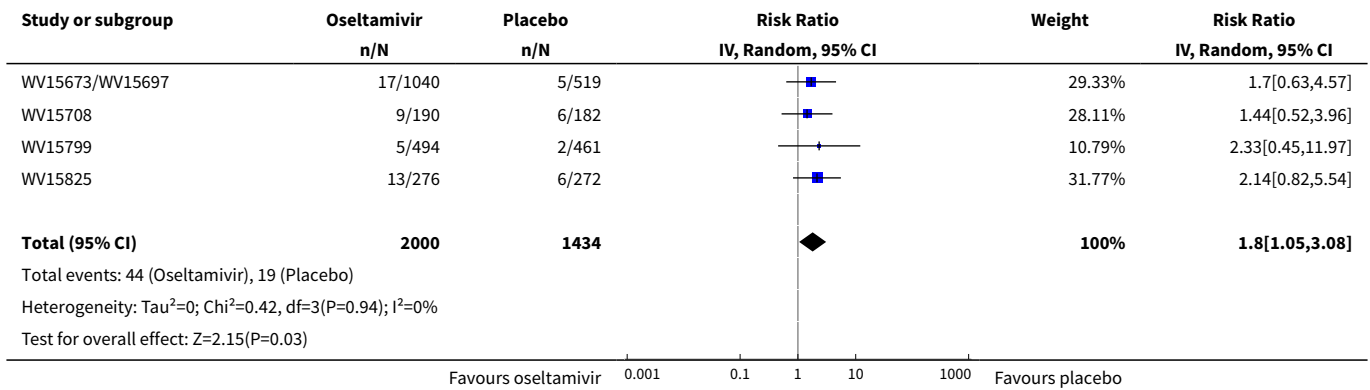
Analysis 2.52. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 52 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



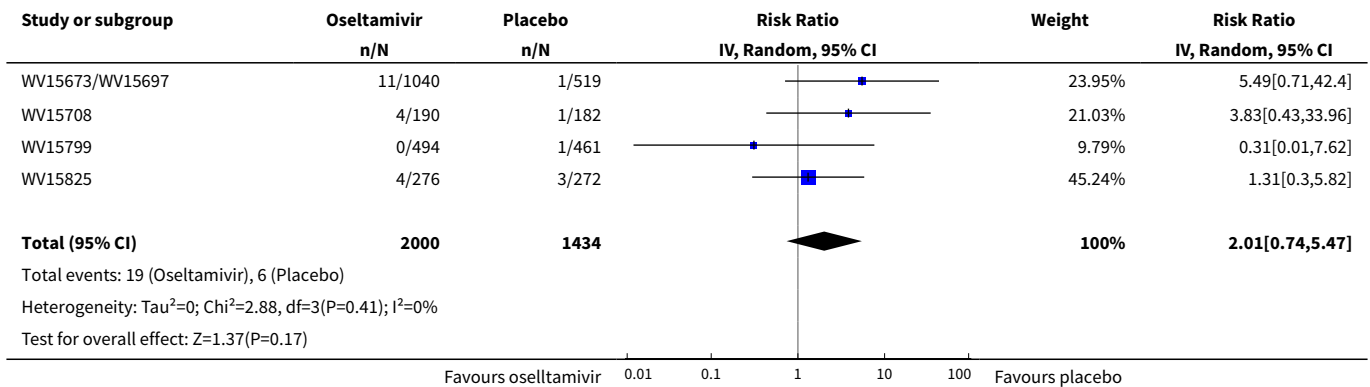
Analysis 2.53. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 53 Adverse events: skin body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



Analysis 2.54. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 54 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult prophylaxis (on and off-treatment).



Analysis 2.55. Comparison 2 Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 55 Adverse events: renal body system in adult prophylaxis (on and off-treatment).



Comparison 3. Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (days)	13	5411	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-0.60 [-0.81, -0.39]
2 Complications: pneumonia in adult treatment	11	5876	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.58, 1.40]
3 Complications: pneumonia confirmed with X-ray in adult treatment	2	946	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.35, 3.02]
4 Complications: bronchitis in adult treatment	12	6072	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.75 [0.61, 0.91]
5 Complications: sinusitis in adult treatment	12	6072	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.12 [0.84, 1.48]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
6 Complications: otitis media in adult treatment	10	5494	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.81 [0.54, 1.20]
7 Complications in adult trials classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal	8	4514	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.10 [0.46, 2.63]
8 Proportion diagnosed as influenza-infected in adult treatment	15	6569	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.98, 1.06]
9 Proportion with four-fold rise in antibody titre in adult treatment	13	5113	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.96, 1.06]
10 Proportion with positive culture at baseline in adult treatment	12	5995	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.96, 1.05]
11 Serious adverse events in adult treatment	10	4388	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.86 [0.49, 1.50]
12 Adverse events leading to study withdrawal in adult treatment	13	6116	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.66, 1.39]
13 All withdrawals in adult treatment	12	6065	Risk Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-0.00 [-0.01, 0.01]
14 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in children (days)	2	723	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-1.08 [-2.32, 0.15]
15 Complications: pneumonia in child treatment	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.53 [0.12, 2.38]
16 Complications: bronchitis in child treatment	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.86 [0.26, 2.80]
17 Complications: sinusitis in child treatment	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.12, 6.45]
18 Complications: otitis media in child treatment	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.00 [0.59, 1.72]
19 Proportion diagnosed as influenza-infected in child treatment	1	471	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.89, 1.11]
20 Proportion with four-fold increase in antibodies in child treatment	1	431	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.86, 1.20]
21 Proportion with positive culture at baseline in child treatment	1	469	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.06 [0.87, 1.27]
22 All withdrawals in child treatment	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.18 [0.16, 8.88]
23 Adverse events: nausea and vomiting in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	737	Odds Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.54 [0.24, 1.22]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
24 Adverse events: diarrhoea in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.52 [0.15, 1.75]
25 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.52, 1.73]
26 Adverse events: respiratory body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.56 [0.29, 1.10]
27 Adverse events: neurological body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.61 [0.20, 1.85]
28 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.63, 1.67]
29 Adverse events: skin body system in child treatment (on-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.34, 2.98]
30 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.39 [0.50, 3.83]
31 Adverse events: ear nose and throat body system in child treatment (off-treatment)	2	737	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.54, 1.63]
32 Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6553	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.60 [0.39, 0.94]
33 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6553	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.66, 1.14]
34 Adverse events: dizziness in adult treatment (on-treatment)	13	5641	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.20 [0.68, 2.15]
35 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6553	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.84 [0.60, 1.18]
36 Adverse events: cough in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6553	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.69 [0.49, 0.96]
37 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6453	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.89 [0.72, 1.09]
38 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6553	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.81 [0.67, 0.97]
39 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6553	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.82, 1.29]
40 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	14	6229	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.89 [0.76, 1.05]
41 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	13	6181	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.84 [0.60, 1.18]

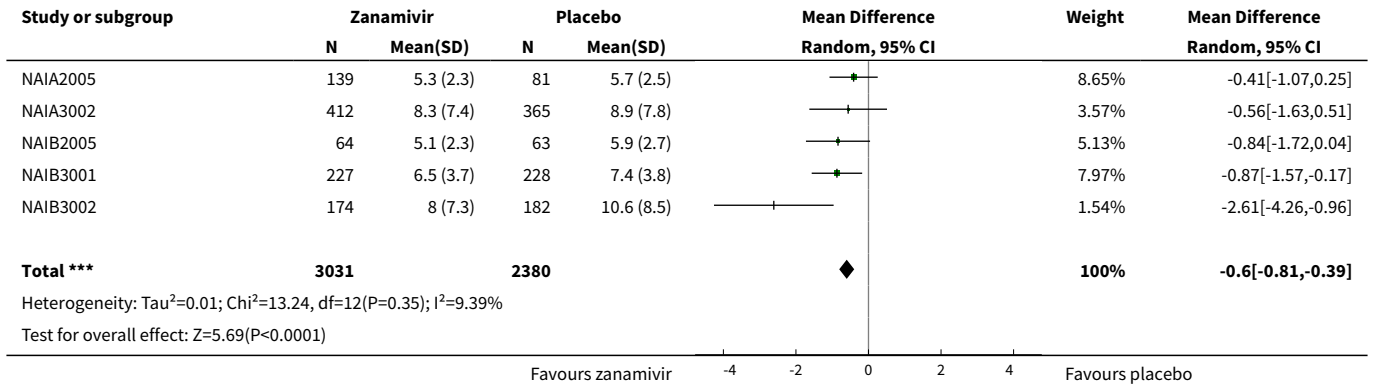
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
42 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	15	6553	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.72 [0.49, 1.04]
43 Adverse events: eye body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	13	6181	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.55, 1.74]
44 Adverse events: hepato body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	9	4788	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.83 [0.39, 1.76]
45 Adverse events: renal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	11	5205	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.84 [0.41, 1.72]
46 Adverse events: cardiovascular body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	11	5204	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.50, 1.91]
47 Adverse events: blood body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	11	5272	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.80 [0.43, 1.49]
48 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	10	4732	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.16 [0.57, 2.38]
49 Adverse events: reproduction body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	9	4924	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.68 [0.33, 1.43]
50 Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	11	5477	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.58, 1.53]
51 Adverse events: injury body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	9	5293	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.22 [0.57, 2.60]
52 Adverse events: non-site specific events in adult treatment (on-treatment)	12	6065	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.78, 1.39]
53 Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in adult treatment (off-treatment)	10	5403	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.12 [0.67, 1.85]
54 Adverse events: cough in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.71, 1.29]
55 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.71, 1.14]
56 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.69, 1.20]
57 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.59, 1.72]
58 Adverse events: fatigue in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.70 [0.37, 1.32]
59 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.73, 1.29]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
60 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.72, 1.16]
61 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.91, 1.19]
62 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.10 [0.68, 1.78]
63 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5369	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.16 [0.87, 1.55]
64 Adverse events: non-site specific in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.76 [0.56, 1.03]
65 Adverse events: injury body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.60, 2.15]
66 Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.49, 1.68]
67 Adverse events: eye body system in adult treatment (off-treatment)	11	5599	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.55, 2.24]
68 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults with/without relief medication [days]	7	3396	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.41 [-0.47, 1.29]
69 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults by infection status [days]	12	4873	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-0.57 [-0.78, -0.37]
69.1 Influenza-infected	12	3233	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-0.67 [-0.99, -0.35]
69.2 Not influenza-infected	12	1640	Mean Difference (IV, Random, 95% CI)	-0.52 [-0.86, -0.18]

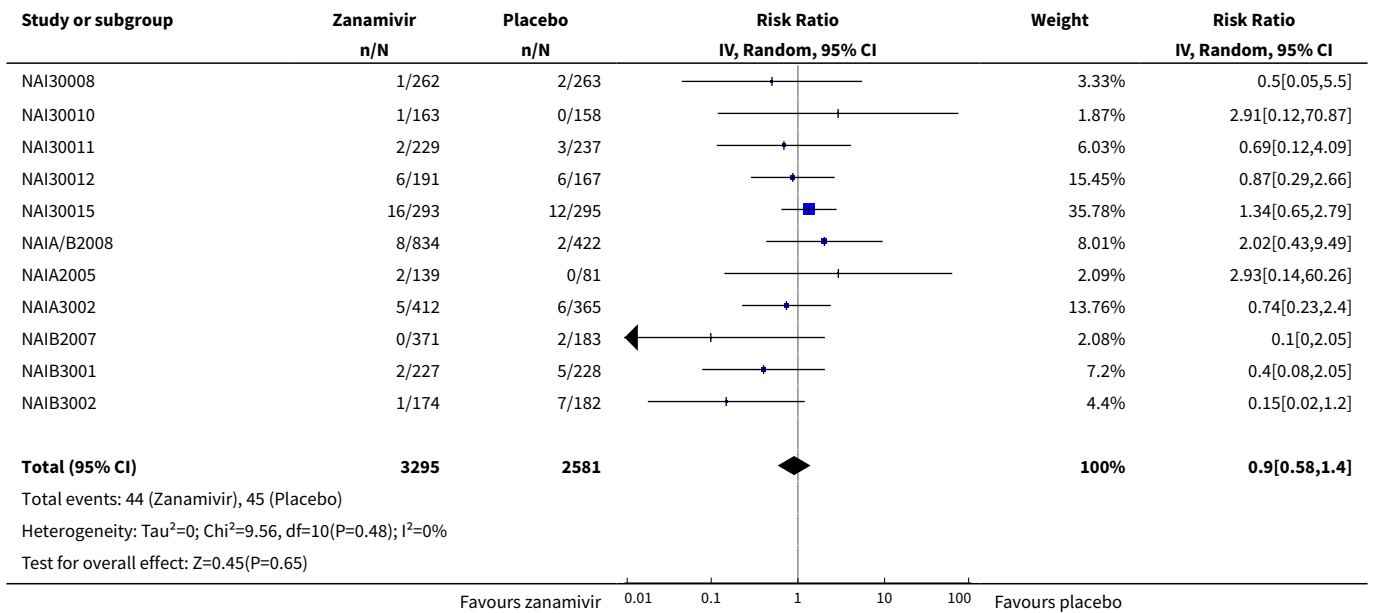
Analysis 3.1. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 1 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (days).

Study or subgroup	Zanamivir		Placebo		Mean Difference Random, 95% CI	Weight	Mean Difference Random, 95% CI
	N	Mean(SD)	N	Mean(SD)			
JNAI-01	29	3.1 (1.3)	31	3.9 (1)		10.66%	-0.77[-1.36,-0.18]
JNAI-04	32	3.8 (2.1)	16	5.7 (2.8)		1.8%	-1.84[-3.36,-0.32]
JNAI-07	211	4.4 (2)	107	4.7 (2)		16.29%	-0.26[-0.72,0.2]
NAI30008	262	9.6 (8.1)	263	10.7 (8.5)		2.07%	-1.11[-2.53,0.31]
NAI30010	163	7.1 (6.5)	158	7.9 (6.6)		2.03%	-0.82[-2.25,0.61]
NAI30012	191	10.5 (8.9)	169	10.9 (8.5)		1.31%	-0.48[-2.27,1.31]
NAI30015	293	4.3 (5.2)	295	4.9 (5.6)		5.18%	-0.57[-1.45,0.31]
NAIA/B2008	834	5.9 (2.5)	422	6.3 (2.3)		33.8%	-0.47[-0.74,-0.2]

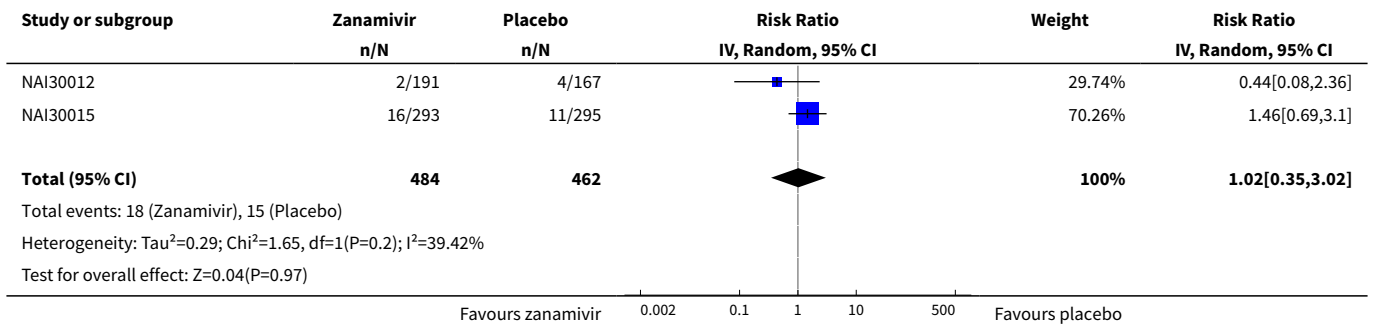
Favours zanamivir -4 -2 0 2 4 Favours placebo



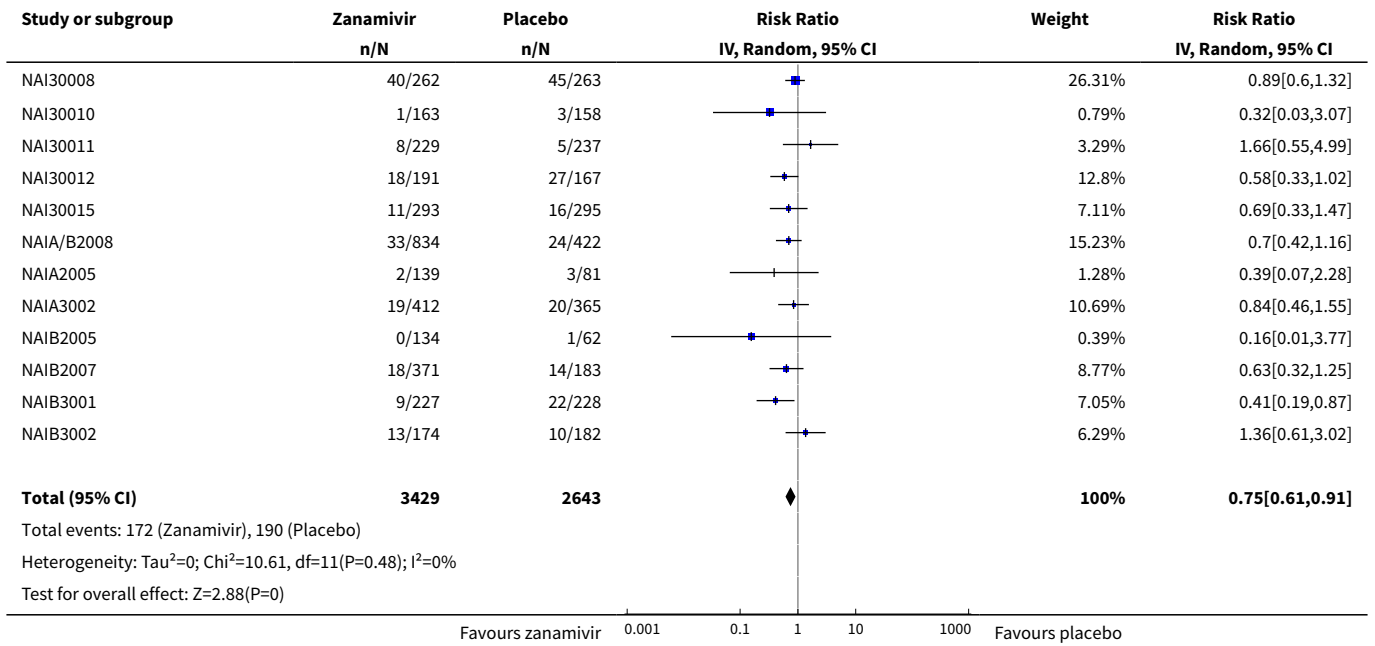
Analysis 3.2. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 2 Complications: pneumonia in adult treatment.



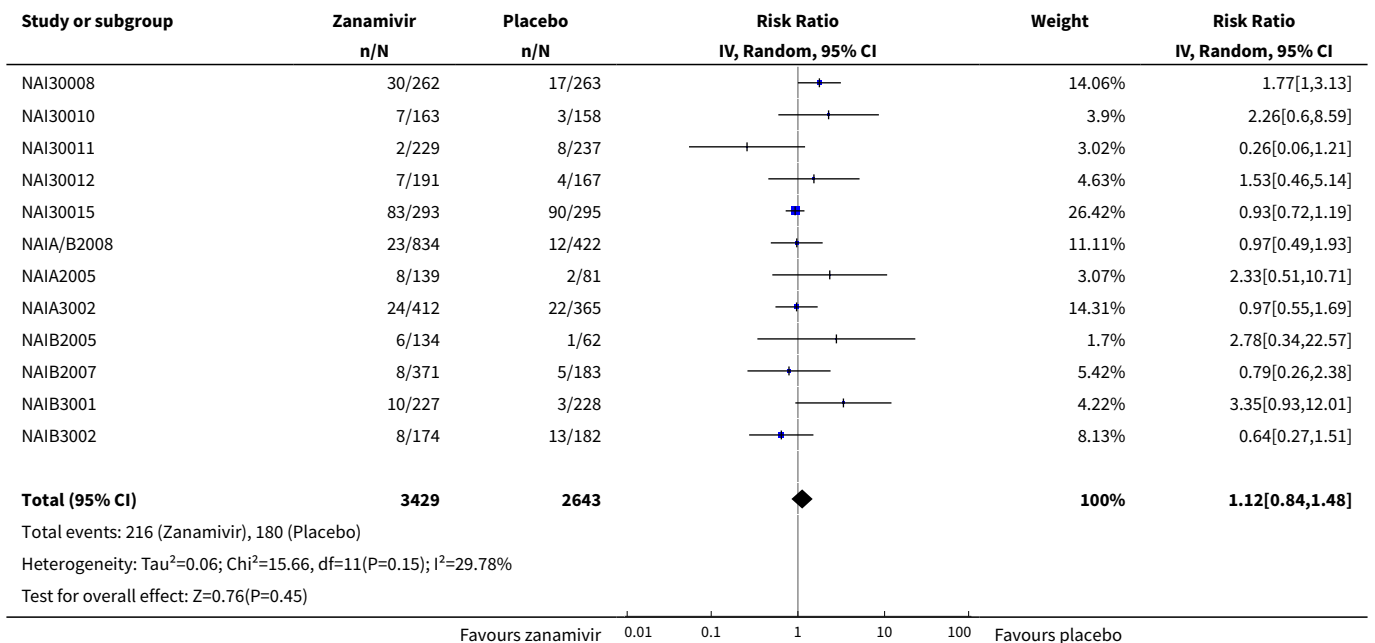
Analysis 3.3. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 3 Complications: pneumonia confirmed with X-ray in adult treatment.



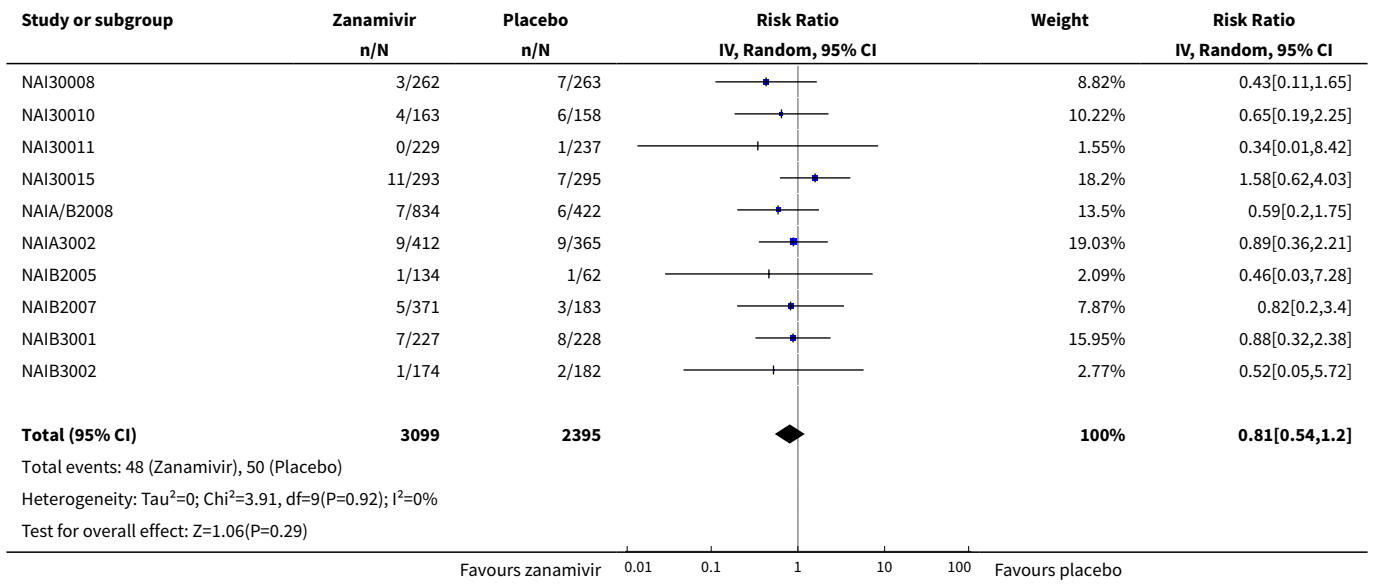
Analysis 3.4. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 4 Complications: bronchitis in adult treatment.



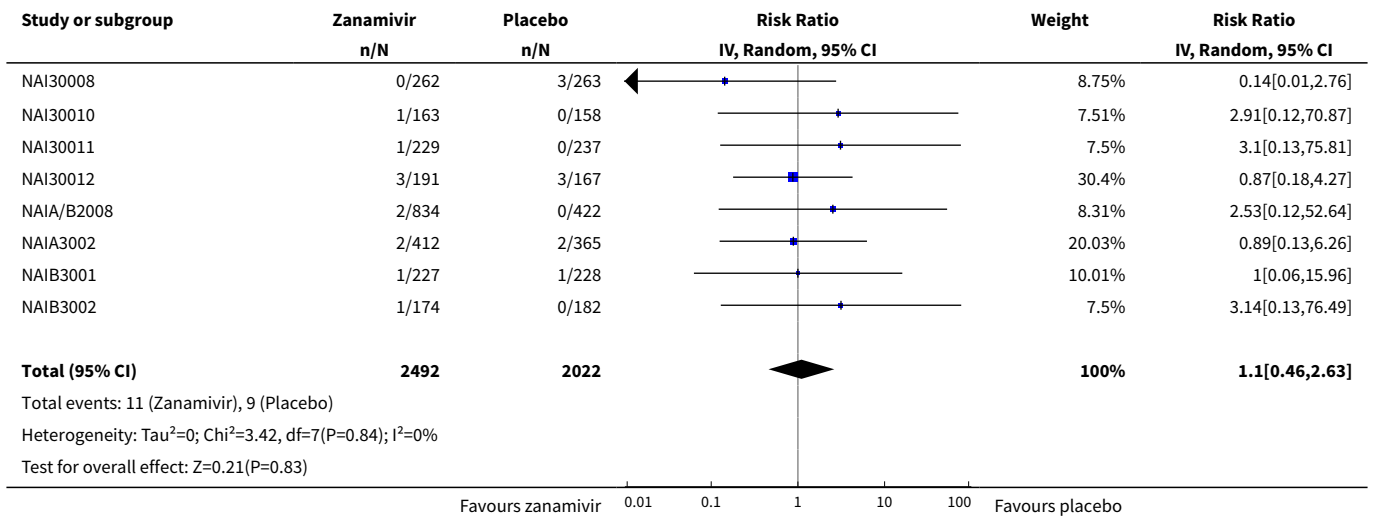
Analysis 3.5. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 5 Complications: sinusitis in adult treatment.



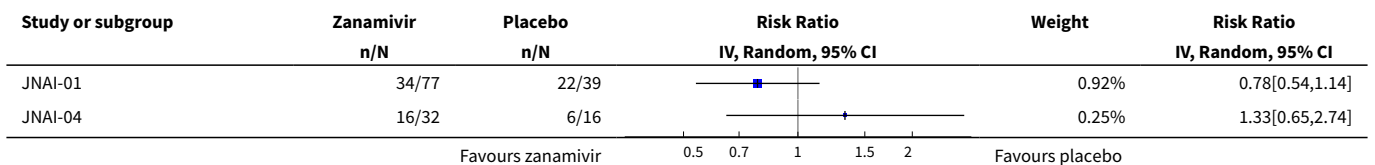
Analysis 3.6. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 6 Complications: otitis media in adult treatment.

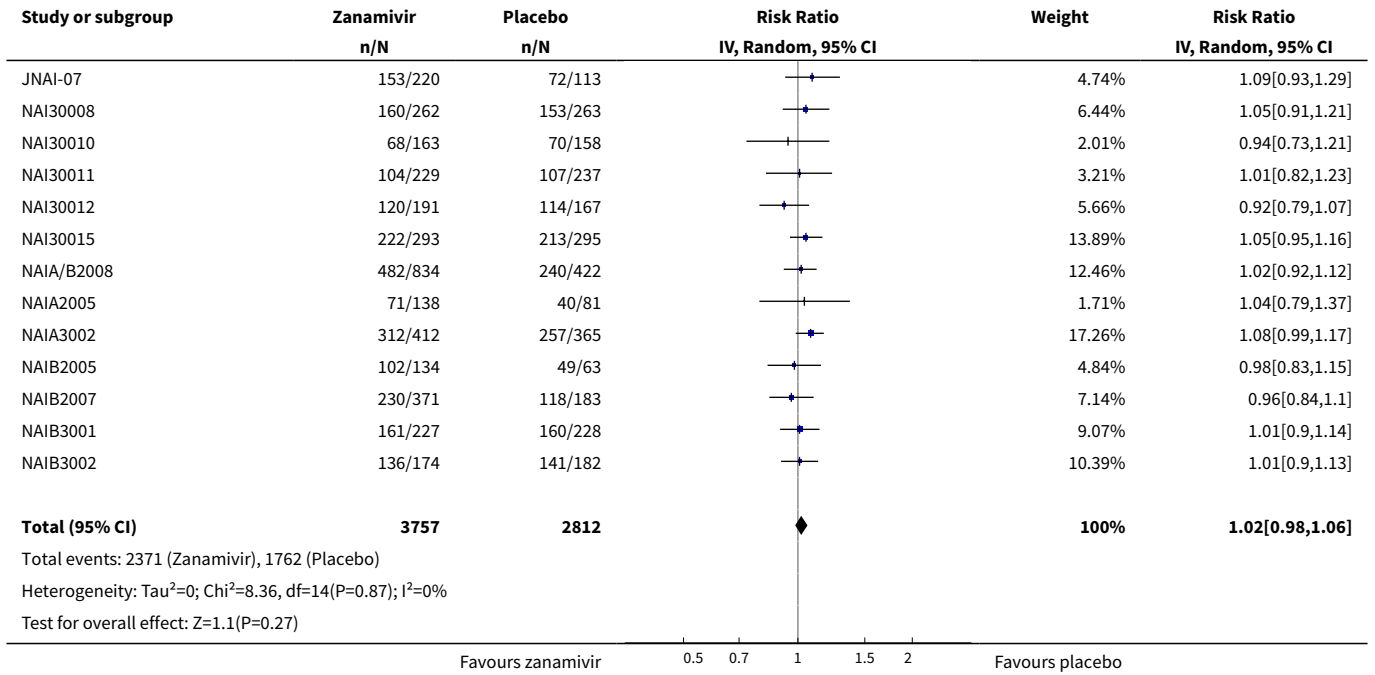


Analysis 3.7. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 7 Complications in adult trials classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal.

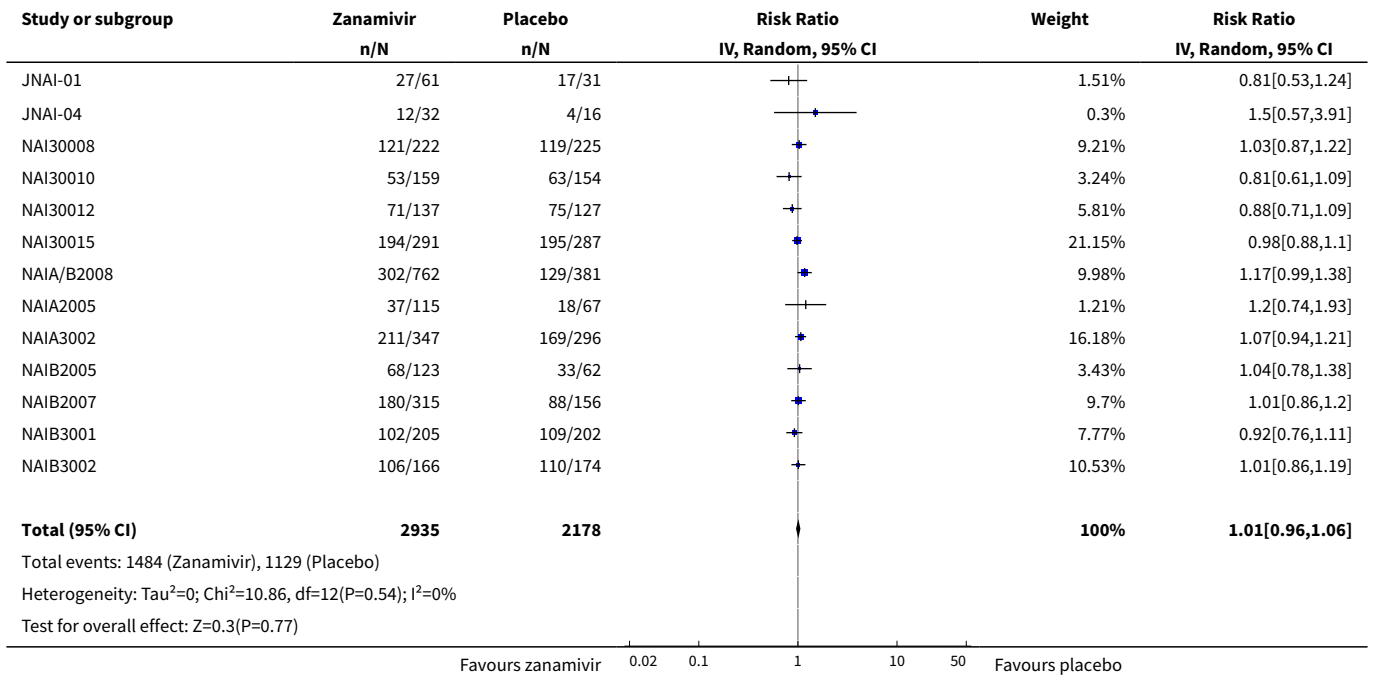


Analysis 3.8. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 8 Proportion diagnosed as influenza-infected in adult treatment.

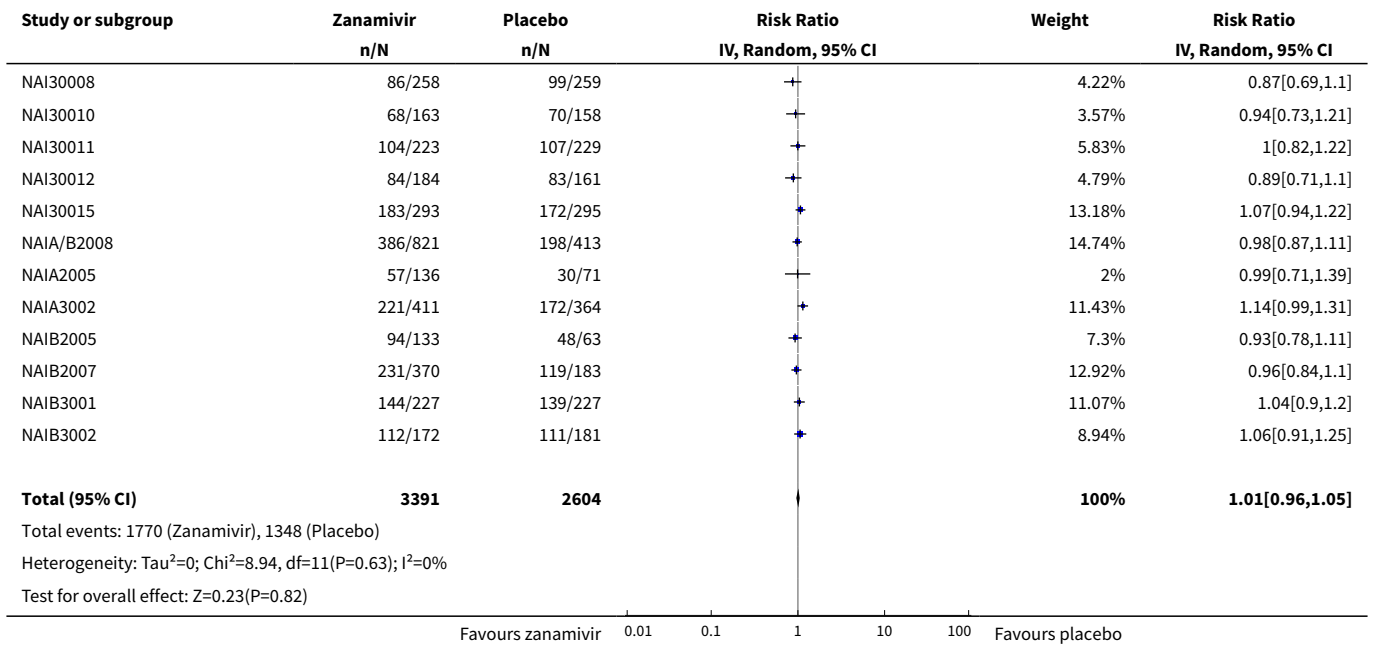




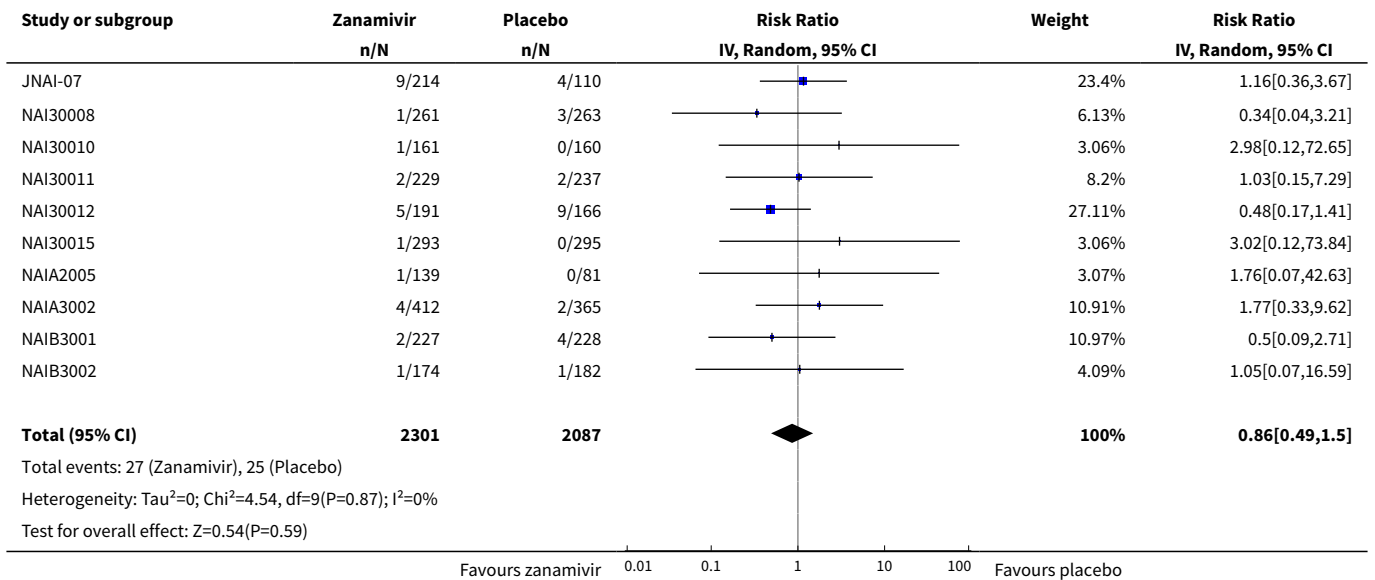
Analysis 3.9. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 9 Proportion with four-fold rise in antibody titre in adult treatment.



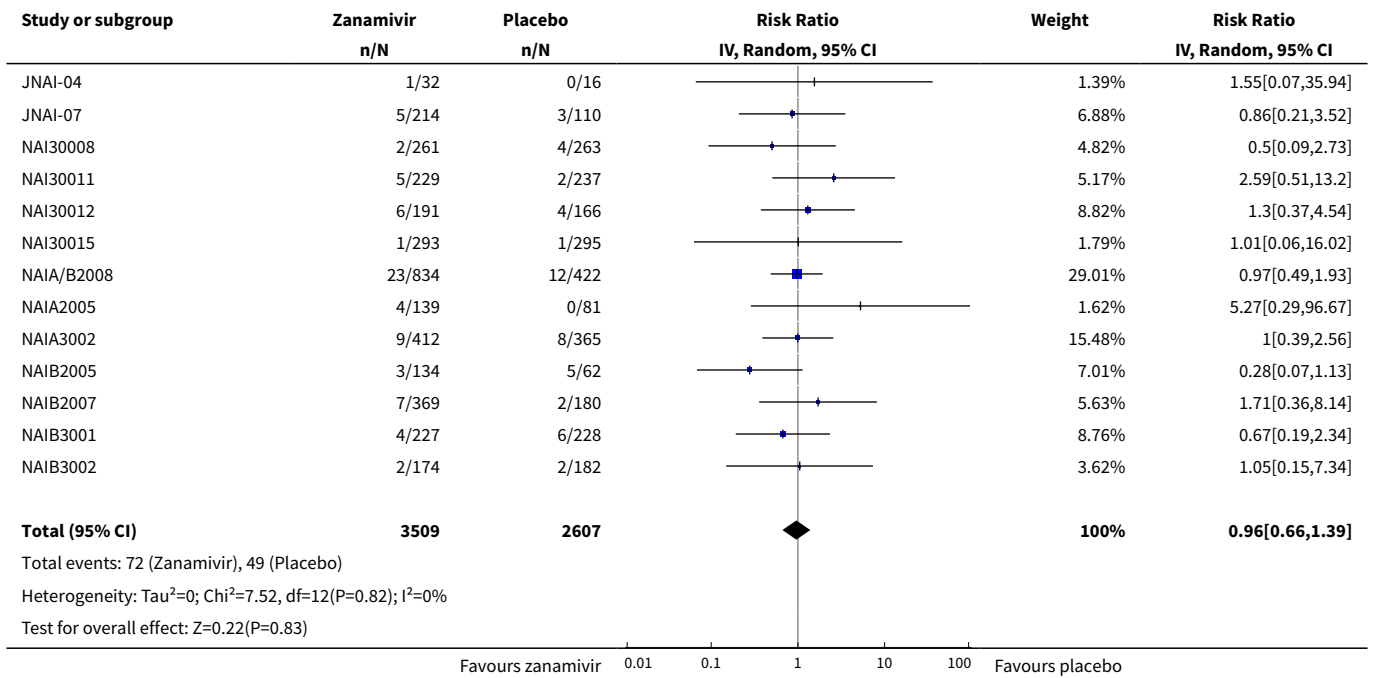
Analysis 3.10. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 10 Proportion with positive culture at baseline in adult treatment.



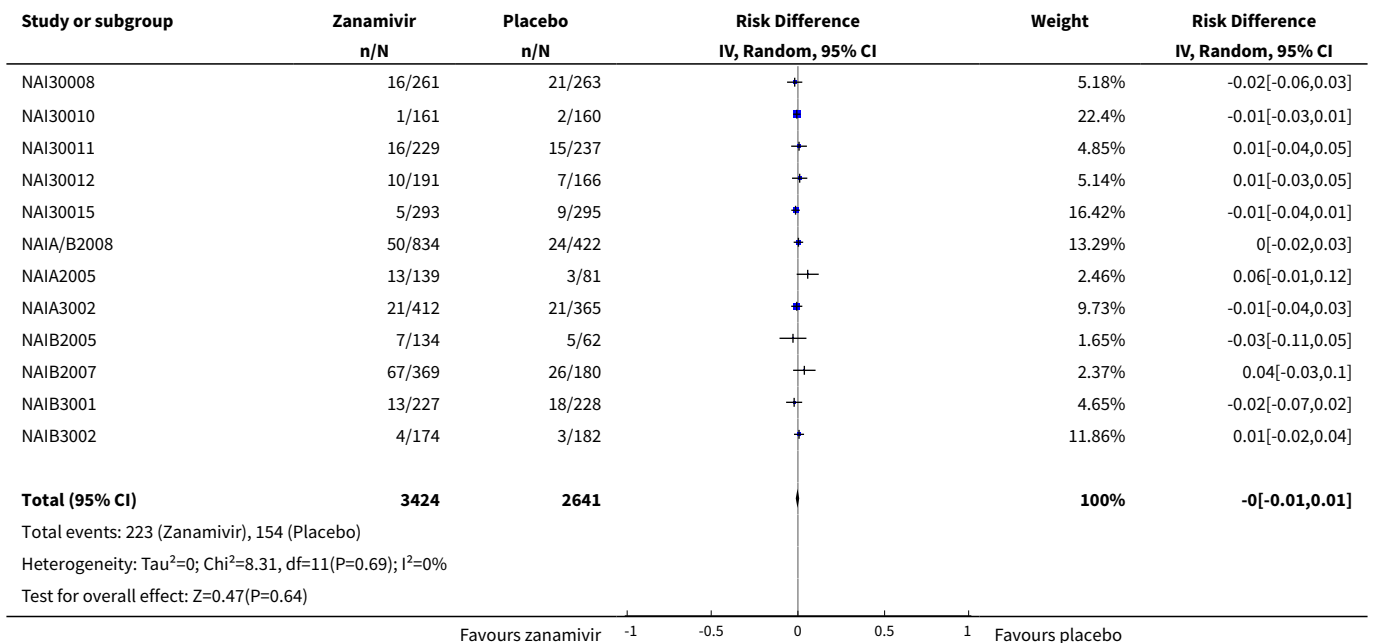
Analysis 3.11. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 11 Serious adverse events in adult treatment.



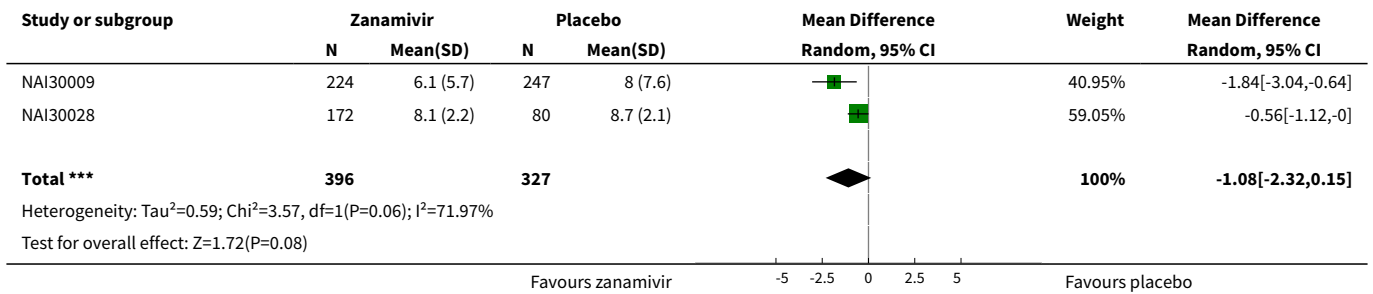
Analysis 3.12. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 12 Adverse events leading to study withdrawal in adult treatment.



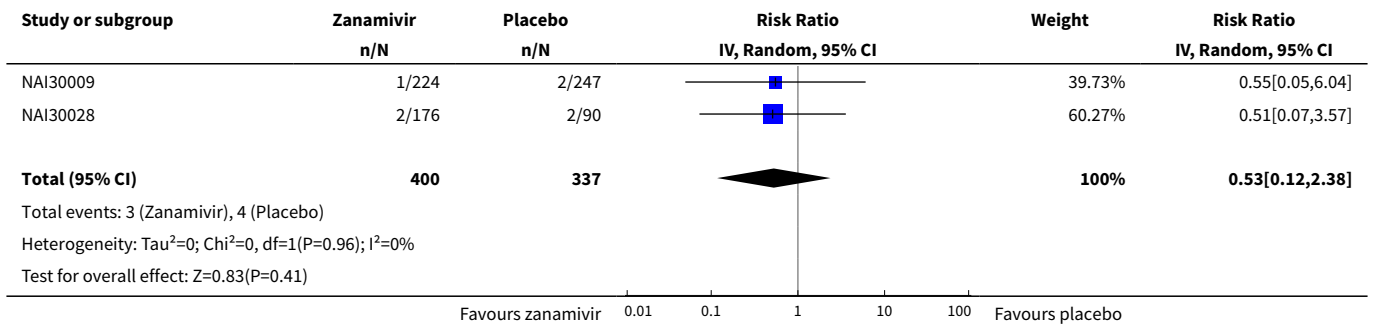
Analysis 3.13. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 13 All withdrawals in adult treatment.



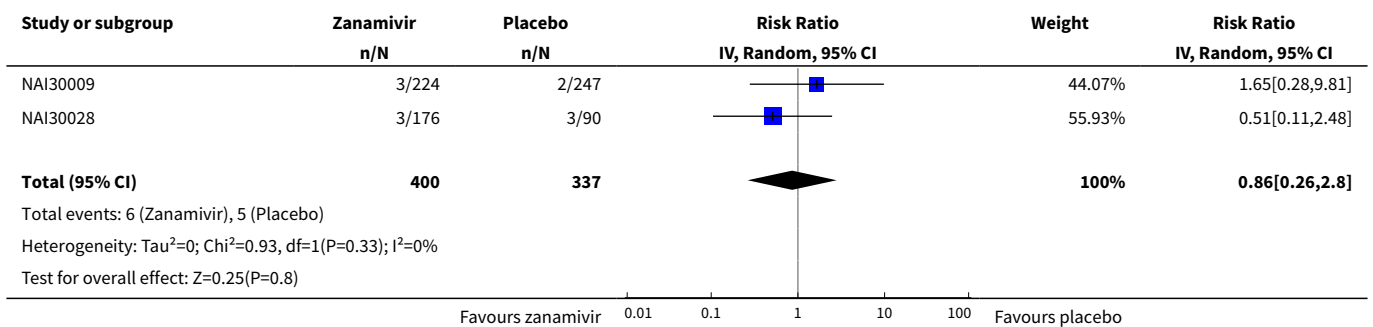
Analysis 3.14. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 14 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in children (days).



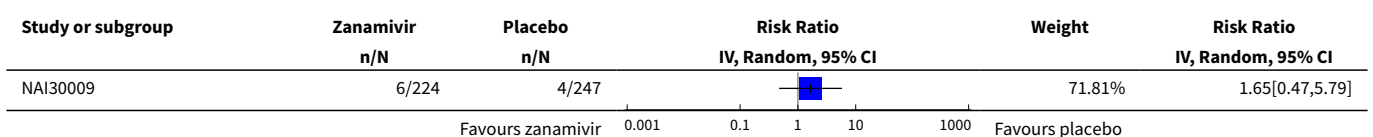
Analysis 3.15. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 15 Complications: pneumonia in child treatment.

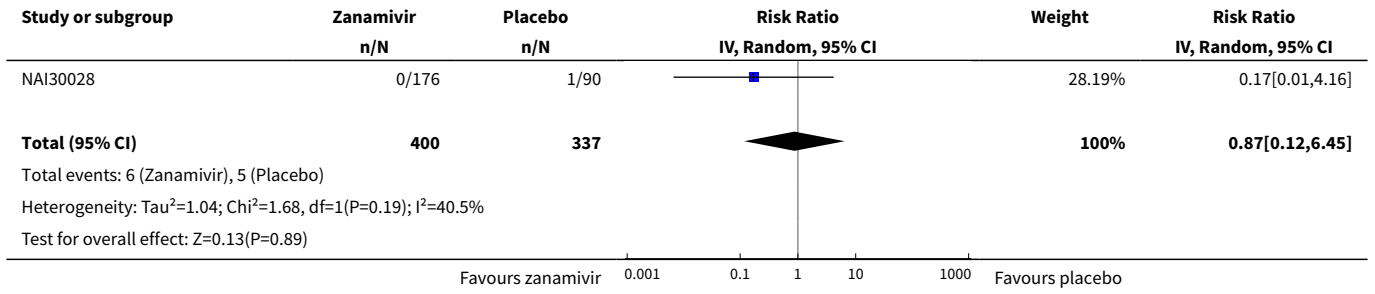


Analysis 3.16. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 16 Complications: bronchitis in child treatment.

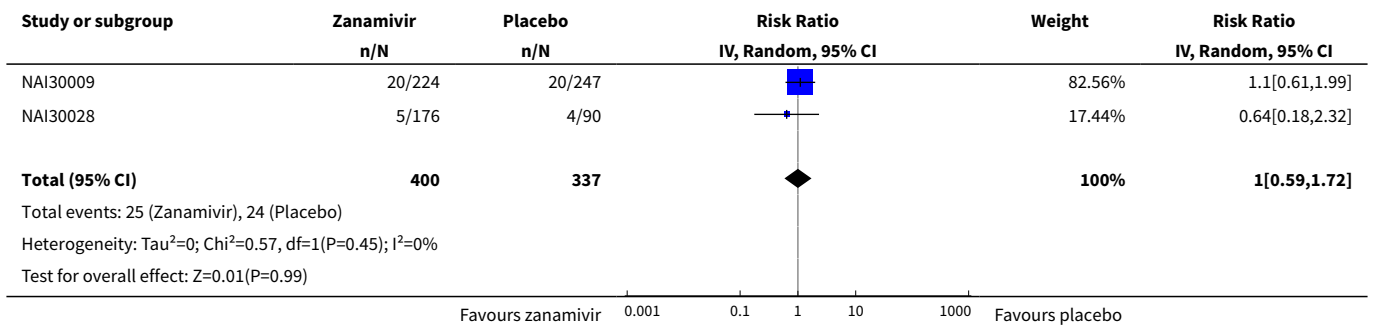


Analysis 3.17. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 17 Complications: sinusitis in child treatment.

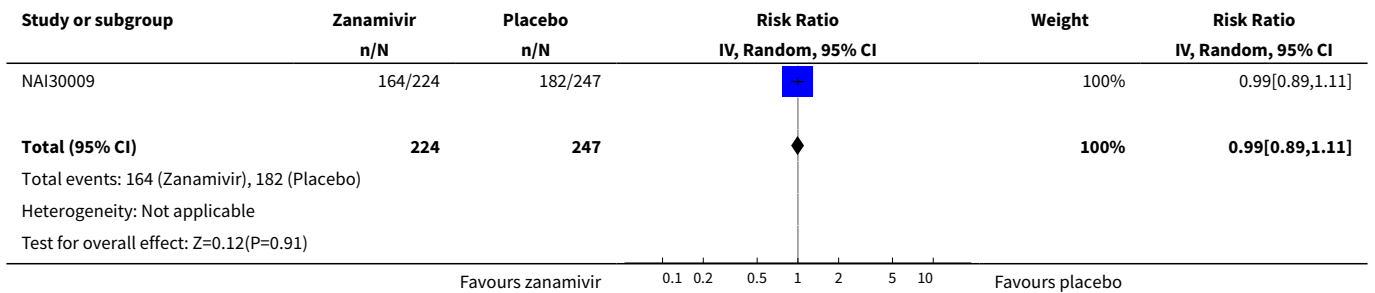




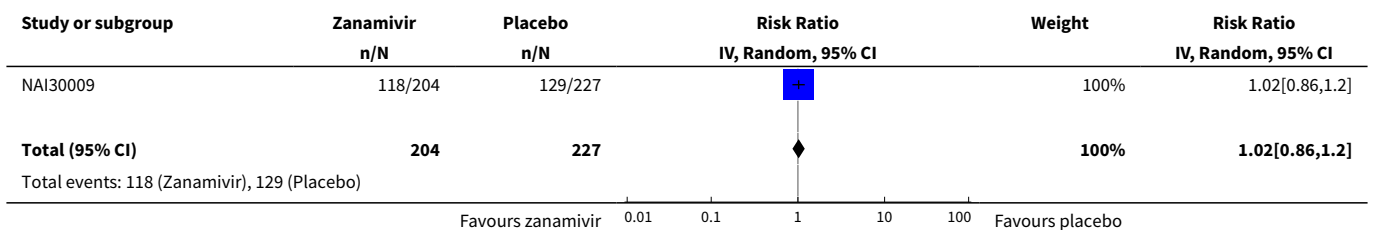
Analysis 3.18. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 18 Complications: otitis media in child treatment.

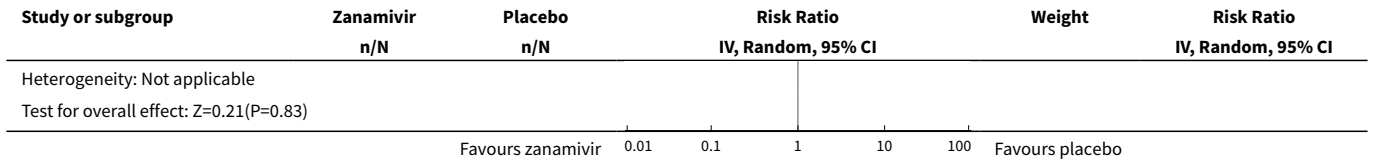


Analysis 3.19. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 19 Proportion diagnosed as influenza-infected in child treatment.

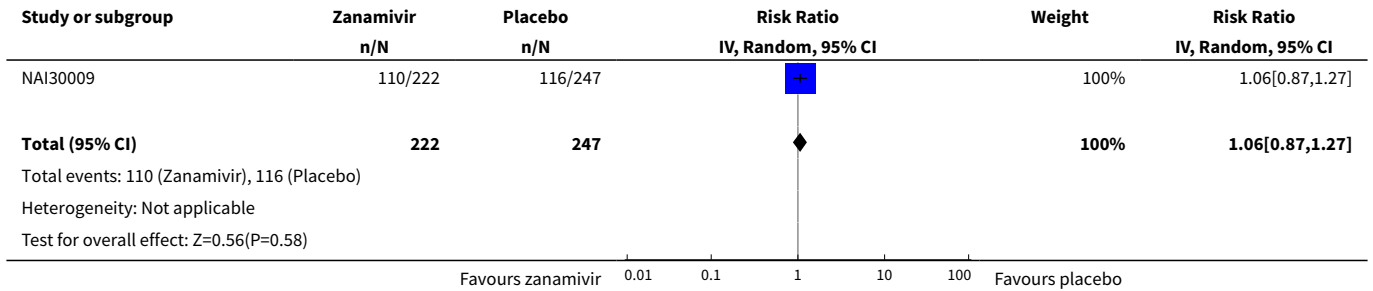


Analysis 3.20. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 20 Proportion with four-fold increase in antibodies in child treatment.

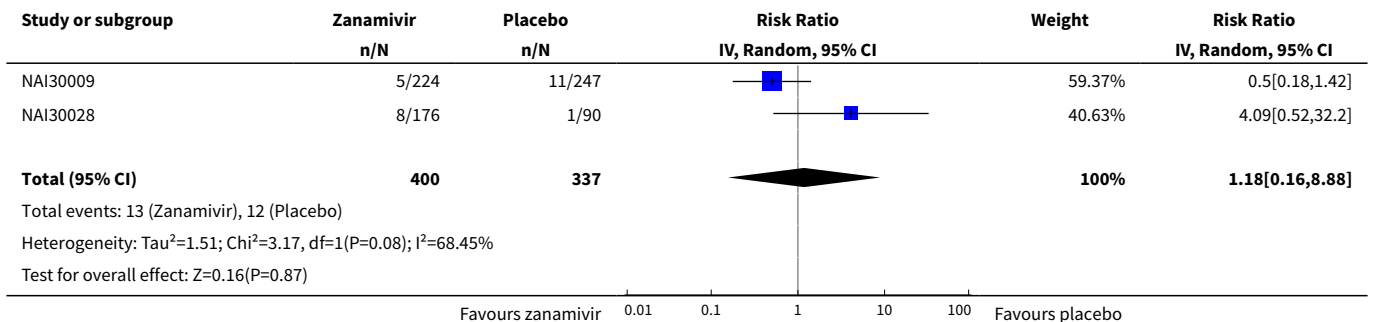




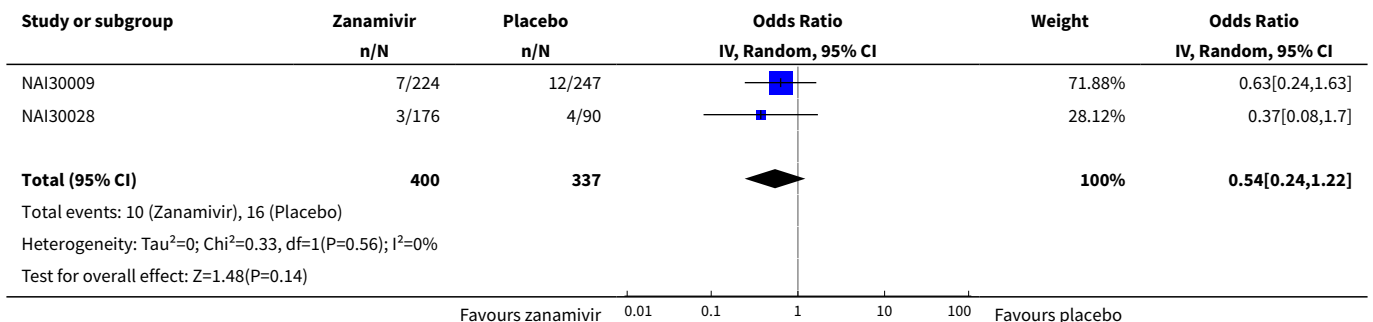
Analysis 3.21. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 21 Proportion with positive culture at baseline in child treatment.



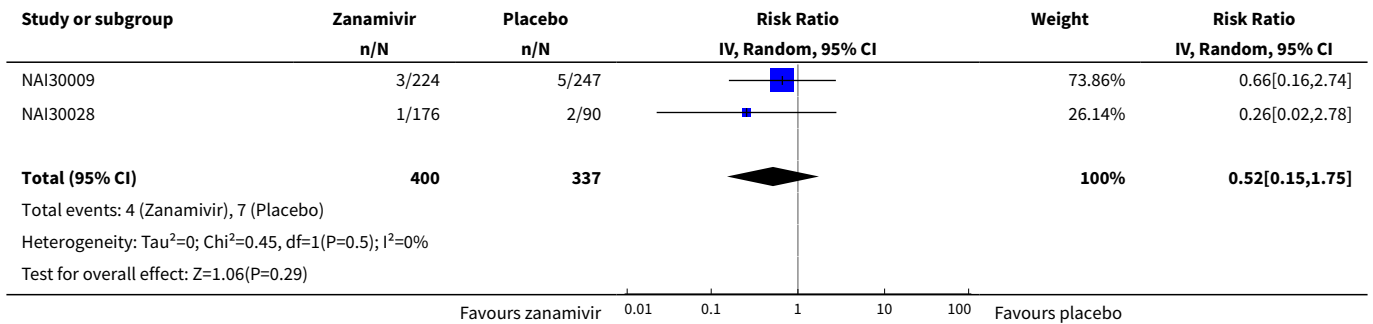
Analysis 3.22. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 22 All withdrawals in child treatment.



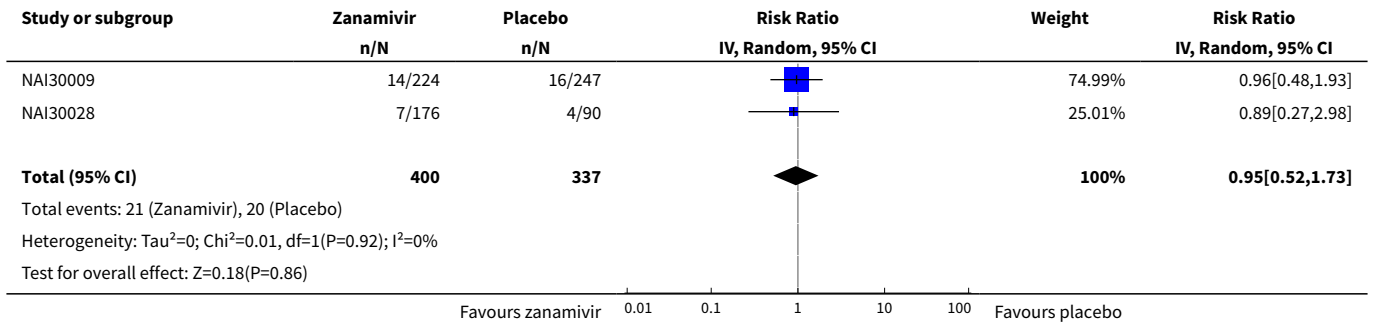
Analysis 3.23. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 23 Adverse events: nausea and vomiting in child treatment (on-treatment).



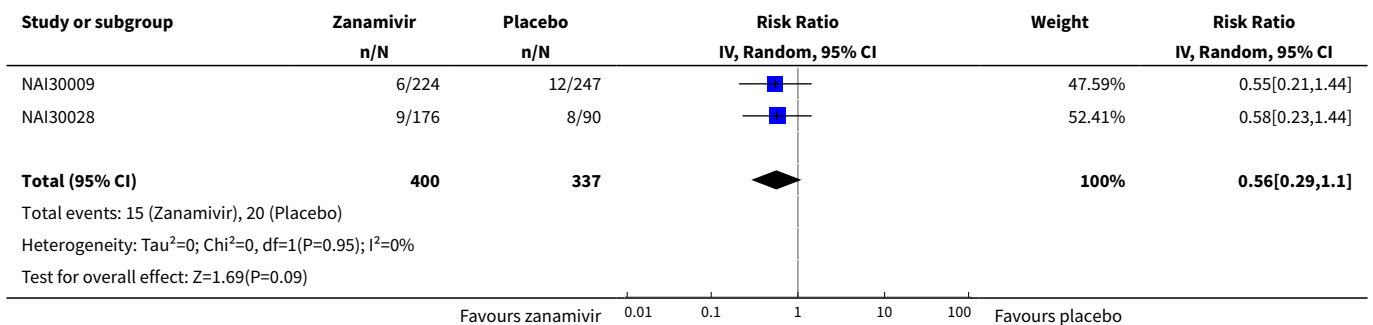
Analysis 3.24. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 24 Adverse events: diarrhoea in child treatment (on-treatment).



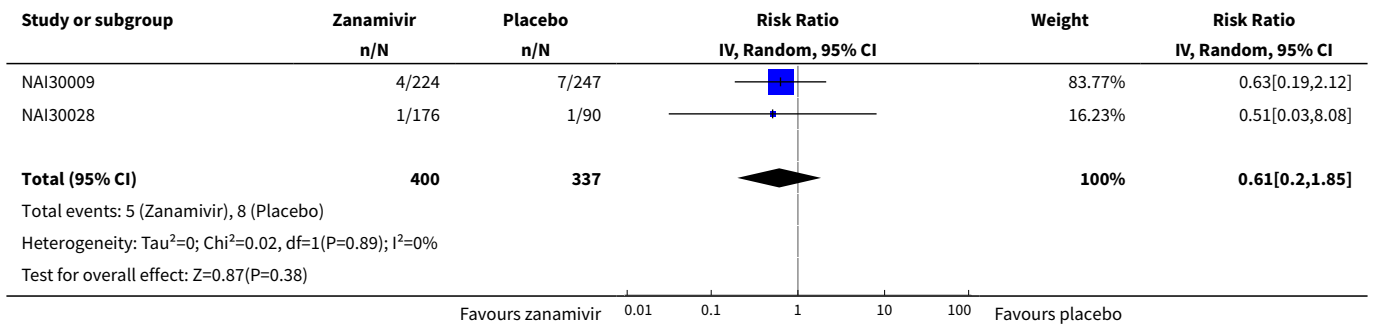
Analysis 3.25. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 25 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (on-treatment).



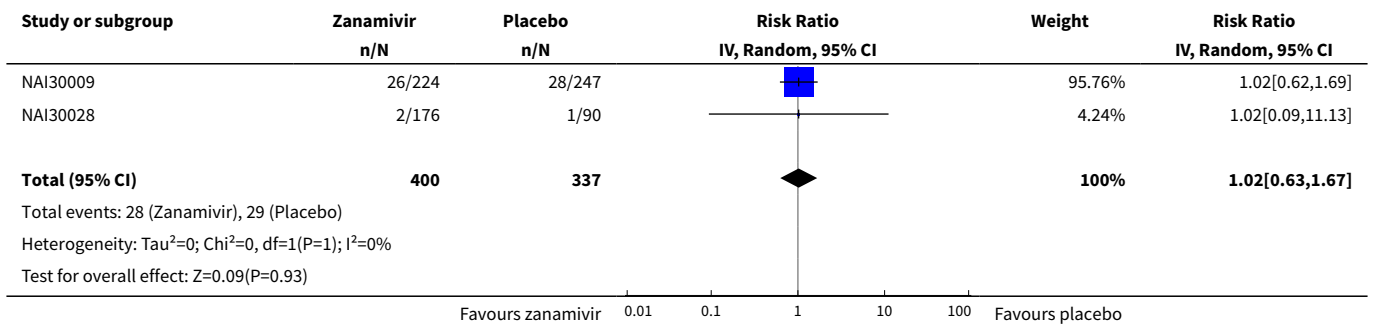
Analysis 3.26. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 26 Adverse events: respiratory body system in child treatment (on-treatment).



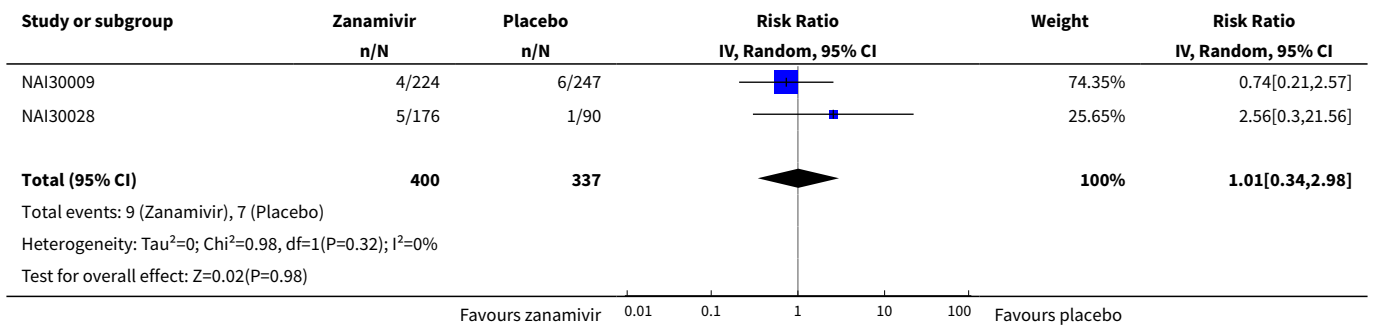
Analysis 3.27. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 27 Adverse events: neurological body system in child treatment (on-treatment).



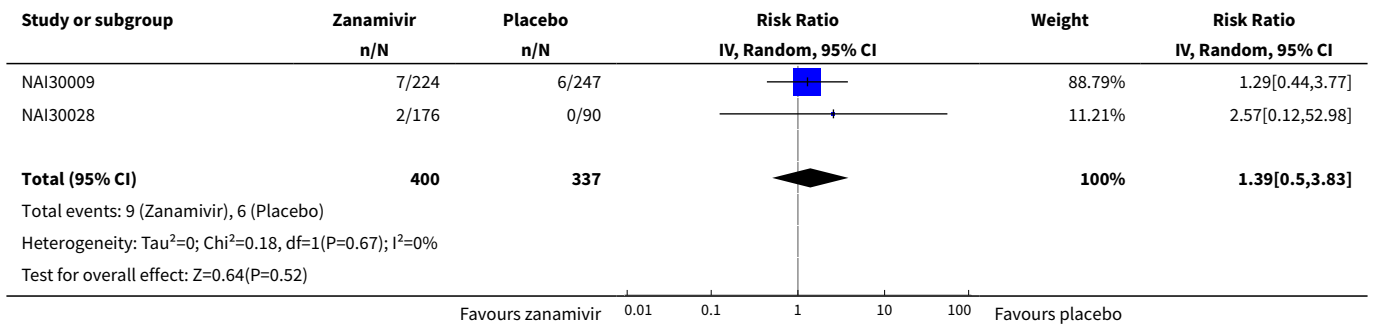
Analysis 3.28. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 28 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat body system in child treatment (on-treatment).



