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Obstetric outcomes after conservative treatment for cervical intraepithelial lesions and early invasive disease (Review)

Kyrgiou M, Athanasiou A, Kalliala IEJ, Paraskevasidi M, Mitra A, Martin-Hirsch PPL, Arbyn M, Bennett P, Paraskevasidis E

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Obstetric outcomes after conservative treatment for cervical intraepithelial lesions and early invasive disease (Review)

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[Intervention Review]

Obstetric outcomes after conservative treatment for cervical intraepithelial lesions and early invasive disease

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ABSTRACT

Background

The mean age of women undergoing local treatment for pre-invasive cervical disease (cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia; CIN) or early cervical cancer (stage IA1) is around their 30s and similar to the age of women having their first child. Local cervical treatment has been correlated to adverse reproductive morbidity in a subsequent pregnancy, however, published studies and meta-analyses have reached contradictory conclusions.

Objectives

To assess the effect of local cervical treatment for CIN and early cervical cancer on obstetric outcomes (after 24 weeks of gestation) and to correlate these to the cone depth and comparison group used.

Search methods

We searched the following databases: Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL; the Cochrane Library, 2017, Issue 5), MEDLINE (up to June week 4, 2017) and Embase (up to week 26, 2017). In an attempt to identify articles missed by the search or unpublished data, we contacted experts in the field and we handsearched the references of the retrieved articles and conference proceedings.

Selection criteria

We included all studies reporting on obstetric outcomes (more than 24 weeks of gestation) in women with or without a previous local cervical treatment for any grade of CIN or early cervical cancer (stage IA1). Treatment included both excisional and ablative methods. We excluded studies that had no untreated reference population, reported outcomes in women who had undergone treatment during pregnancy or had a high-risk treated or comparison group, or both

Data collection and analysis

We classified studies according to the type of treatment and the obstetric endpoint. Studies were classified according to method and obstetric endpoint. Pooled risk ratios (RR) and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were calculated using a random-effects model and inverse variance. Inter-study heterogeneity was assessed with I^2 statistics. We assessed maternal outcomes that included preterm birth (PTB) (spontaneous and threatened), preterm premature rupture of the membranes (pPROM), chorioamnionitis, mode of delivery, length of labour, induction of delivery, oxytocin use, haemorrhage, analgesia, cervical cerclage and cervical stenosis. The neonatal outcomes included low birth weight (LBW), neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) admission, stillbirth, perinatal mortality and Apgar scores.

Main results

We included 69 studies (6,357,823 pregnancies: 65,098 pregnancies of treated and 6,292,725 pregnancies of untreated women). Many of the studies included only small numbers of women, were of heterogeneous design and in their majority retrospective and therefore at high risk of bias. Many outcomes were assessed to be of low or very low quality (GRADE assessment) and therefore results should be interpreted with caution. Women who had treatment were at increased overall risk of preterm birth (PTB) (less than 37 weeks) (10.7% versus 5.4%, RR 1.75, 95% CI 1.57 to 1.96, 59 studies, 5,242,917 participants, very low quality), severe (less than 32 to 34 weeks) (3.5% versus 1.4%, RR 2.25, 95% CI 1.79 to 2.82), 24 studies, 3,793,874 participants, very low quality), and extreme prematurity (less than 28 to 30 weeks) (1.0% versus 0.3%, RR 2.23, 95% CI 1.55 to 3.22, 8 studies, 3,910,629 participants, very low quality), as compared to women who had no treatment.

The risk of overall prematurity was higher for excisional (excision versus no treatment: 11.2% versus 5.5%, RR 1.87, 95% CI 1.64 to 2.12, 53 studies, 4,599,416 participants) than ablative (ablation versus no treatment: 7.7% versus 4.6%, RR 1.35, 95% CI 1.20 to 1.52, 14 studies, 602,370 participants) treatments and the effect was higher for more radical excisional techniques (less than 37 weeks: cold knife conisation (CKC) (RR 2.70, 95% CI 2.14 to 3.40, 12 studies, 39,102 participants), laser conisation (LC) (RR 2.11, 95% CI 1.26 to 3.54, 9 studies, 1509 participants), large loop excision of the transformation zone (LLETZ) (RR 1.58, 95% CI 1.37 to 1.81, 25 studies, 1,445,104 participants). Repeat treatment multiplied the risk of overall prematurity (repeat versus no treatment: 13.2% versus 4.1%, RR 3.78, 95% CI 2.65 to 5.39, 11 studies, 1,317,284 participants, very low quality). The risk of overall prematurity increased with increasing cone depth (less than 10 mm to 12 mm versus no treatment: 7.1% versus 3.4%, RR 1.54, 95% CI 1.09 to 2.18, 8 studies, 550,929 participants, very low quality; more than 10 mm to 12 mm versus no treatment: 9.8% versus 3.4%, RR 1.93, 95% CI 1.62 to 2.31, 8 studies, 552,711 participants, low quality; more than 15 mm to 17 mm versus no treatment: 10.1 versus 3.4%, RR 2.77, 95% CI 1.95 to 3.93, 4 studies, 544,986 participants, very low quality; 20 mm or more versus no treatment: 10.2% versus 3.4%, RR 4.91, 95% CI 2.06 to 11.68, 3 studies, 543,750 participants, very low quality). The comparison group affected the magnitude of effect that was higher for external, followed by internal comparators and ultimately women with disease, but no treatment. Untreated women with disease and the pre-treatment pregnancies of the women who were treated subsequently had higher risk of overall prematurity than the general population (5.9% versus 5.6%, RR 1.24, 95% CI 1.14 to 1.34, 15 studies, 4,357,998 participants, very low quality).

pPROM (6.1% versus 3.4%, RR 2.36, 95% CI 1.76 to 3.17, 21 studies, 477,011 participants, very low quality), low birth weight (7.9% versus 3.7%, RR 1.81, 95% CI 1.58 to 2.07, 30 studies, 1,348,206 participants, very low quality), NICU admission rate (12.6% versus 8.9%, RR 1.45, 95% CI 1.16 to 1.81, 8 studies, 2557 participants, low quality) and perinatal mortality (0.9% versus 0.7%, RR 1.51, 95% CI 1.13 to 2.03, 23 studies, 1,659,433 participants, low quality) were also increased after treatment.

Authors' conclusions

Women with CIN have a higher baseline risk for prematurity. Excisional and ablative treatment appears to further increase that risk. The frequency and severity of adverse sequelae increases with increasing cone depth and is higher for excision than it is for ablation. However, the results should be interpreted with caution as they were based on low or very low quality (GRADE assessment) observational studies, most of which were retrospective.

PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

Obstetric outcomes after conservative treatment for cervical intraepithelial lesions

The issue

Cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia (CIN) is a pre-cancerous lesion of the cervix uteri (neck of the womb) caused by human papillomavirus (HPV), which may develop into cervical cancer, if not treated. Local treatment involves destroying or removing the abnormal area of the cervix, leaving most of the cervix, and the uterus in place maintaining the ability to become pregnant in the future, if desired. Certain types of local treatment may also be suitable for very early cervical cancer (stage IA1) if the tumour is very small and very unlikely to have spread beyond the cervix. There are many studies investigating whether the local treatment for CIN and early cervical cancer increases the risk of preterm birth (PTB) in subsequent pregnancies. However, there is no definite conclusion and this creates confusion for both the medical staff and women who may be recommended treatment, but also want to have children in the future.

The aim of the review

We aimed to assess whether the local conservative treatment techniques for cervical precancer (CIN) and early cervical cancer increased the risk of complications for mother and baby during pregnancy occurring after treatment, and especially whether treatment is associated with an increase in the risk of PTB. We also studied whether the risk of PTB increases with increasing amount of cervical tissue removed.

Selection criteria

We included all studies that investigated the effect of treatment of CIN and early cervical cancer on late pregnancy outcomes (beyond 24 weeks of gestation) in women who had been treated previously for CIN and early cervical cancer, as compared to women who had not been treated. We excluded studies that had no untreated comparison group, reported pregnancy outcomes in women who had undergone treatment during pregnancy, or had a high-risk treated, comparison group or both.

What are the main findings?

We included 69 studies (6,357,823 pregnancies: 65,098 pregnancies of treated and 6,292,725 pregnancies of untreated women). Treatment was associated with an increased risk of PTB before 37 pregnancy weeks, as well as an increased risk of severe PTB (less than 32 to 34 pregnancy weeks), extreme PTB (less than 28 to 30 pregnancy weeks) and pPROM (premature preterm rupture of the membranes) as compared to untreated women. The risk of overall PTB was higher for women treated by excisional methods (where tissue is cut away) than by ablative treatments (where tissue is destroyed instead of being cut away). Multiple treatments, as well as increasing amounts of tissue removed at the time of treatment, were associated with an increased risk of overall PTB. However, women with CIN who were not treated also had a higher risk of overall PTB than the general population. Low birth weight (LBW) < 2500g, neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) admission and perinatal mortality rates were also found to be increased after treatment.

What is the quality of the evidence?

Due to the nature of the intervention and outcomes studied, we were only able to include observational studies, of which the majority were retrospective. These types of studies are of low quality with a high level of variability between the studies, therefore the level of evidence for most outcomes can only be considered to be of low or very low quality.

What are the conclusions?

Women with CIN have a higher baseline risk for PTB than the general population and the treatment for CIN probably increase this risk further. The risk for PTB is probably higher when excisional techniques are used than for ablative treatments. Also, the risk of PTB appears to increase with multiple treatments and increasing amounts of tissue removed. However, these results should be interpreted with caution due to the low and very low quality of the included studies.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Summary of findings for the main comparison. The effect of treatment for CIN on maternal outcomes

The effect of treatment for CIN on maternal outcomes

Patient or population: women with known obstetric outcomes
Setting: hospitals/clinics
Intervention: treatment for CIN before pregnancy
Comparison: women with no treatment

Outcomes	Anticipated absolute effects* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	Nº of participants (studies)	Quality of the evidence (GRADE)	Comments
	Risk with [comparison]	Risk with [intervention]				
PTB (< 37 w)	Study population		RR 1.75 (1.57 to 1.96)	5,242,917 (59 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ¹	
	54 per 1000	95 per 1000 (85 to 106)				
PTB (< 32 to 34 w)	Study population		RR 2.25 (1.79 to 2.82)	3,793,874 (24 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ²	
	14 per 1000	32 per 1000 (26 to 40)				
PTB (< 28 to 30 w)	Study population		RR 2.23 (1.55 to 3.22)	3,910,629 (8 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ³	
	3 per 1000	7 per 1000 (5 to 11)				
PTB (< 37 w) - Repeat cones versus No Treatment	Study population		RR 3.78 (2.65 to 5.39)	1,317,284 (11 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ⁴	
	41 per 1000	156 per 1000 (109 to 222)				
pPROM (<37 w)	Study population		RR 2.36 (1.76 to 3.17)	477,011 (21 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ⁵	
	34 per 1000	80 per 1000 (60 to 108)				
PTB (< 37 w) - Depth ≤ 10 mm to	Study population		RR 1.54 (1.09 to 2.18)	550,929 (8 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ⁶	
	34 per 1000	53 per 1000				

12 mm versus No Treatment	(37 to 75)			
PTB (< 37 w) - PTB (< 37 w) - Depth ≥10 mm to 12 mm versus No Treatment	Study population 34 per 1000 66 per 1000 (55 to 79)	RR 1.93 (1.62 to 2.31)	552,711 (8 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊖ LOW ⁷
PTB (< 37w) - PTB (<37w) - Depth ≥15 to 17mm versus No Treatment	Study population 34 per 1000 94 per 1000 (66 to 134)	RR 2.77 (1.95 to 3.93)	544,986 (4 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ⁸
PTB (< 37 w) - PTB (< 37 w) - Depth ≥ 20 mm versus No Treatment	Study population 34 per 1000 167 per 1000 (70 to 397)	RR 4.91 (2.06 to 11.68)	543,750 (3 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ⁹

***The risk in the intervention group** (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

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: We are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect

Moderate quality: We are moderately confident in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different

Low quality: Our confidence in the effect estimate is limited: The true effect may be substantially different from the estimate of the effect

Very low quality: We have very little confidence in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be substantially different from the estimate of effect

- 1 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of considerable heterogeneity (I² 90%)
- 2 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of considerable heterogeneity (I² 83%) and suspected publication bias
- 3 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of considerable heterogeneity (I² 84%)
- 4 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of considerable heterogeneity (I² 75%)
- 5 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of considerable heterogeneity (I² 79%)
- 6 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of substantial heterogeneity (I² 67%)
- 7 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only); heterogeneity was low (I² 37%)
- 8 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of moderate heterogeneity (I² 53%)
- 9 Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of considerable heterogeneity (I² 77%)

Summary of findings 2. The effect of treatment for CIN on neonatal outcomes

The effect of treatment for CIN on neonatal outcomes

Patient or population: women with known obstetric outcomes

Setting: hospitals/clinics

Intervention: treatment for CIN before pregnancy

Comparison: women with no treatment

Outcomes	Anticipated absolute effects* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	Nº of participants (studies)	Quality of the evidence (GRADE)	Comments
	Risk with No Treatment	Risk with Treatment				
LBW (< 2500 g) - Treatment versus No Treatment	Study population		RR 1.81 (1.58 to 2.07)	1,348,206 (30 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW ¹	
	37 per 1000	66 per 1000 (58 to 76)				
NICU Admission - Treatment versus No Treatment	Study population		RR 1.45 (1.16 to 1.81)	2557 (8 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ LOW ²	
	89 per 1000	130 per 1000 (104 to 162)				
Perinatal Mortality - Treatment versus No Treatment	Study population		RR 1.51 (1.13 to 2.03)	1,659,433 (23 observational studies)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ LOW ³	
	7 per 1000	11 per 1000 (8 to 14)				

***The risk in the intervention group** (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

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: We are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect

Moderate quality: We are moderately confident in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different

Low quality: Our confidence in the effect estimate is limited: The true effect may be substantially different from the estimate of the effect

Very low quality: We have very little confidence in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be substantially different from the estimate of effect

¹ Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only) is downgraded one level because of substantial heterogeneity (I^2 63%)

² Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only); there was no heterogeneity (I^2 0%)

³ Low-quality evidence (based on observational studies only); heterogeneity was low (I^2 36%)

BACKGROUND

Description of the condition

Cervical cancer remains the commonest gynaecological malignancy worldwide, and accounts for 7.5% of female cancer deaths. Over half a million new cases are diagnosed each year around the world, with the vast majority occurring in the developing world, where a woman's risk of cervical cancer by age 74 is almost double that in the developed world (1.6% versus 0.9%) (Ferlay 2015). The introduction of cervical screening programmes over the last 20 years has produced a profound decrease in the incidence and mortality from cervical cancer (Arbyn 2009; Quinn 1999). This is due to the treatment of pre-invasive lesions, cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia (CIN), detected by screening (IARC 2005).

CIN is an abnormality in the squamous cells of the cervix and, if left untreated, cervical cancer may develop. The condition is asymptomatic and interventions are usually performed only on women with higher grade CIN of grade (CIN 2 or 3). This is because cervical treatment has been correlated with adverse obstetric sequelae (Kyrgiou 2006), while many of the low-grade lesions (also known as LSIL, low-grade squamous intra-epithelial lesions or CIN 1) resolve spontaneously in young individuals (NHS Cervical Screening Programme 2016).

The average age of a woman diagnosed and treated for CIN is between 25 and 30 years of age, although it may occur in women considerably younger (NHS Cervical Screening Programme 2016). As the pre-cancerous lesions typically occur in young women of reproductive age, the impact of their treatment on the outcomes of subsequent pregnancies has been an area of active research for the past decade. Whilst it is paramount that effective treatment is undertaken, it is also important that this treatment has minimal adverse effects on future fertility and pregnancy outcomes for this young female population.

Description of the intervention

The conservative methods for treatment of CIN are classified into excisional and ablative. These techniques remove or destroy the transformation zone (TZ) containing the abnormal cells whilst preserving cervical function. Excisional methods include cold knife conisation (CKC), laser conisation (LC), needle excision of the transformation zone (NETZ), also known as straight wire excision of the transformation zone (SWETZ), large loop excision of the transformation zone (LLETZ) (Kitchener 1995; Prendiville 1989), also known as loop electrosurgical excisional procedure (LEEP) and Fischer cone biopsy excisor (FCBE). Ablative methods include laser ablation (LA), radical diathermy (RD), cold coagulation (CC) and cryotherapy (CT).

The mean age of women undergoing treatment for pre-invasive cervical disease is around their 30s and similar to the age of women having their first child (Herbert 2000; Paraskevaidis 1992). Local cervical treatment has been correlated with an increased risk of preterm birth, perinatal morbidity and mortality in a subsequent pregnancy (Albrechtsen 2008; Arbyn 2008; Bruinsma 2011; Kyrgiou 2006; Kyrgiou 2014; Noehr 2009a). The underlying mechanism is unclear; hypotheses include immunomodulation relating to human papillomavirus (HPV) infection affecting parturition pathways, unexplained confounders in women with CIN

and acquired 'mechanical weakness' secondary to loss of cervical tissue (Kyrgiou 2012).

In England alone in 2013 to 2014, 3.6 million women aged between 25 and 64 years attended for cervical screening and over 23,800 cervical procedures were carried out (CervicalCancerScreening 2015), the vast majority in an outpatient setting. In contrast in the USA, there are approximately 400,000 cases of pre-invasive disease per year (Henk 2010). The regulations in colposcopy are more liberal than in the UK leading to wide variation in clinical practice. In Germany, treatment for CIN is still commonly performed with the cold knife under general analgesia (Petry 2008). The long-term sequelae of treatment remains therefore an important international issue to both healthcare professionals and women, whatever the clinical setting.

How the intervention might work

The characteristics of the conservative methods of treatment are well-described and established in the medical literature (Martin-Hirsch 2013). LLETZ, LC and LA are usually performed under local anaesthesia in an outpatient setting, while CKC requires general anaesthesia and hospitalisation. Theoretically, the excisional techniques (CKC, LC, NETZ, LLETZ, FCBE) are superior over ablative techniques (LA, RD, CC, CT) as they allow a comprehensive histological evaluation of the excised tissue and the whole TZ with precise evaluation of excision margins. Ablative techniques destroy the TZ epithelium and preclude histological evaluation and, therefore, demand accurate pre-treatment biopsy at a separate visit. LLETZ is the most favoured technique (Kitchener 1995), by combining all the advantages of the excisional techniques mentioned above together with a relatively shorter duration, low cost, good compliance, simplicity and easier learning curve for practitioners.

The best available evidence suggests that these methods (CKC, LC, LLETZ, LA) present similar low morbidity and are equally successful, in terms of eradicating CIN (Martin-Hirsch 2013; Nuovo 2000) and in preventing invasive cervical cancer (Chew 1999; Paraskevaidis 1991; Soutter 1997). However, the existing data regarding future fertility and pregnancy outcomes are conflicting.

Why it is important to do this review

Observational studies have indicated that the treatment of CIN could have detrimental effects on fertility and pregnancy outcome; although the conclusions are usually equivocal, perhaps due to the weakness associated with small sample sizes used in the studies. We have not found any published randomised controlled trials (RCTs) comparing pregnancy outcome between treated and untreated women in the literature and because of the pre-malignant nature of the condition treated, it is perhaps unlikely that one will be ever conducted. Thus, the only available level of evidence on this subject may have to be provided by systematic reviews and meta-analyses of observational studies.

Media publicity has heightened public awareness that treatment for cervical precancer is associated with an increased reproductive morbidity. There has been a substantial increase in enquiries from patients and clinicians on the risks associated with different treatment techniques and cone depths (Founta 2010; Kyrgiou 2015a), and as to how this risk may be managed and prevented. With a rapidly evolving evidence base and lack of a robust

synthesis of the published literature, these questions are becoming increasingly difficult to answer.

Since the first systematic review of the reproductive risk associated with treatment almost a decade ago (Kyrgiou 2006), more than 50 observational studies have been published confirming (Jakobsson 2007; Ortoft 2010) or disputing these associations (Castanon 2012; Reilly 2012); some of these reporting data from large population-based datasets. Individual attempts to synthesise parts of this rapidly evolving evidence base in small systematic reviews and meta-analyses reached contradictory conclusions (Arbyn 2008; Bruinsma 2011; Conner 2014; Crane 2003; Danhof 2015; Jin 2014; Kyrgiou 2006; Kyrgiou 2014;) and initiated debates and confusion within the scientific community (Arbyn 2008; Conner 2014; Crane 2003; Danhof 2015; Jin 2014). Whether these discrepancies were due to questionable quality of some of these primary and secondary studies or differences in the explored comparisons (Bruinsma 2011; Conner 2014; Danhof 2015; Jin 2014), the subject is open to a definitive comprehensive high-quality synthesis of the existing evidence that will be highly informative to women, clinicians and policy makers (Arbyn 2008; Bruinsma 2011; Conner 2014; Danhof 2015; Jin 2014; Kyrgiou 2014). Because many large studies (Albrechtsen 2008; Bruinsma 2007; Castanon 2012; Heinonen 2013; Jakobsson 2007; Jakobsson 2009; Noehr 2009a; Ortoft 2010; Reilly 2012; Shanbhag 2009) have been published since Kyrgiou's first meta-analysis (Kyrgiou 2006), we decided to update it in order to incorporate the latest studies and pay attention especially to the effect of the comparison group and the depth of the excised cone; two areas on which other meta-analyses do not emphasise.

OBJECTIVES

To assess the effect of local cervical treatment for CIN and early cervical cancer on obstetric outcomes (after 24 weeks of gestation) and to correlate these to the cone depth and comparison group used.

METHODS

Criteria for considering studies for this review

Types of studies

We included all studies reporting on late obstetric outcomes (beyond 24 weeks of gestation) in women with one or more previous local cervical treatments for CIN or early invasive disease (stage IA1), as compared to women without treatment. The interventions included any type of conservative treatment, either excisional or ablative (See: [Types of interventions](#)).

Studies were included irrespective of the type of untreated control group, which could have been drawn from one of the following sources: a) external group from general population that was mostly matched or adjusted for confounders; b) internal group with self-matching of the pregnancies for the same women before and after treatment; c) internal group with the pre-treatment and post-treatment pregnancies of a given population; d) women attending colposcopy with or without CIN/biopsy but no treatment; e) women with high-grade disease but no treatment (high-grade squamous intra-epithelial lesion (HSIL)). As the studies are non-randomised, the choice of comparison group can impact on the magnitude of effect of the proposed comparisons. We know that women with CIN may have demographic and behavioural characteristics

or even background immunological imbalances that place them at higher baseline risk of adverse reproductive outcomes. The different comparison groups have advantages and disadvantages and subgroup analyses for the different groups will allow better assessment of the true effects of treatment. More details are described in [Assessment of risk of bias in included studies](#).

We excluded studies that did not include an untreated control group, compared different treatment techniques without an untreated control, reported on only fertility or early obstetric outcomes (before 24 weeks of gestation), reported only on obstetric outcomes beyond 24 weeks of gestation that are not listed below (see: [Types of outcome measures](#)), compared outcomes for treatments performed during pregnancy, or those that described outcomes in high-risk women (i.e. women with history of miscarriage or women conceiving through assisted reproductive technology (ART))

Types of participants

We included women who had a pregnancy with or without a previous conservative treatment for CIN/early cervical cancer (stage IA1). We included women irrespective of the grade of the lesion for both squamous and glandular intra-epithelial neoplasia. There was also no age restriction.

Types of interventions

Any comparison of interventions for treatment of CIN or stage IA1 cervical cancer by conservative methods of either:

- excision (cold knife conisation (CKC); laser conisation (LC); needle excision of the transformation zone (NETZ), also known as straight wire excision of the transformation zone (SWETZ); large loop excision of the transformation zone (LLETZ), also known as loop electrosurgical excisional procedure (LEEP); Fischer cone biopsy excisor (FCBE));
- ablation (laser ablation (LA); radical diathermy (RD); cold coagulation (CC); cryotherapy (CT)).

In studies that reported on the impact of several treatment techniques, we extracted data for each specific method, where possible. If the outcomes were not reported separately for each technique, we analysed the intervention under broader terms, i.e. excisional treatment not otherwise specified (NOS), ablative treatment NOS and treatment NOS.

Types of outcome measures

Primary outcomes

- Maternal outcomes
 - overall (less than 37 weeks) prematurity (both iatrogenic and spontaneous)
 - severe (less than 32 to 34 weeks) prematurity
 - extreme (less than 28 to 30 weeks) prematurity
 - overall prematurity in singleton and multiple pregnancies
 - overall prematurity in nulliparous and parous women
 - overall prematurity for single and multiple cones
 - overall prematurity for different cone depths and volumes
 - overall prematurity for different comparison groups

Secondary outcomes

- Maternal outcomes
 - overall spontaneous (i.e. non-iatrogenic) prematurity
 - severe spontaneous prematurity
 - extreme spontaneous prematurity
 - threatened preterm birth
 - premature rupture of the membranes
 - chorioamnionitis
 - mode of delivery (caesarean section, instrumental deliveries)
 - length of labour (precipitous, prolonged)
 - induction of labour or use of oxytocin
 - haemorrhage (antepartum, postpartum)
 - analgesia (epidural, pethidine, not otherwise specified)
 - cervical stenosis
 - cervical cerclage
- Neonatal outcomes
 - low birth weight (less than 2500 g, less than 2000 g, less than 1500 g, less than 1000 g)
 - admission to neonatal intensive unit (NICU)
 - perinatal mortality
 - stillbirth
 - Apgar score

In cases of heterogeneity in the cut-offs used for cone depth and prematurity classification, these were grouped together when possible (i.e. 32 to 34 weeks to include both cut-offs, 10 to 12 mm cone depth to include studies grouping at both these cut-offs including or not the values equal to these numbers).

Search methods for identification of studies

The literature searches started from 1948 when the conservative methods of treatment for CIN were introduced into clinical practice and included references published up to June 2017.

Electronic searches

We searched the following electronic databases.

- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (CENTRAL, 2017, Issue 5) ([Appendix 1](#)).
- MEDLINE (1948 to June week 4, 2017) ([Appendix 2](#)).
- Embase (1980 to 2017, week 26) ([Appendix 3](#)).

The searches started from inception to date in order to capture all studies published since the late 1970s. The treatment techniques used predominantly to manage the disease have changed over the years, although there are still clinical indications for the oldest techniques.

We used the 'related articles' feature in MEDLINE to retrieve additional references.

Searching other resources

We searched Metaregister, Physicians Data Query, www.controlled-trials.com/rct, www.clinicaltrials.gov and www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials for ongoing studies. We contacted the main investigators of any relevant ongoing trials for further information.

We searched conference proceedings and abstracts through ZETOC (<http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk>) and WorldCat Dissertations. We searched reports of conferences in the following sources.

- Annual Meeting of the British Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology.
- Annual Meeting of the International Federation of Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy.
- Annual Meeting of European Federation of Colposcopy.
- Annual Meeting of the American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology.

In an attempt to identify any articles missed by the initial search or any unpublished data, we handsearched the references of the retrieved articles and meta-analyses and the proceedings of relevant conferences. We contacted experts in the field, including directors of UK cancer and colposcopy registries, to identify further reports of studies.

We included both published and unpublished studies, if they met the inclusion criteria for the review.

Data collection and analysis

Selection of studies

We downloaded all titles and abstracts retrieved by electronic searches to the reference management database [Endnote](#). We also added titles and abstracts retrieved from other sources to Endnote. We removed duplicates and two review authors (MK, AA) independently examined the remaining references. Titles and abstracts retrieved from other sources were also added to the EndNote database. We excluded those studies which clearly did not meet the inclusion criteria and we obtained copies of the full text of potentially relevant references. We assessed the eligibility of retrieved papers independently, compared the results and resolved disagreements by discussion. If necessary, we reached consensus with the involvement of a third review author (MA). We documented reasons for exclusion.

Data extraction and management

We classified the studies according to treatment modality (i.e. CKC, LC, LLETZ, LA etc) and in groups of excisional or ablative techniques.

From each study, we extracted data on the study design and setting, the study population, the interventions examined, the comparison group, the quality of the data and risk of bias and the outcomes assessed. We retrieved from each study and outcome, the number of events in treated and untreated women. If required, we contacted authors to obtain additional data if the numbers provided in the published report did not allow sufficient precision in the data extraction.

More specifically, we extracted the following data.

- Author, year of publication, journal and language.
- Country.
- Setting where the study was conducted (hospital-based versus population-based).
- Inclusion and exclusion criteria.
- Study design, methodology, source of information.
- Study population:

- total number enrolled and number included in each group;
- grade of CIN;
- cone size;
- single/multiple pregnancy;
- single/multiple treatment;
- nulliparous/parous women;
- control for confounding factors:
 - * age;
 - * smoking;
 - * parity;
 - * socio-economic status;
 - * race;
 - * history of previous preterm birth (PTB);
 - * others.
- Intervention details:
 - * type of procedure used (excisional or ablative);
 - * specific type of procedure used (excisional: CKC, LC, NETZ, LLETZ, FCBE; ablative: LA, RD, CC, CT).
- Comparison group:
 - * external untreated comparison group (general population);
 - * internal comparison group:
 - self-matching: the treated group consisted of only parous women and the pregnancy after treatment was compared to the pregnancy before treatment;
 - pre-treatment pregnancies: in some studies, the treated group consisted of both nulliparous and parous women and the comparison group consisted of the pregnancies of the parous women before treatment.
 - * untreated women with colposcopy with or without a biopsy who did not undergo treatment;
 - * untreated women with untreated high-grade disease.
- Risk of bias ([Assessment of risk of bias in included studies](#)).
- Outcomes reported in each study.
 - Primary outcomes:
 - * overall (less than 37 weeks) prematurity (both iatrogenic and spontaneous);
 - * severe (less than 32 to 34 weeks) prematurity;
 - * extreme (less than 28 to 30 weeks) prematurity;
 - * overall prematurity in singleton and multiple pregnancies;
 - * overall prematurity in nulliparous and parous women;
 - * overall prematurity for single and multiple cones;
 - * overall prematurity for different cone depths and volumes;
 - * overall prematurity for different comparison groups.
 - Secondary outcomes:
 - * maternal outcomes: overall (less than 37 weeks) spontaneous (i.e. non-iatrogenic) prematurity, severe (less than 32 to 34 weeks) spontaneous prematurity, extreme (less than 28 weeks) spontaneous prematurity, threatened preterm birth, premature rupture of the membranes, chorioamnionitis, mode of delivery (caesarean section, instrumental deliveries), length of labour (precipitous, prolonged), induction of labour or use of oxytocin, haemorrhage (antepartum, postpartum),

analgesia (epidural, pethidine, not otherwise specified), cervical stenosis, cervical cerclage;

- * neonatal outcomes: low birth weight (LBW) (less than 2500 g, less than 2000 g, less than 1500 g, less than 1000 g), perinatal mortality, stillbirth, Apgar score.
- For each reported outcome, we extracted information on:
 - * the outcome definition;
 - * number of participants allocated to each group;
 - * for the dichotomous outcomes of interest: number of adverse pregnancy events in each group (treated and untreated), in order to estimate the risk ratio (RR), and missing participants.

Two review authors (MK, AA) abstracted data independently in a data abstraction form specially designed for the review. They resolved differences by discussion or by appeal to a third review author (EP) if necessary.

Assessment of risk of bias in included studies

To assess the risk of bias in included RCTs, we planned to use Cochrane's 'Risk of bias' tool, comprising assessments of the following study characteristics: sequence generation; allocation concealment; blinding (of participants, healthcare providers and outcome assessors); incomplete outcome data; selective reporting of outcomes; other possible sources of bias ([Higgins 2011](#)).