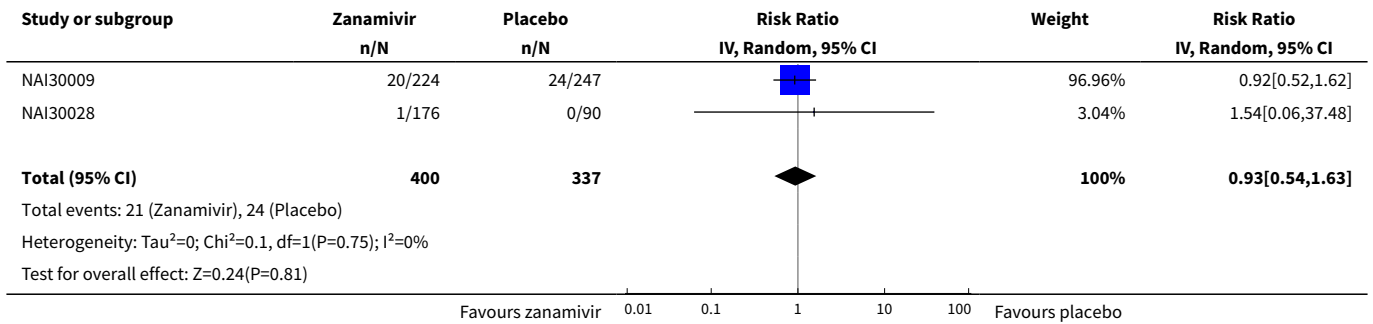
Analysis 3.29. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 29 Adverse events: skin body system in child treatment (on-treatment).



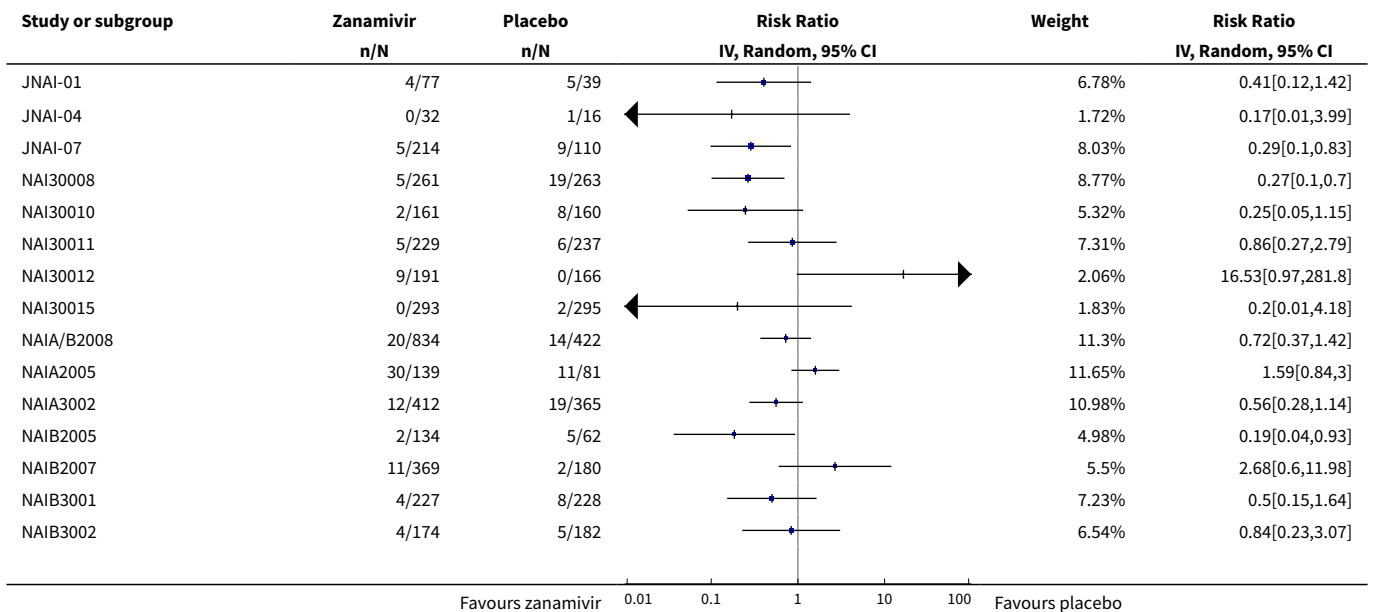
**Analysis 3.30. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 30
Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in child treatment (off-treatment).**

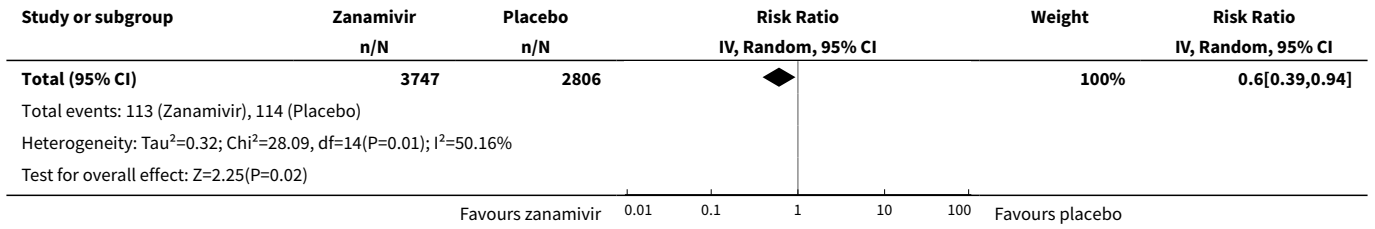


**Analysis 3.31. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 31
Adverse events: ear nose and throat body system in child treatment (off-treatment).**

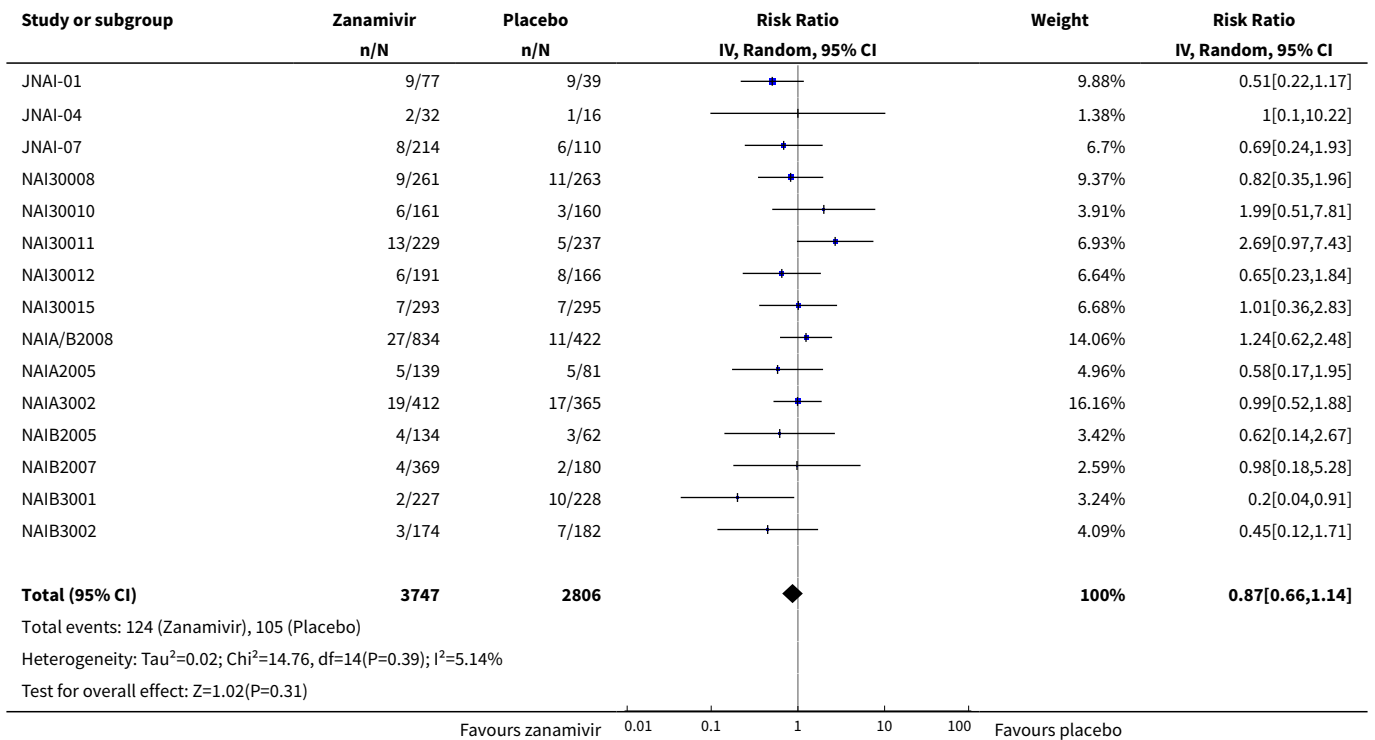


**Analysis 3.32. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 32
Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in adult treatment (on-treatment).**

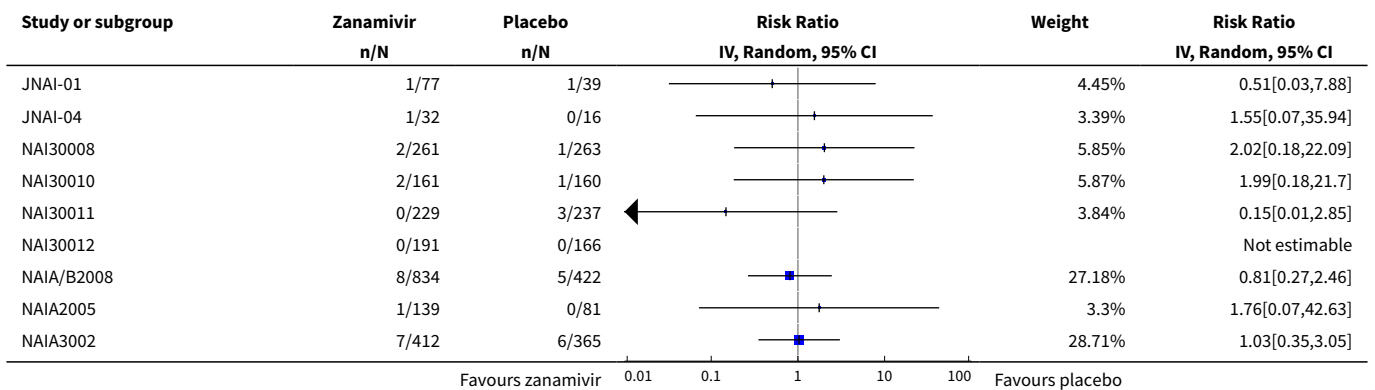


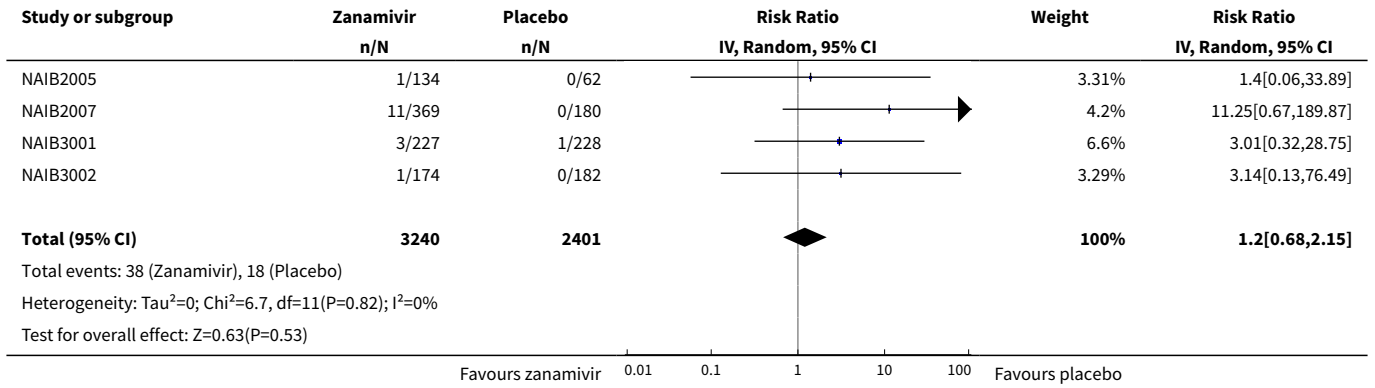


Analysis 3.33. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 33 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult treatment (on-treatment).

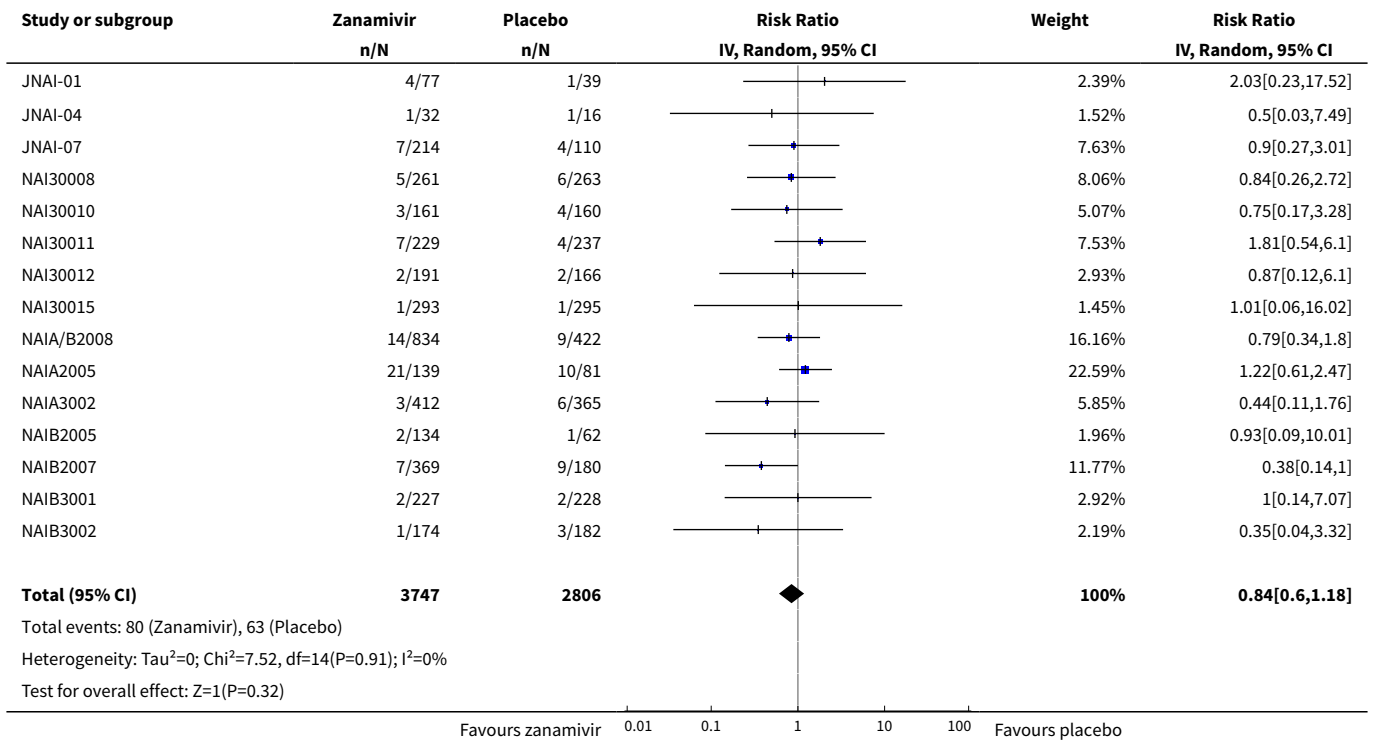


Analysis 3.34. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 34 Adverse events: dizziness in adult treatment (on-treatment).

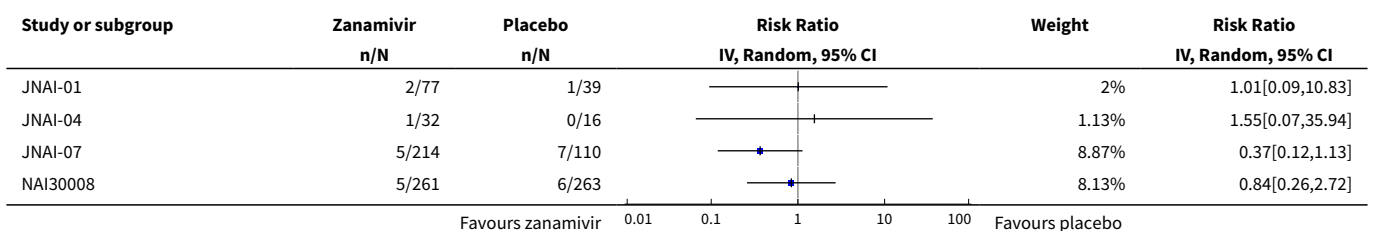


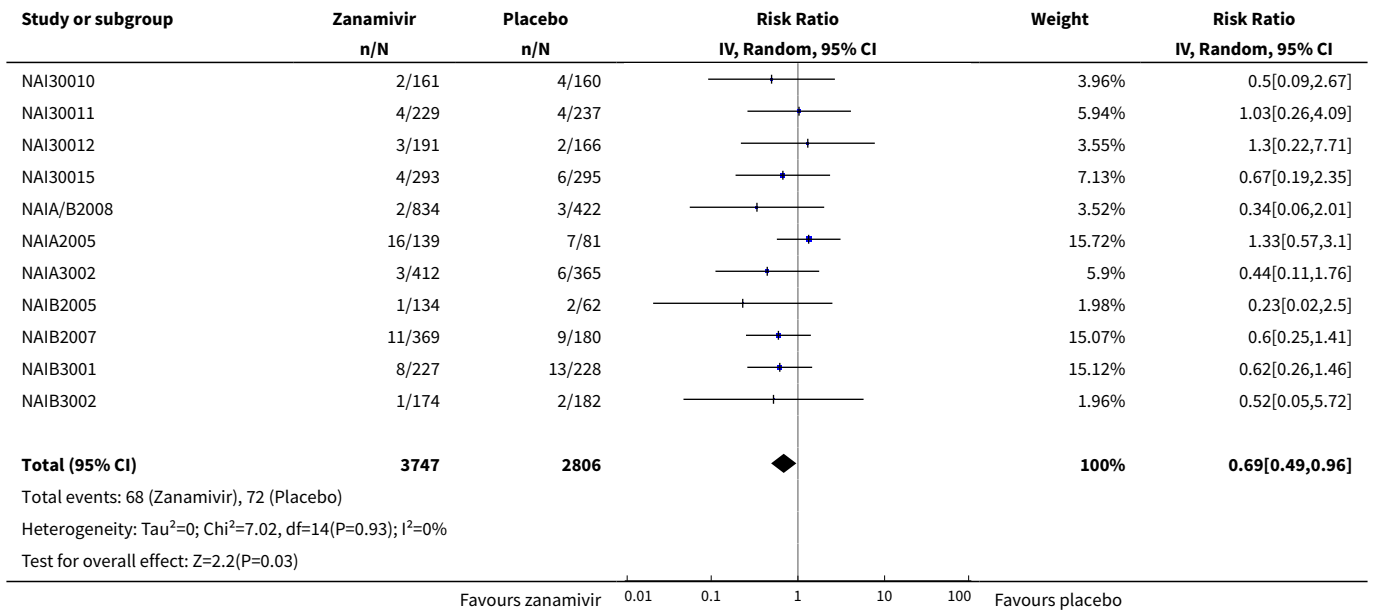


Analysis 3.35. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 35 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (on-treatment).

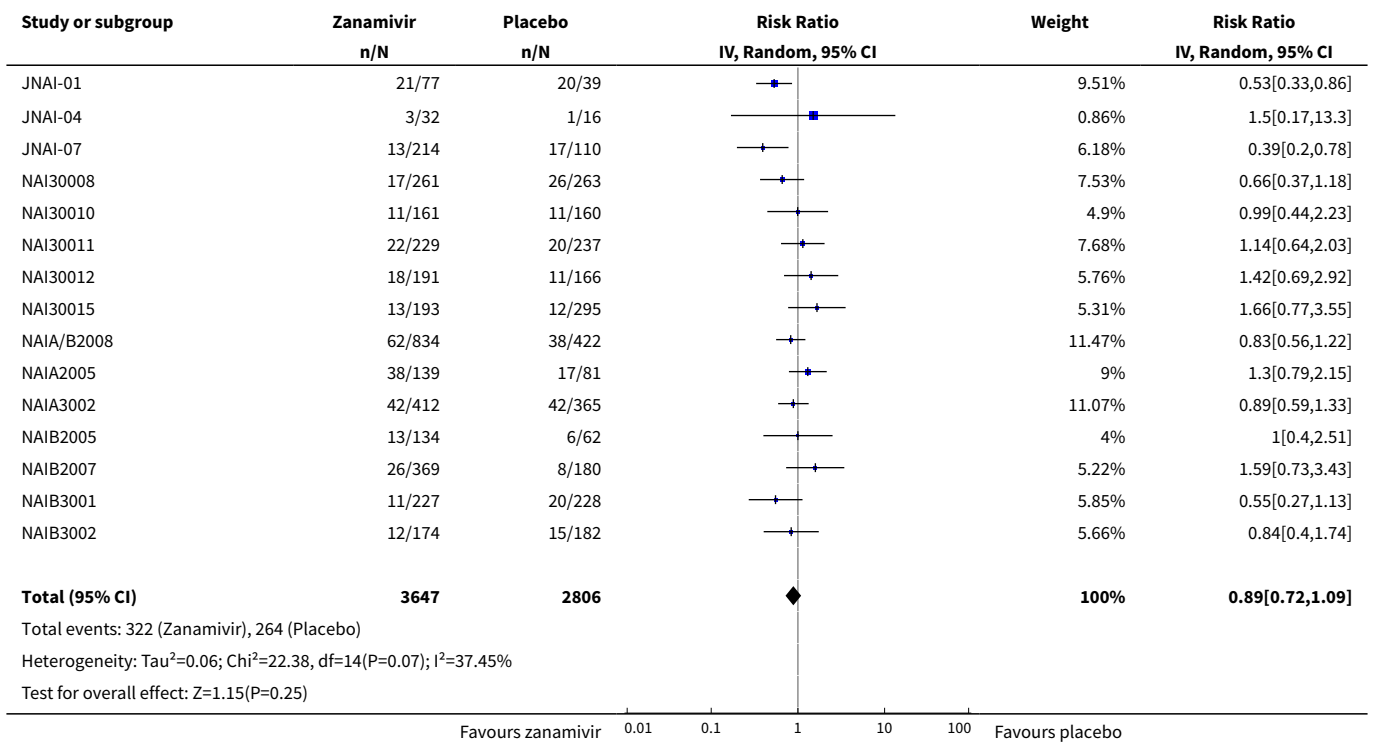


Analysis 3.36. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 36 Adverse events: cough in adult treatment (on-treatment).

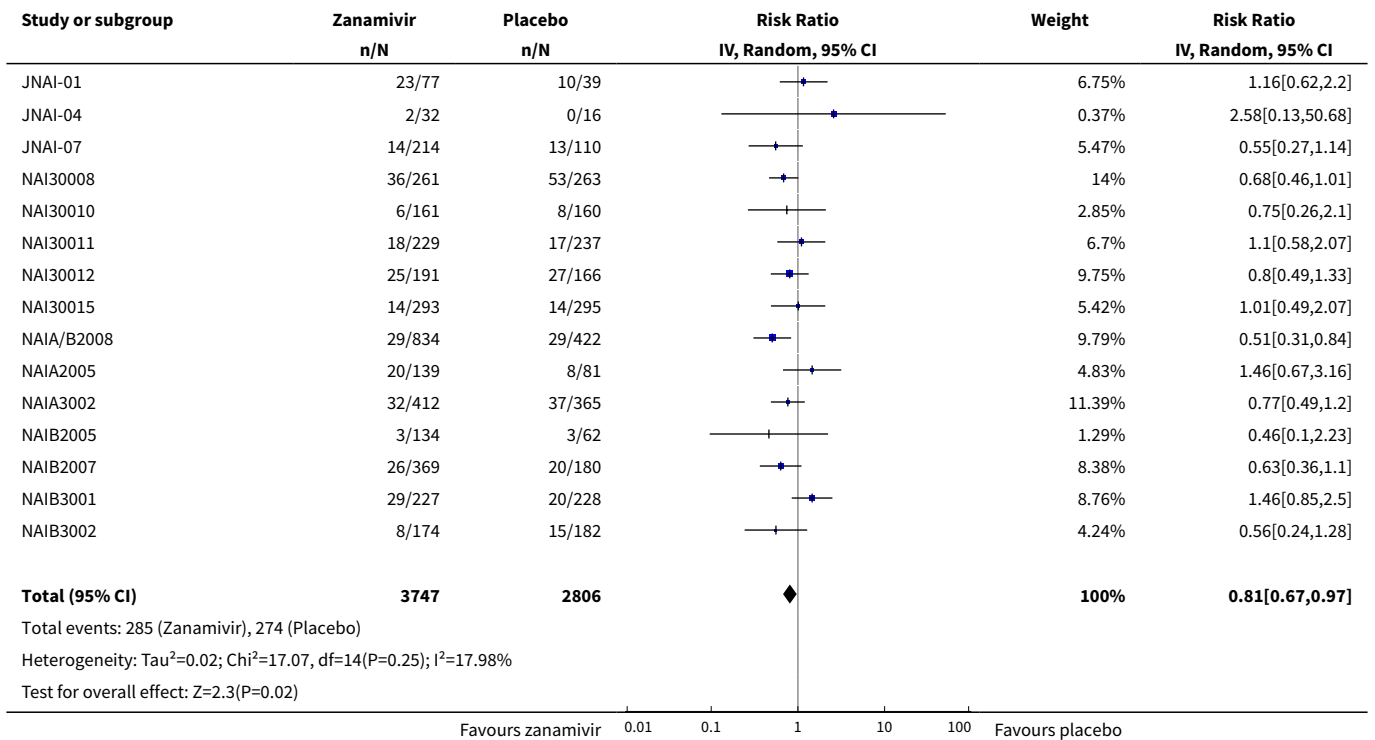




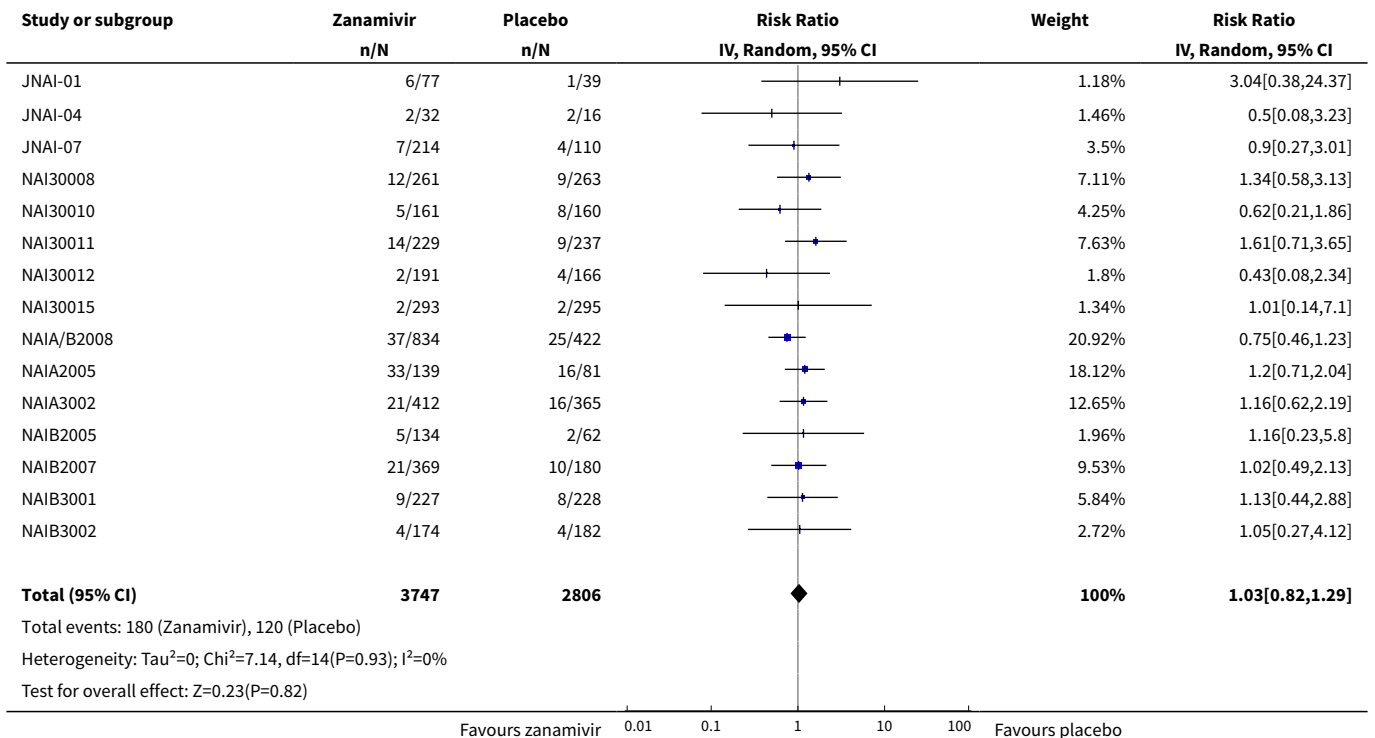
**Analysis 3.37. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 37
Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).**



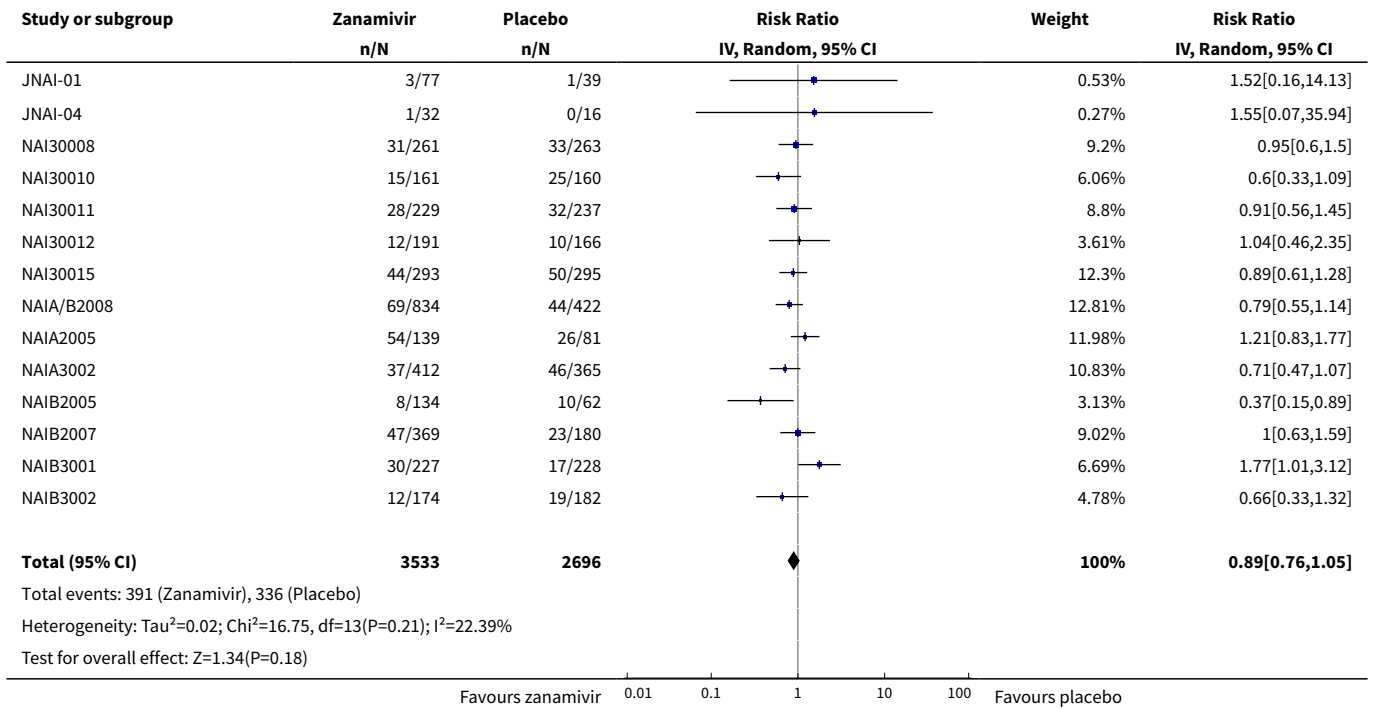
Analysis 3.38. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 38 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



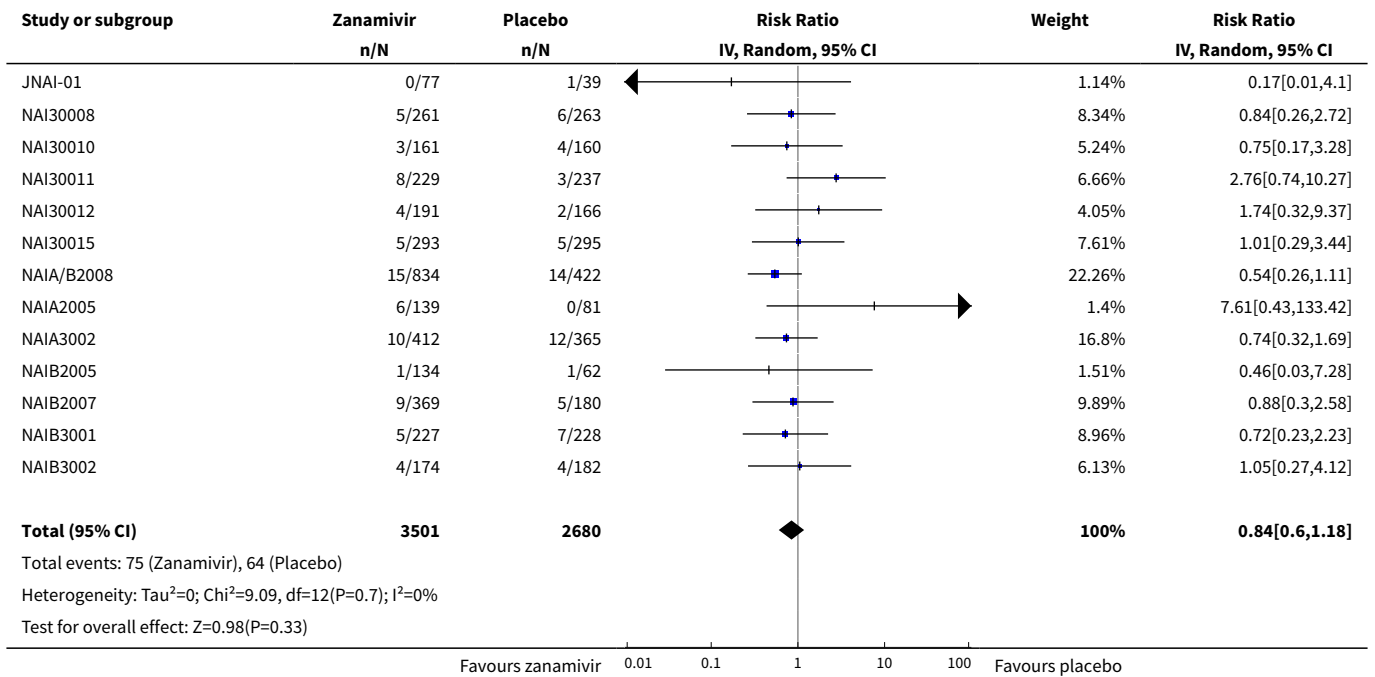
Analysis 3.39. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 39 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



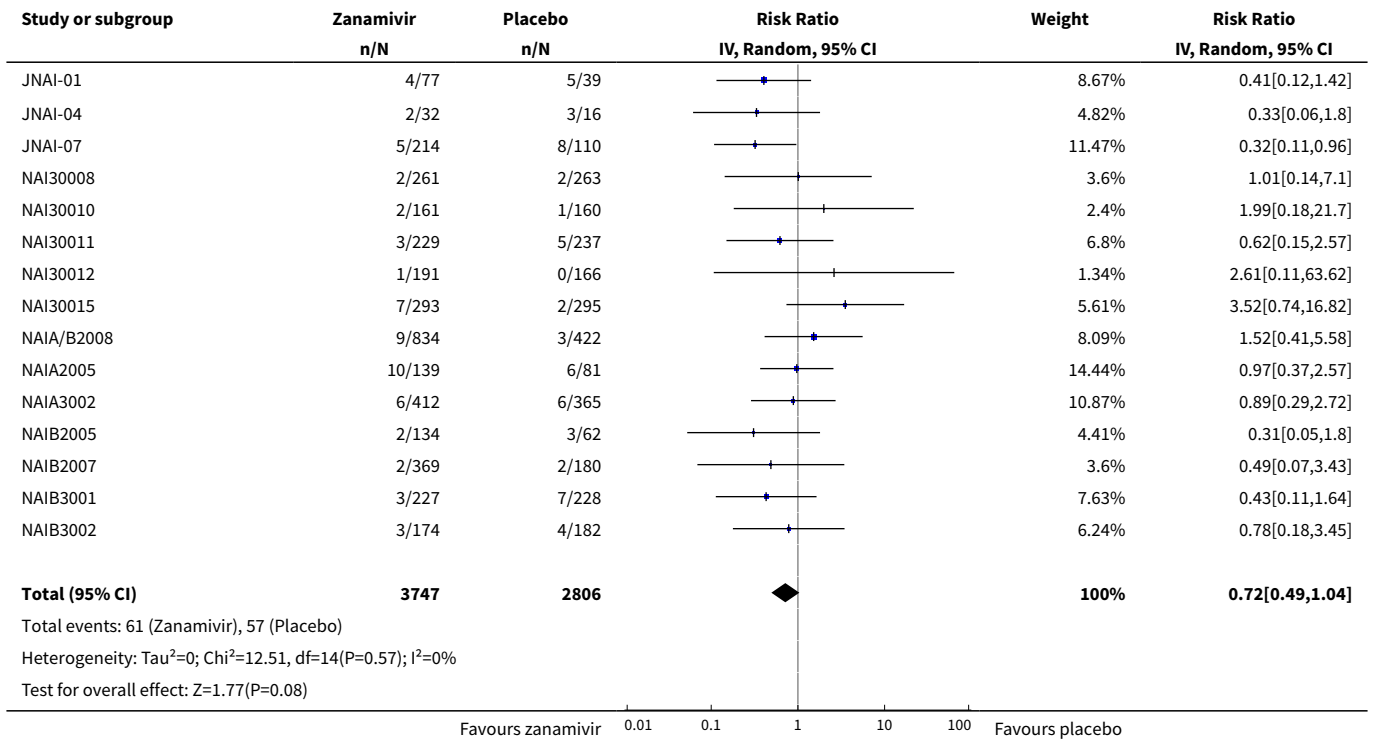
Analysis 3.40. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 40 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



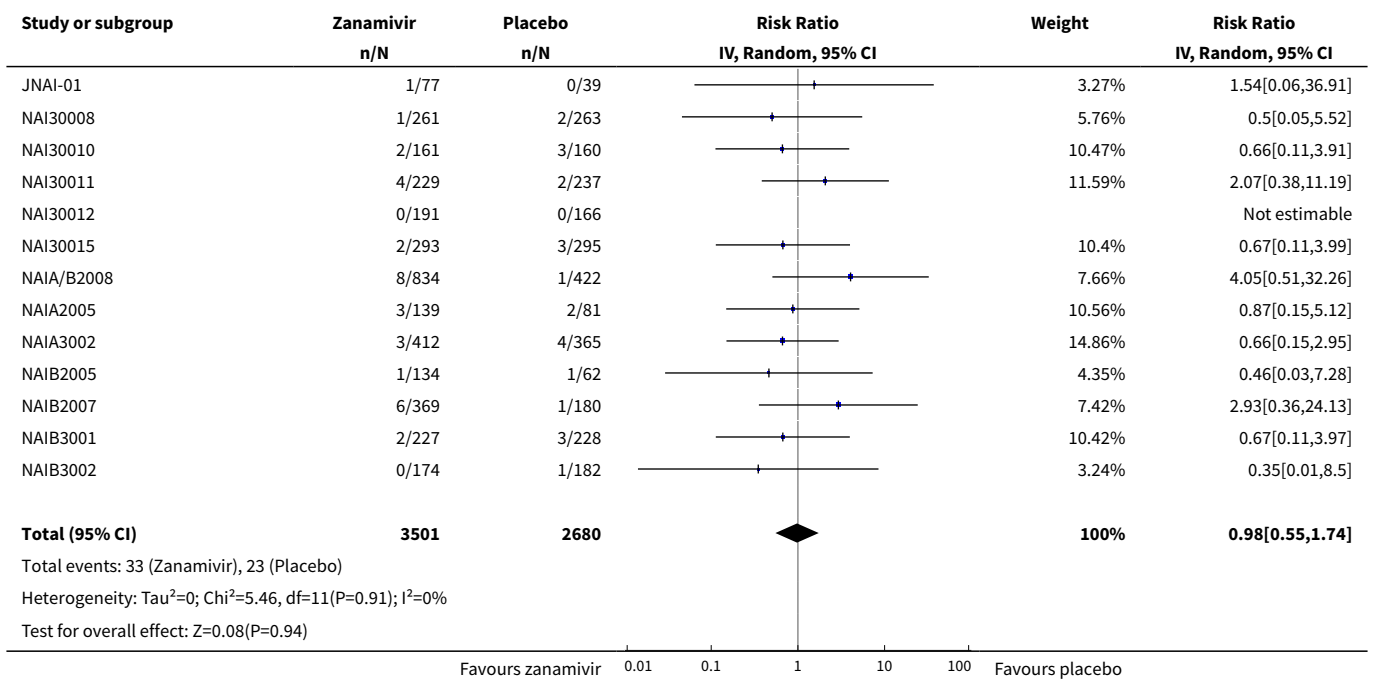
Analysis 3.41. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 41 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



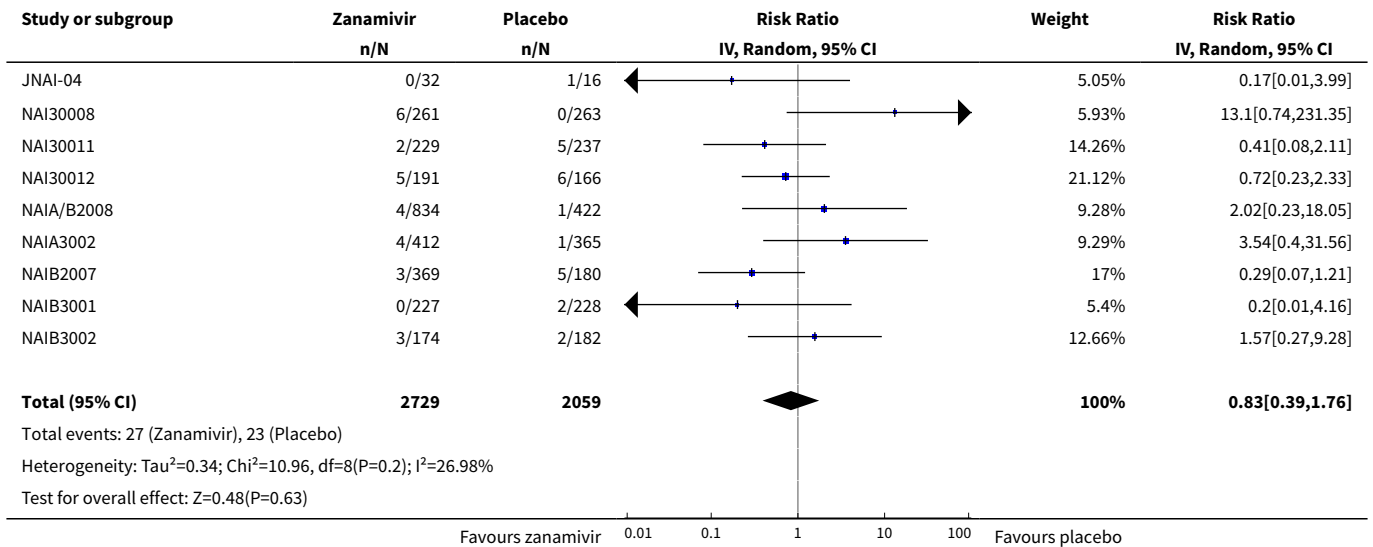
Analysis 3.42. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 42 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



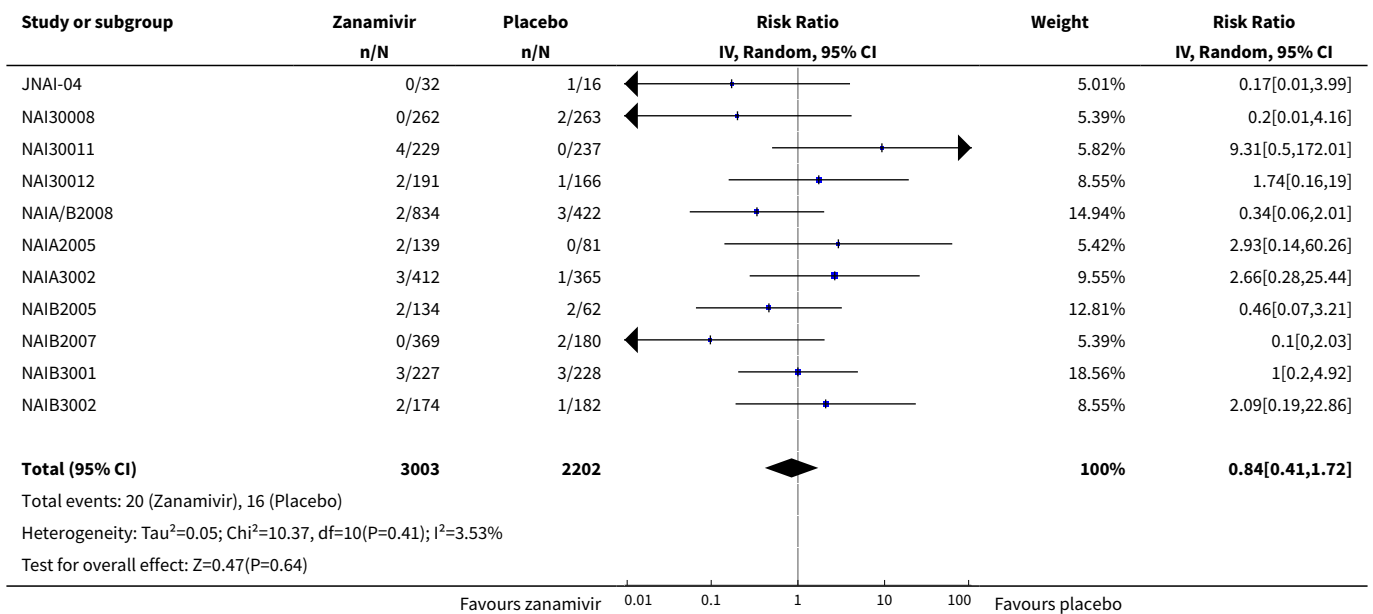
Analysis 3.43. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 43 Adverse events: eye body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



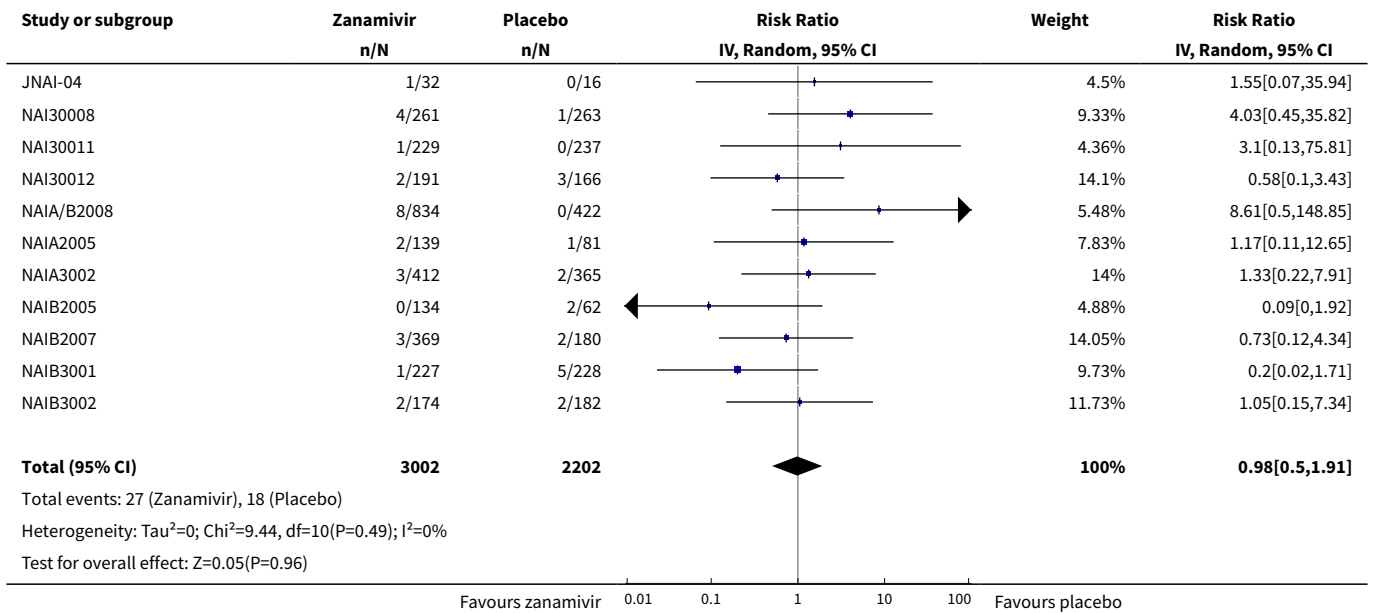
Analysis 3.44. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 44 Adverse events: hepato body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



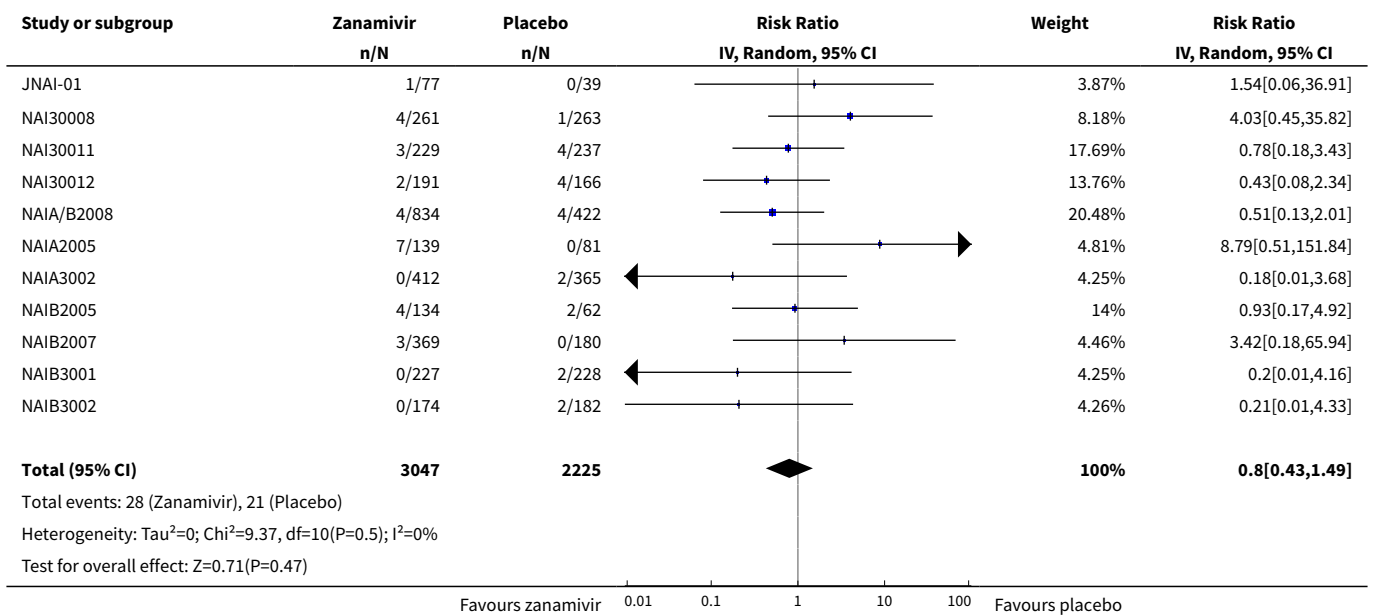
Analysis 3.45. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 45 Adverse events: renal body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



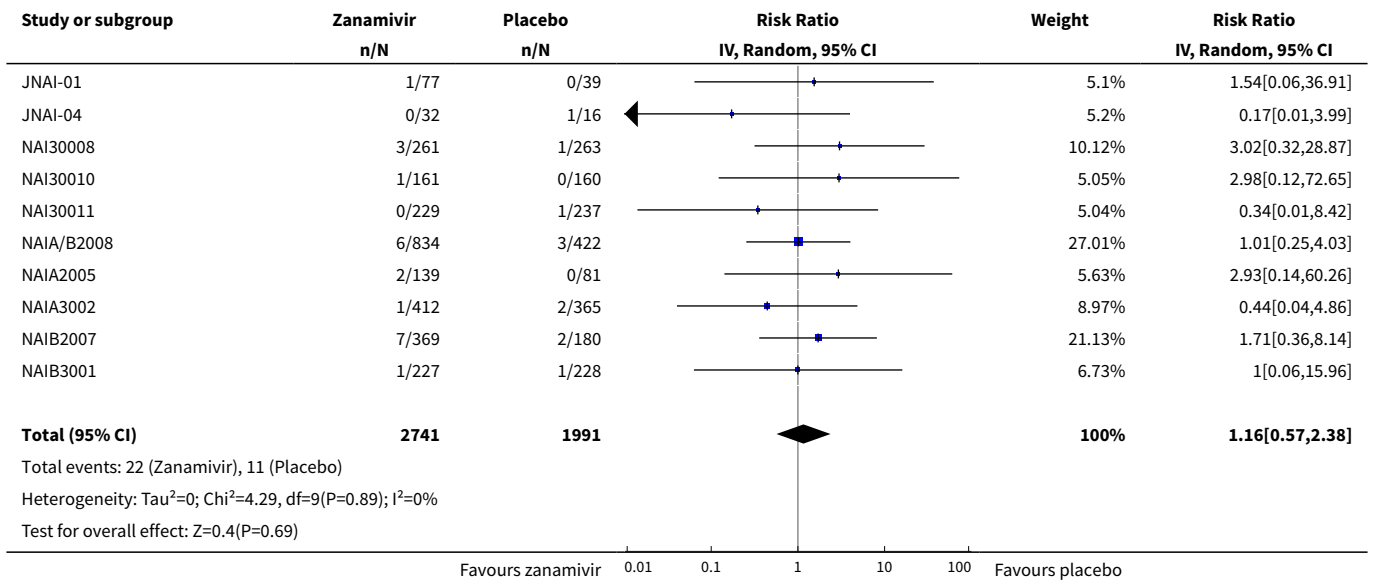
Analysis 3.46. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 46 Adverse events: cardiovascular body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



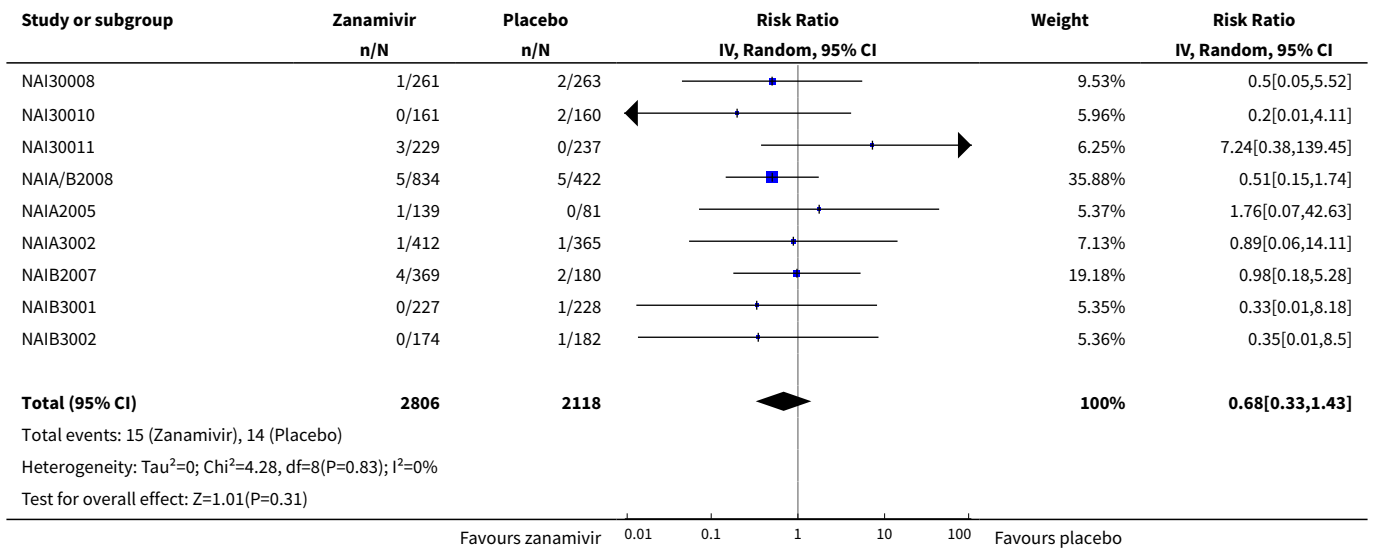
Analysis 3.47. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 47 Adverse events: blood body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).



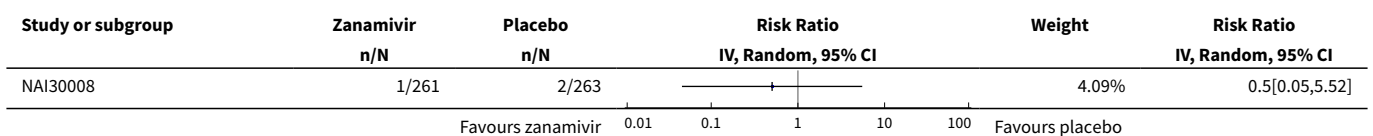
Analysis 3.48. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 48 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

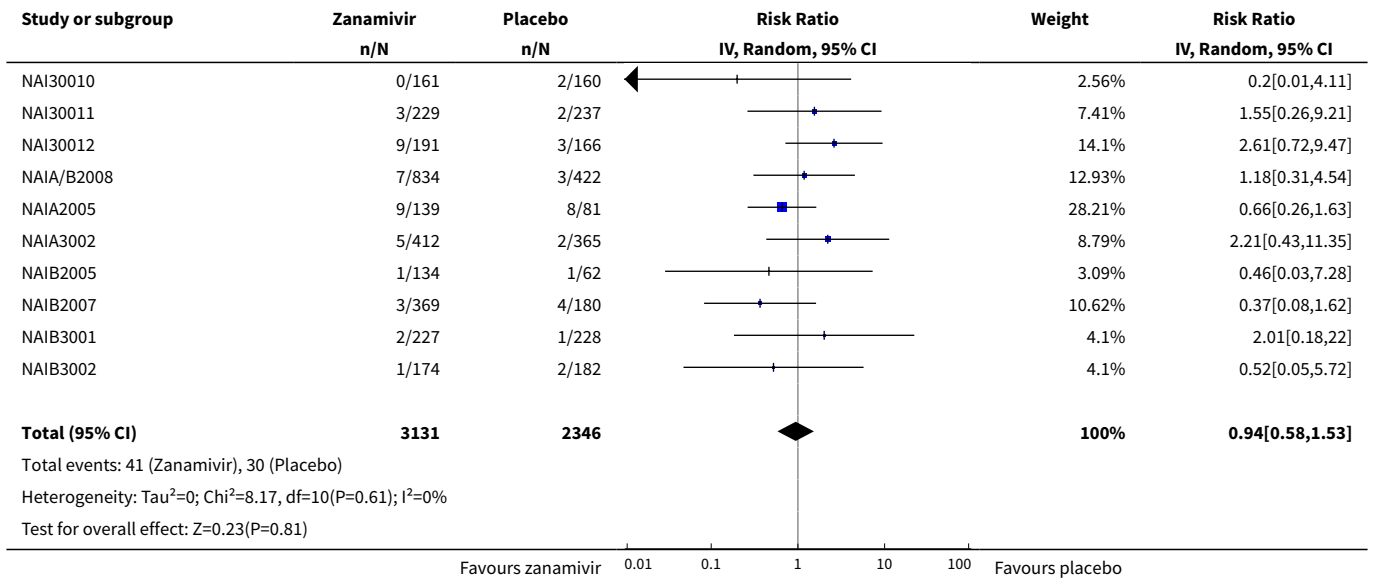


Analysis 3.49. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 49 Adverse events: reproduction body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

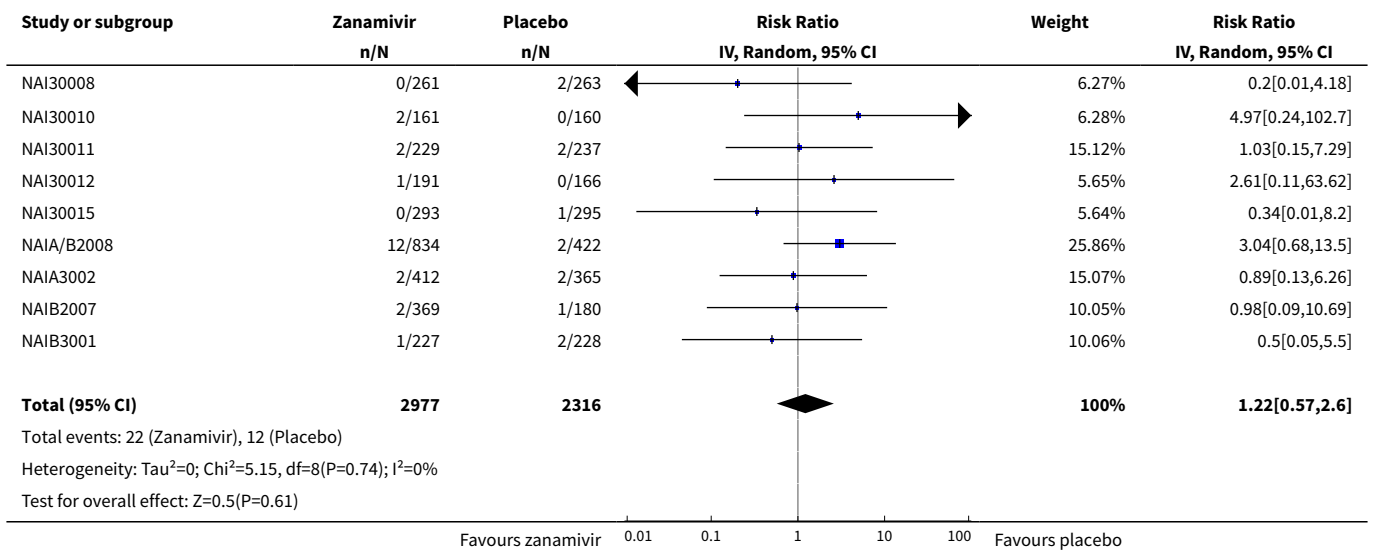


Analysis 3.50. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 50 Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

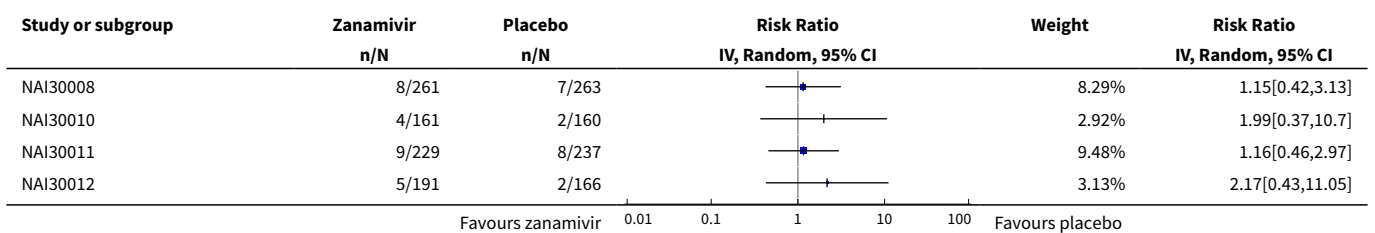


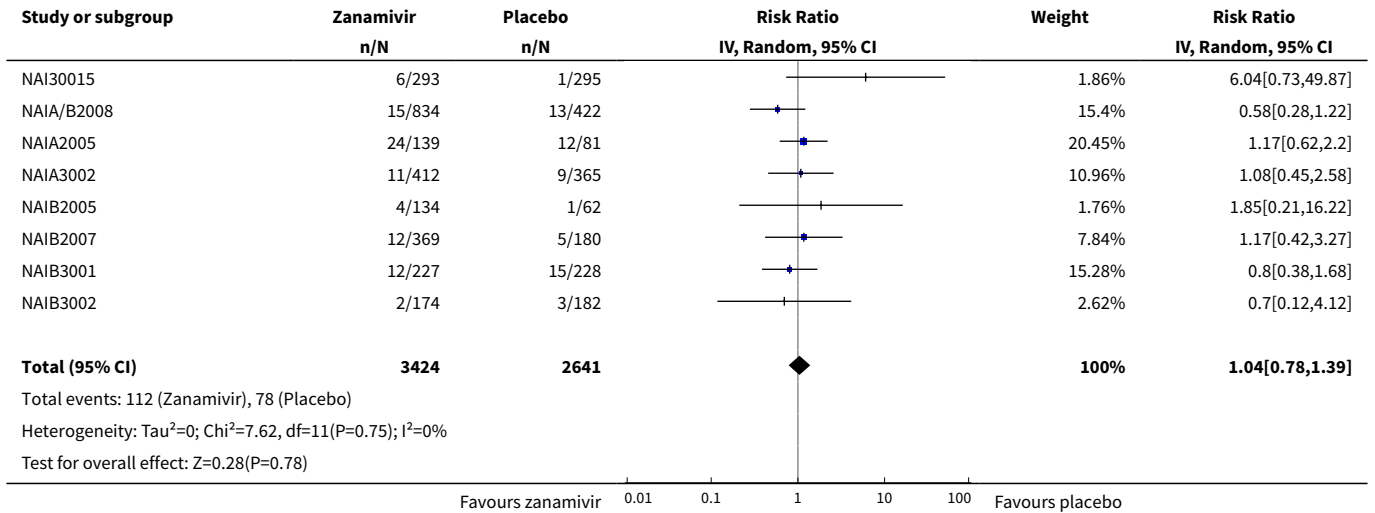


Analysis 3.51. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 51 Adverse events: injury body system in adult treatment (on-treatment).

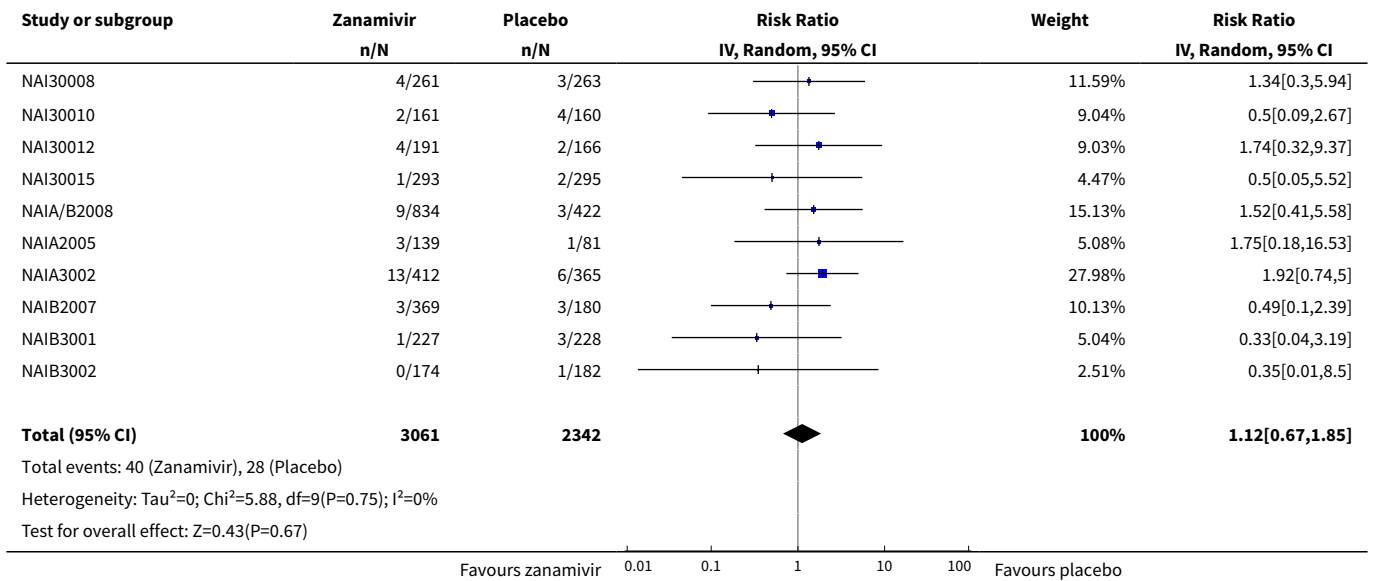


Analysis 3.52. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 52 Adverse events: non-site specific events in adult treatment (on-treatment).