As RCTs comparing women with CIN with non-treated are not feasible or ethical due to the pre-malignant nature of the condition, we anticipated that published evidence might rely only on observational cohort studies. As the comparison groups (treated for CIN with a particular procedure versus non-treated) are non-randomised, effects and effect sizes cannot be attributed with certainty to the treatment alone. The differences in the size of the treatment effect across studies may be partly explained by the choice of control population, because women with CIN may have demographic and behavioural characteristics or even background immunological imbalances that place them at higher baseline risk of adverse reproductive outcomes.

It should also be noted that all eligible comparison groups have advantages and limitations. A recent meta-analysis showed that the use of historical external controls might produce inherent biases that could inflate the contribution of cervical treatment to adverse outcomes, even if the authors control for possible confounders (such as age, parity, smoking etc; [Bruinsma 2011](#)). The use of internal controls (pregnancies in the index woman before treatment) is an attractive alternative approach, but even this might be inadequate for confounders that are liable to change with time. Women with mild precancerous lesions that do not warrant excision treatment probably provide the best, although still imperfect, comparator. In contrast, those with high-grade disease who neglect treatment advice aimed at preventing cancer may have high risk for confounders related to low socioeconomic class that may influence fertility or pregnancy outcomes.

For non-randomised studies (NRS), we assessed the risk of bias in the following domains: Incomplete outcome Data (Attrition bias) was considered to be present if for more than 20% of the cohort the outcome data were missing or the method to collect outcome data was not systematic; Selective reporting (Reporting bias) was considered to be present if outcome data were not reported stratified according to all included study types; Performance and

selection bias was assessed in whether the treatment assignment was reported appropriately, based on the representativeness of both the treatment and comparison groups, i.e. whether the treated cohort indeed represented the population at risk and was not subjected to possible selection bias, whether the comparison groups were drawn from the same source as the treated group and on their comparability, i.e. whether the authors used internal or self-matched comparison group, or otherwise matched or adjusted for the possible confounders or effect modifiers; no other possible sources of bias were assessed.

We used the GRADE (Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluation) (GRADE Working Group 2004) approach to assess the quality of evidence provided by the included studies. We used GRADEpro (GRADE profiler) software to generate 'Summary of findings' tables to include an assessment of the more clinically relevant outcomes.

Measures of treatment effect

We calculated risk ratio (RR) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CIs) for each adverse pregnancy outcome in the treated versus untreated women for dichotomous outcomes. We separated studies by general type of treatment (excisional or ablative) and we further grouped them by specific treatment procedure and by specific comparison group. We used a random-effects model to pool RR (Dersimonian 1986). We used unadjusted data for the analyses.

Unit of analysis issues

In studies with multiple treatment groups, we proportionally divided the 'shared' comparison group into the number of treatment groups (i.e. based on the number of treated women for each technique), in order to avoid duplicate inclusion of some untreated women in the same forest plot. We treated comparisons between each treatment group and the split comparison group as independent comparisons.

When more than one comparison group was described in the included studies, the comparison groups were summed together if appropriate (i.e. external, any CIN or HSIL without treatment). If an external and internal self-matching group was available, only data on the external group were included. In one study (Castanon 2012), with both internal controls, pre-conisation population was used in preference to self-matching.

Dealing with missing data

We contacted study authors about inclusion/exclusion criteria and eligibility of their study. We further contacted authors for additional data not presented in the original manuscript i.e. data according to different cone depths.

Assessment of heterogeneity

We assessed inter-study heterogeneity with Cochran Q test (Cochran 1954), by visual inspection of forest plots, by estimation of the percentage heterogeneity between studies which cannot be ascribed to sampling variation (I^2 statistic) (Higgins 2003), and by a formal statistical test of the significance of the heterogeneity (Deeks 2001). If there was evidence of substantial heterogeneity, we investigated and reported the possible reasons for this.

Assessment of reporting biases

For the outcomes presented in the 'Summary of findings' tables that included more than 10 studies, we explored potential publication bias graphically by the funnel plot in the Cochrane Review Manager software (Review Manager 2104).

Data synthesis

We pooled the results of the studies in meta-analyses. For dichotomous outcomes, we calculated RR and 95% CIs and these were then pooled. We analysed the data separately for each treatment modality, in groups of ablative and excisional techniques, and as a whole, irrespective of the type of method used. We further analysed the data according to the cone depth.

Several studies provided separate data for overall and spontaneous PTB (sPTB) (less than 37 weeks of gestation). If only data on sPTB were provided, these were also included in the overall PTB analysis (Crane 2006; Noehr 2009a; Ortoft 2010; Poon 2012; Stout 2015). If studies provided data on nulliparous and parous women separately, these were presented together and were also included in the respective forest plots for overall PTB (i.e. Analysis 1.15; Analysis 1.16). This was also the case for single and multiple treatment and singleton and multiple pregnancies.

We used random-effects models with inverse variance weighting for all meta-analyses (Dersimonian 1986).

If data were not of suitable quality for meta-analysis, we reported the results as a narrative in the text of the review.

Subgroup analysis and investigation of heterogeneity

Given the non-randomised nature of the included studies, we assessed whether the choice of comparison group impacts on the risk estimate for each outcome and over-inflates the effect of treatment that could be partly attributed to other confounders. We therefore distinguished the different untreated comparison groups used across studies and performed analyses for the risk of PTB for each individual comparator (external; internal (self-matching); internal (pre-treatment pregnancies); colposcopy but no treatment; HSIL but no treatment). We performed separate analyses according to the comparison group for PTB (less than 37 weeks of gestation).

Furthermore, for the outcome of PTB (less than 37 weeks of gestation), we also performed analyses according to parity (nulliparous and parous women separately), number of treatments (women with single and multiple treatments separately), and number of fetuses (women with singleton and multiple pregnancies separately).

Sensitivity analysis

Finally, we performed meta-regression analysis to assess the impact of some factors on the risk of PTB (less than 37 weeks). These included the year of study (1979 to 1989, 1990 to 1999, 2000 to 2009, 2010 to 2015); type of treatment (excision or ablation); type of comparator (external, internal – pregnancies before treatment, internal – self-matching, CIN but no treatment, HSIL but no treatment).

RESULTS

Description of studies

The characteristics of the included and excluded studies and the outcomes examined are described in the [Characteristics of included studies](#) and in the [Characteristics of excluded studies](#), respectively.

Results of the search

We retrieved 3219 citations from the literature search. Of those, 2849 were excluded based on the title or abstract; 370 were retrieved in full text for evaluation. We identified 69 studies that fulfilled the inclusion criteria and 289 were excluded (of these 289 studies, 242 were reviews/meta-analyses, conference proceedings, letters or duplicates; the remaining 47 studies are listed in detail in [Excluded studies](#) and [Characteristics of excluded studies](#)); 12 studies are awaiting classification. No unpublished studies could be identified. The details, including reasons for exclusion, are present in the PRISMA flowchart ([Moher 2009](#); [Figure 1](#)).

Figure 1. Flow diagram.

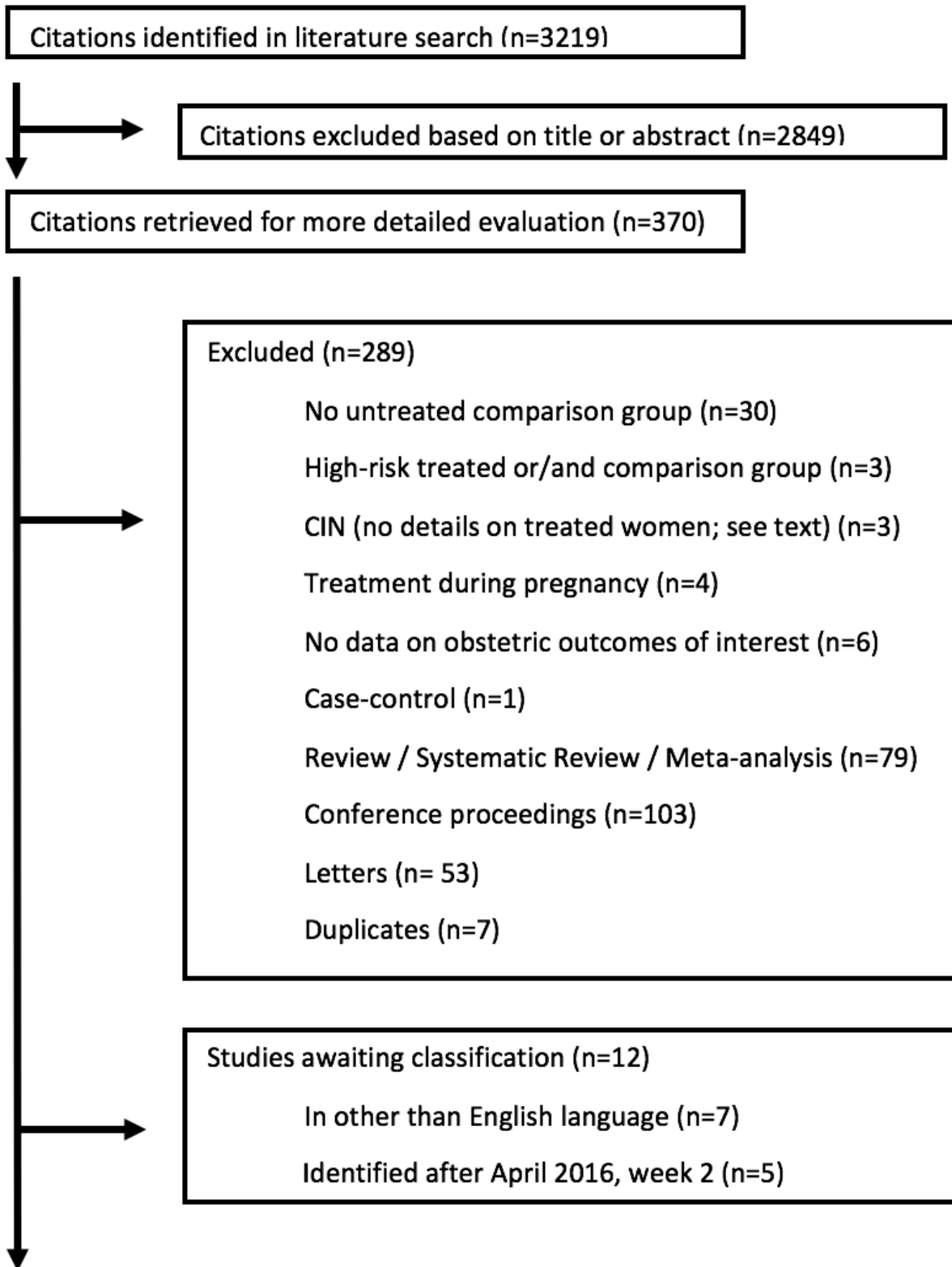


Figure 1. (Continued)

Studies included (n= 69)

Included studies

Sixty-nine studies fulfilled the inclusion criteria of this systematic review and were also included in the meta-analysis. We identified no unpublished studies. The detailed characteristics of the included studies are shown in [Characteristics of included studies](#). All studies were cohorts and retrospective, except for five prospective studies ([Fischer 2010](#); [Frega 2013](#); [Guo 2013](#); [Poon 2012](#); [Simoens 2012](#)). Fifteen studies were population-based (the data were drawn from registers, or they included a large number of hospitals covering a large area) ([Albrechtsen 2008](#); [Andia 2011](#); [El-Bastawissi 1999](#); [Frega 2013](#); [Heinonen 2013](#); [Jakobsson 2007](#); [Jones 1979](#); [Kristensen 1985](#); [Kristensen 1993](#); [Larsson 1982](#); [Noehr 2009a](#); [Noehr 2009b](#); [Reilly 2012](#); [Shanbhag 2009](#); [Sjoberg 2007](#)) and the remaining studies were hospital-based (the data were drawn from hospital records). There were no RCTs.

Seven studies were identified in non-English language and were not included ([He 2007](#); [Kalitsaris 1991](#); [Kasum 1991](#); [Lund 1986](#); [Praest 1979](#); [Spuhler 1995](#); [Zornoza-Garcia 2009](#)) given the large number of included studies and the low quality of these small studies we considered that their inclusion would not alter the conclusions of the review. In future updates we will consider the inclusion of these reports ([Characteristics of studies awaiting classification](#)). Five studies published after April 2016, week 2 are awaiting classification in future updates of this review ([Aleman 2016](#); [Bjorge 2016](#); [Brie 2016](#); [Jancar 2016](#); [Zebitay 2017](#)).

Many of the included studies included cohorts treated with a variety of treatment modalities. Specifically, 14 studies examined the impact of cold knife conisation; (CKC) ([Bruinsma 2007](#); [Buller 1982](#); [Crane 2006](#); [Ehsanipoor 2014](#); [Guo 2013](#); [Jones 1979](#); [Klaritsch 2006](#); [Kuoppala 1986](#); [Larsson 1982](#); [Ludviksson 1982](#); [Moinian 1982](#); [Ortoft 2010](#); [Sozen 2014](#); [Weber 1979](#)), 10 of laser conisation (LC) ([Andersen 1999](#); [Bekassy 1996](#); [Forsmo 1996](#); [Hagen 1993](#); [Lima 2011](#); [Raio 1997](#); [Sadler 2004](#); [Sagot 1995](#); [Simoens 2012](#); [Spitzer 1995](#)), one of needle excision of the transformation zone (NETZ) ([Ortoft 2010](#)), 32 of large loop excision of the transformation zone (LLETZ) ([Acharya 2005](#); [Andia 2011](#); [Blomfield 1993](#); [Braet 1994](#); [Bruinsma 2007](#); [Crane 2006](#); [Cruickshank 1995](#); [Ehsanipoor 2014](#); [Frega 2013](#); [Frey 2013](#); [Gunasekera 1992](#); [Guo 2013](#); [Haffenden 1993](#); [Heinonen 2013](#); [Himes 2007](#); [Jakobsson 2009](#); [Kitson 2014](#); [Lima 2011](#); [Martyn 2015](#); [Noehr 2009a](#); [Noehr 2009b](#); [Ortoft 2010](#); [Paraskevaidis 2002](#); [Parikh 2008](#); [Poon 2012](#); [Sadler 2004](#); [Samson 2005](#); [Simoens 2012](#); [Stout 2015](#); [Tan 2004](#); [Turlington 1996](#); [Werner 2010](#)), one of Fischer cone biopsy Excisor (FCBE) ([Anwar 2016](#)), eight of laser ablation (LA) ([Anderson 1984](#); [Bruinsma 2007](#); [Forsmo 1996](#); [Gunasekera 1992](#); [Sadler 2004](#); [Saunders 1986](#); [Spitzer 1995](#); [van Rooijen 1999](#)), one of radical diathermy (RD) ([Bruinsma 2007](#)), two of cryotherapy (CT) ([Crane 2006](#); [Hemmingsson 1982](#)), 15 of excision not otherwise specified (NOS) ([Albrechtsen 2008](#); [Armarnik 2011](#); [Castanon 2012](#); [El-Bastawissi 1999](#); [Fischer 2010](#); [Jakobsson 2007](#); [Martyn 2015](#); [Miller 2015](#); [Reilly 2012](#); [Shanbhag 2009](#);

[Simoens 2012](#); [Sjoberg 2007](#); [van de Vijner 2010](#); [Van Hentenryck 2012](#); [Wuntakal 2013](#)), five of ablation NOS ([Ehsanipoor 2014](#); [El-Bastawissi 1999](#); [Jakobsson 2007](#); [Reilly 2012](#); [Shanbhag 2009](#)) and three of treatment NOS ([Kim 2015](#); [Kristensen 1985](#); [Kristensen 1993](#)).

There were five types of comparison groups: external (general population) ([Acharya 2005](#); [Albrechtsen 2008](#); [Andersen 1999](#); [Anderson 1984](#); [Andia 2011](#); [Armarnik 2011](#); [Bekassy 1996](#); [Blomfield 1993](#); [Braet 1994](#); [Castanon 2012](#); [Crane 2006](#); [Cruickshank 1995](#); [Ehsanipoor 2014](#); [El-Bastawissi 1999](#); [Fischer 2010](#); [Forsmo 1996](#); [Frega 2013](#); [Frey 2013](#); [Gunasekera 1992](#); [Haffenden 1993](#); [Hagen 1993](#); [Heinonen 2013](#); [Jakobsson 2007](#); [Jakobsson 2009](#); [Jones 1979](#); [Kim 2015](#); [Klaritsch 2006](#); [Kristensen 1985](#); [Kristensen 1993](#); [Kuoppala 1986](#); [Lima 2011](#); [Ludviksson 1982](#); [Miller 2015](#); [Noehr 2009a](#); [Noehr 2009b](#); [Ortoft 2010](#); [Paraskevaidis 2002](#); [Parikh 2008](#); [Poon 2012](#); [Raio 1997](#); [Reilly 2012](#); [Samson 2005](#); [Saunders 1986](#); [Shanbhag 2009](#); [Simoens 2012](#); [Sjoberg 2007](#); [Sozen 2014](#); [Tan 2004](#); [van de Vijner 2010](#); [Van Hentenryck 2012](#); [van Rooijen 1999](#); [Weber 1979](#); [Werner 2010](#)); internal (pre-treatment pregnancies) ([Acharya 2005](#); [Albrechtsen 2008](#); [Andia 2011](#); [Buller 1982](#); [Castanon 2012](#); [Cruickshank 1995](#); [Hemmingsson 1982](#); [Larsson 1982](#); [Moinian 1982](#); [Sagot 1995](#); [Spitzer 1995](#); [Stout 2015](#); [Werner 2010](#); [Wuntakal 2013](#)); internal (self-matching) ([Anwar 2016](#); [Bekassy 1996](#); [Castanon 2012](#); [Jakobsson 2009](#); [Kristensen 1993](#); [Ortoft 2010](#); [Raio 1997](#); [Sjoberg 2007](#)); women who attended colposcopy with or without biopsy who did not undergo treatment ([Bruinsma 2007](#); [Castanon 2012](#); [Frey 2013](#); [Guo 2013](#); [Himes 2007](#); [Kitson 2014](#); [Martyn 2015](#); [Miller 2015](#); [Noehr 2009a](#); [Poon 2012](#); [Sadler 2004](#); [Stout 2015](#); [Wuntakal 2013](#)), and women with untreated high-grade squamous intra-epithelial lesion (HSIL) ([El-Bastawissi 1999](#); [Ortoft 2010](#); [Shanbhag 2009](#)).

As many studies were old, dating back to the 1980s, we ensured that we avoided overlapping the same patients in different reports, particularly those from the Scandinavian countries. More specifically, seven studies were identified from Denmark. [Weber 1979](#) was an old hospital-based study (delivery during 1974 to 1975), with no overlapping with the other more recent studies. [Kristensen 1985](#) identified treated women from the registry of a Danish county (1973 to 1980), but only women delivering in a specific university hospital (up to 1982) were included. [Kristensen 1993](#) was a population-based study from the whole of Denmark including only parous women, with their first infant delivered in 1982, and their second during 1982 to 1987 (treatment during 1977 to 1987). There was no overlapping with [Kristensen 1985](#). [Andersen 1999](#) was a hospital-based study including women treated during 1985 to 1989. There was a negligible degree of overlapping with [Kristensen 1993](#) (for women with delivery in 1982, treatment during 1985 to 1987 and subsequent delivery until 1987). [Noehr 2009a](#) was a population-based study from the whole of Denmark that was comprised of women treated during 1997 to 2005 with subsequent singleton pregnancy at the same time period. There

was no overlapping with the previous studies. [Noehr 2009b](#) had the same design with [Noehr 2009a](#) and the only difference was that only women with twin pregnancies were included. [Ortoft 2010](#) identified treated women from the Danish nationwide pathology database (1989 to 2007), but only women delivering at Aarhus University Hospital until 2007 were included. Approximately 8% of all Danish births take place in this hospital. Women delivering during 1997 to 2005 (nine years) were also included in [Noehr 2009a](#), but women delivering during 1989 to 1996 and 2006 to 2007 (10 years) were not included in [Noehr 2009a](#). Because there was no way to eliminate the overlapping, we decided to include both studies.

Four studies were identified from Finland. Some of the authors in [Jakobsson 2007](#) (population-based study from the whole of Finland), [Jakobsson 2009](#) (hospital-based study) and [Heinonen 2013](#) (population-based study from the whole of Finland) were common, and we carefully avoided duplication. More details about the outcomes extracted from each study are listed in [Characteristics of included studies](#). [Kuoppala 1986](#) was another hospital-based study from Finland, but there was no overlapping with the aforementioned population-based studies.

Five studies were identified from Norway. [Albrechtsen 2008](#) was a population-based study from the whole of Norway (excisional treatment during 1953 to 1979 or 1986 to 2003 and subsequent pregnancy during 1967 to 2003). All participants in [Acharya 2005](#) and [Sjoborg 2007](#) were also included in [Albrechtsen 2008](#), thus we excluded [Acharya 2005](#) and [Sjoborg 2007](#) from the analyses, which also included [Albrechtsen 2008](#). There was no overlapping between [Acharya 2005](#) and [Sjoborg 2007](#). [Forsmo 1996](#) was a hospital-based study which included women treated with LLETZ or LA during 1983 to 1988. There was overlapping with [Albrechtsen 2008](#) for women treated with LLETZ during 1986 to 1988, but there was no way to eliminate this overlapping. In [Hagen 1993](#), all women had received LLETZ during 1983 to 1985 and there was no overlapping with [Albrechtsen 2008](#).

Six studies were identified from Sweden. Five of these studies were hospital-based ([Bekassy 1996](#); [Hemmingsson 1982](#); [Ludviksson 1982](#); [Moinian 1982](#); [van Rooijen 1999](#)). [Larsson 1982](#) identified women from the South Swedish Regional Tumour Registry, but only women delivering in two hospitals were included. One of these hospitals was also included in [Bekassy 1996](#), but the studies took place in different periods with no overlapping.

Although case-control studies and studies assessing the impact of treatment performed during pregnancy were excluded, we included the study by [Ortoft 2010](#), as only 18 women (2.5%) were treated during pregnancy, and the case-control study by [Castanon 2012](#), as additional data were provided by the authors.

There was no risk of overlapping for studies from other countries.

Excluded studies

The characteristics of the 47 excluded studies (not including reviews/meta-analyses, conference proceedings, letters or duplicates) are shown in [Characteristics of excluded studies](#). The PRISMA flowchart is shown in [Figure 1](#). We excluded studies without an untreated comparison group ([Althuisius 2001](#); [Berghella 2004](#); [Berretta 2013](#); [Bull-Phelps 2007](#); [Chevreau 2017](#); [Conner 2013](#); [Ferenczy 1995](#); [Gordon 1991](#); [Gronroos 1979](#); [Khalid 2012](#); [Kim 2016](#); [Kindinger 2016](#); [Kullander 1971](#); [Leiman 1980](#); [Liu 2014](#); [Liverani 2016](#); [Macvicar 1968](#); [Mariya 2016](#); [Masamoto 2008](#); [Michelin 2009](#); [Monaghan 1982](#); [Nam 2010](#); [Novikova 1994](#); [Patrelli 2008](#); [Radha Bai Prabhu 2010](#); [Rafaeli-Yehudai 2014](#); [Sangkarat 2014](#); [Shin 2010](#); [Wakita 1990](#); [Wongtiraporn 2014](#)), studies with women treated during pregnancy ([Mitsuhashi 2000](#); [Rosen 1991](#); [Seki 2010](#); [Sljivancanin 2013](#)), or late obstetric outcomes (beyond 24 weeks) that we did not study in this meta-analysis ([Ciavattini 2015](#); [Gentry 2000](#); [Kalliala 2012](#); [Naleway 2015](#); [Ricciotti 1995](#); [Spracklen 2013](#)), case-control studies ([Watson 2012](#)), studies with a high-risk treated and/or comparison group (i.e. previous history of mid trimester loss ([Pils 2014](#)), conceived through assisted reproductive technology (ART) ([Ciavattini 2014](#); [Pinborg 2015](#))), and studies assessing the impact of CIN on outcomes without information as to whether treatment was performed ([Al-Halal 2013](#); [Smaldone 2010](#); [Zuo 2011](#)).

Risk of bias in included studies

The included studies were non-randomised studies (NRS); they were prospective or retrospective cohorts and were therefore at high risk of underlying bias. The included studies varied with regard to design, the data source, the study and comparison populations, the reported outcomes, the length of follow-up and the matching for possible confounders, as described above.

The summary of the authors' judgements about each 'Risk of bias' item is presented in [Figure 2](#) and the detailed evaluation of 'Risk of bias' domains separately for each included study in [Figure 3](#).

Figure 2. 'Risk of bias' graph: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item presented as percentages across all included studies.

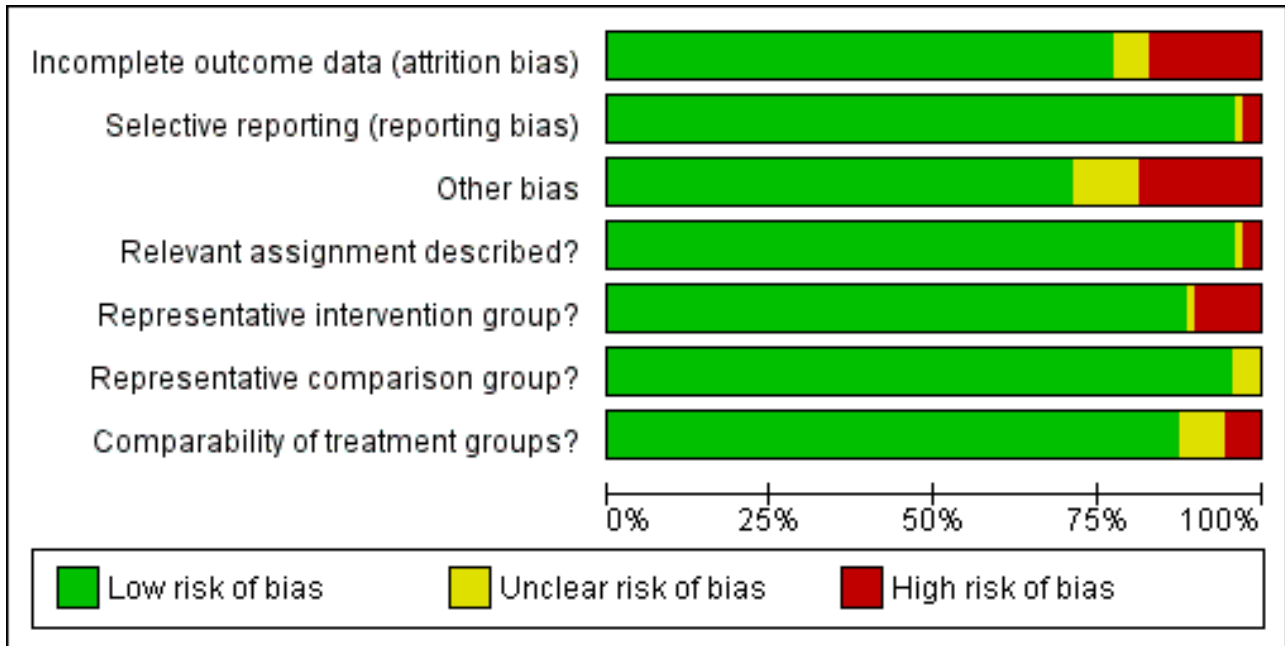


Figure 3. 'Risk of bias' summary: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study.

	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Other bias	Relevant assignment described?	Representative intervention group?	Representative comparison group?	Comparability of treatment groups?
Acharya 2005	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Albrechtsen 2008	+	+	?	+	+	+	+
Andersen 1999	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
Anderson 1984	-	+	-	+	-	+	+
Andia 2011	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Anwar 2016	?	+	+	+	+	+	+
Armarnik 2011	+	+	?	+	+	+	+
Bekassy 1996	+	+	+	+	+	?	+
Blomfield 1993	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Braet 1994	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bruinsma 2007	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Buller 1982	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Castanon 2012	-	+	?	+	+	+	+
Crane 2006	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Cruickshank 1995	-	+	+	+	-	+	+
Ehsanipoor 2014	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
El-Bastawissi 1999	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Fischer 2010	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Forsmo 1996	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Frega 2013	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Frey 2013	?	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gunasekera 1992	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Guo 2013	?	+	+	+	+	+	+

Figure 3. (Continued)

Guo 2013	?	+	+	+	+	+	+
Haffenden 1993	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
Hagen 1993	+	+	?	+	+	+	+
Heinonen 2013	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hemmingsson 1982	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Himes 2007	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Jakobsson 2007	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jakobsson 2009	+	+	+	+	+	?	+
Jones 1979	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kim 2015	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kitson 2014	+	+	?	+	+	+	+
Klaritsch 2006	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Kristensen 1985	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Kristensen 1993	+	+	+	?	+	+	-
Kuoppala 1986	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Larsson 1982	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lima 2011	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Ludviksson 1982	+	+	+	+	+	?	+
Martyn 2015	-	+	-	+	-	+	+
Miller 2015	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Moinian 1982	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Noehr 2009a	+	+	?	+	+	+	+
Noehr 2009b	+	-	?	+	+	+	+
Ortoft 2010	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Paraskevaidis 2002	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Parikh 2008	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Poon 2012	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Raio 1997	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Reilly 2012	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sadler 2004	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sagot 1995	-	+	+	+	+	+	+

Figure 3. (Continued)

Sagot 1995	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Samson 2005	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Saunders 1986	-	+	+	+	+	+	?
Shanbhag 2009	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Simoens 2012	+	?	+	+	+	+	+
Sjoberg 2007	-	+	+	+	-	+	+
Sozen 2014	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Spitzer 1995	-	+	-	+	-	+	+
Stout 2015	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tan 2004	-	+	-	+	+	+	?
Turlington 1996	-	+	-	+	-	+	+
van de Vijner 2010	?	+	-	+	?	+	?
Van Hentenryck 2012	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
van Rooijen 1999	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Weber 1979	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Werner 2010	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wuntakal 2013	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

A description of the quality of the evidence is provided based on the GRADE assessment on maternal outcomes ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#)) and on fetal outcomes ([Summary of findings 2](#)).

Allocation

Representativeness of intervention group

Risk of bias due to unrepresentative intervention group was generally considered low. In six studies ([Anderson 1984](#); [Cruickshank 1995](#); [Martyn 2015](#); [Sjoberg 2007](#); [Spitzer 1995](#); [Turlington 1996](#)), the representativeness of the intervention group was considered inadequate due to considerable, over 20%, non-responder rate to follow-up questionnaires, which might result in selection bias due to women in higher social classes being more prone to answer. In one study ([Sozen 2014](#)), the intervention group was considered unrepresentative due to the very small number of participants (15 patients) and in one study ([van de Vijner 2010](#)), the representativeness was unclear due to lack of information regarding the number of women providing questionnaire-based follow-up data.

Representativeness of comparison group

The representativeness of the comparison group was considered good in all but three studies. In two studies ([Bekassy 1996](#); [Jakobsson 2009](#)), the untreated external comparison group was not

drawn from the same source as the treated population and in one study ([Ludviksson 1982](#)), the source of reference population was unclear.