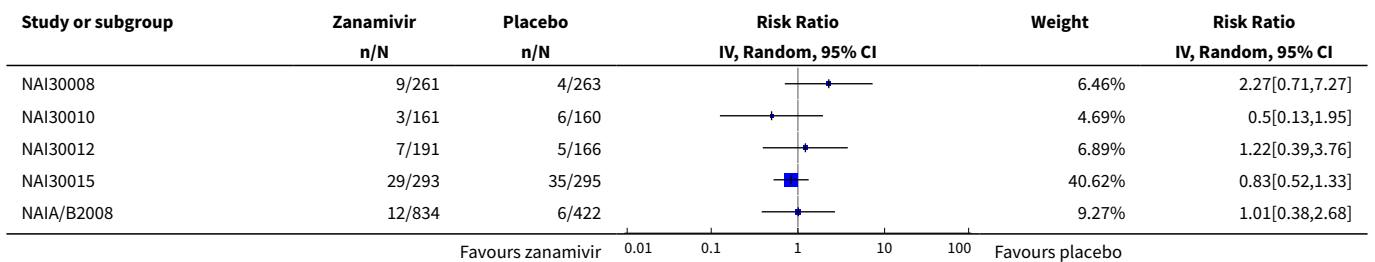


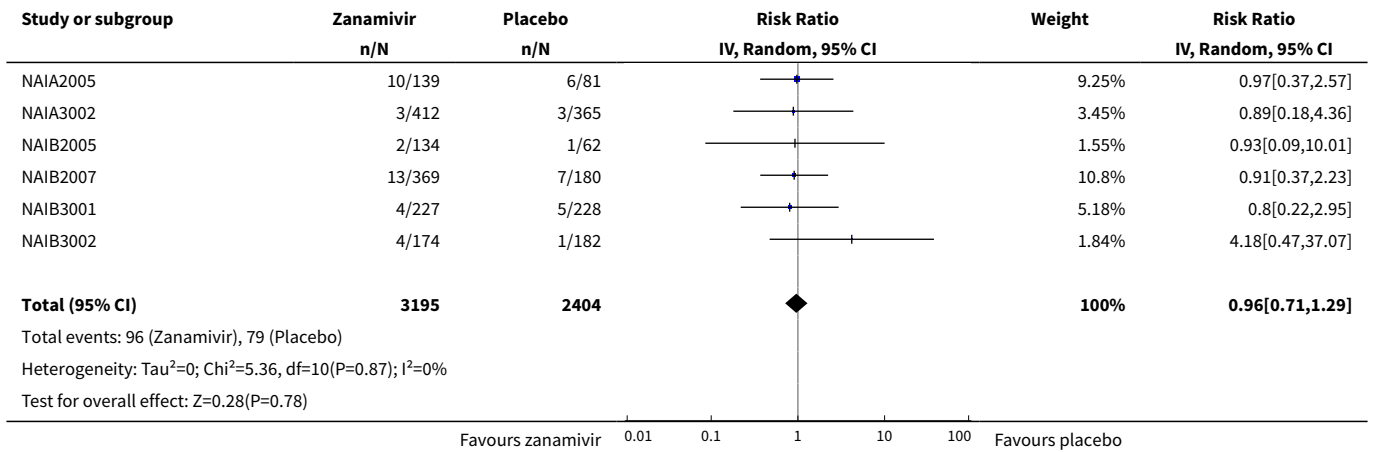


Analysis 3.53. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 53 Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in adult treatment (off-treatment).

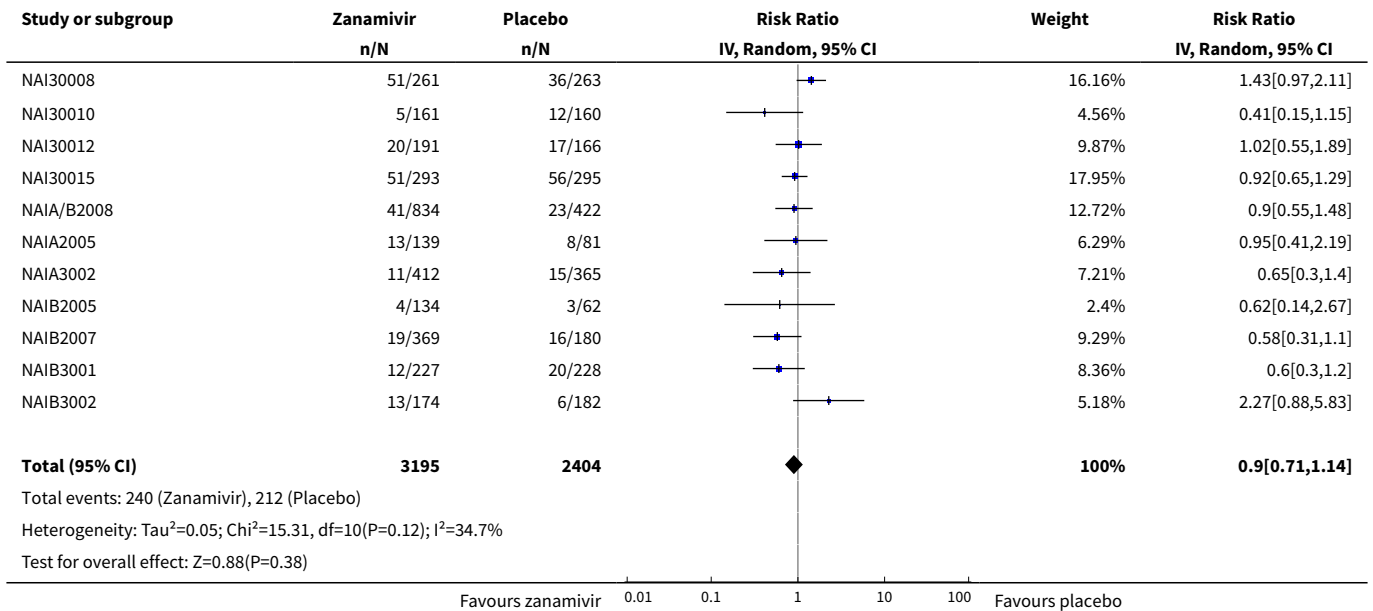


Analysis 3.54. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 54 Adverse events: cough in adult treatment (off-treatment).

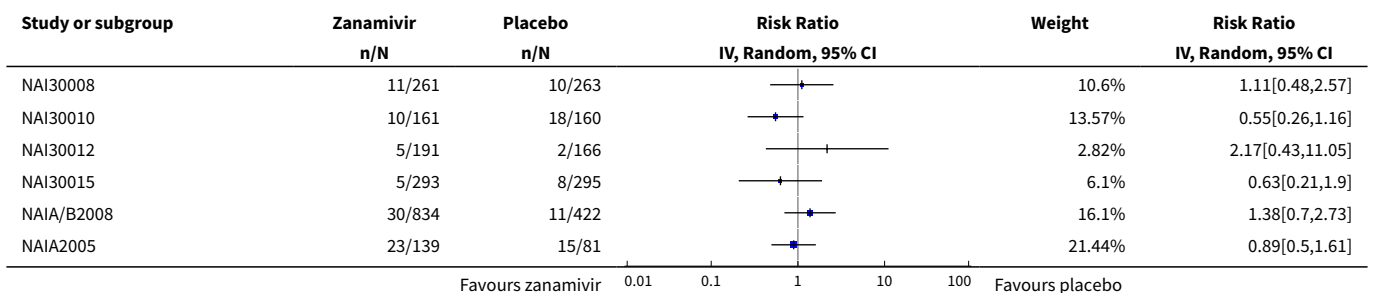


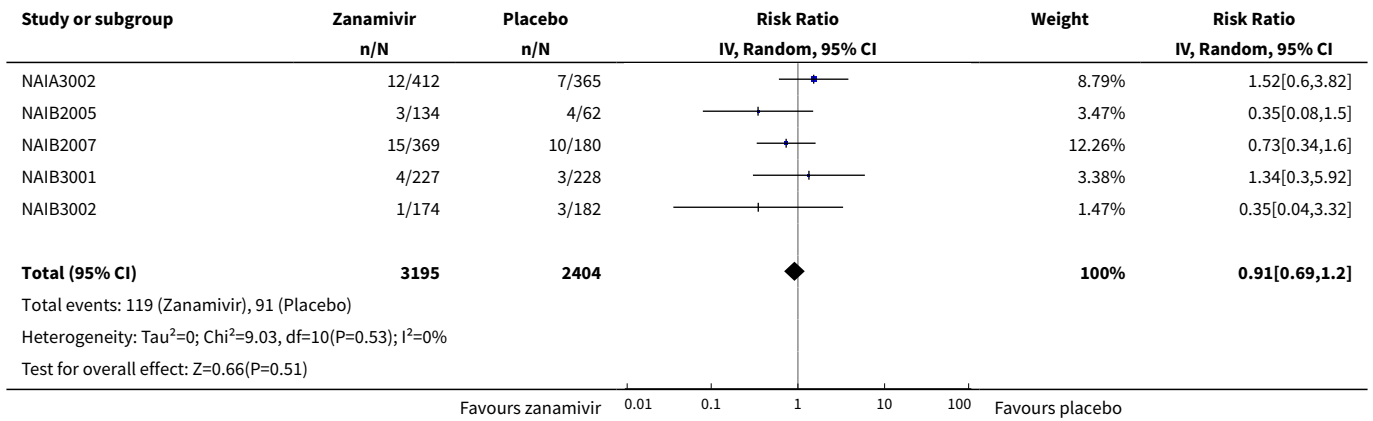


Analysis 3.55. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 55 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

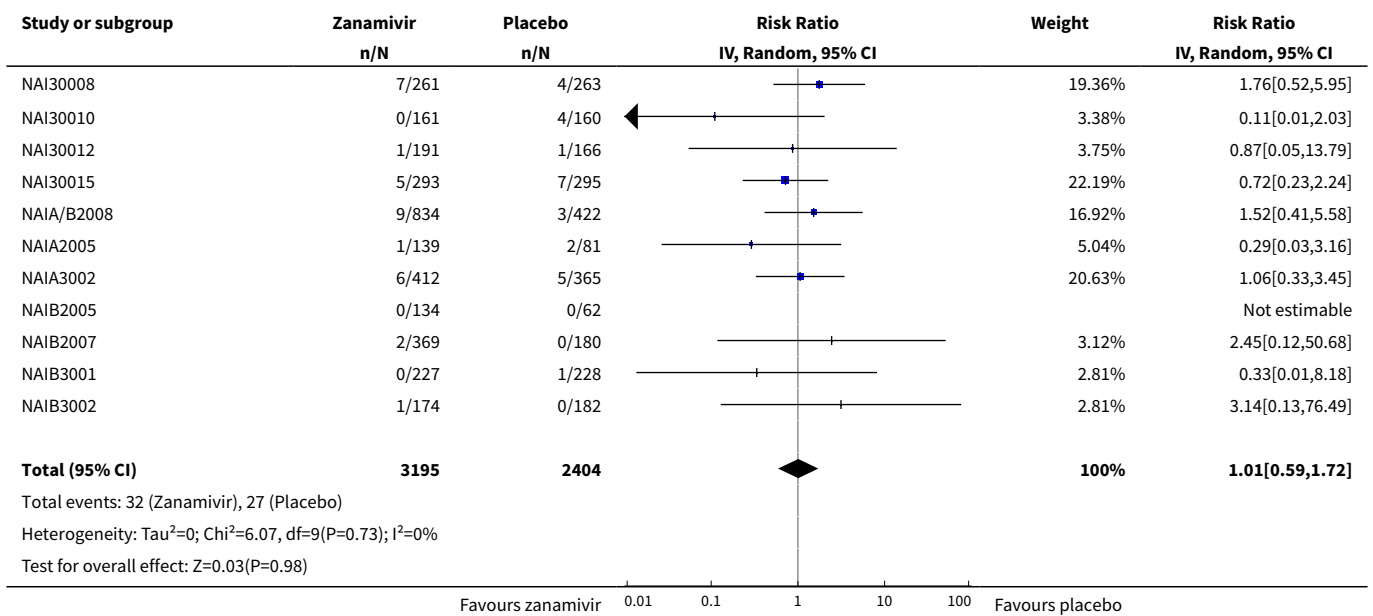


Analysis 3.56. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 56 Adverse events: headache in adult treatment (off-treatment).

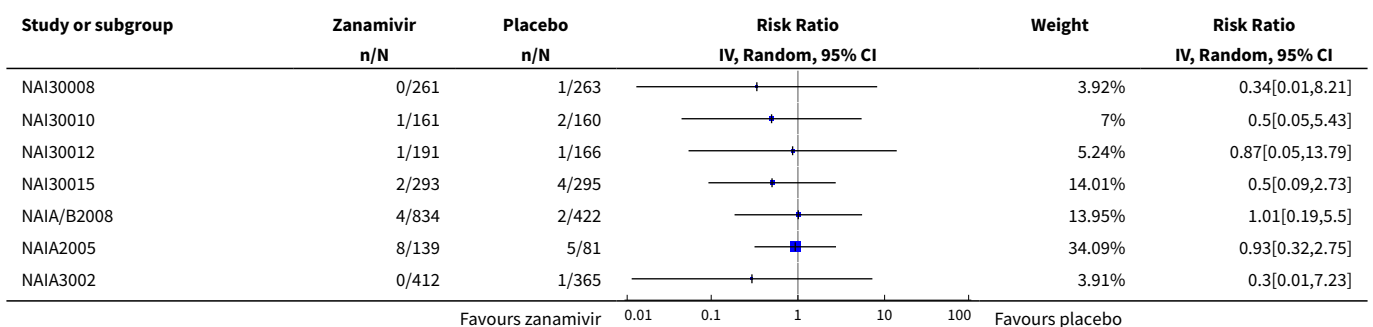


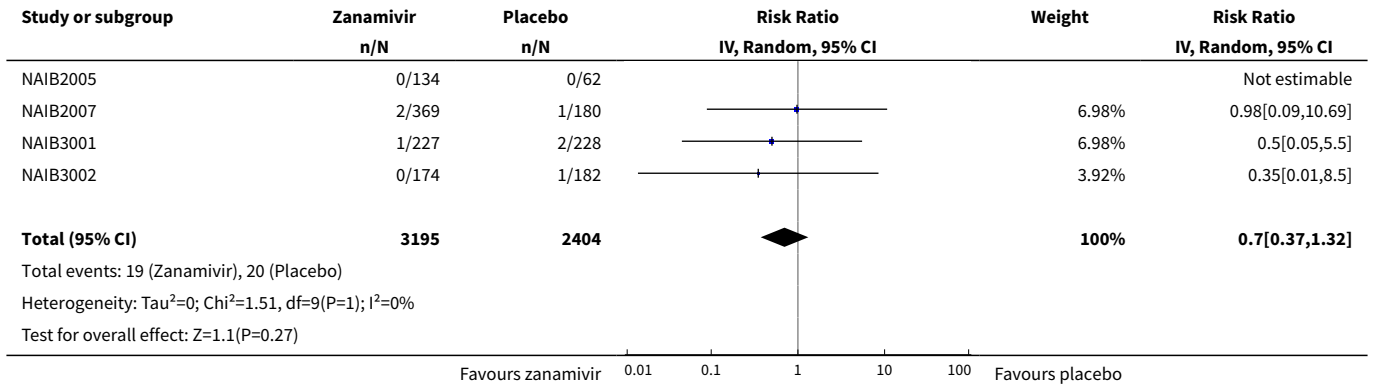


Analysis 3.57. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 57 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult treatment (off-treatment).

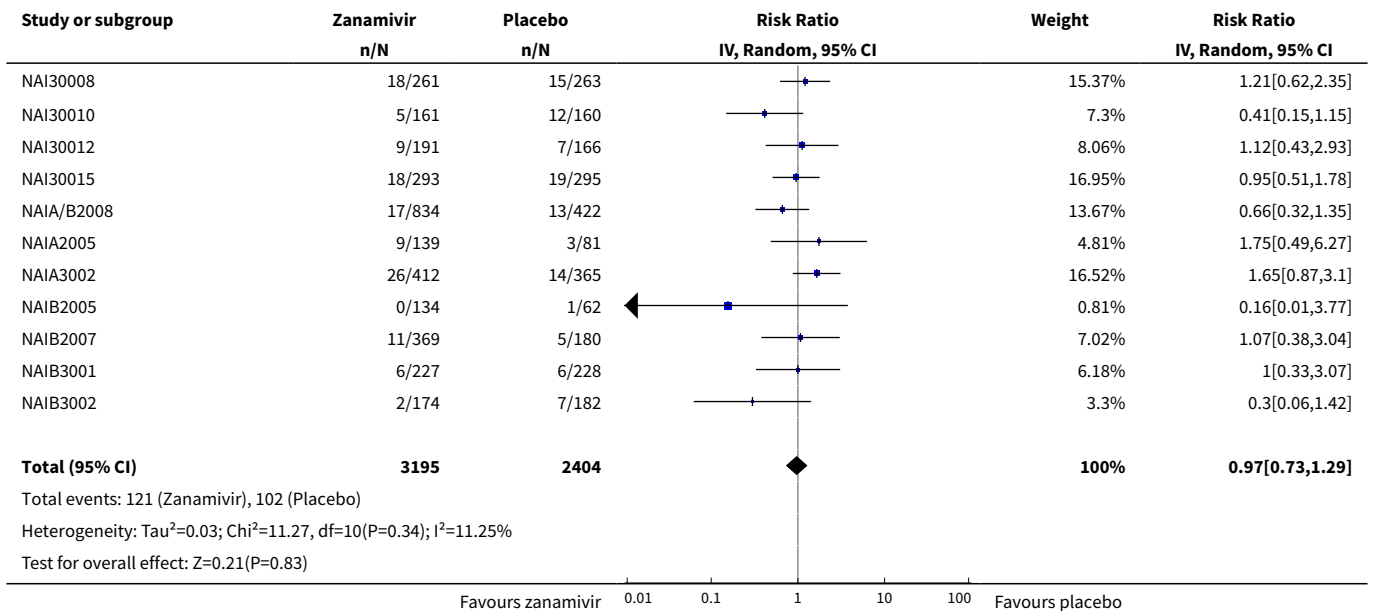


Analysis 3.58. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 58 Adverse events: fatigue in adult treatment (off-treatment).

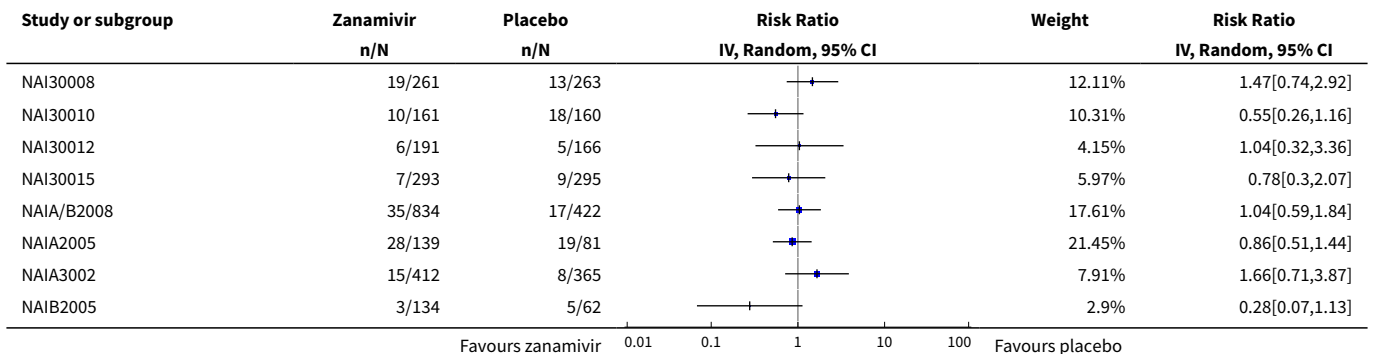


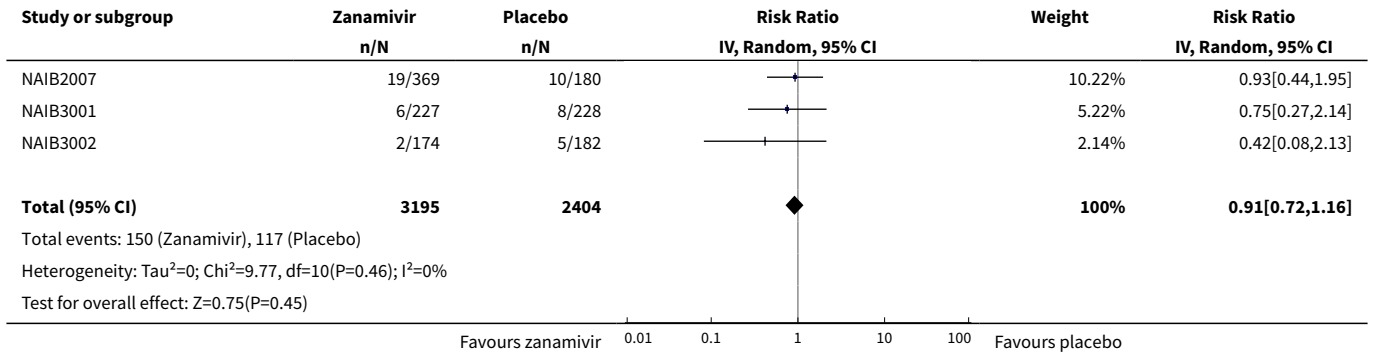


Analysis 3.59. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 59 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

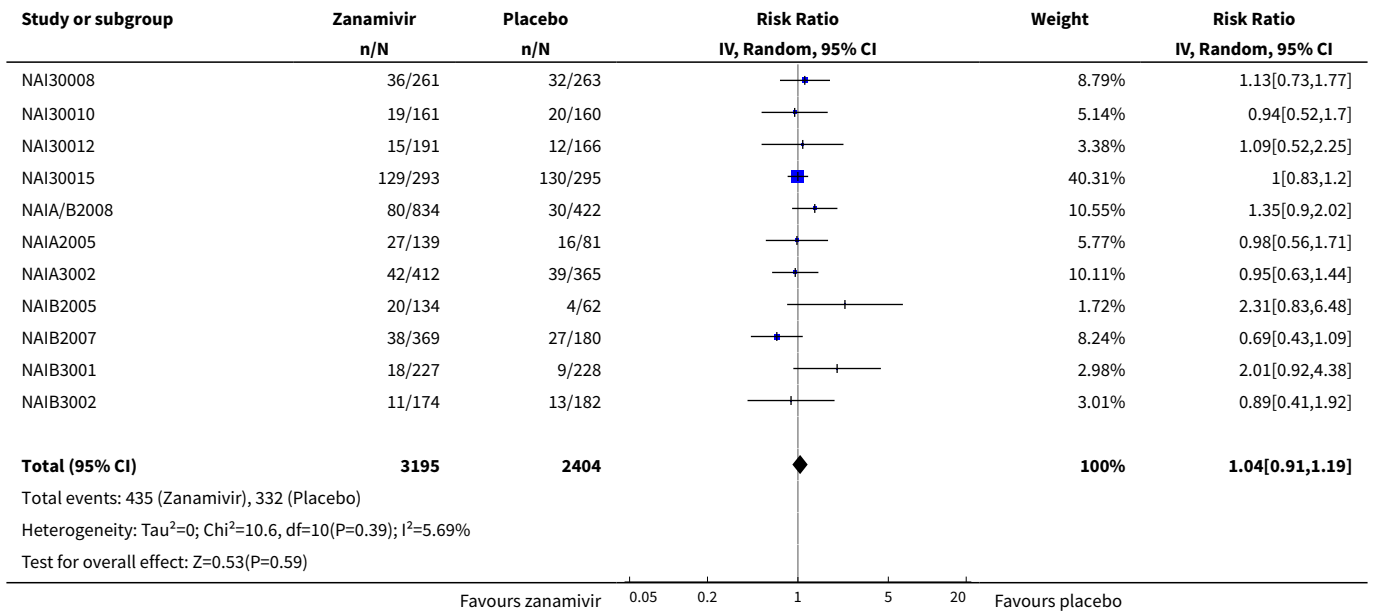


Analysis 3.60. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 60 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

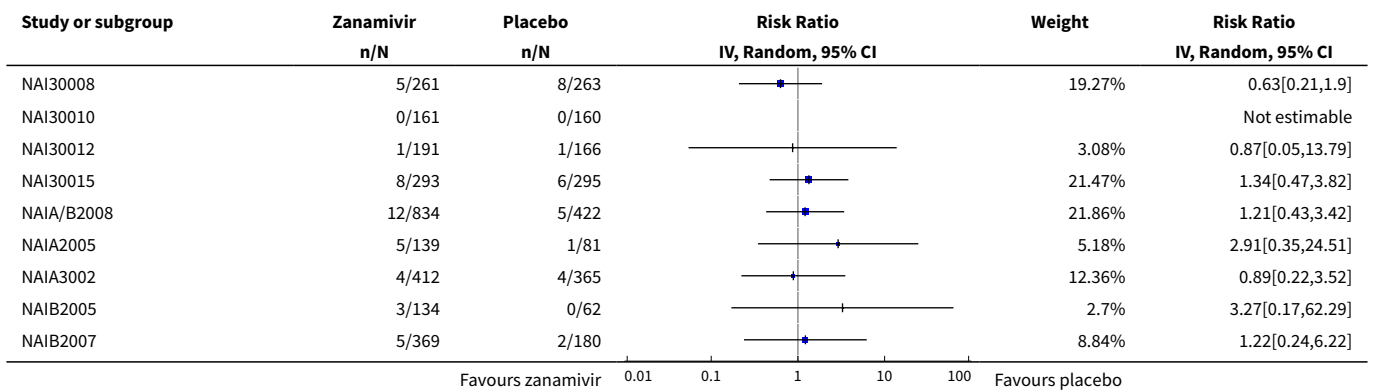


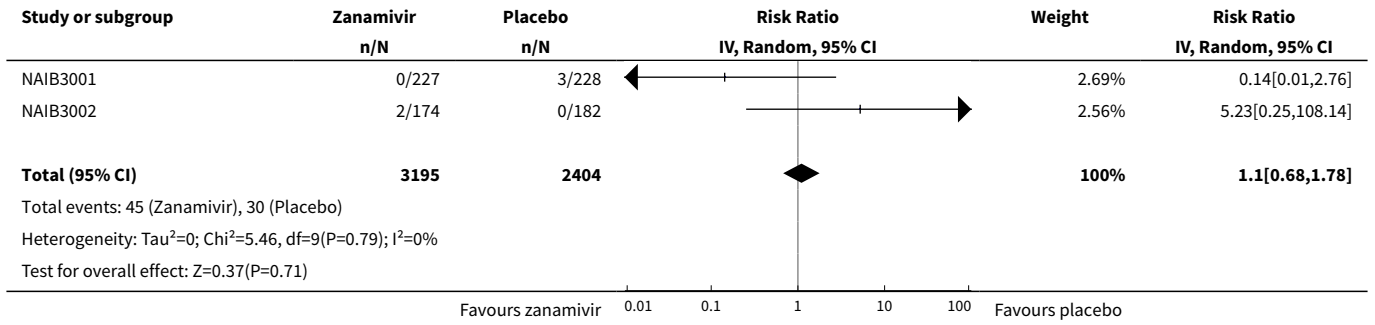


Analysis 3.61. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 61 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat in adult treatment (off-treatment).

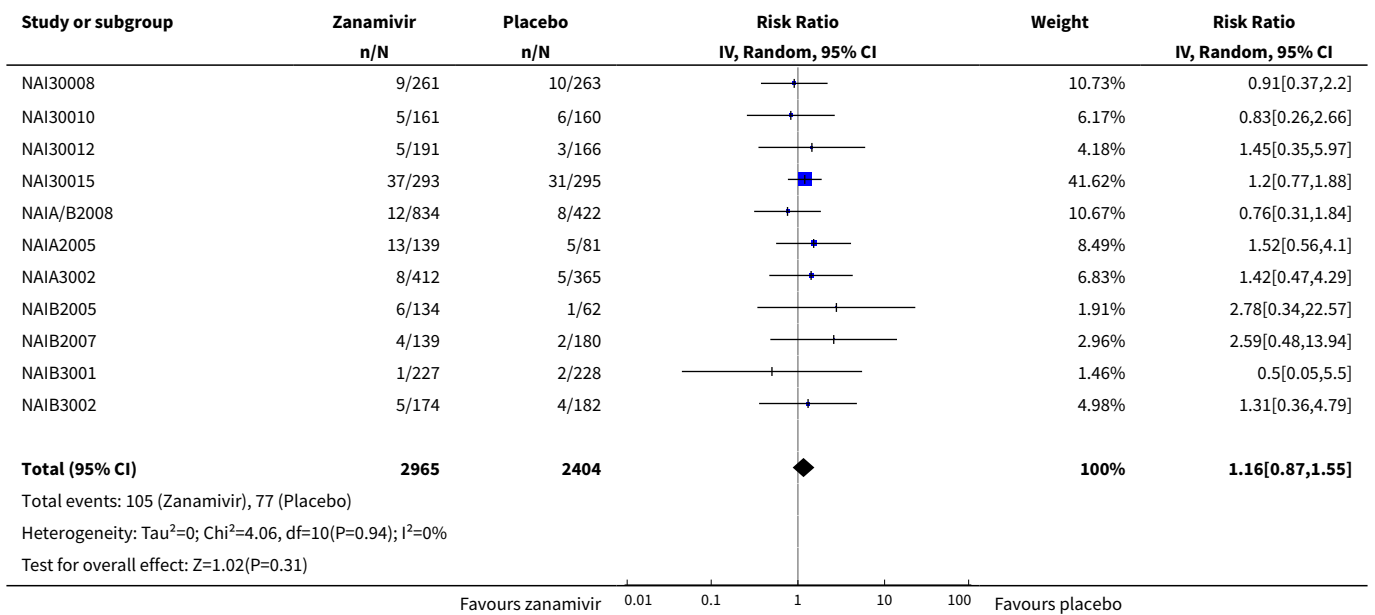


Analysis 3.62. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 62 Adverse events: skin body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

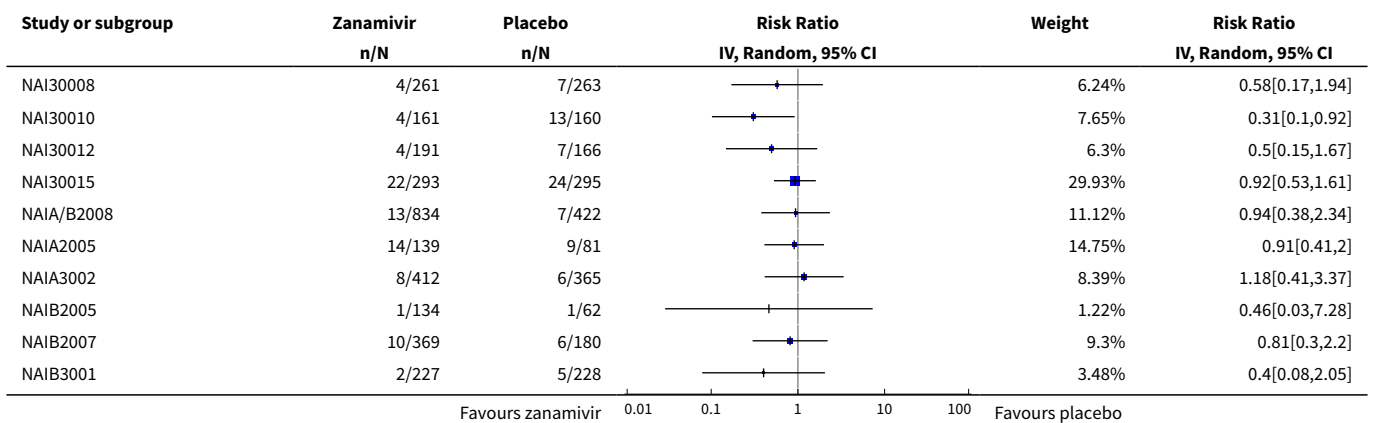


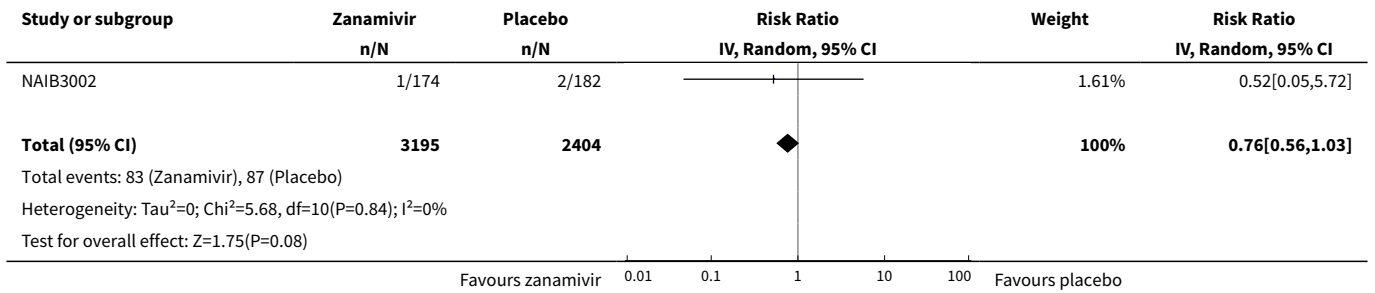


Analysis 3.63. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 63 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

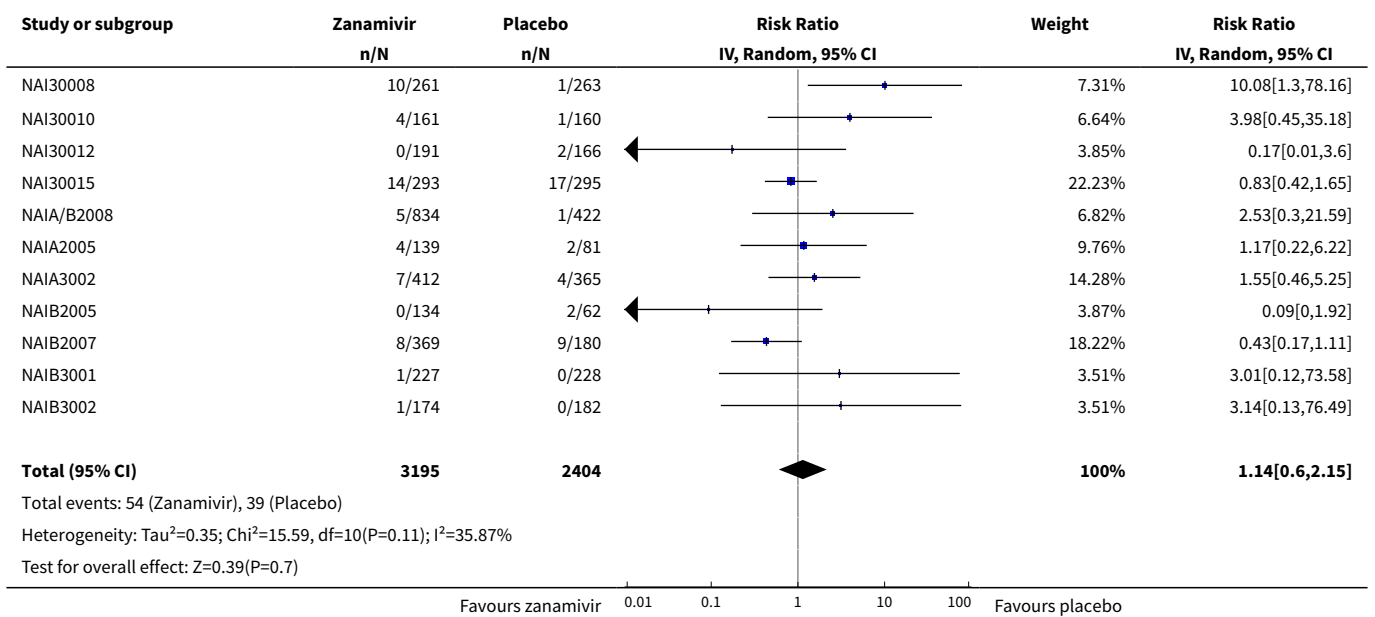


Analysis 3.64. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 64 Adverse events: non-site specific in adult treatment (off-treatment).

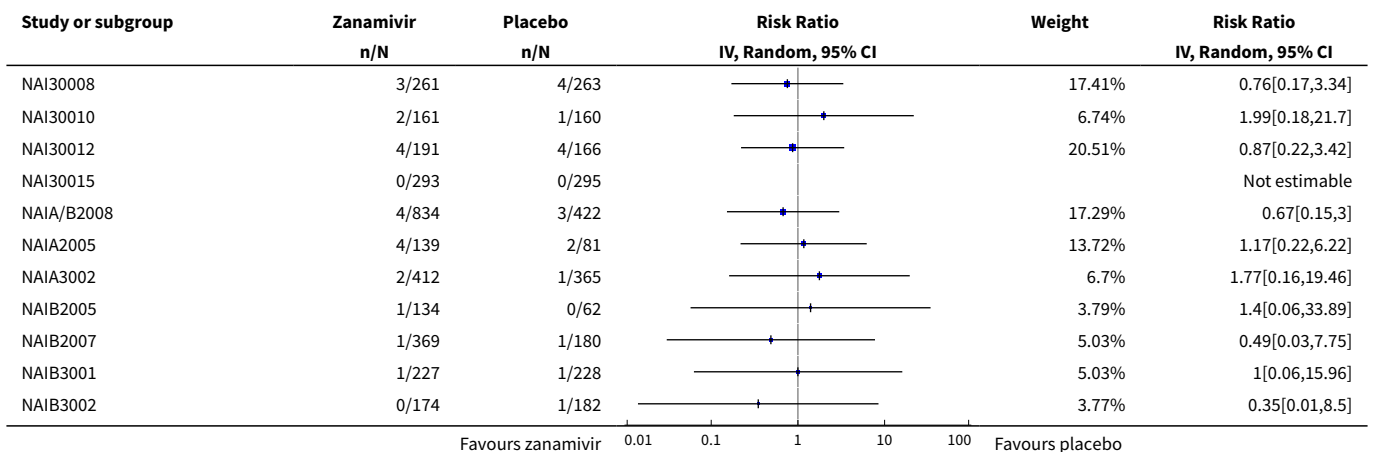


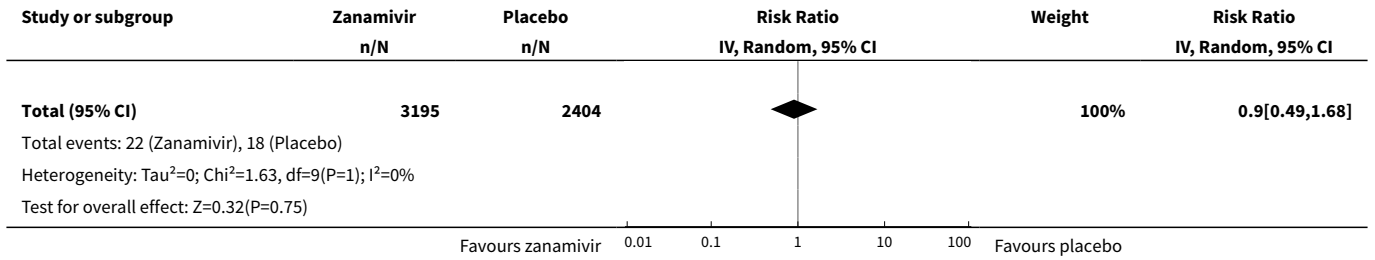


Analysis 3.65. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 65 Adverse events: injury body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

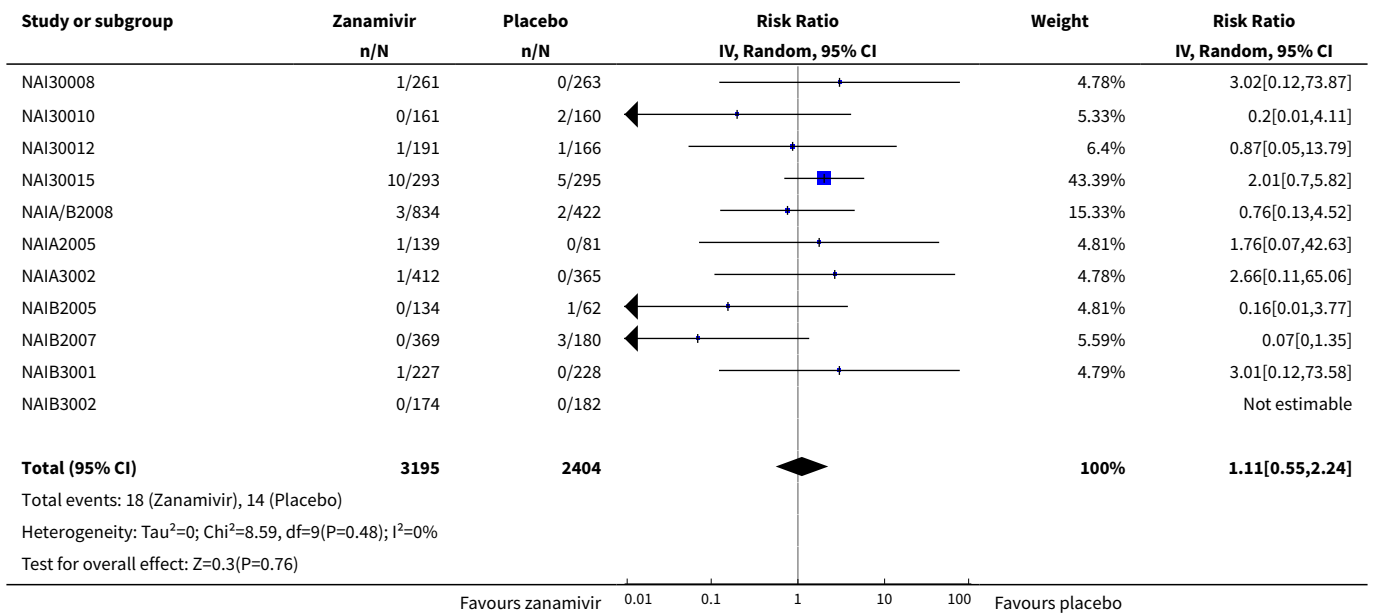


Analysis 3.66. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 66 Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).

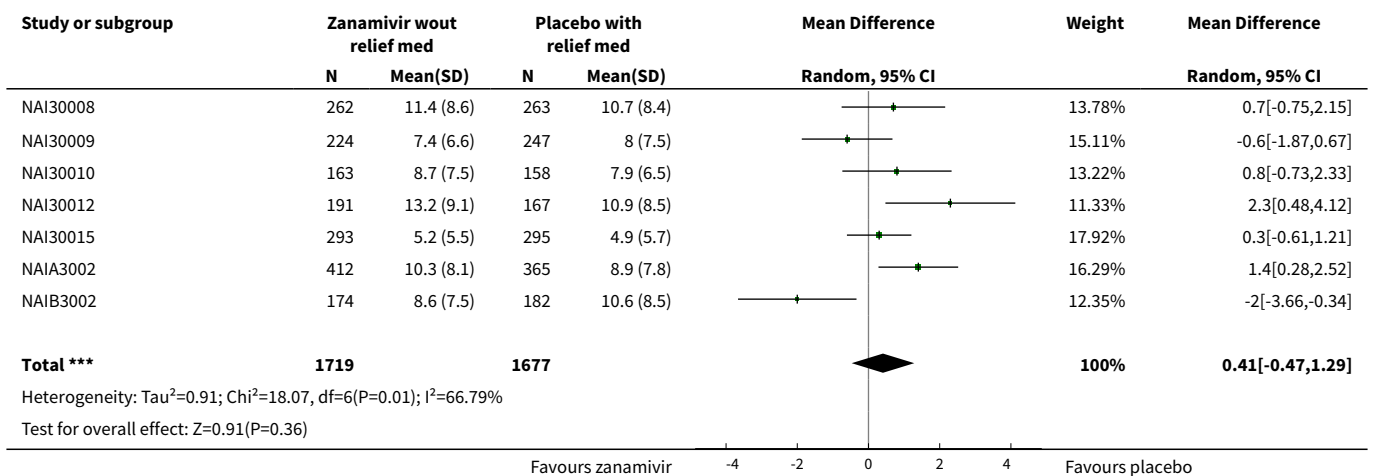




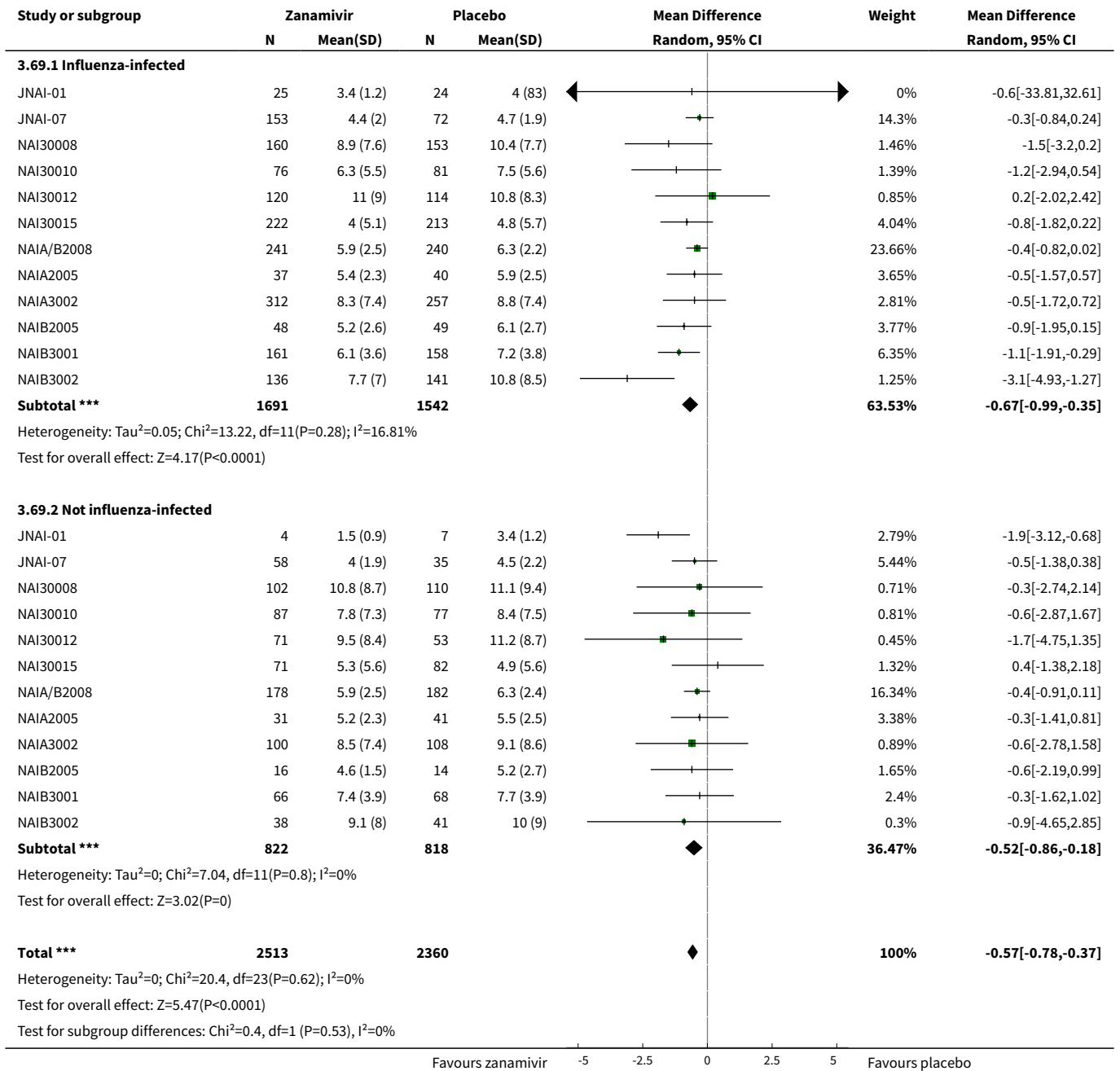
Analysis 3.67. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 67 Adverse events: eye body system in adult treatment (off-treatment).



Analysis 3.68. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 68 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults with/without relief medication [days].



Analysis 3.69. Comparison 3 Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment, Outcome 69 Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults by infection status [days].



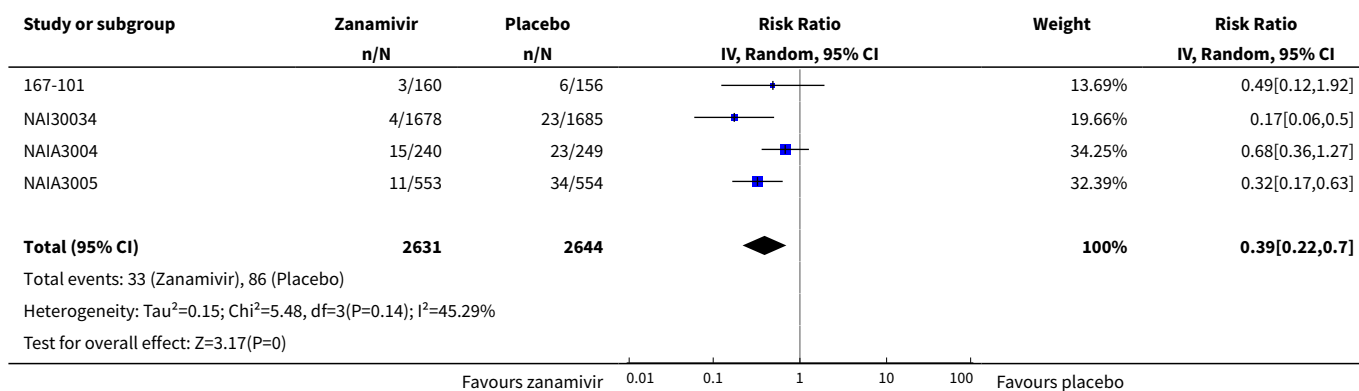
Comparison 4. Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Symptomatic influenza in prophylaxis of individuals	4	5275	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.39 [0.22, 0.70]
2 Asymptomatic influenza in prophylaxis of individuals	4	5275	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.76, 1.24]
3 Symptomatic influenza in post-exposure prophylaxis	5	1525	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.33 [0.18, 0.58]
3.1 Household prophylaxis	2	824	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.22 [0.13, 0.36]
3.2 Other prophylaxis	3	701	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.59 [0.30, 1.16]
4 Asymptomatic influenza in post-exposure prophylaxis	5	1525	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.88 [0.65, 1.20]
5 Complications: pneumonia in adult prophylaxis	6	7662	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.30 [0.11, 0.80]
6 Complications: bronchitis in adult prophylaxis	6	7662	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.49 [0.20, 1.19]
7 Complications: sinusitis in adult prophylaxis	6	7662	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.64, 1.36]
8 Complications classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal	5	6825	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.09 [0.36, 3.26]
9 Serious adverse events in adult prophylaxis	10	8225	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.12 [0.65, 1.91]
10 Adverse events leading to study withdrawal in adult prophylaxis	10	8225	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.85 [0.60, 1.21]
11 All withdrawals in adult prophylaxis	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.81 [0.64, 1.03]
12 Adverse events: abdominal pain in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.28 [0.55, 2.99]
13 Adverse events: cough in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.82, 1.01]
14 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.73, 1.40]
15 Adverse events: dizziness in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.07 [0.59, 1.96]
16 Adverse events: fatigue in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.88, 1.16]

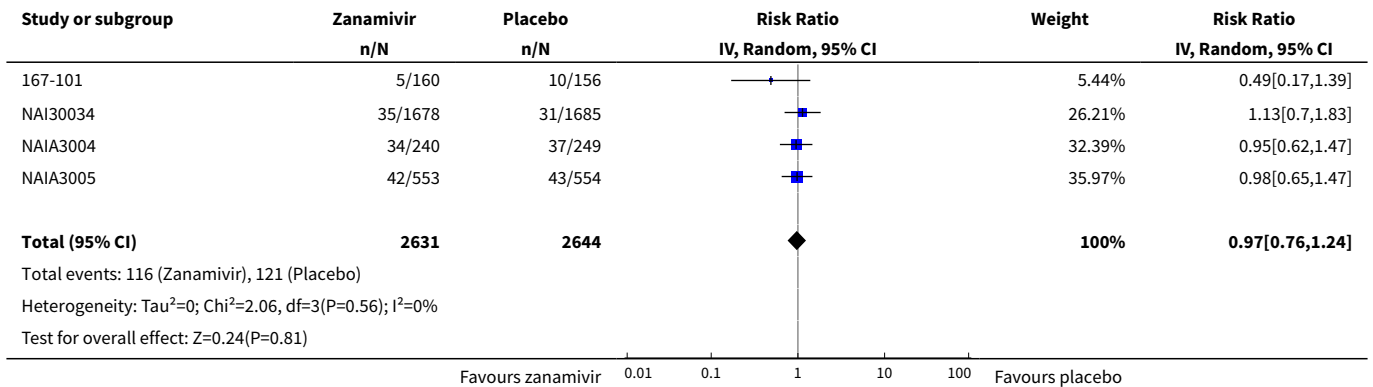
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
17 Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.89, 1.04]
18 Adverse events: blood body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.18 [0.62, 2.25]
19 Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.88 [0.66, 1.18]
20 Adverse events: cardiovascular body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.15 [0.77, 1.71]
21 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.87, 1.01]
22 Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	7	7730	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.86 [0.69, 1.08]
23 Adverse events: eye body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.79 [0.51, 1.21]
24 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.83 [0.72, 0.97]
25 Adverse events: injury body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.62, 1.35]
26 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.93, 1.19]
27 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.89, 1.03]
28 Adverse events: non-site specific in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.85, 1.16]
29 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	7	7730	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.48, 2.29]
30 Adverse events: renal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	7	7730	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.67 [0.35, 1.26]
31 Adverse events: reproductive body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	10	8153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.77 [0.55, 1.09]
32 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.80, 0.94]
33 Adverse events: skin body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	8	7774	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.58, 1.45]
34 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.84 [0.63, 1.13]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
35 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.79 [0.54, 1.15]
36 Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.80 [0.39, 1.67]
37 Adverse events: diarrhoea in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.54, 1.57]
38 Adverse events: headache in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.76, 1.19]
39 Adverse events: cough in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.31 [0.99, 1.73]
40 Adverse events: fatigue in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.74 [0.47, 1.16]
41 Adverse events: neurological body system in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.82, 1.24]
42 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.84, 1.17]
43 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	9	8109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.77, 1.39]
44 Adverse events: non-site specific in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.74, 1.32]
45 Adverse events: injury in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.61 [0.34, 1.10]
46 Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic in prophylaxis (off-treatment)	8	7792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.60, 1.83]

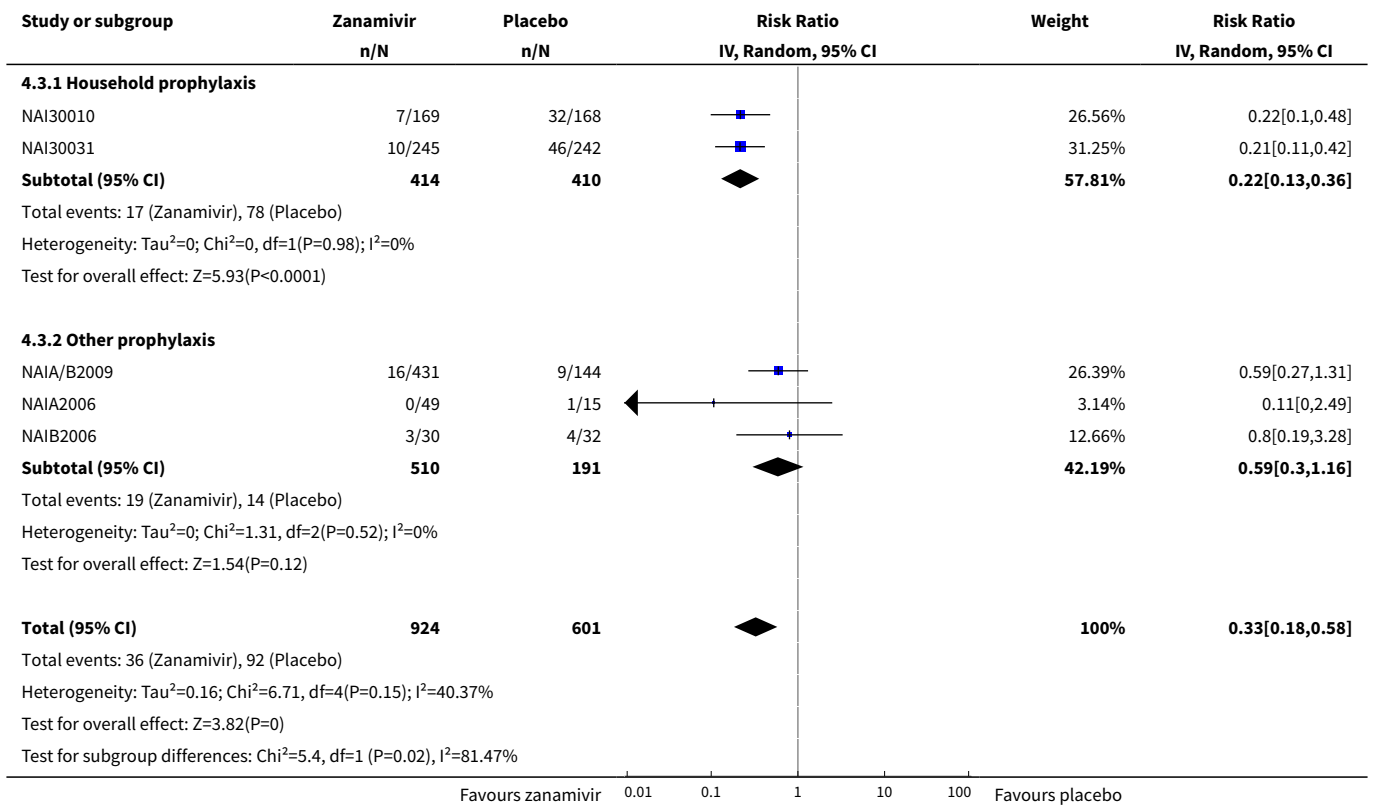
Analysis 4.1. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 1 Symptomatic influenza in prophylaxis of individuals.



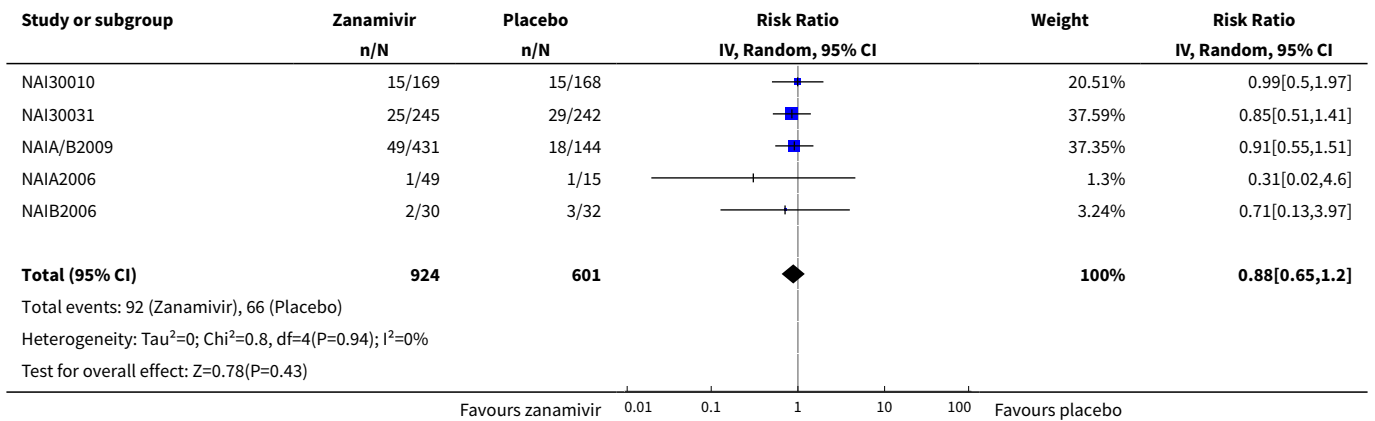
Analysis 4.2. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 2 Asymptomatic influenza in prophylaxis of individuals.



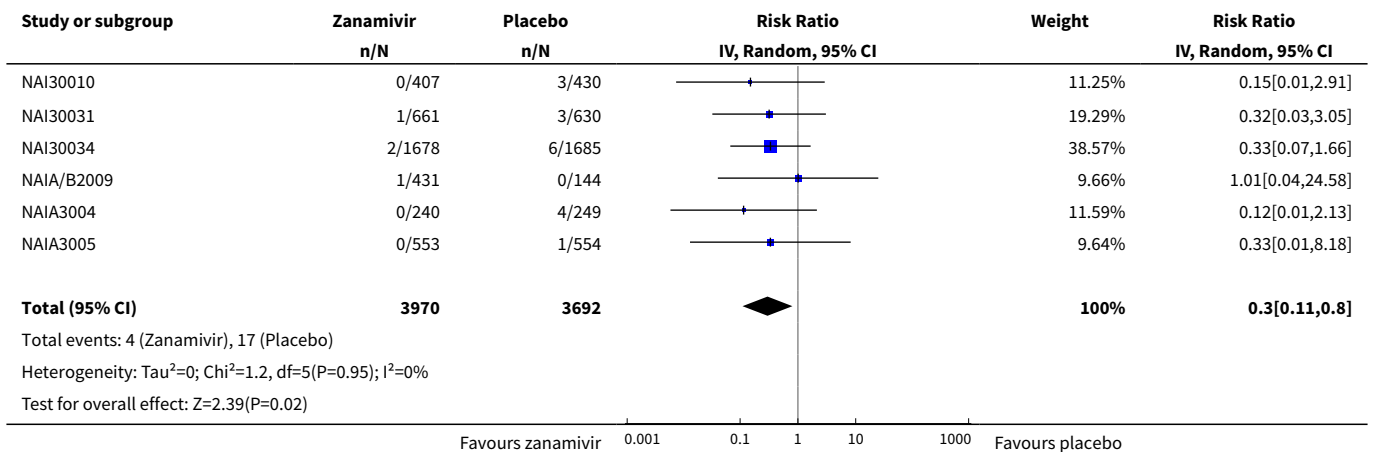
Analysis 4.3. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 3 Symptomatic influenza in post-exposure prophylaxis.



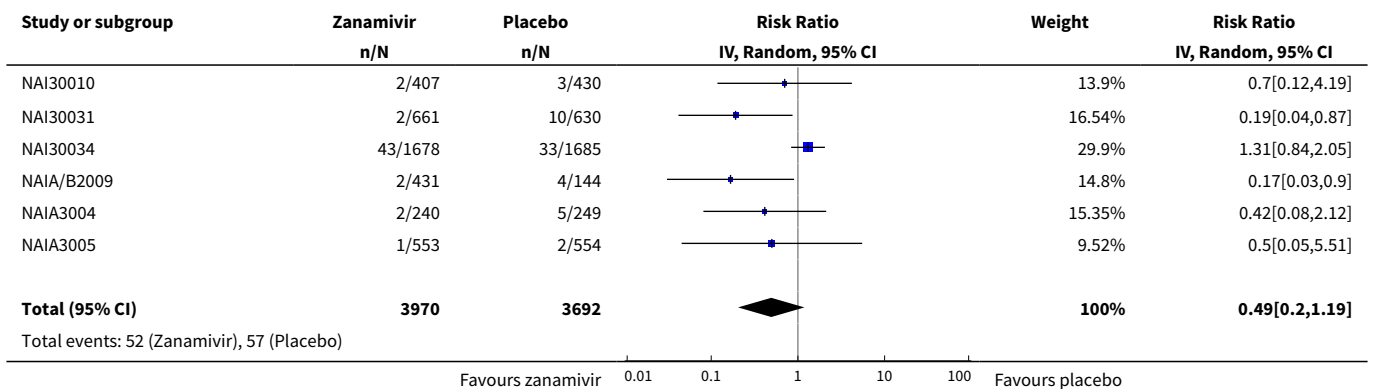
Analysis 4.4. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 4 Asymptomatic influenza in post-exposure prophylaxis.

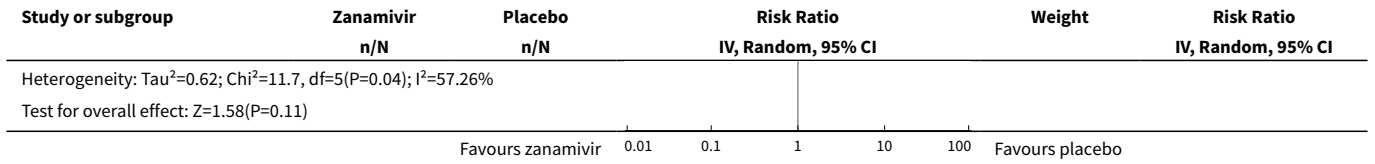


Analysis 4.5. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 5 Complications: pneumonia in adult prophylaxis.

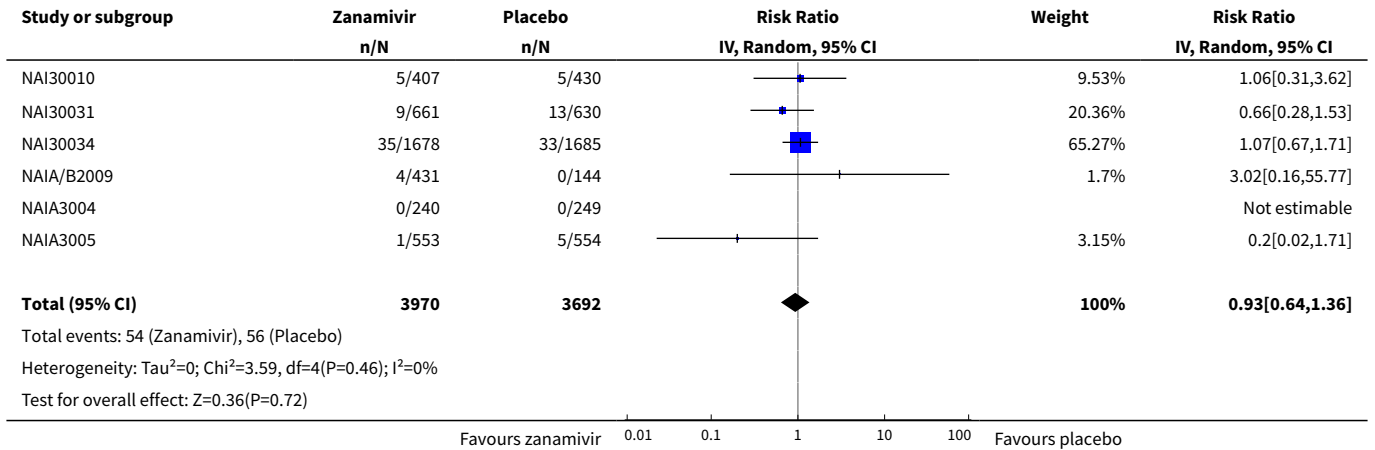


Analysis 4.6. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 6 Complications: bronchitis in adult prophylaxis.

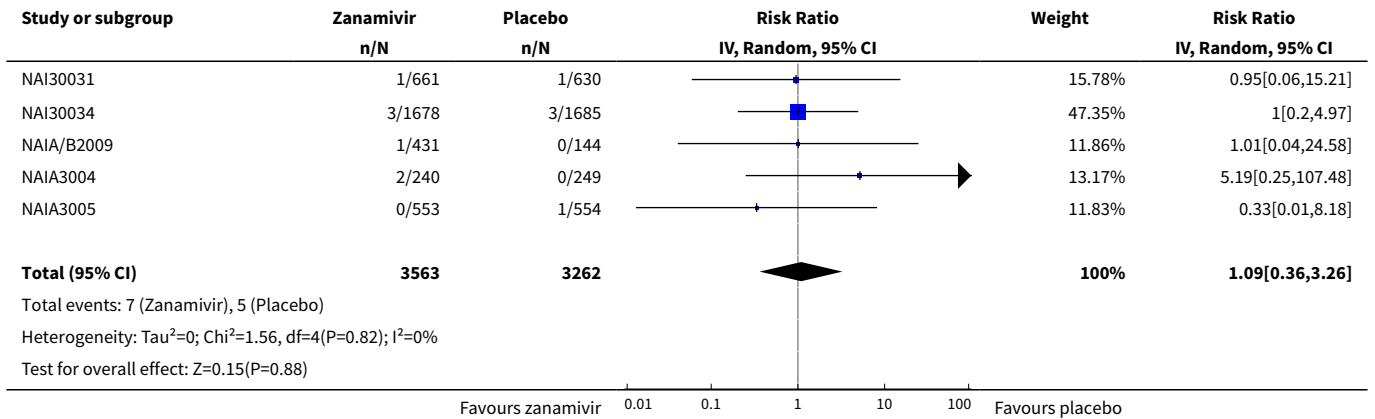




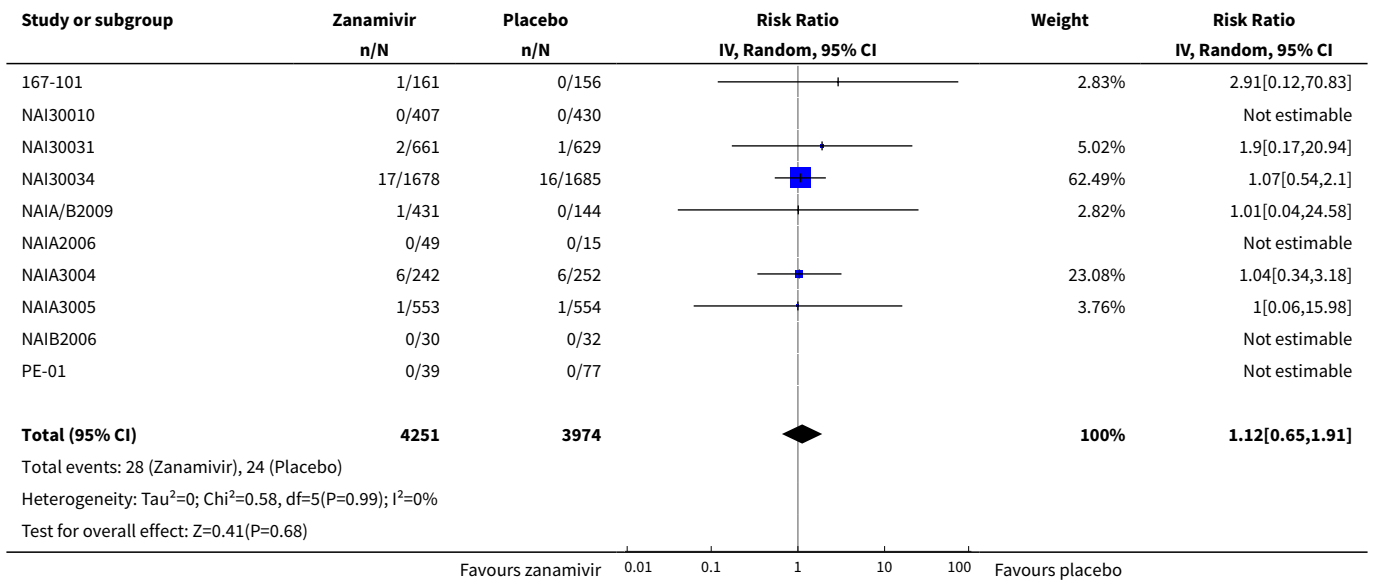
Analysis 4.7. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 7 Complications: sinusitis in adult prophylaxis.