Comparability of the groups

The comparison group used and the adjustment for possible risk factors are important measures of study quality and risk of bias. Of the studies that used an external comparison group (n = 53, [Included studies](#)), 49 matched for known risk factors or performed a regression analysis to control for known confounders. Only four studies did not include any measures to control for confounders ([Klaritsch 2006](#); [Kristensen 1993](#); [Lima 2011](#); [Parikh 2008](#)) and were hence considered to be of high risk of bias. Of the remaining 49 studies, 29 studies used matching ([Acharya 2005](#); [Andersen 1999](#); [Anderson 1984](#); [Bekassy 1996](#); [Blomfield 1993](#); [Braet 1994](#); [Cruickshank 1995](#); [Fischer 2010](#); [Forsmo 1996](#); [Frega 2013](#); [Gunasekera 1992](#); [Haffenden 1993](#); [Hagen 1993](#); [Jones 1979](#); [Kirn 2015](#); [Kristensen 1985](#); [Kuoppala 1986](#); [Ludviksson 1982](#); [Paraskevaidis 2002](#); [Raio 1997](#); [Samson 2005](#); [Saunders 1986](#); [Simoens 2012](#); [Sozen 2014](#); [Tan 2004](#); [van de Vijner 2010](#); [Van Hentenryck 2012](#); [van Rooijen 1999](#); [Weber 1979](#)), 17 studies used regression analysis ([Albrechtsen 2008](#); [Andia 2011](#); [Armarnik 2011](#); [Castanon 2012](#); [Crane 2006](#); [Ehsanipoor 2014](#); [Heinonen 2013](#); [Jakobsson 2007](#); [Jakobsson 2009](#); [Miller 2015](#); [Noehr 2009a](#); [Noehr 2009b](#); [Ortoft 2010](#); [Poon 2012](#); [Reilly 2012](#); [Shanbhag 2009](#); [Werner 2010](#)) and three studies used both matching and regression analysis ([El-Bastawissi 1999](#); [Frey 2013](#); [Sjoberg 2007](#)). In five studies

(Andersen 1999; Haffenden 1993; Saunders 1986; Tan 2004; van de Vijner 2010), the risk was considered unclear due to incomplete matching between the two groups.

Of the 13 studies that had an internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies), two used matching (Larsson 1982; Spitzer 1995) and four studies also performed regression analysis (Albrechtsen 2008; Castanon 2012; Werner 2010; Wuntakal 2013). Of the eight studies that had an internal comparison group (self-matching), three studies also performed regression analysis (Castanon 2012; Jakobsson 2009; Sjoborg 2007).

Of the 15 studies that used as a comparison group women who attended colposcopy with or without biopsy who did not undergo treatment or untreated HSIL, 10 studies performed regression analysis (Bruinsma 2007; Castanon 2012; El-Bastawissi 1999; Miller 2015; Noehr 2009a; Ortoft 2010; Poon 2012; Sadler 2004; Shanbhag 2009; Wuntakal 2013), four studies used matching for confounders (Guo 2013; Kitson 2014; Martyn 2015; Stout 2015), and one study (Frey 2013) used both matching and regression analysis. The most common confounding factors that were used in matching or regression analysis were age, parity, smoking, race/ethnicity and social class.

Blinding

Relevant assignment described (Performance bias)

Bias due to unclear or inappropriate treatment assignment was considered low in most studies. In two studies the risk was deemed high, due to the conisation type not being described (Kristensen 1985) and the CKC treatment being described to be more radical than as usual (Moinian 1982). In one study (Kristensen 1993), the risk was unclear as the method of treatment was not specified but could have included three different types of treatment.

Incomplete outcome data

Overall 12/69 studies (17%) were considered to be at high risk of attrition bias due to incomplete outcome data. In 10 studies information about the subsequent pregnancies was missing for more than 20% of the study population (Anderson 1984; Buller 1982; Castanon 2012; Cruickshank 1995; Martyn 2015; Sagot 1995; Sjoborg 2007; Spitzer 1995; Tan 2004; Turlington 1996), in one study (Saunders 1986), the method to retrieve subsequent pregnancy data was deemed non-systematic, i.e. contacting local general practitioners, and in one study (Shanbhag 2009), the method of CIN treatment was unclear for more than 50% and these women were excluded from all analyses. In four studies (Anwar 2016; Frey 2013; Guo 2013; van de Vijner 2010), the number of women lost to follow-up and therefore the risk of attrition bias was unclear and for all other studies the risk was deemed to be low.

Selective reporting

Reporting bias due to selective reporting was considered low in almost all included studies. For two studies (Bruinsma 2007; Noehr 2009b), the risk was deemed high due to the results being reported only for the whole treated-group, not stratified according to the treatment type. For one study (Simoens 2012), the risk was considered to be unclear due to reporting the outcomes only after some, not all included treatments.

Other potential sources of bias

The outcome ascertainment was made with a questionnaire in seven studies (Martyn 2015; Ortoft 2010; Poon 2012; Spitzer 1995; Turlington 1996; van de Vijner 2010; Weber 1979), which might predispose to recall bias and misclassification and the risk of other bias was hence considered high in these studies. A further five studies were as well considered to be of high risk of other bias, due to contradictions between the tables and the text (Himes 2007; Tan 2004; Van Hentenryck 2012), due to including treated women in comparison groups (Forsmo 1996), and marked temporal differences in outcomes between the exposed and unexposed groups (Hemmingsson 1982). The risk of other bias was considered unclear in six studies. In two studies (Albrechtsen 2008; Castanon 2012), some women in the comparison group might have been being treated but the effect of this possible misclassification was deemed unclear, in one study some of the data were discrepant but the possible effect of this again deemed unclear (Armarnik 2011), and in two studies (Noehr 2009a; Noehr 2009b), the LLETZ group might have included women treated with LC as well, but the number was considered negligible and unclear whether it would introduce bias.

We assessed the presence of publication bias for the outcomes presented in the 'Summary of findings' tables if more than 10 studies were included. There was evidence of publication bias only for PTB at < 32 to 34 weeks of gestation. None of the other outcomes showed any evidence of publication bias.

Effects of interventions

See: [Summary of findings for the main comparison The effect of treatment for CIN on maternal outcomes](#); [Summary of findings 2 The effect of treatment for CIN on neonatal outcomes](#)

MATERNAL OUTCOMES

Preterm birth

The risk of preterm birth was increased after cervical treatment. This was the case for prematurity rate overall at less than 37 weeks of gestation ([Analysis 1.1](#): 59 studies, 5,242,917 women, 10.7% versus 5.4%, risk ratio (RR) 1.75, 95% confidence interval (CI) 1.57 to 1.96; [Analysis 1.2](#): 59 studies, 5,242,917 women, 10.7% versus 5.4%, RR 1.78, 95% CI 1.60 to 1.98, very low quality of evidence because of considerable (I^2 90% and 88%, respectively) heterogeneity ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#))); for severe prematurity less than 32 to 34 weeks of gestation ([Analysis 1.3](#): 24 studies, 3,793,874 women, 3.5% versus 1.4%, RR 2.25, 95% CI 1.79 to 2.82; [Analysis 1.4](#): 24 studies, 3,793,874 women, 3.5% versus 1.4%, RR 2.35, 95% CI 1.88 to 2.95, very low quality of evidence because of considerable (I^2 83% and 82%, respectively) heterogeneity and suspected publication bias ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#))); and extreme prematurity less than 28 to 30 weeks of gestation ([Analysis 1.5](#): 8 studies, 3,910,629 women, 1.0% versus 0.3%, RR 2.23, 95% CI 1.55 to 3.22; [Analysis 1.6](#): 8 studies, 3,910,629 women, 1.0% versus 0.3%, RR 2.43, 95% CI 1.69 to 3.49, very low quality of evidence because of considerable (I^2 84% and 82%, respectively) heterogeneity ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#))). We further conducted analyses for more specific gestational ages cut-offs (i.e. 34 weeks or less ([Analysis 1.7](#) (RR 2.59, 95% CI 1.78 to 3.77); [Analysis 1.8](#) (RR 2.56, 95% CI 1.78 to 3.69)), less than 32 to 33 weeks ([Analysis 1.9](#) (RR 2.08, 95% CI 1.55 to 2.79); [Analysis 1.10](#) (RR 2.26,

95% CI 1.70 to 3.01), less than 30 weeks ([Analysis 1.11](#) (RR 2.86, 95% CI 0.12 to 69.11); [Analysis 1.12](#) (RR 2.86, 95% CI 0.12 to 69.11)), less than 28 weeks ([Analysis 1.13](#) (RR 2.22, 95% CI 1.54 to 3.22); [Analysis 1.14](#) (RR 2.52, 95% CI 1.71 to 3.72)) for broader treatment groups as well as individual techniques. The impact of treatment was not different for nulliparous ([Analysis 1.15](#)) and multiparous ([Analysis 1.16](#)) women. The effect of multiple treatment on the risk of prematurity was substantially higher than the effect of single treatments (single treatment versus no treatment ([Analysis 1.17](#)): 17 studies, 1,367,023 women, 7.5% versus 4.2%, RR 1.75, 95% CI 1.49 to 2.06; repeat treatment versus no treatment ([Analysis 1.18](#)): 11 studies, 1,317,284 women, 13.2% versus 4.1%, RR 3.78, 95% CI 2.65 to 5.39, very low quality of evidence because of considerable (I^2 75%) heterogeneity ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#))). The relative risk of preterm birth for two excisional treatments not otherwise specified (NOS) was as high as 5.48 (95% CI 2.68 to 11.24) and that of two loop excisions as high as 2.81 (95% CI 2.33 to 3.39), as compared to no treatment.

The magnitude of the effect of treatment was higher for excision ([Analysis 1.1.1](#): RR 1.87, 95% CI 1.64 to 2.12) rather than ablation ([Analysis 1.1.2](#): RR 1.35, 95% CI 1.20 to 1.52) and for more radical treatment techniques. The risk of preterm birth at less than 37 weeks of gestation for individual treatment techniques varied: cold knife conisation (CKC) ([Analysis 1.2.1](#): RR 2.70, 95% CI 2.14 to 3.40); laser conisation (LC) ([Analysis 1.2.2](#): RR 2.11, 95% CI 1.26 to 3.54); large loop excision of the transformation zone (LLETZ) ([Analysis 1.2.4](#): RR 1.58, 95% CI 1.37 to 1.81); laser ablation (LA) ([Analysis 1.2.6](#): RR 1.04, 95% CI 0.86 to 1.26); CT ([Analysis 1.2.7](#): RR 1.02, 95% CI 0.22 to 4.77); excision NOS ([Analysis 1.2.9](#): RR 1.90, 95% CI 1.50 to 2.41); ablation NOS ([Analysis 1.2.10](#): RR 1.46, 95% CI 1.27 to 1.66) and treatment NOS ([Analysis 1.2.11](#): (RR 2.57, 95% CI 1.39 to 4.77)). Similar trends were noted for severe ([Analysis 1.4](#)) and extreme ([Analysis 1.6](#)) prematurity. Some, but not all, types of treatments were also associated with an increased risk of preterm birth for women with singleton ([Analysis 1.19](#)) or multiple pregnancies ([Analysis 1.20](#); [Analysis 1.21](#); [Analysis 1.22](#)), but the results were inconsistent due to the small number of studies.

Preterm birth – dimensions of excised cone

We further analysed the data on the risk of preterm birth at less than 37 weeks of gestation for different cone depths. The risk for treated versus untreated women was greater for women with cone depth ≤ 10 mm to 12 mm ([Analysis 1.23](#): 8 studies, 550,929 women, 7.1 % versus 3.4%, RR 1.54, 95% CI 1.09 to 2.18, very low quality of evidence because of substantial (I^2 67%) heterogeneity ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#))), and the magnitude of effect increased with increasing cone depth (≥ 10 mm to 12 mm ([Analysis 1.24](#)): 8 studies, 552,711 women, 9.8 % versus 3.4%, RR 1.93, 95% CI 1.62 to 2.31, low quality of evidence ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#)); ≥ 15 mm to 17 mm ([Analysis 1.25](#)): 4 studies, 544,986 women, 10.1 % versus 3.4%, RR 2.77, 95% CI 1.95 to 3.93, very low quality of evidence because of moderate (I^2 53%) heterogeneity ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#)); ≥ 20 mm ([Analysis 1.26](#)): 3 studies, 543,750 women, 10.2 % versus 3.4%, RR 4.91, 95% CI 2.06 to 11.68, very low quality of evidence because of considerable (I^2 67%) heterogeneity ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#))). A similar increasing effect was observed, although based on only one study, with increasing cone volume (less than 6 cc ([Analysis 1.27](#)): 1 study, 550 women, 8.1% versus 3.6%, RR 2.25, 95% CI 1.09 to 4.66; > 6 cc ([Analysis 1.28](#)): 1 study,

284 women, 50.0% versus 3.6%, RR 13.90, 95% CI 5.09 to 37.98). We have performed additional analyses assessing several more specific cone depths/volumes without merging these in broader groups ([Analysis 1.29](#); [Analysis 1.30](#); [Analysis 1.31](#); [Analysis 1.32](#); [Analysis 1.33](#); [Analysis 1.34](#); [Analysis 1.35](#); [Analysis 1.36](#); [Analysis 1.37](#); [Analysis 1.38](#); [Analysis 1.39](#); [Analysis 1.40](#); [Analysis 1.41](#); [Analysis 1.42](#)).

The comparison of treated women for different cone depths revealed that deep excisions increased the risk of preterm birth (less than 37 weeks) as opposed to less deep excisions and the magnitude of the effect increased in longer cones (≥ 10 mm to 12 mm versus ≤ 10 mm to 12 mm ([Analysis 1.43](#)): 7 studies, 6359 women, 12.3 % versus 7.8%, RR 1.54, 95% CI 1.31 to 1.80; ≥ 15 mm to 17 mm versus ≤ 15 mm to 17 mm ([Analysis 1.44](#)): 4 studies, 4275 women, 10.1 % versus 5.7%, RR 1.82, 95% CI 1.47 to 2.26; ≥ 20 mm versus ≤ 20 mm ([Analysis 1.45](#)): 3 studies, 3944 women, 10.2 % versus 5.6%, RR 2.79, 95% CI 1.24 to 6.27). The findings were similar for the comparison of cone volumes (> 3 cc versus less than 3 cc ([Analysis 1.46](#)): 1 study, 278 women, 15.0 % versus 7.3%, RR 2.04, 95% CI 0.95 to 4.39; > 6 cc versus less than 6 cc ([Analysis 1.47](#)): 1 study, 278 women, 50.0% versus 8.1%, RR 6.18, 95% CI 2.53 to 15.13). Further subgroup analyses of comparisons of more specific cone depths are also shown ([Analysis 1.48](#); [Analysis 1.49](#); [Analysis 1.50](#)).

Preterm birth – effect of the comparison group

The impact that the choice of comparison group may have on the magnitude of effect was assessed by additional analysis that classified different studies according to the comparator used. The magnitude of effect was higher when an external comparison group was used ([Analysis 1.51](#): 44 studies, 5,192,047 women, 10.5% versus 5.4%, RR 1.92, 95% CI 1.70 to 2.16), followed by internal comparators (self-matching ([Analysis 1.52](#)): 8 studies, 2987 women, 10.9% versus 7.0%, RR 1.59, 95% CI 1.19 to 2.13; pre-treatment pregnancies ([Analysis 1.53](#)): 13 studies, 83,404 women, 14.1% versus 6.4%, RR 1.39, 95% CI 0.98 to 1.96) and ultimately women with disease but no treatment ([Analysis 1.54](#): 13 studies, 74,958 women, 8.8% versus 6.0%, RR 1.27, 95% CI 1.14 to 1.41). A further analysis of treated women versus those with untreated HSIL was also explored although this included only three studies ([Analysis 1.55](#): 3 studies, 3764 women, 12% versus 7.8%, RR 1.37, 95% CI 0.85 to 2.19). The forest plot where we compared treatment in general to the different comparison groups can be seen in [Analysis 1.56](#). When women with disease but no treatment and the pregnancies of the parous women before treatment were compared to the general population, the risk of preterm birth was higher ([Analysis 1.57](#): 15 studies, 4,357,998 women, 5.9% versus 5.6%, RR 1.24, 95% CI 1.14 to 1.34) based on very low-quality evidence. These groups were also analysed separately ([Analysis 1.57.1](#); [Analysis 1.57.2](#); [Analysis 1.57.3](#)).

Furthermore, we performed a series of analyses for different cone depths and comparison groups with particularly emphasis on the comparisons of different depths of treatment versus untreated women with CIN ([Analysis 1.58](#); [Analysis 1.59](#); [Analysis 1.60](#); [Analysis 1.61](#); [Analysis 1.62](#); [Analysis 1.63](#); [Analysis 1.64](#); [Analysis 1.65](#); [Analysis 1.66](#); [Analysis 1.67](#); [Analysis 1.68](#); [Analysis 1.69](#); [Analysis 1.70](#); [Analysis 1.71](#); [Analysis 1.72](#); [Analysis 1.73](#); [Analysis 1.74](#); [Analysis 1.75](#)). The subgroup analysis of the risk of preterm birth (less than 37 weeks of gestation) according to cone depth when compared to women with CIN but not treated revealed similar

direction of effect although for cone depth ≤ 10 mm to 12 mm, the difference was less marked. The number of the studies was however small for many comparisons (treatment versus women with untreated CIN = cone depth ≤ 10 mm to 12 mm (Analysis 1.60): 4 studies, 43,145 women, 7.0% versus 5.0%, RR 1.11, 95% CI 0.85 to 1.43; ≥ 10 mm to 12 mm (Analysis 1.67): 4 studies, 45,275 women, 9.6% versus 5.0%, RR 1.52, 95% CI 1.37 to 1.68; ≥ 15 mm to 17 mm (Analysis 1.69): 3 studies, 33,934 women, 9.6% versus 4.3%, RR 2.30, 95% CI 1.57 to 3.35; ≥ 20 mm (Analysis 1.71): 2 studies, 32,717 women, 9.3% versus 4.2%, RR 4.32, 95% CI 0.93, 20.03) based on low- or very low-quality evidence.

Preterm birth - sensitivity and meta-regression analysis

The mono-variate meta-regression analysis suggested that the type of treatment and comparator affected the risk of preterm birth, although the year of study did not. Type of treatment and comparison group remained important factors for risk of preterm birth (PTB) in a multivariate regression analysis. When we performed further meta-regression restricting only to excisional treatments and using as a comparator women with colposcopy/biopsy, we found that all treatments were associated with an increased risk of PTB (RR 1.34, 95% CI 1.10 to 1.64, for LLETZ; RR 2.3, 95% CI 1.39 to 3.85, for CKC; RR 1.6, 95% CI 0.91 to 2.87, for LC; and RR 4.26, 95% CI 1.96 to 9.33, for needle excision of the transformation zone) (data not shown).

Other Maternal outcomes

Maternal outcomes other than preterm birth were assessed in several studies and many of these were found to be increased after cervical treatment. This increase was more frequent for excisional as opposed to ablative techniques and with increasing treatment radicality, although the number of studies assessing each individual treatment method was frequently small.

Cervical treatment increased the risk of spontaneous overall, severe and extreme preterm birth (less than 37 weeks (Analysis 2.1): 14 studies, 1,024,731 women, 7.0% versus 3.7%, RR 1.76, 95% CI 1.47 to 2.11; less than 32 to 34 weeks (Analysis 2.2): 7 studies, 655,675 women, 1.8% versus 0.6%, RR 2.63, 95% CI 1.91 to 3.62; less than 28 weeks (Analysis 2.3): 2 studies, 626,670 women, 0.6% versus 0.2%, RR 3.18, 95% CI 1.64 to 6.16). The risk of spontaneous preterm birth (less than 37 weeks) was higher for CKC (Analysis 2.1.1: RR 3.53, 95% CI 2.05 to 6.05) followed by excision NOS (Analysis 2.1.7: RR 1.70, 95% CI 1.17 to 2.46), LLETZ (Analysis 2.1.4: RR 1.60, 95% CI 1.22 to 2.08) and ablation NOS (Analysis 2.1.8: RR 1.42, 95% CI 1.20 to 1.70). Needle excision of the transformation zone (NETZ) (Analysis 2.1.3) and LA (Analysis 2.1.5) were only assessed in one study, respectively. There was substantial heterogeneity for the comparisons assessing spontaneous preterm birth at all cut-offs (P value less than 0.05) based on low- or very low-quality evidence.

The risk of pPROM less than 37 weeks (Analysis 2.4: 21 studies, 477,011 women, 6.1% versus 3.4%, RR 2.36, 95% CI 1.76 to 3.17, very low quality of evidence because of considerable (I^2 79%) heterogeneity (Summary of findings for the main comparison)) was also increased after treatment. The risk of pPROM was higher for CKC (Analysis 2.4.1: RR 4.11, 95% CI 2.05 to 8.25) followed by LLETZ (Analysis 2.4.4: RR 2.15, 95% CI 1.48 to 3.12). NETZ (Analysis 2.4.3) was only assessed in one study and LA (Analysis 2.4.5) did not significantly affect the risk but was only assessed in two studies

based on low- or very low-quality evidence. We also included analyses at different gestational cut-offs (Analysis 2.5; Analysis 2.6)

Treatment increased the risk of admission for threatened preterm birth (Analysis 2.7; 5 studies, 903 women, 9.1% versus 3.2%, RR 2.44, 95% CI 1.37 to 4.33) and chorioamnionitis (Analysis 2.8; 4 studies, 29,198 women, 3.5% versus 1.1%, RR 3.43, 95% CI 1.36 to 8.64). The mode of delivery (caesarean section (Analysis 2.9; very low quality of evidence because of imprecision and strongly suspected publication bias (Summary of findings 2)) or instrumental delivery (Analysis 2.10)), the length of labour (precipitous (Analysis 2.11) or prolonged (Analysis 2.12)), the rate of induction of labour with or without oxytocin to (Analysis 2.13), the use of oxytocin (Analysis 2.14), the use of analgesia (epidural (Analysis 2.15), pethidine (Analysis 2.16) or NOS (Analysis 2.17)), cervical stenosis (Analysis 2.18) or antepartum haemorrhage (Analysis 2.19). was not affected by treatment. The risk of postpartum haemorrhage was increased after treatment, but this outcome included just one study (Analysis 2.20; 1 study, 149 women, 18.7% versus 4.1%, RR 4.60, 95% CI 1.38 to 15.36). The risk of massive obstetric haemorrhage was not increased but there was only one small study (Analysis 2.21). As expected, the rate of cervical cerclage insertion was higher for treated as opposed to non-treated women (Analysis 2.22; 8 studies, 141,300 women, 4.0% versus 0.7%, RR 14.29, 95% CI 2.85 to 71.65) and more so for CKC (Analysis 2.22.1: RR 31.42, 95% CI 2.32 to 426.22) and excisional treatment NOS (Analysis 2.22.4: RR 42.45, 95% CI 28.99 to 62.16) based on low- or very low-quality evidence.

Neonatal outcomes

More than 30 studies assessed one or more neonatal outcomes. Cervical treatment (excisional or ablative) was associated with a higher frequency of adverse neonatal outcomes as opposed to women who had not been treated (comparison group not specified). The association with adverse neonatal events was stronger and more frequent for excisional as opposed to ablative techniques and with increasing treatment radicality, although the number of studies for each individual treatment technique was often limited.

More specifically, cervical treatment overall increased the risk of low birth weight (LBW) for some, but not all, cut-offs, although the number of studies was small for most cut-offs (less than 2500 g (Analysis 3.1): 30 studies, 1,348,206 women, 7.9% versus 3.7%, RR 1.81, 95% CI 1.58 to 2.07, very low quality of evidence because of substantial (I^2 63%) heterogeneity (Summary of findings 2); less than 2000 g (Analysis 3.2): 3 studies, 74,981 women, 4.7% versus 1.1%, RR 2.49, 95% CI 0.97 to 6.36; less than 1500 g (Analysis 3.3): 5 studies, 76,836 women, 2.0% versus 0.5%, RR 3.00, 95% CI 1.54 to 5.85; less than 1000 g (Analysis 3.4): 2 studies, 2185 women, 1.1% versus 0.3%, RR 2.09, 95% CI 0.06 to 74.71). Treatment also increased the risk of neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) admission (Analysis 3.5: 8 studies, 2557 women, 12.6% versus 8.9%, RR 1.45, 95% CI 1.16 to 1.81, low quality of evidence (Summary of findings 2)) and perinatal mortality (Analysis 3.6: 23 studies, 1,659,433 women, 0.9% versus 0.7%, RR 1.51, 95% CI 1.13 to 2.03, low quality of evidence (Summary of findings 2)). Subgroup analyses of the perinatal mortality for different gestational ages at delivery was also included (Analysis 3.7; Analysis 3.8; Analysis 3.9). The rate of stillbirth was not affected by treatment (Analysis 3.10), while the analysis on the impact of treatment on the Apgar scores only included a small number of studies (Analysis 3.11; Analysis 3.12; Analysis 3.13).

The rate of neonates born with A birth weight of less than 2500 g was more frequently observed in women treated with CKC (Analysis 3.1.1: 5 studies, 30,304 women, RR 2.51, 95% CI 1.78 to 3.53), LLETZ (Analysis 3.1.3: 12 studies, 3357 women, RR 2.11, 95% CI 1.51 to 2.94), excisional (Analysis 3.1.6: 10 studies, 823,648 women, RR 2.01, 95% CI 1.62 to 2.49) or ablative (Analysis 3.1.7: 4 studies, 483,402 women, RR 1.36, 95% CI 1.19 to 1.55) treatment NOS, but not so for laser ablation (Analysis 3.1.4: RR 1.07, 95% CI 0.59 to 1.92), although only four studies with a total of 1104 participants assessed that comparison. The rate of NICU admission was increased overall (Analysis 3.5), and for LLETZ (Analysis 3.5.2: 5 studies, 1994 women, RR 1.42, 95% CI 1.01 to 1.99) and excisional technique NOS (Analysis 3.5.4: 2 studies, 434 women, RR 1.76, 95% CI 1.13 to 2.75). Perinatal mortality was greater for treated women overall (Analysis 3.6), and for excisional technique NOS (Analysis 3.6.7: 5 studies, 820,028 women, RR 1.85, 95% CI 1.02 to 3.36), but not for the individual techniques, possibly due to the limited number of studies and the low prevalence of the outcome. Subgroup analysis according to the different comparison groups or cone depths was not possible due to the limited number of studies assessing each outcome based on low- or very low-quality evidence.

DISCUSSION

Summary of main results

The results of this systematic review suggest that all types of local cervical treatment technique (excisional or destructive) are associated with an increased risk of preterm birth (PTB) and adverse obstetric sequelae. This is the first systematic review that includes subgroup analyses according to the depth (and volume) of treatment, the number of treatments and the comparison group used.

The knowledge that local treatment for cervical pre-cancer, particularly excisional treatment, increases the risk of PTB has led to major changes in clinical practice. With a rapidly evolving evidence base and inconsistencies in the published literature (Castanon 2012; Conner 2013; Danhof 2015; Jakobsson 2009; Jin 2014; Reilly 2012), a high-quality synthesis of the evidence should be available for effective patient counselling at colposcopy and antenatal clinics.

This meta-analysis documents that any local cervical treatment for cervical pre-invasive or early invasive disease increases the risk of PTB and adverse sequelae in a subsequent pregnancy, although the impact of small excisions, as opposed to just having the disease, remains uncertain and is likely to be small. Cervical treatment was found to be associated with an increased risk of overall, severe and extreme prematurity, spontaneous PTB, threatened preterm labour, pPROM, chorioamnionitis, low birth weight, neonatal admission and perinatal death. The rate of cervical cerclage was unsurprisingly substantially increased in treated women as opposed to untreated controls. Treatment equally affected outcomes for nulliparous as well as parous, singleton and multiple pregnancies. The analysis suggested that local treatment had no impact on mode of delivery, length of labour, the induction rate, the use of analgesia, the rate of stenosis and haemorrhage.

The magnitude of the effect of treatment was higher for more radical techniques (i.e. cold knife conisation (CKC) > large loop excision of the transformation zone (LLETZ) > laser ablation

(LA)) and for excision rather than ablation. Multiple conisations increased four-fold the risk of PTB compared to untreated controls. Subgroup analyses clearly demonstrated that the risk of PTB directly correlates to the cone dimensions (depth and volume) and progressively increases with increasing cone depth ('dose-effect'). Although the risk was increased even for excisions measuring less than 10 mm in depth, this was almost two-fold higher for excisions of more than 10 mm, three-fold higher for more than 15 mm to 17 mm and almost five-fold higher for excisions exceeding 20 mm in depth.

It has been previously suggested that the impact of treatment on the risk of PTB may not be a consequence of treatment but rather a product of other confounders present in women with cervical disease (Castanon 2012; Kyrgiou 2012; Reilly 2012). Our subgroup analyses that stratified the risk to the comparator used, clearly documents that although the risk of PTB is increased after treatment, irrespective of the comparison group used, the choice of comparator may over-inflate or under-estimate the effect of treatment. The magnitude of effect was higher when external controls were used, followed by internal control, followed by women who had cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia (CIN), but who were not treated. The analyses in women with high-grade squamous intra-epithelial lesion (HSIL) but no treatment only included three studies and 3764 participants; we were unable to draw any firm conclusions from this comparison. When we assessed the risk of PTB according to the cone depth when compared to women with CIN but no treatment, we noted the same direction of effect. Although the difference in the risk for PTB for small excisions (10 mm to 12 mm or less) as opposed to just having CIN but no treatment did not differ greatly, the number of studies assessing that comparison was however small and firm conclusions cannot be drawn. We also found that women with CIN have a higher baseline risk of prematurity when compared to the general population.

Overall completeness and applicability of evidence

For some of the outcomes of interest, we identified only a small number of studies and a limited number of participants. The cut-off used for the definitions of severe and extreme prematurity and for different cone depths varied slightly across studies; these were merged in broader groups for the analysis. Individual patient meta-analysis data is required to more accurately describe the stratified risk of PTB for individual cone depths. The data on the cone dimensions relied on retrospective documentation data recorded in histopathology reports of formalin-fixed samples with obvious limitations. The formulas used for the volume calculation also varied across studies. Future research should aim to correlate outcomes with prospective precise cone depth and cervical measurements.

Both the included and excluded studies demonstrated a wide range of inclusion/exclusion criteria and outcome measures limiting statistical pooling of all the primary studies. There should be agreement amongst academic colposcopists and obstetricians on core research clinical outcome measures in line with the CROWN initiative of the premier reproductive health journals (<http://www.crown-initiative.org/aims-and-scope/>). This would improve the applicability of findings of primary and secondary research internationally.

Quality of the evidence

This meta-analysis included a large number of studies (69 cohorts) with sufficient sample size and power to explore several comparisons of treatment techniques and cone depths. We performed analyses for the different comparison groups used across studies and made observations on how this impacts on the results.

However, the results should be interpreted with caution. Due to the pre-malignant nature of the disease, no randomised controlled trials (RCTs) could be identified. All the included studies were cohorts, in the vast majority retrospective. Such reports are at known risk of recall bias and inadequate adjustment for known and unknown confounders, while some of the outcomes of interest were difficult to measure objectively. Many of the studies relied on data collected from structured interviews and mailed questionnaires and in some of these, the response rate was small, increasing also the risk of incomplete outcome data (attrition). Altogether 13 studies were considered to be of very low quality because of attrition bias or recall bias or small number of participants, but we were able to upgrade 31 studies to moderate quality because they were population-based, had a large number of participants or were prospective. Still, the quality of the evidence based on the GRADE assessment was low or very low for the assessed maternal or fetal outcomes ([Summary of findings for the main comparison](#)) and low or high for analyses regarding the effect of the cone depth ([Summary of findings 2](#)). Although the overall number of studies was large, for some outcomes and comparisons the numbers of studies was small and the analyses did not have sufficient sample sizes to support definite conclusions.

Meta-regression was possible for some, but not all, possible confounders. For many moderators, the data were reported only in a proportion of the included studies. When these studies were not deemed representative of the whole population of studies, we did not perform meta-regression as this would introduce bias. Sensitivity and subgroups analyses based on the studies' quality did not change the effect of the meta-analysis.

Potential biases in the review process

This review relies on non-randomised studies and therefore at high risk of bias. Many of the included studies were of low or very low quality.

We opted for the use of unadjusted data for the analysis that was recommended during the protocol and early stages of this review. More recent guidance recommends the use of adjusted as opposed to unadjusted data. This is because unadjusted data may over-inflate or underestimate the effect of treatment due to other confounding factors. Despite existing controversies, it is possible that the use of adjusted data may better control for existing confounders that may affect the magnitude of the effect in observational studies. In future updates of this review adjusted data will be incorporated to meet the more recent recommendations.

There was no evidence of publication bias apart from one outcome (PTB <32 to 34 weeks of gestation).

One of the major strengths of this systematic review is that this provides a full assessment of the up-to-date literature for all clinically relevant outcomes. However, the reporting of a large

number of outcomes increases the chance of type 1 statistical error (outcomes will be found to be statistically significant just by chance; incorrect rejection of a true null hypothesis).

Agreements and disagreements with other studies or reviews

The knowledge that local treatment for cervical precancer, particularly excisional, increases the risk of PTB has led to major changes in clinical practice. With an increasing evidence base suggesting that this risk is higher for more radical techniques, there has been a tendency to use less aggressive treatments. Although it was previously thought that the various techniques had comparable efficacy ([Martin-Hirsch 2013](#)), evidence from a population-based study raised concerns that less radical treatment may increase the risk of post-treatment invasion ([Arbyn 2014](#); [Strander 2014](#)). Although the decreased number of hysterectomies may explain this increase, the move to less conservative methods in another plausible explanation. Additionally, since the first documentation of the reproductive risk associated with treatment almost a decade ago ([Kyrgiou 2006](#)), subsequent observational studies and even meta-analyses reached contradictory conclusions ([Arbyn 2008](#); [Bruinsma 2011](#); [Conner 2014](#); [Danhof 2015](#); [Jin 2014](#); [Kyrgiou 2014](#)) and initiated debates within the scientific community. With some authors raising concerns that the progressive reduction in the radicality of treatment has led to increased risk of future of invasion ([Arbyn 2014](#); [Strander 2014](#)), and others advocating the move to less radical techniques like laser ablation (LA) for the prevention of treatment-associated future perinatal morbidity and mortality ([Paraskevaidis 2007](#)), high-quality synthesis of the evidence had become an urgent unmet need. Some of the previous small meta-analyses suffered methodological flaws and attempted analysis of individual treatment techniques or subgroups minimising the validity of their findings in context with the rest of the literature ([Conner 2014](#); [Danhof 2015](#); [Jin 2014](#)). All of the published meta-analyses failed to analyse the data according to major confounders and stratifiers of risk, the comparison group and the depth of the excision. Although Bruinsma and colleagues first approached the comparison group as a possible confounder, data on the depth and dimensions of the treatment were not available ([Bruinsma 2011](#)).

Preterm birth is a major cause of neonatal death and disability and represents an enormous cost to health services and society. While pregnant, these women make up a large proportion of preterm clinics referrals. These referrals have increased from almost none in 1999, to more than 40% in 2012 ([Kindinger 2016](#)). Ultrasound-directed surveillance is labour-intensive, costly, and may be associated with maternal anxiety, more so because 85% of women post-excision are effectively low risk and will deliver at term ([Bruinsma 2011](#); [Kyrgiou 2006](#)).

With rapidly accumulating evidence correlating cervical treatment to adverse reproductive morbidity, quantification of the comparative obstetric morbidity for different treatment techniques and cone depths was required to assist clinicians' decision-making and counselling. The results of this meta-analysis will allow clinicians, patients and policy makers to balance the absolute increase in reproductive morbidity with increasing treatment radicality. Patients should be informed that treatment increases the risk of PTB, as opposed to having CIN only, but the absolute increase in risk in small type 1 excisions is likely to be low, if any.

Furthermore, the quantified individual risk stratified by treatment and cone depth could allow obstetricians the selection of those considered to be at high risk of PTB that would benefit from intensive surveillance antenatally and minimise the unnecessary interventions for those at low risk. The antenatal management of women after treatment has been inconsistent and largely unit- or clinician-dependent (Buller 1982). The risks and benefits associated with various interventions in pregnant women with a history of cervical treatment have not been fully assessed in properly designed studies (Kindinger 2016). Future research should assess their value in this distinct clinical group and devise a logical prevention strategy.

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS

Implications for practice

Women with cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia (CIN) have a higher baseline risk of preterm birth (PTB) compared to women from the general population. Local cervical treatment for pre-invasive or early invasive disease further increases the risk, more so for excisional treatment, but also for ablative techniques. The risk of PTB increases with increasing cone depth (and volume) and techniques that remove or destroy larger parts of the cervix. The increase in risk for small excisions, as opposed to having CIN, is likely to be small, if any. However, for many outcomes the quality of evidence was judged to be low or very low, creating uncertainty about the confidence in the effect estimate.

When deciding to treat women of reproductive age, every effort should be made to perform a local treatment that will optimise the chances of a healthy pregnancy without compromising the completeness of the local treatment. Quality assurance in treatment of disease should include audit of dimensions of excisional specimens and persistent disease rates to ensure that treatment depth is kept to acceptable parameters (i.e. at least 8 mm to involved crypts) and that oncological outcomes are not compromised. Clinical experience is important in achieving the optimal balance between complete removal of the lesion and

minimum damage of healthy cervical tissue. Unnecessary large excisions may lead to severe adverse obstetric outcomes, whilst overly conservative excisions that compromise clearance of the disease may result in high recurrence rates and the need for repeat excision multiplying the frequency and severity of the reproductive sequelae. Clinicians should inform women about the increased risk of adverse reproductive outcomes in a future pregnancy after treatment, particularly for large and repeat treatments. These women may be offered more intensive surveillance when pregnant (Kindinger 2016).

Implications for research

Future research should use individual patient data and network meta-analyses methodologies to quantify the oncological and reproductive impact of different treatment techniques. It is also important to investigate why women who have CIN appear to be susceptible to both CIN and PTB, or whether HPV-induced disease alone is the principal factor in increasing premature delivery. It is likely that a combination of immunological and other factors play a role. The uptake of prophylactic vaccination has been mixed in the developed world and minimal in low-income countries. The impact of cervical treatment is still going to be relevant for many decades and therefore robust clinical research in this field should remain a priority.

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* Indicates the major publication for the study

CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDIES
Characteristics of included studies [ordered by study ID]
Acharya 2005

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: A) External - matching for age (+/- 3 years), parity, date of delivery, smoking (+/- 5 cigarettes per day) and previous obstetric history B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies) Information source - Hospital records of the University Hospital of Northern Norway
Participants	A) Treated group: 79 women < 45 years who had a LLETZ (December 1995 to December 2000) and subsequently delivered (> 20 weeks) at the University Hospital of Northern Norway. Inclusion criteria: only first pregnancies (> 20 weeks) following LLETZ Exclusion criteria: Women with ectopic pregnancies, miscarriages, TOPs. Untreated group: 158 matched women who were identified using routinely entered data from the birth register. B) Of the 79 women of the treated group, 45 were parous. The last pregnancy before LLETZ of these 45 women can serve as an internal comparison group.
Interventions	LLETZ

Acharya 2005 (Continued)

Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); threatened PTL; chorioamnionitis; induction of labour; LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality
Notes	<p>Because all women included in this study have been also included in Albrechtsen 2008, we excluded it from the analyses in which Albrechtsen 2008 has been also included.</p> <p>A total of 428 women < 45 years had LLETZ performed during the study period and 89 of them had a pregnancy after the procedure. Ten women were excluded (three ectopic pregnancies, two TOPs and five miscarriages) from the study. Data from 79 women whose pregnancies progressed > 20 weeks and 158 matched controls were analysed. The histological diagnosis was normal in 3 (3.8%), CIN1 in 5 (6.3%), CIN2 in 18 (22.8%), and CIN3 in 53 (67.1%) of cases.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having LLETZ and subsequently delivering in a single university hospital between December 1995 to December 2000
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for date of delivery, age, parity, previous obstetric history and smoking habit

Albrechtsen 2008

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) External</p> <p>B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)</p> <p>Both had regression analysis for age and birth order</p> <p>Information source - Cancer Registry of Norway, Medical Birth Registry of Norway, Central Population Registry, Cause of Death Registry</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group: all pregnancies proceeding beyond 24 weeks of gestation (n = 14,882) of all women in Norway who delivered during 1967 to 2003 after cervical conisation (CKC, LLETZ, LC)</p> <p>Untreated group: A) all pregnancies proceeding beyond 24 weeks of gestation (n = 2,155,505) of all women in Norway who delivered during 1967 to 2003 without previous cervical conisation</p>

Albrechtsen 2008 (Continued)

B) all pregnancies proceeding beyond 24 weeks of gestation (n = 56,927) of all women in Norway who delivered during 1967 to 2003 before cervical conisation (CKC, LLETZ, LC)

Exclusion criteria: women \geq 45 years at the time of cervical conization; women who had their CIN diagnosis during 1980 to 1985 because it is not known if they had a treatment (these women were included in the untreated group)

Interventions	Excisional NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 33 weeks); PTB (< 28 weeks)
Notes	<p>Since 1953, the cancer registry has collected information on all cancer diagnoses as well as premalignant lesions, including intraepithelial neoplasia with staging. The compulsory reporting system is based on clinical, pathology, and cytology reports. During 1953 to 1979 and from 1986 onwards, treatment of intraepithelial neoplasia with cervical conisation has also been notified, though without specification of surgical method. During 1980 to 1985, only data on histological diagnoses—that is, the grade of intraepithelial neoplasia—were notified and the researchers excluded these women from the exposed group and included them in the not treated group.</p> <p>226 pregnancies after treatment were late miscarriages (< 24 weeks). 209 pregnancies before treatment were late miscarriages. 8501 pregnancies of the untreated group were late miscarriages. In this meta-analysis, these pregnancies were subtracted from the total number.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from national registries; Cancer registry: includes all cancer diagnoses as well as premalignant lesions plus their treatment (during 1980 to 1985 did not include treatment); Birth registry: the proportion of women with missing data on gestational age amounted to 5.3%, while data on birth weight were almost complete.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Unclear risk	During 1980 to 1985 the Cancer registry included only the grade of CIN and did not include the treatment. The researchers excluded those women from the treated group and included them in the untreated group, even though they might have had treatment before or after pregnancy. Because the population of this study is big enough, it is not estimated that this probable misclassification has affected the results of the study to a significant extent.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women in Norway who delivered during 1967 to 2003, before or after cervical conisation (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	<p>A) The untreated external comparison group was drawn from the same source as the treated group</p> <p>B) Internal matching (self-matching)</p>
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	<p>A) Regression analysis for age (at delivery or treatment) and birth order</p> <p>B) Internal matching (self-matching)</p>

Andersen 1999

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age and parity Information source - Hospital records of the Aalborg Hospital
Participants	Treated group - 75 pregnancies (< 27 weeks) of 62 women who had undergone LA before the pregnancy at the Aalborg Hospital (LA during 1985 to 1989) Exclusion: 6 patients with TOP, 3 with miscarriage and 1 with ectopic pregnancy Untreated group - 150 pregnancies of women without previous treatment (the next two women entering the delivery ward who were matched by age and parity)
Interventions	LC
Outcomes	PTB (≤ 37 weeks); PTB (≤ 37 weeks) ($D < 15$ mm); PTB (≤ 37 weeks) ($D = 15$ mm to 20 mm); PTB (≤ 37 weeks) ($D > 20$ mm); pPROM; CS; perinatal mortality; stillbirth; Apgar score (≤ 5) (1 min);
Notes	From 1985 to 1989, combination LC was performed in 536 patients. After LC, 72 patients became pregnant. After the exclusion of the 10 ineligible women, the remaining 62 patients had 75 pregnancies (> 27 weeks)

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All women who had had LC in a single hospital (1985 to 1989) and subsequently had a pregnancy (> 27 weeks)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The control group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Unclear risk	Matching for age and parity. No matching for smoking, although the intervention group had substantially higher rate of smoking (62.7% vs 27.3%).

Anderson 1984

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, race, births and miscarriages/TOP
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Anderson 1984 (Continued)

Information source - hospital records (for the ascertainment of the exposure) and postal questionnaires (for the ascertainment of the outcome); additional information from obstetricians who delivered other women

Participants	<p>Treated group - 68 deliveries of women who had been treated by LA as their initial treatment for CIN at the Samaritan Hospital for women, London, between December 1978 and February 1984, and subsequently had a pregnancy. Women who were treated in the previous 3 months were excluded.</p> <p>Untreated group - 70 deliveries of women without previous treatment who delivered at the St Mary's Hospital, London</p>
Interventions	LA
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); CS; instrumental deliveries (forceps); prolonged labour (> 12 hours); LBW (< 2500 g)
Notes	1013 patients were treated by LA as their initial therapy for CIN at the Samaritan Hospital for Women, London, between December 1978 and February 1984, and were followed up for at least 10 months thereafter. A questionnaire was sent to all the women, apart from those treated in the previous 3 months, asking for information about pregnancies before and after LA. About 25% of the questionnaires were returned by the Post Office as the women had moved away and could not be traced. This proportion is not surprising in a mobile, urban population. Additional information was obtained from obstetricians who delivered other women. In total, the researchers found 118 pregnancies in 110 patients. Of these pregnancies, 68 ended to delivery and were included in the analysis.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	25% of the women did not reply to the postal questionnaire because they had moved away and could not be traced. There is a high risk of attrition bias, although this proportion is not surprising in a mobile, urban area.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Recall bias because postal questionnaires were used for the ascertainment of the outcome
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	High risk	25% of the women did not reply to the questionnaire, because they had moved away. The women who replied are more likely to belong to a higher socioeconomic class.
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, race, births and miscarriages/TOP

Andia 2011

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: A) External</p>
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Andia 2011 (Continued)

B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Both had regression analysis for age, parity and smoking

Information source - Databases of the Cervical Pathology Units of the 5 main hospitals of the Basque Country participating in this study (Basurto, Cruces, Donostia, Galdakao, and Txagorritxu); Basque Country Health Service databases

Participants	<p>Treated group - 189 women who had undergone LLETZ during 1988 to 2007 at the 5 main hospitals of the Basque Country (Basurto, Cruces, Donostia, Galdakao, and Txagorritxu) and subsequently delivered</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 189 women who delivered during 1988 to 2007 without previous treatment and were identified from the Basque Country Health Service databases</p> <p>B) Internal population of women that had pregnancies before LLETZ (n = 189)</p> <p>Inclusion criteria (for both groups): only singletons were included</p>
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (nulliparous); PTB (< 37 weeks) (parous); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 35 weeks); PTB (< 32 weeks); CS; LBW (< 2500 g); LBW (1500 g)
Notes	Adjusting for maternal age, parity, and maternal smoking did not affect the results.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	A stratified random sampling of the women having LLETZ during 1988 to 2007 at the five main hospitals of the Basque Country and subsequently delivering
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, parity, smoking

Anwar 2016

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: Internal (self-matching)</p>
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Anwar 2016 (Continued)

Information source - Colposcopy Electronic Data Base (CYRIS) for identification of the treated women & Trust Electronic Pathology Data (WebV) for details of the cone biopsy treatment; Hospital Episode Statistics and electronic maternity data (CMIS) for identification of the women who subsequently achieved pregnancy & obstetric case notes by the local audit department for pregnancy details

Participants	Treated group - 15 women (23 pregnancies) who underwent electrosurgical cone biopsy using FCBE electrode at Diana Princess of Wales Hospital Grimsby between January 2000 and December 2011 and subsequently delivered at the same hospital before March 2013 Untreated group - The 48 pregnancies of these 15 women before treatment
Interventions	FCBE (Fischer Cone Biopsy Excisor)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks)
Notes	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Unclear risk	Small number of included treated women; there is possible bias due to unknown loss to follow-up of women who delivered at units other than the host institution
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women undergoing treatment and delivering in a single hospital
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (self-matching)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (self-matching)

Armarnik 2011

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - unmatched; regression analysis for age, birth order, year of delivery, smoking and cervical incompetence with cerclage Information source - medical records in combination with a computerised perinatal database (Soroka University Medical Center, Israel)
Participants	Treated group - 53 deliveries of women who had undergone conisation and then delivered at the Soroka University Medical Centre Untreated group - 104,617 deliveries of women who delivered at the Soroka University Medical Centre without previous conisation

Armarnik 2011 (Continued)

Exclusion criteria: multiple gestations; patients lacking prenatal care

Interventions	Excision NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ, other)
Outcomes	PTB (< 34 weeks); CS; epidural use; cervical cerclage; perinatal mortality
Notes	<p>Using the delivery record database, 53 deliveries after conisation were found. Using the medical records, 57 deliveries after conisation were found. The discrepancy between these two databases is because the delivery record database had a recording gap.</p> <p>LLETZ was the most common treatment (LLETZ: 18; CKC: 7; LC: 2; other: 14; >1 conisation: 1)</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	4/57 women (7%) were not included in the analysis, because of a recording gap in the delivery record database
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Unclear risk	Table 1 in page 767: When we add the women according to the conisation type, the sum is 42. When we add the women according to the histology of cervical biopsy or the smoking status during pregnancy, the sum is 40. There is a difference of two women.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single hospital
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, birth order, year of delivery, smoking and cervical incompetence with cerclage

Bekassy 1996

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: A) External - matching for age, parity and time of delivery</p> <p>B) Internal (self-matching)</p> <p>Information source - Anaesthetic records of University Hospital of Lund, Sweden, and National Medical Birth Registry at the National Board of Health and Welfare, Stockholm</p>
Participants	<p>A) Treated group - 250 women who had undergone LC at University Hospital of Lund, Sweden, and had a subsequent delivery, between January 1980 and June 1988</p> <p>Untreated group - 250 women selected from the National Medical Birth Registry</p>

Bekassy 1996 (Continued)

B) Of the 250 women of the treated group, 148 were parous. For these women, self-matching was also possible.

Interventions	LC ('laser miniconisation')
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (nulliparous); PTB (< 37 weeks) (parous); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); prolonged labour (> 12 hours); cervical stenosis; LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	From January 1980 to June 1988, 1485 women between age 16 to 58 were treated by carbon dioxide laser miniconisation because of CIN at University Hospital of Lund. These women were identified retrospectively via certain operation code numbers in the Anaesthetic hospital records. Each woman had also a specific 10-tailed patient identification number (PIN), which is also used by the National Medical Birth Registry to register births in Sweden. The information of these 1485 women was transferred to a magnetic tape which was then run against data held at the National Medical Birth registry and 250 women having a delivery after treatment (3 had twin pregnancies) were identified. Of these women, 245 delivered at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University Hospital of Lund, and the other 45 at 21 different hospitals around Sweden. 20 women had LC twice before pregnancy.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records and national registries
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women having LC at the University Hospital of Lund between January 1980 to June 1988
Representative comparison group?	Unclear risk	A) The untreated group was not drawn from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (self-matching)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) Matching for age, parity and time of delivery B) Internal comparison group (self-matching)

Blomfield 1993

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, parity and ethnic group Information source - Computer database of Dudley Road hospital
Participants	Treated group - 40 women who had undergone LLETZ and were subsequently delivered at Dudley Road Hospital, between January 1989 and January 1992

Blomfield 1993 (Continued)

Untreated group - 80 women without previous treatment delivering immediately before and after the cases at Dudley Road Hospital

Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks); CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); induction of labour; oxytocin use; epidural use; LBW (< 2500 g); NICU admission; perinatal mortality
Notes	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from computerised hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women that had LLETZ at Dudley Road Hospital between January 1982 to January 1992; low risk. However, more than 60% of the women delivering at Dudley Road Hospital are nonwhite
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity and ethnic group

Braet 1994

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/- 5 years), parity and smoking Information source - Hospital records of Rotherham District General Hospital
Participants	Treated group - 78 women who had undergone LLETZ in Rotherham District General Hospital between 1 December 1998 and 15 October 1992 and had a viable pregnancy afterwards. Only the first pregnancy after treatment was included. Only singleton pregnancies were included. Untreated group - 78 women who were the next following patients delivered in the same hospital.
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); pPROM; CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); APH; LBW (< 2 500 g); perinatal mortality
Notes	Between 1 December 1988 and 15 October 1992, a total of 1000 women had LLETZ in Rotherham District General Hospital. It was possible to identify 84 viable pregnancies in patients who had undergone

Braet 1994 (Continued)

the procedure before conception. Of the 84 pregnancies, 5 were second pregnancies after LLETZ and one was a twin pregnancy. The other 78 women were finally included in the treated group.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women that had LLETZ in a hospital between 1988 to 1992
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Patients from the same unit matched for age (+/- 5 years), parity and smoking

Bruinsma 2007

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) Women with colposcopy before pregnancy, but no treatment</p> <p>B) Women with colposcopy during pregnancy, but no treatment</p> <p>Both had regression analysis for age, illicit drug use during pregnancy, delivery at the RWH, marital status, maternal medical condition, previous TOP, previous miscarriage, previous PTB, previous treatment</p> <p>Information source - Records of the Cervical Dysplasia Clinic of the Royal Women's Hospital (RWH) (for the ascertainment of the exposure); Victorian Perinatal Data Collection Unit (PDCU) (for the ascertainment of the outcomes)</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 1951 women who were referred to the Royal Women's Hospital (RWH) during 1982 to 2000, received treatment for CIN and thereafter had a pregnancy in the state of Victoria during 1983 to 2002. Women with hysterectomy or treatment during pregnancy were excluded.</p> <p>Untreated group - 3597 women who were referred to the RWH during 1982 to 2000 and then delivered in the state of Victoria during 1983 to 2002 without receiving treatment (referral during the index pregnancy:1303; referral before the index pregnancy:2294)</p> <p>Inclusion criteria (for both groups): referral to the RWH either for assessment of an abnormality detected on a routine Pap smear or for evaluation of a cervix that appeared abnormal; only the first pregnancy after the referral/treatment</p> <p>Exclusion criteria (for both groups): missing date of birth; multiple pregnancies; referral to the RWH for assessment of a non-cervical lesion; women recorded in their clinic record as having no previous chil-</p>

Bruinsma 2007 (Continued)

dren and were 45 years or older at time of initial visit or who indicated that they had children but were older than 40 years at initial visit in 1982 or 41 years in 1983, etc.

Interventions	CKC, LLETZ, LA, RD
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 32 weeks); PTB (< 28 weeks); sPTB; pPPROM; CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	<p>Since 1982, the Victorian Perinatal Data Collection Unit (PDCU) has collected data on all births in the state of Victoria greater than or equal to 20 weeks of gestation or 400 g.</p> <p>All women were followed up for at least 2 years (range 2 to 20 years), the median follow-up time being 9 years for treated women and 10 years for untreated women.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	All outcomes, except for PTB (< 37 weeks), are presented only for the whole treated group and not separately according to the type of treatment
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women undergoing treatment for CIN during 1982 to 2000 in the largest treatment centre in Victoria
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis (for the outcome of PTB) for age, illicit drug use during pregnancy, delivery at the RWH, marital status, maternal medical condition, previous TOP, previous miscarriage, previous PTB, previous treatment

Buller 1982

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group - Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)</p> <p>Information source - Hospital records of University of California Hospital, San Francisco, and Kaiser Hospital, Honolulu</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 47 deliveries of women who had undergone diagnostic and/or therapeutic conization of the cervix at either the University of California Hospital, California, or Kaiser Hospital, Honolulu, between 1968 and 1978, and had a subsequent delivery. Inclusion criteria: Women of reproductive age (arbitrarily defined as age 39 or less) at the time of surgery. Exclusion criteria: Women with a hysterectomy or a sterilisation procedure and women who were lost to follow-up.</p> <p>Untreated group - 79 deliveries of the women of the treated group who had also a delivery before the treatment</p>

Buller 1982 (Continued)

Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); Threatened PTL; CS
Notes	503 underwent diagnostic and/or therapeutic conization of the cervix at either the University of California Hospital, San Francisco, or Kaiser Hospital, Honolulu, between 1968 and 1978. Of these, 314 were of reproductive age, arbitrarily defined as age 39 or less, at the time of surgery. A hysterectomy or a sterilisation procedure was subsequently performed on 87 of these 314 patients. An additional 61 patients were lost to follow-up within 12 months of the conisation. Of the remaining 166 patients, 61 patients achieved 88 pregnancies and the other 105 patients did not become pregnancies after conisation. Of the 88 pregnancies, 47 led to a labour. The same women before the treatment had 106 pregnancies (79 led to a labour).

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	227 women were eligible for the study. Of these, 61 (26.9%) were lost to follow-up.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women that had CKC in two hospitals between 1968 to 1978
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Castanon 2012

Methods	<p>Castanon 2012 (this is the main study):</p> <p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups - A) External (general population)</p> <p>B) Women with punch biopsy but no treatment</p> <p>C) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)</p> <p>D) Internal (self-matching: same women before and after treatment)</p> <p>Regression analysis for age, parity and study site for some comparison groups, but not for the ones that we used in our meta-analysis (see "Notes")</p> <p>Information source - Records of the 12 participating NHS hospitals (for the ascertainment of the exposure); hospital episode statistics of inpatient obstetric records for the whole of England (for the ascertainment of the outcomes)</p>
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Castanon 2012 (Continued)

Castanon 2014:

Case-control study nested in a retrospective cohort study

Matching for age, parity, study site and whether the birth occurred before or after the first colposcopy; regression analysis for age, parity, study site and index of multiple deprivation

Participants
Castanon 2012:

Study period for the treatment/biopsy: January 1987 to December 2009

Study period for the delivery: April 1998 to April 2010

Location for the treatment/biopsy: one of the 12 participating NHS hospitals

Location for the delivery: any NHS hospital

Treated group - 4776 deliveries of women who had undergone excisional treatment and subsequently had a pregnancy

Untreated group - A) 510,660 deliveries (general population of England)

B) 7263 deliveries of women who had undergone punch biopsy but no treatment and subsequently had a pregnancy

C) The deliveries (1173) of the treated group before their treatment

D) For 372 women who had at least one delivery both before and after the delivery, internal matching (self-matching) was also possible: the first delivery after treatment was compared with the last delivery before treatment

Exclusion criteria (for all groups): Pregnancies with no gestational age recorded, with gestational age > 43 weeks, with gestational age < 20 weeks or with no year of birth recorded as well as multiple pregnancies.

Additional exclusion criteria (for the women with treatment or punch biopsy): Women for whom the date of histology was unknown

Castanon 2014:

Study period for the treatment/biopsy: April 1988 to December 2011

Study period for the delivery: April 1998 to March 2011

Location for the treatment/biopsy: one of the 12 participating NHS hospitals

Location for the delivery: any NHS hospital

Cases - 768 women with a preterm birth after excisional treatment or punch biopsy. Only the earliest occurring singleton preterm birth (with any parity) in each woman was included

Controls - 830 matched women with a term birth after excisional treatment or punch biopsy

Inclusion criteria: births at 37 weeks' gestational age, women with incomplete colposcopy records, women for whom the only pathology sample reported was non-cervical, women who were recorded as being sterilised while pregnant, women with a diagnosis of cervical cancer at any time, women whose pregnancy was at high risk (diabetes mellitus, hypertension, placenta praevia with haemorrhage, supervision of high risk pregnancy, mental disorders, and diseases of the nervous system complicating pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium)

Interventions

Excision NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ, other)

Outcomes

PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D < 10 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D ≥ 10 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 33 weeks)

Castanon 2012 (Continued)

Notes

Castanon 2012: In addition to the treated/comparison groups that we used in our meta-analysis, the authors had a variant of those as well: only the first birth recorded in the dataset for each woman during the study period, after exclusion of antepartum stillbirths and stillbirths of indeterminate timing. For these groups there was regression analysis for age, parity and study site, but no regression analysis for the groups that we selected. However, we selected the latter, because the population is bigger and we had no reason to restrict to the first pregnancy of each woman during the study period.