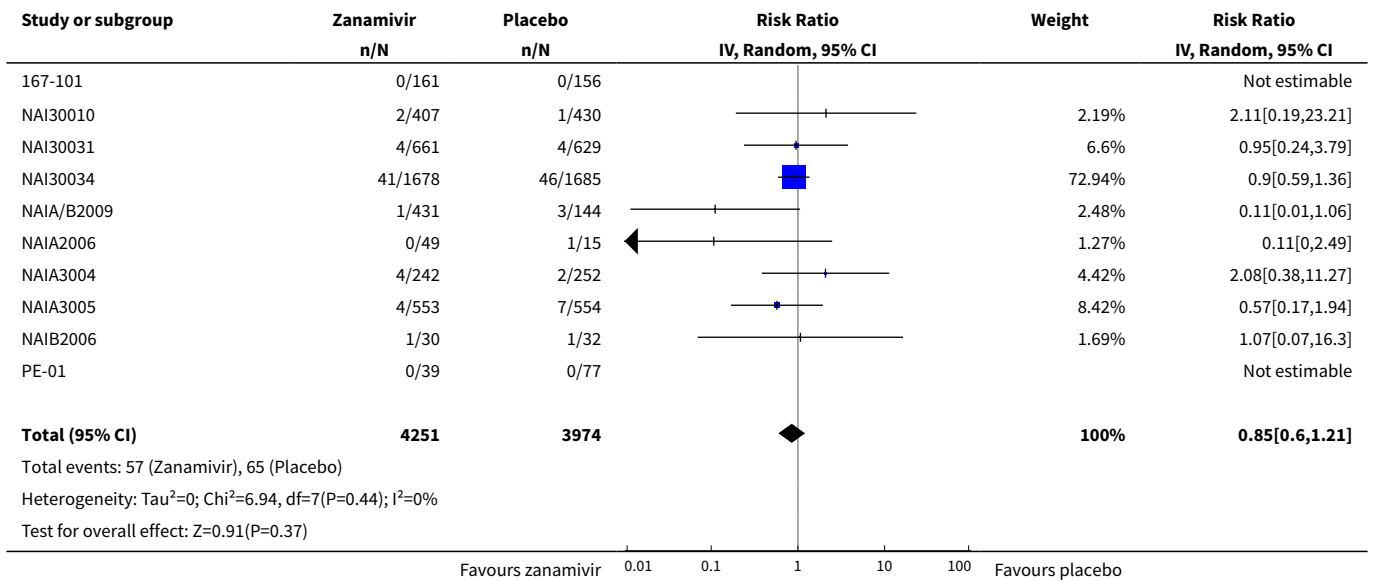
Analysis 4.8. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 8 Complications classified as serious or leading to study withdrawal.



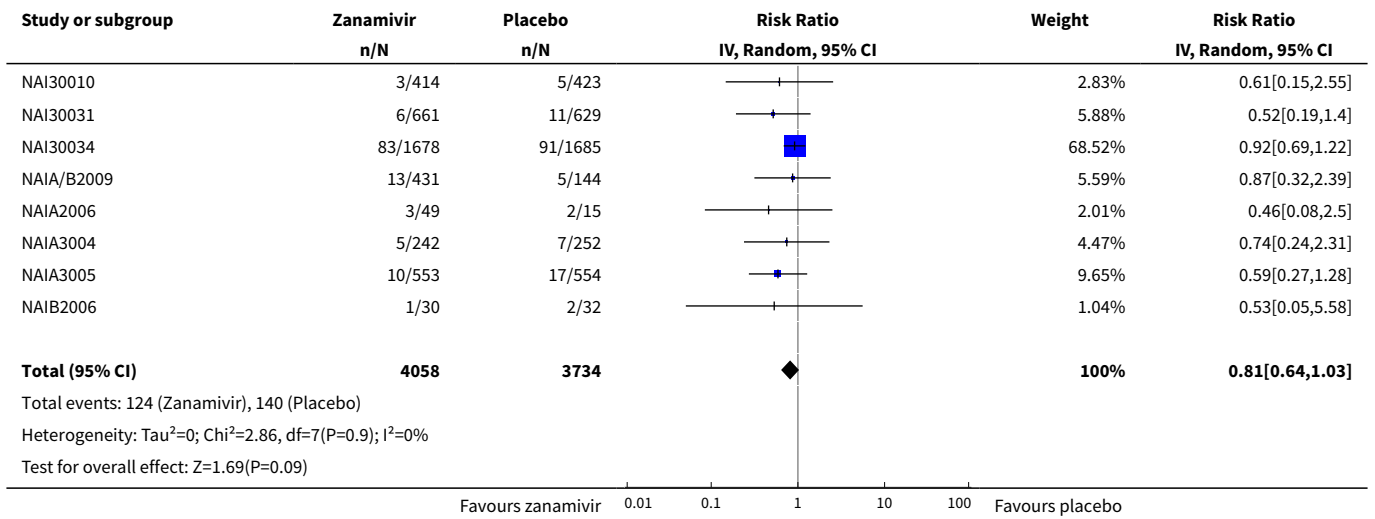
Analysis 4.9. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 9 Serious adverse events in adult prophylaxis.



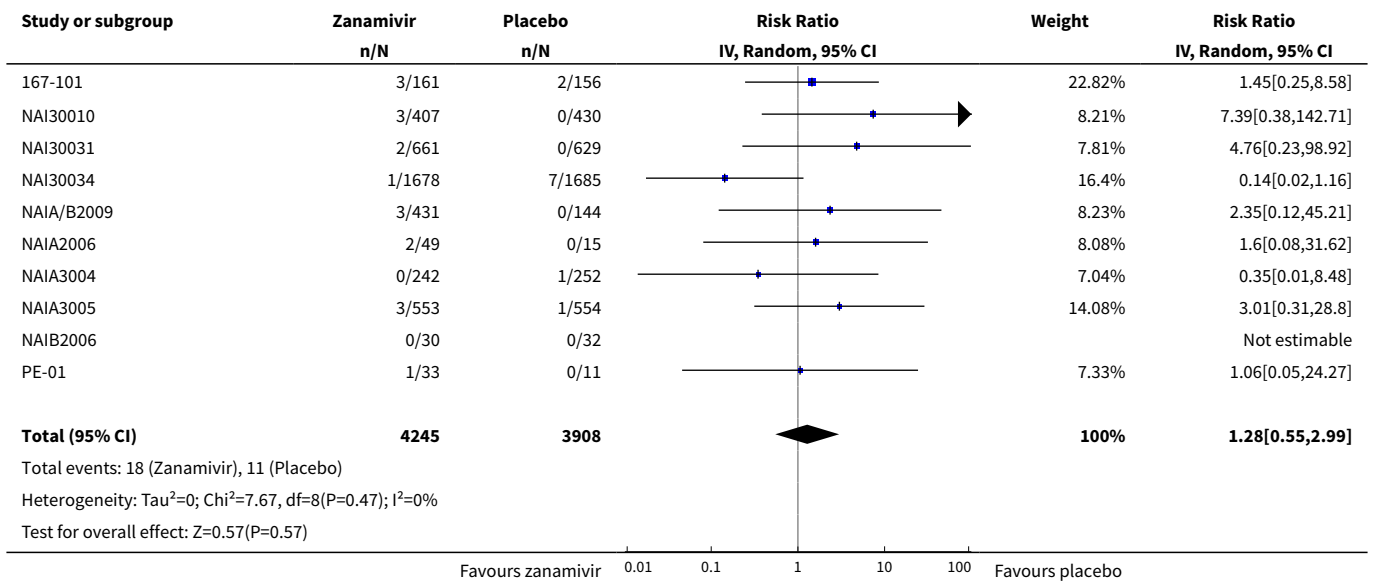
Analysis 4.10. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 10 Adverse events leading to study withdrawal in adult prophylaxis.



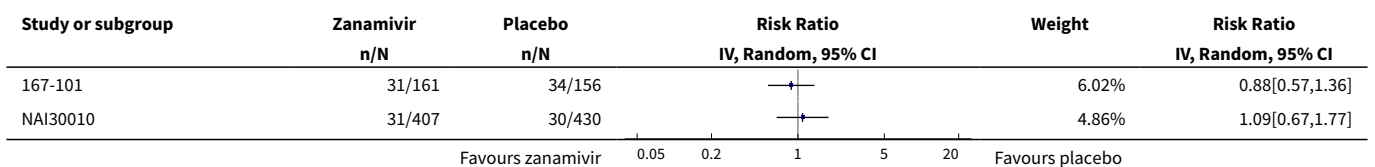
Analysis 4.11. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 11 All withdrawals in adult prophylaxis.

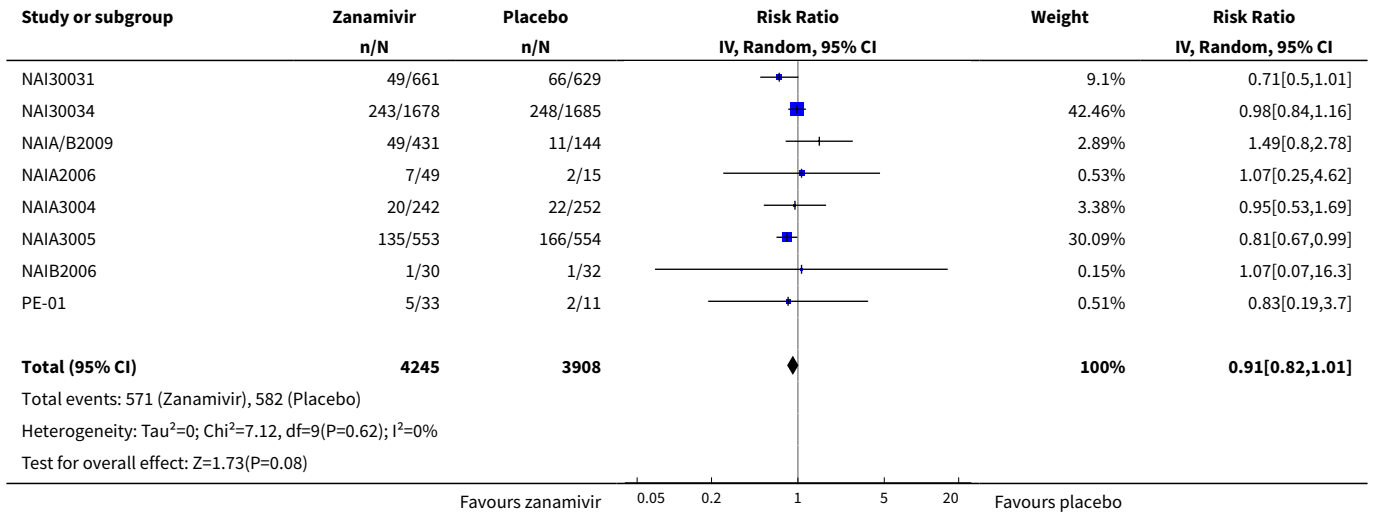


Analysis 4.12. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 12 Adverse events: abdominal pain in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

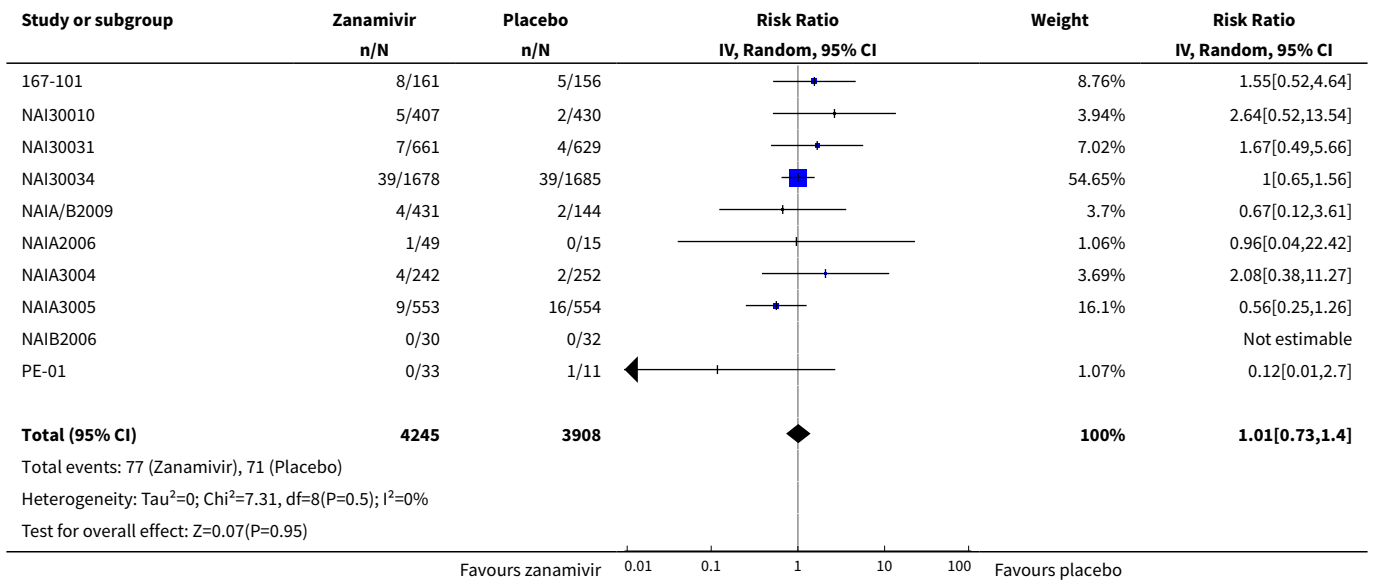


Analysis 4.13. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 13 Adverse events: cough in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

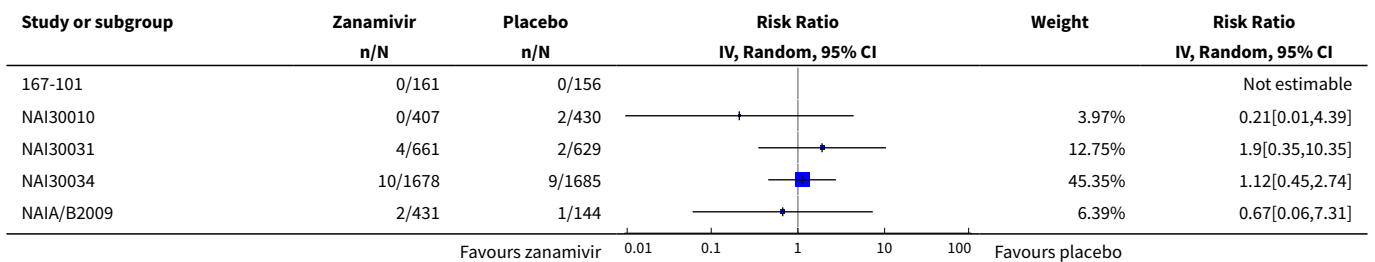


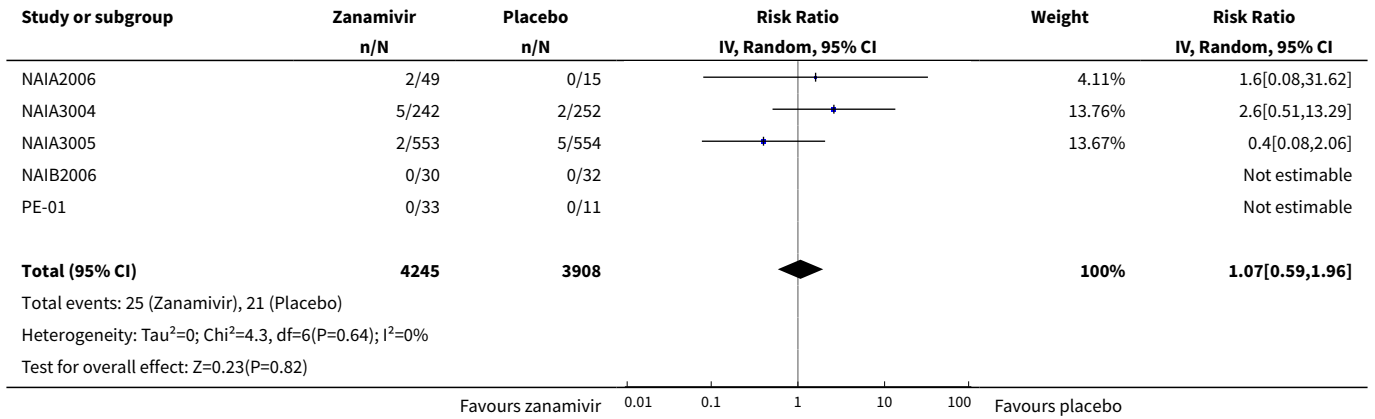


Analysis 4.14. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 14 Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

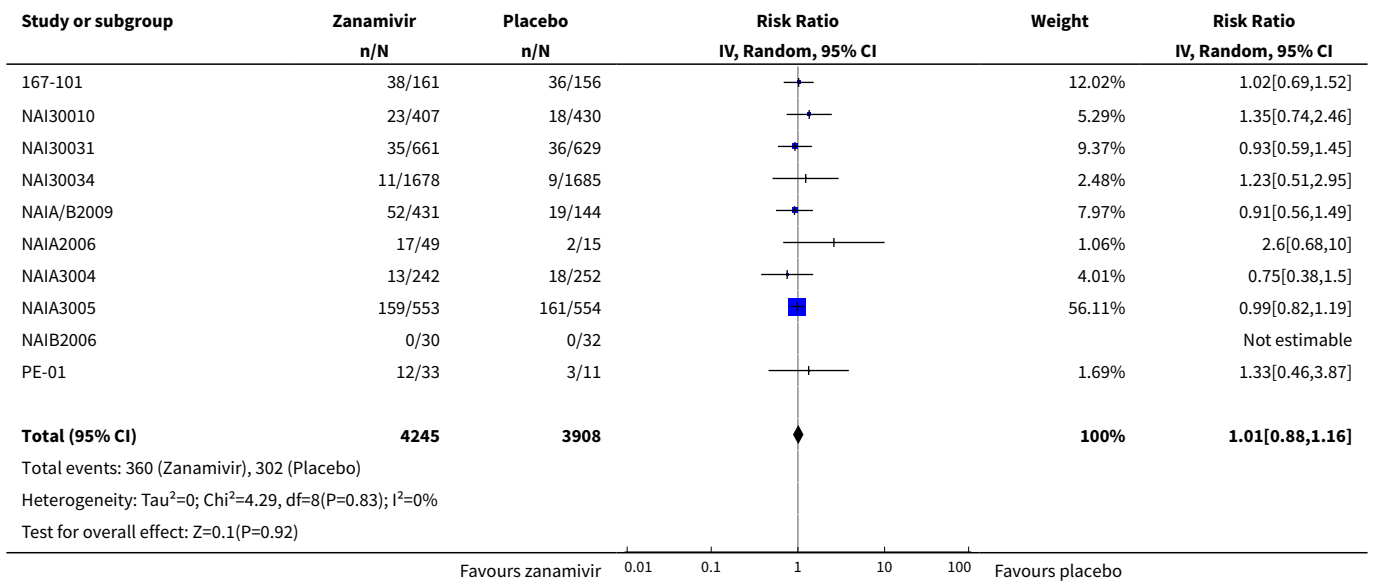


Analysis 4.15. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 15 Adverse events: dizziness in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

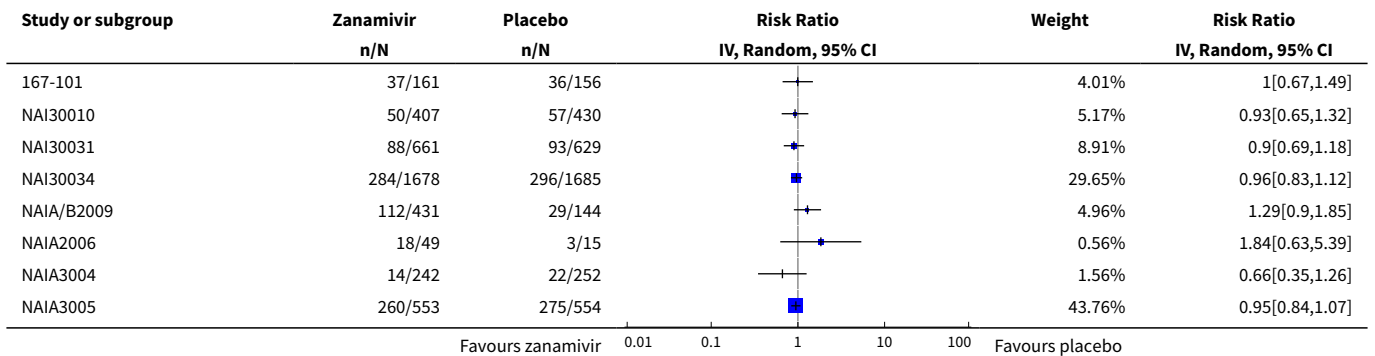


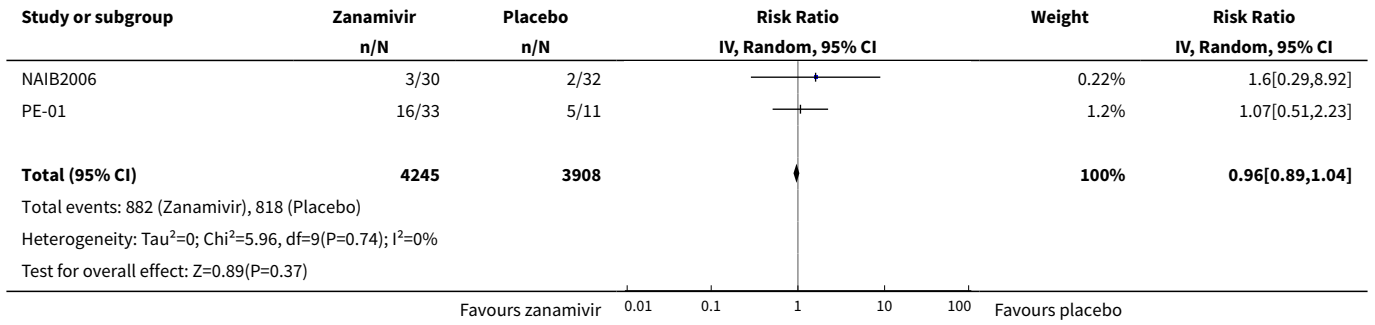


Analysis 4.16. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 16 Adverse events: fatigue in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

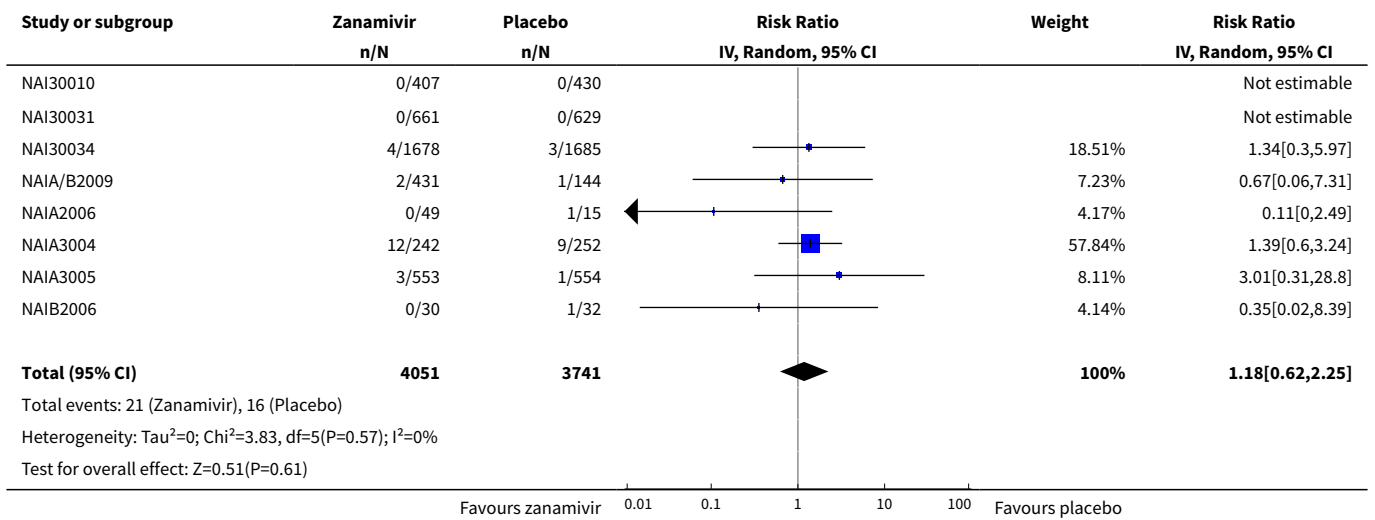


Analysis 4.17. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 17 Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

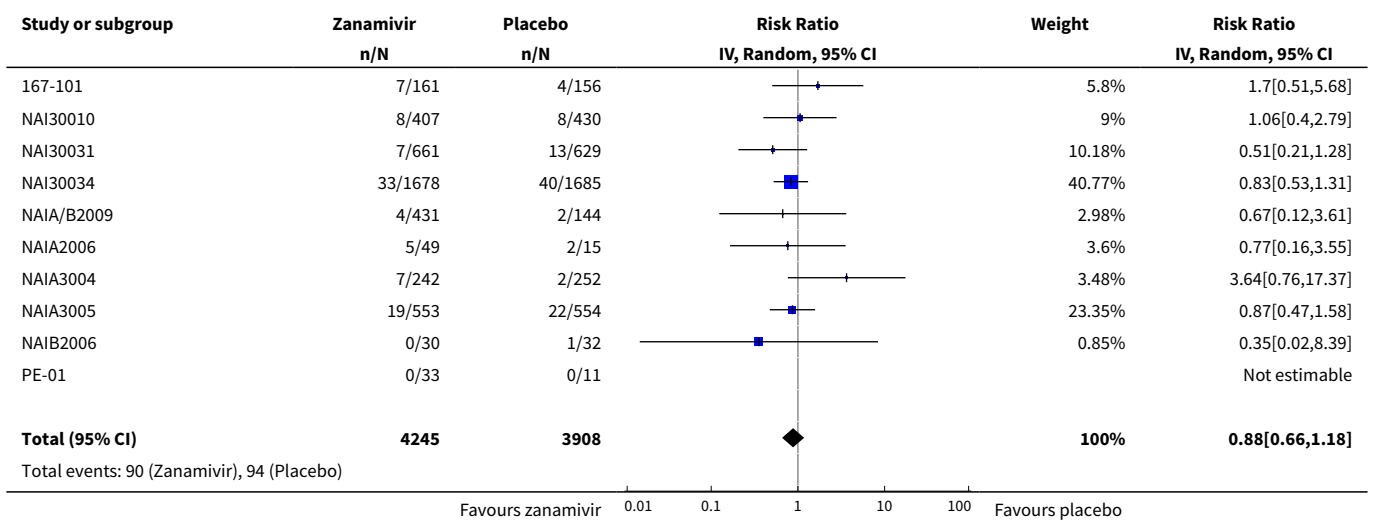


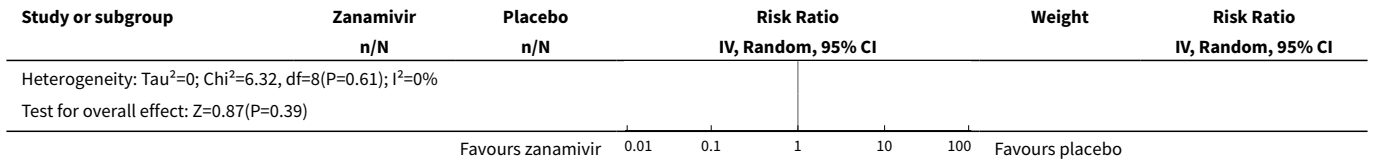


Analysis 4.18. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 18 Adverse events: blood body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

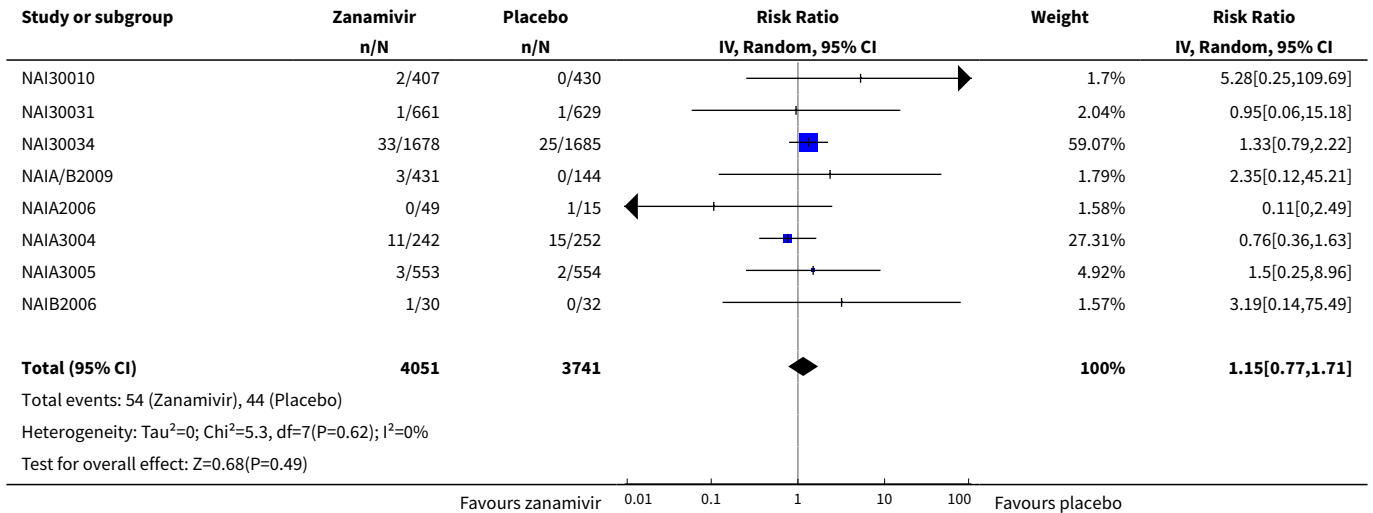


Analysis 4.19. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 19 Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

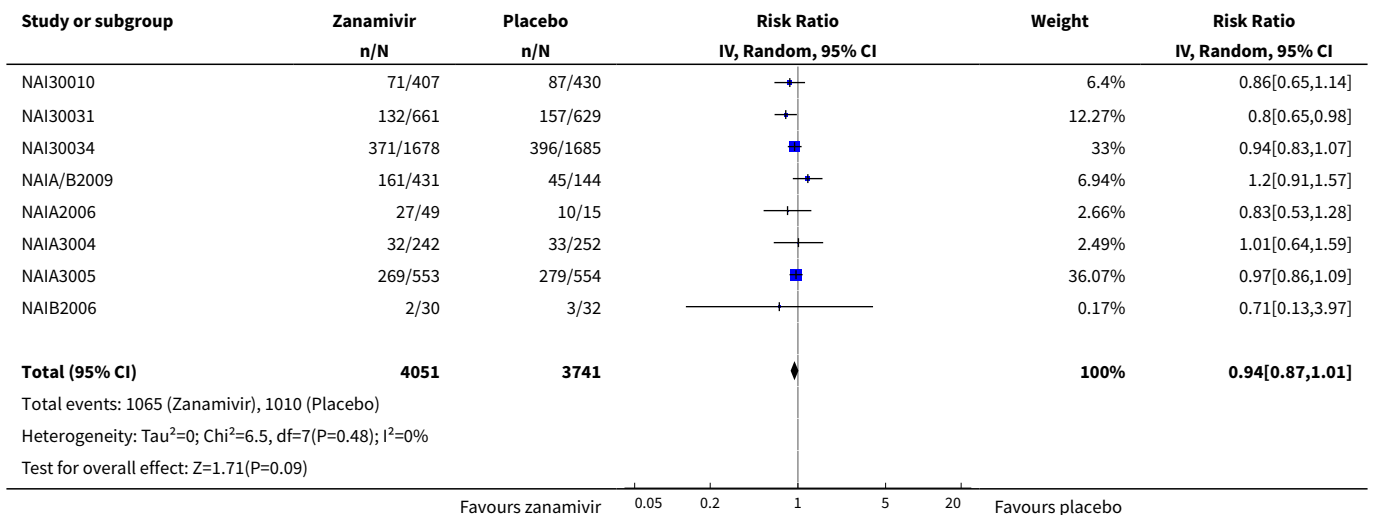




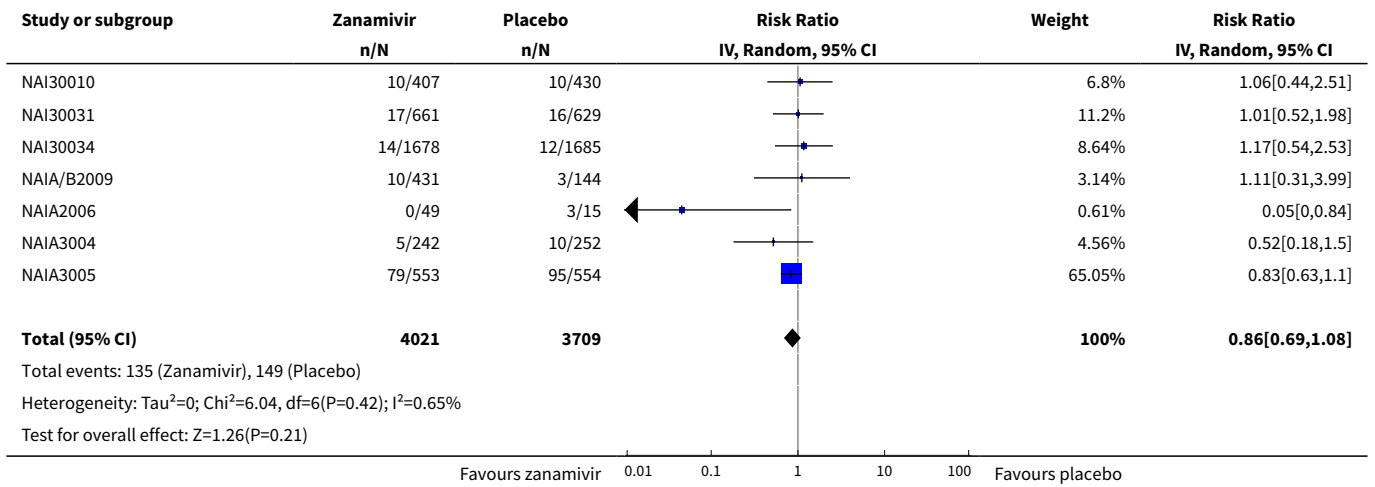
**Analysis 4.20. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 20
Adverse events: cardiovascular body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).**



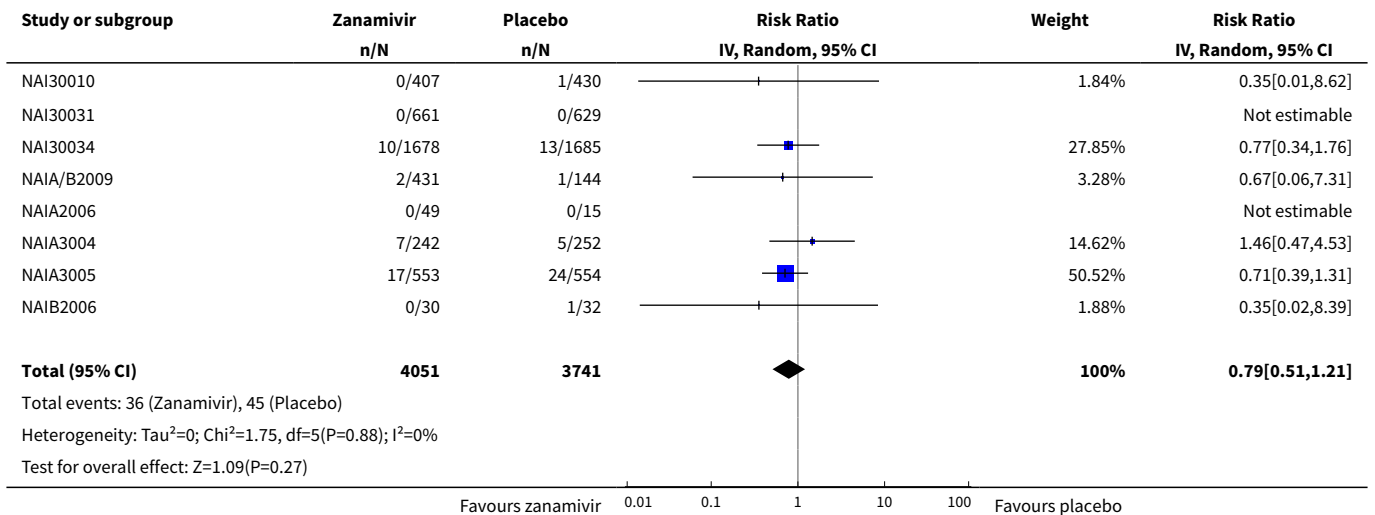
**Analysis 4.21. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 21
Adverse events: ear, nose and throat body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).**



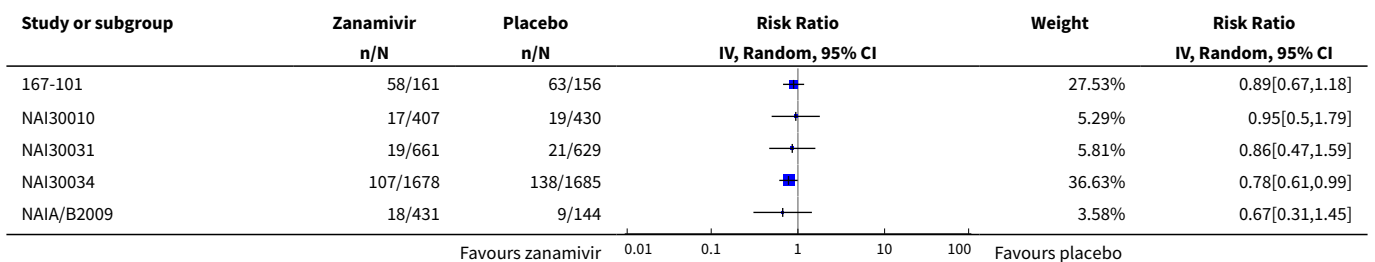
**Analysis 4.22. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 22
Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).**

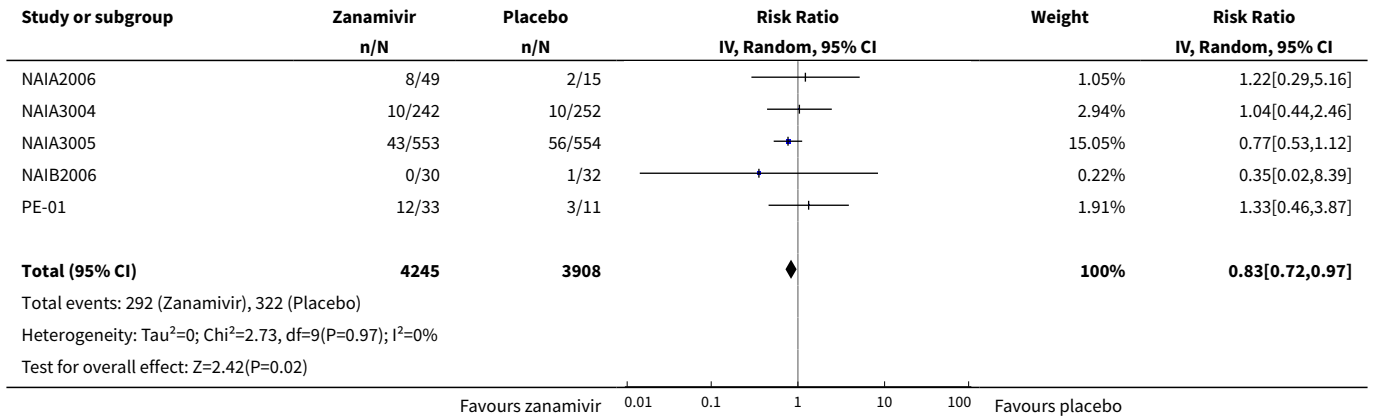


**Analysis 4.23. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 23
Adverse events: eye body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).**

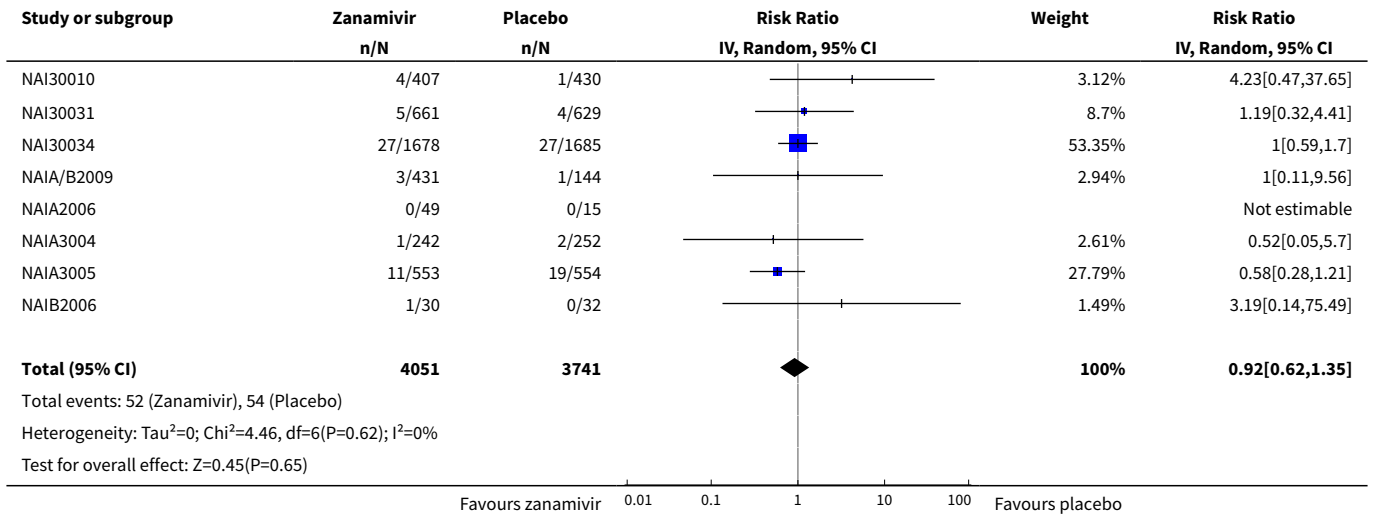


**Analysis 4.24. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 24
Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).**

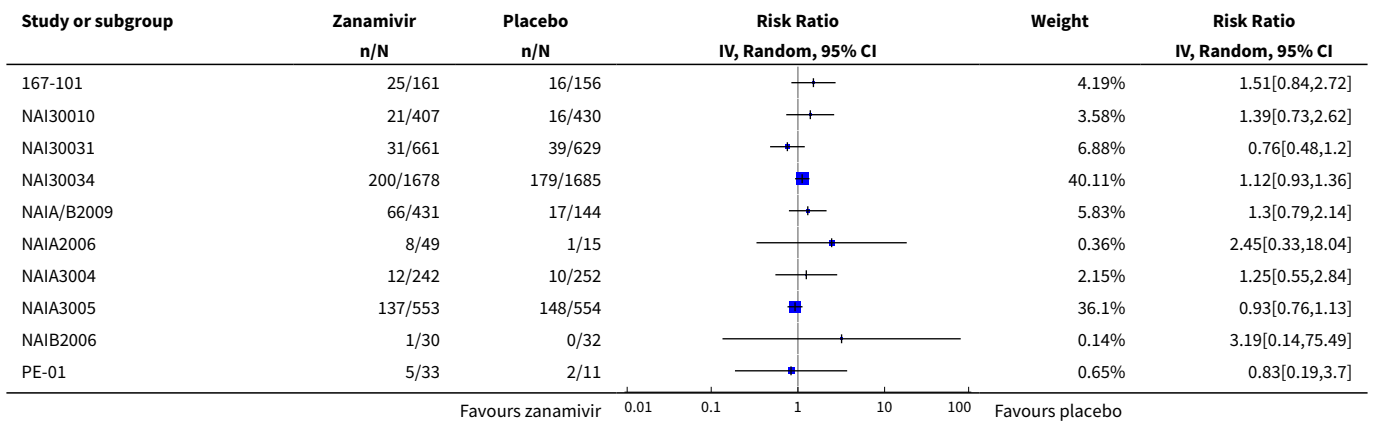


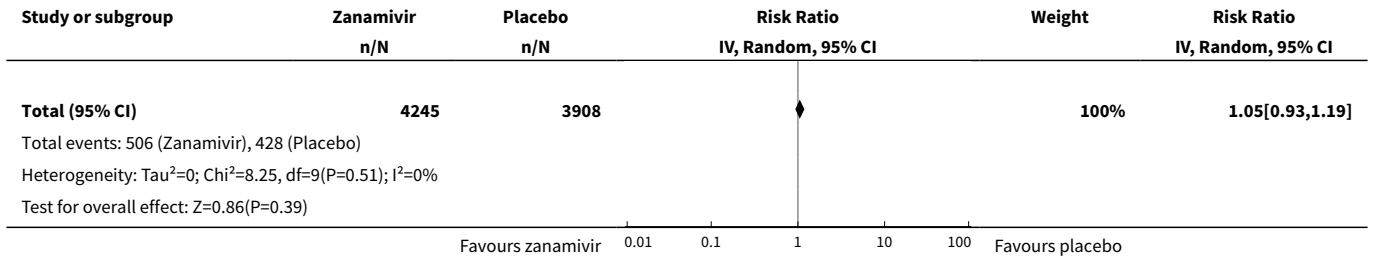


Analysis 4.25. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 25 Adverse events: injury body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

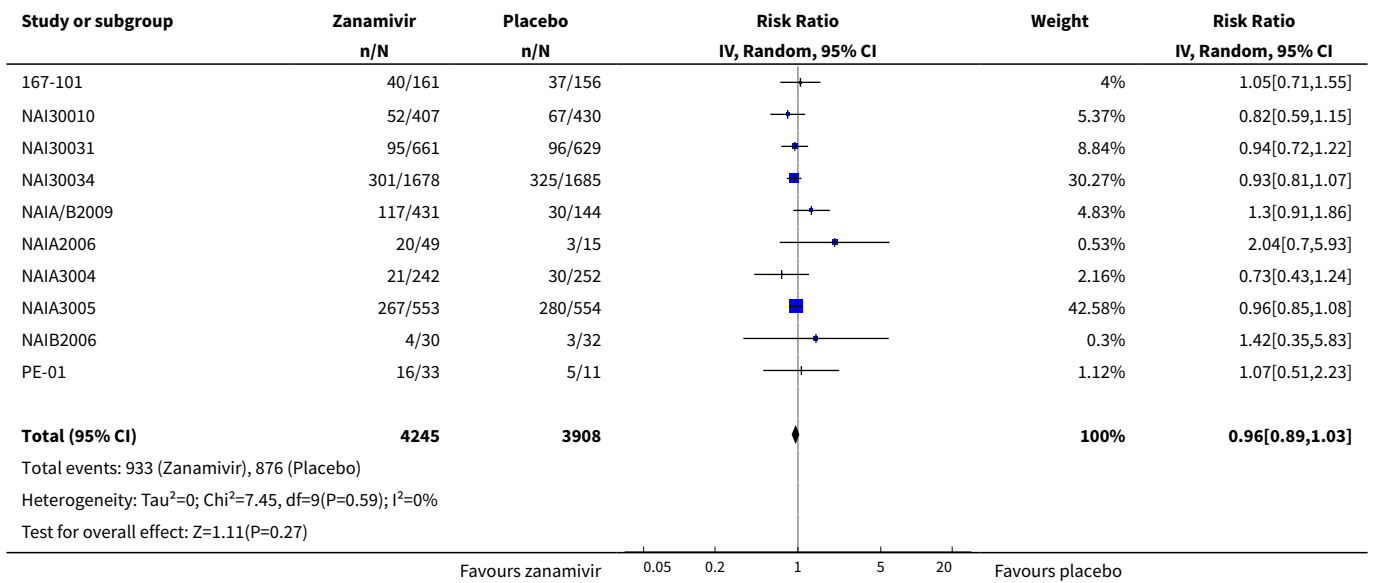


Analysis 4.26. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 26 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

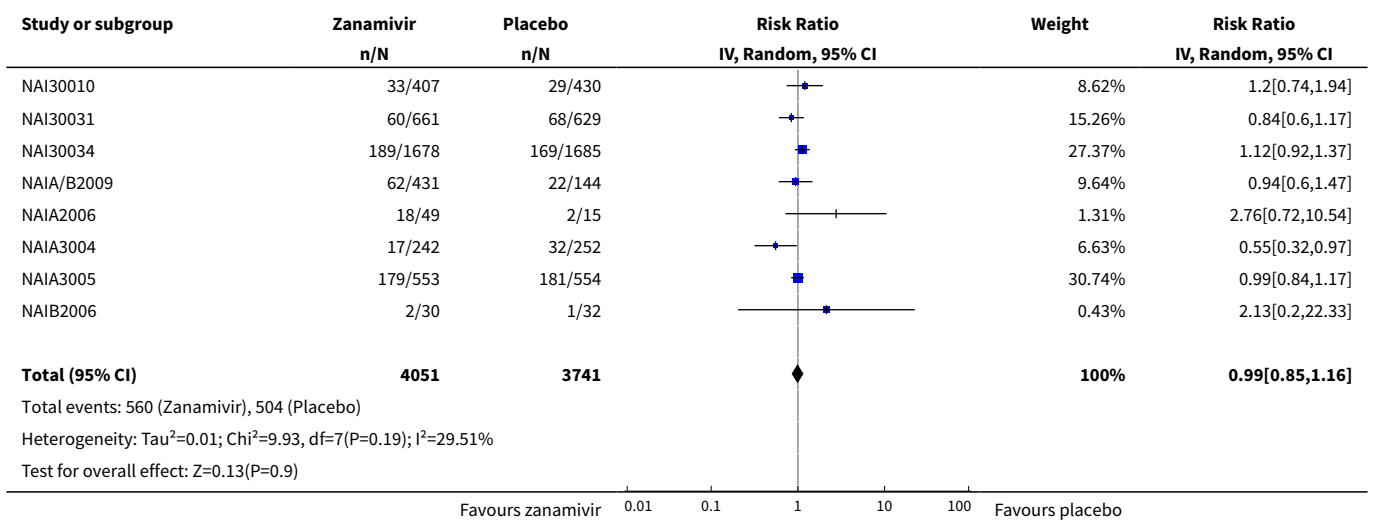




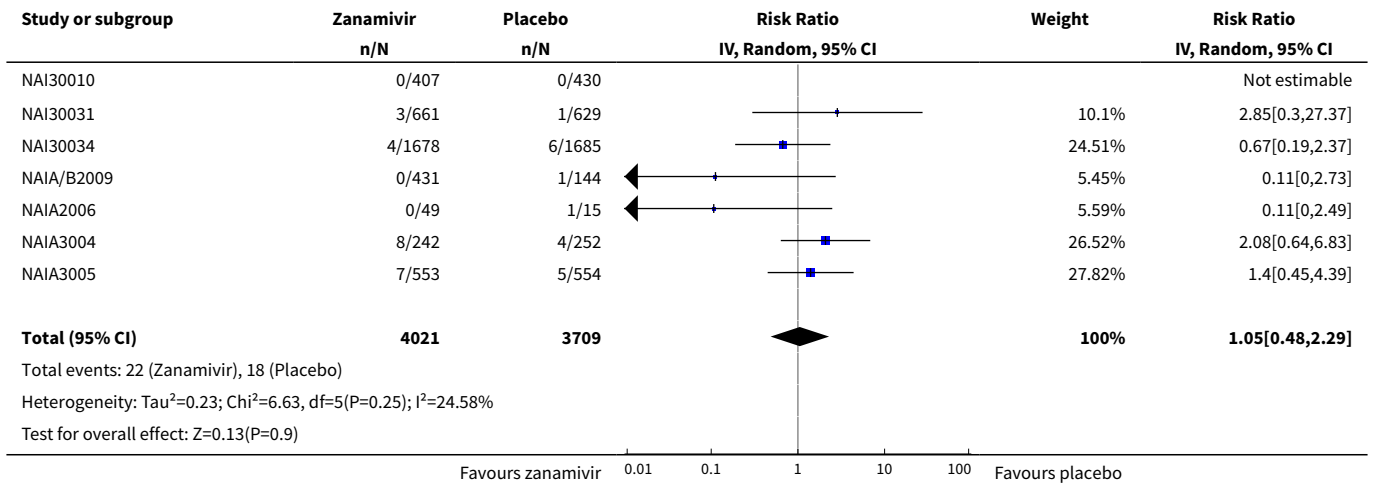
Analysis 4.27. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 27 Adverse events: neurological body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



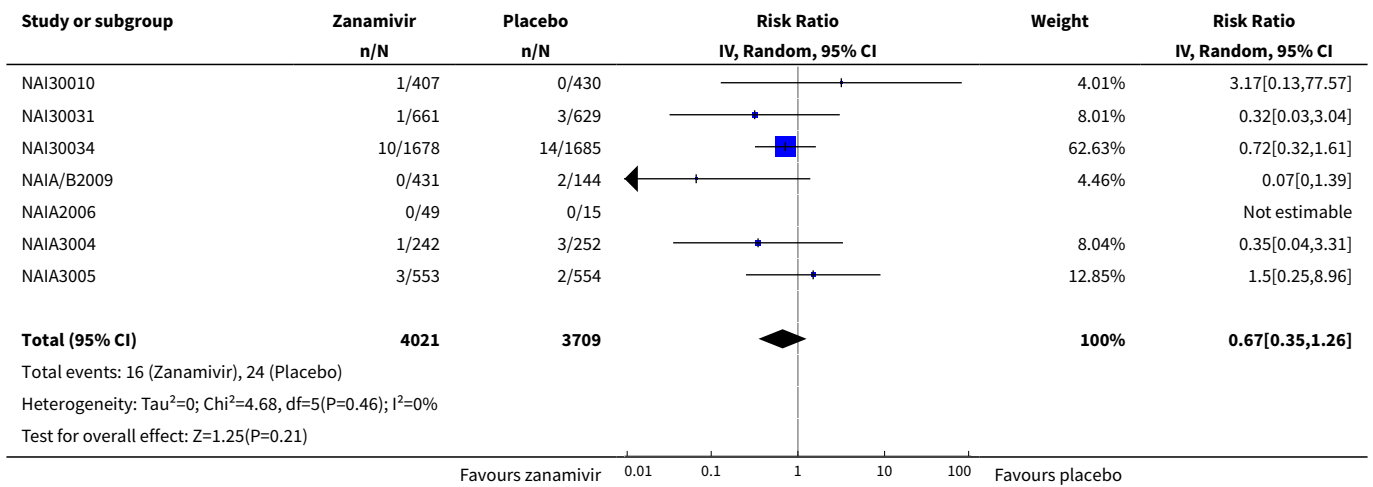
Analysis 4.28. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 28 Adverse events: non-site specific in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).



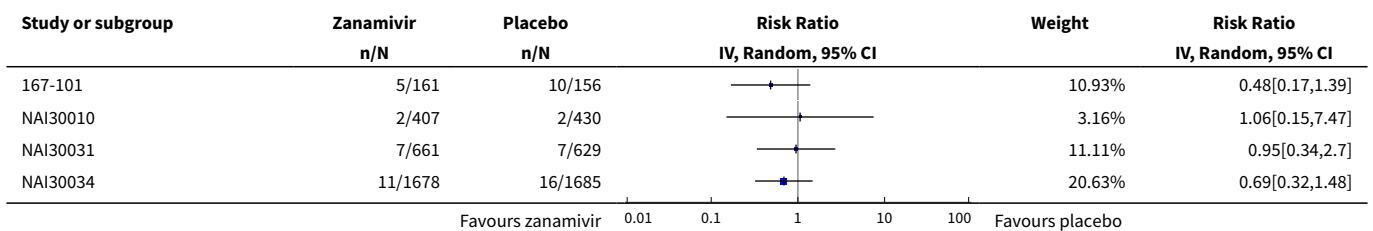
Analysis 4.29. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 29 Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

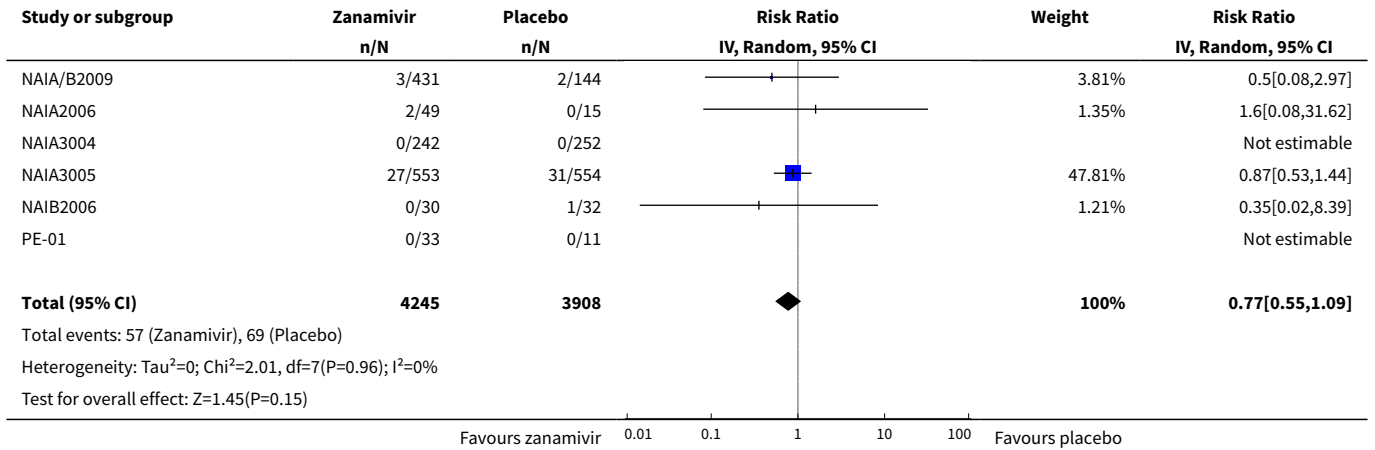


Analysis 4.30. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 30 Adverse events: renal body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

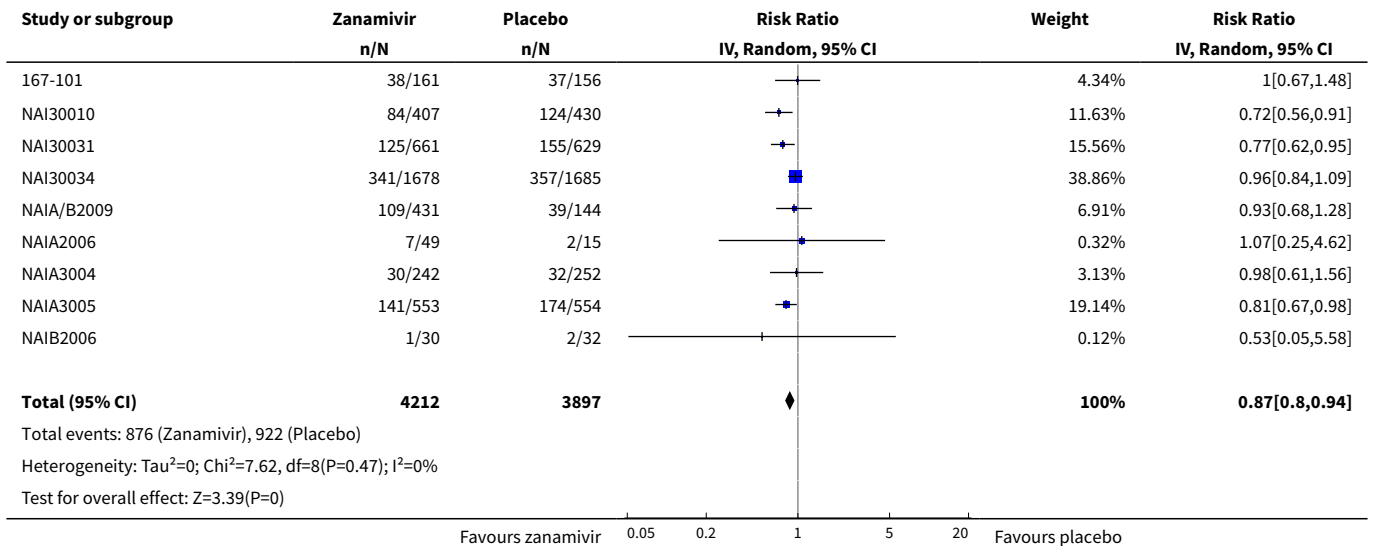


Analysis 4.31. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 31 Adverse events: reproductive body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

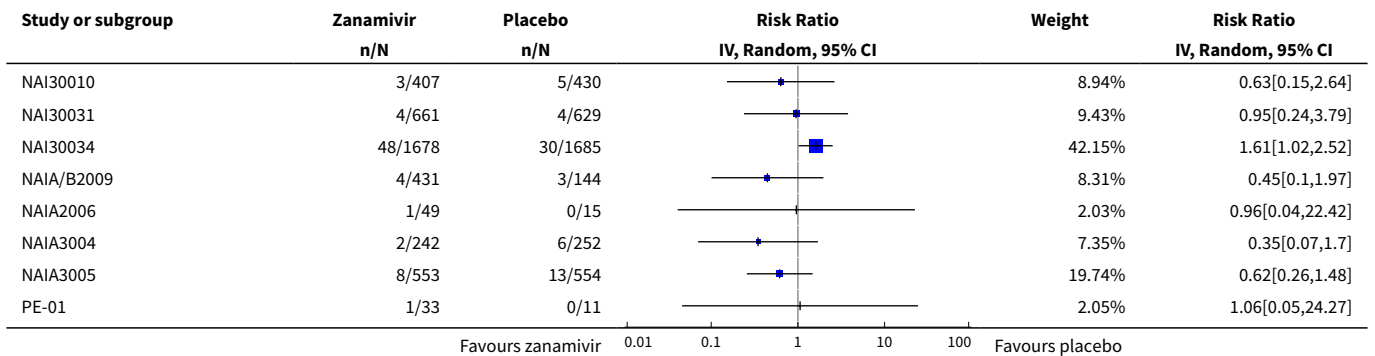


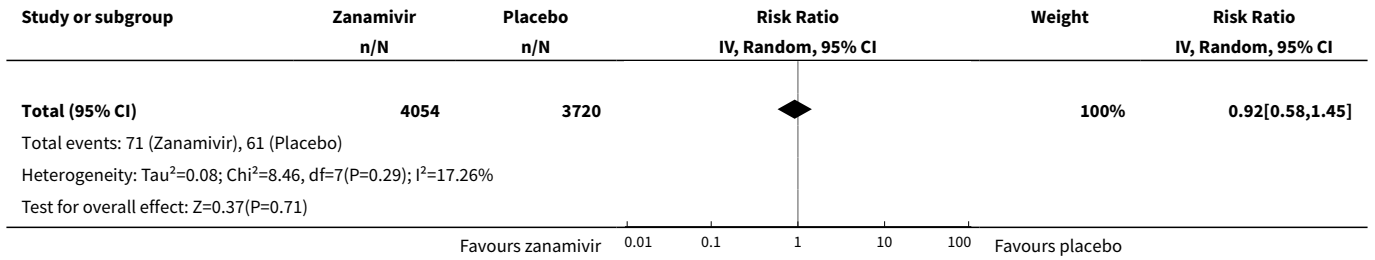


Analysis 4.32. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 32 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

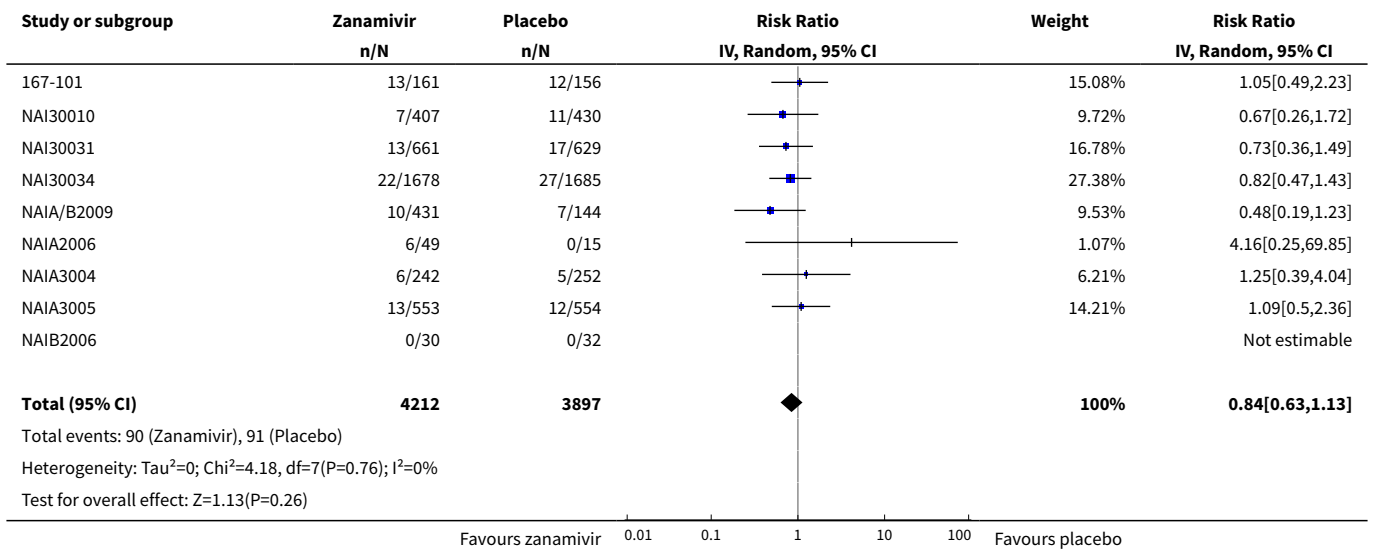


Analysis 4.33. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 33 Adverse events: skin body system in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment).

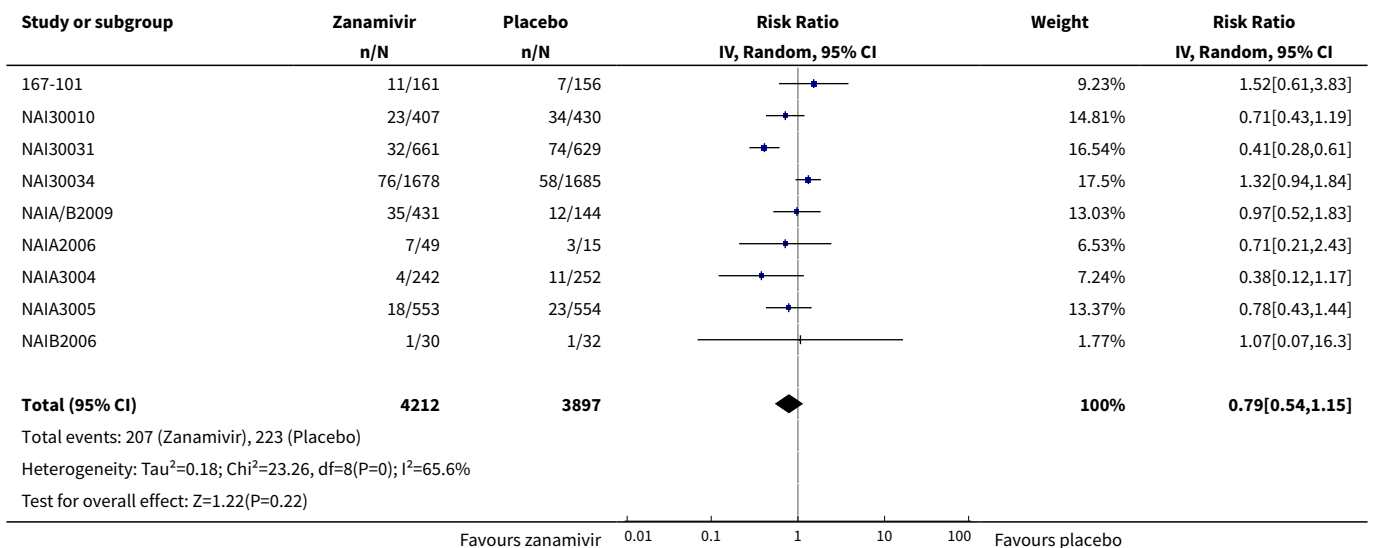




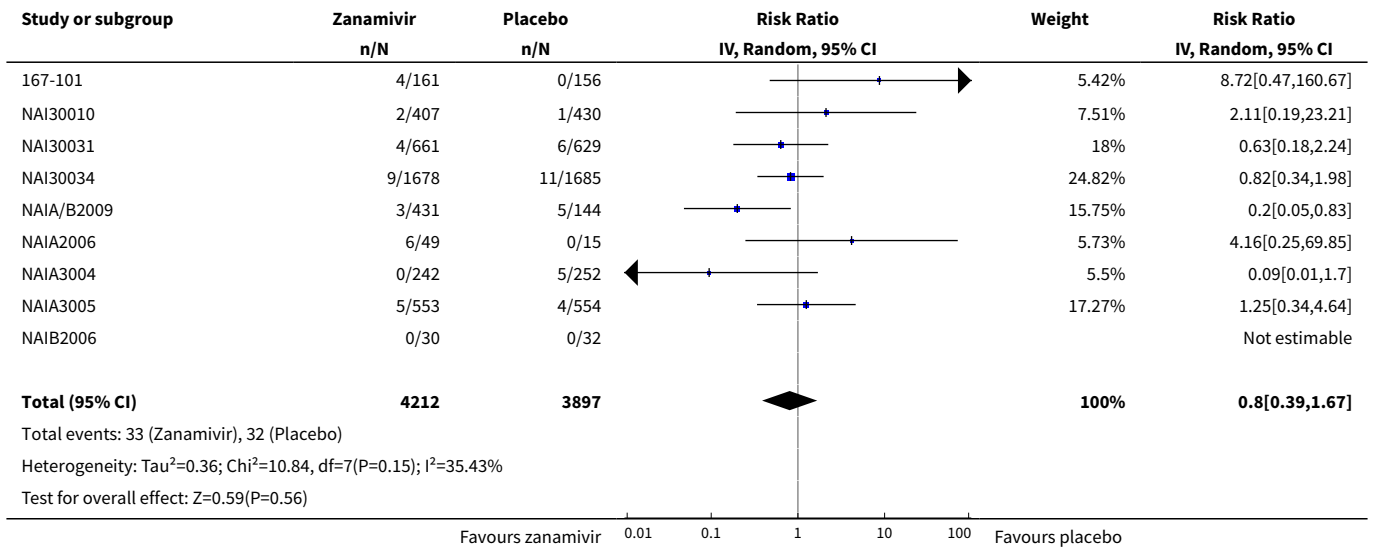
Analysis 4.34. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 34 Adverse events: gastrointestinal body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



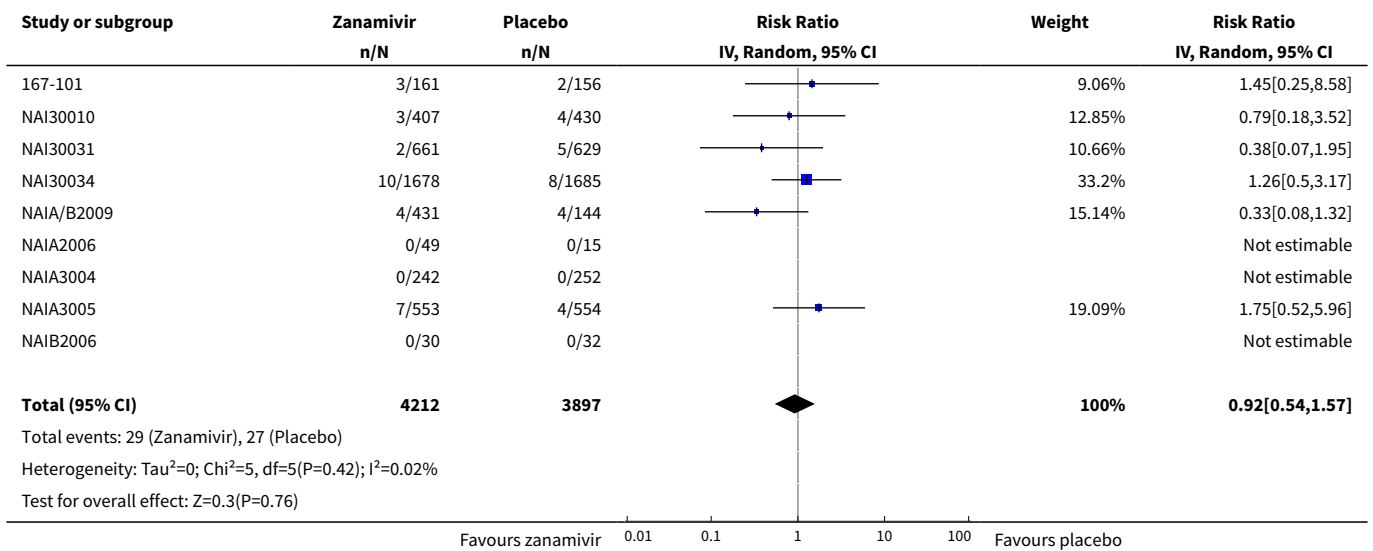
Analysis 4.35. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 35 Adverse events: respiratory body system in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment).