Castanon 2014: this was a case-control study nested in this retrospective cohort study. The cases were 768 preterm births and the controls were 830 term births, all occurring after excisional treatment or punch biopsy. The main outcome of this study was the depth of the cone in the cases and controls stratified in the following categories: 1 mm to <9 mm, 10 mm to 14 mm, 15 mm to 19 mm, ≥ 20 mm. The cases and the controls, as a case-control study, were different from the cases and the controls of all the other studies. We have contacted the investigators of the study and also used the published data to extract the PTB (< 37 weeks) rate for women with excision of < 10 mm in depth and ≥ 10 mm in a treated group versus women who had punch biopsy but no treatment.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	Of the total number of pregnancies (n = 26897) of the women with a pregnancy before or after treatment/punch biopsy, 8050 pregnancies (29.9%) had an unknown gestational age
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Unclear risk	The authors do not have information as to whether the punch biopsy group may have had a history of ablative treatment or whether the treatment group had antenatal interventions when pregnant. There is no evidence of the efficacy of these interventions so it is unclear whether this is a source of bias.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	Women having treatment at one of the 12 participating NHS hospitals (representation from the whole England) and then delivering at any NHS hospital
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A/B) The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group C/D) Internal controls
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) General population of the whole England B) Women with punch biopsy (it is considered that possible confounding factors are not different between this group and the treated group and thus, this is one of the best comparison groups, in general) C/D) Internal controls No regression analysis for the comparison groups that we used (see "Notes" above)

Crane 2006

Methods Retrospective cohort study

Crane 2006 (Continued)

Comparison groups: A) Untreated women without a history of sPTB (low risk); this is the control group we used for our meta-analysis

B) Untreated women with a history of sPTB (high risk)

Both had regression analysis for maternal age, gestational age at the time of transvaginal ultrasonography, parity, smoking, antepartum bleeding after 20 weeks of gestation and previous sPTB

Information source - Hospital records of the Women's Health Centre of the Health Care Corporation of St. John's

Participants	<p>Treated group - 132 (LLETZ = 75, CKC = 21, CT = 36) pregnant women with singleton gestations from June 2001 to June 2004 at the Women's Health Centre of the Health Care Corporation of St. John's who previously had LLETZ, CKC or cryotherapy</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 81 women without history of sPTB or treatment for cervical dysplasia (low-risk control group)</p> <p>B) 63 women with a history of sPTB not having had treatment for cervical dysplasia</p>
Interventions	CKC; LLETZ; CT
Outcomes	sPTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); sPTB (< 34 weeks); CS; induction of labour; APH; LBW (< 2500 g); NICU admission; perinatal mortality; Apgar score (< 7) (5min)
Notes	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single hospital during June 2001 to June 2004
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for maternal age, gestational age at the time of transvaginal ultrasonography, parity, smoking, antepartum bleeding after 20 weeks of gestation, and sPTB

Cruickshank 1995

Methods	Retrospective cohort study
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Cruickshank 1995 (Continued)

Comparison group: A) External - matching for age, parity, husband's or partner's social class, height and daily cigarette consumption

B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Information source - Aberdeen Maternity and Neonatal Databank, postal questionnaires

Participants	<p>A) Treated group - 149 women who had undergone LLETZ between 1989 and 1991. Only the first singleton pregnancies following treatment that progressed to 20 weeks of gestation were included. Multiple pregnancies were excluded. We also excluded 2 miscarriages, giving a total of 147 women.</p> <p>Untreated group - 298 women without previous treatment (two controls for each case). We excluded 3 miscarriages, giving a total of 295 women</p> <p>B) The 147 deliveries of the treated group after LLETZ were compared with the 133 deliveries of the treated group before LLETZ</p>
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 28 weeks); CS; precipitous labour (< 2 hours); stillbirth
Notes	1000 women who had undergone LLETZ between 1989 and 1991 were identified via Aberdeen Maternity and Neonatal Databank. A postal questionnaire was sent to these women in 1993 and 653 replied. Of these, 149 had a singleton pregnancy after treatment and were included in the treated group. The control group was also pooled from Aberdeen Maternity and Neonatal Databank.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	Postal questionnaires were used for the selection of the treated group and many women did not reply (347/1000 = 34.7%)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	For the treated group, questionnaires were used for the ascertainment of the outcome; there is a risk of recall bias and misclassification of the outcome
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	High risk	Postal questionnaires were used for the selection of the treated group and many women did not reply (34.7%). The women who replied are more likely to have a higher educational level.
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A) The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) Matching for age, parity, husband's or partner's social class, height and daily cigarette consumption B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Ehsanipoor 2014

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - unmatched; regression analysis for age, parity, race, history of PTB, history of tobacco use, history of drug use and chorionicity</p> <p>Information source - maternal prenatal records and inpatient hospital charts from two community hospitals in California</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 110 women who had a twin pregnancy (≥ 24 weeks of gestation) at two community hospitals in California during 1998 to 2005 and had previously undergone treatment for CIN (CKC = 10, LLETZ = 36, LA/CT = 64)</p> <p>Exclusion: women with colposcopy or biopsy only, pregnancies with major fetal anomalies or intrauterine death, multi-fetal pregnancy reduction, indicated delivery prior to 34 weeks, twin-twin transfusion syndrome, or cerclage placement</p> <p>Untreated group - 766 women who had a twin pregnancy (≥ 24 weeks of gestation) at two community hospitals in California during 1998 to 2005 with no history of cervical procedures</p>
Interventions	CKC; LLETZ; Ablation NOS (LA, CT)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); PTB (< 34 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); PTB (< 28 weeks) (multiple pregnancies)
Notes	<p>No woman had more than one twin delivery during the time period specified.</p> <p>If a participant had undergone both an ablative and excisional procedure, she was included in the excisional group.</p> <p>A total of 110 (12.6%) women had undergone a prior procedure for cervical dysplasia. This included 10 with a CKC, 36 with a LEEP, 59 with cryotherapy and 5 had undergone CO2 laser ablation. One of the participants with a CKC also had cryotherapy. One participant had undergone cryotherapy twice and none of the women had more than one excisional procedure.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having a twin pregnancy in two hospitals in California during 1998 to 2005
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, parity, race, history of PTB, history of tobacco use, history of drug use and chorionicity

El-Bastawissi 1999

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) External from general population - matching for age and country of origin (foreign vs USA)</p> <p>B) Women with Carcinoma in situ (CIS) but no treatment - unmatched</p> <p>Both had regression analysis for parity, race, maternal smoking, marital status and history of TOPs.</p> <p>Information source - Cancer Surveillance System (a population-based cancer registry covering 13 counties of western Washington) at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Washington, and Birth Certificates from the Department of Health in Washington state</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 1096 women who were less than 50 years old with CIS, were diagnosed between 1984 and 1992, were treated with excisional or ablative therapy and subsequently delivered live singletons between 1984 and 1995 (the women were identified by the Cancer Surveillance System)</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 9201 women (random sample selected from birth certificates, but frequency-matched for age and the country of origin) without cervical cancer who gave birth during the same years without previous treatment.</p> <p>B) 330 women with untreated CIS</p> <p>Only women (for both the treated and untreated group) residing in the 13 counties of western Washington covered by the Cancer Surveillance system were included. Only women who indicated the same father of the index infant and previous children were included.</p>
Interventions	Excision NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ); Ablation NOS (LA, CT)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); CS; LBW (< 2500 g)
Notes	<p>From the 1851 women with CIS, 1539 women had a pregnancy after the CIS diagnosis. Of these women, 212 had no surgical procedure before pregnancy, 227 had D&C or ECC before pregnancy, 85 had cryosurgery or LA before pregnancy, and 1011 had conisation before pregnancy. For 4 women, the procedure (if any) before pregnancy was unknown.</p> <p>From the 1851 women with CIS, 312 were pregnant at the time of the diagnosis. Of these women, 118 had no surgical procedure during pregnancy, 33 had D&C or ECC during pregnancy, 6 had cryosurgery or LA during pregnancy, and 142 had conisation during pregnancy. For 13 women, the procedure (if any) during pregnancy was unknown.</p> <p>It is possible to make the following comparisons in our meta-analysis:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Women with CIS and treatment before pregnancy versus women with CIS but no treatment (diagnosis of CIS before pregnancy) Women with CIS and treatment before pregnancy versus women with CIS but no treatment (diagnosis of CIS during pregnancy) Women with CIS and treatment before pregnancy versus women with CIS but no treatment (diagnosis of CIS before or during pregnancy) Women with CIS and treatment before pregnancy versus general population <p>Women that had treatment during pregnancy were excluded according to the exclusion criteria of the systematic review.</p>

Risk of bias

El-Bastawissi 1999 (Continued)

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information on birth weight, gestation length, and delivery method was complete for 98.8%, 83.2%, and 93.8% of women with CIS versus 99.7%, 86.7%, and 94.7% for comparison women, respectively.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women from 13 counties of western Washington (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Both untreated groups were drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age and country of origin (foreign vs USA). Regression analysis for parity, race, maternal smoking, marital status and history of TOPs.

Fischer 2010

Methods	<p>Prospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/- 5 years), race, the number of prior vaginal deliveries at ≥ 20 weeks and gestational age at the time of cervical sonography (+/- 2 weeks)</p> <p>Information source - medical records of one of the southern New Jersey maternal-fetal medicine offices</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 85 pregnant women presenting to one of the southern New Jersey maternal-fetal medicine offices (during 2001 to 2007) with a history of LLETZ (n = 68), CKC (n = 15), or both (n = 2)</p> <p>Untreated group - 85 pregnant women referred from the referred obstetrical ultrasound population (during 2007 to 2008) without previous cervical surgery</p> <p>Exclusion criteria (for both groups): multiple gestations, a clinical history of cervical insufficiency (defined as a history of repeat midtrimester pregnancy loss associated with painless cervical dilatation), presence of a cerclage or planned cerclage, ruptured membranes, or a fetal aneuploidy or major anomaly recognized at the time of cervical sonography</p>
Interventions	Excision NOS (CKC; LLETZ)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 34 weeks); CS; cervical cerclage
Notes	<p>No enrolled patients were excluded from analysis after cervical sonography had been performed.</p> <p>The researchers had difficulty finding a matched control for one of the study participants, a 40-year-old Caucasian with four previous vaginal deliveries. They finally identified a Filipino gravida who otherwise matched the study patient.</p>

Risk of bias

Fischer 2010 (Continued)

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	No enrolled patient was excluded from analysis after cervical sonography had been performed
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other source of bias is obvious
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having a cervical sonography during 2001 to 2007
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age (+/- 5 years), race, the number of prior vaginal deliveries at \geq 20 weeks, gestational age at the time of cervical sonography (+/- 2 weeks)

Forsmo 1996

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/- 3 years), parity and place of delivery (hospital with perinatal care unit, smaller hospital or local district maternity wards) Information source - Medical records, postal questionnaires
Participants	Treated group - 71 women who were treated by LC or LA (LC = 51; LA = 20) in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University Hospital of Tromsø, Norway, during 1983-88 and had subsequently a delivery (deliveries till June 1992 were included). Only first deliveries after treatment (delivery after 24th week) were included. Only singletons were reported by the women. Control group - 174 women who delivered without previous treatment.
Interventions	LC; LA
Outcomes	LBW (< 2500 g); LBW (< 2000 g); LBW (< 1500 g); perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	During 1983 to 1988, 356 women were treated for CIN I-III with laser conisation or ablation in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University Hospital of Thomso, Norway. Twelve women (3.4%) were lost afterwards. In June 1992, a postal questionnaire was sent to the other 344 women. 319 women (93%) replied. The short questionnaire comprised questions about pregnancy outcome after treatment, birth weights, complications in pregnancy or delivery, and place of delivery. A total of 87 women, all women, reported that they fell pregnant at least once after treatment. Of these women, 71 had a delivery after 24 weeks of gestation. Information about gestational length and verification of birth weight in women with \leq 2500 g was collected from medical records. Data concerning treatment, diagnosis and parity before pregnancy were previously registered.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
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Forsmo 1996 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Only 12 women (3.4%) did not receive a postal questionnaire, because they were lost after treatment. Of the other 344 eligible for the study women, 319 (93%) replied.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	There are some contradictions: in the table III where the LBW rates are presented, the authors have also included the women of the treated group with miscarriage (n = 11), TOP (n = 3) and ectopic pregnancy (n = 2). In these cases, there is no birth weight to be calculated. It is not clear if there are also miscarriages, ectopic pregnancies and TOPs in the total number of the controls.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women that had LC or LA at the University Hospital of Tromso between 1983 to 1988
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same area and period although not necessarily from the same hospital
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age (+/- 3 years), parity, place of delivery (hospital with perinatal care unit, smaller hospital or local district maternity wards)

Frega 2013

Methods	Prospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for parity (all women were nulliparous) and race (all women were white) Information source - records of university teaching hospitals and country hospitals across Italy
Participants	Study period - January 2003 to January 2007 Treated group - 475 pregnant women who had previously undergone LLETZ for CIN 2/3; Inclusion criteria: women with only one previous LLETZ, no repeated cervical excisional or ablative treatments and no relapse of CIN for at least 12 months after LLETZ Untreated group - 441 pregnant women with no previous treatment for CIN Inclusion criteria (for both groups): women of age 42 years or younger, women who had spontaneous pregnancy, white women and nulliparous women Exclusion criteria (for both groups): twin pregnancies, any major disease (e.g. cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV infection, or hypertension) and alcohol, smoke or substance abuse.
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (nulliparous); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies)
Notes	In the treated group, 69/475 women had a miscarriage (\leq 24 weeks of gestation). In the untreated group, 62/441 women had a miscarriage (\leq 24 weeks of gestation). These women were not in the denominator for the calculation of the PTB rate.

Frega 2013 (Continued)

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	18/493 (3.7%) pregnant women in the treated group were lost to follow-up; 21/462 (4.5%) pregnant women in the untreated group were lost to follow-up
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering at the participating hospitals across Italy during 2003 to January 2007
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for parity (all women were nulliparous) and race (all women were white). The mean age in the treated group was 30.8 vs 31.9 in the untreated group

Frey 2013

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) External from women that had cervical smear</p> <p>B) Women with punch biopsy but no treatment</p> <p>Both had matching for age and year of treatment/Pap test/punch biopsy, and regression analysis for age, parity, race, maternal diabetes, maternal BMI, neonate birth weight and prior CS</p> <p>Information source - clinical databases of surgical pathology at the nine participating hospitals (for the ascertainment of the exposure); structured phone interviews and confirmation from medical files after informed consent (for the ascertainment of the outcomes)</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 598 women who had undergone LLETZ at one of the nine participating hospitals during 1996 to 2006 and then had a singleton pregnancy beyond 20 weeks of gestation</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 588 women who had had Pap test only at one of the nine participating hospitals during 1996 to 2006 and then had a singleton pregnancy beyond 20 weeks of gestation</p> <p>B) 552 women who had had punch biopsy but no treatment at one of the nine participating hospitals during 1996 to 2006 and then had a singleton pregnancy beyond 20 weeks of gestation</p> <p>Inclusion criteria: only the first pregnancy after procedure (LLETZ, Pap test, punch biopsy)</p> <p>Exclusion criteria: women in the untreated groups who reported any history of LLETZ or other cervical excisional treatment; women with missing data (pregnancy history, mode of delivery, dates of the cervical procedure/delivery), women for whom medical records were unavailable</p>

Frey 2013 (Continued)

Interventions	LLETZ	
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); CS; induction of labour	
Notes		
Risk of bias		
Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Unclear risk	Not specified how many women had missing data on the outcomes of the index pregnancy
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having LLETZ at nine hospitals during 1996 to 2006 and then delivering
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated groups were drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age and year of treatment/Pap test/punch biopsy; regression analysis for age, parity, race, meternal diabetes, maternal BMI, neonate birth weight and prior CS

Gunasekera 1992

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, parity, race, duration of pregnancy and smoking habit Information source - Hospital records of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Watford General Hospital, Hertfordshire	
Participants	Treated group - 140 women who had undergone LA or LLETZ for CIN (LLETZ = 23; LA = 117) at Watford General Hospital and had a subsequent intra-uterine pregnancy, whose outcome was known. The observation period was February 1987 to January 1991. Untreated group - 140 matched women	
Interventions	LLETZ; LA	
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); CS; instrumental deliveries (forceps); prolonged labour (> 12 hours)	
Notes	The majority of patients had been treated with the laser because this method had been in use longer than LLETZ. 3 patients who had been treated with LC were too small a group to analyse.	

Gunasekera 1992 (Continued)

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women who were treated with LA or LLETZ in a single general hospital and had a subsequent pregnancy, between February 1987 to January 1991
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity, race, duration of pregnancy and smoking habit

Guo 2013

Methods	Prospective cohort study Comparison group: Women with colposcopic biopsy (CIN1 or less) but no treatment - matching for smoking (all women were non-smokers) Information source - Records of the First Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University, China
Participants	Treated group - 84 women who underwent LLETZ or CKC (CCK = 36, LLETZ = 48) at the University Hospital of Zhengzhou during January 2005 to January 2009, wanted thereafter to become pregnant and succeeded in becoming pregnant; Exclusion criteria: women with postoperative infertility, multiple-time conisation or positive incisal edge Untreated group - 68 women who became pregnant after exclusion of CIN II or above with colposcopic biopsy and did not receive any other surgical procedures Exclusion criteria (for both groups): history of infertility or recurrent miscarriages, evidence of premature delivery, smoking habits
Interventions	CKC; LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 34 weeks); pPROM; CS; precipitous labour; prolonged labour; LBW (< 2500 g); Apgar score (< 7) (1min)
Notes	The follow-up lasted two years.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
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Guo 2013 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Unclear risk	Not specified how many women were lost to follow-up
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women undergoing CKC or LLETZ in a single hospital during January 2005 to January 2009
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Women with colposcopic biopsy (CIN1 or less); matching for smoking (all women were non-smokers).

Haffenden 1993

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age and parity Information source - Hospital records of Gloucestershire Royal Hospital
Participants	Treated group - 152 women who had undergone LLETZ at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital between April 1988 and December 1989 and had a subsequent delivery (delivery after 24 weeks) at the same hospital. Untreated group - 152 women without previous treatment delivering at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital (the next following suitable woman after case).
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); precipitous labour (< 2 hours); prolonged labour (> 12 hours); induction of labour; oxytocin use; epidural use; LBW (2500 g)
Notes	Between April 1988 and December 1989, 1000 women with cervical smears showing repeatedly borderline changes of dyskaryosis and who had satisfactory colposcopy underwent LLETZ at the Gloucestershire Royal Hospital. Pregnancies in this study group which occurred since LLETZ and which resulted in referral to Gloucestershire Royal Hospital were identified. Deliveries after 24 weeks' gestation were matched against a control: the delivery of the next women of the same age and parity at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records

Haffenden 1993 (Continued)

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	The treated group included all women that underwent LLETZ between 1988 and 1989 in a single hospital
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Unclear risk	Matching for age and parity. The intervention group had substantially higher rate of smoking (36% vs 14.4%)

Hagen 1993

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/- 3 years) and parity (equal); regression analysis for maternal height, marital status, level of education, smoking, previous TOP, and, in the index pregnancy, occurrence of gestational hypertension or antepartum haemorrhage and the mode of delivery</p> <p>Information source - Hospital records of University Hospital of Trondheim, Norway</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 56 women who had undergone LLETZ at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University Hospital, Trondheim, Norway between 1983 and 1985, were 38 years of age or younger at the time of operation and had been delivered of live infants beyond 22 weeks gestation after the conisation and before 1991 (all infants were singletons). Only the first birth after treatment was included.</p> <p>Untreated group - 112 women without previous treatment delivered at the same hospital (the first two women after each case)</p>
Interventions	LC
Outcomes	PTB (≤ 37 weeks); PTB (≤ 37 weeks) (nulliparous); PTB (≤ 37 weeks) (parous); PTB (≤ 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); APH
Notes	During the three year period from a January 1983 to 31 December 1985, 351 women underwent LC of the cervix. 6 women were lost afterwards. 247 women who were 38 years of age or younger at the time of operation were studied for reproductive events. By 1 January 1991, 79 of these women had become pregnant.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records. Of the 351 who had undergone LLETZ between 1983 to 1985, only 6 (1.71%) were lost after the treatment
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious

Hagen 1993 (Continued)

Other bias	Unclear risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All women that had LLETZ at the University Hospital of Trondheim between 1983 to 1985
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age and parity; regression analysis for maternal height, marital status, level of education, smoking, previous TOP, and, in the index pregnancy, occurrence of gestational hypertension or antepartum haemorrhage and the mode of delivery.

Heinonen 2013

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - unmatched; regression analysis for maternal age, socioeconomic status, marital status, urbanism, time since LLETZ, previous PTBs Information source - Hospital Discharge Register (for the ascertainment of the exposure); Medical Birth Register (for the ascertainment of the outcome)
Participants	Treated group - 7636 singleton deliveries of women of reproductive age (15 to 49 years) who had undergone LLETZ during 1997 to 2009 and delivered during 1998 to 2009 Untreated group - 658,179 singleton deliveries (1998 to 2009) of women without previous LLETZ
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancy)
Notes	The 3 studies (Heinonen 2013 , Jakobsson 2009 , Jakobsson 2007) refer to overlapping populations from the Finnish Register. We considered as primary study the most recent (Heinonen 2013) that was a population-based study assessing the impact of LLETZ from 1997 to 2009. From this study we extracted PTB (< 37 weeks) rates, overall as well as for single cones, repeat cones and singleton pregnancies.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from national registers
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias

Heinonen 2013 (Continued)

Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women in Finland undergoing LLETZ during 1997 to 2009 and subsequently delivering during 1998 to 2009 (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for maternal age, socioeconomic status, marital status, urbanism, time since LLETZ, previous PTBs

Hemmingsson 1982

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies) Information source - Hospital records of the University Hospital of Uppsala, Sweden
Participants	Treated group - 115 pregnancies of women who had undergone CT for CIN at the Department of Gynaecological Oncology of the University Hospital of Uppsala between 1973 to 1979 and had a subsequent pregnancy (≥ 28 weeks of gestation). Exclusion criteria: women > 40 years of age at the time of cryotherapy Untreated group - 65 pregnancies before the cryotherapy of the same women
Interventions	CT
Outcomes	PTB (< 36 weeks); pPROM; CS; cervical stenosis; perinatal mortality
Notes	Almost all women were delivered at the University Hospital of Uppsala. Most pre-therapy pregnancies were completed during 1973 to 1975 (86%) in contrast with post-therapy pregnancies, of which 76% occurred in 1976 to 1980. The only difference found in this study about the effect of cryosurgery was an increase in the number of CS in the post-therapy group. However, the higher CS rate only reflects a general trend towards a higher CS rate in Sweden (in 1973 the CS rate at the department was 6% but rose to 13% in 1980).

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	The CS rate was six times higher in the treated group than in the untreated group. The higher CS rate probably reflects the general trend towards a higher CS rate in Sweden in the last 10 years before the publication. This is discussed by the authors.

Hemmingsson 1982 (Continued)

Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds.
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women who had undergone cryotherapy for CIN in a single University Hospital between 1973 to 1979 and had a subsequent pregnancy
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Himes 2007

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: Women with colposcopic biopsy but no treatment - unmatched; regression analysis for age, race, marital status, payor status, years of education, tobacco use, history of preterm delivery and height of the cone specimen Information source - Hospital records (pathological and obstetric database)
Participants	Treated group - 114 women who had undergone LLETZ between November 2001 and December 2004 and subsequently delivered a singleton, non-anomalous pregnancy of at least 20 weeks of gestation at Magee-Womens Hospital. Exclusion criteria: Women with CKC, women with treatment during pregnancy, women with cervical cerclage Untreated group - 962 women who had undergone colposcopic biopsy between November 2001 and December 2004 and subsequently delivered a singleton, non-anomalous pregnancy of at least 20 weeks of gestation at Magee-Womens Hospital. Exclusion criteria: Women with cervical cerclage
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); sPTB (< 37 weeks); pPROM
Notes	The numbers of patients with CKC was small and their exclusion did not change the results. 3 women had conisation during pregnancy and they were excluded.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records (pathological and obstetric database)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Table 2 in page 316 is wrong, but the correct data can be pooled from the text.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds

Himes 2007 (Continued)

Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single hospital
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, race, marital status, payor status, years of education, tobacco use, history of preterm delivery and height of the cone specimen

Jakobsson 2007

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - unmatched; regression analysis for age, parity, smoking</p> <p>Information source - Hospital Discharge Register (information on all inpatient episodes in health care facilities since 1967); Finnish Medical Birth Register</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 8422 singleton pregnancies of reproductive-aged women (15 to 49 years) in Finland who had undergone treatment for CIN during 1986 to 2003 and had a subsequent delivery during 1987 to 2004 (excision:4846; ablation:3576). Exclusion criteria: Women with irrelevant cervical treatments (such as TOPs and excisions of polyps).</p> <p>Untreated group - all singleton pregnancies (1,056,855) of women in Finland who did not have a history of treatment for CIN and delivered during 1987 to 2004.</p>
Interventions	Excision NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ); Ablation NOS (LA, CT, electrocoagulation)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 28 weeks); LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality
Notes	<p>The 3 studies (Heinonen 2013, Jakobsson 2009, Jakobsson 2007) refer to overlapping populations from the Finnish Register.</p> <p>We considered as primary study the most recent (Heinonen 2013) that was a population-based study assessing the impact of LLETZ from 1997 to 2009. From Jakobsson 2007, we extracted data on the PTB (< 37 weeks) but after exclusion of all patients that were treated after 1997 because we wanted to avoid duplication with Heinonen 2013. We also proportionally adjusted the control population to avoid duplication. We further analysed PTB (< 28 weeks), LBW (< 2500 g) and perinatal mortality as this data are not provided in any other study.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from national registers; It is estimated that 95% of all hospitalizations are registered in the Hospital Discharge Register; Less than 0.1% of all newborns are missing from the Medical Birth Register
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds

Jakobsson 2007 (Continued)

Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study Finnish women having a singleton delivery between 1987 to 2004 (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The control group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	The women in the treated group were slightly older, were more often nulliparous (42.8% vs 30.9%), were twice as often smokers (26.6% vs 15.2%), and had lower socioeconomic status. However, adjusting for age, parity and smoking did not change the results of the study. The researchers were not able to adjust also for the socioeconomic status (they were unable to define the socioeconomic status for all women), but in Finland socioeconomic status and smoking are strongly correlated.

Jakobsson 2009

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison groups: A) External: no matching B) Internal (self-matching) Both had regression analysis for age, parity, or both Information source - Hospital Discharge Register, Medical Birth Register and hospital records of the Helsinki University Hospital and the Maternity Hospital, Finland
Participants	A) Treated group - 624 women who had undergone LLETZ for CIN during 1997 to 2003 and subsequently delivered at the Helsinki University Hospital or the Maternity Hospital, Finland, until 2006. Inclusion criteria: only singleton pregnancies. Exclusion criteria: women who were treated during pregnancy; women with a delivery during the study year but before LLETZ; women with a previous CKC; multiple pregnancies. Untreated group - 554,507 women having a singleton delivery during 1997 to 2006 (general population of Finland) B) 258 women of the treated group had also a delivery before LLETZ. For these women internal matching (self-matching) was possible, in addition to the external comparison group.
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (nulliparous); PTB (< 37 weeks) (parous)
Notes	The 3 studies (Heinonen 2013 , Jakobsson 2009 , Jakobsson 2007) refer to overlapping populations from the Finnish Register. We considered as primary study the most recent (Heinonen 2013) that was a population-based study assessing the impact of LLETZ from 1997 to 2009. From Jakobsson 2009 that refers to two hospitals in Southern Finland, we have included as outcomes the PTB (< 37 weeks) for nulliparous as opposed to multiparous women that is not described in the other two cohorts. We also included data in the analysis from this paper on self-matching (internal controls). These data are not presented in the other two references of the same population. In order to minimise overlap, we have only included data for the internal comparison in the separate forest plot for internal matching but not in the merged one, as it was impossible to discriminate the possible overlap with Heinonen 2013 .

Risk of bias

Jakobsson 2009 (Continued)

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from national registries and hospital records. For some parameters, there was incomplete data (e.g. for 45.5% of the women, the cone size was unknown and for 7.7% of the women, the CIN diagnosis was unknown). Complete data for the duration of pregnancy.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in two hospitals during 1997 to 2006
Representative comparison group?	Unclear risk	A) The external comparison group was not drawn from the same source as the treated group (it was drawn from the national Birth Register covering the whole of Finland, whereas the treated group was drawn from two specific hospitals) B) Internal (self-matching)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) External: Regression analysis for age, parity, or both. No conspicuous difference between the treated and the external comparison group, regarding socioeconomic class, smoking during pregnancy, alcohol consumption during pregnancy, or substance abuse during pregnancy. B) Internal (self-matching)

Jones 1979

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/- 5 years), parity, social class, date of delivery (same month or immediately preceding or following month) and singleton birth Information source - Clinical records available from the Cardiff Cervical Cytology Study (for cases), Cardiff Birth Survey (for controls)
Participants	Treated group - 66 pregnancies of all women from Cardiff who had undergone CKC between February 1965 and April 1974 and subsequently had a singleton pregnancy (up to April 1975) proceeding beyond 28 weeks' gestation. Untreated group - 264 pregnancies of women from Cardiff having a singleton pregnancy without previous treatment.
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); sPTB (< 37 weeks); CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); precipitous labour (< 2 hours); prolonged labour (> 12 hours); LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	Between February 1965 and April 1974, 600 women from Cardiff had CKC. 372 of these women were potentially fertile and up to April 1975, 76 had 91 pregnancies after the CKC. 13 pregnancies aborted spon-

Jones 1979 (Continued)

taneously, 11 were terminated and there was one twin pregnancy. The other 66 singleton pregnancies were included. 10 pregnancies were the second one after the treatment and one pregnancy was the third one after the treatment.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records and registries
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women from Cardiff that had CKC between February 1965 to April 1974 (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age (+/- 5 years), parity, social class, date of delivery (same month or immediately preceding or following month) and singleton birth

Kirn 2015

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, parity and smoking Information source - University Hospital of the Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich
Participants	Treated group - 135 patients who delivered at the University Hospital of the Ludwig-Maximilians University between 2006 and 2012 and had undergone cervical conisation before giving birth; exclusion criteria: twin pregnancies Untreated group - 135 women who had not undergone cervical conisation before giving birth
Interventions	Excision NOS
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton); CS
Notes	At first, 144 patients with treatment before pregnancy were identified. However, 3 patients were excluded for having twin pregnancies and six women could not be matched and therefore were also excluded

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
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Kirn 2015 (Continued)

Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single university hospital between 2006 to 2012
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity and smoking

Kitson 2014

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: Women with punch biopsy but no treatment - matching for age, parity and smoking Information source - maternity and colposcopy databases of a large tertiary unit in the North East of England
Participants	Treated group - 278 women who had undergone LLETZ during 2000 to 2010 and subsequently delivered in a large tertiary unit in the North East of England during 2008 to 2011. Only the first pregnancy after treatment was included. Untreated group - 278 women who delivered in the same unit during the same time period and had had punch biopsy but no treatment before birth Inclusion criteria (for both groups): singleton pregnancies of at least 20 weeks of gestation
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 34 weeks); sPTB; pPROM; CS; instrumental deliveries; LBW (< 2500 g); NICU admission
Notes	30 women underwent two or more LLETZ procedures. The mean gestational age of these women did not differ from the mean gestational age of the women who underwent only one LLETZ procedure.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records

Kitson 2014 (Continued)

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Unclear risk	Excised cones were formalin fixed at the time of receipt in the pathology lab which is known to result in tissue retraction and hence a reduction in the measured dimensions
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a large tertiary unit during 2008 to 2011
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity and smoking

Klaritsch 2006

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - no matching, no regression analysis Information source - Hospital records
Participants	Treated group - 76 singleton deliveries of 65 women who delivered at the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Medical University of Graz, Austria, between 1992 to 2002 and had previously undergone CKC at the same hospital or other hospital. Exclusion criteria: Women with LLETZ, repeated conisation, previous PTB or multiple gestations. No woman had undergone CKC during pregnancy. Untreated group - all singleton deliveries (29711) of the women who delivered at the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Medical University of Graz, Austria, between 1992 to 2002 and did not have a history of cervical conisation
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 34 weeks); pPROM; CS; chorioamnionitis; LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality
Notes	There were 29,809 singleton deliveries at the University Hospital of Graz between 1992 and 2002. 98 deliveries of 86 women with history of conisation were identified. The researchers excluded 21 women and their 22 deliveries. 16 of them had undergone LLETZ, 2 had had more than one conisation, 1 had had previous PTB, and 2 had multiple gestations. 65 women with a total of 76 deliveries had undergone CKC and were included in the conisation group. For controls the researchers took the remaining 29,711 singleton deliveries in the study period. 53 women had undergone CKC at the University Hospital of Graz, 12 at other hospitals. No woman had undergone CKC during pregnancy.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Complete data in the control group; a small percentage of incomplete data for most outcomes in the untreated group

Klaritsch 2006 (Continued)

Selective reporting (re-reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single hospital between 1992 to 2002
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	High risk	Neither matching nor regression analysis; the median age at delivery was 30 years (range 21 to 43) in the treated group vs 28 years (range 14 to 61) in the untreated group; 73.7% multigravidas in the treated group vs 49.9% multigravidas in the untreated group; no significant difference in smoking habits

Kristensen 1985

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age and parity Information source - Records of the Data Processing Unit at Odense University Hospital/Questionnaires (treated group), Records of Odense University Hospital (untreated group)
Participants	Treated group - All women who had conisation performed in the county of Funen between April 1973 and December 1980 and had a subsequent pregnancy (before April 1982). 85 pregnancies (proceeding beyond 28 weeks) of 82 women were finally included in the analysis. Untreated group - All singleton deliveries at Odense University Hospital between 1978 and 1982. (Odense University Hospital mainly serves the town of Ostense and the surrounding rural areas)
Interventions	Treatment NOS
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); LBW (< 2500 g)
Notes	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The needed information was obtained from hospital records. For women having left the county of Funen, a questionnaire was sent about the outcome of probable pregnancies after treatment; replies were received from all patients.
Selective reporting (re-reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	High risk	The type of conisation is not described

Kristensen 1985 (Continued)

Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women from the county of Funen that had treatment for CIN between April 1973 to December 1980 (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age and parity

Kristensen 1993

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison groups: A) External - no matching, no regression analysis B) Internal (self-matching) Information source - Medical Birth Register, National Register of Hospital Discharges
Participants	All women with a permanent address in Denmark with singleton pregnancies who gave birth to their first infant in 1982 and second infant during the time period 1982 to 1987. For treated group, treatment took place during 1977 to 1987. A) The first and second delivery of the women whose treatment took place before the first delivery (68 deliveries of 34 women) and the second delivery of the women whose treatment took place between the first and second delivery (62 deliveries of 62 women) were compared with the first and second delivery of the women with no treatment (28124 deliveries of 14062 women) B) For the 62 women whose treatment took place between the first and second delivery, the first delivery was compared with the second delivery (self-matching)
Interventions	Treatment NOS (CKC, laser, electrocautery)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (nulliparous); PTB (< 37 weeks) (parous); PTB (<3 7 weeks) (singleton pregnancies)
Notes	In the cohort of 14,233 women, 170 had cervical conisation: 34 before the first childbirth, 62 between the first and second childbirth, and 74 after the second childbirth.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from national registers
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Unclear risk	The type of conisation is not described as details are not included in the national registry. Treatment may include CKC, laser or electrocautery

Kristensen 1993 (Continued)

Representative intervention group?	Low risk	This is a population-based study and the treated group is representative of the average women who undergoes conisation
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A) The external comparison group was drawn from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (self-matching)
Comparability of treatment groups?	High risk	A) No matching, no regression analysis B) Internal comparison group (self-matching)