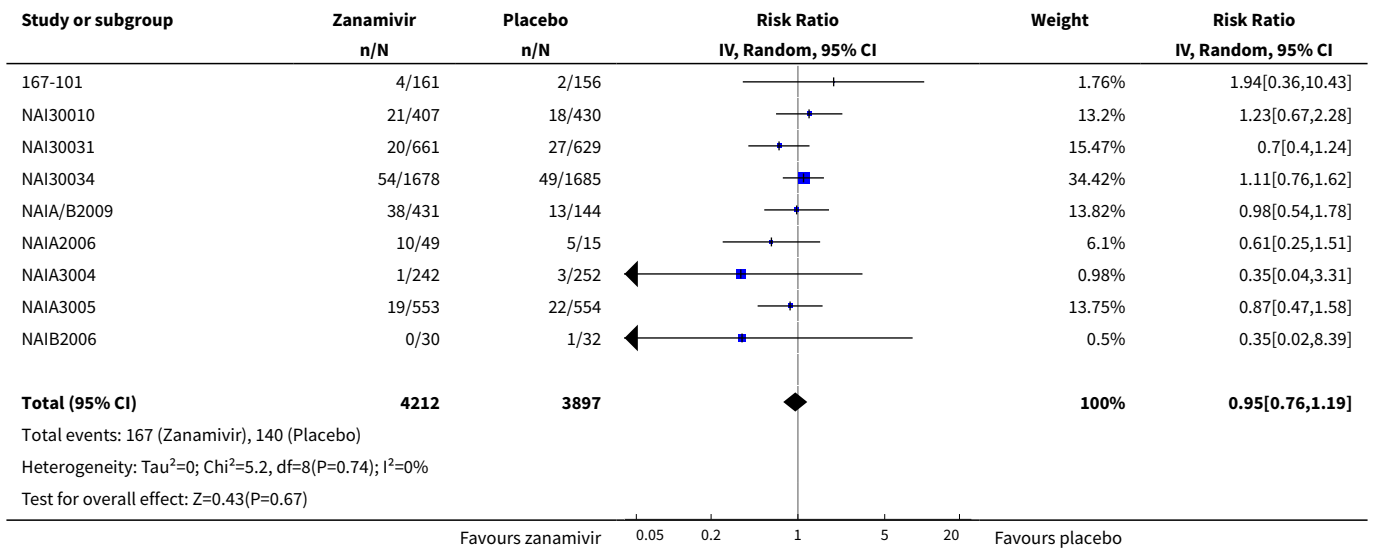
Analysis 4.36. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 36 Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in prophylaxis (off-treatment).



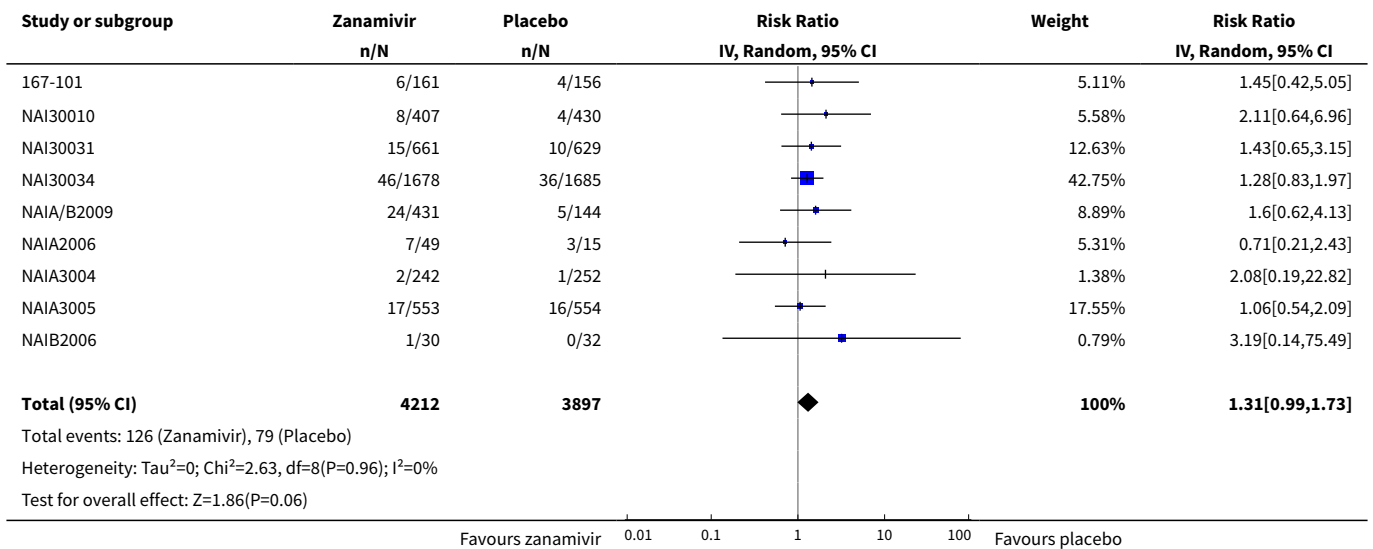
Analysis 4.37. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 37 Adverse events: diarrhoea in prophylaxis (off-treatment).



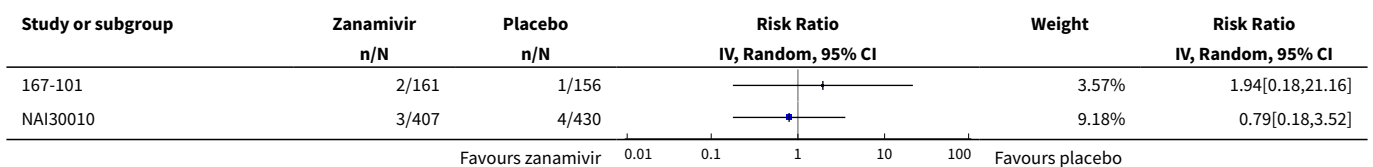
Analysis 4.38. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 38 Adverse events: headache in prophylaxis (off-treatment).

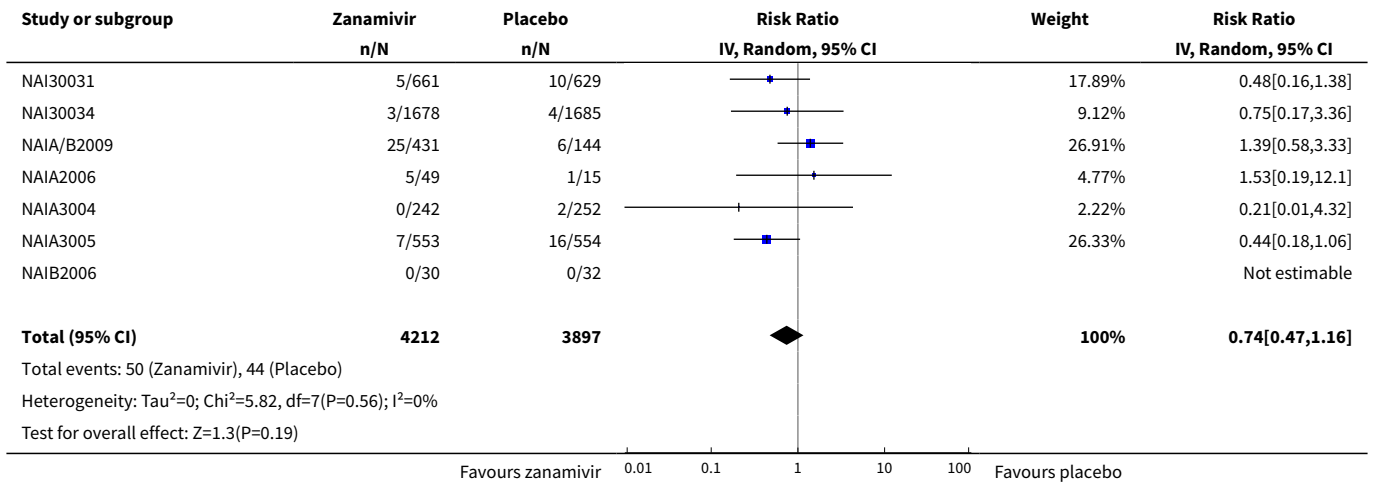


Analysis 4.39. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 39 Adverse events: cough in prophylaxis (off-treatment).

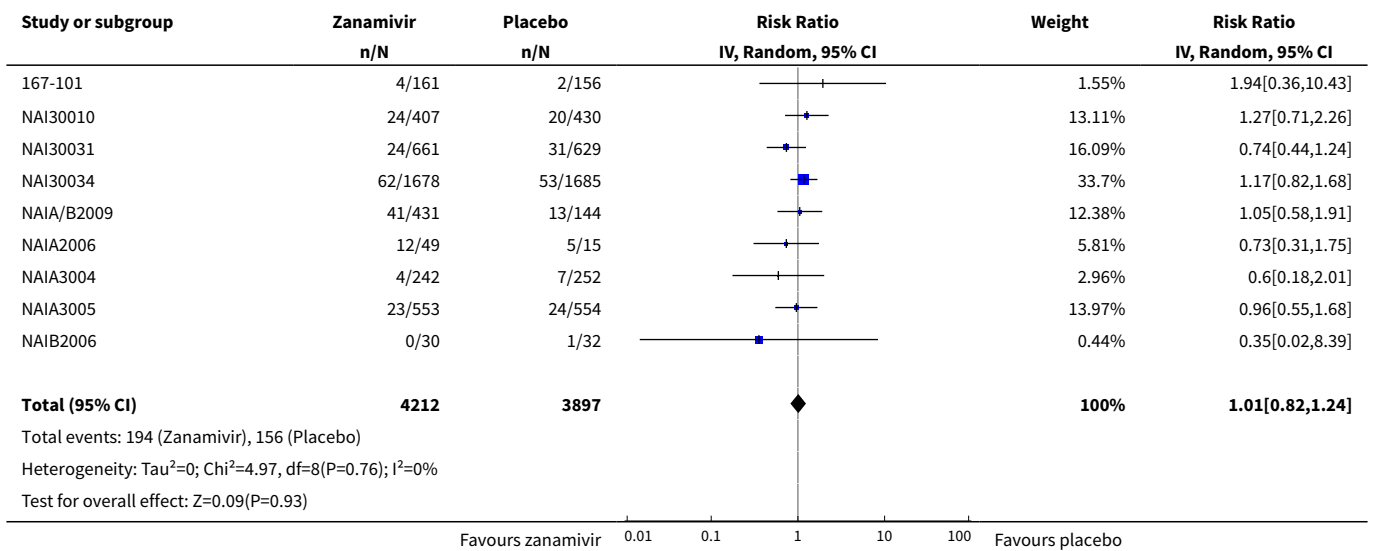


Analysis 4.40. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 40 Adverse events: fatigue in prophylaxis (off-treatment).

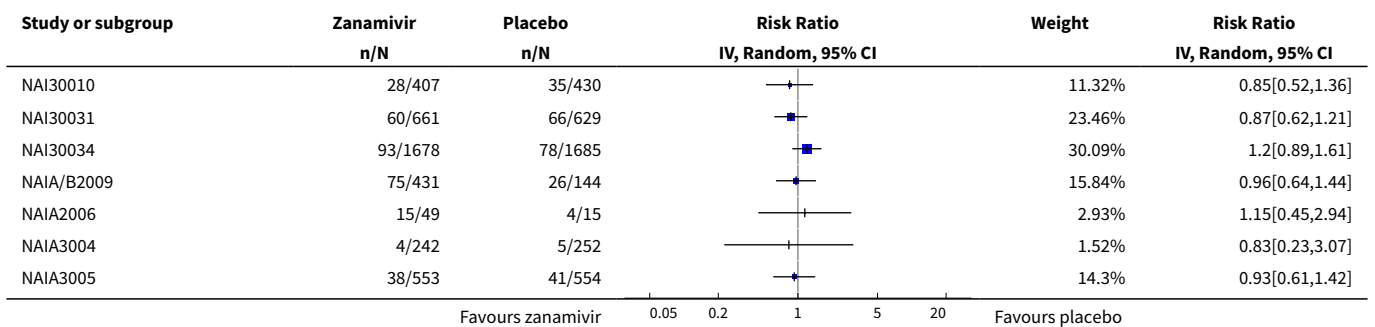


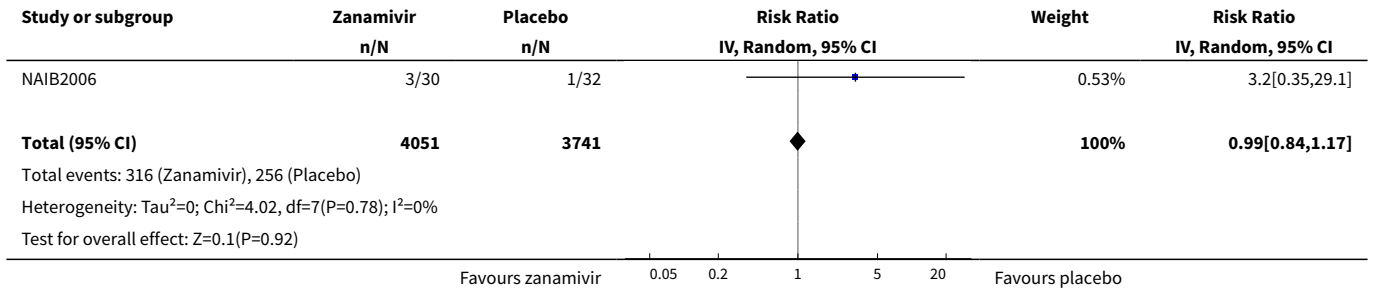


Analysis 4.41. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 41 Adverse events: neurological body system in prophylaxis (off-treatment).

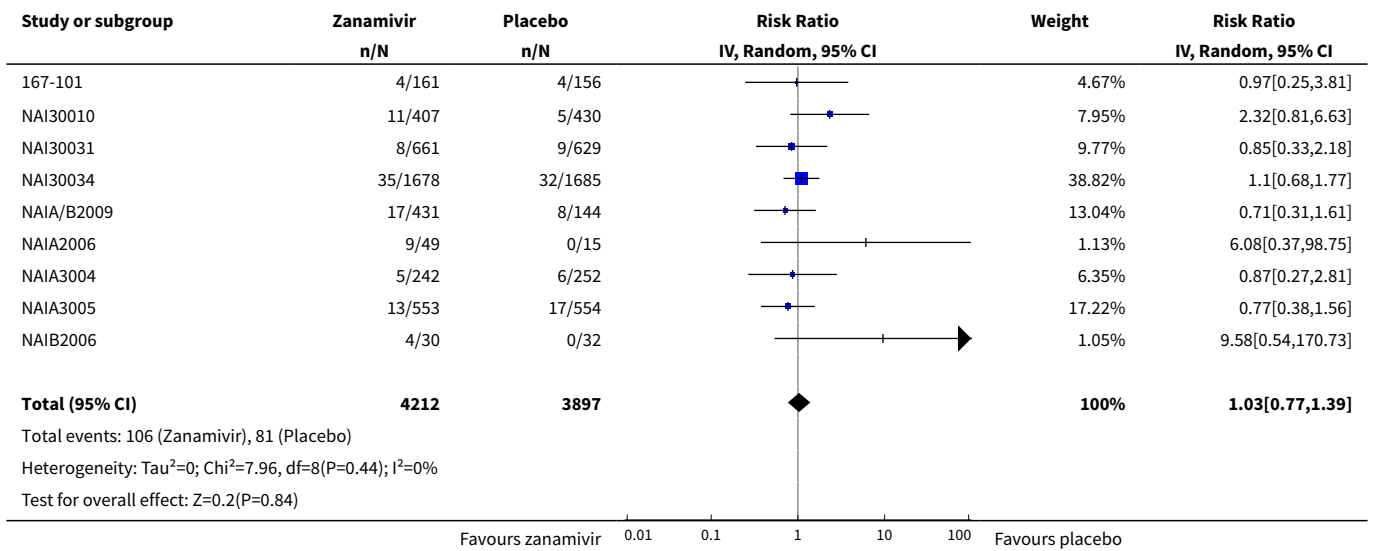


Analysis 4.42. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 42 Adverse events: ear, nose and throat in prophylaxis (off-treatment).

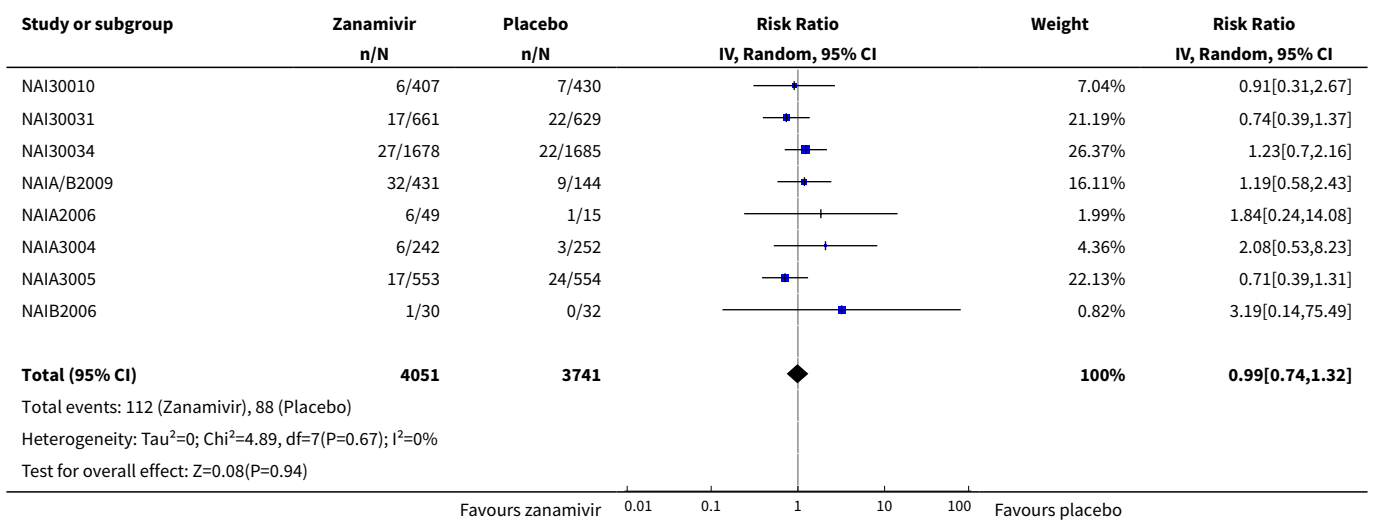




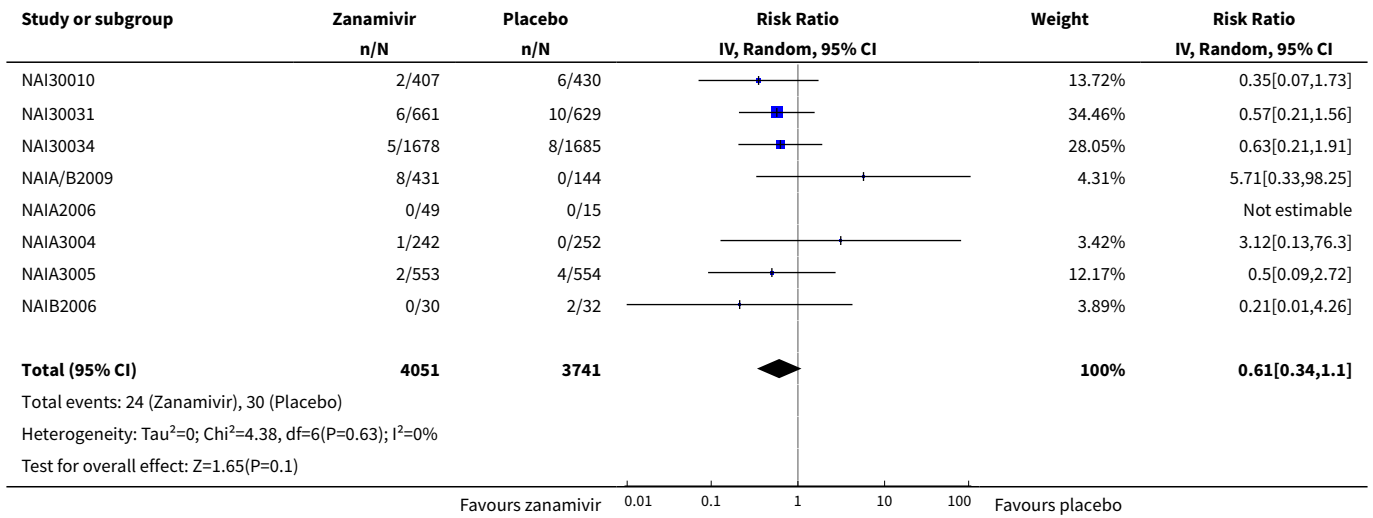
Analysis 4.43. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 43 Adverse events: musculoskeletal body system in prophylaxis (off-treatment).



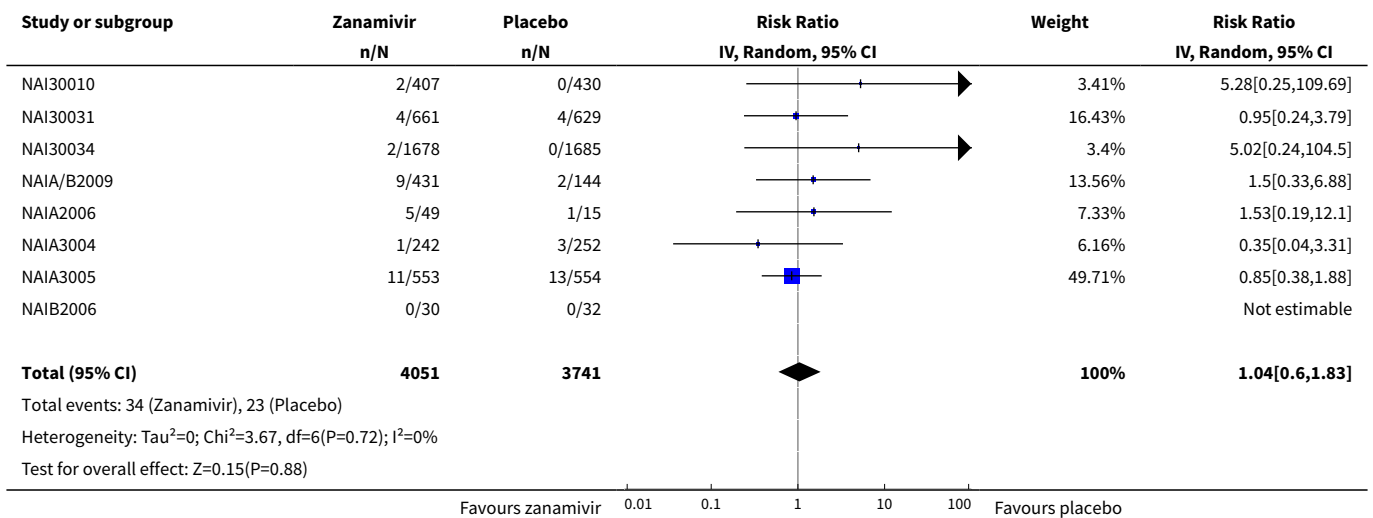
Analysis 4.44. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 44 Adverse events: non-site specific in prophylaxis (off-treatment).



Analysis 4.45. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 45 Adverse events: injury in prophylaxis (off-treatment).



Analysis 4.46. Comparison 4 Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis, Outcome 46 Adverse events: endocrine and metabolic in prophylaxis (off-treatment).

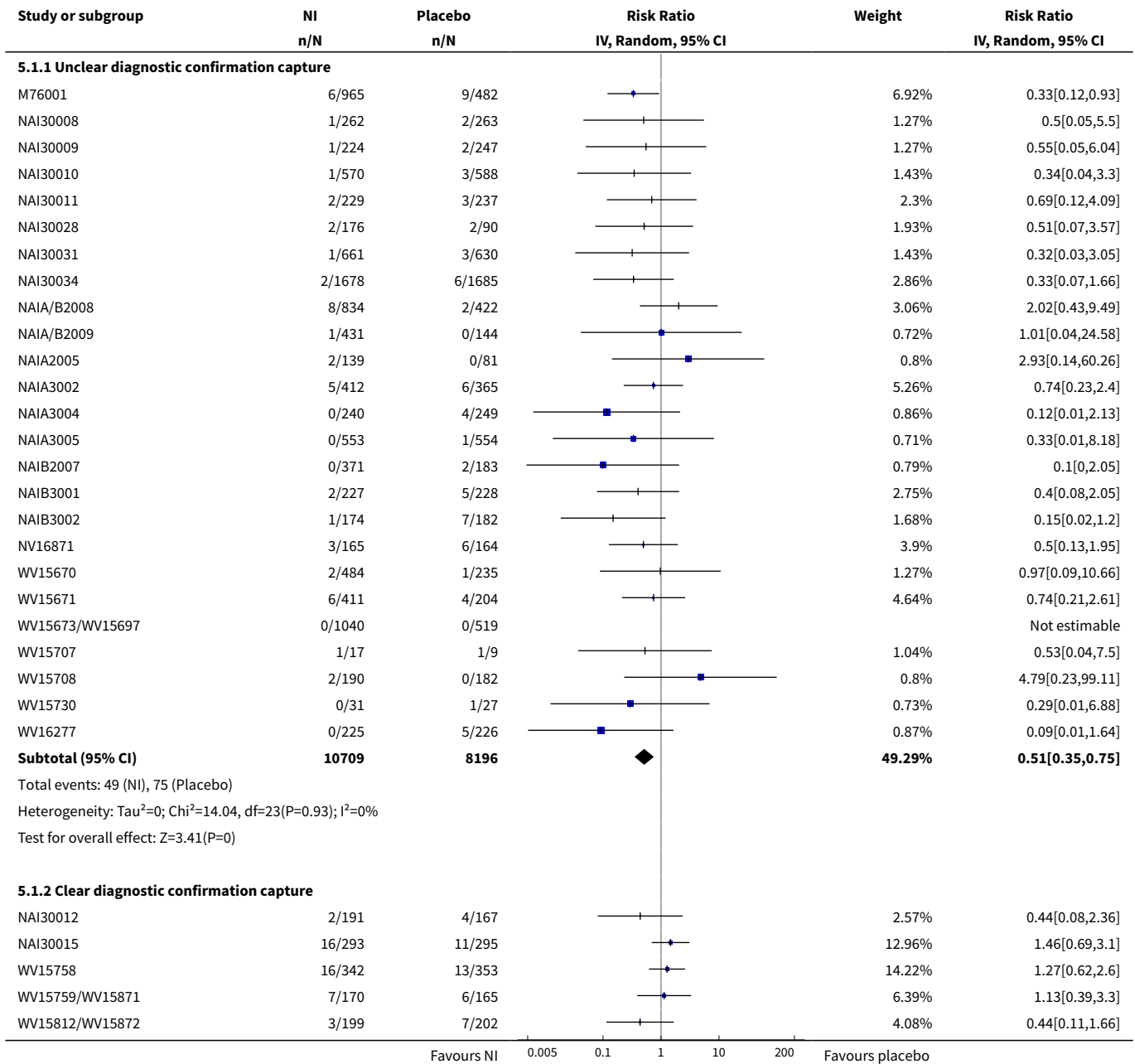


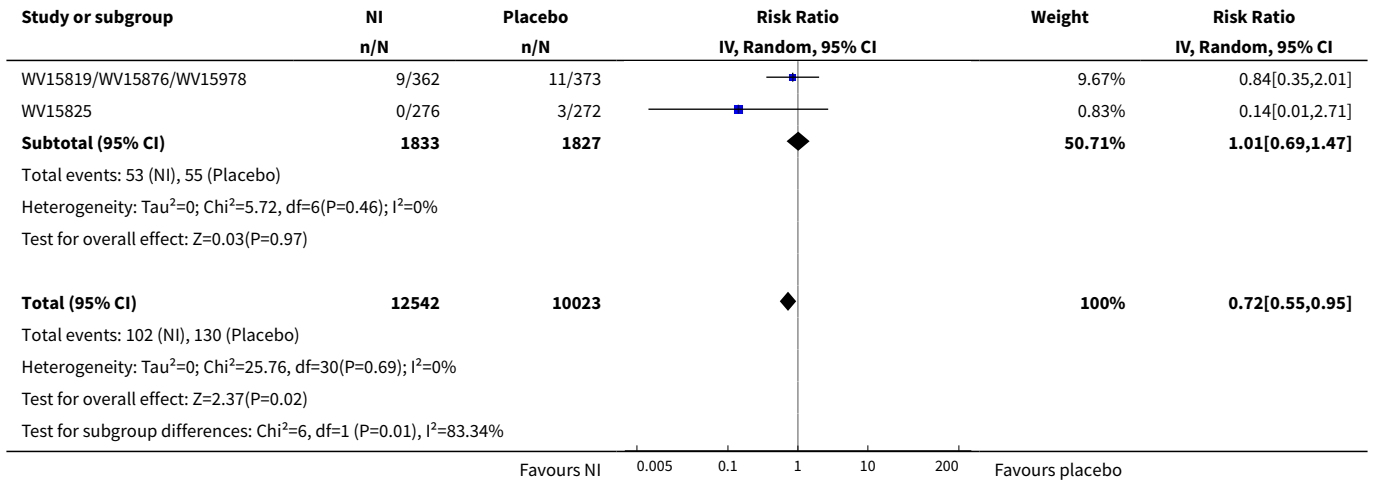
Comparison 5. Neuraminidase inhibitor versus placebo for treatment or prophylaxis

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Complications: pneumonia	32	22565	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.72 [0.55, 0.95]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1.1 Unclear diagnostic confirmation capture	25	18905	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.51 [0.35, 0.75]
1.2 Clear diagnostic confirmation capture	7	3660	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.69, 1.47]

Analysis 5.1. Comparison 5 Neuraminidase inhibitor versus placebo for treatment or prophylaxis, Outcome 1 Complications: pneumonia.





ADDITIONAL TABLES

Table 1. Blank case report forms' data capture for secondary illnesses in oseltamivir trials

Study	Where in CRF (PDF pg #)	Data captured	Person reporting (participant/investigator)	Where reported	Specific field for recording confirmatory assessment (e.g. CXR)	Confirmation (including px)
M76001	1167	Yes/no answer to question: "Is this event a secondary illness related to influenza?" Secondary illness is defined: sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, pneumonia + other chest infections that are not diagnosed as bronchitis and/or pneumonia	Investigator	In form for "Adverse events or intercurrent illness"	No	Px
NV16871	361, 389	Form states: Have there been any changes in the patient's health including any new conditions or worsening of existing conditions since day 1 (please include secondary illnesses)? Yes/No. If "Yes", please record the details on the "Adverse events or secondary illness" form in the Additional Forms section of the CRF on pg 30.0. All serious adverse events must be reported within 1 working day of occurrence to Roche Pg 30.0 of CRF (PDF pg 389) defines secondary illnesses as sinusitis, otitis media, bronchitis and pneumonia, and asks additional questions such as relationship to test drug and outcome,	Investigator	Secondary illness not listed as efficacy outcomes Recording of secondary illnesses was to occur in a form titled "Adverse event or secondary illness"	No	Px

Table 1. Blank case report forms' data capture for secondary illnesses in oseltamivir trials (Continued)

and leaves space for investigator's comments on the adverse event						
WV15670	732, 754, 791, 832	<p>CRF form (PDF pg 732) states:</p> <p>Secondary illness reminder</p> <p>Has the patient reported any sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, other chest infection or pneumonia since baseline?</p> <p>yes <input type="checkbox"/> Complete secondary illness page (not the adverse event page)</p> <p>no <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Secondary illness page CRF (PDF pg 754) requests information on date of onset, date resolved, whether treatment was given and, if so, what treatment or medical procedures, total daily dose, and start/end date of treatment or medical procedure</p> <p>In addition, participants could fill in information related to a secondary illness in their diary card in the free-text box called "Notes" which prompts participants: "Please can you record below any extra information about your flu which may be of interest to us, (for example: did your flu symptoms re-occur, and if so when?), and have you taken any other treatments. If so please record the treatment name and the dates you took it." (PDF pg 791)</p>	Participant mediated through Investigator	<p>For investigators, on "Secondary illness" form</p> <p>For participants, on "Notes" section of diary card</p>	No	
WV15671	740, 889, 1018	<p>CRF form (PDF pg 740) states:</p> <p>Secondary illness reminder</p> <p>Has the patient reported any sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, other chest infection or pneumonia since baseline?</p> <p>yes <input type="checkbox"/> Complete secondary illness page (not the adverse event page)</p> <p>no <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Secondary illness page CRF (PDF pg 889) requests information on date of onset, date resolved, whether treatment was given and, if so, what treatment or medical procedures, total daily dose and start/end date of treatment or medical procedure</p> <p>Secondary illnesses are listed as sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, pneumonia and other chest infections that are not diagnosed as bronchitis and/or pneumonia</p>	Participant mediated through investigator	Mentioned in M1 and RAP as tertiary outcomes not mentioned in protocol	No	Px

Table 1. Blank case report forms' data capture for secondary illnesses in oseltamivir trials (Continued)

In addition, participants could fill in information related to a secondary illness in their diary card in the free-text box called "Notes" which prompts participants: "Please can you record below any extra information about your flu which may be of interest to us, (for example: did your flu symptoms re-occur, and if so when?), and have you taken any other treatments. If so please record the treatment name and the dates you took it." (PDF pg 1018)

WV15673/ WV15697	From 483	No mention of pneumonia, secondary illness, complications in the CRFs	Unclear	Secondary illnesses not listed in protocol as endpoints. They are listed as safety endpoints in the RAP which states that "pre-defined" secondary illnesses were "sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, pneumonia, and other chest infections that are not diagnosed as bronchitis and/or pneumonia, plus recurrence of symptoms from the diary card once alleviation had occurred." (PDF pg 479)		
WV15707	From 98	<p>Pg 117 Secondary illness reminder: Has the patient reported any sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, other chest infection or pneumonia since baseline?</p> <p>yes <input type="checkbox"/> - Complete secondary illness page (not the adverse event page)</p> <p>no <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Pg 131: Diagnostic procedures</p> <p>1) Were there any diagnostic procedures or tests carried out since day 1 as a result of influenza or secondary illness</p>	Participant mediated through investigator	Mentioned in RAP as tertiary endpoints pg 57-8	Yes	Px

Table 1. Blank case report forms' data capture for secondary illnesses in oseltamivir trials (Continued)

		<p>that were not scheduled as part of protocol?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Type of diagnostic procedure or test</p> <p>1 Chest X-rays, 2 ECG, 3 Bacterial culture, 4 Bronchoscopy, 5 Pulmonary function test, 6 Viral culture (other than influenza), 7 Blood tests (other than antibody sample), 8 Other <i>specify</i></p> <p>No</p> <p>Secondary illness page CRF (PDF pg 158) requests information on date of onset, date resolved, whether treatment was given and, if so, what treatment or medical procedures, total daily dose and start/end date of treatment or medical procedure</p>				
WV15708	From 460	<p>Secondary illness reminder at pg 474:</p> <p>Has the patient reported any new episodes of sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, other chest infection or pneumonia since screening?</p> <p>yes <input type="checkbox"/> ... <i>Complete adverse event page</i></p> <p>no <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>"Adverse events" CRF collected data on date of onset, initial intensity, test drug adjustment, whether treatment was given (if so, what), most extreme intensity, relationship to test drug, outcome, whether it led to hospitalisation and a free-text line for recording "Comments on AE" (e.g. PDF pg 479)</p>	Participant mediated through investigator	Secondary illness not mentioned in protocol	No	Px
WV15730	From 340	<p>Secondary illness reminder:</p> <p>Has the patient reported any sinusitis, otitis, bronchitis, other chest infection or pneumonia since baseline?</p> <p>yes <input type="checkbox"/> ... <i>Complete secondary illness page (not the adverse event page)</i></p> <p>no <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The secondary illness page is descriptive of dates and px</p>	Participant mediated through investigator	Listed as tertiary endpoints in RAP at pg 297	No	Px
WV15758	From 637	<p>Has the patient reported any new adverse events or symptoms (including intercurrent illnesses and secondary illnesses)?</p> <p>yes <input type="checkbox"/> record in the adverse events/intercurrent illness section of the case</p>	Participant mediated through investigator	Listed as secondary illnesses in core report Module 1-2 (pg 36)	Yes	Px

Table 1. Blank case report forms' data capture for secondary illnesses in oseltamivir trials (Continued)

		no <input type="checkbox"/> report form				
		Diagnostic confirmation of otitis media from pg 648 onwards				
WV15759/871	From 665	Has the subject reported any adverse events including secondary and inter-current illnesses?	Participant mediated through investigator	Secondary illnesses not mentioned in protocol, but secondary outcome in core report	Yes	Px
				Note: worth looking at comparisons 1.49 to 1.51 in RM5. No effect but in bronchitis this study has a more conservative effect than NV 16871 which has no definitions and no diagnostics		
WV15799	From 642	<p>Secondary illness defined as in M76001. There is a generic physical examination form at pg 704 including "lungs" normal/abnormal specify_____</p> <p>At pg 709 has the patient reported any new AE including intercurrent or secondary illnesses yes/no. If y record the adverse events/intercurrent illness section of the CRF (noted at pf 746 on to be at the back of the CRF) with <u>FULL HISTORY, PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND DIAGNOSTIC WORK UP QUESTIONS FOR BRON+PNUM+LRTI+SIN+OM</u> including questions about CXR, MRI, sputum etc.</p>	Investigator	Proportion of contacts who are classified as having a secondary illness subsequent to a confirmed episode of influenza listed as tertiary endpoints	Yes	Px
WV15812/872	From 285	<p>Has the patient reported any new adverse events or symptoms (including intercurrent illnesses and secondary illnesses)?</p> <p>yes <input type="checkbox"/> record in the adverse events/intercurrent illness section of the case</p> <p>no <input type="checkbox"/> report form</p> <p>At pg 450-74 is DIAGNOSIS OF SECONDARY ILLNESS page which is very similar to the one at serial 10</p> <p>EXHAUSTIVE list of diagnostic procedures</p>	Participant mediated through investigator	Listed as secondary tertiary in protocol at pg 252	Yes	Px

Table 1. Blank case report forms' data capture for secondary illnesses in oseltamivir trials (Continued)

WV15819/978/576m 412	Pg 437 (adverse event reminder): Has the patient reported any new adverse events or symptoms (including intercurrent illnesses)? yes <input type="checkbox"/> record in the adverse events/intercurrent illness section of the case no <input type="checkbox"/> report form In CRF pg 447 and 443 usual secondary illness reminder From pg 471 DIAGNOSTIC OF SECONDARY ILLNESS. This is a one page list of diagnostics similar to that at serial 10. The question is: "Were there any diagnostic procedures or tests carried out since day 1 as a result of influenza or secondary illness that were not scheduled as part of protocol?" If yes list per serial 10 From pg 486 is a list of diagnostic tests	Participant mediated through investigator	Secondary illness listed as secondary (required antibiotics) and tertiary outcomes in core report and as an addition in protocol amendment at pg 21	Yes	Px
WV15825	From 389 There is a usual note: please go to diagnosis of secondary illness at back of CRF. Pg 487: Is this event a secondary illness related to influenza? DIAGNOSTIC OF SECONDARY ILLNESS From pg 510-40 with exhaustive list of diagnostics as per serial 10	Participant mediated through investigator	Secondary illness listed as secondary outcomes in protocol pg 346 Secondary illnesses recorded on "Adverse events" CRF	Yes	Px
WV16277	From 415 Not found	Not found	Secondary illness not listed as efficacy outcomes		

#Events within the first 2 days of the study were excluded

*Note that some events are reported as secondary illness and adverse event (AE) but some events are reported as secondary illness only and some events are reported as adverse event only

BRON = bronchitis

CRF = case report form

CXR = chest x-ray

ECG = electrocardiogram

LRTI = lower respiratory tract infection

MRI = magnetic resonance imaging

OM = otitis media

PNUM = pneumonia

px = prescription

~RAP = reporting analysis plan

SIN = sinusitis

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA (USA)

Mentioned study	File name	Pages where study is mentioned (separated by commas)	Note
113502			
113625			
113678			
114045			
NAI108166			
105934			
NAI106784			
107485			
108127			
112311			
112312			
113268			
GCP/95/045			
NAI10901	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin2.pdf	15,15	
NAI10902			
NAI30008	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin2.pdf	15	7 documents with 14 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin3.pdf	13	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	19, 19, 20	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	1, 1, 3, 4, 4	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview9.pdf	7.7	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/21036ltr.pdf	2	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_MEDR.pdf	33	

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA

(USA) (continued)			
NAI30009	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	1.2	7 documents with 110 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR- RES_P1.pdf	10, 10, 12, 13, 13, 14, 14, 17, 29, 42, 61, 62, 64, 64, 65, 65, 68	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR- RES_P2.pdf	33, 34, 36, 43, 43, 43, 43, 52, 52, 52, 53, 53, 56, 57	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	5, 5, 5, 6, 6, 8, 8	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_MEDR.pdf	3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 8, 9, 9, 10, 10, 11, 11, 11, 14, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 19, 19, 20, 20, 22, 23, 23, 23, 24, 24, 24, 25, 25, 25, 25, 25, 25, 26, 26, 26, 27, 27, 28, 28, 28, 29, 29, 31, 31, 31, 31	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_MICROBR.pdf	3, 3, 4, 4, 4	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_STATR.pdf	2, 2, 2, 4, 7, 12, 18, 18, 18, 19	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR- RES_P1.pdf	31.56	1 document with 2 instances
NAI30010	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	1.2	6 documents with 65 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR- RES_P1.pdf	10, 12, 13, 14, 14, 15, 17, 62, 62, 62, 64	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR- RES_P2.pdf	34, 34, 36, 43, 53	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	5, 5, 6, 6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_MEDR.pdf	3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 21, 21, 22, 23, 23, 23, 23, 24, 25, 25, 25, 26, 26, 26, 26, 27, 27, 27, 28, 28, 29, 29, 29, 30, 31, 31, 31, 31	

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA
(USA) *(Continued)*

	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_STATR.pdf	2, 2, 13, 13, 13, 19	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	6	1 document with 1 instance
NAI30012	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	1	1 document with 1 instance
NAI30015			
NAI30020			
NAI30028			
NAI30034			
NAI40012			
NAIA1009	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR-RES_P1.pdf	56	4 documents with 17 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR-RES_P2.pdf	1, 1, 1, 48, 49, 52	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	5, 5, 6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_MEDR.pdf	3, 3, 6, 7, 20, 31, 31	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	18	5 documents with 5 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	9	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR-RES_P2.pdf	52	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	11	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_STATR.pdf	2	
NAIA3002	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin1.pdf	15	13 documents with 122 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin2.pdf	6, 6, 7, 7, 14, 15, 22, 22, 23	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin3.pdf	1, 4, 4, 12, 12, 12, 12, 17	

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA
(USA) *(Continued)*

	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview1.pdf	4, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 15, 15, 15, 15, 16	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview2.pdf	1, 2, 3, 4, 4, 5, 6, 6, 6, 8, 8, 9, 9, 9, 12, 12, 15, 16, 16, 16, 17	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview3.pdf	5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 13, 14, 15, 15, 17, 18, 18, 19, 20, 21	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview4.pdf	1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	4, 5, 10, 12	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16, 17	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	2, 2, 6, 6, 8, 8, 9, 10	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview9.pdf	10	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-stats.pdf	7	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	5	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview1.pdf	15	1 document with 1 instance
NAIA3003	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	17, 17, 18	3 documents with 6 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	4.4	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview9.pdf	22	
NAIA3004	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin3.pdf	14	4 documents with 8 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	7	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	18, 18, 19	

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA

(USA) <i>(Continued)</i>			
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	4, 4, 4	
NAIA3005	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin3.pdf	14	5 documents with 12 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview1.pdf	5	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	12, 12, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	14.15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_ADMINCOR- RES_P2.pdf	38	
NAIB1002			
NAIB3002	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin1.pdf	15	14 documents with 99 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin2.pdf	14, 15, 15, 15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin3.pdf	11.12	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview1.pdf	4, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview2.pdf	9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12, 12, 12, 13, 13, 13, 14, 14, 14, 15, 15, 16, 16, 16, 17	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview3.pdf	4, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7, 7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 11, 12, 12, 13, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 18, 19, 20, 21	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview4.pdf	1, 1, 1, 1, 2	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	4	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	4, 5, 10, 12	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	2, 3, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 16, 16	
Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9		

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA

(USA) (Continued)

	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview9.pdf	10.2	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-stats.pdf	7	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	5.5	
NAI30011			
NAIB2007	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin1.pdf	15	7 documents with 18 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin2.pdf	15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview1.pdf	5	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview4.pdf	14, 15, 15, 16, 16, 17, 17, 17, 18	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	3	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	8, 10, 10, 15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	2	
NAIA2006			
NAIB2006			
NAIB1007			
C94-009	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	17	1 document with 1 instance
C94-085	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	17	2 documents with 2 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview9.pdf	22	
NAIB1001	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	17	1 document with 1 instance
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/20000426_001/21-036-S001_RELENZA_BIOPHARMR.pdf	6	1 document with 1 instance
NAIA2005	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin1.pdf	15	10 documents with 44 instances

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA
(USA) *(Continued)*

	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin2.pdf	7, 17, 10	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin3.pdf	2.4	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview1.pdf	4.5	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview4.pdf	2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6, 8, 8, 8, 9, 11, 12, 12, 13, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 15, 18	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	7.7	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	3.4	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	2, 5, 9, 15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	10	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-microbiology.pdf	21	
NAIB2005	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin1.pdf	15	9 documents with 43 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-admin2.pdf	17, 20, 20, 22, 23	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview1.pdf	5.5	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview4.pdf	3, 3, 3, 7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 10, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11, 12, 12, 12, 13, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	7.7	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	3.4	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview7.pdf	2, 9, 15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview8.pdf	2	

Table 2. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA (USA) *(Continued)*

	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-microbiology.pdf	21	
NAIA/B2008	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview6.pdf	4	1 document with 1 instance
NAIA2010	Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036-medreview5.pdf	16	1 document with 1 instance
NAIA/B2009			
167-02			
167-03			
167-05			
167-04			
JNAI-03			
JNAI-02			
JNAI-01			
JNAI-07			
JNAI-04			
PE-01			
167-101			
167T3-11			

Zanamivir trials citation by trial ID and source FDA file. Page numbers separated by commas (where applicable) indicate which trial is cited where in which regulatory file. Blank spaces indicate no citation for known trials.

All the studies have been searched in the folder "Tamiflu and Relenza/Relenza/Relenza - NDA 021036/19990726_000/021036". File name is left blank when the study was not present in that folder.

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA (USA)

Referenced study	File name	Pages where study is mentioned (separated by commas)	Note
NP15717	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	46.46	6 documents with 13 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	14, 15, 15	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA
(USA) *(Continued)*

	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P2.pdf	2	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_BioPharmr.pdf	5, 8, 10, 13, 31	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	
NP15718	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	17	1 document with 1 instance
NP15728	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	16.35	3 documents with 6 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	11	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	45, 46, 47	
NP15757	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	92, 93, 104, 122, 126, 131, 144, 144, 145	1 document with 9 instances
NP15826	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	47	9 documents with 26 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20040624_016/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_ADMINCORRES.pdf	6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P2.pdf	2	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_BioPharmr.pdf	4, 5, 5, 8, 8, 8, 10, 17, 29, 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 31, 31	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Medr.pdf	9.1	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	9.1	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20040624_016/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_ADMINCORRES.pdf	6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA

(USA) (Continued)			
NP15827	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	10.12	2 documents with 7 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	16, 16, 17, 17, 17	
WP15525	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	21, 25, 26, 27, 27, 27, 27, 42, 42, 44	3 document with 13 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P2.pdf	2.2	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_BioPharmr.pdf	29	
WP15647	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	24, 27, 27	2 documents with 4 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	44	
WP15648	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	39	3 documents with 8 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	44.44	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	94, 128, 153, 153, 154	
WP15676	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	28.33	3 documents with 4 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	11	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	45	
WV15670	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	2, 44, 44	6 documents with 45 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	6, 19, 37, 38, 39, 39, 39, 39, 40, 41, 41, 42, 43, 44, 48, 48, 49, 49	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	1, 25, 25, 35, 35, 39, 39, 47	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 8, 9, 10, 17, 17, 21, 22,	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	189	

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA

(USA) <i>(Continued)</i>			
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	
WV15671	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	2, 44, 44	7 documents with 50 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	6, 16, 19, 24, 24, 25, 25, 26, 27, 27, 28, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 39, 39, 40, 41, 46, 49, 49	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	1, 25, 25, 35, 38, 47	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 9, 10, 10, 15, 17, 21	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	189	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	
WV15673	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	3	3 documents with 50 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	18, 18, 18, 20, 21, 21, 21, 22, 39	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	58, 59, 71, 71, 71, 71, 71, 72, 72, 73, 73, 76, 76, 76, 76, 76, 77, 77, 79, 82, 83, 83, 84, 122, 124, 125, 126, 128, 131, 131, 132, 133, 134, 134, 145, 145, 156, 169, 177, 189	
WV15697	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	39	2 documents with 40 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	58, 59, 71, 71, 71, 71, 71, 72, 72, 73, 73, 76, 76, 76, 76, 76, 77, 77, 79, 82, 83, 83, 84, 122, 126, 128, 131,	

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA (USA) (Continued)

		131, 131, 132, 133, 134, 145, 145, 152, 153, 156, 162, 189	
WV15708	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	3	3 documents with 39 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	23, 35, 39, 41	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	71, 71, 71, 71, 71, 72, 72, 72, 72, 75, 75, 75, 75, 77, 77, 78, 79, 79, 82, 82, 122, 125, 125, 126, 131, 134, 134, 135, 135, 149, 151, 152, 152, 153	
WV15708D	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	3	2 documents with 3 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	23.35	
WV15730	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_bior.pdf	44.44	5 documents with 15 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	6, 9, 19, 49, 50, 50	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	1, 1, 25, 25, 27	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	189	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	3	
WV15731	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P2.pdf	17	4 documents with 9 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Medr.pdf	5, 30, 37	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Microbr.pdf	5.6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	5, 30, 37	
WV15758	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P1.pdf	12, 19, 19, 36	9 documents with 92 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P2.pdf	2, 8, 17, 39, 39, 57, 57	

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA

(USA) <i>(Continued)</i>			
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_BioPharmr.pdf	3, 4, 5, 5, 5, 8, 10, 17, 27, 30	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Corres.pdf	6.9	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Medr.pdf	5, 5, 9, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12, 16, 18, 18, 18, 19, 19, 31, 31, 31, 33, 33, 35, 36, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 40, 43	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Microbr.pdf	2, 4, 5, 6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	5, 5, 9, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12, 16, 18, 18, 18, 19, 19, 31, 31, 31, 33, 33, 35, 36, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 40, 43	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20040624_016/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_ADMINCORRES.pdf	6, 6, 8	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	2.3	
WV15759	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P1.pdf	12.13	7 documents with 44 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P2.pdf	39	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Medr.pdf	5, 10, 30, 30, 30, 30, 31, 32, 32, 33, 34, 37, 37, 37, 40, 44	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Microbr.pdf	2, 4, 4, 5, 6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	5, 10, 30, 30, 30, 30, 31, 32, 32, 33, 34, 37, 37, 37, 40, 44	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20040624_016/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_ADMINCORRES.pdf	6, 6, 9	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	2	
WV15799	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	28, 28, 28, 28, 28, 29, 29, 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 31, 31, 31, 31, 32, 32, 32, 32, 32, 33, 33, 34,	4 documents with 89 instances

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA (USA) (Continued)

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	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Medr.pdf	10.11	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	10.11	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20040624_016/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_ADMINCORRES.pdf	6.7	
WV15812	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	3, 6, 10, 12	2 documents with 9 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	6, 8, 10, 25, 35	
WV15819	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf	6, 10, 12, 15	2 documents with 8 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/19991027_000/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P2.pdf	2, 6, 6, 39	
WV15825	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20001117_002/21-087SE1-002_review.pdf	41, 41, 41, 41, 42, 42, 42, 42, 42, 43, 44, 58, 59, 71, 71, 71, 71, 71, 72, 72, 72, 72, 73, 73, 75, 75, 77, 77, 78, 79, 79, 79, 80, 80, 80, 81, 82, 85, 125, 125, 126, 126, 128, 131, 134, 134, 135, 135, 137, 137, 138, 145, 150, 151, 152, 152, 155, 156, 162, 169, 180, 204, 211	1 document with 64 instances
WV15871	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P1.pdf	12.13	7 documents with 42 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Admindocs_P2.pdf	39	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Medr.pdf	5, 11, 30, 31, 31, 32, 32, 32, 33, 34, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 40	

Table 3. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from the FDA

(USA) <i>(Continued)</i>			
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Microbr.pdf	2, 5, 6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	5, 11, 30, 31, 31, 32, 32, 32, 33, 34, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 37, 40	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021087/20040624_016/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_ADMINCORRES.pdf	6	
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20040624_010/021087_S016_TAMIFLU CAPSULES - DRY POWDER_BIOPHARMR.pdf	2	
WV15872	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Medr.pdf	11.33	2 documents with 4 instances
	Tamiflu and Relenza/Tamiflu/Tamiflu - NDA 021246/20001214_000/21-246_Tamiflu_Statr.pdf	11.33	

Oseltamivir trials citation by trial ID and source FDA file. Page numbers separated by commas (where applicable) indicate which trial is cited where in which regulatory file. Blank spaces indicate no citation for known trials.

Search strategy:

WV15758 OR WV 15758 OR Trial 15758 OR Trial15758 OR Trials 15758 OR Trials15758 OR 15758 OR study 15758 OR study15758

Table 4. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK)

Mentioned study	File name	Pages where study is mentioned (separated by commas)	Note
NAI106784			
107485			
108127			
112311			
112312			
113268			
GCP/95/045			
NAI10901			
NAI10902			
NAI30008	Relenza treatment submission executive summary.pdf	4	3 documents with 10 instances
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	5, 26, 26, 26, 146	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	5, 26, 26, 26	

Table 4. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

NAI30009	NAI30010 study report pdf\FINAL NAI30010 for sign-off.pdf	102	7 documents with 461 instances
	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf		
	NAI30009 study report pdf\NAI 30009 HO final FSR.pdf		
	NAI30009 study report pdf\suptables.pdf		
	NAI30009 study report pdf\tables.pdf		
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 18, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31,	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 18, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31, 76, 128, 130, 132, 134, 144	
NAI30010	NAI30010 study report\Final NAI30010 for sign-off.pdf		7 documents with 399 instances
	NAI30010 study report pdf\NAI30010 HO final FSR.pdf		
	NAI30010 study report pdf\suptables.pdf		
	NAI30010 study report pdf\tables.pdf		
	Relenza prophylaxis submission.pdf	2, 5, 8, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24	
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 18, 27, 30, 31, 76, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 144	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 18, 27, 30, 31	
NAI30012	Relenza treatment submission executive summary.pdf	4	3 documents with 8 instances
NAI30012	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	5, 26, 26, 146	
NAI30012	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	5, 26, 26	
NAI30015	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	146	1 document with 1 instance
NAI30020			
NAI30028			
NAI30031			
NAI30034			
NAI40012			

Table 4. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

NAIA1009	NAI30010 study report pdf\FINAL NAI30010 for sign-off.pdf	101	2 documents with 3 instances
	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	28.34	
NAIA3002	NAI30010 study report pdf\FINAL NAI30010 for sign-off.pdf	102	9 documents with 513 instances
	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	34.95	
	NAI30009 study report pdf\NAI30009 HO final FSR.pdf	22	
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf		
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 supporting tables 2.pdf		
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28, 47, 49	
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 17, 17, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31, 63, 63, 63, 76, 106, 106, 107, 107, 109, 109, 112, 112, 114, 114, 115, 115, 144	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 17, 17, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31	
NAIA3003	Relenza prophylaxis submission.pdf	10	1 document with 1 instance
NAIA3004	Relenza prophylaxis submission.pdf	10	1 document with 1 instance
NAIA3005	NAI30010 study report pdf\FINAL NAI30010 for sign-off.pdf	36, 94, 94, 94, 95, 96, 96, 101	5 documents with 310 instances
	NAI30010 study report pdf\NAI30010 HO FSR.pdf	6.18	
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf		
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\TABS.pdf		
	Relenza prophylaxis submission.pdf	2, 5, 6, 12, 13, 13, 15, 15, 16, 16, 17, 17, 18, 18	
NAIB1002			
NAIB3001	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	34, 50, 95	11 documents with 374 instances
	NAI30009 study report pdf\NAI 30009 HO final FSR.pdf	10.22	
	NAI30010 study report pdf\FINAL NAI30010 for sign-off.pdf	102	

Table 4. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

	NAI30010 study report pdf \NAI30010 HO FSR.pdf	17.17	
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28	
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB3001 study report pdf\NAIB3001 full study report.pdf		
	NAIB3001 study report pdf\NAIB3001 supporting tables 1.pdf		
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28	
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 18, 18, 27, 30, 31, 32, 63, 63, 63, 76, 99, 99, 101, 101, 103, 103, 105, 105, 144, 162	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 18, 18, 27, 30, 31, 32	
NAIB3002	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	34.95	10 documents with 579 instances
	NAI30009 study report pdf\NAI 30009 HO final FSR.pdf	22	
	NAI30010 study report pdf\FINAL NAI30010 for sign-off.pdf	102	
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28, 48, 50	
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf		
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002supporting tables 1.pdf		
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002supporting tables 2.pdf		
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 17, 17, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31, 63, 63, 63, 76, 117, 117, 117, 118, 118, 120, 120, 122, 122, 124, 124, 125, 125, 127, 127, 144	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 17, 17, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31	
NAI30011	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	146	1 document with 1 instance
NAIB2007	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	95	10 documents with 379 instances
	NAI30009 study report pdf\NAI 30009 HO final FSR.pdf	10	
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 29	

Table 4. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB2007 study report pdf\b2007cr.pdf		
	NAIB2007 study report pdf\TABLES.pdf		
	NAIB3001 study report pdf\NAIB3001 full study report.pdf	25,26	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 29	
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31, 76, 91, 91, 92, 92, 94, 94, 96, 96, 98, 98, 144	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 17, 18, 18, 19, 27, 30, 31	
NAIA2006	NAIA2005 study report pdf\A2005cr.pdf	38, 73, 74	4 documents with 6 instances
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28	
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28	
NAIB2006	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28	3 documents with 3 instances
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28	
NAIB1007			
C94-009			
C94-085			
NAIB1001			
NAIB_1001			
NAIA2005	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	95	12 documents with 895 instances
	NAIA2005 study report pdf\A2005cr.pdf		
	NAIA2005 study report pdf\APPS_ALL.pdf		
	NAIA2005 study report pdf\TBS_ALL.pdf		
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 48, 48	
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	

Table 4. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

	NAIB2005 study report pdf\b2005cr.pdf	7, 7, 22, 25, 26, 34, 34, 42, 71, 72, 72	
	NAIB2007 study report pdf\b2007cr.pdf	76	
	NAIB3001 study report pdf\NAIB3001 full study report.pdf	25	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 47, 47	
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 16, 16, 17, 18, 27, 30, 76, 77, 77, 77, 79, 79, 79, 80, 80, 82, 82, 84, 84, 85, 144, 144	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 16, 16, 17, 18, 27, 30	
NAIB2005	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	95	12 documents with 838 instances
	NAIA2005 study report pdf\a2005cr.pdf	7, 8, 8, 24, 24, 25, 43, 70, 74, 74	
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 48, 48	
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB2005 study report pdf\APPSNEW.pdf		
	NAIB2005 study report pdf\b2005cr.pdf		
	NAIB2005 study report pdf\TBS_ALL.pdf		
	NAIB2007 study report pdf\b2007cr.pdf	76	
	NAIB3001 study report pdf\NAIB3001 full study report.pdf	25	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 47, 47	
	Relenza treatment submission full document.pdf	16, 16, 16, 16, 17, 18, 27, 30, 76, 77, 79, 79, 85, 85, 85, 86, 86, 88, 88, 90, 90, 144, 144	
	Relenza treatment submission main text.pdf	16, 16, 16, 16, 17, 18, 27, 30	
NAIA/B2008	NAI30009 study report pdf\CSR30009.pdf	95	6 documents with 16 instances
	NAI30009 study report pdf\NAI 30009 HO final FSR.pdf	10	
	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 29, 29	
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB3001 study report pdf\NAIB3001 full study report.pdf	25, 26, 26, 26, 77	

Table 4. Table of contents for studies of zanamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28, 28, 29, 29	
NAIA2010	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	1 document with 1 instance
NAIA/B2009	NAIA3002 study report pdf\NAIA3002 full study report.pdf	28	3 documents with 3 instances
	NAIA3005 study report pdf\A3005cr01.pdf	25	
	NAIB3002 study report pdf\NAIB3002 full study report.pdf	28	
167-02			
167-03			
167-05			
167-04			
JNAI-03			
JNAI-02			
JNAI-01			
JNAI-07			
JNAI-04			
PE-01			
167-101			
167T3-11			

Zanamivir trials citation by trial ID and source NICE file. Page numbers separated by commas (where applicable) indicate which trial is cited where in which file. Blank spaces indicate no citation for known trials

Table 5. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK)

Referenced study	File name volume*	Pages where study is mentioned (separated by commas)	Note
133312			
GS97-802			
133312			
GS-97-801			
JP15734			
JP15735			

Table 5. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

JV15823			
JV15824			
JV16284			
M76001	1	33, 36, 37, 37, 38, 38, 39, 67, 68, 94, 95, 224	1 document with 12 instances
M76006			
ML20910			
ML22789			
ML22879			
MV21118			
MV22841			
NCT00298233			
NCT00555893			
NCT00707941			
NCT00799760			
NCT00830323			
ML25018			
NCT00867139			
NCT00873886			
NCT01002729			
NP15717	6	32, 75, 76, 77	2 documents with 5 instances
	8	68	
	6	73.98	1 document with 2 instances
NP15718			
NP15728			
NP15757	8	68	1 document with 1 instance
NP15826	6	32, 75, 75, 75, 76, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 98	1 document with 11 instances
NP15827	8	68	1 document with 1 instance
NP22770			

Table 5. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

NP25138			
NP25139			
NV16871			
NV20234			
NV20235			
NV20236			
NV20237			
NV22155			
NV25118			
NV25182			
PP16351			
WP15517	1	185.245	1 document with 2 instances
WP15525	1	185.245	1 document with 2 instances
WP15647			
WP15648			
WP15676			
WP15901			
WP22849			
WV144181			
WV15670	1	33, 36, 37, 37, 38, 38, 39, 47, 48, 48, 49, 49, 50, 53, 54, 54, 55, 163, 171, 188, 207, 209, 224, 245, 245, 252, 253, 253	7 documents with 1193 instances
	10	7, 36, 37, 37	
	2		
	3		
	4	90	
	6	35.98	
	8	65	
	2	20, 20, 20, 20, 20	1 document with 5 instances

Table 5. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

WV15671	1	33, 36, 37, 37, 38, 38, 39, 47, 48, 49, 49, 50, 53, 54, 54, 55, 163, 171, 188, 207, 209, 224, 245, 245	7 documents with 1222 instances
	10	7, 36, 37, 37	
	2	82	
	4		
	5		
	6	35.98	
	8	66	
WV15673	8	66	1 document with 1 instance
WV15673D	8	66	1 document with 1 instance
WV15697	8		1 document with 1 instance
WV15697D	8		1 document with 1 instance
WV15707	1	33, 36, 37, 37, 38, 67, 68, 224, 245, 245, 245, 246	1 document with 12 instances
WV15708			
WV15708D			
WV15730	1	33, 36, 37, 37, 38, 38, 39, 47, 53, 54, 55, 186, 207, 224, 245, 245, 246	4 documents with 22 instances
	10	7, 36, 37	
	2	82	
	4	90	
WV15731	6	98	1 document with 1 instance
WV15758	1	36, 37, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 92, 94, 95, 97, 106, 224, 246	4 documents with 424 instances
	6		
	7		
	8	68	
WV15759	1	36, 37, 94, 95, 95, 109, 113, 114, 121, 122, 224, 246	1 document with 12 instances
WV15799	1	137, 139, 139, 232, 233	3 documents with 499 instances

Table 5. Table of contents for studies of oseltamivir described in regulatory documentation from NICE (UK) (Continued)

	8		
	9		
WV15812	1	36, 37, 37, 38, 38, 39, 67, 68, 68, 107, 107, 107, 108, 108, 121, 121, 122, 123, 224, 246	2 documents with 197 instances
	10		
WV15819	1	33, 36, 37, 37, 38, 58, 58, 59, 59, 60, 61, 62, 62, 65, 65, 67, 68, 224, 246	2 documents with 173 instances
	10		
WV15825	8	66, 66	1 document with 2 instances
WV15871	1	109, 246	1 document with 2 instances
WV15872	1	36, 37, 37, 38, 38, 39, 67, 68, 68, 107, 107, 108, 108, 121, 121, 122, 123, 224	1 document with 18 instances
WV15876	1	246, 246	1 document with 2 instances
WV15978	1	67, 70, 175, 246, 246	1 document with 5 instances
WV16193			
ML16369			

Oseltamivir trials citation by trial ID and source NICE file. Page numbers separated by commas (where applicable) indicate which trial is cited where in which file. Blank spaces indicate no citation for known trials.

All the studies have been searched in the folder "Roche submission".

When there is the number of the volume but no pages are mentioned, it means that the code of the study is cited more than 100 times.

*Number of the volume of the Tamiflu NICE submission.

Table 6. Time to alleviation* of clinically significant symptoms of influenza-like illness (in all participants and participants with no use of relief medication)

Study	Sample size		Median days to alleviation for all participants		Difference in days (P value)	Median days to alleviation and no use of relief medication		Difference in days (P value)
	Zanamivir (n)	Placebo (n)	Zanamivir	Placebo		Zanamivir	Placebo	
NAI30008	262	263	6.0	7.0	1.0 (0.123)	8.0	10.0	2.0 (0.037)
NAI30009	224	247	4.5	5.0	0.5 (0.011)	5.0	6.0	1.0 (0.002)
NAI30010	76	81	4.5	5.5	1.0 (0.033)	5.5	6.75	1.25 (0.150)
NAI30011	237	229	4.50	5.00	0.50 (0.495)	7.0	7.0	0.0 (0.623)
NAI30012	191	167	6.5	7.5	1.0 (0.159)	9.0	10.0	1.0 (0.131)
NAI30015	293	295	2.17	2.67	0.5 (0.166)	3.17	3.83	0.66 (0.058)
NAIA3002	412	365	5.5	6.0	0.5 (0.228)	7.0	8.0	1.0 (0.054)
NAIB3002	174	182	5.0	7.5	2.5 (< 0.001)	5.5	8.25	2.75 (< 0.001)

*Alleviation defined as no fever (temperature $< 37.8^{\circ}\text{C}$), cough recorded as none or mild and muscle/joint aches and pains, sore throat, feverishness/chills and headache recorded as absent/minimal

Table 7. Oseltamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy adults

Oseltamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy adults						
Patient or population: healthy adults with influenza						
Settings: community, nursing homes						
Intervention: oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment						
Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Risk difference (95% CI)	NNTB or NNTH (95% CI)
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk				
	Placebo	Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment				
Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (ITT population) (hours)		The mean time (hours) to first alleviation of symptoms adults in the intervention groups was 16.76 lower (25.1 to 8.42 lower)	16.8 hours (8.4 to 25.1)	3954 (8)	N/A	N/A
Adverse events: nausea in adult treatment (on-treatment)	Study population 64 per 1000	101 per 1000 (73 to 138)	RR 1.57 (1.14 to 2.15)	4452 (8)	-3.66% (-7.39 to -0.9)	NNTB = 28 (14 to 112)
Adverse events: vomiting in adult treatment (on-treatment)	Study population 32 per 1000	77 per 1000 (56 to 108)	RR 2.43 (1.75 to 3.38)	4452 (8)	-4.56% (-7.58 to -2.39)	NNTB = 22 (14 to 42)
Adverse events: diarrhoea in adult treatment (on-treatment)	Study population 71 per 1000	47 per 1000 (32 to 69)	RR 0.67 (0.46 to 0.98)	4452 (8)	2.33% (0.14 to 3.81)	NNTB = 43 (27 to 709)
Complications: self reported, investigator-mediated, unverified pneumonia in adult treatment	Study population 22 per 1000	12 per 1000 (7 to 20)	RR 0.55 (0.33 to 0.90)	4452 (8)	1.00% (0.22 to 1.49)	NNTB = 100 (67 to 451)
Adverse events: cardiac body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	Study population 13 per 1000	7 per 1000 (3 to 13)	RR 0.49 (0.25 to 0.97)	3943 (6)	0.68% (0.04 to 1.00)	NNTB = 148 (101 to 2509)
Adverse events: hospital admission in adult treatment	Study population 18 per 1000	17 per 1000 (11 to 28)	RR 0.92 (0.57 to 1.50)	4394 (7)	0.15% (-0.78 to 0.91)	NNTB = 687 (NNTB 110 to ∞ to NNTH 128)

Table 7. Oseltamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy adults (Continued)

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI). Negative risk differences indicate harms; positive risk differences indicate benefits.
 CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio; NNTB: number needed to treat to benefit; NNTH: number needed to treat to harm

Table 8. Oseltamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy children
Oseltamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy children
Patient or population: healthy children with influenza

Settings: community

Intervention: oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment

Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Risk difference (95% CI)	Comments
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk				
	Placebo	Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment				
Time to first alleviation of symptoms in child treatment (hours)	The mean time (hours) to first alleviation of symptoms in children in the intervention groups was 8.04 lower (33.34 lower to 17.26 higher)			1329 (3)		Not significant
Hospital admission in child treatment (safety population)	Study population 9 per 1000 17 per 1000 (6 to 46)		RR 1.92 (0.7 to 5.23)	1359 (3)	-0.81% (-3.72 to 0.26)	NNTH = 124 (NNTB 379 to ∞ to NNTH 27)
Complications: bronchitis in child treatment	Study population 31 per 1000 20 per 1000 (8 to 48)		RR 0.65 (0.27 to 1.55)	1359 (3)	1.08% (-1.69 to 2.25)	NNTB = 93 (NNTB 45 to ∞ to NNTH 59)
Complications: otitis media in child treatment	Study population 163 per 1000 130 per 1000 (101 to 166)		RR 0.8 (0.62 to 1.02)	1359 (3)	3.26% (-0.33 to 6.18)	NNTB = 31 (NNTB 17 to ∞ to NNTH 308)
Complications: pneumonia in child treatment	Study population 37 per 1000 39 per 1000 (23 to 68)		RR 1.06 (0.62 to 1.83)	1359 (3)	-0.22% (-3.07 to 1.41)	NNTH = 450 (NNTB 71 to ∞ to NNTH 33)
Adverse events: diarrhoea in child treatment (on-treatment)	Study population 72 per 1000 63 per 1000 (42 to 92)		RR 0.87 (0.58 to 1.28)	1358 (3)	0.93% (-2.01 to 3.02)	NNTB 108 (NNTB 34 to ∞ to NNTH 50)

Table 8. Oseltamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy children (Continued)

Adverse events: vomiting in child treatment (on-treatment)	Study population		RR 1.7 (1.23 to 2.35)	1358 (3)	5.34% (1.75 to 10.29)	NNTB = 19 (10 to 57)
	76 per 1000	130 per 1000 (94 to 179)				

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI). Negative risk differences indicate harm; positive risk differences indicate benefits.

CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio; NNTB: number needed to treat to benefit; NNTH: number needed to treat to harm

Table 9. Zanamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy adults
Zanamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy adults
Patient or population: healthy adults with influenza

Settings: community, nursing homes

Intervention: zanamivir versus placebo for treatment

Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Risk difference (95% CI)	NNTB or NNTH (95% CI)
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk				
	Placebo	Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment				
Time to first alleviation of symptoms in adult treatment (days)		The mean time (days) to first alleviation of symptoms in adults in the intervention groups was 0.60 lower (0.81 to 0.39 lower)	0.60 days (0.39 to 0.81)	5411 (13)	N/A	N/A
Complications: pneumonia confirmed with X-ray in adult treatment	Study population 32 per 1000	33 per 1000 (11 to 98)	RR 1.02 (0.35 to 3.02)	946 (2)	-0.06% (-6.56 to 2.11)	NNTB = 1540 (NNTB 48 to ∞ to NNTH 16)
Adverse events: nausea/vomiting in adult treatment (on-treatment)	Study population 41 per 1000	24 per 1000 (16 to 38)	RR 0.6 (0.39 to 0.94)	6553 (15)	1.63% (0.24 to 2.48)	NNTB = 62 (41 to 411)
Adverse events: psychiatric body system in adult treatment (on-treatment)	Study population 6 per 1000	6 per 1000 (3 to 13)	RR 1.16 (0.57 to 2.38)	4732 (10)	-0.09% (-0.76 to 0.24)	NNTH 1132 (NNTB 421 to ∞ to NNTH 132)
Complications: bronchitis in adult treatment	Study population 72 per 1000	54 per 1000 (44 to 65)	RR 0.75 (0.61 to 0.91)	6072 (12)	1.80% (0.65 to 2.80)	NNTB 56 (36 to 155)

Table 9. Zanamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy adults (Continued)

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI). Negative risk differences indicate harms; positive risk differences indicate benefits.
 CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio; NNTB: number needed to treat to benefit; NNTH: number needed to treat to harm

Table 10. Zanamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy children
Zanamivir versus placebo for treating influenza in healthy children
Patient or population: healthy children with influenza

Settings: community

Intervention: zanamivir versus placebo for treatment

Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Risk difference (95% CI)	NNTB or NNTH (95% CI)
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk				
	Placebo	Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment				
Time to first alleviation of symptoms in children (days)	The mean time (days) to first alleviation of symptoms in children in the intervention groups was 1.08 lower (2.32 lower to 0.15 higher)			723 (2)	NA	NA
Complications: sinusitis in child treatment	Study population 15 per 1000	13 per 1000 (2 to 96)	RR 0.87 (0.12 to 6.45)	737 (2)	0.19% (-8.09 to 1.31)	NNTB = 519 (NNTB 13 to ∞ to NNTH 77)
Complications: otitis media in child treatment	Study population 71 per 1000	71 per 1000 (42 to 122)	RR 1.0 (0.59 to 1.72)	737 (2)	0.00% (-5.13 to 2.92)	NNTB = > 1000 (NNTB 35 to ∞ to NNTH 20)

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI). Negative risk differences indicate harms; positive risk differences indicate benefits.
 CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio; NNTB: number needed to treat to benefit; NNTH: number needed to treat to harm

Table 11. Oseltamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy children
Oseltamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy children
Patient or population: healthy children without influenza

Settings: community

Intervention: oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis

Table 11. Oseltamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy children (Continued)

Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Comments
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk			
	Placebo	Oseltamivir versus placebo for treatment			
No data	—	—	—	—	—

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio

Table 12. Zanamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy adults
Zanamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy adults

Patient or population: healthy adults without influenza

Settings: community, nursing homes

Intervention: zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis

Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Risk difference (95% CI)	NNTB or NNTH (95% CI)
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk				
	Placebo	Zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis				
Symptomatic influenza in prophylaxis of individuals	Study population		RR 0.39 (0.22 to 0.70)	5275 (4)	1.98% (0.98 to 2.54)	NNTB = 51 (40 to 103)
	33 per 1000	13 per 1000 (7 to 23)				
Asymptomatic influenza in prophylaxis of individuals	Study population		RR 0.97 (0.76 to 1.24)	5275 (4)	0.14% (-1.1 to 1.1)	NNTB = 729 (NNTB 91 to ∞ to NNTH 91)
	50 per 1000	48 per 1000 (38 to 60)				
Symptomatic influenza in household prophylaxis	Study population		RR 0.22 (0.13 to 0.36)	824 (2)	14.84% (12.18 to 16.55)	NNTB = 7 (6 to 9)
	190 per 1000	42 per 1000 (25 to 68)				
Asymptomatic influenza in household prophylaxis	Study population		RR 0.90 (0.6 to 1.35)	824 (2)	1.32% (-2.2 to 3.84)	NNTB = 76 (NNTB 26 to ∞ to NNTH 46)
	107 per 1000	97 per 1000 (64 to 145)				
Complications: pneumonia in adult prophylaxis	Study population		RR 0.30 (0.11 to 0.8)	7662 (6)	0.32% (0.09 to 0.41)	NNTB = 311 (244 to 1086)
	5 per 1000	1.5 per 1000				

Table 12. Zanamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy adults (Continued)
 (1 to 4)

Complications: bronchitis in adult prophylaxis	Study population		RR 0.49 (0.02 to 1.19)	7662 (6)	0.79% (-0.29 to 1.24)	NNTB = 127 (to NNTB 81 to ∞ to NNTH 341)
	15 per 1000	8 per 1000 (3 to 18)				

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI). Negative risk differences indicate harms; positive risk differences indicate benefits.
 CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio; NNTB: number needed to treat to benefit; NNTH: number needed to treat to harm

Table 13. Oseltamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy adults
Oseltamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy adults
Patient or population: healthy adults without influenza

Settings: community, nursing homes

Intervention: oseltamivir for prophylaxis

Comparison: placebo

Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Risk difference (95% CI)	NNTB or NNTH (95% CI)
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk				
	Placebo	Oseltamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis				
Symptomatic influenza in adult prophylaxis of individuals	Study population		RR 0.45 (0.30 to 0.67)	2479 (3)	3.05% (1.83 to 3.88)	NNTB = 33 (26 to 55)
	55 per 1000	25 per 1000 (17 to 37)				
Symptomatic influenza in household prophylaxis	Study population		RR 0.2 (0.09 to 0.44)	405 (1)	13.6% (9.52 to 15.47)	NNTB = 7 (6 to 11)
	170 per 1000	34 per 1000 (15 to 75)				
Adverse events: psychiatric body systems in adult prophylaxis (all events on- and off-treatment)	Study population		RR 1.80 (1.05 to 3.08)	3434 (4 studies)	-1.06% (-2.76 to -0.07)	NNTH = 94 (36 to 1538)
	13 per 1000	23 per 1000 (14 to 40)				
Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	Study population		RR 1.18 (1.05 to 1.33)	3434 (4)	-3.15% (-5.78 to -0.88)	NNTH = 32 (18 to 115)
	175 per 1000	207 per 1000 (184 to 233)				
Adverse events: nausea in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	Study population		RR 1.96 (1.2 to 3.2)	3434 (4)		NNTH = 25 (11 to 116)

Table 13. Oseltamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy adults (Continued)

	43 per 1000	85 per 1000 (52 to 138)			-4.15% (-9.51 to -0.86)	
Adverse events: vomiting in adult prophylaxis (on-treatment)	Study population		RR 1.91 (0.7 to 5.22)	3434 (4)	-0.95% (-4.41 to 0.31)	NNTB = 106 (NNTB 319 to ∞ to NNTB 23)
	10 per 1000	20 per 1000 (7 to 55)				
Adverse events: headache in adult prophylaxis (off-treatment)	Study population		RR 0.88 (0.63 to 1.24)	3434 (4)	0.44% (-0.89 to 1.37)	NNTB = 226 (NNTB 74 to ∞ to NNTB 113)
	37 per 1000	33 per 1000 (23 to 46)				

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI). Negative risk differences indicate harms; positive risk differences indicate benefits.

CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio; NNTB: number needed to treat to benefit; NNTH: number needed to treat to harm

Table 14. Zanamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy children
Zanamivir versus placebo for preventing influenza in healthy children

Patient or population: healthy children without influenza

Settings: community

Intervention: zanamivir versus placebo for prophylaxis

Outcomes	Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Comments
	Assumed risk	Corresponding risk			
	Placebo	Zanamivir versus placebo for treatment			
No data	—	—	—	—	—

*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

CI: confidence interval; RR: risk ratio

Table 15. Psychiatric adverse events in oseltamivir prophylaxis trials

Event type	Oseltamivir		Placebo		Total	
	# Events	%	# Events	%	# Events	%
Confusion	5	0.25	1	0.07	6	0.17
Depression	14	0.7	6	0.42	20	0.58

Table 15. Psychiatric adverse events in oseltamivir prophylaxis trials (Continued)

Hallucinations	2	0.1	0	0.00	2	0.06
Anxiety	7	0.35	8	0.56	15	0.44
Psychosis	2	0.1	1	0.07	3	0.09
Schizophrenia	1	0.05	0	0.00	1	0.03
Bipolar disorder	0	0	1	0.07	1	0.03
Sleeping disorder	2	0.1	0	0.00	2	0.06
Aggression	1	0.05	0	0.00	1	0.03
Stress symptoms	3	0.15	0	0.00	3	0.09
Restlessness	1	0.05	0	0.00	1	0.03
Nervousness	1	0.05	0	0.00	1	0.03
Suicide ideation	1	0.05	0	0.00	1	0.03
Paranoia	1	0.05	0	0.00	1	0.03
Alcohol related	6	0.3	2	0.14	8	0.23
Total	47	2.35	19	1.32	66	1.92

Of the 66 events, 12 were classified as severe intensity (10 oseltamivir, 2 placebo)

Table 16. Proportions of contacts with positive serology data (WV15799 ITTIINAB population)

Positive serology	Group		Total
	Placebo	Tamiflu	
	N %	N %	
No	166 83.0	192 93.7	358
Yes	34 17.0	13 6.3	47
Total	200	205	405

ITTIINAB population: ITT influenza-infected index cases who had negative virology at baseline
 $\text{Chi}^2 P = 0.001$

Table 17. Oseltamivir and placebo intervention contents by trial

Trial ID	Description oseltamivir/batch no.	Description placebo/batch no.	Certified content	Certified content	Ref (PDF page number)
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Table 17. Oseltamivir and placebo intervention contents by trial (Continued)

			(oseltamivir)	(placebo)	
M76001	Size 2 capsules containing 75 mg oseltamivir/V01-00 (GS 4104), batch number GMZ 0082	Size 2 placebo capsules for oseltamivir/V02-00 (GS 4104), batch number GMZ 0083	Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)	Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)	20
WP16263	Grey opaque body, light yellow opaque cap/PT2247C01	Grey opaque body, ivory opaque cap/GMZ 0163	Oseltamivir 97.5 mg	Dehydrocholic acid	19 and 422
WV15670	Size 2 capsules containing 75 mg Ro 64-0796/V01-00 (GS 4104), batch number GMZ 0067; caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap	Size 2 placebo capsules for Ro 64-0796/V02-00 (GS 4104), batch number GMZ 0066; caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap	Oseltamivir 94.3 mg	Dehydrocholic acid 6.13 mg	13, 834-5
WV15671	Capsules (size 2) containing 75 mg Ro 64-0796 (GS 4104)/V01; batch number GMZ 0067/GMZ 0065. Capsules are caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap. Also used batch GMZ 0067 capsules caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap (for oseltamivir 94.3 mg)	Matching placebo-capsules (size 2) for-Ro 64-0796 (GS 4104)/V02; batch number GMZ 0066. Capsules are caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap	Oseltamivir 93.1 mg and oseltamivir 94.3 mg	Dehydrocholic acid 6.13 mg	13, 764-7
WV15673/ WV15697	GS 4104 (Ro 64-0796) provided as size 2 caramel-coloured capsules containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate, pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate." Ro 64-0796/V01-00 batch GMZ 0067; caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap	Placebo provided as size 2 caramel-coloured capsules, containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate, pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate Ro64-0796/V02-00 batch GMZ 0066; caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap	94.3 mg	Dehydrocholic acid 6.13 mg	385, 540-2
WV15707	Ro 64-0796 was provided as a size 2 capsule containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate. Ro 64-0796 (GS4104)/V01-00 batch number GMZ 0082	Placebo was provided as a size 2 capsule containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate. Placebo Ro 64-0796/V02-00 batch number GMZ 0066	Ro 64-0796/002 100.5 mg	Dehydrocholic acid	3, 517-9
WV15708	Size 2 capsules of 75 mg; Ro 64-0796/V01-00 batch no. GMZ 0082; caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap	Matching size 2 placebo capsules Ro 64-0796/V02-00 batch no. GMZ 0083; caramel opaque	Oseltamivir 100.5 mg	Dehydrocholic acid	21-2, 517-9

Table 17. Oseltamivir and placebo intervention contents by trial (Continued)

		body, caramel opaque cap			
WV15730	Ro 64-0796 was provided as a caramel, opaque, size 2 capsule containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate. Ro 64-0796 (GS4104)/V01-00 batch number GMZ 0082	Placebo was provided as a caramel, opaque, size 2 capsule containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic (calcium phosphate dihydrate and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate. Placebo Ro 64-0796/V02-00 batch number GMZ 0083	Oseltamivir 100.5 mg	Dehydrocholic acid	24, 504-5
WV15758	2 batches of the paediatric formulation were used in the present study: 1. Ro 64-0796/V20-01 (0.6% syrup); batch no. G HK 0180/05 2. Ro 64-0796/V20-01 (0.6% syrup); batch no. G HK 0180/06	2 batches of the corresponding placebo formulation were used: 1. Ro 64-0796/V19-01; batch no. G HK 0179/04 2. Ro 64-0796/V19-01; batch no. G HK 0179/05	Oseltamivir 0.768 g (G HK 0180/05), 0.763 g (G HK 0180/06)	Dehydrocholic acid	27, 1043-5
WV15759/15871	Ro 64-0796 was to be provided as a dry powder for reconstitution with water. The powdered formulation contains the active ingredient, sorbitol and saccharin sodium (sweeteners), betacarotene (colouring agent), permageal 31 tutti frutti (flavour), cellulose, xanthan gum and methylhydroxypropylhydroxybenzoate		Unknown (certificates of analysis not in our possession)	Unknown (certificates of analysis not in our possession)	36
WV15799	Ro 64-0796 was provided as ivory, opaque, size 2 capsule containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate. Ro 64-0796 (GS4104)/V14-00 batch numbers GMZ 0124/03 and GMZ 0129/03	Placebo was provided as an ivory, opaque, size 2 capsule containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate. Placebo Ro 64-0796/V16-00 batch number GMZ 0136	Unknown (certificates of analysis not in our possession)	Unknown (certificates of analysis not in our possession)	24
WV15812/ WV15872	Ro 64-0976 was provided as size 2 capsules containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate	Matching placebo was provided as size 2 capsules containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate, pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc, sodium stearyl fumarate	Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)	Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)	18

Table 17. Oseltamivir and placebo intervention contents by trial (Continued)

WV15876/ WV15819/ WV15978	<p>Capsules (size 2) containing 95.8 mg oseltamivir phosphate, equivalent to 75 mg oseltamivir: formulation V14; batch numbers GMZ 0124/03, GMZ 0129/03. Both batches: grey opaque body, ivory opaque cap</p> <p>The following statement appears after the description of the placebo; whether it applies to oseltamivir capsules is unclear: "Excipients for each capsule consisted of dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium diphosphate dihydrate, pregelatinized starch, povidone, talc, sodium stearyl fumarate."</p>	<p>Matching placebo capsules (size 2) for oseltamivir: formulation V16; batch numbers GMZ 0136, GMZ 0163. Both batches: grey opaque body, ivory opaque cap</p> <p>The following statement appears after the description of the placebo; whether it applies to oseltamivir capsules is unclear: "Excipients for each capsule consisted of dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium diphosphate dihydrate, pregelatinized starch, povidone, talc, sodium stearyl fumarate."</p>	<p>Oseltamivir 95.7 mg (GMZ 0124/03); 97.9 mg (GMZ 0129/03)</p>	<p>Dehydrocholic acid</p>	<p>21, 944-9</p>
WV16277	<p>Oseltamivir was provided as size 2 capsules containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate.. Oseltamivir: 75 mg capsules, Ro 64-0796/V14, batch number PT2247C01</p> <p>Capsules are caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap</p>	<p>Matching placebo was provided as size 2 capsules, containing dehydrocholic acid, dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate, pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc, sodium stearyl fumarate</p> <p>Matching placebo capsules: Ro 64-0796/V16, batch number GMZ 0163. Capsules are caramel opaque body, caramel opaque cap</p>	<p>Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)</p>	<p>Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)</p>	<p>20</p>
NV16871	<p>Capsules containing 75 mg of active drug and packaging material consisting of pregelatinised starch, povidone, talc and sodium stearyl fumarate. All participants over the age of 13 or who weighed > 40 kg received this dosage form. 2. A paediatric suspension containing 12 mg oseltamivir per ml of reconstituted solution and the following excipients: sorbitol, titanium dioxide, sodium benzoate, xanthan gum, monosodium citrate, saccharin sodium and Permaseal 11900-31 tutti frutti (flavour). All participants of 12 years and under or who weighed ≤ 40 kg received this dosage form or 10 doses</p> <p>Ro 64-0796/V14 (oseltamivir 75 mg capsules), batch PT2247C01</p>	<p>Matching placebo was to be provided as capsules and as suspension</p> <p>Ro 64-0796/V16 (placebo capsules), batch GMZ 0163</p> <p>Ro 64-0796/VF01 (placebo powder for oral suspension), batch C0318A001</p>	<p>Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)</p>	<p>Unknown (certificate of analysis not provided)</p>	<p>13-14, 24</p>

Table 17. Oseltamivir and placebo intervention contents by trial (Continued)

Ro 64-0796/V37 (oseltamivir powder for oral suspension), batch B1023

NB Most content dosage unavailable at review time-lock.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Glossary of terms used in this review

Public health drugs: Drugs in which a considerable quantity of public money has been invested and/or are on the WHO essential drugs list.

Clinical study reports: Detailed reports of a clinical trial usually submitted to regulators following a prescribed ICH format. Roche's follow a modular structure (see Appendix 11). Reports can be several hundred pages long and contain details of the planned design, conduct (protocol), analysis (reporting analysis plan or RAP) and results of the trial.

Compliharm: Term describing events defined as either complications or harms according to ambiguous criteria that appeared to include time of analysis (with times either unspecified or inconsistent among trials) and whether participants were infected (by influenza) or not. In oseltamivir treatment trials some potential harms or complications could both be caused by medication or influenza infection (e.g. vomiting), hence our classification as a compliharms.

Time lock: Date (12 April 2011) after which no documentation would be reviewed in the January 2012 version of the review. A cutoff was made necessary by the sheer scale of our data holdings. We were initially funded to review the full clinical study reports of the 10 treatment trials included in the Kaiser et al paper. We were able to access the 10 Module 1s and regulatory comments (approximately 6000 pages in total). As the funder-stipulated deadline to producing our review progressively shortened and our understanding of the issues evolved we received notification that while the balance of the 10 study reports were unlikely to be accessible by our deadline, we would receive substantial quantities of regulatory documents from the EMA in four tranches. When we held our second face to face meeting in April 2011 we had just received our first tranche of clinical study reports consisting of just over 10 thousand pages, bringing our total holdings to 16,000 pages. We decided that we did not have the resources to review any further documentation within our current funding and imposed a data time lock. Any documentation received after this date would be reviewed if and when we had more resources. The balance of documents (a further 14,000 pages) are included in this review.

TOC: Table of content of regulatory reviews and comments on industry submissions. Our TOC indicates which trial is cited in which document on which page how many times.

TOCE: Annotated version of the TOC. Comments and annotation are preliminary and form the basis for the weaving of the important aspects into the review narrative. (See also [Table 2](#); [Table 3](#); [Table 4](#); [Table 5](#)).

Trial ID: Means of identifying a trial. Usually made up of letters and numbers (WV 15799). At times the ID bears a letter suffix indicating the last version of the protocol followed in the trial (e.g. WV 15799H, i.e. trial carried out following amendment H).

Regulatory information: Term comprising clinical study reports (data) and regulatory comments and reviews.

Modules: Basic structure of Roche's trial reports see ([Appendix 11](#)). Today, the term 'Modules' refers to the components of a regulatory submission, as set by the International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) ([ICH 2011](#)). Clinical study reports are just one 'Module' of a regulatory submission.

FOI: Freedom of Information. Enshrined by law in the US and EMA policy in Europe. FOI requests in this review have been a means of access to clinical study reports and regulatory comments (regulatory information).

CONSORT-based extraction: Extraction, synthesis and appraisal method used in this review for data from clinical study reports. Reconstructions were done by pairs of review authors and assessed in the authors' plenary session to decide whether included trials could proceed to stage 2 of the analysis. The structure of the reconstruction follows that of the CONSORT statement.

Protocol: Document reporting the trial's planned design and conduct, with amendments (when relevant). Confusingly also used in submissions and regulatory documents as synonymous with study.

IPD: Individual patient data. Anonymised individual data listings of characteristics and results, which form the basis for the synthetic analyses in clinical study reports.

Trial programme: Series of trials designed and carried out to achieve registration or to answer specific questions. Usually programmes of the same drug or intervention focus on the same indication or the same study population.

Reporting Analysis Plan (RAP): Plan of analysis usually linked to trial protocol explaining what and how the authors intend to analyse.

Japanese Summary Basis for Approval (of a drug) (JSBA): Summary of the application dossiers included as one of the documents prepared and attached by the sponsoring pharmaceutical company. These are submitted to the regulatory body for approval of a new drug.

Appendix 2. The story of A159

The 2009 review: from A047 to A159

In the midst of the A/H1N1 influenza outbreak in June 2009, the Australian and UK governments commissioned an update of our long-standing Cochrane review on neuraminidase inhibitors (NIs) for influenza in (otherwise) healthy adults (known as A047). Prior to the emergence of influenza A/H1N1 in 2009, governments worldwide stockpiled nearly CHF 7.6 billion worth of oseltamivir (Jack 2009). The World Health Organization (WHO) considered antivirals for influenza important (WHO has recently added oseltamivir to the list of essential medicines (WHO 2011; WHO 2013a; WHO 2013b)). Oseltamivir and zanamivir have been prescribed for the treatment of influenza worldwide since the outbreak of 2009 A/H1N1 influenza. The review (on healthy adults) had first been published in 1999 (as A047) and was updated in 2006 and 2008. At the same time a similar review on children (as Shun-Shin 2009 or A046) had also been published.

As the review had been updated the previous year, we initially anticipated that the commissioned 2009 update would not require substantial effort and likely reflect only updated pharmacovigilance data and not the incorporation of new trial evidence (Doshi 2009).

In the end, the 2009 update was inconclusive regarding whether or not oseltamivir reduced the risk of complications of influenza (Jefferson 2010a), as we were unable to verify the data underlying manufacturer and government claims to this effect. The claims were based on clinical trial evidence included in a published pooled analysis of 10 manufacturer-funded clinical trials of oseltamivir for the treatment of influenza in people of 13 years and older (Kaiser 2003). Eight of the 10 trials in the Kaiser et al pooled analysis have never been published (Jefferson 2009a), and their complete data sets were not available from either the authors or the manufacturers. Some of the published trials had been ghost written (Cohen 2009). The largest of the 10 Kaiser trials (M76001), involving over 1400 people, had been briefly reported in conference abstract format but the person whose name appeared on the abstract could not recall ever presenting its results or being involved with the study (Cohen 2009). Our early requests for data from the 10 Kaiser studies were met with an offer from Roche to sign a confidentiality agreement with an embedded secrecy clause preventing us from mentioning the existence of the agreement. The unsigned agreement can be seen at http://www.bmj.com/highwire/filestream/440792/field_highwire_adjunct_files/0.

At the time of publication of the 2009 update and its linked investigation by the *BMJ*, we were unaware of the size and depth of the oseltamivir evidence development programme. We thought it comprised around 36 trials and we expected that only a proportion of these would fit our inclusion criteria. We also did not realise the size and the level of detail that the clinical study reports contained.

On 31 December 2009, Roche released the core reports (or Module 1s) of the 10 Kaiser trials with no legal agreement signed (only a web-based agreement that we would not share the documents with other commercial companies). After requesting Roche to provide us with the full study reports, Roche said that the Module 1s were all that were needed for us to complete our job (Doshi 2012a). The missing Modules (or parts), numbered 3 to 4 according to the trial in question, contained protocols, amendments, individual listings and demographic information. It seemed to us that these documents would have contained some important additional material for understanding the trials, their design and interpretation but we were not sure.

In 2010 we started exploring the relationship between the available Module 1s for the only two Kaiser trials that had been published (trials WV15670 or Nicholson 2000 and WV15671 or Treanor 2000).

At about this time we started getting concerned that the oseltamivir trial programme was considerably larger than we first thought. Our interest was awakened by the casual discovery of a confidential 2009 Roche Tamiflu Investigator's Brochure, which was freely accessible on the web. This reported a clinical trial programme of over 60 studies. Searching for an unpublished and hitherto unseen data set requires constructing a reasonably accurate list of all studies of the drug in question. The Roche Investigator's Brochure did not mention some studies we were aware of, and reinforced an idea that we had become clear was essential: the need to develop our own list of trials, because a single, authoritative, up-to-date and complete list of all clinical trials conducted on humans using for both drugs did not seem to exist.

When thinking about our next update we decided not to use publications because the majority of treatment trial evidence for Tamiflu remained unpublished, because we had found some discrepancies between CSRs and published equivalents and, mostly, because clinical study reports were so much more detailed and comprehensive than short journal articles, enabling a more thorough critical analysis of the trials. We also decided to expand the scope of A047 by including evidence relating to people of all ages except for immune-suppressed individuals. This, de facto, amounted to the creation of one new review (A159) with a new protocol subsuming A047 and A046. The protocol for A159 was publicly posted in December 2010.

A new source of evidence for A159

Today the obvious source of information on clinical study reports would be trial registries and company websites, but most trials of both NIs were carried out before inception or wide acceptance of centralised registries and company websites. In 2009-11, company websites did not and still do not have extensive lists of trials with downloadable clinical study reports. Most people had never heard of clinical study reports before media coverage of our efforts.

We decided to construct our list by using multiple cross-referencing methods. We constructed a list beginning with clinical trials identified from previous review updates. To this end, we added additional trials in humans from multiple sources, including manufacturer submissions to regulators, drug product information sheets, previous published reviews, Health Technology Assessment (HTA) documents and public and manufacturers' registers (Burch 2009; Cooper 2003; Jefferson 2006; Tappenden 2009; Turner 2003), such as www.ClinicalTrials.gov and www.roche-trials.com. Regulatory documents also aided the identification of unknown trials. Finally, we also conducted traditional database and grey literature searches (Appendix 5) to identify previously unknown trials.

One of the first things we learned was that to ensure the list did not include duplicate entries, we had to assign to each trial a Unique Trial ID. 'Author' is not a good choice of Unique Trial ID, as different authors can be present across different versions of the same trial (that is, the authors of clinical study reports can be different from publications arising from the same clinical trial). Nor are any other details connected to publications a good option for Unique Trial ID because not all studies are published. Some trials will have company-specific codes and some will have public clinical trial registry numbers, or both, or neither. To simplify recognition and terminology we used the manufacturer protocol ID as our Unique Trial ID.

Our list was only going to be useful if it had sufficient details to enable us to decide whether it met our inclusion criteria. For each Unique Trial ID, we gathered the following details.

1. Unique Trial ID
2. Other IDs
3. Phase of study
4. Sponsor
5. Short description
6. Official trial title
7. First authors (name and email)
8. Type of trial
9. Comparator
10. Outcomes assessed
11. Date of trial
12. Study period (days)
13. Population
14. Number of participants planned
15. Number of participants enrolled
16. Number of participants completing
17. Trial status (for example, completed, ongoing or early termination)
18. Publication status (a citation or understanding of why it was not published)
19. How identified (to record how the trial was discovered)
20. Notes

Once we had as complete a list of trials as possible, we contacted manufacturers and sent them our draft list, asking them to check the accuracy and completeness of our list. Roche, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and BioCryst all did so, and in doing so we learned of hitherto unknown trials.

Occasionally, the existence of further unknown trials was detected weeks and months after we thought we had a 'complete' list. This may be inevitable given that trial identification often takes place in unpredictable ways, for example while reading through detailed regulatory reports.

We engaged in prolonged correspondence with Roche and GSK and requested a series of regulatory documents under freedom of information policies from both the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and European Medicines Agency (EMA). No substantial comments were made by Roche on the protocol of 159 which has been publicly available in one form or another since December 2010.

Specifically, we applied to EMA under their new release policy for 26 clinical study reports in their holdings relating to oseltamivir and GSK's zanamivir. The result was the delivery (starting in late March 2011) of 16 clinical study reports, all containing Modules 1 and 2 plus one complete report for oseltamivir (trial [WP16263](#)). (See table 1 in [Doshi 2012b](#)). None were available for zanamivir, as the EMA had not played a part in its market authorisation. These formed the basis for the 2012 version of A159.

At the date of completion of data searches for A159 (12 April 2011), Roche had only provided us with partial clinical study reports despite five requests for full clinical study reports. The material obtained from Roche included the first section (or so-called 'Module 1' or 'Core Report') of a full clinical study report, each of which contain four to five Modules ([Appendix 11](#)) for the 10 oseltamivir treatment trials included in the [Kaiser 2003](#) meta-analysis. Not contained in the provided Module 1s are trial protocols with the list of amendments and original reporting analysis plans. These Module 1s comprise 3195 pages. Roche had not made available any further material and indicated it did not intend to answer our requests for clarification on aspects of trials and for availability of the missing parts of complete clinical study reports. In addition we had a 53-page report in English of the treatment trial [ML16369](#), sponsored by Shanghai Roche Pharmaceutical Ltd. Regardless of success with our requests to obtain full clinical study reports, we decided to update our review with available material and subsequently update it as and when additional data became available.

Our searches of publication databases did not add any significant information.

Following a change of policy at the EMA prompted by similar efforts of the Nordic Cochrane Centre ([Gotzsche 2011](#)), we received an additional eight clinical study reports (10,737 pages) in response to a freedom of information request. An additional 14,700 pages of further clinical study reports and 33 pages of regulators' comments arrived after our search deadline. All of the materials received from the EMA are related to oseltamivir. The EMA has no access to information for zanamivir, as it is a nationally authorised product in Europe (correspondence with Xavier Luria, 23 March 2011 and David Mackay 20 July 2011). At present we hold all Module 1s and 2 of oseltamivir trials we have requested. From GSK we have received the promise of individual patient data. Many of the clinical study reports used in this review were obtained via freedom of information requests.

We still await an FDA decision regarding similar requests sent to FDA in January 2011.

We were able to download 2673 pages of Summary Basis for Approval (SBA) documents from the FDA website, 31 from EMA and 508 pages of Japanese SBA. We indexed the content and then constructed an extended table of contents, giving a summary of each file, thereby facilitating navigation of these complex documents. Once the table of contents had been constructed, we postulated that given the huge work involved in reviewing lots of regulatory files, including clinical study reports, we needed new instruments to indicate which parts were more important than others, thus focusing our efforts. We experimented with a variety of methods reported in the earlier version of the review. We have now devised and used what for us is a satisfactory instrument for critically assessing clinical study reports in their entirety. We intend publishing this separately.

The EMA releases, coupled with documents from the FDA SBA for both drugs, formed the basis for the version of A159 that we eventually published in January 2012. The review reported our efforts to get to the bottom of the issue of the effects of NIs by appraising evidence from unpublished clinical study reports (see Glossary ([Appendix 1](#)) and regulatory documents containing comments and reviews. We called the body of clinical studies and regulatory comments 'regulatory information' as all of these documents are either created for or by regulators. To our knowledge this was the first Cochrane review ever conducted on the basis of regulatory documents only.

Due to funding timelines and the sizeable amount of regulatory information already available to us we decided to review material available as at 12 April 2011. This meant reviewing FDA SBA material and core reports (Module 1s) in our possession from EMA data releases received by this time.

Study selection and extraction in 2011

In 2011 our methods were a mixture of established and novel, reflecting the size of the task, our lack of experience in dealing with large amounts of very detailed regulatory information and the lack of a complete set of clinical study reports. For example, scanning of titles and abstracts was done in double, but selection of studies for inclusion from the list constructed during our search was done in quadruple with disagreements resolved by discussion.

For many studies we only had titles and in some cases a very brief description of content, thus we assigned three categories to our trials:

1. definitely included;
2. definitely excluded; and
3. trials for which we needed further information.

We excluded studies definitely not meeting the inclusion criteria on the basis of the available information (e.g. the title described the trial as a pharmacokinetic study). Where appropriate we requested further information from the trials' sponsor, usually copies of the clinical study reports (minus participant identification) for each trial that was definitely included or for which we needed further information. We did not contact first/corresponding authors of published versions of the trials on the basis of our experience with the 2009 review.

Data extraction and management reflected the lack of established methods for reviewing regulatory material. We subdivided the extraction, appraisal and analysis of the data into a two-stage exercise, including studies in the analysis phase only if we judged their reports reliable and complete. To help structure the information we used CONSORT statement-based extraction forms aimed at assembling a concise version of the clinical study reports, which included all important methods as well as defined and extracted all relevant outcomes. We colour-coded the original text to flag up uncertainty or lack of clarity or need for more information from other (then inaccessible) parts of the clinical study report.

During this process we excluded all six peramivir trials as we were informed by the manufacturers that no clinical study reports would be available. The 2012 A159 review was based on 15 oseltamivir clinical study core reports and 10 very brief zanamivir study reports. The former came from EMA, while the latter had been part of a GSK submission to the UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) which the *BMJ* had passed onto us together with the SBA material. Our 2010 protocol for A159 was not very detailed on how we would handle this mass of information for the simple reason that no one had ever done it before. We quite literally were learning as we were going along and our understanding of the structure and content of clinical study reports evolved. We created and tested five post-protocol hypotheses (see [Appendix 10](#)), which had originated from the findings in the reports. The best example was our finding of an unnaturally high (up to 80%) influenza positivity rate in treatment trials, which in some cases had been pooled because of lack of viral circulation. We hypothesised that screening for influenza positivity had been carried out prior to enrolment of people with influenza-like illness. This was not borne out by the evidence available to us. We know now that a far simpler explanation is more likely: careful selection of the time period for trial participant enrolment based on when surveillance data suggested high influenza activity led to the recruitment of small numbers of participants from each of many centres with a high likelihood of influenza positivity, but at the time we had limited information available. The 201

2 A159 review analyses were based on the ITT population, which we had found to be the only reliable analysis unit as oseltamivir appeared to have an effect on antibody production in people with influenza, leading to an imbalance in numbers of subjects in the influenza-infected (so-called ITTI) sub-population. This in effect introduced confounding in what otherwise should have been well-designed double-blind trials. The only effect that was clearly identifiable was a modest shortening of influenza-like illness symptoms by less than a day. This led us to believe that oseltamivir had an aspecific powerful effect on symptoms not mediated by any action on influenza viruses but possibly via an anti-inflammatory mechanism. The trials had been clearly designed with a commercial focus in mind and some of the claims made by the manufacturer (especially on the effect on interruption of transmission and on pneumonia) were not supported by the evidence in our possession.

2012 to the present day

Soon after the publication of the review, the *BMJ* agreed to publish our correspondence with Roche, GSK, EMA, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and WHO, recording our attempts at retrieving the full reports without any conditions attached and to understand the basis for promotion of the drugs (especially oseltamivir) by public health bodies. The correspondence (which is hundreds of pages long) formed the basis for what then became the *BMJ* Open Data campaign and a stimulus for the later AllTrials campaign. Public exposure of our efforts and copious media coverage had the direct effect of ensuring the unconditional release of 77 reports of oseltamivir of 82 studies sponsored by Roche and the equivalent of the 30 studies we had requested from GSK. For the full correspondence see <http://www.bmj.com/tamiflu> and <http://www.bmj.com/relenza>. The reports (amounting to over 100,000 pages) are made available with this review for the first time at [insert URL when available], marking a small but significant victory for open science.

Before receiving the full reports, we resumed reviewing the remainder of the material we had received in 2011. This mainly consisted of Module 2s (Roche terminology for pre-study documents). Module 2s contained the information originally denied to us by Roche: study protocols with their amendments, randomisation lists, blank case report forms (CRFs), certificates of analysis describing appearance and content of active and control capsules and, at times, statistical analysis plans (SAPs). CRFs are containers for the rawest form of recorded data at the individual participant level.

We had no tools for reviewing and synthesising this information, so again we had to create our own. The instrument is made up of three parts each with a separate function. In the first part there is a template for a brief summary description of the trial. The format fits into the RevMan Characteristics of Included Studies (CIST) table and is mainly descriptive. The second part is the appraisal of the trial following the Cochrane 'Risk of bias' format. The third part reconstructs the trial timeline and provides a checklist and position in the document of the various elements such as protocol, protocol amendments and study period with dates. The last part aims to check the internal consistency and coherence of each element (such as numbers screened, numbers randomised, interventions, comparators) across all the different documents, starting from the earliest available version of the protocol. The form also contains suggestions on where to look for the information. This is based on our experience gained in this review and in a descriptive review of 78 clinical study reports of 14 different drugs and biologicals ([Doshi 2013](#)).

While designing the tool we also asked ourselves whether access to Module 2 information (and later the full study reports) changed our perception of the trial and specifically our 'Risk of bias' assessment. We found that access to what are supposed to be full study reports should provide clarity and remove the rationale for 'unclear' risk of bias judgements and ideally remove the concept of risk leaving just 'bias', at least for certain study design elements such as attrition bias. Either a design element introduces bias or it does not. In the case of the 15 full oseltamivir clinical study reports we reviewed when constructing our tool, only one contained a protocol which predated the beginning of participant enrolment, only two had statistical analysis plans that clearly predated participants' enrolment and three had clearly dated protocol amendments. No clinical study report reported a clear date of unblinding.

During the latter part of 2013, we received from the manufacturers tens of thousands of pages of full clinical study reports for both programmes combined.

The history and conclusions form the backdrop to this version of A159.

Oseltamivir studies received from Hoffman La Roche SA in CSR format:

Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in adults and children (Review)

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1. [WV16277](#)
2. [WV15819/WV15876/WV15978](#)
3. [WV15707](#)
4. [WV15812/WV15872](#)
5. [WV15730](#)
6. [M76001](#)
7. [WV15670](#)
8. [WV15671](#)
9. [NV16871](#)
10. [WV15759/WV15871](#)
11. [WV16193](#)
12. [WV15825](#)
13. [WV15708](#)
14. [WV15799](#)
15. [WV15673/WV15697](#)
16. [WV15758](#)
17. [NV20235](#)
18. [M76006](#)
19. [NV20236](#)
20. [NP15717](#)
21. [PV15616](#) (= GS 97-801)
22. [PV15615](#) (= GS 97-802)
23. [JV16284](#)
24. [WV15731](#)
25. [NV22155](#)
26. [NP15719](#)
27. [WP16254](#)
28. [WP16094](#)
29. [WP18308](#)
30. [WP16225](#)
31. [WP16134](#)
32. [PP15974](#)
33. [NP16472](#)
34. [NP15718](#)
35. [WP16226](#)
36. [NP25139](#)
37. [NP25138](#)
38. [NP15901](#)
39. [WP15525](#)
40. [NP25140](#)
41. [NP15728](#)
42. [NP15810](#)
43. [NP15826](#)
44. [PP16351](#)
45. [WP22849](#)
46. [NP22770](#)
47. [WP20727](#)
48. [PP16361](#)
49. [WP15517](#)
50. [NP15729](#)
51. [BP21288](#)
52. [WP21272](#)

- 53.[JP15735](#)
- 54.[WP15647](#)
- 55.[WP15648](#)
- 56.[WP15676](#)
- 57.[WP16263](#)
- 58.[NP15757](#)
- 59.[NV25118](#)
- 60.[NP15743](#)
- 61.[NP15881](#)
- 62.[NP15912](#)
- 63.[WP15979](#)
- 64.[WP16137](#)
- 65.[WP16295](#)
- 66.[NP15827](#)
- 67.[NV25655](#)
- 68.[JV21490](#)
- 69.[JP15734](#)
- 70.[NV22158](#)
- 71.[ML17713](#)
- 72.[ML22789](#)
- 73.[NV25182](#)
- 74.[ML17279](#) – publication only
- 75.[ML19340](#) – publication only
- 76.[JV15823](#) – English translation of Gaiyo summary
- 77.[JV15824](#) – English translation of Gaiyo summary
- 78.[ML17279](#) (=WV17052)
- 79.[ML19340](#) (= COSMOS Study)

Zanamivir studies received from GSK in CSR format:

- 1. [167-101](#)
- 2. [JNAI-01](#)
- 3. [JNAI-04](#)
- 4. [JNAI-07](#)
- 5. [NAI30008](#)
- 6. [NAI30009](#)
- 7. [NAI30010](#)
- 8. [NAI30011](#)
- 9. [NAI30012](#)
- 10. [NAI30015](#)
- 11. [NAI30020](#)
- 12. [NAI30028](#)
- 13. [NAI30031](#)
- 14. [NAI30034](#)
- 15. [NAIA/B2008](#)
- 16. [NAIA/B2009](#)
- 17. [NAIA2005](#)
- 18. [NAIA2006](#)
- 19. [NAIA3002](#)
- 20. [NAIA3003](#)
- 21. [NAIA3004](#)
- 22. [NAIA3005](#)
- 23. [NAIB2005](#)

- 24. [NAIB2006](#)
- 25. [NAIB2007](#)
- 26. [NAIB3001](#)
- 27. [NAIB3002](#)
- 28. [PE-01](#)
- 29. [167T3-11](#)
- 30. [NAIA2010](#)

Appendix 3. Compliharms: events alternatively recorded as complications or harms

Roche clinical study report of oseltamivir treatment trial: "The following symptoms, signs and common sequelae associated with influenza were excluded from specific adverse event reporting if they occurred during the period of drug treatment provided their appearance was in conjunction with one or more other influenza-related symptoms. The recrudescence of single discrete signs/symptoms associated with influenza syndrome were recorded as adverse events."

[Event by body system]

Respiratory

Cough
 Pneumonia
 Bronchitis/tracheitis
 Sinusitis
 Dyspnoea/difficulty breathing

Cardiovascular

Tachycardia

Eyes, ears, nose and throat

Sore throat
 Nasal obstruction
 Earache
 Otitis
 Coryza
 Conjunctivitis

Central nervous system

Headache
 Fatigue

Musculoskeletal

Myalgia

Other

Fever
 Rigor
 Malaise/asthenia
 Chills

Source: "Appendix 1. Events Associated with Influenza Syndrome". Roche Clinical Study Report No. W-144117, Protocol WV15707, Module I-43

A 1999 FDA medical review of oseltamivir: "As symptoms and common sequelae of influenza were collected as endpoint data, these symptoms, signs and common complications were specifically excluded from reporting as adverse events. The following table [above] lists events associated with influenza syndrome which were excluded from adverse event reporting. ... In addition, following the alleviation of influenza-like symptoms, the recurrence of a single respiratory or constitutional symptom was recorded as an adverse event; however, the reappearance of more than one symptom was recorded as influenza-like syndrome (i.e. secondary illness). Comment: As the applicant [Hoffman-La Roche] stated in a written response dated 6/11/99, some sites incorrectly reported symptoms occurring prior to the cessation of the primary illness as secondary illness."

Emphasis in the original. Oseltamivir Medical Review. US FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Application No. 021087, 25 October 1999, page 15. www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/nda/99/21087_Tamiflu_medr_P1.pdf

Appendix 4. Searches for clinical study reports

Searching an unpublished and hitherto unseen data set requires constructing a reasonably accurate list of all studies of the drug in question. The obvious source of such information would be trial registries but most trials of both NIs were carried out before inception or wide acceptance of centralised registries. As single, authoritative, up-to-date and complete lists of all clinical trials conducted on humans using a given drug are rarely available in the public domain, there was no alternative to constructing our own. We decided to do so by using multiple, cross-referencing methods. We constructed a list beginning with clinical trials identified from previous review updates. To this end, we added additional trials in humans from multiple sources, including manufacturer submissions to regulators, drug product information sheets, previous published reviews, Health Technology Assessment (HTA) documents and public and manufacturers' registers (Burch 2009; Cooper 2003; Jefferson 2006; Tappenden 2009; Turner 2003), such as www.ClinicalTrials.gov and www.rocche-trials.com. Regulatory documents also aided the identification of unknown trials (see also [Searching other resources](#)). Finally, we also conducted traditional database searches (Appendix 5) and searches of grey literature to identify previously unknown trials.

To ensure the list did not include duplicate entries, we assigned each trial a Unique Trial ID. 'Author' is not a good choice of Unique Trial ID, as different authors can be present across different versions of the same trial (that is, the authors of clinical study reports can be different from publications arising from the same clinical trial). Nor are any other details connected to publications a good option for Unique Trial ID because not all studies are published. Some trials will have company-specific codes and some will have public clinical trial registry numbers, or both or neither.

The majority of trials cited in this review are manufacturer-funded (with corresponding manufacturer protocol IDs) and to simplify recognition and terminology we have used the manufacturer protocol ID as our Unique Trial ID.

A list is only helpful so long as it has sufficient details to enable us to decide whether it meets our inclusion criteria. For each Unique Trial ID, we gathered the following details.

1. Unique Trial ID
2. Other IDs
3. Phase of study
4. Sponsor
5. Short description
6. Official trial title
7. First authors (name and email)
8. Type of trial
9. Comparator
10. Outcomes assessed
11. Date of trial
12. Study period (days)
13. Population
14. Number of participants planned
15. Number of participants enrolled
16. Number of participants completing
17. Trial status (for example, completed, ongoing or early termination)
18. Publication status (a citation or understanding of why it was not published)
19. How identified (to record how the trial was discovered)
20. Notes

Once we had as complete a list of trials as possible, we contacted manufacturers and sent them our draft list, asking them to check accuracy and completeness of our list. Roche, GSK and BioCryst all did so, and in doing so we learned of hitherto unknown trials.

Occasionally, the existence of other hitherto unknown trials was detected weeks and months after we thought we had a 'complete' list. We feel this is inevitable given that trial identification often takes place in unpredictable ways, for example while reading through detailed regulatory reports. We engaged in prolonged correspondence with both manufacturers and requested a series of regulatory documents under FOI law from both the FDA and EMA.

Appendix 5. Searches of the electronic databases

Although this review focuses on the primary data sources of manufacturers, to check that there were no published randomised controlled trials (RCTs) from non-manufacturer sources, we ran electronic searches in the following databases:

- the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL 2013, Issue 6) limited to year published 2010-2013 (20 search results);

- MEDLINE (January 2011 to July week 2, 2013) (56 search results) and MEDLINE (Ovid) from 1 January 2011 to July week 2, 2013 (56 search results);
- EMBASE (January 2011 to July 2013) (90 search results) and Embase.com from 1 January 2011 to July 2013 (90 search results);
- PubMed (NOT MEDLINE) no date limit (21 records). We searched PubMed to identify publisher submitted records that will never be indexed in MEDLINE and the most recently added records not yet indexed in MEDLINE.

To identify reviews that may possibly have referenced further trials we searched:

- the Database of Reviews of Effect (DARE) (2013 Issue 2 of 4 April) (four search results);
- the NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHSEED) Issue 2 of 4 April 2013 (two search results) - both resources are part of *The Cochrane Library*, www.thecochranelibrary.com (accessed 22 July 2013);
- the Health Economic Evaluations Database (HEED) (searched 22 July 2013) (three search results).

Previously we had searched the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (eight search results); MEDLINE (Ovid) from 1 May 2009 to 12 April 2011 (31 search results); EMBASE from 1 January 2010 to 12 April 2011 (54 search results); DARE (five search results) and NHSEED (five search results). CENTRAL, DARE and NHSEED are part of *The Cochrane Library*, www.thecochranelibrary.com (Issue 2, 2011, accessed 1 June 2011). All search results were loaded to an electronic library (EndNote).

We used the following search strategy to search MEDLINE and CENTRAL. We combined the MEDLINE search with the Cochrane Highly Sensitive Search Strategy for identifying randomised trials in MEDLINE: sensitivity- and precision-maximising version (2008 revision); Ovid format ([Lefebvre 2011](#)). We adapted the search strategy for EMBASE. We imposed no publication or language restrictions.

MEDLINE (Ovid)

```

1 Influenza, Human/
2 exp Influenzavirus A/
3 exp Influenzavirus B/
4 (influenza* or flu).tw.
5 or/1-4
6 Oseltamivir/
7 Zanamivir/
8 neuraminidase inhibitor*.tw.
9 (oseltamivir or zanamivir or tamiflu or relenza or peramivir or gs4071).tw,nm.
10 or/6-9
11 5 and 10
  
```

EMBASE.com

```

17 #13 AND #16
16 #14 OR #15 833616
15 random*:ab,ti OR placebo*:ab,ti OR factorial*:ab,ti OR crossover*:ab,ti OR 'cross over':ab,ti OR 'cross-over':ab,ti OR volunteer*:ab,ti OR assign*:ab,ti OR allocat*:ab,ti OR ((singl* OR doubl*) NEAR/1 blind*):ab,ti
14 'randomised controlled trial'/exp OR 'single blind procedure'/exp OR 'double blind procedure'/exp OR 'crossover procedure'/exp
13 #4 AND #12
12 #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11
11 oseltamivir:ab,ti OR zanamivir:ab,ti OR tamiflu:ab,ti OR relenza:ab,ti OR peramivir:ab,ti OR laninamivir:ab,ti OR gs4071:ab,ti
10 'sialidase inhibitor':ab,ti OR 'sialidase inhibitors':ab,ti
9 'neuraminidase inhibitor':ab,ti OR 'neuraminidase inhibitors':ab,ti
8 'sialidase inhibitor'/exp
7 'peramivir'/de
6 'zanamivir'/de
5 'oseltamivir'/de
4 #1 OR #2 OR #3
3 influenza*:ab,ti OR flu:ab,ti
2 'influenza virus a'/exp OR 'influenza virus b'/de
1 'influenza'/exp
  
```

Appendix 6. Searches for regulatory information

We searched the following sources:

1. the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA);
2. the European Medicines Agency (EMA) (formerly EMEA);
3. Roche;

4. the Japanese regulator (Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA)) Summary Basis for Approval (SBA).

We conducted a search of the FDA regulatory documentation of the New Drug Applications (NDA) and supplementary New Drug Applications (sNDA) of both drugs (FDA 2011b). The FDA NDA documentation includes medical, statistical, microbiological and other reviews, product labels, reports of site inspections, meetings with manufacturers and records of the decision-making leading to registration and post-marketing requirements. We also searched 'Warning Letters' dispatched by the FDA (FDA 2011c).

To organise receipt of FDA materials, we created a Table of Contents (TOC) listing all the regulatory and pharmaceuticals documents accessible to us. The TOC's function was that of an index, searchable quick reference guide and research tool to enable us to carry out quantitative (e.g. citation density analysis) and qualitative analyses (e.g. theme summaries) of the content. We also needed a rapid aide memoir with brief summaries of the evidence contained in each regulatory document listed in the TOC. We called this aide memoir the TOCE (Table of Contents - Evidence). As the TOCE contains copious working personal notes aimed to understand the regulatory narrative, we have not reproduced it here but its content is woven into the narrative of this review.

Due to the length and format of regulatory documents, we realised in building the TOC that there was a need to formalise the search and identification methods of trials referenced in the FDA documentation. We concentrated on where each trial is mentioned in the documentation by its pharmaceutical code. So, for example, if trial WV15670 is mentioned 60 times by that code in a particular file, then the TOC will report the page numbers in which it is cited, which could be any number up to 60. The unit of search was the file, as a FDA PDF file can contain many different types of documents scanned into the same file. TOC and TOCE are among the tools we specifically constructed for the review (Appendix 1).

We wanted to validate our new methods, therefore we compared the yield of Optical Character Recognition (OCR) searching and handsearching of the PDF files of the FDA regulatory material using the same trial ID as a working example.

We also searched the material sent to us by Roche for our 2009 update.

We searched the website of the Japanese PMDA (http://www.info.pmda.go.jp/shinyaku/shinyaku_previous_index.html) for data relating to NIs approved in 1999 and 2000 and <http://www.info.pmda.go.jp/approvalSrch/PharmacySrchInIt> for NIs approved since 2001. We identified 1575 pages of documents relating to the regulatory review by the PMDA and the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (JMHLW) and the Japanese SBA of oseltamivir capsules for treatment (2000), and prophylaxis of oseltamivir dry syrup for children (2002) and oseltamivir capsules for prophylaxis of influenza (2004) and their re-examination results. The Japanese regulatory body introduced a system to disclose their examination results and SBA in 1999 instead of the prior system, 'full disclosure requirement system', which had been introduced in 1967. Although these documents included preclinical, methodological, clinical (pharmacological, toxicity and pharmacokinetics with metabolism) data and clinical (phase I to phase III) studies and contain more precise data than the published papers, no complete clinical study reports were publicly available. Therefore, one review author (RH) asked the JMHLW on 29 July 2010 to disclose all documents reporting the evidence base for the approval of oseltamivir for these indications. The JMHLW sent RH a letter of refusal dated 2 September 2010, with the explanation "because the disclosure of such documents might hurt the right, position or other fair benefit in the competition of the corporation concerned". We waited six months to take further action hoping that the required clinical study reports would be forthcoming from the manufacturers. When this did not happen, RH filed a suit to overturn the JMHLW decision with the Osaka (Japan) District Court on 28 February 2011. The District Court petition was rejected on 19 April 2013 and the Osaka High Court rejected it on 29 November 2013. No appeal to the Supreme Court was made because substantial clinical study reports had already disclosed from various sources.

Appendix 7. Modified CONSORT statement-based extraction template for clinical study reports

Title and drug name

Include source documents used:

Modified CONSORT extraction template <http://www.consort-statement.org/>

Introduction CONSORT number

Background and objectives	2a	Scientific background and explanation of rationale
	2b	Specific objectives or hypotheses

(Continued)

Insert text:

Methods

Trial design	3a	Description of trial design (such as parallel, factorial) including allocation ratio
	3b	Important changes to methods after trial commencement (such as eligibility criteria), with reasons

Insert text:

Participants	4a	Eligibility criteria for participants
	4b	Settings and locations where the data were collected

Insert text:

Interventions	5	The interventions for each group with sufficient details to allow replication, including how and when they were actually administered
---------------	---	---

Insert text:

Outcomes	6a	Completely defined prespecified primary and secondary outcome measures, including how and when they were assessed
	6b	Any changes to trial outcomes after the trial commenced, with reasons

Insert text:

Sample size	7a	How sample size was determined
	7b	When applicable, explanation of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines

Randomisation:

Sequence generation	8a	Method used to generate the random allocation sequence
	8b	Type of randomisation; details of any restriction (such as blocking and block size)
Allocation concealment mechanism	9	Mechanism used to implement the random allocation sequence (such as sequentially numbered containers), describing any steps taken to conceal the sequence until interventions were assigned

Implementation	10	Who generated the random allocation sequence, who enrolled participants and who assigned participants to interventions
----------------	----	--

Insert text:

(Continued)

Blinding	11a	If done, who was blinded after assignment to interventions (for example, participants, care providers, those assessing outcomes) and how
	11b	If relevant, description of the similarity of interventions
Statistical methods	12a	Statistical methods used to compare groups for primary and secondary outcomes
	12b	Methods for additional analyses, such as subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses

Insert text:

Results

Participant flow (a diagram is strongly recommended)	13a	For each group, the numbers of participants who were randomly assigned, received intended treatment and were analysed for the primary outcome
	13b	For each group, losses and exclusions after randomisation, together with reasons
Recruitment	14a	Dates defining the periods of recruitment and follow-up
	14b	Why the trial ended or was stopped

Insert text:

Baseline data	15	A table showing baseline demographic and clinical characteristics for each group
Numbers analysed	16	For each group, number of participants (denominator) included in each analysis and whether the analysis was by original assigned groups

Insert text:

Outcomes and estimation	17a	For each primary and secondary outcome, results for each group and the estimated effect size and its precision (such as 95% confidence interval)
	17b	For binary outcomes, presentation of both absolute and relative effect sizes is recommended

Insert text:

Ancillary analyses	18	Results of any other analyses performed, including subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses, distinguishing prespecified from exploratory
--------------------	----	--

Insert text:

Harms	19	All important harms or unintended effects in each group
-------	----	---

(Continued)

(for specific guidance see CONSORT for harms)

Insert text:

Other information

Registration	23	Registration number and name of trial registry
Protocol	24	Where the full trial protocol can be accessed, if available
Funding	25	Sources of funding and other support (such as supply of drugs), role of funders

Insert text:

First author

Date of completion

Conflicts of interest

Second author check

Date of check

Conflicts of interest

Appendix 8. Stage 1 of the 2012 A159 review

Two review authors assessed each study (with studies allocated randomly to three pairs of review authors). The lists of included studies (33 for oseltamivir, 30 for zanamivir, six for peramivir) were randomly created by the program Edgar II (Brown 2011). Every study was openly allocated to each group according to its number.

We initially included six peramivir trials in the randomisation/allocation sequence but subsequently decided not to proceed further, as we were informed by the manufacturers that no clinical study reports would be available until after registration with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (correspondence with Bill Sheridan, 20 August 2010). One review author (TJ) was assigned to the attempted reconstruction of clinical study reports from the FDA documents.

Two weeks before 'time lock' (see Glossary in Appendix 1) we received the first batch of clinical study reports from the EMA (formerly EMEA), containing an additional four clinical study reports (including one complete four-module clinical study report) of studies we wanted to include. This time random allocation was achieved by writing trial IDs on one set of tickets and asking an external researcher to allocate them to groups, the names of which had been written on another set of tickets.

Authors in pairs separately extracted data from the same clinical study reports of studies included in Stage 1 of the review. When we had more than one copy of the same clinical study reports from different sources (for example, clinical study reports submitted to a regulatory body and clinical study reports from a pharmaceutical company), we independently extracted data from each of the copies and then compared the results. We aimed to record and tabulate disagreements between data extracted from the same source and between different sources. We extracted data using a modified CONSORT statement-based extraction template (Appendix 7).

The modified CONSORT-based extraction template aimed to assemble a concise version of the clinical study reports, which would include all important methods as well as define and extract all relevant outcomes. The CONSORT-based extraction template includes the features that would be expected to be found in a published trial report but in far greater detail. Our reconstructions do not include introduction or discussion sections. We extracted the following for each trial.

1. Background and objectives.
2. Methods: including trial design, important changes to methods after trial commencement (such as eligibility criteria), with reasons.
3. Participants: including eligibility criteria for participants and settings and locations where the data were collected.
4. Interventions: the interventions for each group with sufficient details to allow replication, including how and when they were actually administered.
5. Outcomes: prespecified primary and secondary outcome measures, including how and when they were assessed and changes to trial outcomes after the trial commenced, with reasons.
6. Sample size: how it was determined and explanation of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines.
7. Randomisation: including sequence generation and method used to generate the random allocation sequence.
8. Blinding: who was blinded after assignment to treatment groups.
9. Statistical methods: methods used to compare groups for primary and secondary outcomes and methods for additional analyses, such as subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses.
10. Results: participant flow, numbers of participants randomly assigned, losses and exclusions after randomisation, together with reasons. Baseline demographic and clinical characteristics for each group.
11. Outcomes: primary and secondary outcome results for each group.
12. Ancillary analyses: results of any other analyses performed, including subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses, distinguishing prespecified from exploratory.
13. Harms: all important harms or unintended effects in each group.

One review author completed the CONSORT-based extraction on the template in full ([Appendix 7](#)), with the name and date of completion and a statement of conflict of interests. A second review author checked the extraction. We extracted data, text, tables and figures directly from the relevant sections of the clinical study reports into the appropriate section of the template. We did not change the text in any way apart from clarifying abbreviations or spellings, but we highlighted some text. We used three types of text highlighting in the document.

Yellow: where text, figures or tables need to be checked with further information (for example, if an adverse event is referred to in appendices or a further clinical study reports Module).

Red: where text or comments were inserted by one or both review authors but required an additional opinion due to concerns that there is the potential for discrepancies in the clinical study reports.

Green: any text or tables added by us to the template (for example, a reconstructed table of adverse events).

Two review authors (CH, MT) independently piloted the reconstruction method on oseltamivir trial [WV15671](#) with data from Module 1 of the clinical study report from Roche and data submitted to the UK National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). We discussed the pilot reconstruction amongst the whole review team for clarification. At a face-to-face meeting we discussed the reliability and completeness of each reconstructed trial in the light of comments and other information from regulatory sources with a view to inclusion of the trial in Stage 2. We resolved all differences in opinion by consensus. We reached decisions on whether a trial moved to Stage 2 by consensus. We planned to record dissent when consensus was not possible.

Appendix 9. Applying inclusion criteria for the A159 2012 review

For the 2012 A159 review two review authors (CDM, MT) independently scanned the titles and abstracts identified from the searches of the published literature. None of the identified items were published versions of trials unknown to us. Four review authors (TJ, CH, MJ, RH) independently read all data relating to the studies on the list constructed during our search and selected studies that seemingly fulfilled our inclusion criteria. One review author (PD) compiled the assessments into a single sheet for another review author (CDM). One review author (CDM) resolved disagreements by discussion.

We assigned three categories to identified trials from our complete list:

1. definitely included;
2. definitely excluded; and
3. trials for which we needed further information.

We excluded studies definitely not meeting inclusion criteria on the basis of available information (e.g. the title described the trial as a pharmacokinetic study). Where appropriate we requested further information from the trials' sponsor, usually copies of the clinical study reports (minus participant identification) for each trial that was definitely included or for which we needed further information. We did not contact first/corresponding authors of published versions of the trials on the basis of our experience with the 2009 A047 review.

Appendix 10. Post-protocol hypotheses - methods and results

This text is carried over from the 2012 version of this review and is provided for record completeness

Methods

The hypotheses (expressed as null hypotheses) are listed below, in order of their generation (not necessarily of importance). Their rationale is explained further down the text.

Hypothesis 1. Incidence of certain harms is not associated with placebo content.

Hypothesis 2. Oseltamivir (or zanamivir) does not affect antibody production in treatment trials.

Hypothesis 3. Oseltamivir does not affect antibody production in post-exposure (or secondary prophylaxis) trials.

Hypothesis 4. The number of trial centres and centre withdrawals does not affect the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection (originally the outcome was effect size).

Hypothesis 5. In oseltamivir treatment trials there is no association between the order of randomisations and naso-pharyngeal swabbing (i.e. randomising participants first and then swabbing or swabbing first and then randomising) and the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection.

Hypothesis 1. Incidence of certain harms is not associated with placebo content.

Rationale. While reviewing the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) critique of zanamivir, we noted the regulators' concern over the apparent drop in forced expiratory volume (FEV) following zanamivir inhalation (FDA 1999a), which appeared to be enhanced by the lactose powder excipient content of the active blister (FDA 1999b). The powder, which causes bronchospasm in susceptible individuals, was contained in both the active and the placebo blisters. This principle of using a matching placebo is of course correct but may have had the effect of increasing the incidence of bronchospasm (or asthma-related episodes) in both arms. This is clearly reported as a warning in the 1999 FDA label "Because the placebo consisted of inhaled lactose powder, which is also the vehicle for the active drug, some adverse events occurring at similar frequencies in different treatment groups could be related to lactose vehicle inhalation" (FDA 2000b p.10).

We reasoned by analogy and reviewed the medication content of the available clinical study reports of oseltamivir trials. The detailed information comparing content and physical characteristics and batch numbers is in Table 17. Roche's use of the word 'matching' is not strictly correct as two principles present in the placebo capsules (dehydrocholic acid and dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate) are not listed as being present in the active oseltamivir capsules. We could not locate the reason for such a choice in the clinical study reports but both substances may have gastrointestinal action if consumed in large enough quantities.

On this basis we formulated two hypotheses:

1a. There is no association between incidence of gastrointestinal harms and a placebo containing dehydrocholic acid in oseltamivir trials.

1b. There is no association between incidence of asthma-related events and a placebo containing lactose powder in zanamivir trials.

To test hypothesis 1a we assessed the oseltamivir trials for which we had clinical study reports Module 1 (M76001; WV15670; WV15671; WV15707; WV15812/WV15872; WV15730; WV15819/WV15876/WV15978; WV15758; WV15799) for gastrointestinal tract (GIT) harms including nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea as well as participants withdrawing from the studies due to adverse events. We meta-analysed the results from these studies using the inverse variance random-effects method. We assessed heterogeneity using the Chi² test and used Tau² to estimate between-study variance. To investigate whether placebo containing dehydrocholic acid may be associated with gastrointestinal harms we compared adverse event rates in placebo groups from the oseltamivir trials (where placebo contained dehydrocholic acid) with adverse event rates in the placebo groups from the zanamivir trials (where placebo did not contain dehydrocholic acid). This comparison was done informally using 1) data obtained from the FDA labels of oseltamivir and zanamivir (FDA 2000b; FDA 2011a) as well as 2) the trials for which we have clinical study reports. As a sensitivity analysis we assumed a similar gastrointestinal adverse event rate in the placebo groups of the oseltamivir trials as was observed in the placebo groups of the zanamivir trials and then repeated the meta-analysis (as described above). We also speculated that withdrawals in the placebo groups due to gastrointestinal adverse events were possibly related to dehydrocholic acid and removed these for the sensitivity analysis.

For hypothesis 1b we assessed asthma-related events in nine zanamivir trials for which we had clinical study reports (NAIA3002; NAIB3002; NAIA2005; NAIB2005; NAIB2007; NAIB3001; NAIA3005; NAI30010; NAI30009). We meta-analysed the results from these studies using the inverse variance random-effects method. We assessed heterogeneity using the Chi² test and used Tau² to estimate between-study variance. To investigate whether placebo containing lactose powder may be associated with asthma-related events we informally compared event rates in placebo groups from the zanamivir trials (where placebo contained lactose powder) with event rates in the placebo groups from the oseltamivir trials (where placebo did not contain lactose powder). As a sensitivity analysis we assumed a similar asthma-related event rate in the placebo groups of the zanamivir trials as was observed in the placebo groups of the oseltamivir trials and then repeated the meta-analysis (as described above).

Hypothesis 2. Oseltamivir (or zanamivir) does not affect antibody production in treatment trials.

Rationale. All oseltamivir influenza treatment trials specify the primary efficacy analysis population as the influenza-infected population, not the randomised intention-to-treat (ITT) base population. The influenza-infected population (known as ITTI, or intention-to-treat-infected in clinical study reports) is determined post-randomisation based on the results of laboratory testing by culture and/or antibody rise (comparing paired sera from the same participant). The sample for culture and the first sample of sera are taken before commencement of trial product but the second or the third sera are taken after patients are treated with trial medication. It is vital that placebo and active groups of patients have the same odds of being classified as influenza-infected, otherwise any comparison between influenza-infected groups will be potentially affected by bias and will essentially be a non-randomised comparison. If trial medication affects the production of antibodies, the selection of the influenza-infected population (which is partly based on antibody production) is confounded by taking the trial medication.

Roche have stated on multiple occasions ([Smith 2006](#); [Ward 2005](#); section 3.2.4.2 Serology [WV15799](#)) that ingestion of oseltamivir does not affect antibody production and the FDA supports this, stating that "In studies of naturally acquired and experimental influenza, treatment with TAMIFLU did not impair normal humoral antibody response to infection" ([FDA 2011a](#)).

However, we noticed unequal numbers of individuals in the influenza-infected population subgroup in numerous trials. In addition, Takahashi et al reported that oseltamivir significantly suppressed respiratory mucosal secretory immunoglobulin (Ig) A responses to antigen (Ag)-specific antibody (Ab) production and also the induction of Ag-specific IgA Ab-forming cells in an animal experiment ([Takahashi 2010](#)). If taking oseltamivir affects the production of IgG antibody as well, it may affect the selection of the influenza-infected population.

We are also unsure of the implication for immunisation with influenza vaccine. According to the FDA, no influenza vaccine interaction study has been conducted with oseltamivir ([FDA 2011a](#)).

To test the hypothesis we compared: (1) the odds of participants in the ITT population subsequently classified as influenza-infected; and (2) the odds of participants in the ITT population with a four-fold or more rise of antibody between the placebo and active arms of the trials. If ingestion of oseltamivir does not affect antibody production then we expect the odds of being classified as influenza-infected to be the same for the placebo and active arms. Therefore, we tested a null hypothesis that the odds of having a four-fold or more rise of antibody was the same for the placebo and active arms. We meta-analysed the results from these studies using the inverse variance random-effects method. We assessed heterogeneity using the Chi² test and used Tau² to estimate between-study variance. The trials included in this analysis were the 10 oseltamivir treatment trials analysed by [Kaiser 2003](#) plus [WV15758](#) for oseltamivir and [NAIA3002](#), [NAIB3002](#), [NAIA2005](#), [NAIB2005](#), [NAIB2007](#), [NAIB3001](#), [NAI30009](#) for zanamivir. These are all the treatment trials for which we have clinical study reports Module 1. In an additional analysis we also assessed the oseltamivir trial conducted in China by Shanghai Roche Pharmaceutical Ltd for which we have a partial clinical study report ([ML16369](#)).

Hypothesis 3. Oseltamivir does not affect antibody production in post-exposure (or secondary prophylaxis) trials.

Rationale. According to the clinical study report of [WV15799](#), the trial programme assessing the effects of oseltamivir in post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) consisted of two trials: [WV15799](#) and [WV16139](#). The Module 1s of both trials together with copious FDA notes on trial [WV15799](#) were available to us at 'time lock'. However the PEP trial [WV16139](#) was not standard care or placebo-controlled and so we excluded it from the review.