Kuoppala 1986

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, parity, date of delivery (generally same month) and singleton birth Information source - Hospital records of University Central Hospital of Tampere
Participants	Treated group - Women who had CKC at the University Central Hospital of Tampere in 1962 to 1979 and had a subsequent pregnancy. Finally, 62 pregnancies lasting more than 28 weeks were included in the analysis. Untreated group - 62 pregnancies (> 28 weeks) of women from the labour room register without previous treatment.
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse); induction of labour; oxytocin use; analgesia use NOS; cervical cerclage; perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	The study comprised patients who had cervical conization at the University Central Hospital of Tampere in 1962 to 1979. A total of 317 women had cone biopsy: 77 between them had 98 pregnancies. Of these pregnancies, 36 lasted less than 28 weeks and 62 more than 28 weeks.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious.
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women that had CKC at the Univeristy Hospital of Tampere between 1962 to 1979

Kuoppala 1986 (Continued)

Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was pooled from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity, date of delivery and singleton birth

Larsson 1982

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies) with matching for age, parity, socioeconomic status, smoking, surgical interventions and various diseases Information source - South Swedish Regional Tumour Registry, hospital records
Participants	Treated group - 197 deliveries after CKC Untreated group - 284 deliveries before CKC The CKC took place between 1962 and 1976
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 37 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	988 women had undergone conization because of dysplasia in varying degree or carcinoma in situ over the 15-year period 1962 to 1976. 197 women became pregnant with a total of 635 pregnancies before and after conisation. 37 of the women had not been pregnant before the conisation. Number of pregnancies before conisation: 341 (284 deliveries). Number of pregnancies after conization: 294 (197 deliveries)

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records and registries
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	The treated group was pooled from the South Swedish Regional Tumour Registry. The treated group is in all likelihood representative of the average women who undergoes CKC (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (self-matching)

Larsson 1982 (Continued)

Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (self-matching) with matching for age, parity, socioeconomic status, smoking, surgical interventions and various diseases
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Lima 2011

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - no matching, no regression analysis Information source - Hospital records of Dr Alfredo Da Costa Maternity, Lisbon
Participants	Treated group - 29 women who had undergone LLETZ or LC (LC = 11; LLETZ = 18) between 2000 to 2005 at Dr Alfredo da Costa Maternity and had a subsequent delivery at the same hospital. Untreated group - 58 women without previous cervical treatment who delivered at the same hospital during 2000 to 2005 (the immediate matched delivery before and after each case)
Interventions	LC; LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D≤ 10 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D> 10 mm); CS; LBW (< 2500g); Apgar score (<7) (5min)

Notes

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious sources of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single hospital during the study period
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	High risk	No matching or regression analysis for possible confounders

Ludviksson 1982

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, parity and time of delivery
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Ludviksson 1982 (Continued)

Information source - Hospital records of the Regional Hospital of Orebro

Participants	<p>Treated group - 83 deliveries of 75 women who were below 35 years of age, underwent a cone biopsy at the Regional Hospital of Orebro between 1964 and 1978 and had later a pregnancy ending in a delivery. Women who had an elective section were excluded.</p> <p>Untreated group - 79 deliveries of 79 women without previous treatment.</p>
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (≤ 3 7weeks); PTB (≤ 33 weeks); PTB (< 30 weeks); PPH (> 600 mL); MOH (1000 mL)
Notes	780 women below 35 years of age underwent a cone biopsy at the Regional Hospital of Orebro between 1964 and 1978. Of these 780 women, 79 later had a pregnancy ending in a delivery. As elective section was performed in four cases of the conized group, the final number of women in this group was 75 with 83 deliveries, as opposed to 79 in the control group. The cone depth was almost 2 cm in most operations.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds.
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All women < 35 years that underwent CKC in a Regional Hospital between 1964 and 1978
Representative comparison group?	Unclear risk	It is unclear how the control group was selected.
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity and time of delivery

Martyn 2015

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: Women with colposcopy but no treatment - matching for age</p> <p>Information source - Records of the National Maternity Hospital (Mediscan database, pathology records and other clinical records) and postal questionnaires</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 297 women who had undergone LLETZ or CKC at the National Maternity Hospital during 2001 to 2007 and subsequently had a pregnancy (≥ 24 weeks of gestation)</p> <p>Untreated group - 204 women who had had colposcopy but no treatment at the National Maternity Hospital during 2001 to 2007 and subsequently had a pregnancy (≥ 24 weeks of gestation)</p>

Martyn 2015 (Continued)

Inclusion criteria (for both groups): women aged 24 to 40 years

*This is only a subgroup of the study population. The main outcome of the study was the effect of CKC/LLETZ on subsequent fertility, but we are not studying infertility in this meta-analysis. Therefore, we restricted the population to the pregnant women with a pregnancy of at least 24 weeks of gestation (see "Notes" below for more details)

Interventions	LLETZ; Excision NOS (CKC, multiple LLETZ)
Outcomes	PTB (<37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone)
Notes	<p>3590 women aged 24 to 40 years, who had attended the colposcopy services in the National Maternity Hospital between 2001 and 2007, were sent a postal questionnaire about the fertility and the pregnancies, if any, after colposcopy/CKC/LLETZ (LLETZ:1729; CKC:66; colposcopy only:1795). 1355 women (37.7%) replied. Of those who responded, 759 had one LLETZ, 37 had CKC, 22 had more than one LLETZ (in total, 818 had surgery) and 537 women had colposcopy only. i) Of those with surgery, 321 became pregnant: 38 had a gestational age less than 14 weeks and 5 had a gestational age 14 weeks to < 24 weeks. We excluded from our meta-analysis these women and we included the remaining 278. ii) Of those with colposcopy only, 228 became pregnant: 23 had a gestational age less than 14 weeks and 1 had a gestational age 14 weeks to < 24 weeks. We excluded from our meta-analysis these women and we included the remaining 204.</p> <p>We included LLETZ and Excision NOS (CKC and multiple LLETZ)</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	Only 37.7% of the women responded to the postal questionnaire which was sent to them
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Questionnaires were used for the ascertainment of the outcomes; there is a risk of recall bias and misclassification of the outcomes
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	High risk	Only a small percentage of the women responded to the questionnaire which was sent to them. The women who replied are more likely to belong to a higher socioeconomic class.
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age; Both groups had colposcopy before pregnancy

Miller 2015

Methods	Retrospective cohort study
	Comparison group:

Miller 2015 (Continued)

A) External

B) Women with prior dysplasia but no treatment

Both had regression analysis for age, parity, race/ethnicity, BMI and cervical length during pregnancy

Information source - Hospital records of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago

Participants	<p>Treated - 1356 women with prior excisional procedure for cervical dysplasia who underwent routine cervical length assessment between 18 to 23 6/7 weeks of gestation from December 2010 through January 2014 at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago.</p> <p>Untreated - A) 14,149 women with no prior dysplasia and no excisional procedure</p> <p>B) 3023 women with prior dysplasia but no excisional procedure</p> <p>Exclusion criteria: women younger than 18 years old, twin pregnancies, women with unavailable delivery records</p>
Interventions	Excision NOS
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton)
Notes	At first, 144 women with treatment before pregnancy were identified. However, 3 women were excluded for having twin pregnancies and six women could not be matched and therefore were also excluded

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women undergoing routine cervical length assessment in a single hospital during December 2010 to January 2014
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Both comparison groups were drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, parity, race/ethnicity, BMI and cervical length during pregnancy

Moinian 1982

Methods

Retrospective cohort study

Comparison group: Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Information source - Hospital records of the East Hospital, Gothenburg

Moinian 1982 (Continued)

Participants	<p>Treated group - all viable pregnancies after CKC (103) of 90 women who had CKC at the East Hospital, Gothenburg, between 1968 and 1973</p> <p>Untreated group - all viable pregnancies before CKC (720) of the same women</p> <p>All miscarriages were excluded</p>
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); cervical cerclage
Notes	<p>Radical CKC procedure: if the endocervix was involved, the entire endocervical canal was excised to the level of the internal os.</p> <p>Between 1968 and 1973, 414 women were treated by cone biopsy at the East Hospital, Gothenburg, Sweden. 324 women had been pregnant before conisation, with 801 pregnancies between them, and after cone biopsy 90 women became pregnant, with 122 pregnancies.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	High risk	Yes, but CKC described as more than usual radical
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women that had CKC at East Hospital, Gothenburg, between 1968 and 1973
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Noehr 2009a

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) External</p> <p>B) Women with biopsy but no treatment</p> <p>Both were unmatched but had regression analysis for age, year of delivery, smoking during pregnancy and marital status during pregnancy</p>
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Noehr 2009a (Continued)

Information source - Medical Birth Registry, National Patient Registry, Danish Registry of Pathology, Danish IVF Registry

Participants	<p>Treated group - 10,207 deliveries of women who had undergone LLETZ or ablation (LLETZ = 8180; Ablation = 2027) during 1997 to 2005 and had a subsequent singleton delivery (21 to 45 weeks of gestation) during 1997 to 2005. Exclusion criteria: women with previous CKC; deliveries with medical induction before 37 completed weeks of gestation; infants delivered by CS performed before 37 completed weeks of gestation; deliveries subsequent to a collum amputation.</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 510,841 singleton deliveries (21 to 45 weeks of gestation during 1997 to 2005) of women without previous cervical procedure (treatment or biopsy) B) 31,630 singleton deliveries (21 to 45 weeks of gestation during 1997 to 2005) of women without previous treatment but with previous biopsy.</p>
Interventions	LLETZ; Ablation NOS
Outcomes	sPTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (D ≤ 12 mm); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (D = 13 mm to 15mm); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (D = 16 mm to 19 mm); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (D ≥ 20 mm); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); sPTB (< 32 weeks); sPTB (< 28 weeks)
Notes	<p>Of the 552,678 deliveries in the study, 8180 deliveries were subsequent to LLETZ (1 LLETZ: 7907; 2 LLETZ: 255; ≥ 3 LLETZ: 18). Of these 8180 deliveries, 162 were subsequent to both LLETZ and ablation. The addition of the number of deliveries subsequent to biopsy, ablation, LLETZ and no procedure (table 3 of the article) gives the total number of pregnancies (552,678), thus we concluded that the authors subtracted these 162 deliveries from the ablation group and left them only in the LLETZ group. In this way, we made sure that we will not make a duplicate extraction of the same deliveries.</p> <p>The Nordic Classification of Surgical Procedures has the same code for LLETZ and LC and the authors were not able to separate LLETZ from LC. However, LC has become rare in Denmark since the introduction of LLETZ and the authors included the pregnancies with this code in the LLETZ group. In our meta-analysis, we made the same.</p> <p>In a second article, Noehr and colleagues 2009 investigated the association between cone depth of the LLETZ and the subsequent risk of sPTB (on the same singleton deliveries as above). Deliveries after LLETZ with no information on cone depth (n = 4302) and deliveries after two or more LLETZ (n = 273) were not included in the cone depth analysis.</p> <p>Noehr and colleagues 2007 is an overlapping study, but it was impossible to extract only the data that was not included in Noehr and colleagues 2009 and we excluded this study.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from national registries
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Unclear risk	The Nordic Classification of Surgical Procedures has the same code for LLETZ and LC and the authors were not able to separate LLETZ from LC. However, LC has become rare in Denmark since the introduction of LLETZ and the authors included all these pregnancies in the LLETZ group.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds

Noehr 2009a (Continued)

Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study Danish women delivering during 1997 to 2005 (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The 2 comparison groups were drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, year of delivery, smoking during pregnancy and marital status during pregnancy

Noehr 2009b

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - unmatched; regression analysis for age, year of delivery, smoking during pregnancy, marital status during pregnancy and IVF</p> <p>Information source - Medical Birth Registry, National Patient Registry, Danish Registry of Pathology, Danish IVF Registry</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 166 deliveries of women who had undergone LLETZ during 1997 to 2005 and had a subsequent twin delivery (21 to 45 weeks of gestation) during 1997 to 2005. Exclusion criteria: women with previous CKC; deliveries with medical induction before 37 completed weeks of gestation; infants delivered by CS performed before 37 completed weeks of gestation; deliveries subsequent to a collum amputation.</p> <p>Untreated group - 9702 twin deliveries (21 to 45 weeks of gestation during 1997 to 2005) of women without previous LLETZ</p>
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	sPTB (< 37 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); sPTB (< 32 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); sPTB (< 28 weeks) (multiple pregnancies)
Notes	<p>Of the 9868 twin deliveries in the study, 166 were subsequent to LEEP (of which 11 were subsequent to both LEEP and ablation), 43 were subsequent to ablation, 766 were subsequent to biopsy with no additional cervical procedure, and the remaining 8893 deliveries were not preceded by any cervical procedure. Only 4 (2.4%) of the deliveries subsequent to LEEP were preceded by more than one LEEP.</p> <p>The Nordic Classification of Surgical Procedures has the same code for LLETZ and LC and the authors were not able to separate LLETZ from LC. However, LC has become rare in Denmark since the introduction of LLETZ and the authors included all these pregnancies in the LLETZ group. In our meta-analysis, we made the same.</p> <p>In contrast to another article of Noehr and colleagues 2009 with the same study design but about singletons, this one does not give sPTB rate in the group with no cervical procedure or in the group with biopsy only (gives only adjusted ORs). Therefore, we used the no-LLETZ group (which may have undergone ablation or biopsy before delivery) as the control group.</p> <p>Noehr 2007 is a duplicate study that includes a proportion of the population that is presented in Noehr 2009. As there is a possibility of substantial overlap the data from this study were not used.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Low risk	Information was obtained from national registries

Noehr 2009b (Continued)

All outcomes

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Data are not shown for the group with ablation, for the group with biopsy only and for the group with no cervical procedure
Other bias	Unclear risk	<p>The control group is not really untreated because 43 women in it (0.4%) have undergone ablation prior to delivery.</p> <p>The Nordic Classification of Surgical Procedures has the same code for LLETZ and LC and the authors were not able to separate LLETZ from LC. However, LC has become rare in Denmark since the introduction of LLETZ and the authors included the pregnancies with this code in the LLETZ group.</p>
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study Danish women delivering during 1997 to 2005 (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, year of delivery, smoking during pregnancy, marital status during pregnancy and IVF

Ortoft 2010

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison Groups:</p> <p>A) External</p> <p>B) Women with HSIL but no treatment</p> <p>Both had regression analysis for age, parity, smoking status, educational level and marital status</p> <p>C) Internal (self-matching)</p> <p>Information source - the pathology database, hospital records, the Aarhus birth cohort and questionnaires</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 758 women who had a conisation between 1989 to 2007 (one conisation = 721; two conisations = 37) and were identified from the Danish nationwide pathology database and subsequently had a pregnancy at the University Hospital of Aarhus until March 2007. Only the first delivery after treatment was included.</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 74,552 deliveries of women without history of conisation or dysplasia who delivered at the University Hospital of Aarhus during the study period</p> <p>B) 390 deliveries of women with CIN not treated with conisation who delivered at the University Hospital of Aarhus during the study period</p> <p>Inclusion criteria (for both groups): singleton deliveries. Exclusion criteria: missing gestational age or missing birth weight (0 in the treated group; 355 in the untreated group; women with preterm induced birth (4 in the treated group; 778 in the untreated group), preterm acute CS before labour (6 in the treated group; 534 in the untreated group) or preterm elective CS (2 in the treated group; 348 in the untreated group) were excluded from the Cox regression.</p>

Ortoft 2010 (Continued)

C) Self-matching for 170 women who had one conisation and had a delivery both before and after the conisation (last child born before versus first child born after the single conisation)

Interventions	CKC; Electroknife; LLETZ
Outcomes	sPTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); sPTB (< 32 weeks); sPTB (< 28 weeks); pPROM (< 37 weeks); pPROM (< 32 weeks); pPROM (< 28 weeks); LBW (< 2500 g); LBW (< 2000 g); LBW (< 1500 g); perinatal mortality; perinatal mortality (<37 weeks); perinatal mortality (< 32 weeks); perinatal mortality (< 28 weeks)
Notes	<p>Approximately 8% of all Danish births take place at the University Hospital of Aarhus.</p> <p>Most conisation procedures were performed at the University Hospital of Aarhus, but a small number were performed at specialist clinics in Aarhus or at the County Hospital in Odder.</p> <p>From 1989 to 1992, all conisations were performed with the cold-knife procedure, and from 1992 to 1995 the cold-knife procedure was only used for high conisations and in pregnant women. After 1995, the cold-knife procedure was omitted, and instead the electro knife was used when a high conus biopsy was warranted.</p> <p>Of the 710 women with one conisation (excluding preterm induced birth (n = 4), preterm acute CS before labour (n = 5) and preterm elective CS (n = 2)) prior to pregnancy, the conus procedures were distributed as follows: 572 women had LLETZ, 71 women had an electrosurgical needle procedure (electroknife), and 67 had CKC.</p> <p>18 women had treatment during pregnancy. Because the percentage of the women with treatment during pregnancy was low (2.5%), we decided to include this study, because we estimated that these women would not change the results.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	<p>In the untreated external/CIN group, 355 deliveries (0.5%) were excluded because of missing gestational age or missing birth weight. In the treated group, no delivery was excluded because of missing data.</p> <p>14% of the study cohort did not reply to a questionnaire about, inter alia, previous pregnancies. These women were not excluded from the study, but more women might have been eligible for the internal comparison group.</p>
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Questionnaires for the outcomes of previous pregnancies; there is a risk of recall bias and misclassification of the outcome when self-matching was used
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single university hospital during 1989 to 2007
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	<p>A) External - B) women with HSIL but no treatment: The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group</p> <p>C) Internal comparison group (self-matching)</p>
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	<p>A) External</p> <p>B) Women with HSIL but no treatment</p>

Ortoft 2010 (Continued)

Both had regression analysis for age, parity, smoking status, educational level and marital status

C) Internal comparison group (self-matching)

Paraskevaidis 2002

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, parity, smoking, multiple pregnancies and history of previous PTBs Information source - Hospital records of the University Hospital of Ioannina
Participants	Treated group - 28 women with stage IA1 cervical carcinoma without vascular or lymph space involvement who were treated with LLETZ between 1990 to 1998 at the University Hospital of Ioannina and had at least one pregnancy beyond 24 weeks following the treatment (by 2001) Untreated group - 28 women who delivered at the same hospital during the same year without previous treatment of the cervix
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); sPTB; CS; precipitous labour (< 2 hours); LBW (< 2500 g); NICU admission
Notes	During the period 1990 to 1998, 47 women with microinvasive cervical carcinoma stage IA1 without vascular or lymph space involvement were managed exclusively with LLETZ and had clear excisional margins after a single or repeat cone. Of these women, 28 had at least one pregnancy beyond 24 weeks. Of the remaining 19 women, 12 did not become pregnant by 2001, 6 had first-trimester miscarriage, and one had an elective TOP. 5 cases had LLETZ performed in two steps in a tophat configuration, because of an endocervically extended lesion. Three women had repeat LLETZ.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study, women having LLETZ in a single university hospital between 1990 to 1998
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group

Paraskevaidis 2002 (Continued)

Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity, smoking, multiple pregnancies and history of previous PTBs
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Parikh 2008

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - no matching, no regression analysis Information source - Hospital records of St. Luke's Hospital and Health Network
Participants	Treated women - 87 women who had ≥ 1 LLETZ and then conceived, underwent cervical length screening by transvaginal ultrasound during 2001 to 2005 at St. Luke's Hospital and Health Network and delivered at the same hospital. Exclusion criteria: women with other surgical procedures to the cervix (such as laser, CT, CKC, cerclage); other causes of PTB, such as multiple gestation, major fetal anomaly and preterm induction of labor resulting from maternal or fetal indication; women delivering in other hospitals Untreated group - 18,042 singleton births of women without previous treatment who delivered at the same hospital during 2001 to 2005
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (≤ 34 weeks)
Notes	A total of 97 patients who had undergone LLETZ were identified during the specified time period. Of these, 10 patients were lost to follow-up because of delivery outside the St. Luke's Hospital and Health Network. Thus 87 patients were included in the LLETZ group for analysis.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Data were obtained from hospital records; 10 patients in the treated group (10.3%) were lost to follow-up
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single hospital during 2001 to 2005
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	High risk	No matching, no regression analysis

Poon 2012

Methods	<p>Prospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - unmatched; regression analysis for parity, race, smoking, cervical length, previous delivery at term, previous PTB, previous miscarriage and previous LLETZ (for the prediction of sPTB)</p> <p>Information source - questionnaires (for the ascertainment of the exposure); maternity records of the King's College Hospital and the University Hospital Lewisham/records of general practitioners (for the ascertainment of the outcomes)</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 473 pregnant women with a prior LLETZ who underwent routine antenatal care at King's College Hospital or University Hospital Lewisham and had a transvaginal sonographic measurement of the cervical length at 20 to 24 weeks of gestation, during January 1998 to July 2006</p> <p>Untreated group - 25,722 pregnant women without previous LLETZ who underwent routine antenatal care at King's College Hospital or University Hospital Lewisham and had a transvaginal sonographic measurement of the cervical length at 20 to 24 weeks of gestation, during January 1998 to July 2006</p> <p>Inclusion criteria (for both groups): singleton pregnancies</p> <p>Exclusion criteria (for both groups): women with major fetal abnormalities, with painful regular uterine contractions, with a history of ruptured membranes or cervical cerclage in situ, with a cervical length at 20 to 24 weeks of gestation ≤ 15mm and because of this treated with a cervical cerclage or prophylactic progesterone</p>
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	sPTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 34 weeks)
Notes	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from medical records and from questionnaires which were completed by all patients
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Questionnaires were used for the ascertainment of the exposure; there is a risk of recall bias and misclassification of the exposure
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women with antenatal care at two hospitals during January 1998 to July 2006
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for parity, race, smoking, cervical length, previous delivery at term, previous PTB, previous miscarriage and previous LLETZ (for the prediction of sPTB)

Raio 1997

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups: A) External - matching for age (+/- 1 year), parity, marital status, social class, smoking habits and previous PTB</p> <p>B) Internal (self-matching)</p> <p>Information source - Hospital records of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Munsterlingen, Kantonsspital, Switzerland</p>
Participants	<p>A) Treated group - 64 women younger than 35 years of age who had undergone LC at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Munsterlingen, Kantonsspital, Switzerland, from August 1, 1986, to December 31, 1994, and subsequently had a pregnancy by December 31, 1996. Only the first pregnancy after treatment was included. Exclusion criteria: voluntary termination of pregnancy, twin gestation, first-trimester miscarriage, fetal death, ectopic pregnancy, second-trimester termination of pregnancy for fetal structural abnormalities, blighted ovum, and cervical incompetence for previous pregnancy.</p> <p>Untreated group - 64 women who were delivered at the same hospital during the study period and had not had any surgical procedure of the cervix.</p> <p>B) 26 women of the treated group were parous. For these women, self-matching was also possible.</p>
Interventions	LC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D < 10 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D ≥ 10 mm); pPROM
Notes	<p>The study was conducted at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Munsterlingen, Kantonsspital, Switzerland, from August 1, 1986, to December 31, 1994. Laser conisation was performed in 228 women younger than 35 years of age with CIN. 26 women were lost after treatment. By December 31, 1996, 117 pregnancies occurred in 78 patients who had undergone laser conisation. If women conceived more than once, only the first subsequent gestation was included in the analysis. 14 women were excluded because of the following reasons: voluntary termination of pregnancy (n = 4), twin gestation (n = 3), first-trimester miscarriage (n = 2), fetal death (n = 1), ectopic pregnancy (n=1), second-trimester termination of pregnancy for fetal structural abnormalities (n = 1), blighted ovum (n = 1), and cervical incompetence for previous pregnancy (n = 1). The remaining 64 women with singleton pregnancies were included in the treated group. CIN 3 = 33/64 (51.6%); CIN 2 = 22/64 (34.4%); CIN 1 = 9/64 (14%).</p> <p>Regression analysis for history of PTB, advanced maternal age, smoking, multiparity and cone height: cone height was the only covariate that remained significant.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Of the 228 women who had undergone LC from August 1, 1986, to December 31, 1994, 26 women (11.4%) were lost after treatment.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious.
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds.

Raio 1997 (Continued)

Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women that had LC in a single Swiss canton hospital between August 1986 to December 1994
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A) The untreated group was pooled from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (self-matching)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) Matching for age (+/- 1 year), parity, marital status, social class, smoking habits and previous PTB B) Internal comparison group (self-matching)

Reilly 2012

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) External</p> <p>B) Women with colposcopy +/- punch biopsy but no treatment</p> <p>Both were unmatched but had regression analysis for maternal age at birth, social deprivation, smoking status, time interval between screening/colposcopy/treatment and conception, any history of a previous adverse pregnancy outcome (and gestational age for LBW outcome)</p> <p>Information source - the Cervical Screening Wales programme database, the National Community Child Health Database and All Wales Perinatal Survey</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - all women in Wales aged 20 to 39 years who had a first referral to colposcopy and received cervical treatment for CIN between April 2001 - March 2004, and then had a singleton pregnancy of at least 24 weeks until January 2009; n=2202 (single excision:1546; single ablation:534; multiple treatments:82; other:40)</p> <p>Untreated group - A) all women in Wales aged 20 to 39 years who had a negative cervical smear between April 2001 to March 2004 with no history of abnormal smears, and then had a singleton pregnancy of at least 24 weeks of gestation until January 2009; n=38983</p> <p>B) all women in Wales aged 20 to 39 years who had a first referral to colposcopy +/- punch biopsy (but no cervical treatment) between April 2001 to March 2004, and then had a singleton pregnancy of at least 24 weeks of gestation until January 2009; n = 2534</p> <p>Inclusion criteria: only the first pregnancy following the smear, colposcopy, or treatment</p> <p>Exclusion criteria: women who were pregnant at the time of screening/colposcopy/treatment during the study period; women in the colposcopy and treatments groups in the study period who had a history of colposcopy or treatment to the cervix; women who had negative smears up to and during the study period and a subsequent abnormal smear, colposcopy or treatment during the follow-up period</p>
Interventions	Single excision NOS (LLETZ, CKC); single ablation NOS (LA, CC, CT); multiple treatments (either multiple excisions, either multiple ablations, or both); other
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 32 weeks); PTB (< 28 weeks); LBW (< 2500 g)
Notes	At the bottom of the table 2 (page 240) it is stated that the percentages are based on the babies for whom the gestational age and the birth weight was known. However, the authors do not give more information about how many babies in each category had a known gestational age and a known birth

Reilly 2012 (Continued)

weight. Thus, i) we calculated the total number of babies with a known gestational age in each category according to the rate of PTB < 37 weeks ii) we calculated the total number of babies with a known birth weight in each category according to the rate of LBW < 2500 g. Because the percentages were rounded, this calculation was not very precise. The addition of the numbers of babies with a known gestational age of all categories diverged from the known number of babies with a known gestational age given at the bottom of the table. The same for the babies with a known birth weight. Because the divergence was small, we decided not to make any other correction.

Women that had 'other treatments' were not included in our meta-analysis.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	For 225 women (0.1% of the total initial study population) no unique identifier (such as NHS number or date of birth) was available and these women were excluded. 18,512 women (10.6% of the eligible for data linkage women) died in the follow-up period or were no longer Welsh residents. 2.6% of the babies had an unknown gestational age and 0.4% of the babies had an unknown birth weight.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having cervical treatment in Wales (April 2001 to March 2004) and then delivering in Wales (till January 2009) (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Both untreated groups were drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for maternal age at birth, social deprivation, smoking status, time interval between screening/colposcopy/treatment and conception, any history of a previous adverse pregnancy outcome (and gestational age for LBW outcome)

Sadler 2004

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: Women with colposcopy but no treatment - unmatched; regression analysis for age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, smoking in pregnancy, previous obstetric history, transfer to the National Women's Hospital and antepartum haemorrhage Information source - linking the colposcopy service database at National Women's Hospital (NWH), Auckland, for the years 1988 through 1999 with the obstetric database at the same hospital for deliveries from 1989 through 2000.
Participants	Treated group - 652 women whose pregnancy occurred after treatment with LA, LC, or LLETZ. Inclusion criteria: Women who were seen and/or treated at the colposcopy clinic (1988 to 1999), subsequently

Sadler 2004 (Continued)

carried a singleton pregnancy to at least 20 completed weeks' gestation, and delivered or had post-partum care at the study hospital (1989 to 2000). Only the first qualifying pregnancy per woman was included in the study. Exclusion criteria: Women whose prior treatment status was unknown. Women treated by modes other than LA, LC and LLETZ, and women who had cervical treatments before 1988

Untreated group - 426 women who had a pregnancy following a visit to the colposcopy service but before no cervical treatments that may have been administered.

A pregnancy was included only if the visit to the colposcopy clinic or treatment occurred before the first menstrual period was missed (i.e. last menstrual period + 30 days)

Interventions	LC; LLETZ; LA
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D ≤ 10 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D = 11 mm to 16 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D ≥ 17 mm); PTB (< 32 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks); pPPROM
Notes	<p>From the colposcopy database of 9226 women, 1208 women were found to have had a singleton live birth of at least 20 weeks' gestation, by linkage with the obstetric records. Of these, 27 were excluded for invalid treatments (13 cryotherapy, 8 Cartier biopsies, and 6 coldknife conisations), 10 for unknown previous treatment status, and 93 because of previous treatment, leaving a cohort of 1078 women who had given birth following treatment or their first encounter at the colposcopy clinic. The clinical records of 1020 women (95%) were abstracted in full. Data were obtained from the database for women whose colposcopy or obstetric records could not be located (4%).</p> <p>In the treated group, 606 women had one treatment before pregnancy, 44 two treatments and two three treatments.</p> <p>The proportion of women in treated vs untreated group with histology: HPV/CIN1 (32.1% vs 46.6%); CIN2/3/AIS (61.7% vs 5.2%); Microinvasion (0.9% vs 0%); No dysplasia/other diagnosis (2% vs 21.1%); none (3.4% vs 27%)</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from hospital records; small number of incomplete data
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women that had LA, LC or LLETZ at the National Women's Hospital (NWH); NWH is the principal provider of public colposcopy services and inpatient obstetric care to women in the central Auckland area
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, smoking in pregnancy, previous obstetric history, transfer to the National Women's Hospital and antepartum haemorrhage.