[WV15799](#) was a double-blind, cluster-randomised trial in which contact clusters of index cases were randomised to oseltamivir 75 mg a day or placebo for seven days. The trial formed an integral part of the "pivotal" trials package for the supplementary application and review for prophylaxis use of oseltamivir 75 mg in people aged more than 13 years of age, submitted to the FDA on 22 May 2000, approved on 20 November 2000 ([FDA 2000c](#)). In the clinical study report Module 1 the manufacturer claimed that the trial provided evidence of the drug's capacity to prevent influenza in contacts by interrupting its transmission from index cases. Since all index cases were left untreated except for a paracetamol rescue pack, it is hard to see how such a claim can be made. The interruption of transmission claim has two components: reduction of viral spread from index cases (measured by nasal shedding of influenza viruses) and prevention of onset of influenza in contacts. This latter claim was based on the definition of (prevented) influenza cases: a mixture of symptoms signs and 'laboratory confirmation' (i.e. viral culture from the upper airways and/or at least a four-fold rise in antibody titres measured between baseline and two to three weeks later). The results of the trial later formed the basis for claims of the drug's effectiveness in interrupting transmission from person to person ([WHO 2007](#)) and allow time before the arrival of vaccines in the event of a pandemic. The interruption of transmission claim provided a powerful rationale for stockpiling oseltamivir (see for example vol 8, p.61-62 [NICE 2000](#): "Ro 64-0796 successfully interrupts the transmission of influenza within households ... and suggests that Ro 64-0796 [oseltamivir] would control the spread of influenza in other closed communities associated with high risk of transmission, such as nursing homes" ... "Ro 64-0796 also effectively interrupted virus transmission within households.")

The interruption of transmission indication was accepted by agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), but the US FDA refused to register and allow publicity based on any further indication beyond treatment and prophylactic effects on symptoms ([FDA 2000f](#)). Review of the evidence from the study protocol and Module 1 together with the FDA criticism explains the rationale for the FDA not supporting the manufacturers' claims. The design of the trial did not allow for comparison of the effects of treating index cases with oseltamivir versus placebo (as all index cases were not medicated) and a repeat viral culture was not performed for all participants. Viral culture was performed at baseline for all participants and thereafter only in participants with influenza-like illness symptoms (see Schedule of assessment for the contact case, [WV15799](#), and the FDA Medical Officer report ([FDA 1999c](#))). Any participants presenting at follow-up with symptoms of influenza had throat and nasal swabs taken in order to confirm the presence or absence of influenza infection ([FDA 2000c](#)), thereby missing out on potential asymptomatic infected people. However, a recent review of transmission studies has found no convincing evidence of spread from pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic subjects ([Patrozou 2009](#)), which might explain the FDA's caution in sanctioning any such claim for oseltamivir.

Our review of the clinical study report's Module 1 identified further problems with the conduct and reporting of the trial and discrepancies both within the clinical study reports and between the study and its protocol. In the protocol (version H) there is no mention of viral shedding measurement. This appears to be a post-protocol addition, which would explain the unsystematic nature of the viral excretion measurement remarked on by the FDA (i.e. taken from symptomatic contacts only). The primary population of analysis is the so called ITTIINAB population (contacts of ITT influenza-infected index cases who had negative virology at baseline). Although defined in the

protocol, the selection and presentation of results for the intention-to-treat contacts of the influenza-infected index case not infected at baseline (ITTIINAB) population has the effect of excluding 57% of the placebo (200/456) and 59% of the oseltamivir (205/497) participants. The effect of selection on the clustering was not formally tested in a sensitivity analysis. Nor is the potential weakness of such a choice discussed in the [WV15799](#) clinical study report. We carried out an analysis using Fisher's exact test, which showed that there was no statistical evidence that the placebo and oseltamivir groups' cluster sizes were distributed differently based on households with an infected index case ($P = 0.56$) (Table 2). By analysing the population by influenza status of the index case, instead of unit of randomisations (all index cases), the beneficial effects of the cluster-randomisations are potentially lost, introducing unknown biases into the analysis. In addition, the generalisability of the conclusions may not be easily applied to clinical practice where testing of suspected influenza cases is often not practical. Cross-checking the definition of ITTIINAB with that reported in the protocol of the other PEP trial, [WV16193](#) (excluded from this review) yields a different definition (PDF page 589) "The primary outcome in this study ([WV15799](#)) was the incidence of influenza occurring among contacts of influenza-infected index cases (the intent-to-treat-index-infected population)".

Throughout the clinical study report of trial [WV15799](#) there are many other apparently contradictory statements on important aspects of the trial, for example, on how many viral swabs and paired sera tests were carried out. The text at page 50 of the Module 1 reports that "For 21 of the 26 contacts with laboratory-confirmed clinical influenza in the ITTIINAB population the diagnosis was confirmed by culture" but Table 19 shows the 26 contacts as shedding virus at days two to eight. The same table reports that 178 placebo contacts and 201 oseltamivir contacts were negative for virology (which suggests that they were tested) at days two and eight. However, viral testing only took place at baseline and thereafter only in symptomatic participants. The number of contacts in which influenza was diagnosed only by serology is unclear but it appears to be five (26 minus 21). These inconsistencies highlight one of the fundamental conceptual problems in understanding the whole oseltamivir prophylaxis trial programme: the mode of action of the drug. Our interpretation of the text suggests that oseltamivir does not prevent infection and does not affect influenza antibody response. As stated above, the claim that oseltamivir does not affect antibody responses has been made by the manufacturers. However, an antibody response is part of the definition of influenza. We are unsure how it is possible that oseltamivir could prevent influenza by stopping symptoms appearing and antibodies rising while at the same time leaving antibody production unaffected.

It is for this reason that we decided to test whether administration of oseltamivir for PEP affected the production of antibodies to influenza viruses. The distribution of change in antibodies from baseline to follow-up was compared between the arms of the trials for contacts of the index cases. Analysis was performed using Wilcoxon two-sample test separately for each type of antibody in each trial. An additional analysis of proportion of contacts having a four-fold or greater rise in influenza-specific antibody titre in antibodies was compared between groups using the Chi² test. Antibody data were not available for index cases, who were left untreated. In [WV15799](#), antibody testing may have been undertaken at day 1, day 8 and at day 21 ± 4 days for all contacts. Day 8 blood samples for influenza antibody analysis were stored to measure influenza antibody levels only in those contacts who did not attend the follow-up visit (day 17 to 25). Analysis was based on data from the ITTIINAB population at pages 59-60 and Appendix 60 of the clinical study report's Module 1.

Hypothesis 4. The number of trial centres and centre withdrawals does not affect the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection (originally the outcome was effect size) and **Hypothesis 5.** In oseltamivir treatment trials there is no association between the order of randomisations and naso-pharyngeal swabbing (i.e. randomising participants first and then swabbing or swabbing first and then randomising) and the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection (originally the outcome was effect size).

Rationale. The proportion of ITT population in the treatment trials of NIs that are subsequently diagnosed as infected with influenza is higher (~ 50% to 80%) than is usually seen in the course of the winter season in routine clinical care, although high peaks can occur for a very limited period. We know that in some treatment trials, such as [WV15670](#) and [WV15671](#), centres were activated to "recruit subjects during an influenza outbreak in the locality, detected using standardised surveillance techniques." We postulated that unreported procedures may also have been used in the trials to obtain these high proportions of influenza to ILI cases. Two procedures that may have been used are: 1) use of rapid influenza tests to screen out patients based on negative results; 2) dropping of centres that recruited low proportions of infected patients. The use of rapid testing of patients prior to randomisation has been reported in at least one of the zanamivir treatment trials ([NAIB3001](#)), in oseltamivir trial [WV15670](#) as a means of excluding infection with H5N1 in the Hong Kong Centre, as a pilot surveillance in suburban London during the 1998 to 1999 winter ([NICE 2000](#) vol.1) and in most oseltamivir paediatric trials to exclude respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection. In addition, the schedule of testing varies by trial for the oseltamivir trials with swabbing performed either before randomisation or after randomisation. In at least one oseltamivir treatment trial ([WV15730](#)) it was reported that no viral culture was performed at centres from South America ([FDA 1999c](#)). As a result of these observations we reformulated **Hypothesis 4** as follows: the number of centres and centre withdrawals does not affect the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection (originally the outcome was primary outcome effect size) in oseltamivir treatment trials and **Hypothesis 5** as in oseltamivir treatment trials there is no association between the order of randomisations and naso-pharyngeal swabbing (i.e. randomising participants first and then swabbing or swabbing first and then randomising) and the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection.

To test **hypothesis 4**, we used Spearman's rank method to estimate the correlation between average number of patients recruited per centre and the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection. The placebo patients were used for the proportion of patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection because, as we show later in the review, there is evidence that oseltamivir interferes with antibody production and antibody response was used to diagnose influenza infection. We did not analyse the

number of centres dropped from studies because information on this variable was not available in Module 1s of the clinical study reports for the included trials (information on patients recruited to each centre is reported in Module 2 which we do not currently have access to).

Hypothesis 5 was generated to attempt to explain the seemingly high proportion of influenza-infected influenza-like illness cases in treatment trials. However, we did not formally test this hypothesis as there was only one clinical study report reporting randomisation first then swabbing second ([WV15819/WV15876/WV15978](#)) (see also [Appendix 10](#)).

Results

The results of our post-protocol analyses are also reported in Figure and/or Table format.

Hypothesis 1a tested in a sensitivity analysis whether the incidence of gastrointestinal harms may be associated with exposure of participants to a placebo containing dehydrocholic acid. The data obtained from the oseltamivir trials clinical study reports is shown in Table 15.

Overall, the crude adverse event incidence in the placebo groups of the oseltamivir trials was 5.5% for nausea, 3.6% for vomiting and 7.0% for diarrhoea. This compares with crude incidence in the nine zanamivir treatment trials' placebo groups of 4.1% for nausea and vomiting (reported as a combined outcome in the clinical study reports) and 2.8% for diarrhoea. Two studies ([WV15670](#); [WV15671](#)) compared three treatment groups: oseltamivir 150 mg bid, oseltamivir 75 mg bid and placebo. To maintain the blinding in these trials, each participant took two pills twice daily. Therefore the participants in the oseltamivir 75 mg bid group took one placebo tablet twice daily. We note that in trial [WV15671](#) there was evidence of a dose-response effect of placebo on incidence of diarrhoea: oseltamivir 150 mg bid (5.9%), oseltamivir 75 mg bid (8.7%) and placebo (11.8%) ($P = 0.036$). However, there was no evidence found of a similar trend in trial [WV15670](#) ($P = 0.88$). We were unable to carry out a similar analysis for paediatric treatment trial [WV15758](#) because a detailed content of the placebo preparations is not available (see [Table 17](#)).

Random-effects meta-analysis of the data in Table 15 provided the following results.

Nausea: increased odds of adverse events due to oseltamivir (OR 1.62, 95% CI 1.17 to 2.26, $P = 0.004$).

Vomiting: increased odds of adverse events due to oseltamivir (OR 2.32, 95% CI 1.62 to 3.31, $P < 0.001$).

Diarrhoea: decreased odds of adverse events due to oseltamivir (OR 0.72, 95% CI 0.53 to 0.97, $P = 0.03$).

Withdrawal from treatment due to adverse events: no evidence of a difference between treatment groups (OR 1.08, 95% CI 0.66 to 1.76, $P = 0.75$).

We carried out a sensitivity analysis by assuming placebo rates of gastrointestinal adverse events in oseltamivir trials based on those observed in placebo groups of similar zanamivir trials. Overall rates of nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea in placebo groups of zanamivir treatment trials for adults and adolescents were 3%, 2% and 4% compared to oseltamivir treatment trials for adults and adolescents where rates were 6%, 3% and 10% respectively based on FDA-reported data ([FDA 2000b](#); [FDA 2011a](#)). Conversely, other common adverse events such as headaches, cough and dizziness had similar incidences of 2% to 3% in the placebo groups of zanamivir and oseltamivir treatment trials ([FDA 2000b](#); [FDA 2011a](#)). In the treatment trials of children the rates of nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea in placebo groups of zanamivir treatment trials were 2%, 3% and 2% compared to oseltamivir treatment trials of children where rates were 4%, 9% and 11% respectively. Our conservative estimate is that the oseltamivir placebo increased rates of nausea two-fold (risk ratio (RR) = 2), vomiting (RR 1.5) and diarrhoea (RR 2.5) compared to the placebo arms in zanamivir trials. Based on the adult and adolescent trials we could conservatively speculate that the substances in the oseltamivir trials placebo increase nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea by 100% (6%/3%), 50% (3%/2%) and 150% (10%/4%) respectively. This could also be considered a conservative assumption because it is plausible that the lactose powder used as the placebo in the zanamivir trials also induced gastrointestinal symptoms, especially in patients that were lactose intolerant. Adjusting the actual rates of these events in the oseltamivir trials placebo groups to be consistent with the zanamivir trials placebo group rates (as reported by the FDA ([FDA 2000b](#); [FDA 2011a](#))) and re-running the random-effects meta-analysis we obtained the following results.

Nausea: increased odds of adverse events due to oseltamivir (OR 3.33, 95% CI 2.44 to 4.54, $P < 0.001$; test for heterogeneity $P = 0.33$).

Vomiting: increased odds of adverse events due to oseltamivir (OR 3.46, 95% CI 2.51 to 4.78, $P < 0.001$; test for heterogeneity $P = 0.37$).

Diarrhoea: increased odds of adverse events due to oseltamivir (OR 1.86, 95% CI 1.39 to 2.50, $P < 0.001$; test for heterogeneity $P = 0.50$).

The estimated effect sizes for nausea and vomiting have increased based on the sensitivity analysis. The effect on diarrhoea has reversed, indicating oseltamivir is possibly associated with increased odds of this adverse event. The results of our analysis support an alternative interpretation to that of the FDA.

Finally, we carried out a sensitivity analysis of withdrawal from treatment due to adverse events by assuming no withdrawals due to gastrointestinal events in the placebo group. In total there were nine patients in the oseltamivir trials' placebo groups that withdrew due to gastrointestinal events. When these withdrawals are not included the following result is obtained based on random-effects meta-analysis:

Withdrawal from treatment due to adverse events: no evidence of a difference between treatment groups (OR 1.48, 95% CI 0.87 to 2.51, $P = 0.15$; test for heterogeneity $P = 0.40$).

We conclude that participants in placebo arms of oseltamivir treatment trials experience a higher rate of gastrointestinal adverse events compared to their zanamivir counterparts. As the zanamivir trials' inclusion criteria were similar to the oseltamivir trials (fever and two additional symptoms of influenza-like illness (ILI)) this observation cannot plausibly be explained by an incremental role of influenza infection in the genesis of such heterogeneity. It is possible that the difference in reported gastrointestinal adverse events in the placebo groups of zanamivir and oseltamivir trials is due to differences in the collection of these events. However, other common adverse events such as headaches, cough and dizziness had very similar rates in the placebo groups of zanamivir and oseltamivir trials. Despite the results of this sensitivity analysis it is impossible without a clear statement of dosage and rationale of use to assess the role of dehydrocholic acid and possibly calcium phosphate in the causation of such a high incidence of gastrointestinal adverse events.

For **hypothesis 1b** the data obtained from the zanamivir treatment trials clinical study reports are shown in Table 16.

Over all the nine zanamivir trials the incidence of asthma (including asthma exacerbation) in the placebo groups was 2.1% compared to 0.9% in the placebo groups of the oseltamivir trials. Random-effects meta-analysis of the data in Table 16 provided the following results for the combined outcome of any asthma event:

Asthma: decreased odds of adverse events due to zanamivir (OR 0.54, 95% CI 0.34 to 0.86, $P = 0.01$).

We carried out a sensitivity analysis by assuming placebo rates of asthma-related adverse events in zanamivir trials based on those observed in similar oseltamivir trials. If we assume a rate of asthma events in the placebo groups of the nine zanamivir trials similar to that observed in the oseltamivir trials we obtain the following result based on random-effects meta-analysis:

Asthma: no evidence of a difference between treatment groups (OR 1.27, 95% CI 0.71 to 2.26, $P = 0.42$; test for heterogeneity $P = 0.68$).

We conclude that zanamivir trial placebo recipients appear to have a higher incidence of asthma-related events than their oseltamivir counterparts. Again, as the inclusion criteria were similar for both trial programmes this finding is not likely to be due to severity of influenza infections but associated with exposure to lactose powder and possibly to the active principle. This is a point remarked on by the FDA.

For **hypothesis 2** (oseltamivir (or zanamivir) does not affect antibody production in treatment trials) the relevant trials showed strong and consistent evidence that patients randomised to active treatment had reduced odds of being classified as influenza-infected (OR 0.83, 95% CI 0.73 to 0.94, $P = 0.003$) with no evidence of heterogeneity (heterogeneity Chi^2 test = 2.80 (df = 7) $P = 0.90$; estimate of between-study variance $\text{Tau}^2 = 0.00$) (see Table 17). There was also strong evidence that patients randomised to active treatment had reduced odds of having four-fold or higher rise in antibody titres (OR 0.79, 95% CI 0.70 to 0.90, $P < 0.001$) with no evidence of heterogeneity (heterogeneity Chi^2 test = 4.61 (df = 7) $P = 0.71$; estimate of between-study variance $\text{Tau}^2 = 0.00$) (see Table 17).

In contrast, the zanamivir trials showed no evidence that patients randomised to active treatment had reduced odds of being classified as influenza-infected (OR 1.05, 95% CI 0.90 to 1.24, $P = 0.52$) with no evidence of heterogeneity (heterogeneity Chi^2 test = 3.03 (df = 6) $P = 0.81$; estimate of between-study variance $\text{Tau}^2 = 0.00$) (see Table 18).

These results have important implications for the oseltamivir treatment trials programme and for all ongoing trials. All influenza-infected populations are selected post-randomisation and post-trial termination on the basis of laboratory findings (all ITT participants being symptomatic at entry, with aetiology unknown). However, as oseltamivir appears to affect antibody production (or perhaps testing, or both), there may be some participants in the oseltamivir group who were infected with influenza but not diagnosed by the antibody rise and were therefore not counted in the influenza-infected population. These may have subsequently been excluded from the efficacy analysis. It is also possible that the strength of the antibody production limit to qualify for an influenza infection-induced antibody rise (four-fold and above from baseline) had the effect of selecting the 'stronger' responders into the influenza-infected subgroup of the oseltamivir arm. This would mean that the best antibody producers were selected and this may have led to inflated treatment estimates of efficacy in influenza-infected populations.

To investigate this possibility we calculated the correlation between the odds of being classified as infected in the oseltamivir group compared to the placebo group and the size of the primary treatment effect (time to alleviation of symptoms in the ITTI population). In treatment trials all participants are recruited on the basis of symptoms of influenza-like illness. According to the mechanism of action proposed by the manufacturer, infected participants given oseltamivir up to 48 hours from symptom onset should have an antibody response which, given the effects of randomisation, should be similar to that of placebo recipients. Non-responders or weak responders should be spread evenly across the trial arms. All treatment trials of oseltamivir showing evidence of a treatment effect on the primary outcome of the study were included in the analysis. This included two trials for which we did not have clinical full study reports ([ML16369](#); [JV15823](#)). We included these trials to increase variation in the two variables used for the analysis. In addition, two trials were excluded: [WV15707](#) which had a total ITTI sample size of 12 participants; and [WV15812/WV15872](#), which was a treatment trial in chronically ill adults that showed no evidence of a treatment effect. Results showed strong evidence of a correlation (Spearman rank correlation = -0.83, $P = 0.01$) (Table 19). The correlation was highly negative, indicating that lower odds of being classified as ITTI in the oseltamivir group compared to the placebo group is associated with larger treatment effects for the primary outcome of the studies. In contrast, there was no evidence of a correlation between the odds of being classified as infected in the oseltamivir group compared to the placebo group (Table 19) and the size of the treatment effect in the ITT population (Spearman rank correlation = -0.23, $P = 0.66$). A limitation of this analysis is that data for the ITT population for two trials were not available ([WV15730](#); [JV15823](#)) (Table 19).

Thus, all influenza-infected comparisons are potentially confounded by the action of the drug (oseltamivir but probably not zanamivir) and are essentially non-randomised comparisons. Any analyses should be based on ITT populations in oseltamivir treatment trials. Analyses and data considered for inclusion in systematic reviews should be based on the ITT (or safety) populations only.

Our analysis of **Hypothesis 3** shows that the odds of having a four-fold rise in antibodies is 0.33 (95% CI 0.16 to 0.67) for the oseltamivir group compared to placebo (hence a much bigger effect compared to the treatment trials). Due to insufficient information provided in the clinical study report we were unable to take account of the clustering in this analysis, hence the confidence intervals are possibly underestimated; however an analysis that takes into account clustering is unlikely to change the conclusions. These results show that oseltamivir prophylaxis is associated with lower odds of a four-fold rise in antibodies and this appears to be due to a difference in the distribution of antibody rise in HIAAH3 antibodies but not HIAAH1 or HIB antibodies (see [Table 16](#), [Table 21](#), [Table 22](#) and [Table 23](#)). In summary no conclusions can be drawn from the available evidence on the effects of the drug on viral transmission. The mode of action in prophylaxis appears mainly to be ascribed to symptom suppression or control. There is uncertainty around other possible effects of the drug especially given its interaction with the production of antibodies.

We rejected **Hypothesis 4** and are currently unable to test **Hypothesis 5**

We rejected **Hypothesis 4** as there was no evidence of correlation between average recruited subjects per centre and the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection (Spearman correlation = 0.26; P = 0.53). [Table 24](#) shows that the average recruited participants per centre ranged from 2 to 11 which appears very low for international, multicentre trials. Two studies failed to reach their recruitment target ([WV15707](#) and [WV15730](#)) and two clinical study reports were made up of multiple trials due to the original trial's poor recruitment ([WV15819/WV15876/WV15978](#) and [WV15812/WV15872](#)) ([Table 24](#)). In addition the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection ranged from 63% to 75%, implying little between-trial variation.

We are currently unable to test **Hypothesis 5** as only one oseltamivir clinical study report (of three trials) reported randomisation first then swabbing second ([WV15819/WV15876/WV15978](#)). In this study the proportion of placebo patients that were confirmed as influenza-infected was 68.1%. This compares with the other seven clinical study reports where swabbing was carried out first and randomisation second and the proportion of placebo patients that were confirmed as influenza-infected ranged from 63.2% to 74.9% with mean 68.1%. Hence it seems that swabbing after randomisation made no difference in the treatment trial programme where this practice is reported. However, with only one clinical treatment study report randomising prior to swabbing available to us, the power to detect a difference in the proportion of placebo patients subsequently diagnosed with influenza infection is low. We hope to be able to retest this hypothesis as more data become available.

Appendix 11. Example of contents of a Clinical Study Report (from page 1 of [WV15670](#) report)

Final study report modules

This report consists of five modules. Those not supplied in this submission were obtainable from the sponsor on request.

MODULE I: CORE REPORT AND STUDY PUBLICATIONS

- Introduction
- Rationale
- Objectives
- Methodology
- Efficacy results
- Safety results
- Discussion/conclusions
- Appendices

MODULE II: PRESTUDY DOCUMENTS AND STUDY METHODOLOGY

- Protocol and amendment history
- Blank CRF
- Subject information sheet
- Glossary of original and preferred terms
- Randomisation list
- Reporting analysis plan (RAP)
- Certificates of analysis
- List of investigators
- List of responsible ethics committees

MODULE III: INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT LISTINGS OF DEMOGRAPHIC AND EFFICACY DATA

- Demographic data listings
- Previous and concomitant diseases
- Previous and concomitant medications

Efficacy listings

MODULE IV: INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT LISTINGS OF SAFETY DATA

Laboratory parameters
Vital signs data

MODULE V: STATISTICAL REPORT**FEEDBACK****From Michael Power, Sowerby Centre for Health Informatics at Newcastle, 15 December 2010****Summary**

From: Michael Power <michael.power@schin.co.uk>

Date: 15 December 2010 18:51

Subject: Neuraminidase inhibitors for influenza - HTA project

To: "cdelmar@bond.edu.au" <cdelmar@bond.edu.au>, "jefferson.tom@gmail.com" <jefferson.tom@gmail.com>, Carl Heneghan <carl.heneghan@dphpc.ox.ac.uk>

Hi

I picked up Carl's Twitter request for comments on your draft protocol "Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children - a review of unpublished data". So, here are my two comments on the content.

The title confused me: I expected it to be a review of unpublished trials to complement your review of published trials. It would be longer but clearer if you could call it "Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children - a review of clinical study reports for published and unpublished trials".

The section "How the intervention might work" could be reorganized along the lines of:

0) Metabolism: oseltamivir phosphate (OP), Tamiflu, is the pro-drug of oseltamivir carboxylate (OC), the effective form. OP dissociates in the gastrointestinal tract to form oseltamivir (OT) which is absorbed and metabolised into OC by hepatic carboxylesterase (h-CE).

1) Reducing the ability of the virus to penetrate the mucus in the very early stage of infection (Bhatia 2007; Matrosovich 2004; Moscona 2005; Ohuchi 2006).

2) Inhibiting neuraminidase, which enables influenza viruses to exit host cells (Liu 1995; Moscona 2005).

3) Central depression by OT (Hama 2008) may cause hypothermia (Ono 2008).

4) Inhibition by NIs of human sialidase may cause abnormal behaviour (Li 2007).

You have obviously put a huge amount of work and expertise into developing the protocol, and have an even bigger task ahead to complete the review. Congratulations for taking this on.

Best wishes
Michael

Reply

Thanks for the constructive comments.

1. We have re-titled the Protocol to address this concern (and that of feedback from GSK, see below);
2. We have re-examined the "How the intervention might work" section but made only small adjustments in the interest of keeping this section short;
3. We are not sure what problems you might have had printing the pdf file, and hope they are resolved with this new version.

Contributors

Chris Del Mar

From Juan C. Vergara, Intensive Care, Hospital Cruces, 48901 Barakaldo, Spain, 24 February 2011**Summary**

From: JUAN CARLOS VERGARA SERRANO <JUANCARLOS.VERGARASERRANO@osakidetza.net>

Date: 24 February 2011 12:48

Subject: oseltamivir

To: jefferson.tom@gmail.com

I've read your Intervention Protocol: Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children - a review of unpublished data. And may be you can be interested in this letter I wrote to de BMJ: <http://www.bmj.com/content/340/bmj.c789.extract/reply>

1. Early use of oseltamivir does not reduce swine flu mortality, Juan C. Vergara, MD. Intensive Care Unit, Hospital Cruces. 48901 Barakaldo. Spain

As you say, in July the National Pandemic Flu Service started providing oseltamivir to anybody who telephoned with a plausible set of symptoms. From 23rd July to 1st December, the National Pandemic Flu Service (NPFS) in the UK, has provided more than one million courses of antiviral medication. By that time the Spanish Health Secretary General, José Martínez Olmos, at the Congress of Deputies, announced that only 6.000 patients (most of them hospitalised) had received oseltamivir in Spain. At the end of January there have been 411 deaths reported due to pandemic (H1N1) 2009 in the UK, and about 300 in Spain. That means 6.7 and 6.5 deaths per million, respectively. These data create serious doubts about the real utility of early use of oseltamivir in preventing deaths from Influenza A H1N1. <http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/article.aspx?name=SbSwineflu>
http://www.congreso.es/public_oficiales/L9/CONG/DS/CO/CO_411.PDF

Competing interests: None declared

Yours sincerely;
J. C. Vergara

Reply

Thank you for your interest.

Contributors

Chris Del Mar

From Dr Helen Steel, GSK, UK, 30 March 2011

Summary

GSK comments on Cochrane Collaboration protocol: neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children - a review of unpublished data

General:

- The term '**unpublished data**' is used extensively in the protocol. However, it does not appear to be clearly defined either in the protocol or in Jefferson's comment in the 15 Jan 2011 edition of the BMJ. Additionally, the term '**unpublished data**' is misleading. It appears the Cochrane Group use this term interchangeably with Clinical Study Reports, regardless of whether a primary manuscript is available for a given study. We suggest this is clarified or preferably replaced, especially since the term appears extensively in the protocol including the title. Readers are likely to use the terms 'unpublished data' and 'unpublished trials' (trials for which no primary publication appears in the scientific press) interchangeably. A suggested replacement is 'Clinical Study Reports' since this term is not easily misinterpreted and is clearly defined in Jefferson's BMJ comment.
- The 'scope of clinical trial data' are defined in Jefferson's BMJ 15 Jan 2011 comment, as mentioned above (i.e. definitions for clinical study reports, raw data, unpublished trial, published trial, regulatory data). It would seem important that these and any other definitions introduced in the protocol are included in the protocol.

Description of Intervention

- This section incorrectly describes Relenza as 'nebulized zanamivir'. Relenza is formulated in Rotadisks containing foil blisters with a powder mixture of zanamivir and lactose. Relenza is administered by oral inhalation using a breath-activated device called the Diskhaler. Earlier clinical studies explored several methods of administration, including nebulized and intranasal routes but marketing approval in nearly all countries is currently available only for oral inhalation via Rotadisk/Diskhaler.

Types of Studies

- To meet the objective of providing a comprehensive review of neuraminidase inhibitors in preventing and treating influenza, it would seem appropriate that clinical trials from all sources (including sponsors other than industry) be included in this meta-analysis. Please clarify if this is your intent.

Outcome Measures

More details should be provided on the outcome measures section in the final protocol.

- For example, broad outcome measures are stated in the protocol but specific endpoints are not provided. The primary and secondary endpoints of the meta-analysis should be clearly defined in the final protocol.
 - e.g.1. A stated primary outcome in the treatment studies is 'symptom relief'. Does this refer to 'the time to alleviation of symptoms' or 'reduction in symptom score' or another endpoint? Time to alleviation of clinically significant symptoms was the primary endpoint used in the majority of GSK treatment studies.
 - e.g.2. Another stated primary outcome is 'Harms'. Please provide the specific endpoints. Will this refer to 'incidence of most common AEs' or 'incidence of common SAEs', 'incidence of complications' or another endpoint? It is not clear if 'harms' are the same as 'compliharms'. It is not clear what specific events will comprise compliharms.
- Prophylaxis studies: Several types of prophylaxis studies were conducted by GSK: household prophylaxis (post-exposure prophylaxis), community prophylaxis and outbreak control in nursing homes, and as such the designs and/or endpoints are different. It is possible to measure 'prevention of onset of influenza in contacts' in these studies but not 'reduction in viral spread from index cases' in the majority of prophylaxis studies.
- Hospitalisations: As studies were generally conducted in the setting of acute uncomplicated influenza, limited hospitalisation data were collected, and are available only for some studies.
- Extracting compliharms: There is a statement that 'AEs are reported for all participants while complications are only reported for infected subjects'. This statement is not accurate for GSK trials. AEs are reported for all study participants. However, AEs of ILI were not collected in the treatment studies unless the symptoms were considered to be worse than expected for the normal progression of illness. Without knowing the specific safety endpoints, it is unclear whether this will affect the outcome of some of the harms analyses.

Data collection and analysis:

- The protocol indicates that clinical study reports will be requested (minus participant identification). In fact many documents for each study will need to be redacted not just to remove participant identification but any personally identifiable information including author and investigator identification.
- Missing Data. The protocol states "*At the participant level (i.e. within a trial) we will not make any assumptions about missing data.*" This is not possible, because an analysis of data that is collected in a trial can only be done in the context of assumptions about potential mechanisms that led to data being missing (e.g., missing completely at random, or missing at random).
- Meta-analysis Method. Little detail is given in the protocol. The protocol states that "*Whether or not heterogeneity is detected, we will perform a random effects meta-analysis. Random-effects methods will be used to compare the dichotomised outcomes (RR and absolute risk reduction (ARR) for efficacy and safety).*" There are several different Random Effects methods available (Bayesian or frequentist, DerSimonian & Laird or Maximum-likelihood or REML), and different approaches to handling rare events (various "corrections" to include trials with zero counts). Furthermore, would random-effects methods also used to compare the continuous outcomes?
- Fixed-effects Model. The protocol also states that fixed-effects models will be used in a sensitivity analysis. No details are given with regard to which fixed-effects models will be used. There are several fixed-effects models available including Inverse Variance, Mantel-Haenszel, and Peto's method. The appropriate method used should also depend on the outcome measures (dichotomous vs. continuous; relative vs. absolute). The approach and choice of models for sparse data and rare events should be provided. Furthermore, various methods in the framework of fixed-effects model may be explored to evaluate the robustness of the results.
- Hazard Ratio. The protocol states "*We will convert medians of treatment groups into (log) hazard ratios (estimating the variance of these) to enable meta-analysis of time to event outcomes.*" Although hazard ratio (HR) is a standard analysis and widely recommended approach for time-to-event data in clinical trials, the HR analysis may not be suitable for the Relenza studies with relatively short follow-up time because the assumption of proportional hazards required for the proportional hazards model may not hold. GSK did not follow this approach for the original analysis due to the concern stated above. Further the clinical and regulatory interest centred on differences in the time to alleviation not in the relative hazard between treatments. The above issues would be best addressed by using subject level rather than summary data, which GSK have offered to provide to the Cochrane Group.
- Analysis Populations. The protocol does not specify which populations will be used for the various analyses, for example, intent-to-treat or influenza-positive or other. We believe that influenza positive population is appropriate, especially for the efficacy analysis using time to alleviation of influenza symptom as a primary endpoint consistent with the prescribing information for Relenza.
- Study Duration. No details are given in the protocol with regard to how studies with different follow-up times will be handled.
- Trials with no Events. No details are given in the protocol with regard to how to deal with trials in which there are no events (such as death). By excluding studies with no events will make the event appear more common than it actually is. There are various techniques: Bayesian approach, continuity correction, combining similar trials to avoid having any components of the analysis that have no events.
- Sensitivity Analyses. Sensitivity analyses using different outcome measures, statistical models and/or continuity correction factors to assess the robustness of the results are strongly encouraged.

Reply

General:

- '**unpublished data**'. We agree that this term is confusing, and are attracted to the proposal of using 'clinical study reports' instead.
- We have attempted to ensure all terms are clear.

Description of intervention

- Description of zanamivir (Relenza): we have corrected 'nebulized zanamivir' to 'powder inhalation'.

Types of studies

- Yes, we intend to comprehensively review clinical trials from all sources (including sponsors other than industry). This intent is clear from the subsection '**Electronic searching**' under the '**Search methods for identification of studies**' section.

Outcome measures

- Our specified outcomes are those of interest to patients, and their clinicians and policy-makers. They are therefore likely to be broader than the more specific endpoints selected by trialists. The purpose of Cochrane Reviews are usually to set clinically relevant review questions, and search the literature (or other sources) for answers to them. Sometimes answers to some questions are not available, and this is also documented. Where possible we report outcomes as pre-specified in the trial protocols, or as pre-specified in the review protocol, or otherwise reported as a post-hoc analysis.
 - e.g. 1. 'symptom relief' may refer to 'the time to alleviation of symptoms' or 'reduction in symptom score', or any other endpoint (including 'area under the curve of symptom score and time').
 - e.g. 2. 'Harms' include common adverse events (AEs) as well as serious AEs. We agree about the confusion of harms and complications, and have tried to capture the totality of these with the neologism 'compliharms' to avoid classification errors between their different labellings.
- Prophylaxis studies: We understand that it is possible to measure 'prevention of onset of influenza in contacts' in some GSK studies but not 'reduction in viral spread from index cases' in others.
- Hospitalisations: We understand that hospitalisation data may only be available for some studies. However patient hospitalisation is usually classified as a serious adverse event therefore we expect to identify hospitalisations (not reported separately) in that way.
- Extracting compliharms: Your statement that "AEs of ILI were not collected in the treatment studies unless the symptoms were considered to be worse than expected for the normal progression of illness" underlies the complexity of analysing AEs and complications (our 'compliharms'). We have noted in the protocol that the limitation of complications only reported for the infected patients is relevant to the Roche trials only.

Data collection and analysis:

- We are interested that not only subject identification would be required to be removed from any documents of clinical study reports but also information personally identifying authors and investigators. We wonder why.
- Missing data. We have removed this statement.
- Meta-analysis method. DerSimonian & Laird method will be used. Note that in the case of zero cells (e.g. no events in one group) the RevMan software (which we will use for the analysis) automatically adds 0.5 to each cell of the 2x2 table for any such study. There are no continuous outcomes specified in this review.
- Fixed-effects model. Mantel-Haenszel method will be used except in the case of sparse data, in which case Peto's method will be used (as recommended in the Cochrane Handbook).
- Hazard ratio. We note the concerns with this outcome hence we will also consider analysis of this outcome as a continuous outcome noting that the data are likely to be skewed. We will use the inverse-variance random-effects method for this analysis.
- Analysis populations. All analysis will be using the intent-to-treat population as this is the most methodologically rigorous and clinically relevant.
- Study duration. We have specified in the protocol, where appropriate, that we will report outcomes for the on-treatment and off treatment time periods. If data are not available in the clinical study reports for any time period of the study then we will write to the relevant manufacturer to request the missing data.
- Trials with no events. As stated above the RevMan software automatically adds 0.5 to each cell of the 2x2 table for any such study.
- Sensitivity analyses. We note this point and agree. Where appropriate, a realistic sensitivity analyses will be conducted.

Contributors

Chris Del Mar

Feedback from Wolfgang Becker-Brueser, 30 January 2012

Summary

Dear Tom Jefferson,

I read your review about NI for prevention and treating influenza with interest. It's an important work. In the chapter "Why it is important to do this review" I found a small mistake concerning the worldwide stockpiling of oseltamivir which is mentioned to be "CHF 7.6 billion worth of oseltamivir (JACK 2009)". This would be an enormous amount "prior (!) to the emergence of influenza A/H1N1 in 2009". But Andrew

JACK wrote in the cited Financial Times (May 13, 2009): "Governments around the world had stockpiled 220m treatments to date, swelling sales since the start of 2003 to SFr7.6bn, largely on the basis of preparation for a pandemic virus that has yet to appear." So 7.6 billion SFr represent sales and not stockpiling.

Wolfgang Becker-Brueser (physician and pharmacist)

Reply

Thank you. The extent of stockpiling is a closely guarded secret this is why these are estimates. We will probably never know.

Contributors

Tom Jefferson MD

From Frederick G. Hayden, M.D., 2 February 2012

Summary

I am writing to comment on the recently updated meta-analysis by Jefferson and colleagues published through the Cochrane Collaboration and to request clarifications on several points, as well as to suggest some additional analyses that would be helpful in terms of taking greater advantage of this useful database. While I fully support access of Jefferson and other interested investigators to all of the published and unpublished data from the RCTs of oseltamivir and zanamivir for further analyses, this analysis only focuses on RCTs in ambulatory patients with uncomplicated influenza (the vast majority of whom were previously healthy) and on the period before the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Consequently, I would urge these investigators to extend their efforts to other populations and datasets examining the risks and benefits of using neuraminidase inhibitors (NAIs) for treatment and prophylaxis. Furthermore, the authors should acknowledge the limitations of their analyses more explicitly and avoid inappropriate extrapolation to populations and influenza events that the RCTs did not adequately address. Differences in disease pathogenesis related to virus and host factors, as well as time to treatment, have important effects on the utility of antiviral agent interventions. My specific comments and recommendations for additional analyses follow:

1. Use of Intention to Treat (ITT) and ITTI-Infected Groups. The exclusive focus in the current treatment analysis on the ITT population is a readily rectified shortcoming. Outcomes in all three groups of relevance (ITT, ITT-infected, and ITT-noninfected) should be presented, so that readers can examine both clinical effectiveness and efficacy for the key endpoints, as well as events in those without documented influenza. Because NAI treatment would not be expected to provide any benefit in non-influenza illness, not presenting the ITT-infected outcomes in the analysis underestimates possible beneficial drug effects. Assessment of the non-infected group provides a valuable control and also enables a determination of whether there was a potential drug-disease adverse interaction of NAI treatment in non-influenza patients. Of note, our earlier pooled analysis of physician-diagnosed lower respiratory tract complications leading to antibiotic use found a significant benefit of oseltamivir in the influenza-infected patients but not in those enrolled in whom influenza infection was not detected by culture or serology [Kaiser 2003].

2. Sample size considerations. Severe outcomes of influenza infection are sufficiently uncommon in previously healthy people that even large RCTs or combining multiple RCTs would be very unlikely to detect them with confidence. The same point applies to very uncommon endpoints like microbiologically documented bacterial complications and rare adverse effects of treatment. Consequently, conclusions that there is no evidence (from trials) that NAIs reduce the risk of pneumonia, hospitalisations, deaths are overstated, as the evidence considered in this analysis is insufficient to properly address these questions.

The US CDC has estimated age-related influenza-related hospitalisation and mortality rates for both seasonal epidemics and the 2009 pandemic [Shrestha 2011]. Jefferson and colleagues should use such event estimates and others to make calculations of the necessary sample sizes to detect reductions in these severe outcomes with NAI therapy in a controlled RCT across a range of clinically relevant effect sizes (e.g., 20%, 35%, 50% reductions). In a related fashion, they should also provide more quantitative estimates for their ability to detect such outcomes with their existing database and comment more precisely on their power to capture particular endpoints.

3. Complications in ambulatory patients. Other clinically relevant endpoints in these previously healthy and at-risk persons warrant investigation. With regard to influenza-related complications, the most frequent in previously healthy children and adults are respiratory tract infections (otitis media, bronchitis) leading to antimicrobial use. These are usually not severe and typically not microbiologically documented with respect to etiologies but physician-diagnosed complications leading to antibiotic use is an outcome that has important clinical and public health implications (i.e., cost, antibiotic resistance, side effects) and also is sufficiently frequent to demonstrate effects of antivirals. We showed such a benefit in adults in our earlier pooled analyses of the then available RCT data on inhaled zanamivir [Kaiser 2000] and oral oseltamivir [Kaiser 2003]. The oseltamivir effect was confirmed in a recent meta-analysis [Hernan 2011], and another recent Cochrane report confirms an effect on otitis media in children [Wang 2011].

Given the large amount of data available to the investigators, it would be a valuable contribution to also explore the clinical outcomes in greater detail and to clarify the use of terms like severe outcomes. Although uncommon in the populations enrolled in these RCTs, endpoints such as radiographically documented pneumonia, microbiologically documented infections, and hospitalisation or death are clear and should be listed separately in those with or without proven influenza infection. Because of the importance of hospitalisations as an endpoint, it would be helpful to examine not only all-cause hospitalisations but also relevant subgroups based on likely causation (e.g.,

events in which influenza was documented or likely implicated including exacerbations of co-morbidities vs others like accidents, elective surgeries, conditions unlikely to be influenza-related). In addition to these events, exacerbations of underlying conditions (e.g., asthma, COPD, diabetes, CHF) are of medical importance in influenza outpatients with co-morbidities and should be examined.

4. Data from observational studies. Typically the patients who are most at risk of severe outcomes (older people, infants and young children, those with underlying chronic conditions) are not included in RCTs. In this regard, the current analysis is limited to placebo- or active-controlled RCTs largely done in previously healthy persons and does not consider the multiple observational studies from different countries that have consistently showed protective effects against severe outcomes like pneumonia and hospitalisation, particularly in those with co-morbidities, as well as reduced mortality if patients have been hospitalised. A considerable amount of new treatment data was generated in many countries during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic that found timely NAI treatment to be associated with a lower risk for intensive care admission and death (reference list available upon request).

While such data and analyses are weaker than RCT data and subject to bias, these observational studies address key endpoints in at-risk and seriously ill populations, including patients admitted to a hospital at the time of initiating therapy, that the available RCTs cannot and do not address. Furthermore, the standard of care has evolved such that placebo-controlled RCT in such patient groups would not be acceptable to investigators or ethics committees. The decision by Jefferson and colleagues not to consider and critically analyse the large amount of observational data with modern techniques means that they are not incorporating key information and many important patient groups in which the available data suggests medically important benefits from early NAI therapy. Such findings from observational data can inform antiviral treatment in more severely ill patients when no other data are available. As discussed above, not to include observational data means that conclusions of no effect on uncommon events or no severe adverse events being detected are almost inevitable. This should be made explicit in the design and the conclusion of the current report.

4. Influenza diagnosis and serologic results. The Jefferson report raises questions about the possible inhibitory effects of oseltamivir therapy on influenza-specific serologic rises and introduction of bias into the outcomes analysis. Further analyses might help to assess these possibilities. They should compare the primary endpoint of illness alleviation between the oseltamivir and placebo subgroups that were culture-positive (irrespective of serologic findings) at enrolment, and separately those that were culture-negative but had serologic evidence of infection.

Of note, one prior study of oseltamivir treatment in pandemic 2009 H1N1 patients, although not in seasonal influenza patients, suggested that early treatment could reduce antibody responses [Cowling 2010]. Jefferson and colleagues should examine the age-related frequencies of HAI seroconversions and the GMT titre rises in those with influenza-culture positive illness and separately in those with such HAI rises in absence of culture positivity. Of course, if still available, it would be interesting to test the culture-negative enrolment samples by RT-PCR.

The RCT data were generated over multiple seasons in which different influenza A and B viruses were circulating. Influenza B neuraminidases are generally less susceptible to oseltamivir carboxylate and several observational studies indicate that oseltamivir is less effective in influenza B- than influenza A-infected children [Sugaya 2007; Sato 2008]. It would be useful to examine the primary outcome in relation to virus type (A vs. B) and if possible A subtype (H3 vs. H1) in those with documented infections to expand on this point.

5. Other treatment endpoints of interest. Since those enrolled in the RCTs were outpatients, it would be useful to explore other endpoints that reflect patient recovery and impacts on the healthcare system (e.g., nonscheduled return visits for complications or adverse events).

Perhaps more important than the time to alleviation endpoint used in the registrational trials might be the times to resumption of usual activities and return to pre-morbid status.

The authors raise the possibility that oseltamivir might have non-specific antipyretic effects, and one animal model study has also suggested possible adverse immunomodulatory effects of oseltamivir in RSV infection [Moore 2007]. Consequently, it would be interesting to examine the course of fever resolution (a much earlier event than cough resolution) and of symptoms in oseltamivir- and placebo-treated patients with and without documented influenza infection. In addition, it would be valuable to examine the correspondence (or lack thereof) between influenza virologic measures (e.g., enrolment virus titre, time to culture negativity, change in viral titres over time) and symptom resolution measures in both oseltamivir and placebo groups.

Various cost-effectiveness analyses on NAI therapy in low-risk populations have been published with widely divergent outcomes, largely depending on the input assumptions. Using this large database, a more refined analysis that incorporates both the direct and indirect (productivity losses) costs of influenza would be informative.

6. Adverse events with treatment. With regard to drug tolerability, it is important to examine not only the frequencies of reported adverse events but also assess indicators of their severity and interference with compliance (e.g., symptom days, patient reported severity, premature cessation of study drug).

Comparisons of AEs in the placebo groups across zanamivir and oseltamivir studies need to be interpreted with caution, since these studies were performed in different influenza seasons viruses and locations, with different protocols and case record forms, and by different investigators. Only one head-head RCT of treatment comparing these drugs has been published to date to my knowledge but the design did not include placebo only groups [Duval 2010]. In particular, comparisons in children (page 24) need to be age-adjusted as there were

major differences in those enrolled into the zanamivir (5 years and older) and oseltamivir trials (1 year and older), and the frequencies of gastrointestinal manifestations are much higher in younger children with influenza and other acute illnesses.

7. Prophylaxis endpoints of interest. The analysis of prophylaxis outcomes and the associated discussion requires clarification. The statement on page 5 says: "The FDA has also not allowed an indication for interference of viral transmission within households (the key concept behind post-exposure prophylaxis)." The key concept behind post-exposure prophylaxis is prevention of illness in exposed persons, and the primary endpoint in most prophylaxis studies has been symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza illness. FDA and other regulatory agencies have approved both NAIs for post-exposure prophylaxis in households and also for longer duration pre-exposure chemoprophylaxis [reviewed in Khazemi 2009].

The Jefferson analysis seems to focus exclusively on the effect of chemoprophylaxis in "preventing the spread" of influenza, with endpoints presumably determined by evidence of culture or serologically confirmed infection irrespective of illness. While this is one endpoint of interest in such studies, the primary outcome of medical interest is prevention of influenza illness in those exposed. There is abundant RCT data, as well as observational data from the 2009 pandemic, that both inhaled zanamivir and oral oseltamivir have both statistically significant and medically important effects on preventing influenza-specific illness. Of note, the development of serologic evidence of infection without illness is advantageous in those receiving chemoprophylaxis, as it likely is an immunizing event that protects against future infection and illness by that strain. In addition several oseltamivir RCTs have shown significant but lesser effects on influenza infection in prophylaxis recipients [Welliver 2001; Hayden 1999]. The authors should present all of the relevant endpoints in their analysis of the prophylaxis trials.

8. Adverse effects with prophylaxis. The prophylaxis studies are particularly useful in assessing drug tolerability as symptoms of acute illness present in treatment studies are not confounders and there is a more prolonged duration of drug exposure. However, it is essential to examine not only the frequencies of reported adverse events but also indicators of their severity and possible interference with compliance (e.g., symptom days, patient reported severity, premature cessation of study drug).

For example, the Jefferson posting states that "Similarly, a published prophylaxis trial (Hayden 1999a, known by its trial ID WV15673/WV15697) describes headache as having "occurred in similar proportions of subjects in the three groups (39 to 47 per cent)." but indicates that Japanese regulatory documents reached a different conclusion. My own review of the adverse event tabulations from our 6-weeks prophylaxis study (tables provided by the sponsor) indicates that the proportions of subjects reporting headache (not otherwise specified) that might have been related to study drug (unrelated reports excluded) during the treatment phase were similar across the placebo (N=116, 22.4%), oseltamivir 75 mg once (N=124, 23.8%), and oseltamivir 75 mg twice (N=132, 25.4%) daily dose groups [Hayden 1999]. Most of these reports indicated mild or moderate intensity and were self-limited. As indicated in the published paper [Hayden 1999], study withdrawals for AEs or illness occurred infrequently across these same groups (N=10, 1.9%; N= 8, 1.5%; N= 7, 1.3%). Of note, the specified causes for AE-related withdrawals included three reports of headache associated with other symptoms in the placebo group. In contrast, there were no reports of headache as reason for the withdrawals receiving oseltamivir; gastrointestinal complaints accounted for withdrawals in 4 of 8 oseltamivir 75 mg and 3 of 7 oseltamivir 75 mg twice daily recipients. The total numbers of patients with premature study withdrawal for any reason was 21 (4.0%), 17 (3.3%), and 16 (3.1%) across the three groups, respectively. Overall, severe AEs were reported in 82 (15.8%) of placebo, 75 (14.4%) of oseltamivir 75 mg, and 77 (14.8%) of oseltamivir 75 mg twice daily recipients. We were unable to include these details in the paper because of space limitations but my interpretation remains that no excess of clinically relevant oseltamivir-related headache occurred during this study. This type of detailed AE analysis incorporating severity measures provides necessary context in interpreting the possible importance of AEs.

9. Peer review. The questions raised and opinions expressed in this and earlier Cochrane reports on NAIs by Jefferson and colleagues have resulted in debate and sometimes confusion among practitioners and policy makers regarding the appropriate use of NAIs in seasonal and pandemic influenza responses. Given the importance of these issues, it would be helpful for any future updates to have proper independent review before posting or publication by the Collaboration, as the Cochrane methodology of publication and then independent peer review is not well understood by many people.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. I look forward to seeing the responses from Dr. Jefferson and his colleagues on these points.

Sincerely,

Frederick G. Hayden, M.D.
 Stuart S. Richardson Professor of Clinical Virology
 Professor of Medicine
 University of Virginia School of Medicine
 Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

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Submitter has modified conflict of interest statement: Disclosures to BMJ (Updated 4 June 2012)

Dr. Hayden received lecture and/or consulting honoraria from GSK until 2002 and from Roche until 2005. Gilead Sciences from 1996-1999 and Roche from 1999-2005 provided grant support to the University of Virginia for oseltamivir studies on which he was PI. Similarly GSK provided grant support to the University of Virginia for zanamivir studies from 1994-2001. Dr. Hayden served as medical officer in the Global Influenza Programme from 2006-2008 with funding provided to the University of Virginia through the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Since 2008 to present the University of Virginia has received funding from the Wellcome Trust for his part-time work as influenza research coordinator at the Trust and through NIAID for his work as consultant the Southeast Asia Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Network. From 2008-11 the University also received honoraria for his participation in the Neuraminidase Inhibitor Susceptibility Network which received funding from Roche and GSK. Since 2008 to present, Dr. Hayden has been an unpaid consultant to multiple companies engaged in the development or marketing of influenza antivirals including Roche and GSK.

Dr. John Treanor reports receiving compensation as a member of the scientific advisory boards of Novartis and Immune Targeting Systems, and has performed consulting work for Pfizer. Within the last 3 years, his group has been funded to perform laboratory assays or conduct clinical trials for Sanofi, GlaxoSmithKline, Protein Sciences Corp, Wyeth, PaxVax, Ligocyte, and Vaxinnate.

Dr. Kaiser reports no financial disclosures.

Frederick G. Hayden

Reply

Response to Dr. Hayden's comments of 2 February 2012.

We thank Dr. Hayden for his detailed feedback. However nothing he writes allays our basic concerns that:

- (1) despite the 16,000 pages we analysed, we currently only have access to a very limited dataset hence cannot carry out many of the analyses Dr. Hayden suggests;
- (2) analysing the "influenza infected" population in Roche oseltamivir trials, as Dr. Hayden proposes, will lead to misleading results because the treatment groups are not comparable for this population;
- (3) the observational studies Dr. Hayden urges us to consider are generally of poor quality and only represent the small proportion of patients who are hospitalised with influenza;
- (4) the Kaiser et al (2003) analysis is seriously flawed;
- (5) data have been selectively reported.

Below, we provide point-by-point responses to Dr. Hayden's concerns. (Please note that point 4 appears twice, to follow the numbering in Dr. Hayden's letter.)

1. Use of intention to treat (ITT) and ITTI-infected [sic] groups

We agree, in principle, to conduct analysis using the ITT-infected (ITTI) sub-population provided that it is appropriately selected by the results of testing completed before the start of the trial (for example by using only the results of viral culture or rapid testing before randomisation).

However we argue that this is not possible in Roche oseltamivir trials. In these trials, the selection of "infected" or "non-infected" was dependent on the results of serology that is affected by "use" and "non-use" of oseltamivir. And the selection of those with "serology-positive results" appears to have given advantage to the oseltamivir group. Hence the method of selecting the ITT-Infected population in the trials has fundamental flaws and therefore the results are less reliable than those obtained using the ITT population.

2. Sample size considerations

The Kaiser et al analysis has a number of fundamental problems. First, analyses were performed on the ITT-infected sub-population which we have shown to be non-comparable between treatment groups. Second, the authors analysed an outcome that was different to that pre-specified in the trials. In the trials, complications included otitis media and sinusitis but in the Kaiser et al paper these were not included. This is an example of selective reporting or "cherry picking". Third, complications were not objectively or consistently measured in the trials. Fourth, outcomes such as pneumonia and bronchitis could be either reported as a complication or as an adverse event according to a classification criteria we do not understand and is not discussed in the Kaiser et al paper. And finally the data from the 10 trials was not meta-analysed, rather, it was combined as if generated from one single trial.

We could potentially address most of these limitations (except for the third) but we have not been given access to the data despite repeated requests to the manufacturer. However we were able to compare hospitalisations as those data were available to us for the ITT population.

We found no evidence of effect on hospitalisations based on seven studies with a median placebo group event rate of 0.84% (range 0% to 11%): odds ratio (OR) 0.95; 95% CI 0.57 to 1.61, $P = 0.86$). This result is quite different to that reported by Kaiser et al based on the (non-comparable) ITT Infected population.

In terms of power analysis, to detect a significant difference at this level of difference of 0.84% (placebo) vs 0.80% (oseltamivir), with alpha of 0.05 and power of 0.8, a RCT with approximately 800,000 participants is required.

3. Complications in ambulatory patients

As we have illustrated above the Kaiser et al (2003) analysis has fundamental flaws that we cannot address because the manufacturer refuses to provide us with the data necessary to conduct a proper analysis.

Analysis of the "population with proven influenza infection" (ITT-infected population) is not appropriate (see above). Data for the analysis of "population without proven influenza infection" are not available to us.

As we have shown above, the power to detect a difference in all-cause hospitalisation is very small hence to do a subgroup analysis on this outcome seems unwarranted.

The pharmacological/toxicological adverse effects of oseltamivir can be classified into two major types [3]. One is sudden type occurring during the hypercytokinemic state in the early phase of infection including sudden death [3,4], accidental death after abnormal behaviours and vomiting induced by the central depressing action of unchanged oseltamivir [4]. The second are delayed type of reactions including recurrence or exacerbation of influenza and/or other infection, diabetes, bleeding, renal impairment and delayed type neuropsychiatric reactions related to inhibition of the host's neuraminidase [3]. Sudden type adverse effects should be collected and analysed only during the early phase of influenza (for example, vomiting was only significantly increased within one day of treatment in the paediatric RCTs). However, delayed type adverse effects should be collected and analysed for a longer period to detect those reactions after a full course of treatment (for example the increase of pneumonia in the off-treatment period in the paediatric RCTs).

A recently published proportional mortality study has indicated that oseltamivir increases sudden type of death (odds ratio: 5.9) compared with zanamivir users by analysing all death cases among approximately 20 million 2009A/H1N1 influenza patients in Japan. This effect was also true for the comparison of oseltamivir users with non-users of antivirals [4].

4. Data from observational studies

Observational studies during the 2009 H1N1 influenza outbreak have assessed the effects of oseltamivir on a selected population of hospitalised patients. These represent a very small proportion of the total population who get influenza. While subgroup analyses are important, it is important to not lose sight of the fact that the use and governmental stockpiling of oseltamivir is for its routine use in asymptomatic and symptomatic members of the community. Our review thus considers the evidence base that applies to the vast majority of people.

In addition, the studies Dr. Hayden appears to be referring to are retrospective observational studies in which apparent treatment effects may be the result of an effective treatment but could also be due to confounding effects. Unfortunately there is no way to determine which of these possibilities is true. That is why drug regulators require evidence from RCTs to determine whether or not a drug is approved for use. According to the analysis by Jones and Hama [5], apparent protective effects against severe outcomes like pneumonia, hospitalisation and mortality are possibly derived from survivor treatment selection bias (or immortal time-bias). This is not an issue for randomised controlled trials because follow up begins at the time of randomisation which is the same for patients allocated to active drug and patients allocated to placebo. However in the case of observational studies treatment can begin at varying times (up to several days) after the onset of symptoms. Therefore a naive comparison that compares a binary outcome, such as death (or other adverse event), or time to an event (survival time) is at high risk of survivor treatment selection bias (also referred to as immortal time bias or simply time dependent bias). This bias can occur, for example, because patients who die early are not given the opportunity to receive treatment. In addition patients who are extremely sick may not be given the opportunity to receive antivirals because other treatments and procedures take priority. This bias can be addressed with an appropriate analysis however this has not been done in any of the observational studies of antiviral use for influenza that we have seen.

4. Influenza diagnosis and serologic results

We do not have access to the data required to conduct all these analyses.

5. Other treatment endpoints of interest

We do not have access to the data required to conduct these analyses (time to resumption of usual activities and return to pre-morbid status) using the ITT population.

By mentioning the evidence and possible mechanism of action for oseltamivir, we are arguing that fever alleviation and symptom reduction may not be caused by the reduction of viral load but may be the result of inhibition of host's immune functions including induction of cytokines and antibody production by inhibition of the host's neuraminidase in addition to central depression by oseltamivir.

Analysis of the population with documented influenza infection (ITT-Infected population) is not valid (see above). Hence we are unable to conduct a valid analysis in the influenza positive population and data for the influenza negative population has not been provided.

Antibody titre is one of the ways of selecting only subjects infected with influenza. However we have shown that the production of antibodies was consistently lower in the oseltamivir group compared to the placebo group in the treatment trials. Therefore the use of antibody production to confirm influenza in prophylaxis trials is not valid. Moreover comparison of the proportion with confirmed infection between the oseltamivir group(s) and the placebo group will provide misleading results.

Nor are "virus titre", "time to culture negativity" or "change in viral titres over time" a true measure of viral load, because oseltamivir as a neuraminidase inhibitor may conceal positivity by inhibiting the influenza virus from leaving the surface of host respiratory cells (which are covered by a mucous layer on the surface of the cells).

6. Adverse events with treatment

In principle we agree. However, there are many data that show the classification of severity is questionable: for example, we believe that *psychosis* or *hallucinations* should be classified as "severe" but this has not always been followed. Therefore, we are planning to propose using new classification methods for the analysis of adverse events in the next update of our review.

We agree that comparisons of adverse events in the placebo groups across zanamivir and oseltamivir studies need to be interpreted with caution.

We agree that the spectrum and severity of adverse events/reactions are different among age groups. Therefore, we propose analysing adverse events/reactions stratified by age, if possible, according to the data in the Clinical Study Reports or individual patients' data in the next step of our systematic review.

7. Prophylaxis endpoints of interest

As described on page 7 of our systematic review, the primary outcome measures for prophylaxis studies are:

1. influenza (both symptomatic and asymptomatic and laboratory-confirmed) and influenza-like illness (ILI);
2. hospitalisation and complications;
3. interruption of transmission (in its two components, reduction of viral spread from index cases and prevention of onset of influenza in contacts);
4. harms.

We did not meta-analyse data from the prophylaxis trials in this systematic review because the substantial documents for prophylaxis trials were obtained after the time lock of 12 April 2011.

Due to the problems we have illustrated above on using virus titre to confirm influenza infection we plan to amend the primary endpoint for prophylaxis trials to influenza-like illness (ILI).

There is some fear that those with serologic negative infection without symptoms may be more easily infected with influenza virus in the future, because evidence from animal experiments shows that IgA antibody in the respiratory mucosa is reduced (to about 20% of the control group), while reduction of those of systemic IgG antibody (HI antibody) was slight and not statistically significant [6].

8. Adverse effects with prophylaxis

We agree that the prophylaxis studies are particularly useful in assessing drug tolerability.

As we discussed above ("7. Adverse events with treatment"), there are many data that show the classification of severity is questionable. For example, we believe that psychosis or hallucinations should be classified as "severe" but this has not always been followed. Therefore, we are planning to propose using new classification methods for the analysis of adverse events in the next step of the review.

We mentioned the statement "occurred in similar proportions of subjects in the three groups (39 to 47 per cent)" as an example of reporting bias present in the paper (Dr. Hayden's reference no. 3; known by its trial ID WV15673/WV15697).

The numbers for headache are 47% (242/520) in high-dose oseltamivir group, 43% (335/520) in low-dose oseltamivir group and 39% (202/519) in placebo group. These proportions are not similar and show a significant linear trend of increase with oseltamivir dose ($P = 0.013$).

In addition, we would be grateful if Dr. Hayden were to supply the definition of "drug related headache among headaches reported as adverse events"? In particular, how was it decided whether a headache was drug-related or not? We cannot suggest signs or symptoms to distinguish oseltamivir-induced headache from placebo-induced headache.

We propose analysing adverse events in clinical study reports, including those for prophylaxis trials.

9. Peer review

We agree that there is confusion among policy-makers and practitioners but believe this to be justified: the data published and accessible to them appear to have some flaws that need to be resolved. We are encouraged by Dr Hayden's support for our obtaining all the data necessary to clear the confusion.

Cochrane systematic reviews are stringently peer-reviewed. Not only are they peer-reviewed by independent experts prior to publication but the protocols are also peer-reviewed before being undertaken, to reduce a priori biases. In addition, protocols are available for comment from outside the internal review process – Dr Hayden himself, or employees of Roche the manufacturer of oseltamivir, could have provided input about suggested alterations to the protocol which we would have been glad to receive. To this extent the peer-review process is more stringent than that employed by most other scientific journals.

RH, MJ, TJ, CDM, PD

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Contributors

Jefferson T, Jones MA, Doshi P, Del Mar CB, Heneghan CJ, Hama R, Thompson MJ

Additional feedback from Frederick G. Hayden, 10 August 2012

Summary

I am writing to respond to the comments and questions raised by Jefferson and his colleagues to my letter of 2 February 2012 about their report published through the Cochrane Collaboration. While the authors have provided helpful clarifications to many points, I remain concerned about their selective approach to data analysis and presentation. Resolution of these issues is important in anticipation of future analyses by Jefferson and colleagues or by others. Many of their responses indicate that analysis of the cohorts with proven influenza infection (ITT-infected) are not appropriate but further analyses of patient level data should be able to address their concerns (see below). Also they identify biases that could make oseltamivir look better but not those that could make it look worse than its effectiveness and tolerability likely are in reality. An impartial analysis would identify biases in both directions and attempt to deal with them in a balanced appraisal.

My specific comments and recommendations for additional analyses follow:

1. Use of intention to treat (ITT) and ITTI-infected groups. One obvious means of addressing the concern about selection bias in defining the ITT-infected (ITTI) population for analysis is to focus on those who were influenza virus-positive (irrespective of serologic results) at enrolment. These individuals (ITTI-virus) represented approximately 70-85% of those enrolled into the ITTI cohorts across the various RCTs.

In addition, those who were included in the ITTI group solely on the basis of seroconversion could be analysed separately to assess overall comparability in terms of symptom resolution and complications to those who were both virus-positive (ITTI-virus) and showed serologic rises. This might also help determine whether inclusion of data from virus-negative seroconverters would affect overall findings.

In contrast to the Cochrane statement that "And selection of those with "serology-positive results" appears to have given the advantage to the oseltamivir group", it might alternatively be disadvantageous (bias toward the null) or neutral in effect. If oseltamivir is most beneficial in preventing lower respiratory tract (LRT) complications leading to antibiotic use in those in whom it also prevents seroconversion, as one might expect if its overall treatment effect varies between patients based on timing of administration, individual pharmacokinetics or other factors, then its protective effect on complications will be underestimated because the benefits in those for whom it prevents seroconversion will not be counted. If, on the other hand, treatment works effectively only in those infected who seroconvert and has little or no effect in those in whom it prevents seroconversion, this would increase the apparent benefit. However, the only way in which this sequence seems possible would be if late treatment does not interfere with seroconversion but early treatment does AND late treatment is more effective than early. This is biologically implausible and inconsistent with the observed effects on time to treatment for other outcomes, in which early treatment is associated with greater effects. Alternatively, if oseltamivir treatment has a similar effect on LRT complications in infected who seroconvert and those who do not, this would reduce the numbers in the treated group with and without outcomes in a non-differential way.

In addition to a possible non-specific immunomodulatory effect of oseltamivir on serologic responses or possible confounding effect of prior inactivated influenza vaccine which might blunt antibody responses in those with proven influenza (1), one explanation for the apparently lower seroconversion rate in oseltamivir recipients would be that some oseltamivir recipients had low viral replication levels at enrolment that were quickly reduced by treatment and did not stimulate antibody rises, so that in these persons treatment prevented seroconversion. If one assumes that clinical outcomes are linked to viral replication levels as other reports suggest, such individuals would probably have shorter illness duration and also be less likely to develop LRT complications. Consequently, not counting them in the oseltamivir group would bias towards the null and under-estimate the effect of treatment on both illness resolution and complications.

In this regard, comparing outcomes in the ITTI-virus seroconverters vs non-seroconverters would be of interest if sufficient numbers are available. Also, as stated previously, analysis of the serologic responses based on time from symptom onset to enrolment, including both frequency of seroconversion and observed titres rises in the ITTI-virus group compared to placebo, might help address this possibility.

If I have interpreted their report correctly, the post-hoc analyses by Jefferson and colleagues found an absolute difference of 3.4% in overall infection rates between placebo (68.9%) and oseltamivir (65.5%) groups across the studies they analysed (Figure 5, Table 17).

This difference presumably approximates the fraction of virus-negative, non-seroconverting but possibly influenza-infected subjects in oseltamivir group. To what extent this difference might bias outcomes is uncertain but its relatively modest size suggests that

misclassification would not be a major confounder in either the ITTI or ITT-non-infected groups. Optimally in future studies more sensitive nucleic acid amplification testing will be used to detect infection by influenza and other respiratory viruses and facilitate more clear delineation of the groups of interest.

In summary, further analyses of the RTCs on oseltamivir and zanamivir, the outcomes in all groups of relevance (ITT, ITTI, ITTI-virus, and ITT-non-infected) are important and should be presented as fully as possible. As stated previously, separate assessment of the ITT-non-infected group provides a valuable control and also enables a determination of whether there was a potential drug-disease interaction of NAI treatment in non-influenza patients. As specific antiviral treatment would not be expected to provide benefit on illness resolution or complications in non-influenza illness, examining the ITT-non-infected groups allows this point to be tested directly. An analysis of 11 oseltamivir RCTs (2) confirmed lack of treatment effect on LRT complications in non-influenza-infected subjects compared to placebo. The failure to present outcomes in the ITT-infected or ITT-virus cohort underestimates possible beneficial drug effects, whereas full data presentation would enable readers to examine the event rates and magnitude of treatment effect sizes for key outcomes across all relevant groups for themselves.

2. Sample size considerations. The endpoint used in our pooled analysis of oseltamivir RCTs (3) was prospectively defined before the analysis was undertaken and was based on findings in our earlier study of zanamivir treatment effects (4) that indicated inhaled zanamivir reduced LRT illnesses leading to antibiotic prescriptions (RR, 0.60; 95% CI 0.42-0.85) but not upper respiratory tract ones (RR 0.90; 95% CI 0.63-1.27). The oseltamivir analysis used all studies available to us at the time, including unpublished clinical study reports, in order to avoid selection bias. The other endpoints of upper respiratory tract complications leading to antibiotic use (6.8% oseltamivir vs 5.9% placebo) and overall antibiotic use (14.0% oseltamivir vs 19.1% placebo; $P < .001$) were described in our 2003 paper (page 1760). Of note, the reductions in overall antibiotic use in influenza outpatients were similar for zanamivir (28%) and oseltamivir (27%) treatment. The limitations of the clinical diagnoses and retrospective approach used in these studies were described more fully in the earlier zanamivir paper (4). However, the simple pooled analysis we undertook in the oseltamivir paper did not correct for the higher proportion of influenza-infected, at-risk individuals in the placebo group, and this was a shortcoming. In any case, we pointed out this difference in the paper (page 1669) and presented the data by each group of interest (previously healthy or at risk) in Tables 3 and 4.

More importantly, our finding that early oseltamivir treatment reduced the likelihood of physician-diagnosed LRT complications leading to antibiotic use has been confirmed and extended (37% reduction in oseltamivir group; risk ratio 0.63 [95% CI 0.48, 0.82]) in a subsequent meta-analysis (that controlled for pre-enrolment risk status and included events from the time of enrolment) of the same 10 RCTs included in our paper and one additional one (2). Furthermore, this analysis found that the unpublished trials for which Jefferson and colleagues apparently do not have data were found to be no more favourable to oseltamivir than the published ones. When only the two published trials in previously healthy persons were considered, the reduction in the 24-day risk of LRT complications treated with antibiotics was 65% (risk ratio, 0.35; 95% CI 0.15, 0.82) in the oseltamivir arms.

3. Complications in ambulatory patients. Their comments on possible oseltamivir adverse events, including sudden death and neuropsychiatric adverse events (NPAEs), raises important points about the effects of influenza infection itself and possible drug-disease interactions. A well-documented relationship exists between NPAEs and influenza infection itself. Differing age-related patterns of influenza-associated encephalopathy/encephalitis and NPAEs have been reported in Japanese children and adolescents, and also age-related differences exist in NAI prescribing patterns in Japan. Consequently, careful analysis is required to assess possible associations. It is important to point out that causal relationships between oseltamivir use and such events remain to be proven. Some analyses have indicated comparable or lower NPAEs rates in oseltamivir-treated compared to non-treated influenza patients (reviewed in (5)) and no higher rates of NPAEs have been found in hospitalised infants in the USA (6). Oseltamivir administration to those with influenza-associated NPAEs does not appear to worsen manifestations (7;8). Of note, the crude reporting rates for possible oseltamivir-associated NPAEs in Japan and USA were significantly lower during the 2009 pandemic than during preceding influenza seasons (9).

As pointed out by Jefferson and colleagues, the possibility of late-onset adverse events requires that sufficient follow-up be incorporated into study design to examine both possible adverse and beneficial effects. However, the low frequencies of such events would likely require much larger numbers of subjects than enrolled in most RCTs. One approach is retrospective examination of large databases that link healthcare visits, clinical diagnoses, and drug administration registries. For example, one cohort study involving over 150,000 subjects (49,238 oseltamivir recipients, 102,692 control patients) reported that oseltamivir treatment of presumed influenza was associated with lower risk of TIA or stroke in the subsequent six months (10). This kind of observational study approach has been undertaken for investigation of outcomes and possible adverse events following influenza immunisation and should also be extended to antivirals.

4. Data from observational studies. Jefferson and colleagues indicate that possible survivor treatment selection bias in observational studies can occur because patients who die early are not given the opportunity to receive treatment. However, there is also the opposite concern that sicker patients, especially in a rapidly evolving illness like influenza, are more likely to initiate therapy at any given time after symptom onset than less ill ones. This would be a conservative bias and reduce the likelihood of observing a treatment effect. Clinical experience during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic indicated that late NAI treatment in critically ill or non-surviving influenza patients was frequently due to delayed consideration of the diagnosis or failure to appreciate the potential value of starting treatment beyond two days after symptom onset in those with progressive illness or high-risk conditions. This occurred often despite some of these patients having had prior outpatient contact for their acute illness. Although the published reports indicate that most critically ill patients ultimately received antiviral therapy, delayed treatment commonly led to initiation of NAI administration as part of a salvage effort in a deteriorating patient. In part because of critical care support, even those patients who died in hospital usually survived into the second week of illness

or later. Those analysing the large amount of observational data that has been generated in recent years, particularly in the context of the 2009 H1N1 pandemic, need to keep these clinical observations in mind. Of note, a recent analysis of critically ill pandemic H1N1 patients in California compared mortality in untreated patients who survived at least to the day after symptom onset when NAIs were first given to the NAI-treated ones and found that cases who received NAI up to 4 days after symptom onset were more likely to survive ($P < 0.05$ for each day 0-4) (11).

An independent report on the observational studies of influenza antivirals published up to November 2010 (12) conducted a meta-analysis of the few studies providing effects adjusted for confounders and, while acknowledging the low quality of the evidence based on the GRADE assessment approach, concluded that in high-risk populations, oral oseltamivir may reduce mortality (odds ratio, 0.23 [95% CI 0.13 to 0.43]) and hospitalisation (odds ratio, 0.75 [95% CI 0.66 to 0.89]). In addition, as reported in multiple studies of hospitalised pandemic 2009 A(H1N1) patients, including high-risk ones like pregnant women and those admitted with pneumonia, treatment with oseltamivir up to 4 days and in some studies later after illness onset has been associated consistently with better outcomes (11;13-21). Such observations have served to reinforce US CDC recommendations for using influenza antivirals as early as possible in those with severe or progressive illness, those hospitalised with suspected or proven influenza, and outpatients at higher risk for influenza complications (22). Furthermore, given that the circulating influenza viruses have continued to change, with the pre-2009 A(H1N1) seasonal viruses being entirely replaced by A(H1N1)pdm09 and now antigenically drifted A(H3N2) and B viruses, ignoring observational data means that only information concerning NAI treatment for influenza viruses that are now no longer circulating is being considered.

5. Other treatment endpoints of interest. The possibility that oseltamivir might have non-specific antipyretic or immunomodulatory actions unrelated to its antiviral effects has been raised in part on the basis of murine studies (23;24). These possibilities or other symptom-modifying effects could be addressed by comparison of the course of fever and individual symptom resolution between oseltamivir and placebo recipients for those enrolled in the RTCs who did not have laboratory evidence for influenza (ITT-non-infected). Of note, antipyretics were provided to participants in these trials, so that use of paracetamol (acetaminophen) needs to be included as a confounder in such analyses.

In the published pivotal RCTs of oseltamivir treatment in adults, the fever and symptom reductions observed in oseltamivir recipients were in addition to the effects of paracetamol (acetaminophen). One previous RCT in adults with uncomplicated influenza compared amantadine to aspirin and found faster fever resolution in aspirin recipients but slower resolution of other symptoms and higher rates of adverse effects leading to drug cessation (25). While fever resolution is an objective endpoint of interest, it is generally short-lived and of limited clinical importance relative to other endpoints like time to symptom alleviation, time to return to usual activities/premorbidity status, and complications reductions.

The comment by Jefferson and colleagues on measuring viral loads is confusing. Virologic endpoints like quantitative virus titres (infectious and in recent studies viral RNA), time to culture negativity, and changes in titres over time are essential to determining whether a putative influenza antiviral treatment is exerting an antiviral effect and the magnitude of that effect. Failure to detect an antiviral effect raises questions about issues like compliance, drug absorption and disposition, lack of potency, and resistance emergence. Examining such virologic measures also serves to confirm the likely mechanism of antiviral action of NAIs, inhibiting release from infected cells and spread in respiratory tract secretions to initiate subsequent rounds of replication. Several observational studies during the 2009 pandemic found that early antiviral treatment (<2-3 days from symptom onset) was associated with reduced duration of viral RNA detection (26-28). Consequently, in the context of the oseltamivir RCTs, it would be valuable to examine the correspondence between upper respiratory tract influenza virologic measures and symptom resolution and LRT complications in both oseltamivir and placebo groups.

7. Prophylaxis endpoints of interest. As indicated in my initial letter, the key efficacy endpoint for an influenza antiviral used for prophylaxis should be symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed influenza illness. Given the potential for other respiratory viruses to cause febrile respiratory illness, a focus on ILI as the primary endpoint will inevitably underestimate the protective effects of an influenza-specific chemoprophylactic agent. Of note, various definitions of symptomatic illness and ILI have been used in the influenza prophylaxis RCTs to date, so that further analyses using standardised definitions would be a helpful contribution. Other secondary endpoints of interest include laboratory documented infection (irrespective of symptoms), ILI, virus-positive ILI, and laboratory-confirmed illnesses not meeting the ILI definition. Laboratory confirmation based on both viral culture and in future studies viral RNA detection would take advantage of the greater sensitivity of RNA detection.

8. Adverse effects with prophylaxis. As detailed in the oseltamivir seasonal prophylaxis study protocols and report, the relationship between drug receipt and adverse events, including headache, in these trials (29) was determined by the study staff and investigators during the trial under blinded conditions before data lock. The assessment of causality in adverse events (unrelated, remote, possible, probable) as related to drug administration was made using pre-specified criteria in the protocol (see Appendix 2) on an individual basis by both interviewing the affected participant and considering various factors including past patterns of headaches, associated symptoms, duration and severity, timing in relation to study drug, and whether the symptom persisted during drug administration. Because of its background frequency in the population, headache is a very common event in longer term studies. When it is mild or transient despite continued drug administration, or when it occurs in context of other events (URI, trauma, stress), headache is unlikely to be drug-related. Using these criteria and the analysis report provided by the sponsor Roche, we observed headache (not otherwise specified, NOS) that was probably, possibly, or remotely related to study drug administration in 22.4% of placebo, 23.8% of once daily oseltamivir, and 25.4% of twice daily oseltamivir recipients during the 6 weeks of prophylaxis (29). The proportions were 10.2%, 8.7%, and 10.8%, respectively, for headache (NOS) that was possibly or probably related to study drug administration.

Headache is a good example of where it is essential to examine not only the frequencies of reported adverse events but also their severity and functional impact, including premature cessation of study drug. In our 6-week prophylaxis trial (29), severe headache (NOS) irrespective of relationship to study drug administration was reported in 5.0% of placebo, 3.3% of once daily oseltamivir, and 6.9% of twice daily oseltamivir, respectively. Overall premature study withdrawals were found in 21 (4.4%) of placebo, 17 (3.3%) of once daily oseltamivir, and 16 (3.1%) of twice daily oseltamivir recipients. In three placebo but no oseltamivir recipients, headache was listed as a contributory factor. However, headache was reported to be a factor leading to cessation of oseltamivir prophylaxis in one subject in another prophylaxis study (30) and was also reported at a higher frequency during 6-weeks prophylaxis in a nursing home-based RCT (5.5% placebo vs 8.3% oseltamivir)(31), so that further analyses are warranted.

9. Peer review. I thank Jefferson and his colleagues for their clarifications on the Cochrane peer review process, and as indicated above, I have provided my own suggestions on the design of future analyses by them and others. In addition, I have provided a list to the Cochrane Editorial Unit of several dozen potential expert reviewers for future protocols and reports on influenza antivirals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these responses and comments.

Sincerely,

Frederick G. Hayden, M.D.
Richardson Professor of Clinical Virology
Professor of Medicine
University of Virginia School of Medicine
Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

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Appendix 2 Definition of Adverse Event Relationship to Treatment

Probable

This category applies to those adverse events which are considered, with a high degree of certainty, to be related to the test drug. An adverse event may be considered **probable** if:

1. It follows a reasonable temporal sequence from administration of the study drug.
2. It cannot be reasonably explained by the known characteristics of the subject's clinical state, environmental or toxic factors, or other modes of therapy administered to the subject.
3. It disappears or decreases on cessation or reduction of dose. (There are important exceptions when an adverse event does not disappear upon discontinuation of the drug, yet drug-relatedness clearly exists; e.g., (1) bone marrow depression, (2) tardive dyskinesias).
4. It follows a known pattern of response to the study drug.
5. It reappears upon re-challenge.

Possible

This category applies to those adverse events in which the connection with the test drug administration appears unlikely but cannot be ruled out with certainty. An adverse event may be considered **possible** if or when:

1. It follows a reasonable temporal sequence from the administration of study drug.
2. It may have been produced by the subject's clinical state, environmental or toxic factors, or other modes of therapy administered to the subject.
3. It follows a known pattern of response to the study drug.

Remote

In general, this category is applicable to an adverse event which meets the following criteria:

1. It does **not** follow a reasonable temporal sequence from administration of the study drug.
2. It may readily have been produced by the subject's clinical state, environmental or toxic factors, or other modes of therapy administered to the subject.
3. It does not follow a known pattern of response to the study drug.
4. It does not reappear or worsen when the drug is re-administered.

Unrelated

This category is applicable to those adverse events which are judged to be clearly and incontrovertibly due only to extraneous causes (disease, environment, etc.) and do not meet the criteria for drug relationship listed under **remote, possible, or probable**.

	Probable	Possible	Remote	Unrelated
Clearly due to extraneous causes	-	-	-	+

Reasonable temporal association with drug administration	+	+	-	-
May be produced by subjects clinical state	-	+	+	+
Known response pattern to suspected drug	+	+	-	-
Disappears or decreases on cessation or reduction in dose	+	-	-	-
Reappears on re-challenge	+	-	-	-

Reply

Reply to Hayden Letter 10 August 2012

Thank you for taking the trouble to provide further feedback to our responses to your first set of feedback comments.

You remain concerned about 1) "...selective approach to data analysis and presentation...", especially with respect to our concern that ITT-infected (ITTI) criteria are inappropriate; and 2) our identification of biases that may exaggerate the effectiveness of oseltamivir. You detail these concerns in more detail:

1. ITT and ITTI

You propose an analysis of ITTI in which patients are categorised not by an immune response (which we regard as potentially flawed because our interpretation of the data suggests the drug may interfere with the immune response) but instead by determining whether patients were seroconverting excreting influenza virus at enrolment.

This sounds sensible, and were the data of symptoms and baseline infectivity (by serology or even virus shedding) available to us in suitable format, we would include this analysis. By this, we would expect the randomisation of patients into the two groups to be independent of the initiation of the drug (that is the "influenza-positive" or "-negative") before the drug was administered, in case (as may be with the immune response) the drug interferes with virus excretion (as the manufacturer claims in some of its literature).

You also propose an analysis of those grouped by ITTI from serological conversion with those grouped by virus excretion. This also would be useful, to determine whether or not a bias exists in the current data (in either direction, as you point out – the possible mechanisms you outline are plausible).

However, your hypothesis "If oseltamivir is most beneficial in preventing lower respiratory tract (LRT) complications" IS one of the main issues to be confirmed.

As already described in our review, you reported a reduction of cytokine production in response to influenza infection by oseltamivir in humans:

- Hayden FG, Atmar RL, Schilling M, Johnson C, Poretz D, Paar D, et al. Use of the selective oral neuraminidase inhibitor oseltamivir to prevent influenza. *New England Journal of Medicine* 1999;341(18):1336-43

These findings suggest that reduction of antibody production cannot simply be assumed to be the result of reduced viral load.

2. Sample sizes

You describe in more detail the Kaiser 2003 pooled analysis of complications:

- Kaiser L, Wat C, Mills T, Mahoney P, Ward P, Hayden F. Impact of oseltamivir treatment on influenza-related lower respiratory tract complications and hospitalisations. *Arch Intern Med* 2003;163:1667-72

This was central to the start of our unease, after it was pointed out to us (in this Feedback section!) by Hayashi that over half of the data in it were of unpublished trials. You state that the end-points were established a priori and not post hoc. You admit to shortcomings of the paper but point out that they were declared in the paper itself. You suggest that because the two published trials meta-analysed had no more favourable drug results than the unpublished, bias is less likely.

We think this is to misunderstand our central concern: we are unable to critically appraise the trials in the usual way because they are not available to us, nor, apparently, any other group unselected by the manufacturer. Incidentally we note that you yourself, even as an author, admit you were unable to locate the data for this paper on request, referring us instead to the sponsoring manufacturer, Roche:

- Cohen D. Complications: tracking down the data on oseltamivir. *BMJ* 2009;339:b5387.

This inability by you (authors) or sponsoring manufacturer to provide data for independent scrutiny is disgraceful, a view shared by others, <http://bmj.com/tamiflu>.

3. Adverse effects of NIs

We find it interesting that you call these adverse events 'complications'. You point to our concerns about neuropsychiatric adverse events (NPAEs), and (correctly) state that any association recorded in the literature "...remains to be proven..." with some references (all were retrospective studies and mostly sponsored by the manufacturer) that suggest that there is no increase over control groups. We have other references suggesting the opposite:

- Hama R. Fatal neuropsychiatric adverse reactions to oseltamivir: case series and overview of causal relationship. *Int J Risk Safety Med*: 20 (2008): 5-36: <http://npjip.org/english/no11.html>
- Nakamura K, Schwartz BS, Lindegårdh N, Keh C, Guglielmo BJ. Possible neuropsychiatric reaction to high-dose oseltamivir during acute 2009 H1N1 influenza A infection. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2010 Apr 1;50:e47-9.
- Kruker AT, Krause M. ["Oseltamivir-induced delirium"]. *Ther Umsch*. 2010 Dec;67(12):613-5. German.
- Chung S, Joung YS. Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) induced depressive episode in a female adolescent. *Psychiatry Investig*. 2010 Dec;7(4):302-4. Epub 2010 Nov 11.

The following are prospective cohort studies that aimed to analyse the association of NPAEs and administration of NIs, in particular oseltamivir.

- Fujiwara F, Ikushima S, Hibi N et al. An analysis of risk factors of abnormal behavior in two seasons (07, 08) of influenza infection. Presentation at the 40th annual meeting of the Japanese Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases held on 15 and 16 (2008)
- Fujita T, Fujii Y, Watanabe Y, Mori M, Yokota S. A pharmacoepidemiological study on the relationship between neuropsychiatric symptoms and therapeutic drugs after influenza infection. *Jap J Pharmacoepidemiol* 2010; 15: 73-92.

This preliminary report on the analysis of randomised controlled trials of oseltamivir for prophylaxis contains our response to Roche's report discussing NPAEs and oseltamivir:

- Jones M, Hama R, Jefferson T, Doshi P. Neuropsychiatric adverse events and oseltamivir for prophylaxis (letter). *Drug Safety*, 2012, 35 (12): 1187-90.

A proportional mortality study indicates that oseltamivir increases sudden death (odds ratio: 5.9) compared with zanamivir users in an analysis of all deaths among ~ 20 million 2009A/H1N1 influenza patients in Japan. This effect is also observed for the comparison of oseltamivir users with non-users.

- Hama R, Jones M, Okushima H, Kitao M, Noda N, Hayashi K, Sakaguchi K. [Oseltamivir and early deterioration leading to death: a proportional mortality study for 2009A/H1N1 influenza](http://iospress.metapress.com/content/5257410g24403m68/fulltext.pdf). *Int J Risk Saf Med*. 2011;23(4):201-15. <http://iospress.metapress.com/content/5257410g24403m68/fulltext.pdf>

We have presented many of these studies in our previous reply to you, without response.

Of course the uncertainty about causation is true for many drug adverse events: our duty is to ensure that any such uncertainty is clearly articulated.

Nevertheless we entirely agree that "...observational studies ... undertaken for investigation of outcomes and possible adverse events following influenza immunisation ... should also be extended to antivirals." However, because this Cochrane review is limited to randomised data, such observational studies would be conducted outside this particular review.

4. Observational data

You point to our concerns about observational data in general for answering intervention questions. We acknowledge the plethora of observational data available, and even the meta-analysis of some of them. This does not detract from our continued concern that the best data for answering these questions are randomised, and to leave most of these data unavailable for independent scrutiny is unforgivable.

Moreover, the observational studies are regarded as poor in quality. A recent systematic review and meta-analysis of observational data for antivirals for the treatment of influenza concluded, "...therapy with oral oseltamivir and inhaled zanamivir may provide a net benefit over no treatment of influenza. However the confidence in the estimates of the effects for decision making is low to very low."

- Hsu J, Santesso N, Mustafa R, Brozek J, Chen YL, Hopkins JP, et al. *Ann Intern Med*. 2012 Apr 3;156(7):512-24. doi: 10.1059/0003-4819-156-7-201204030-00411. Epub 2012 Feb 27. Antivirals for treatment of influenza: a systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies

Incidentally, we are interested in rigorously meta-analysing these data ourselves, and have put in a protocol to do just that. (Jones M, Hama R. Effect of oseltamivir on mortality in treatment of 2009A/H1N1 influenza patients. PROSPERO 2012:CRD42012002245. Available from: http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/display_record.asp?ID=CRD42012002245)

The proportional mortality study (above), analysing all influenza deaths in Japan and estimating populations who took antivirals and did not take them as the denominators, provides far more reliable estimates of risk from drug exposures than retrospective analysis of surveillance cases without exposed populations (denominators). Contrary to your suggestion "...there is also the opposite concern that sicker patients, especially in a rapidly evolving illness like influenza, are more likely to initiate therapy at any given time after symptom onset than less ill ones...", no such tendency was detected in this study. Proportions of patients treated with antivirals within 12 hours from the onset of fever were significantly lower in the "not mild" cases (26.5%) than "mild" cases (35.4%) at the time when antiviral was prescribed [Table 2b]. However, no patients who deteriorated before the first presentation at medical facilities were treated with antivirals before deterioration [Table 2a], while 78% of "mild" cases and 55% of "not mild" cases were prescribed antivirals within 48 hours from onset of fever [Tables 2a and 2b]. These may be related to the lower positive results (45%) of rapid testing for influenza virus in the "not mild" cases than that in the "mild" cases (60%) at the first consultation:

- Hama R, Jones M, Okushima H, Kitao M, Noda N, Hayashi K, Sakaguchi K. [Oseltamivir and early deterioration leading to death: a proportional mortality study for 2009A/H1N1 influenza](http://iospress.metapress.com/content/5257410g24403m68/fulltext.pdf). Int J Risk Saf Med. 2011;23(4):201-15. <http://iospress.metapress.com/content/5257410g24403m68/fulltext.pdf>

5. Other treatment endpoints of interest

Does oseltamivir have non-specific antipyretic or immune-modulatory actions unrelated to its antiviral effect?

We have already noted the hypothermic and immune-suppression effect of oseltamivir in humans, some from your own writing.

- Hama R. Fatal neuropsychiatric adverse reactions to oseltamivir: case series and overview of causal relationship. Int J Risk Safety Med 2008;20:5-36
- Hayden FG, Treanor JJ, Fritz RS, Lobo M, Betts RF, Miller M, et al. Use of the oral neuraminidase inhibitor oseltamivir in experimental human influenza: randomised controlled trials for prevention and treatment. JAMA 1999;282:1240-6.

Your suggestion that antipyretic actions of oseltamivir be tested by comparing those randomised to oseltamivir against those not in the non-ITTI group is worth consideration (although the results might be difficult to interpret). Again, as mentioned above, it would be good to have access to sufficient data to allow this analysis and others we have outlined in the protocol.

We note your criticism about over-focusing on fever as a proxy for symptom resolution. We are of course interested in any good measure of the latter that is not only objective but also common to all trials. Nevertheless, despite your criticism, fever is a reasonable marker of 'illness' from infections such as influenza, and probably correlates reasonably well with symptom resolution (especially in the prophylaxis trials) and in the treatment trials (if fever is measured until complete resolution) – it is, after all, a cardinal symptom – and has the great advantage of being clearly measured.

You suggest that we test whether viral excretion correlates with symptoms of influenza. We agree that this would be an interesting analysis, were the data available to us (see above).

7. (Note there was no Point 6) Should we be focusing so much on influenza-like illness (ILI)?

Of course, if oseltamivir neither reduces antibody production to influenza virus nor conceals testing positivity, selecting only laboratory-confirmed influenza might be a reasonable end point for prophylaxis trials. However the facts suggest these cannot be assumed.

In any case, the Cochrane Collaboration is dedicated to finding the best available evidence to enable patients and their clinicians to make best-informed decisions. To that end, ILI is what the vast majority of clinicians and their patients will be facing. Therefore this is an end-point of direct relevance to them, and we make no apology for including it.

8. Adverse events in prophylactic trials

Thanks for this detailed information. Further analyses are indeed what we would like to undertake according to our protocol.

9. Peer review

Thanks for offering a list of your own colleagues to act as peer reviewers. We adhere to the principle of ensuring there is methodological expertise as well as content expertise. Your list will be useful to consider when finding peer reviewers.

As you may be aware, because this particular Review Group (Acute Respiratory Infections) has its Co-ordinating Editor as an Author on this review, the handling of the manuscript is managed by the Central Editorial Unit to minimise any potential conflict of interest.

Contributors

Chris Del Mar, Tom Jefferson, Rokuro Hama, Mark Jones, Peter Doshi, Carl Heneghan, Matthew Thomson.

Feedback from Adam Jacobs, 13 February 2013

Summary

Comment: The selection criteria in the review seem highly unusual. The authors describe a 2-stage process for including trials.

In the first stage, they require that the trial reports they analyse have "external consistency". As far as I can tell, this means that they must be able to verify the contents of the report from an external source.

This seems an extraordinarily high bar to set. I am not aware that it is part of standard Cochrane methodology. If it were applied across Cochrane reviews more generally, I imagine that very few Cochrane reviews would include any evidence at all, especially given that most Cochrane reviews are done perfectly happily with published papers, whereas this one had the advantage of clinical study reports, which are generally far more reliable and comprehensive than published papers.

It is almost as if the authors have gone out of their way to exclude the evidence, which does not help to answer important questions about the efficacy of neuraminidase inhibitors.

It is also noteworthy that no specific reasons were given for exclusion of studies from stage I of the process: we are only told that "insufficient information was available". In the interests of transparency, it would be better to know specifically what information was lacking.

May I suggest that the authors either explain the reason why they felt the need to use far stricter inclusion criteria than is normal in Cochrane reviews, or revisit their inclusion criteria so that the studies can be analysed.

I agree with the conflict of interest statement below:

I certify that I have no affiliations with or involvement in any organization or entity with a financial interest in the subject matter of my feedback.

Adam Jacobs, Director, Dianthus Medical Limited

Reply

Adam Jacobs writes:

"The selection criteria in the review seem highly unusual. The authors describe a 2-stage process for including trials. In the first stage, they require that the trial reports they analyse have "external consistency". As far as I can tell, this means that they must be able to verify the contents of the report from an external source."

At page 11 of the review we provide the definition: "External consistency. Consistency of data as reported in regulatory documents, other versions of the same clinical study reports/unpublished reports and other references, to be established by cross-checking"

"This seems an extraordinarily high bar to set. I am not aware that it is part of standard Cochrane methodology. If it were applied across Cochrane reviews more generally, I imagine that very few Cochrane reviews would include any evidence at all, especially given that most Cochrane reviews are done perfectly happily with published papers, whereas this one had the advantage of clinical study reports, which are generally far more reliable and comprehensive than published papers".

And

"May I suggest that the authors either explain the reason why they felt the need to use far stricter inclusion criteria than is normal in Cochrane reviews, or revisit their inclusion criteria so that the studies can be analysed."

Our review is the first systematic review that we are aware of to be completely based on regulatory information. As our basic element of data synthesis was different, we had to develop new methods which we did transparently and are described in the review. It was a fact that we had received partial clinical study reports for the same trials from both Roche and EMA. We felt the need to ensure these reports were consistent. Whether our methods were an "extraordinarily high bar" or a reasonable bar or too low a bar is a judgement readers can make for themselves.

The background history which informed our methodology is explained in the review itself. At pages 4 and 5 of the review we write:

"In 2009, a reader posted a comment in response to the (then current) 2006 version of this review (Jefferson 2006). He pointed out that the review had endorsed the claim regarding a reduction in complications based on the uncritical inclusion of the Kaiser meta-analysis (Doshi 2009). The reader pointed out that only two of the 10 'Kaiser trials' had been published (Nicholson 2000; Treanor 2000) and the information provided by the Kaiser text about the remaining eight was insufficient for their appraisal. Our subsequent efforts to retrieve and review the eight unpublished trials (representing 2691 patients) were unsuccessful, raising the possibility that the findings of our previous review were not an accurate estimate of the benefits and safety of the drug. In addition, we found clear evidence of possible publication bias (see below) amid concern that some evaluations have not been available to scrutiny by the scientific community (Cohen 2009; Doshi 2009; Freemantle 2009; Godlee 2009)."

"This review is focused on healthy adults and children. It represents the amalgamation of two long-standing Cochrane reviews on the effects of NIs for influenza in healthy adults (Jefferson 2010a, also published as Jefferson 2009a) and children (Matheson 2007). The reviews were combined to pool our collective expertise and time in extracting and assessing data from clinical study reports, which in the case of some oseltamivir trials, report both adult and paediatric outcomes. Cochrane reviews of NIs in both children and adults generated intense interest from clinicians and media during the influenza outbreak declared a pandemic by the WHO in 2009. The Cochrane review of NIs in healthy adults highlighted the high risk of publication bias (Jefferson 2010a). In 2009, a reader posted a comment in response to the (then current) 2006 version of this review (Jefferson 2006). He pointed out that the review had endorsed the claim regarding a reduction in complications based on the uncritical inclusion of the Kaiser meta-analysis (Doshi 2009). The reader pointed out that only two of the 10 'Kaiser trials' had been published (Nicholson 2000; Treanor 2000) and the information provided by the Kaiser text about the remaining eight was insufficient for their appraisal. Our subsequent efforts to retrieve and review the eight unpublished trials (representing 2691 patients) were unsuccessful, raising the possibility that the findings of our previous review were not an accurate estimate of the benefits and safety of the drug. In addition, we found clear evidence of possible publication bias (see below) amid concern that some evaluations have not been available to scrutiny by the scientific community (Cohen 2009; Doshi 2009; Freemantle 2009; Godlee 2009).

Our attempts to reconcile published and unpublished evidence by contacting the manufacturer and study authors failed (the latter were unable to provide us with the necessary data; some were not in possession of the data and others may have been restricted by confidentiality agreements). Together with the *British Medical Journal* (BMJ) we ascertained that ghostwriters had been involved, which means the named authors may not have been in full control of the trial publications (Cohen 2009). We also identified several key differences in licensed indications for oseltamivir between regulatory systems (mainly between the US, Europe and Japan) and under-reporting of harms. The differences are detailed elsewhere (Doshi 2009) but of particular concern was the insistence of the FDA that oseltamivir has not been shown to reduce complications (FDA 2011a). The FDA has also not allowed an indication for interference of viral transmission within households (the key concept behind post-exposure prophylaxis). This undermined our confidence in published data and in the findings of our previous Cochrane reviews. In the background of all this were suggestions that NIs may not be as safe as previously assumed, with associations between oseltamivir use and neuropsychiatric adverse reactions of particular concern (Hama 2008)."

Adam Jacobs writes:

"It is almost as if the authors have gone out of their way to exclude the evidence, which does not help to answer important questions about the efficacy of neuraminidase inhibitors."

A page 5 of the review we write:

"During the preparation of the 2010 review and of the current review, we realised that there were multiple sources and different levels of granularity of clinical trial data (see 'The Scope of Clinical Trial Data' table in Jefferson 2011). We decided that clinical study reports and regulatory comments were likely to provide the least biased, most complete and most insightful set of data for our review".

And

"We identified that 60% (3145/5267) of patient data from randomised, placebo-controlled phase III treatment trials of oseltamivir have never been published. This includes M76001, the biggest treatment trial ever undertaken on oseltamivir (with just over 1400 people of all ages). Exclusion of unpublished data changed our previous findings regarding oseltamivir's ability to reduce complications of influenza (Doshi 2009; Jefferson 2009a)."

Our attempts at identifying and retrieving all available evidence from regulators and manufacturers since 2009 are documented at <http://bmj.com/tamiflu>.

Adam Jacobs writes:

"It is also noteworthy that no specific reasons were given for exclusion of studies from stage I of the process: we are only told that "insufficient information was available". In the interests of transparency, it would be better to know specifically what information was lacking."

In Table 9 (page 186) we list all studies included in Stage 1 and report details of what data for each were available to us. For, example for trial MV22940 we know that it is likely to be a randomised trial assessing effects of oseltamivir on post exposure prophylaxis but no other data are available to us. In these circumstances we cannot proceed to assessment until the information is available, as explained in the text of the review. However these studies are not excluded but are marked as pending assessment.

We invite Adam Jacobs to read the review and the references which document the history of the review, background and rationale for withdrawing the original review and developing the current version. We also invite Mr Jacobs to clarify what business relation his firm has if any with Roche, GSK and BioCryst Ltd.

It is possible that future Cochrane reviews will include an increasing proportion of regulatory information to minimize the effects of reporting bias. This type of speculation is however beyond the scope of the review.

Contributors

Cochrane Neuraminidase Inhibitors Review Team, 5 March 2013

Prof Chris Del Mar, Coordinating Editor, Acute Respiratory Infections Cochrane Review Group, Australia

Dr Peter Doshi, Postdoctoral Fellow, Johns Hopkins University, USA

Dr Rokuro Hama, Physician, Pharmaco-epidemiologist, Japan Institute of Pharmaco-vigilance, University of Osaka, Japan

Dr Carl Heneghan, Clinical Reader, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford, UK

Dr Tom Jefferson, Epidemiologist, Acute Respiratory Infections Cochrane Review Group, Italy

Dr Mark Jones, Statistician, University of Queensland, Australia

Dr Matthew Thompson, Clinical Reader, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford, UK

Feedback from Harri Hemilä, 6 May 2013

Summary

Comment: Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) shortens the duration of influenza-like illness by 13% (95% CI 8% to 18%)

In studies measuring dichotomous outcomes, relative risk (RR) is a standard measure for comparing study groups. The purpose of using RR is to adjust for baseline variability in the occurrence of disease. It is easier to compare two trials on the basis of their RR estimates than on the basis of their absolute effects.

The relative effect should also be calculated for continuous outcomes. Although the duration of disease may vary randomly in placebo groups, there are also biological reasons why diseases in different placebo groups differ in their severity and duration. For example, in Analysis 1.1 of this review, the duration of influenza-like illness in the placebo group of trial WV15671 is 35% shorter than in the placebo group of trial WV15819/WV15876/WV15978 ($Z = 6.5$; $P = <0.00001$; 125h/192h). Such very large baseline differences are not explained by chance. Differences in the study populations, influenza seasons, study protocols, etc. are plausible explanations for the baseline variation. The above-mentioned baseline difference is much greater than any of those between the oseltamivir (Tamiflu) and placebo groups in the five trials of Analysis 1.1. As for dichotomous outcomes, the baseline variability of continuous outcomes can be adjusted for by calculating the effect in percentages, i.e., the relative effect. Furthermore, the percentage effect is informative for an average reader because the reader may form an opinion on whether, for example, a 10% or 20% average decrease in the duration is worth the cost and effort of the treatment. Separate from the absolute effect in days, the percentage effect shows whether the effect is small or large.

Therefore the effect of oseltamivir should be calculated also as a percentage effect. I calculated the relative effects for the five trials listed in Analysis 1.1, pooled them using the fixed effect inverse variance method of RevMan, and found that the average effect of oseltamivir is a 13% (95% CI 8 to 18%) decrease in the duration of influenza-like illness.

Furthermore, the relative effect estimate makes it possible to compare the effects of treatments for related conditions. Influenza-like illness has substantial overlap with the common cold. In our Cochrane review on vitamin C and the common cold we calculated that ≥ 1 g/day of vitamin C shortens colds in adults by 8% (95% CI 4 to 12%) and in children by 18% (95% CI 9 to 27%) [1]. Another meta-analysis found that a high dose of zinc (>75 mg/day) as zinc acetate lozenges decreased the duration of colds by 42% (95% CI 35 to 48%) and as zinc lozenges made with other salts by 20% (95% CI 12 to 28%) [2]. The mechanism of the effect of vitamin C and zinc lozenges is not understood; however, there is no reason to assume that their effects are specific, for example, to the rhinovirus. If vitamin C and zinc lozenges have effects on diverse respiratory viruses, they might also have an effect on influenza viruses. In mice, influenza infection decreased vitamin C concentration in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid [3]. In mice, vitamin C deficiency increased lung pathology caused by influenza infection [4]. An early study with influenza patients reported that the occurrence of pneumonia was 80% lower (2 vs. 10 cases) in the vitamin C group, suggesting that vitamin C might also have an effect on influenza in humans [5,6]. If the effects of vitamin C and zinc lozenges on influenza-like illness are of the same magnitude as their effects on the common cold, then the effects of these treatments compare reasonably with oseltamivir. The comparison of the percentage effects of oseltamivir, vitamin C and zinc lozenges may be useful when considering how future research resources concerning the treatment of respiratory virus infections might be allocated. In this respect, the type of effect measure has a much wider importance than just its use in evaluating the effectiveness of oseltamivir as an issue of its own.

Thus the relative effect estimate adjusts for baseline variations between trials, it is informative for most readers because people are familiar with percentages, and it makes it easier to compare different treatments for related conditions. For these reasons I would like to encourage the authors to calculate and report the relative effect estimates for oseltamivir in the next revision of the review.

References

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[3] Buffinton GD, Christen S, Peterhans E, Stocker R. Oxidative stress in lungs of mice infected with influenza A virus. *Free Rad Res Commun* 1992;16:99-110 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/1321077>, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3109/10715769209049163>

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[5] Kimbarowski JA, Mokrow NJ. Colored precipitation reaction of the urine according to Kimbarowski as an index of the effect of ascorbic acid during treatment of viral influenza [in German]. *Deutsche Gesundheitswesen* 1967;22:2413-8. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/5614915>, Translation: <http://www.mv.helsinki.fi/home/hemila/T4.pdf>

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I agree with the conflict of interest statement below:

I certify that I have no affiliations with or involvement in any organization or entity with a financial interest in the subject matter of my feedback.

Harri Hemilä

Department of Public Health, University of Helsinki

Reply

Thank you for your suggestion and comprehensive argument why you think it is important. Indeed in our 2006 and 2009 updates of A047 (the previous review on antivirals for influenza in otherwise healthy adults), we pooled hazard ratios and reported relative effects for time to alleviation of symptoms. However GSK, the manufacturer of zanamivir, made the comment that hazard ratios may not be appropriate due to non-proportional hazards. Therefore for A159 we reported absolute treatment effects for time to alleviation of symptoms but not relative effects. We agree with your argument and will report absolute and relative effects for time to alleviation of symptoms and other outcomes in the next update of 'Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children' due at the end of 2013.

Contributors

Jefferson T, Jones MA, Doshi P, Del Mar CB, Heneghan CJ, Hama R, Thompson MJ

Review amendments, 16 May 2013

Summary

As reported in the current version of our review, we will complete the review of regulatory information which arrived after our original time lock. We will assess additional evidence from oseltamivir Module 2s, evidence on adverse events following exposure to neuraminidase inhibitors (NIs) and clinically relevant outcomes.

A rationale and description of our methods follows.

Evidence from Module 2s (Ms2) of oseltamivir trials

1. Summary and background

This part of the document will describe our efforts to determine whether the additional information included within Module 2s (Ms2) of clinical study reports (CSRs) would change the risk of bias assessment, identify additional useful or relevant information, and conclusions of the overall body of evidence contained within our existing review. A second aim is to construct and test a tool that could be used to extract, organise and appraise study information contained in such modules.

The items which are most commonly found in the M2 of the oseltamivir trials are: Certificates of Analysis (a report on the colour, composition and content of active and control substance capsules, blank Case Report Forms (case notes for each participant), follow-up cards/diary cards (on which each participant recorded information such as symptoms), informed consent text and participant contract (to be administered to and signed by each participant), lists of investigators in the trial, investigation review board, ethics committees and study sites' addresses, the Reporting Analysis Plan (Roche's term for the Statistical Analysis Plan or SAP detailing the types of data analyses to be carried out), randomisation list (used to allocate participants and the study Protocol with its amendments when appropriate or available).

1.2 Methods

We received 12 CSR Ms2 from 31 studies requested from EMA by July 2011. Before we reviewed Ms2 we knew they contained protocols, with their amendments, certificate of analyses, blank case report forms, randomisation and participating centres' lists. However, we had no precise idea whether this was a comprehensive list or whether further items would be identified once we started reviewing. We also noted that the same info was reported elsewhere in the CSRs (for example in the core report) but in a different level of detail. A good example of

this is the statistical analysis section of the core report which is a few pages long chapter, compared to the Statistical Analysis Plan (SAP), which is a self contained document included in M2. In addition we were not aware of the existence of any readily available tool to allow us to extract, organise and appraise the information contained in the Ms2.

As consequence we decided to develop our own tool. Our plan is to do this by identifying the types of items contained in the Ms2 available to us and their location in the Ms2. The outline content of all items identified will be checked in the Ms2 because of the potential for differing titles for the same item. For example we have already noticed that Research Analysis Plan (RAP) is sometimes called Data Analysis Plan (DAP) or Statistical Analysis Plan (SAP). Another example are the Protocol Amendment Histories and Protocol Modification History Document. These represented different ways of identifying the same item and need to be given a single identifier. Items such as Data Reporting and Analysis Manual (DRAM) are only cited in one M2. We will also conduct a pilot to identify with certainty which items are present more frequently. We will make a list of what we thought were most present and important items contained in the Ms2 and create a grid based on the sequence of development of the trial design and analysis plan. For example, we want to track whether the reporting of the trial study design in the relevant section of the protocol and its amendments (in M2) is consistent with that described in the core report (in M1). We will also make an initial extraction frame to reconstruct the timeline of the study documents, summarising the number of protocol changes and their dates in sequence. This has the purpose of giving an overview of the main timeline points of the key items of study design and analysis.

We will then pilot our extraction sheet and make changes following discussion with all authors. We will extract the data in the same groups we worked in the original review.

We will define the impact of adding M2 information by measuring the change in risk of bias (ROB) assessment in our review as well as reporting our summary description and appraisal of each trial before and after addition of the data and comparing it with the manufacturer's assessment.

The detailed questions addressed by our analysis are:

1. Does addition of M2 to M1 change the risk of bias evaluation compared to M1 alone?
2. Does reading M2 and M1 in CSRs change the risk of bias evaluation compared to using published papers?
3. Is the current risk of bias tool adequate for assessing trials based on reading M2 then M1 in the CSRs?
4. Does reading M2 and M1 in the CSRs identify additional useful relevant information for systematically reviewing a trial programme?

We will primarily use descriptive methods to answer the questions. To answer question 1 we will compare the risk of bias in our 2012 review with risk identified after addition of M2 information to our current review using a 3 by 3 contingency table. We will repeat this procedure to answer question 2, by comparing risk of bias in our 2009 *BMJ* review to our current assessment. This analysis will be based on the subset of trials that were published and included in our 2009 review.

To answer question 3 we will list all the components of other risk of bias in the current review and compared these with previous reviews (2012 and 2009).

To answer the final question we will provide a summary of the items that were identified in our assessment of the trials using the new M2 tool. This will allow us to summarise discrepancies between what was planned in the protocol, what was carried out (RAP, protocol amendments), what was reported in M1, and what was reported in the published papers. The focus would be on the trial programme of research i.e. issues that appeared consistently over the trials.

Adverse events

2. Summary and background

This document outlines how we will conduct the analysis of adverse events as part of the wider Cochrane review of neuraminidase inhibitors (NIs) for prophylaxis and treatment of influenza in healthy adults and children (A159).

We use the term 'adverse events' throughout this document rather than harms or adverse reactions as these latter terms imply causality which may or may not be appropriate.

In keeping with the methods of our previous review we will not use data from journal publications for this proposed analysis. We now have access to multiple clinical study reports (CSRs) for both oseltamivir and zanamivir. To our knowledge this is the first time some of these data have been available outside manufacturers and regulators, and allows for the exploration of events in more detail than is possible using the limited information on safety reported in journal publications. This potentially allows us to address some of the concerns that have arisen in the post marketing period about the possible relationship between neuraminidase inhibitors, oseltamivir in particular, and neuropsychiatric and other harms. The documents available to us contain listings and summaries of adverse events recorded in the trials including narrative summaries of serious adverse events and adverse events leading to study withdrawal.

The adverse events are classified by relationship to the study drug and also, by intensity (mild, moderate, severe, life-threatening and death). The duration of events is reported and they are also lumped into body systems such as gastrointestinal, neurological, etc.

2.1 Methods

All CSRs of oseltamivir and zanamivir will be included in our analysis. CSRs for prophylaxis, for treatment of adults and for treatment of children will be analysed separately. Adverse events will be initially descriptively compared over the entire treatment and follow-up period but then potentially stratified by on-treatment and off-treatment periods if it appears there may be a difference between treatment groups.

2.2 Adverse events for comparison

2.2.1 Common events

For common events of any intensity with an overall incidence of 2% or more we will compare the incidence between treatment groups. The cut-off of 2% is based on a power analysis where assuming 4000 patients in total (this is approximately how many patients we have access to in oseltamivir treatment trials of adults as well as in oseltamivir prophylaxis trials of adults), we will have 80% power to detect an odds ratio of 1.75 with 5% level of significance.

2.2.2 Uncommon events

Due to a lack of data to compare uncommon events we will compare events lumped into body systems between treatment groups. If we find evidence of a difference in incidences between groups lumped into a body system we will conduct further analysis if appropriate. This further analysis is to determine whether the difference in incidence is due to any common events included in that body system. For example, in the case of neurological body system, if we found evidence of a difference between treatment groups we would remove all common neurological events such as headaches and repeat the analysis.

2.3 Severe, serious events and events leading to study withdrawal

As well as the analysis described in section 2.2 above we will also conduct a subgroup analysis of just the events with severe intensity, serious events and events leading to study withdrawal. We will use the same definitions of "severe" and "serious" as specified in the CSRs. However we will check the classifications using all the information available in the CSRs including line listings of events, narratives provided for serious events and also for events leading to study withdrawal. Any disagreements with the original classifications will be recorded and any reclassifications will be assessed in a sensitivity analysis. Given it is unlikely there will be sufficient events to conduct separate statistical analysis at the level of body system we will compare the overall distribution of events by body system between treatment groups.

2.4 Incidence of adverse events in the CSRs

As a further check on the validity of the data on adverse events contained in the CSRs we will conduct descriptive comparisons of the incidence of adverse events in the prophylaxis and treatment trials.

This is because of the unclear methods of collecting and classifying adverse events in the trials. A potential adverse event could have been classified as a symptom of influenza, an efficacy outcome (such as complication of influenza) or an adverse event. Hence an informal comparison of the incidence of adverse events in the trials where participants had influenza (or influenza-like-illness) and the trials where participants did not have influenza may help show where adverse events could have been under-reported. We will take into account factors such as age of participants and duration of treatment exposure for these informal analyses. In addition if it is clear that an adverse event was not reported as an adverse event but was included elsewhere in the CSR (e.g. in the efficacy section), we will include that data in our adverse event analyses.

We will also construct a table showing the definitions specified in each CSR for classifying potential adverse events as adverse events, complications or symptoms of influenza.

2.5 Antibody titre

We have already reported that antibody production was lower in the oseltamivir group than in the placebo group in the systematic review of treatment trials of oseltamivir (2012). We will update this analysis by including additional oseltamivir trials as well as assess antibody production in the zanamivir trials.

We will assess antibody production in the prophylaxis trials of oseltamivir and zanamivir by the following methods.

We will first identify the participants who had influenza-like illness (ILI) or pyrexia. If the proportion is similar between active group and placebo group, the proportion of participants who had four times or higher increase of antibody will be compared between groups.

2.6 Dose-response analysis

A number of trials included two or more active treatment arms with different doses of study medication given to participants in each of the arms. For these trials we will investigate the dose-response relationship for common adverse events (as defined above).

2.7. Details of analysis

Initial analysis will be descriptive only where we will report the numbers and percentages of events by treatment group. If there is a potential difference in the pooled percentages between treatment groups (e.g. if there is more than a two standard error difference between percentages) then we will conduct formal meta-analysis. If indicated we may also conduct additional analyses taking into account event intensity and/or duration.

2.8 Limitation and exploratory analysis

The methods presented above are those that we have pre-specified prior to formal analysis of the data. A limitation of these methods is that we may fail to detect differences in rare adverse events because these events will be compared along with other types of events within body systems. Therefore in the process of conducting our formal analysis we may generate further hypotheses or conduct additional exploratory analyses. If this is the case then we will clearly label these analyses as exploratory and interpret the findings accordingly.

Types of outcome measures

3. Background

For most people, influenza is a self limiting illness. However the disease can at times lead to serious complications such as pneumonia and hospitalisations, and if treatment with neuraminidase inhibitors can reduce the risk of severe outcomes, this would be an important public health benefit. Another potentially important public health benefit would be the ability of antivirals to interrupt person to person transmission of influenza. Current evidence for these outcomes is scarce or inconclusive. A positive balance of effects on complications and viral spread versus harm profile is the main reason for using NIs in a public health context, especially the orally administered oseltamivir.

All analysis will be based on the intention-to-treat (ITT) or safety populations as our prior review discovered compelling evidence that the ITTI (the subpopulation deemed to be influenza-infected) populations were not balanced between treatment groups in the Roche oseltamivir trials. In addition, estimates from the ITT population will be more generalisable to clinical practice where routine testing for influenza is not common in many countries (and even where used, remains of variable accuracy). Analysis will be conducted separately for prophylaxis trials, treatment trials of adults and treatment trials of children.

The list of outcomes given below includes all potential outcomes that we believe are clinically important. However a number of them may not be formally comparable in this review because there are insufficient numbers of events (e.g. mortality) or they were not adequately measured or reported (e.g. drug resistance).

3.1 Outcome measures for treatment studies

Complications~
 Harms*
 Symptom relief
 Hospitalisation
 Viral excretion
 Drug resistance
 Mortality

3.2 Outcome measures for prophylaxis studies

Influenza-like-illness^
 Complications~
 Harms*
 Hospitalisation
 Viral excretion
 Drug resistance
 Mortality

~Complications (secondary illnesses) include pneumonia, bronchitis, otitis media, sinusitis or other respiratory tract infection after influenza-like illness. Initially we will construct a table to illustrate the design methodology used for each study. The table will include the following variables:

Study/trial ID

Where complications are first defined in the CSR (e.g. "as secondary endpoint in 3rd version of protocol six months into trial and two months prior to trial unblinding")

Definition of "complication" including types of events, population and time period at risk

How complications were measured (see diagnosis methods criteria shown below)

Availability of complications data for the ITT population

We will then stratify our analysis by method of diagnosis with three possible criteria:

- a. Lab-confirmed diagnosis (e.g. based on radiological or microbiologically confirmed evidence of infection).
- b. Clinical diagnosis without laboratory confirmation (diagnosed by a doctor after a clinical examination).
- c. Other type of diagnosis such as self-reported by patient

*A separate section provides the details of our proposed analysis of harms.

^The main outcome of interest is any symptomatic influenza-like-illness (ILI). However, we will also conduct separate analyses of influenza (symptomatic and asymptomatic) and non-influenza ILI.

Reply

TJ

Contributors

Jefferson T, Jones MA, Doshi P, Del Mar CB, Heneghan CJ, Hama R, Thompson MJ

Feedback from Peter Gross, Hackensack University Medical Center, USA, 17 April 2014

Summary

Can Cochran compare their results on influenza neuraminidase inhibitors with the reduction in symptoms when penicillin is given for strep throat? I think they may be comparable. That would be an important perspective.

I agree with the conflict of interest statement below:

I certify that I have no affiliations with or involvement in any organization or entity with a financial interest in the subject matter of my feedback.

Reply

Dear Dr Gross, the Cochrane Collaboration and specifically our ARI Group could certainly design a review looking at the comparative evidence of the effects of neuraminidase inhibitors versus penicillin for sore throat. Both reviews are in the ARI Group's Module, so it would have to be an indirect comparison review. I am not sure there are any of those in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, but there's always a first time for everything as our regulatory evidence review shows.

It would have to be a new review, with a new protocol, perhaps with new authors.
Would you be interested?

All the clinical study reports for the two neuraminidase inhibitors we looked at are at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.77471> and a short introduction at: blog post <http://blog.datadryad.org/2014/04/17/tamiflu-data/>

With best wishes,

Tom Jefferson on behalf of the authors

Contributors

Peter Gross

Roche feedback on 'Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children', 16 October 2014

Summary

<https://editorial-unit.cochrane.org/cochrane-review-neuraminidase-inhibitors-influenza>

Reply

We have received feedback from Roche and the full document is accessible via the above link, hosted on the Cochrane Editorial Unit's (CEU) website. The review authors submitted their reply to the Roche feedback on 23 March 2015, and this has been posted on the CEU website.

Contributors

Submitted by Barry Clinch,¹ James Smith,² Andy Kenwright,¹ Bernadette Surujbally,³ Joanne Harding¹

¹Roche Products Ltd, Welwyn Garden City, UK; ²F. Hoffmann La-Roche Ltd, Basel, Switzerland; ³BStats Solutions Ltd, Hertfordshire, UK

Feedback from Ryuko Hatano, 28 August 2017

Summary

Dear Sir/Madam: Greetings from Japan.

We are members of the Association of Victims of Tamiflu-related Encephalopathy, a group of victims whose children or other family members had serious reactions after taking Tamiflu, including sudden death, accidental death due to abnormal behaviours, and serious sequelae with disability. In this letter, we would like to respectfully request your group to establish the causality between Tamiflu and abnormal behaviours, sudden death or sequelae.

We have learnt that the WHO's essential medicines list was amended and Tamiflu was moved from the core to the complementary list, and that its use be restricted to severe illness due to confirmed or suspected influenza virus infection in critically ill hospitalized patients. Moreover, the next Expert Committee might consider Tamiflu for deletion, unless new information supporting the use in seasonal and pandemic outbreaks is provided.

We understand that the systematic review your group issued in April 2014 and the opinion you submitted to the WHO have served as the major evidence that promoted the amendment and future possible deletion of Tamiflu from the essential medicines model list. We, all the members of the Association of Victims, deeply appreciate you for conducting such an important systematic review which influenced the policy of WHO.

We know the outline of the results of your systematic review because Dr. Rokuro Hama, a Japanese doctor who is one of the members of the Cochrane team translated some important parts of the review into Japanese and uploaded it on his website: <http://www.npojip.org/sokuho/140410.html>

According to the translation, the results of the systematic review is summarized as follows:

- 1) Tamiflu reduced the time to first alleviation of symptoms in adults by 0.7 day (from 7 to 6.3 days). There was no effect in asthmatic children who are the real target of efficacy, although healthy children of Tamiflu group alleviate symptoms one day earlier than placebo group.
- 2) Tamiflu reduced the production of antibody against influenza.
- 3) Tamiflu did not decrease hospitalization.
- 4) There was no evidence that Tamiflu reduce influenza like illness.
- 5) Tamiflu induced harmful effects such as nausea, vomiting, headache, neurologic symptoms, kidney disorders, diabetic/hyperglycemia and pain in extremities. Zanamivir had no such adverse effects.
- 6) In particular, neuro-psychiatric symptoms were significantly more reported in Tamiflu group than in the placebo group in the prophylaxis trials. Dose-response relationship was also seen in the treatment trials.

"Abnormal behaviour" has been listed as one of the adverse reactions to Tamiflu in the Japanese label of Tamiflu since 2004. Hence, we believe that the accidental deaths due to abnormal behaviours after using Tamiflu should be recognized as death cases caused by side effects of Tamiflu, and that they should be relieved by the government. We submitted the applications for damage relief to the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA), but they rejected them, stating that "there is no association with Tamiflu use".

We also believe that the sudden deaths during sleep may be the consequences of side effects of Tamiflu because animals died suddenly after the administration of Tamiflu in animal experiments. Therefore, we applied damage relief for the sudden death cases as well, but PMDA rejected them with the same reason.

We, 14 families filed cases against PMDA to cancel the decision. Three families (one sudden death and two accidental deaths after abnormal behavior) lost the cases at the Supreme Court. The court accepted the claim of PMDA: the causes of both sudden death and accidental death due to abnormal behaviors were caused by influenza related encephalopathy and not by Tamiflu use because Tamiflu has no effect on brain and there is no evidence suggesting causality in animal, clinical and epidemiologic studies.

However, sensory function, cognitive function and consciousness of rats are disturbed and the mortality of rats from sudden death rises as the doses of Tamiflu increases as shown in the review article on the mechanisms of sudden-onset type of reactions to Tamiflu (Hama et al. 2016). High dose of Tamiflu stops animals' respiration, followed by cardiac arrest (Kimura and Haji et al. 2013). It induces low body temperature (Ono et al. 2013).

There are some epidemiologic studies which suggest association between Tamiflu use and delirium or unconsciousness (Fujita et al. 2010). There is also an epidemiologic study in which sudden deteriorations leading to death within 12 hours after Tamiflu use were far more frequently reported than after Relenza use (Hama et al. 2011). All these findings suggest close association, but the judges neglected them and concluded that there was "no causal association" based solely on the claims of PMDA.

We ourselves witnessed extremely abnormal course of dying or developing sequelae in our precious children or other family members. Based on these experiences we are convinced that there is no cause for these events other than Tamiflu. However, we are merely lay people, and we have no scientific means to prove it by ourselves. If your group could establish the causality between Tamiflu and abnormal behaviours, sudden death or sequelae, it would be greatly appreciated. If needed, all the members of our group are willing to provide any information about our family cases.

Thank you very much for your understanding and kind assistance in advance.

Yours sincerely,

All members of the Association of Victims of Tamiflu-related Encephalopathy

I do not have any affiliation with or involvement in any organisation with a financial interest in the subject matter of my comment

Ms. Ryuko Hatano

Affiliation: The Association of Victims of Tamiflu -related Encephalopathy

Role: Representative

Reply

Dear Ms Hatano,

Thank you for your query. We sympathize with your position. However, unfortunately we do not have enough information to respond to your specific request to “establish the causality between Tamiflu and abnormal behaviours, sudden death or sequelae.” The following explains why we cannot address your specific requests, and offers some thoughts on possibly relevant information that we can speak to based on our Cochrane Review.

Our systematic Review published in 2014 did not conduct a statistical test on every type of adverse event that was recorded in the clinical trials that we studied. Doing so may have led to false positives and false negative as well, undermining the reliability of any associations that we might have otherwise been able to detect. Therefore, as we write in the Review, our approach was to meta-analyze “(1) all serious adverse events; (2) all adverse events leading to study withdrawal; (3) all withdrawals; (4) all adverse events within a clinical study report’s defined body system; as well as (5) a small group of common adverse events as defined in the FDA drug label for oseltamivir.” (p.7).

Importantly, “There were too few events to meta-analyse (1) deaths; (2) serious adverse events by body system; and (3) any events that had an overall incidence of less than 0.5%. We did not meta-analyse outcomes with fewer than 10 events in total” (p.7).

“Abnormal behaviours”, “sudden death” or “sequelae” per se did not have an overall incidence of greater than 0.5%, and therefore we did not conduct statistical tests on them.

Our Review however, did conduct statistical tests and make causal inferences regarding other adverse events that may be possibly relevant to your concerns.

We wrote, with respect to oseltamivir being used for the prevention of influenza, that “oseltamivir caused headaches and psychiatric harms in adult prophylaxis trials” (p.38).

The degree to which the risk of psychiatric harms is increased is somewhere between 1 additional psychiatric adverse event for every 36 to 1538 persons that received oseltamivir for the prevention of influenza (p.3).

While our Review “failed to identify a clear association between oseltamivir and psychiatric harms” (p.38) in clinical trials in which oseltamivir was being used for the treatment of influenza, this does not rule out the possibility that a causal relationship exists. It only states that we did not detect one. We wrote: “The question of why oseltamivir treatment trials failed to identify a clear association between oseltamivir and psychiatric harms, although a weak dose-dependent association was observed, is a moot point. It is possible that influenza-like illness and influenza symptoms masked the harms in those who were already symptomatic and therefore recruited in the treatment trials (and influenza-type symptoms were excluded as adverse events to be reported). The reporting issue of compliharms may have helped to mask such events. Alternatively, it could be that these events are rare in the populations studied and that there was insufficient power to detect an association. The CI [confidence interval] was wide (0.43 to 2.03) and does not rule out a doubling in risk due to treatment - as was found in the prophylaxis trials. It is also possible that the risk of psychiatric harm increases with increasing dose (as the data from trials WV15670 and WV15671 suggest) and increasing duration of treatment (as the prophylaxis trials suggest)” (p.38).

In our Review, we discuss other studies, including three prospective cohort studies in Japan, that you may wish to review (p.38), although we did not formally analyze these studies in our systematic review. A careful analysis of these studies, and other studies we did not mention in this reply, would be required to answer your question about the causal link between Tamiflu and deaths.

We hope the above is helpful in responding to your query.

Regards

Contributors

(in alphabetical order)

Chris Del Mar

Peter Doshi

Rokuro Hama

Carl Heneghan

Jeremy Howick

Mark Jones

Kamal Mahtani

David Nunan
Igho Onakpoya
Elizabeth Spencer
Matthew Thompson

Feedback from Noritoshi Tanida, 14 September 2017

Summary

Dear authors of the Cochrane Acute Respiratory Infections Group, Neuraminidase Inhibitor Review Team.

I have learnt that the Association of Victims of Tamiflu-related Encephalopathy requested the Cochrane team to establish causality between Tamiflu and abnormal/psychiatric behaviours, sudden death or serious sequelae.

I know the victim's serious situations; the applications for damage relief to the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) were turned down and they lost cases in law courts either. Both PMDA and law courts took the same position, saying "there was no serious side effects in Tamiflu."

Here, the importance of causality establishment is evident as to respond to the request by the victims' group. I remember that Cochrane collaboration started upon responding lay peoples' query. Hence, I also request the Cochrane team to focus on this issue and to establish causality between Tamiflu and abnormal/psychiatric behaviours, sudden death or sequelae.

In revising the systematic review report considering the establishment of causality between Tamiflu and serious side effects, I hope that the Cochrane Acute Respiratory Infections Group, Neuraminidase Inhibitor Review Team will formally include analyses on events of "injury and poisoning" especially "injury" with Tamiflu treatment.

I believe that all criteria for causal inference by Hill/US surgeon General are satisfied for both abnormal behaviour and sudden death.

I thank you in advance.
Sincerely Yours,

I do not have any affiliation with or involvement in any organisation with a financial interest in the subject matter of my comment

Noritoshi Tanida (MD, PhD, DTM&H)

Affiliation: Former Professor of Department of Medical Humanities, School of Medicine, Yamaguchi University, Japan.

Reply

Dear Professor Tanida,

Thank you for your query. We received a similar request from Ms. Ryuko Hatano on Aug 28, 2017, regarding "abnormal behaviours, sudden death or sequelae."

As we explain in our response to that query, these events per se did not occur at a frequency greater than 0.5% and therefore we did not meta-analyze it. The same is true of "injury and poisoning." This also did not occur at a frequency greater than 0.5% and therefore we did not meta-analyze it.

Please see our response to her query for more information on our methods and findings.

Regards

Contributors

(in alphabetical order)

Chris Del Mar

Peter Doshi

Carl Heneghan

Jeremy Howick

Mark Jones

Kamal Mahtani

David Nunan

Igho Onakpoya

Elizabeth Spencer

Matthew Thompson

WHAT'S NEW

Date	Event	Description
4 January 2018	Amended	Removed Rokuro Hama's name from the Feedback reply to Noritoshi Tanida's comment, as it had been included by mistake.

HISTORY

Protocol first published: Issue 1, 2011

Review first published: Issue 1, 2012

Date	Event	Description
20 December 2017	Feedback has been incorporated	Two feedback comments and replies have been added to the review.
27 March 2015	Feedback has been incorporated	The authors' response has been posted on the CEU website https://editorial-unit.cochrane.org/cochrane-review-neuraminidase-inhibitors-influenza
14 January 2015	Amended	We removed 'healthy' from the review title because the adjective 'healthy' incorrectly describes the review's population. Several included trials are in people with chronic respiratory problems and those in a general population have participants with pre-existing pathologies as well as healthy people.
1 December 2014	Feedback has been incorporated	Link to Feedback incorporated.
29 July 2014	Feedback has been incorporated	Feedback comment and reply added.
22 July 2013	New search has been performed	Searches updated. We received the last clinical study report in September 2013. Since the first publication of this review in January 2012, we have completed the review of regulatory information that became available after our original time lock. We have assessed additional evidence from oseltamivir Module 2, evidence on adverse events following exposure to neuraminidase inhibitors and clinically relevant outcomes, and cross-referenced this with the individual listings contained in Modules 3 to 5. We now hold all the relevant full clinical study reports, which we are making publicly accessible with this review.
22 July 2013	New citation required and conclusions have changed	In this update we found further evidence that the mode of action of oseltamivir is likely to be centrally mediated. We then carried out a toxicity assessment and found that oseltamivir has multi-system toxicity (renal, neurological, psychiatric, metabolic, gastrointestinal and immune system). The effects of both drugs are modest. Evidence of oseltamivir toxicity is reasonably firm. Zanamivir toxicity is low. Neither drug should be used routinely. The beneficial effects on influenza viruses are slight or difficult to identify.
15 May 2013	Amended	Amendments to data analyses from oseltamivir trials Module 2; clinical outcomes and adverse events added in the 'Feedback' section and 'Published notes' sections

Date	Event	Description
14 May 2013	Feedback has been incorporated	Feedback comment and reply added to the review
8 March 2013	Feedback has been incorporated	Feedback and reply added to the review
28 January 2013	Amended	New feedback comment and reply posted
7 September 2012	Amended	Conflict of interest statement updated for a feedback submitter
9 February 2012	Feedback has been incorporated	Feedback comments added to review
4 May 2011	Feedback has been incorporated	Feedback from three contributors has been added to the review

CONTRIBUTIONS OF AUTHORS

TJ, PD, CDM, MT, MJ and CH were authors of the separate relevant Cochrane reviews. The protocol for the **2012** review was written by TJ, PD and CDM. All authors contributed to the writing of this protocol and devised the approach strategies to the data sources. CH provided logistical support. For the 2012 review, all authors reconstructed clinical trials using the CONSORT statement-based extraction template, TJ reviewed regulatory material and TJ, MJ, CH, RH and CDM applied the inclusion criteria. CDM supervised the process and arbitrated when necessary. MJ carried out the statistical analyses. RH reviewed the Japanese data together with MJ and PD. TJ reviewed the FDA files. CDM and MT screened the electronic searches. TJ prepared the final text and all authors contributed to the final draft. Toby Lasserson contributed editorial support.

For the **2014** review TJ, PD, CDM, MT, RH, MJ and CH amended the protocol. TJ and PD applied the inclusion criteria to the oseltamivir clinical study reports. CH and IO applied the inclusion criteria to the zanamivir clinical study reports. MJ supervised the process and arbitrated when necessary. MJ carried out the statistical analyses. RH reviewed the Japanese data together with MJ and PD. TJ, PD, CH, IO, ES, DN and JH extracted the clinical study reports. CDM and MT screened the electronic search updates. TJ prepared the final text and all authors contributed to the final draft.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All review authors have applied for and received competitive research grants. TJ, PD, CDM, MT, RH, MJ and CH are co-recipients of the NIHR grant to carry out this review (<http://www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/projects/hta/108001>). In addition:

Prof Jefferson receives royalties from his books published by Blackwell and Il Pensiero Scientifico Editore, Rome. Dr Jefferson is occasionally interviewed by market research companies for anonymous interviews about Phase 1 or 2 pharmaceutical products. In 2011-2013 Dr Jefferson acted as an expert witness in a litigation case related to oseltamivir phosphate; Tamiflu [Roche] and in a labour case on influenza vaccines in healthcare workers in Canada. In 1997-99 Dr Jefferson acted as consultant for Roche, in 2001-2 for GSK and in 2003 for Sanofi-Synthelabo for pleconaril (an anti-rhinoviral which did not get approval from FDA). Dr Jefferson is a consultant for IMS Health.

Dr Doshi received EUR 1500 from the European Respiratory Society in support of his travel to the society's September 2012 annual congress in Vienna, where he gave an invited talk on oseltamivir.

Prof Del Mar was a Board member of two companies to commercialise research at Bond University, part of his responsibilities as Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) until 2010, receives fees for editorial and guideline developmental work and royalties from books, and is in receipt of institutional grants from NHMRC (Aus), NIHR (UK) and HTA (UK) and from a private donor (for support of the editorial base of the Cochrane ARI Group).

Dr Hama receives royalties from two books published in 2008 titled "Tamiflu: harmful as was afraid" and "In order to escape from drug-induced encephalopathy". Dr Hama provided scientific opinions and expert testimony on 11 adverse reaction cases related to oseltamivir and gefitinib.

Dr Howick has received expenses and payments from Johns Hopkins and the American Society for Neurophysiological Monitoring as an EBM consultant. Dr Howick has received funding from the Wellcome Trust, the Medical Research Council of the UK, the Economics and Social Science Research Council of the UK and he is currently a National Institute for Health Research non-clinical research fellow. He has received payment from the Canadian Medical Association Journal for writing a book review and receives royalties from the publication of his book from Blackwell/Wiley.

Dr Heneghan receives payment for running educational courses at the University of Oxford and University of Oxford ISIS consulting services for external teaching and training. He also receives royalties for books (Evidence Based Toolkit series by Blackwell BMJ Books).

Dr Onakpoya has no additional interests to disclose.
Dr Thompson has no additional interests to disclose.
Dr Jones has no additional interests to disclose.
Dr Spencer has no additional interests to disclose.
Dr Nunan has no additional interests to disclose.
Dr Mahtani has no additional interests to disclose.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Internal sources

- No sources of support supplied

External sources

- National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), UK.

The review has been prepared with support from a NIHR (UK) grant 10/80/01

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROTOCOL AND REVIEW

We have made a number of changes to the text of A159 during the process of turning the protocol into the review. This reflects our evolving understanding of the issues, during the relatively long period when work on the review was underway.

We have changed the review title to reflect the nature of the evidence. The old title was: *Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children - a review of clinical study reports*.

We have also re-written the objective twice, tightening up the text to bring it in line with our initial intentions and clarifying its meaning. The old objectives were: "To review clinical study reports (CSRs) identified from published and unpublished randomised controlled trials (RCTs) and relevant regulatory data on effectiveness and harms of NIs for influenza in all age groups" and "To review published and unpublished clinical study reports and other relevant regulatory data on effectiveness and harms of NIs for influenza in all age groups (and compare them with our published review)."

We changed the emphasis of the objectives on unpublished study reports as we had decided from the start to concentrate on regulatory information. Similarly, comparison of published versus unpublished data is an important and worthwhile effort, but the original objective possibly misled readers as to its importance in our work. We had always conceptualised it as a low-priority task we could carry out only if we had time following our review of unpublished data. We have also avoided using acronyms, which we thought cumbersome and confusing to the reader.

Our initial intention was to review clinical study reports and regulatory comments making up what we have subsequently called 'regulatory information'. The edits do not reflect a change in intent but our slowly evolving understanding of the problems we faced and our solutions to address these problems. As one of many examples, the transition from a world in which studies were identified by names and years ([Nicholson 2000](#)), to one in which the same trial is identified by a series of letters and numbers ([WV15670](#)), was not easy.

While the review was underway, we identified several unforeseen issues, such as placebo content and the effect of oseltamivir on antibodies. To test the relevant hypotheses we carried out post-protocol analyses, which had not been present in the original protocol but were derived from our protocol-stated intention to assess programmes and not single trials. These are now reported in their entirety in [Appendix 10](#).

In May 2013, we added amendments to the review for: data analyses from oseltamivir trials Module 2s, clinical outcomes and adverse events added in the [Feedback](#) section. In the text we explain the rationale and methods applying to regulatory information received after our 2011 time lock, which could not be implemented in time for the current review (see also [Appendix 2](#)). For the 16 May 2013 amendments see [Feedback](#).

NOTES

Since the January 2012 version of A159, we have now completed the review of regulatory information which became available after our original time lock. We have assessed additional evidence from oseltamivir Module 2s, evidence on adverse events following exposure to NIs and clinically relevant outcomes, and cross-referenced this with individual listings contained in Modules 3 to 5. We now hold all the relevant full clinical study reports, which we are making publicly accessible with this review.

INDEX TERMS**Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)**

Antiviral Agents [adverse effects] [*therapeutic use]; Drug Evaluation; Enzyme Inhibitors [adverse effects] [*therapeutic use]; Europe; Health Status; Influenza, Human [*drug therapy] [*prevention & control]; Japan; Legislation, Drug; Neuraminidase [*antagonists & inhibitors]; Oseltamivir [adverse effects] [*therapeutic use]; Pneumonia [prevention & control]; Publication Bias; Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic; United Kingdom; United States; Zanamivir [adverse effects] [*therapeutic use]

MeSH check words

Adult; Child; Humans