Sagot 1995

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)</p> <p>Information source - Hospital records of the Hospital Mere-Enfant, Nantes, France</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 54 women (53 pregnancies) under 39 years of age who had undergone LC between 1 July 1982 and 30 June 1992 and had one or more pregnancies after their operation.</p> <p>Untreated group: 38 women of the treated group (59 pregnancies) who had also a pregnancy before treatment</p> <p>Inclusion criteria: Only pregnancies leading to the birth of a child were included.</p>
Interventions	<p>LC - two different techniques: Before 1986, hand-held laser (10/54) under GA with 2 stitches, cone-shaped 1 cm to 2 cm deep, radius 1 cm to 1.5 cm, LA for haemostasis - After 1986, micromanipulator (44/54), less radical, cylinder, 0.8 cm to 1.8 cm deep, radius 0.6 cm to 0.8 cm.</p>
Outcomes	<p>PTB (< 37 weeks); Threatened PTL; pPROM; CS; chorioamnionitis; cervical cerclage</p>
Notes	<p>Between 1 July 1982 and 30 June 1992, 222 women under 39 years of age underwent CO2 laser conisation for CIN. 27 had subsequent hysterectomy or tubal sterilisation, and 48 others could not be recontacted. Thus, 147 women were available for study. Of these 147 women, 54 had a total of 71 pregnancies after the operation. Of these 71 pregnancies, 53 led to the birth of a live child (two sets of twins). These 53 pregnancies were included in the treated group. Of the 54 women which made out the treated group, 38 had also a pregnancy before the operation. These 38 women had a total of 82 pregnancies before the operation. Of these 82 pregnancies, 59 (all monofetal) led to the birth of a live child. These 59 pregnancies were included in the control group.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	Of the 222 women who underwent LC between 1 July 1982 and 30 June 1992, 48 (21.6%) could not be recontacted.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds.
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All women that had LC in a single university hospital in France between July 1982 to June 1992
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Samson 2005

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/- 1 year), parity (nulliparous/parous), smoking status (yes/no/unknown), year of delivery (+/- 1 year)</p> <p>Information source - the Provincial Cytology/Colposcopy Registry (information about all women who have had colposcopy and treatment for CIN in Nova Scotia since 1992) and the Nova Scotia Atlee Perinatal Database (information about all pregnancies and deliveries in Nova Scotia carried beyond 20 weeks of gestation since 1988)</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 571 women who had LLETZ in Halifax County between 1992 and 1999 and then had a subsequent singleton pregnancy of greater than 20 weeks of gestation with delivery at the IWK Health Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Only the first delivery after treatment was included.</p> <p>Untreated group - 571 women from Halifax County with no history of cervical surgery who delivered at the IWK Health Centre beyond 20 weeks of gestation. Each control was randomly selected from a pool that included all who matched to a specific case.</p> <p>Exclusion criteria (for both groups): Women who had known major risk factors for PTB, including previous PTB and multiple gestations. Multiple gestations were analysed separately. Women who had an indicated PTB for maternal or fetal reasons.</p>
Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 37 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); PTB (< 34 weeks); PTB (< 34 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); pPROM; CS; induction of labour; oxytocin use; LBW (< 2500 g); NICU admission; perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	<p>Using the Provincial Cytology/Colposcopy Registry database, the authors found that 3056 women had a total of 3315 LLETZ in Halifax County between 1992 and 1999. When the Provincial Cytology/Colposcopy Registry database was linked with the Atlee Database, 1629 women were matched, indicating that they had a pregnancy and delivery at some time in their lives. Of the 1629 matches, 876 (54%) had deliveries only before their LEEP. Of the 753 women with deliveries after their LEEP, 122 (16%) were excluded because they were not Halifax County residents. Additional exclusions were made for indicated preterm delivery, previous preterm delivery, and missing matching variables (parity, age, delivery date), constituting another 50 cases in total. Thus, after appropriate exclusions, there were 581 women who had at least one delivery after their LEEP, 571 singleton, and 10 twin pregnancies. The multiple gestations were excluded from the primary analysis, leaving 571 women in the study group. The authors then retrieved a matched comparison group, consisting of 571 women.</p> <p>In a separate analysis, for the 10 twin pregnancies a matched comparison group was selected in a 5:1 ratio. 5 appropriate matches could not be found for each study patient, resulting in 35 women in the comparison group.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The information was obtained from official databases; small number of incomplete data
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias

Samson 2005 (Continued)

Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having LLETZ in Halifax County and then delivering at the IWK Health Centre
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age (+/- 1 year), parity (nulliparous/parous), smoking status (yes/no/unknown), year of delivery (+/- 1 year)

Saunders 1986

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/-5 years), parity, race, year of delivery and singleton pregnancy Information source - Hospital case notes and contact with local general practitioners
Participants	Treated group - 97 pregnancies of 96 women who had previously undergone LA Exclusion criteria: pregnancies ending in the 1st trimester (miscarriage or TOP); women having CKC before LA Untreated group - 97 pregnancies of women booking around 13 to 16 weeks' gestation, with no history of treatment and with recorded pregnancy outcomes
Interventions	LA
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); pPROM; CS; instrumental deliveries (forceps); LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality
Notes	By consulting hospital case notes and contacting local general practitioners, it was possible to identify 100 pregnancies which had progressed beyond the first trimester in a group of 99 women previously treated with by laser vaporisation cone for CIN. Of the 99 patients, 3 had knife cut cone biopsy followed by laser vaporisation employed at a subsequent date because of recurrent CIN, and because of this were excluded from the main analysis. Thus, 96 patients with 97 pregnancies were included (1 patient had two consecutive normal term deliveries).

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	A part of the data were obtained from contact with local general practitioners (a non-systematic approach)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds

Saunders 1986 (Continued)

Representative intervention group?	Low risk	Women were selected if they had LA and subsequent fell pregnant at Sheffield
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated population was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Unclear risk	Matching for age (+/-5 years), parity, race, year of delivery and singleton pregnancy. Even though it was found that the percentage of smokers was much higher in the treated than the control group (48% vs 26%), the researchers did not match for smoking.

Shanbhag 2009

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison groups: A) External B) Women with CIN 3 but no treatment Both were unmatched but had regression analysis for maternal age at delivery, smoking, socioeconomic status, year of delivery, birth weight, malpresentation, sPTB and pPROM Information source - Scottish Cancer Registry, Scottish Morbidity Record, National Health Service Scotland Information and Statistics Division
Participants	Treated group - 1388 women (from the whole Scotland) with CIN 3 diagnosed by histology, treated with excisional (CKC = 2; LC = 4; LLETZ = 1097) or ablative treatment (LA = 84, cold coagulation = 181, diathermy coagulation = 20) and subsequently having a first pregnancy that ended between 1980 to 2005 Untreated group - A) 119216 women (from the whole Scotland) without a record of CIN, whose first pregnancies ended between 1980 to 2005; B) 87 women (from the whole Scotland) with CIN3 diagnosed by histology who had a first pregnancy (that ended between 1980 to 2005) without previously receiving treatment for the CIN 3 Inclusion criteria (for all groups): women who delivered between the ages of 20 and 45 years inclusive, at a gestational age of 24 to 43 weeks, neonatal birth weight more than 350 g, and, in case of CIN 3, women who were diagnosed at the age of 20 or older
Interventions	Excision NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ); Ablation (LA, CC, diathermy coagulation)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks); pPROM; CS; LBW (< 2500 g); perinatal mortality
Notes	For 1638 women (1638/3113 = 52.6%) with CIN 3, the type of therapy (if any) was not known.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	Information was obtained from national registries. For 52.6% of the treated population, the treatment methods (if any) were not known and these were not included in the analysis.

Shanbhag 2009 (Continued)

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women in Scotland having a delivery during 1980 to 2005 (a population-based study)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Both untreated groups were drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Regression analysis for maternal age at delivery, smoking, socioeconomic status, year of delivery, birth weight, malpresentation, sPTB, pPROM

Simoens 2012

Methods	<p>Prospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - matching for admittance in the same maternity ward; regression analysis for age, parity, ethnicity, smoking, education, HIV status</p> <p>Information source - a centralised web-based database of the four participating Belgian academic hospitals ("Hopital de la Citadelle" and "Centre Hospitalier du Bois de l'Abbaye (CHBAH)" in Liege, "Hopital St. Pierre" and "Hopital Erasme" in Brussels); questionnaires in combination with checking of obstetrical medical files</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 97 women who had undergone excisional or ablative treatment for CIN and then delivered at one of the four participating Belgian academic hospitals during September 2008 to November 2010</p> <p>Untreated group - 194 women who delivered at one of the four participating Belgian academic hospitals during September 2008 to November 2010 and who never had treatment for CIN or a history of CIN (the next two women after each case meeting these criteria and who delivered in the same maternity ward)</p> <p>Inclusion criteria: only women with a singleton pregnancy</p> <p>Exclusion criteria: women with insufficient data on previous treatment, without a nonexposed cluster, lacking pregnancy outcome data and unexposed women in excess</p>
Interventions	LC, LLETZ, Excision NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ) +/- Ablation NOS (LA, CC, CT)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D ≤ 10 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (D > 10 mm); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 32 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 32 weeks); CS; LBW (< 2500 g)
Notes	Of the 97 treated women, 81 received an excisional treatment, eight an ablative treatment and eight an excisional treatment followed by ablation (mixed)

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records and questionnaires in combination with checking of medical files

Simoens 2012 (Continued)

All outcomes

Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear risk	The results are presented analytically only for the following 3 treatment categories: i) only excision or excision in combination with ablation ii) LLETZ iii) LC; the remaining treatments only had a small number of patients and were not presented
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering at 4 university hospitals during September 2008 to November 2010
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for admittance in the same maternity ward; regression analysis for age, parity, ethnicity, smoking, education, HIV status

Sjoberg 2007

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) External - matching for age (+/- 2 years), parity and plurality</p> <p>B) Internal (self-matching)</p> <p>Both had regression analysis for smoking, marital status and education</p> <p>Information source - Records of the eight hospitals that participated in this regional multicentre study (Oestfold Hospital Trust, Soerlandet Hospital Trust, Vestfold Hospital Trust, Telemark Hospital Trust, Baerum Hospital, Buskerud Hospital Trust, Ringerike Hospital, Rikshospitalet University Hospital)</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 742 women who had undergone LC or LLETZ (LC: 609; LLETZ: 133) during 1990 to 1999 at one of the eight participating hospitals, were 40 years or younger at the time of operation, subsequently had a pregnancy progressing beyond 16 weeks, and gave their permission to the researchers to collect information about their pregnancy from their medical records in the hospital where they delivered. Only the first pregnancy after treatment was included</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 742 women without previous treatment who delivered at one of the eight participating hospitals (the first subsequent after case delivering woman matched by age, parity and plurality)</p> <p>B) In the treated group, 419 women had delivered before the treatment as well. Thus, it is also possible to compare their first pregnancy after treatment with their first pregnancy before treatment.</p>
Interventions	Excision NOS (LC, LLETZ)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 32 weeks); PTB (< 28 weeks); pPROM; LBW (< 2500 g); LBW (< 1500 g); LBW (< 1000 g); perinatal mortality
Notes	Because all women included in this study have been also included in Albrechtsen 2008 , we excluded it from the analyses in which Albrechtsen 2008 has been also included.

Sjoberg 2007 (Continued)

A regional, multi-centre, retrospective case-control study was designed to investigate pregnancy outcome after LC or LLETZ compared to a control group of pregnant women without such a procedure. Women who underwent either LC or LLETZ in the period from January 1, 1990 to December 31, 1999, were investigated for reproductive events. Those who were 40 years of age or younger at the time of operation were contacted in writing with information about the study and a request for permission to collect relevant information from their medical records in the hospitals where they had given birth. A total of 2,393 women were contacted, and 742 women (31%) answered our request. The non-responding group consisted of both true non-responders who had given birth after conisation, and patients who had not given birth after conisation. Written consent was not collected for the controls, since their data were extracted anonymously from the birth registries of the participating hospitals.

In the external treated group, 7 women had a second-trimester miscarriage. In the article, in the tables with the results, these women were not included.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	The women who had undergone LLETZ or LC were contacted in writing so that the researchers would obtain their consent to collect information about their probable future pregnancies. Only 742 (31%) responded and gave their consent. The non-responding group consisted of both true non-responders who had given birth after conisation, and patients who had not given birth after conisation.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	High risk	The women who had undergone LLETZ or LC were contacted in writing so that the researchers would obtain their consent to collect information about their probable future pregnancies. Only 742 (31%) responded and gave their consent. The non-responding group consisted of both true non-responders who had given birth after conisation, and patients who had not given birth after conisation. The women who replied are more likely to have a higher level of education.
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A) The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (self-matching)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) Matching for age (+/-2 years), parity and plurality B) Internal comparison group (self-matching) Both comparison groups had regression analysis for smoking, marital status and education

Sozen 2014

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age, parity and obstetric history
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Sozen 2014 (Continued)

Information source - Records of the Zeynep Kamil Women's Hospital, Istanbul

Participants	<p>Treated group - 15 women who had undergone CKC at the Zeynep Kamil Women's Hospital during 2005 to 2010 and subsequently had a pregnancy (beyond 20 weeks of gestation)</p> <p>Inclusion - 24 women who had a pregnancy (beyond 20 weeks of gestation) without a history of cervical intervention</p> <p>Exclusion criteria (for both group) - miscarriages</p>
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); pPROM; NICU admission
Notes	Among 392 patients who had CKC at Zeynep Kamil Women's Hospital (a tertiary referral teaching institution in Istanbul, Turkey) between the years 2005 to 2010, 22 had a subsequent pregnancy. 7 of those pregnancies resulted in miscarriage and were excluded.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	High risk	Very small number of the treated group (n = 15)
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age, parity and obstetric history

Spitzer 1995

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies) with matching for age and parity</p> <p>Information source - Hospital records of the Colposcopy Clinic at Queens Hospital Centre and every record from the private practice of the authors (for the ascertainment of the exposure); questionnaires by mail, telephone or in person (for the ascertainment of the outcomes)</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 163 livebirths after LC or LA (34 after LC, 129 after LA)</p> <p>Control group - 112 livebirths before LC or LA (15 before LC, 97 before LA)</p> <p>Inclusion criteria: Laser surgery during 1979-1989. Women under the age of 40 at the time of delivery</p>

Spitzer 1995 (Continued)

Exclusion criteria: Pre-treatment or after-treatment intervals, during which women were not at risk for pregnancy (e.g. they had tubal ligation or hysterectomy, or their husbands had vasectomies). Pregnancies that were ongoing at the time the women responded to the questionnaire. After-treatment intervals for which no appropriate pre-treatment interval was found.

Interventions	LC; LA
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks)
Notes	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	The researchers used questionnaires to acquire information about previous pregnancies. Of the initial 1069 women fulfilling the inclusion criteria, only 512 (47.9%) responded.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Questionnaires were used for the ascertainment of the outcomes of previous pregnancies. There is a risk of recall bias and misclassification of the outcome.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	High risk	Almost half of the women did not reply to the questionnaires. The women that replied are more likely to have a higher educational level.
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies) with matching for age and parity
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies) with matching for age and parity

Stout 2015

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison groups:</p> <p>A) Women with cervical cytology/punch biopsy - matching for age, hospital site and calendar year of cervical procedure (LLETZ, cervical cytology, punch biopsy)</p> <p>B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies)</p> <p>Information source - electronic pathology databases of several tertiary and community hospitals; structured phone interviews in combination with checking of medical records</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 598 women who had undergone LLETZ at the participating tertiary and community hospitals between 1996 and 2006 and subsequently had a pregnancy</p> <p>Untreated group - A) 1129 women who had undergone cervical cytology (580) or cervical punch biopsy (549) at the participating hospitals during the same period and subsequently had a pregnancy</p> <p>B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies of the women with LLETZ)</p>

Stout 2015 (Continued)

Inclusion criteria (for all groups): only the first singleton pregnancy beyond 20 weeks of delivery following the cervical procedure

Exclusion criteria (for all groups): women with a history of CKC; women without gestational age of delivery recorded; women with a cervical procedure outside the participating hospitals; women with medically indicated PTB (e.g. pre-eclampsia, intrauterine growth restriction, non-reassuring fetal testing)

Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	sPTB (< 37 weeks); sPTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); sPTB (< 34 weeks)
Notes	

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	The gestation age at delivery was unknown for < 6% of the population
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having LLETZ at several hospitals during 1996 to 2006
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A) The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) The untreated group was women with cervical cytology/punch biopsy matched for age, hospital site and calendar year of cervical procedure B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Tan 2004

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age and parity Information source - Hospital records of Basildon District Hospital
Participants	Treated group - 119 women 35 years old or younger who had undergone LLETZ and delivered in Basildon District Hospital, between 1995 and 1998. Only first pregnancies following treatment were included. Control group - 119 women who had not had colposcopy/LLETZ and delivered in Basildon District Hospital between 1995 and 1998.

Tan 2004 (Continued)

Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); prolonged labour (> 12 hours); induction of labour; oxytocin use; epidural use; pethidine use
Notes	168 women 35 years old or younger had undergone LLETZ and delivered in Basildon District Hospital, between 1995 and 1998. Of these, 119 women were included in the treated group and the others were excluded, because their notes could not be retrieved.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	168 women were eligible for the study. Of these, 49 (29.2%) were excluded because their notes could not be retrieved, with no further details given by the authors.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious.
Other bias	High risk	There are some contradictions in the presented data; e.g. although it is stated that there are 14/119 and 11/119 miscarriages in the treated and untreated group, respectively, it later presents the mode of delivery in 119 women in each group
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds.
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible women delivering in a single hospital between 1995 and 1998.
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Unclear risk	Matching for age and parity. Smoking was higher in the treated group (52.3%) than in the untreated group (24.4%).

Turlington 1996

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: Women with colposcopically directed biopsy but no treatment - regression analysis for age Information source - Hospital records of New Havover Regional Medical Center, telephone interviews/mail-in questionnaires (for reproductive history since their visit to the colposcopy clinic)
Participants	Treated group - 15 women between the ages of 16 and 40 who were treated with LEEP for CIN at New Havover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington, North Carolina, between 1991 and 1992, and then had a pregnancy which led to delivery Untreated group - 15 women of the same range of age who had been seen in the colposcopy clinic during the same period for abnormal smear but who did not receive excisional or ablative therapy, and then had a pregnancy which led to delivery

Turlington 1996 (Continued)

Exclusion criteria: Women who were anatomically unable to become pregnant as a result of permanent sterilization or hysterectomy.

Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	Stillbirth
Notes	Between January 1991 and December 1992, 647 women were evaluated and treated for abnormal cervical cytologic smears in the colposcopy clinic at New Hanover Regional Medical Center a 630-bed hospital in Wilmington, North Carolina, that serves as a referral centre for southeastern North Carolina. Using telephone interviews and mail-in questionnaires, 158 women between the ages of 16 and 40 who had undergone colposcopy for abnormal smears were contacted and questioned about their reproductive history since their visit to the colposcopy clinic (79 destined for the treated group and 79 destined for the control group). In the treated group, 54 women replied and were included in the analysis. In the control group, 57 women replied and were included in the analysis.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	High risk	Of the 158 women surveyed, 111 (70.3%) responded to the questionnaire or telephone interview; 29.7% did not reply.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Questionnaires and telephone interviews were used for the ascertainment of the outcome; there is a risk of recall bias and misclassification of the outcome
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	High risk	Questionnaires or telephone interviews were used for the selection of the treated group; the women who replied are more likely to belong to a higher socioeconomic class
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	The untreated group was taken from women that were seen in the colposcopy clinic; regression analysis for age

van de Vijner 2010

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/-2 years), parity and year of delivery (+/-2 years) Information source - electronic and paper patient files at the University Hospital of Leuven and questionnaires
Participants	Treated group - 55 pregnancies (beyond 22 weeks of gestation) of 43 women who had undergone LLETZ (40 patients; 50 pregnancies) or LC (3 patients, 5 pregnancies) during 1999 to 2003 at the University Hospital of Leuven and subsequently delivered before 2007. Exclusion criteria: pregnancies that resulted in a miscarriage

van de Vijner 2010 (Continued)

Untreated group - 55 pregnancies of 54 women who had no intervention on the cervix or were never diagnosed with CIN

Interventions	Excision NOS (LC, LLETZ)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); PTB (< 37 weeks) (multiple pregnancies); PTB (< 34 weeks); threatened PTL; pPPROM; CS; instrumental delivery (ventouse/forceps); induction of labour; oxytocin use; LBW (< 2500 g); NICU admission; perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	<p>599 women underwent a conisation of the cervix (LLETZ, laser or cold knife) between 1 January 1999 and 31 December 2003 in the University Hospital in Leuven. In this group, 47 women could be identified who became pregnant after the intervention and delivered before 1 January 2007. The study concerned 72 pregnancies. Seventeen (23.6%) resulted in a miscarriage and were excluded. Finally, the treated group consisted of 55 evolutive pregnancies (delivery after 22 weeks of gestation) in 43 women. There were nine women with two and two women with three subsequent pregnancies.</p> <p>2 women in the treated group had two conisations (4 pregnancies).</p> <p>In the control group there were 3 twin pregnancies. In the control group there was one twin pregnancy.</p>

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Unclear risk	Questionnaires were sent to 599 women to identify who of them became pregnant after the intervention. The authors do not give information about how many replied; they just write that 47 of them fell pregnant.
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	<p>In some outcomes the population increases and there is no description where these additional pregnancies come from (e.g. NICU admission 15/58 in the treated group vs 9/58 in the untreated group, although the treated group consists of 55 pregnancies and so does the untreated group).</p> <p>The use of questionnaires for the outcomes increases the risk of recall and misclassification bias.</p>
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Unclear risk	There may be women that did not reply to the questionnaire. This information is not provided by the authors.
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Unclear risk	Matching for age (+/-2 years), parity and year of delivery (+/-2 years). The treated group, in comparison with the untreated group, had more sexual partners (4.6 vs 2.5) and smoked more before pregnancy (50% vs 20.4%). Differences in smoking during pregnancy, socioeconomic status and education level were not statistically significant.

Van Hentenryck 2012

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - matching for age at delivery, parity, smoking, history of gestation and HIV status</p> <p>Information source - the electronic databases of the Gynecopathologic and Obstetrics Departments of Erasme University Hospital, Belgium</p>
Participants	<p>Treated group - 106 deliveries of 88 women who had undergone excisional treatment for CIN at the Erasme University Hospital between 1999 to 2010 and then delivered at the same hospital between 2000 to 2010 (CKC = 14; LC = 33; LLETZ = 40; unknown = 1)</p> <p>Untreated group - 212 deliveries of 176 women who delivered at the Erasme University Hospital between 2000 to 2010 without previous excision (the first preceding and following women after each case fulfilling the matching criteria)</p>
Interventions	Excision NOC (CKC, LC, LLETZ)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 34 weeks); threatened PTL; pPROM; chorioamnionitis; CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse); induction of labour; LBW (< 2500 g); NICU admission

Notes

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	There were inconsistencies in the numbers reported in the tables and the text
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women undergoing excisional treatment (1999 to 2010) and delivering (2000 to 2010) at a single university hospital
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age at delivery, parity, smoking, history of gestation, HIV status

van Rooijen 1999

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - matching for age (+/- 3 years), parity and year of delivery (same year)</p> <p>Information source - Hospital records of Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm</p>
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van Rooijen 1999 (Continued)

Participants	<p>Treated group - 236 women who had undergone LA and delivered in Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm, between 1982 and 1992. Only first delivery after treatment was included. Women who had undergone previous conisation (8) or reoperation with cervical conisation before pregnancy (11) were excluded.</p> <p>Untreated group - 472 women (2 controls for each case) without previous treatment who delivered in the same hospital during the same period. The controls were selected from the birth registry of the hospital.</p>
Interventions	LA
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); CS; APH; LBW (< 2500 g); LBW (< 2000 g); LBW (< 1500 g); LBW (< 1000 g)
Notes	During the 11-year period 1982 to 1992 a total of 1828 women underwent laser vaporization of the uterine cervix at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm. Until the end of 1992, 298 of these women gave birth to at least one child after operation. 62 of them were excluded from the study because of previous conisation (8), reoperation with cervical conization before pregnancy (11) or because of incomplete data in their charts (43). The remaining 236 women were included in the treated group.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	279 women were eligible for the study. Of these, 46 (16.5%) were excluded because of incomplete data in their charts
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in a single hospital between 1982 to 1992
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age (+/- 3 years), parity, year of delivery (same year)

Weber 1979

Methods	<p>Retrospective cohort study</p> <p>Comparison group: External - matching for age</p> <p>Information source - interview (about previous CKC, age, previous pregnancies, education, employment and smoking habits), hospital records (about current pregnancy)</p>
Participants	Treated group - 44 women with CKC in the past were delivered at Fredriksberg Hospital and Rigshospitalet during March 1974 and December 1975. All pregnancies (48) of these women after CKC were included in the treated group (even if these were not the current ones).

Weber 1979 (Continued)

Untreated group - All pregnancies (48) of the age-matched women after the date of the CKC of the cases (even if these were not the current ones). The age-matched women were delivered at the same hospital and had not had treatment for CIN in the past.

Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	LBW (<2500g)
Notes	During March 1974 and December 1975, 7327 women were delivered at Fredriksberg Hospital and Rigshospitalet. At their first contact with the antenatal clinics all patients were interviewed by specially employed and trained staff. 44 stated a previous conisation. 17 of the 44 women had had one or more pregnancies between the CKC and the current pregnancy. In total, 5 different treated-control groups were chosen and five different comparisons were described. We decided to include in our analysis only one of them (described above), in order to avoid a duplicate extraction and analysis of the same participants (patients).

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	All eligible for the study women were interviewed; the information about the outcome was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	High risk	Interviews were used to pool information about previous CKC. There is a risk of recall bias and misclassification of exposure.
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women delivering in two hospitals during March 1974 to December 1975
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	Matching for age

Werner 2010

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison groups: A) External B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies) Both had regression analysis for age, parity and race Information source - records of Parkland Health & Hospital System
Participants	Treated group - 511 women who had undergone LLETZ at the Parkland Hospital during January 1992-May 2008 and subsequently had a pregnancy at the same hospital Untreated group - A) 240,348 women who delivered at the Parkland Hospital without previous LLETZ

Werner 2010 (Continued)

B) Internal population of women that had pregnancies before LLETZ (n = 842)

Inclusion criteria (for all groups): Only singletons were included

Interventions	LLETZ
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (singleton pregnancies); sPTB (< 37 weeks); pPROM; perinatal mortality; stillbirth
Notes	Perinatal mortality was defined as the addition of stillbirths and neonatal deaths up to 28 days of life

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having LLETZ and then delivering in a single hospital during January 1992 to May 2008
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A) The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) Regression analysis for age, parity and race B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)

Wuntakal 2013

Methods	Retrospective cohort study Comparison groups: A) Women with punch biopsy but no treatment B) Internal (pre-treatment pregnancies) Both had regression analysis for parity, ethnicity and deprivation Information source - the Pathology and Obstetric databases of the Whipps Cross University Hospital
Participants	Treated group - 261 deliveries of women who had undergone excisional treatment for CIN (LLETZ, LC, CKC) during 1995 to 2009 at the Whipps Cross University Hospital and subsequently delivered at the same hospital Untreated group - A) 257 deliveries of women who had only punch biopsy before delivery

Wuntakal 2013 (Continued)

B) The treated group had 181 deliveries before the treatment. These deliveries can be compared with the deliveries after the treatment

Inclusion criteria (for all groups): singleton pregnancies with a gestational age of 26 to 42 weeks of gestation. Exclusion criteria: antepartum stillbirths

Interventions	Excision NOS (CKC, LC, LLETZ)
Outcomes	PTB (< 37 weeks); PTB (< 37 weeks) (single cone); PTB (< 37 weeks) (repeat cones); PTB (< 33 weeks); pPROM; CS; instrumental deliveries (ventouse/forceps); LBW (< 2500 g)
Notes	The patients of this study are also included in the paper by Castanon and colleagues BMJ 2012. As this is a duplicate study we only included in the analysis the outcomes that were not presented in Castanon 2012 . The outcomes on PTB < 37 weeks and PTB < 33 weeks were not included in the analysis.

Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) All outcomes	Low risk	Information was obtained from hospital records
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	No reporting bias is obvious
Other bias	Low risk	No other obvious source of bias
Relevant assignment described?	Low risk	Yes, treatment performed on clinical grounds
Representative intervention group?	Low risk	All eligible for the study women having treatment and delivering in a single university hospital during 1995 to 2009
Representative comparison group?	Low risk	A) The untreated group was drawn from the same source as the treated group B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies)
Comparability of treatment groups?	Low risk	A) Women with punch biopsy only B) Internal comparison group (pre-treatment pregnancies) Both had regression analysis for parity, ethnicity and deprivation

APH: antepartum haemorrhage; **BMI:** body mass index; **CIN:** cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia; **CKC:** cold knife conisation; **CS:** caesarean Section; **CT:** cryotherapy; **FCBE:** Fischer cone biopsy excisor; **LA:** laser ablation; **LBW:** low birth weight; **LC:** laser conisation; **LLETZ:** large loop excision of the transformation zone; **MOH:** major obstetric haemorrhage; **NICU:** neonatal intensive care unit; **NOS:** not otherwise specified; **PPH:** Postpartum haemorrhage; **pPROM:** preterm premature rupture of membranes; **PTB:** preterm birth; **PTL:** preterm labour; **RD:** radical diathermy; **sPTB:** spontaneous preterm birth; **TOP:** termination of pregnancy

Characteristics of excluded studies [ordered by study ID]

Study	Reason for exclusion
Al-Halal 2013	Comparison of women with CIN (+/-treatment) versus general population. We could not include this in any comparison as we had no information as to whether women with CIN had or not treatment and the increase in the PTB could be attributed to either.

Study	Reason for exclusion
Althuisius 2001	No untreated comparison group
Berghella 2004	No untreated comparison group
Berretta 2013	No untreated comparison group
Bull-Phelps 2007	No untreated comparison group
Chevreau 2017	No untreated comparison group
Ciavattini 2014	Both the treated and untreated group consisted of a high-risk population (women that conceived via assisted reproductive technology (ART))
Ciavattini 2015	This study reports the miscarriage rates in the treated and untreated group but none of the outcomes that we are studying
Conner 2013	No untreated comparison group
Ferenczy 1995	No untreated comparison group
Gentry 2000	This study reports the cervical length before and after LLETZ (self-matching), but we do not study this outcome
Gordon 1991	No untreated comparison group
Gronroos 1979	No untreated comparison group
Kalliala 2012	This study reports the Incidence of any pregnancy, livebirths, miscarriages, extrauterine pregnancies, molar pregnancies, and terminations of pregnancies (TOPs), but none of the outcomes that we are studying
Khalid 2012	No untreated comparison group
Kim 2016	No untreated comparison group
Kindinger 2016	No untreated comparison group
Kullander 1971	No untreated comparison group
Leiman 1980	No untreated comparison group
Liu 2014	No untreated comparison group
Liverani 2016	No untreated comparison group
Macvicar 1968	No untreated comparison group
Mariya 2016	No untreated comparison group
Masamoto 2008	No untreated comparison group
Michelin 2009	No untreated comparison group
Mitsuhashi 2000	1) Treatment during pregnancy

Study	Reason for exclusion
	2) No untreated comparison group
Monaghan 1982	No untreated comparison group
Naleway 2015	This study reports the percentage of the women that fell pregnant in the treated and untreated group but not the pregnancy outcomes
Nam 2010	No untreated comparison group
Novikova 1994	No untreated comparison group
Patrelli 2008	No untreated comparison group
Pils 2014	The untreated comparison group was high risk: consisted only of women with a history of second-trimester miscarriage
Pinborg 2015	Both treated and untreated groups consisted of a high-risk population (women that conceived via assisted reproductive technology (ART))
Radha Bai Prabhu 2010	No untreated comparison group
Rafaeli-Yehudai 2014	No untreated comparison group (treated women with cerclage versus treated women without cerclage)
Ricciotti 1995	This study reports the cervical length before and after LLETZ (self-matching), but we are not studying this outcome
Rosen 1991	Treatment during pregnancy
Sangkarat 2014	No untreated comparison group
Seki 2010	1) Treatment during pregnancy 2) No untreated comparison group
Shin 2010	No untreated comparison group (treated women with cerclage versus treated women without cerclage)
Sljivancanin 2013	Treatment during pregnancy
Smaldone 2010	Comparison of women with CIN (+/-treatment) versus general population. We could not include this in any comparison as we had no information as to whether women with CIN had or not treatment and the increase in the PTB could be attributed to either.
Spracklen 2013	Data only on fertility
Wakita 1990	No untreated comparison group
Watson 2012	Case-control study
Wongtiraporn 2014	No untreated comparison group
Zuo 2011	Comparison of women with CIN (+/-treatment) versus general population. We could not include this in any comparison as we had no information as to whether women with CIN had or not treatment and the increase in the PTB could be attributed to either.

CIN: cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia; **LLETZ:** large loop excision of the transformation zone; **PTB:** preterm birth

Characteristics of studies awaiting assessment [ordered by study ID]

Aleman 2016

Methods	Retrospective cohort study
Participants	Women who had undergone conisation at Antwerp University Hospital and subsequently delivered + control group
Interventions	Conisation
Outcomes	Rates of adverse obstetric outcomes (such as LBW and CS) after conisation and comparison to the control group
Notes	Identified after April 2016, week 2; it will be included in the next version of this meta-analysis

Bjorge 2016

Methods	Population-based retrospective cohort study
Participants	Women from whole of Norway who had undergone treatment for CIN/early invasive cervical cancer during 1998 to 2014 and subsequently had singleton pregnancy + control group
Interventions	Treatment for CIN/early invasive cervical cancer
Outcomes	Rates of adverse obstetric outcomes (such as PTB) after treatment and comparison to the control group
Notes	Identified after April 2016, week 2; it will be included in the next version of this meta-analysis

Brie 2016

Methods	Retrospective case-control study
Participants	Women who had undergone conisation in a university hospital between January 2002 to January 2012 and subsequently delivered + control group
Interventions	Conisation
Outcomes	Rates of adverse obstetric outcomes (such as PTB < 37 weeks, PTB < 32 weeks, PTB < 28 weeks and PROM) after treatment and comparison to the control group
Notes	Identified after April 2016, week 2; it will be included in the next version of this meta-analysis

He 2007

Methods	Retrospective study
Participants	Women who underwent conisation from 1999 to 2005 in Peking Union Medical College Hospital

He 2007 (Continued)

Interventions	Conisation
Outcomes	Fertility and pregnancy
Notes	Article in Chinese - pending translation for inclusion in the next update of this meta-analysis

Jancar 2016

Methods	Population-based retrospective cohort study
Participants	Women from whole Slovenia who had a singleton pregnancy during 2003 to 2012 and had previously undergone CKC or LLETZ + control group
Interventions	CKC, LLETZ
Outcomes	Rates of adverse obstetric outcomes (sPTB < 37 weeks, < 34 weeks, < 32 weeks, < 28 weeks) after treatment and comparison to the control group
Notes	Identified after April 2016, week 2; it will be included in the next version of this meta-analysis

Kalitsaris 1991

Methods	Retrospective study
Participants	Women who underwent conisation from 1967 to 1989
Interventions	Conisation
Outcomes	Percentage of attested postoperative pregnancies
Notes	Article in Italian - pending translation for inclusion in the next update of this meta-analysis

Kasum 1991

Methods	Retrospective
Participants	Women with previously made conisation of the uterine cervix
Interventions	Conisation
Outcomes	Term, deliveries, preterm deliveries and spontaneous abortions
Notes	Article in Yugoslavian - pending translation for inclusion in the next update of this meta-analysis

Lund 1986

Methods	
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Lund 1986 *(Continued)*

Participants	
Interventions	
Outcomes	
Notes	Article in Norwegian - pending translation for inclusion in the next update of this meta-analysis

Praest 1979

Methods	
Participants	
Interventions	
Outcomes	
Notes	Article in Danish - pending translation for inclusion in the next update of this meta-analysis

Spuhler 1995

Methods	Retrospective study
Participants	Women followed at our colpolaparotomy surgery clinic
Interventions	Laser CO2 therapy
Outcomes	Pregnancy and delivery
Notes	Article in French - pending translation for inclusion in the next update of this meta-analysis

Zebitay 2017

Methods	Population-based multicentric trial
Participants	Turkish women with singleton pregnancy during 2007 to 2013 who had previously undergone CKC + control group
Interventions	CKC
Outcomes	Rates of PTB after CKC and comparison to the control group; data about removed volume and height of the removed cone and correlation to PTB
Notes	Identified after April 2016, week 2; it will be included in the next version of this meta-analysis

Zornoza-Garcia 2009

Methods	Retrospective cohort study
Participants	Women treated at the Leon Hospital in Spain, between 1999 and 2007
Interventions	Conisation
Outcomes	Conception and pregnancy
Notes	Article in Spanish - pending translation for inclusion in the next update of this meta-analysis

CIN: cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia; **CKC:** cold knife conisation; **CS:** caesarean section; **LBW:** low birth weight; **LLETZ:** large loop excision of the transformation zone; **PTB:** preterm birth; **sPTB:** spontaneous preterm birth.

DATA AND ANALYSES
Comparison 1. Maternal Outcomes-PTB

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 PTB (<37w)	59	5.242917E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.75 [1.57, 1.96]
1.1 Excisional Treatment vs No Treatment	53	4.599416E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.87 [1.64, 2.12]
1.2 Ablative Treatment vs No Treatment	14	602370	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.35 [1.20, 1.52]
1.3 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	41131	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.57 [1.39, 4.77]
2 PTB (<37w)-Analysis by treatment modality	59	5.242917E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.78 [1.60, 1.98]
2.1 CKC vs No Treatment	12	39102	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.70 [2.14, 3.40]
2.2 LC vs No Treatment	9	1509	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.11 [1.26, 3.54]
2.3 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.83 [3.80, 8.95]
2.4 LLETZ vs No Treatment	25	1.445104E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.58 [1.37, 1.81]
2.5 FCBE vs No Treatment	1	71	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.22 [1.09, 24.90]
2.6 LA vs No Treatment	7	4710	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.86, 1.26]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
2.7 CT vs No Treatment	2	238	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.22, 4.77]
2.8 RD vs No Treatment	1	2150	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.62 [1.27, 2.06]
2.9 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	15	3.106231E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.90 [1.50, 2.41]
2.10 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	5	595272	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.46 [1.27, 1.66]
2.11 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	41131	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.57 [1.39, 4.77]
3 PTB (<32-34w)	24	3.793874E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.25 [1.79, 2.82]
3.1 Excisional Treatment vs No Treatment	22	3.666567E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.48 [1.92, 3.20]
3.2 Ablative Treatment vs No Treatment	3	120820	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.59 [1.08, 2.35]
3.3 Treatment NOS vs No treatment	2	6487	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [1.13, 2.42]
4 PTB (<32-34w)-Analysis by treatment modality	24	3.793874E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.35 [1.88, 2.95]
4.1 CKC vs No Treatment	5	36979	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.07 [1.72, 5.49]
4.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	10.53 [4.33, 25.65]
4.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	11	791554	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.13 [1.66, 2.75]
4.4 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [0.08, 43.87]
4.5 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	9	2.830635E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.94 [1.82, 4.77]
4.6 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	120762	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.59 [1.08, 2.35]
4.7 Treatment NOS vs No treatment	2	6487	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [1.13, 2.42]
5 PTB (<28-30w)	8	3.910629E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.23 [1.55, 3.22]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
5.1 Excisional Treatment vs No Treatment	7	3.337003E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.81 [1.91, 4.15]
5.2 Ablative Treatment vs No Treatment	3	568217	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [0.81, 2.36]
5.3 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5409	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.75 [1.05, 2.91]
6 PTB (<28-30w)-Analysis by treatment modality	8	3.910629E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.43 [1.69, 3.49]
6.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	7118	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.52 [0.83, 24.54]
6.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	14.74 [4.50, 48.32]
6.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	502778	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.57 [1.97, 3.35]
6.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No treatment	3	2.819708E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.54 [1.30, 4.99]
6.5 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	3	568217	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [0.81, 2.36]
6.6 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5409	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.75 [1.05, 2.91]
7 PTB (≤34w)	15	424567	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.59 [1.78, 3.77]
7.1 Excisional Treatment vs No Treatment	15	424509	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.61 [1.78, 3.83]
7.2 Ablative Treatment vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [0.08, 43.87]
8 PTB (≤34w)-Analysis by treatment modality	15	424567	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.56 [1.78, 3.69]
8.1 CKC vs No Treatment	4	30023	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.85 [1.50, 5.41]
8.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	9	289218	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.83 [1.41, 2.39]
8.3 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [0.08, 43.87]
8.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	4	105268	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	7.30 [4.17, 12.80]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
9 PTB (<32-33w)	10	3.369685E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.08 [1.55, 2.79]
9.1 Excisional Treatment vs No Treatment	8	3.242436E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.43 [1.70, 3.47]
9.2 Ablative Treatment vs No Treatment	2	120762	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.59 [1.08, 2.35]
9.3 Treatment NOS vs No treatment	2	6487	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [1.13, 2.42]
10 PTB (<32-33w)-Analysis by treatment modality	10	3.369685E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.26 [1.70, 3.01]
10.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6956	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.38 [1.08, 17.65]
10.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	10.53 [4.33, 25.65]
10.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	502714	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.74 [2.30, 3.26]
10.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	5	2.725367E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.09 [1.20, 3.63]
10.5 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	120762	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.59 [1.08, 2.35]
10.6 Treatment NOS vs No treatment	2	6487	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [1.13, 2.42]
11 PTB (<30w)	1	162	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.86 [0.12, 69.11]
11.1 Excisional Treatment vs No Treatment	1	162	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.86 [0.12, 69.11]
12 PTB (<30w)-Analysis by treatment modality	1	162	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.86 [0.12, 69.11]
12.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	162	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.86 [0.12, 69.11]
13 PTB (<28w)	7	3.910467E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.22 [1.54, 3.22]
13.1 Excisional Treatment vs No Treatment	6	3.336841E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.81 [1.89, 4.18]
13.2 Ablative treatment vs No Treatment	3	568217	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [0.81, 2.36]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
13.3 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5409	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.75 [1.05, 2.91]
14 PTB (<28w)-Analysis by treatment modality	6	3.905058E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.52 [1.71, 3.72]
14.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6956	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.41 [0.74, 39.84]
14.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	14.74 [4.50, 48.32]
14.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	502778	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.57 [1.97, 3.35]
14.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No treatment	3	2.819708E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.54 [1.30, 4.99]
14.5 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	3	568217	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [0.81, 2.36]
15 PTB (<37w)-Nulliparous women	6	245707	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.92 [1.23, 2.98]
15.1 LC vs No Treatment	2	267	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.18 [1.09, 4.37]
15.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	231344	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.51 [0.76, 3.02]
15.3 Treatment NOS versus No Treatment	1	14096	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.53 [1.70, 7.33]
16 PTB (<37w)-Parous women	5	339507	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.05 [0.95, 4.43]
16.1 LC vs No Treatment	2	401	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.82 [0.16, 49.84]
16.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	324948	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.20 [0.22, 6.65]
16.3 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	14158	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.73 [2.23, 6.22]
17 PTB (<37w)-Single cone	17	1.367023E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.75 [1.49, 2.06]
17.1 CKC vs No Treatment	3	36783	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.89 [2.08, 4.03]
17.2 LC vs No Treatment	2	657	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.06 [0.54, 2.09]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
17.3 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.83 [3.80, 8.95]
17.4 LLETZ vs No Treatment	9	1.277874E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.74 [1.45, 2.10]
17.5 LA vs No Treatment	4	1421	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.07 [0.66, 1.74]
17.6 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	3	32106	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.88 [1.20, 2.93]
17.7 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	10783	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.82, 1.57]
18 PTB (<37w)-Repeat cones	11	1.317284E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.78 [2.65, 5.39]
18.1 CKC/LA vs No Treatment	1	99	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	12.56 [5.11, 30.87]
18.2 LC/LC vs No Treatment	1	270	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.75 [1.70, 8.27]
18.3 LLETZ/LLETZ vs No Treatment	4	1.202174E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.81 [2.33, 3.39]
18.4 LLETZ/Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	298	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	9.40 [3.53, 25.03]
18.5 Excisional Treatment NOS/Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	3	73651	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.48 [2.68, 11.24]
18.6 Treatment NOS/Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	40792	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.71 [1.10, 2.67]
19 PTB (<37w)-Singleton pregnancies	32	2.18962E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.76 [1.57, 1.98]
19.1 CKC vs No Treatment	6	37759	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.89 [2.22, 3.77]
19.2 LC vs No Treatment	4	545	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.54 [1.24, 5.20]
19.3 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.83 [3.80, 8.95]
19.4 LLETZ vs No Treatment	18	1.444175E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.61 [1.39, 1.87]
19.5 LA vs No Treatment	3	3420	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.10 [0.75, 1.62]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
19.6 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [0.08, 43.87]
19.7 RD vs No Treatment	1	2150	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.62 [1.27, 2.06]
19.8 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	7	542892	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.42 [1.17, 1.72]
19.9 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	110091	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.56, 2.32]
19.10 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	41131	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.57 [1.39, 4.77]
20 PTB (<37w)-Multiple pregnancies	5	10797	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.95, 1.35]
20.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	84	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.49, 1.83]
20.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	10199	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.27 [1.09, 1.47]
20.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	4	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.5 [0.31, 39.71]
20.4 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	510	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.72, 1.20]
21 PTB (<32-34w)-Multiple pregnancies	3	10789	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.68 [0.95, 2.98]
21.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	80	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.5 [1.29, 9.52]
21.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	10199	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.76 [0.88, 3.50]
21.3 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	510	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.85 [0.38, 1.91]
22 PTB (<28w)-Multiple pregnancies	2	10744	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.43 [1.40, 4.22]
22.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	80	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.15 [0.09, 49.56]
22.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	10154	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.45 [1.34, 4.47]
22.3 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	510	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.32 [0.48, 11.26]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
23 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm	8	550929	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.54 [1.09, 2.18]
23.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	105	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.52 [0.06, 4.83]
23.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	544907	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.01 [1.28, 3.15]
23.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	4	5917	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.20 [0.78, 1.85]
24 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm	8	552711	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.93 [1.62, 2.31]
24.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	87	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.64 [1.20, 17.88]
24.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	3	546134	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.29 [1.57, 3.34]
24.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	4	6490	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.68 [1.41, 1.99]
25 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm	4	544986	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.77 [1.95, 3.93]
25.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	211	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.92 [2.09, 11.59]
25.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	544248	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.16 [1.54, 6.48]
25.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	527	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.03 [1.33, 3.10]
26 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥20mm	3	543750	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.91 [2.06, 11.68]
26.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	192	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.12 [2.57, 14.57]
26.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	543558	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.72 [1.25, 17.80]
27 PTB (<37w)-Volume<6cc	1	550	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.25 [1.09, 4.66]
27.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	550	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.25 [1.09, 4.66]
28 PTB (<37w)-Volume>6cc	1	284	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	13.90 [5.09, 37.98]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
28.1 LLETZ (Volume>6cc) vs No Treatment	1	284	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	13.90 [5.09, 37.98]
29 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10mm	7	7436	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.60 [0.99, 2.59]
29.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	105	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.52 [0.06, 4.83]
29.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	1414	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.72 [1.65, 4.50]
29.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	4	5917	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.20 [0.78, 1.85]
30 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤12mm	1	543493	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.56 [1.20, 2.02]
30.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	543493	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.56 [1.20, 2.02]
31 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15mm	3	545283	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.44 [1.20, 1.73]
31.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	164	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.67 [0.04, 11.18]
31.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	545119	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.44 [1.20, 1.73]
32 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤17mm	1	656	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.76, 1.72]
32.1 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	656	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.76, 1.72]
33 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15-17mm	4	545939	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [1.17, 1.64]
33.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	164	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.67 [0.04, 11.18]
33.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	545119	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.44 [1.20, 1.73]
33.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	656	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.76, 1.72]
34 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤20mm	3	545992	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.60 [1.38, 1.87]
34.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	183	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.30 [0.28, 5.97]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
34.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	545809	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.61 [1.38, 1.87]
35 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10mm	7	7671	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.12 [1.58, 2.85]
35.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	87	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.64 [1.20, 17.88]
35.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	1094	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.16 [1.80, 5.55]
35.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	4	6490	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.68 [1.41, 1.99]
36 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥12mm	1	545040	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.93 [1.66, 2.23]
36.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	545040	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.93 [1.66, 2.23]
37 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15mm	3	544459	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.49 [1.94, 6.26]
37.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	211	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.92 [2.09, 11.59]
37.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	544248	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.16 [1.54, 6.48]
38 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥17mm	1	527	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.03 [1.33, 3.10]
38.1 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	527	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.03 [1.33, 3.10]
39 PTB (<37w)-Depth 10/13-15/16mm	3	544534	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.32 [1.04, 1.66]
39.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	543994	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.32 [1.02, 1.72]
39.2 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	540	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.29 [0.79, 2.12]
40 PTB (<37w)-Depth 15/16-19/20mm	3	543608	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.24 [1.73, 2.91]
40.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	169	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.26 [0.50, 10.08]
40.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	543439	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.53 [1.42, 4.51]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
41 PTB (<37w)-Volume<3cc	1	496	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.04 [0.94, 4.41]
41.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	496	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.04 [0.94, 4.41]
42 PTB (<37w)-Volume>3cc	1	338	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.17 [1.77, 9.82]
42.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	338	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.17 [1.77, 9.82]
43 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs ≤10-12mm	7	6359	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.54 [1.31, 1.80]
43.1 LC	1	64	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	8.91 [1.11, 71.73]
43.2 LLETZ	2	836	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.26 [0.74, 2.17]
43.3 Excision NOS	4	5459	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.55 [1.31, 1.83]
44 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm vs ≤15-17mm	4	4275	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.82 [1.47, 2.26]
44.1 LC	1	75	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	7.02 [0.44, 111.10]
44.2 LLETZ	2	3869	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [1.36, 2.55]
44.3 Excisional Treatment NOS	1	331	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.78 [1.11, 2.84]
45 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥20mm vs ≤20mm	3	3944	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.79 [1.24, 6.27]
45.1 LC	1	75	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.71 [1.13, 19.62]
45.2 LLETZ	2	3869	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.47 [0.94, 6.51]
46 PTB (<37w)-Volume>3cc vs <3cc	1	278	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.04 [0.95, 4.39]
46.1 LLETZ	1	278	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.04 [0.95, 4.39]
47 PTB (<37w)-Volume>6cc vs <6cc	1	278	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.18 [2.53, 15.13]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
47.1 LLETZ	1	278	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.18 [2.53, 15.13]
48 PTB (<37w)-Depth 11/13-15/16mm vs ≤10-12mm	3	2600	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.67, 1.25]
48.1 LLETZ	2	2370	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.83 [0.58, 1.17]
48.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	1	230	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.31 [0.68, 2.50]
49 PTB (<37w)-Depth 16-19mm vs 13-15mm	1	1768	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [1.12, 2.43]
49.1 LLETZ	1	1768	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [1.12, 2.43]
50 PTB (<37w)-Depth ≥20mm vs 15/16-19/20mm	3	1560	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.46 [0.95, 2.23]
50.1 LC	1	61	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.71 [0.67, 10.96]
50.2 LLETZ	2	1499	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.40 [0.84, 2.36]
51 PTB (<37w)-Untreated External Comparison Group	44	5.192047E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.92 [1.70, 2.16]
51.1 CKC	7	37370	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.28 [2.44, 4.42]
51.2 LC	6	1126	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.39 [1.24, 4.61]
51.3 NETZ	1	7361	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.82 [3.79, 8.94]
51.4 LLETZ	19	1.414769E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.72 [1.48, 2.00]
51.5 LA]	4	1258	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.27 [0.67, 2.40]
51.6 CT	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [0.08, 43.87]
51.7 Excisional Treatment NOS	12	3.100025E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.91 [1.50, 2.44]
51.8 Ablative Treatment NOS	5	588949	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.45 [1.26, 1.67]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
51.9 Treatment NOS	2	41131	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.57 [1.39, 4.77]
52 PTB (<37w)-Untreated Internal Comparison Group (self-matching)	8	2987	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.59 [1.19, 2.13]
52.1 LC	2	354	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.30 [0.56, 3.06]
52.2 LLETZ	1	516	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.82 [1.04, 3.21]
52.3 FCBE	1	71	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.22 [1.09, 24.90]
52.4 Excisional Treatment NOS	3	1922	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.46 [0.89, 2.39]
52.5 Treatment NOS	1	124	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.0 [0.73, 5.51]
53 PTB (<37w)-Untreated Internal Comparison Group (pre-treatment pregnancies)	13	83404	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.39 [0.98, 1.96]
53.1 CKC	3	1430	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.79 [0.81, 3.95]
53.2 LC	2	161	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [0.11, 23.58]
53.3 LLETZ	4	3207	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.13 [0.66, 1.94]
53.4 LA	1	226	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.20 [0.57, 2.53]
53.5 CT	1	180	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.85 [0.15, 4.94]
53.6 Excisional NOS	3	78200	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.65 [0.88, 3.08]
54 PTB (<37w)-Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN +/-Biopsy Comparison Group	13	74958	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.27 [1.14, 1.41]
54.1 CKC	2	265	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.76 [1.01, 3.08]
54.2 LC	1	177	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.52 [0.74, 3.15]
54.3 LLETZ	9	39249	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.33 [1.11, 1.60]

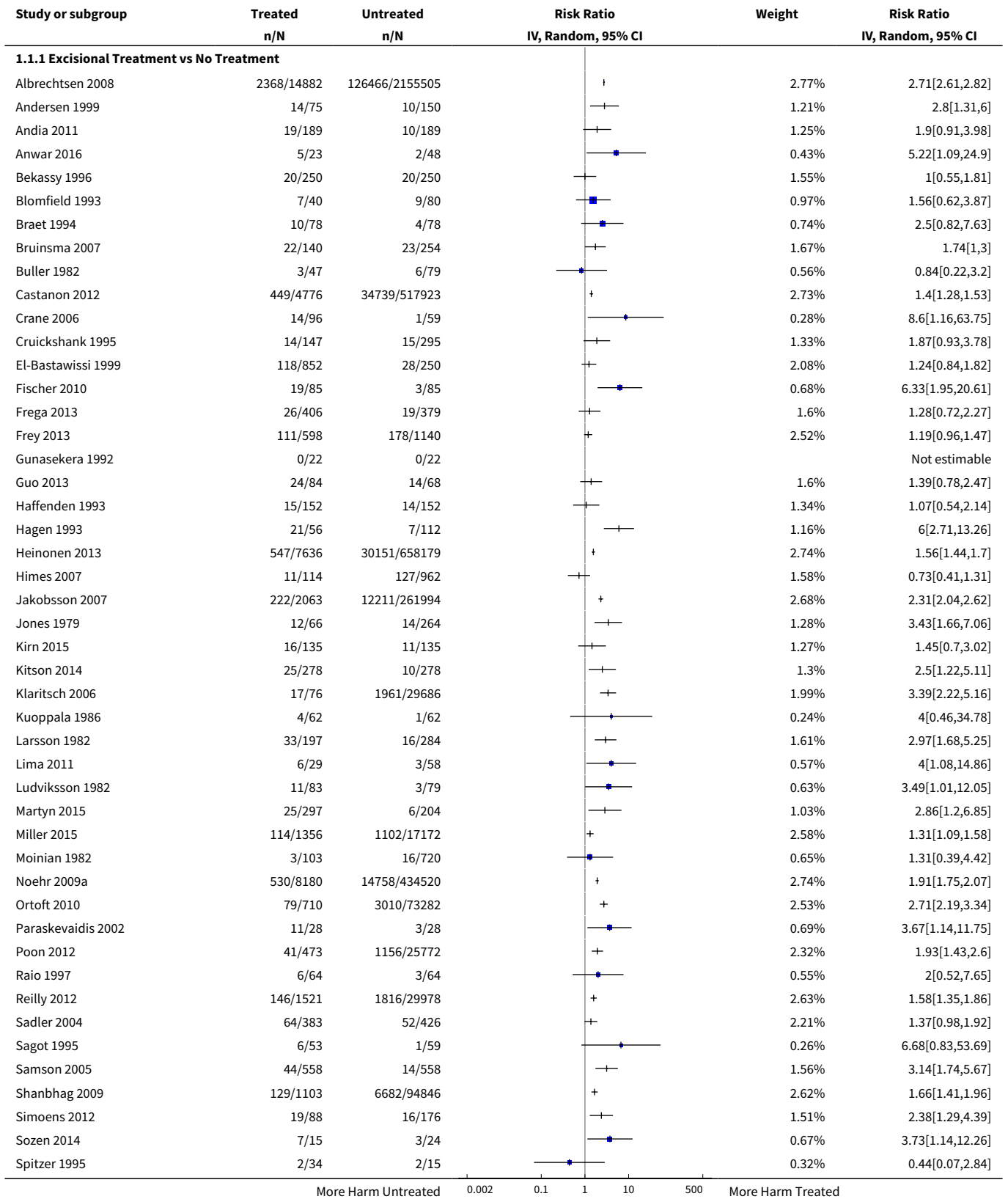
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
54.4 LA	2	3326	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.84, 1.31]
54.5 RD	1	2150	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.62 [1.27, 2.06]
54.6 Excisional Treatment NOS	5	20321	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.23 [1.07, 1.41]
54.7 Ablative Treatment NOS	2	9470	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.00 [0.74, 1.36]
55 PTB (<37w)-Untreated HSIL Comparison Group	3	3764	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.37 [0.85, 2.19]
55.1 CKC	1	103	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.76 [0.48, 29.39]
55.2 NETZ	1	109	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.55 [1.11, 18.66]
55.3 LLETZ	1	881	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.48 [1.35, 4.55]
55.4 Excisional Treatment NOS	2	2274	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.06 [0.71, 1.59]
55.5 Ablative Treatment NOS	2	397	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.68 [0.28, 1.68]
56 PTB (<37w)-All Comparison Groups	58	5.292724E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.76 [1.58, 1.97]
56.1 Treatment vs Untreated External Comparison Group	43	5.165466E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.97 [1.71, 2.26]
56.2 Treatment vs Untreated Internal Comparison Group (pre-treatment pregnancies)	13	62519	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.66 [1.24, 2.22]
56.3 Treatment vs Untreated Internal Comparison Group (self-matching)	6	1263	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.91 [1.19, 3.08]
56.4 Treatment vs Untreated Colposcopy+/- CIN+/-Biopsy Comparison Group	12	62702	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.33 [1.17, 1.50]
56.5 Treatment vs Untreated HSIL Comparison Group	3	774	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.46 [0.62, 3.42]
57 PTB (<37w)-Untreated High-risk Population vs General Population	15	4.357998E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.24 [1.14, 1.34]
57.1 Pre-treatment pregnancies vs General Population	10	3.132723E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.23 [1.07, 1.42]

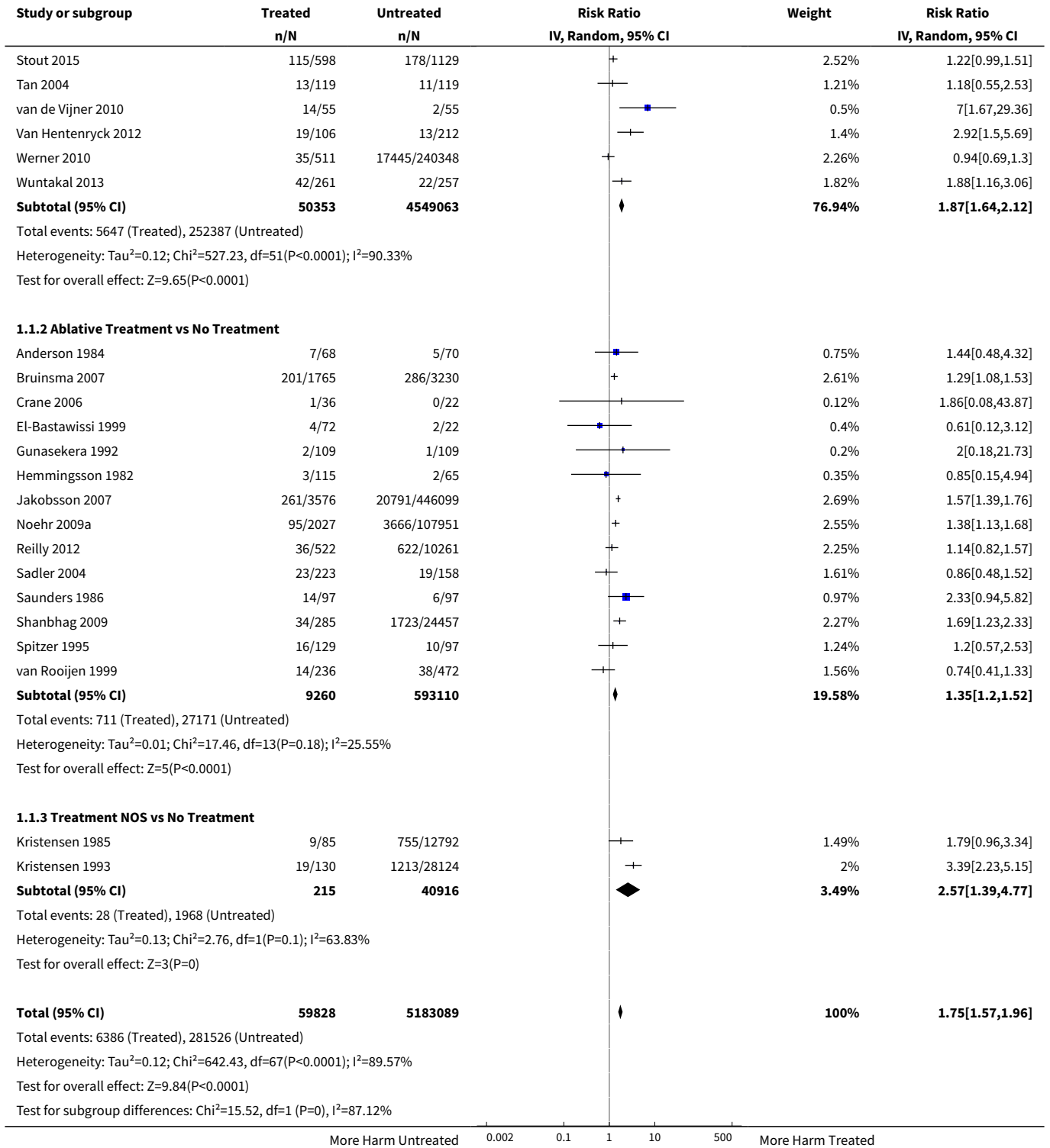
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
57.2 Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy vs General Population	4	1.046823E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.22 [1.11, 1.34]
57.3 Untreated HSIL vs General Population	3	178452	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.40 [0.94, 2.10]
58 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	6	1.026243E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.64 [1.11, 2.42]
58.1 LCp	1	105	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.52 [0.06, 4.83]
58.2 LLETZ	2	512896	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.06 [1.10, 3.84]
58.3 Excisional Treatment NOS	3	513242	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.57 [0.72, 3.41]
59 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm vs Untreated Internal Comparison Group	2	3550	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.71, 1.14]
59.1 LC	1	70	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.71 [0.05, 10.85]
59.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	1	3480	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.71, 1.14]
60 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	4	43145	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.85, 1.43]
60.1 LLETZ	2	33033	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [0.94, 2.02]
60.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	2	10112	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.80, 1.09]
61 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15-17mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	2	513145	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.43 [1.19, 1.73]
61.1 LC	1	164	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.67 [0.04, 11.18]
61.2 LLETZ	1	512981	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.44 [1.19, 1.74]
62 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15-17mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	3	34934	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.18 [1.00, 1.40]
62.1 LLETZ	2	34278	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.30 [0.85, 1.98]
62.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	1	656	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.76, 1.72]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
63 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤20mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	2	513814	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.60 [1.37, 1.87]
63.1 LC	1	183	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.30 [0.28, 5.97]
63.2 LLETZ	1	513631	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.61 [1.37, 1.88]
64 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤20mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	2	34968	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.52 [0.92, 2.51]
64.1 LLETZ	2	34968	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.52 [0.92, 2.51]
65 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	6	1.027812E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.96 [1.66, 2.32]
65.1 LC	1	87	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.64 [1.20, 17.88]
65.2 LLETZ	2	514051	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.40 [1.30, 4.43]
65.3 Excisional Treatment NOS	3	513674	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.82 [1.49, 2.22]
66 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs Untreated Internal Comparison Group	2	3944	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.05 [0.56, 7.48]
66.1 LC	1	52	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.30 [0.79, 50.27]
66.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	1	3892	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.39 [1.12, 1.73]
67 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	4	45275	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.52 [1.37, 1.68]
67.1 LLETZ	2	34652	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.80 [1.13, 2.87]
67.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	2	10623	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.46 [1.29, 1.65]
68 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	2	512503	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.04 [1.62, 5.73]
68.1 LC	1	211	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.92 [2.09, 11.59]
68.2 LLETZ	1	512292	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.45 [2.06, 2.91]

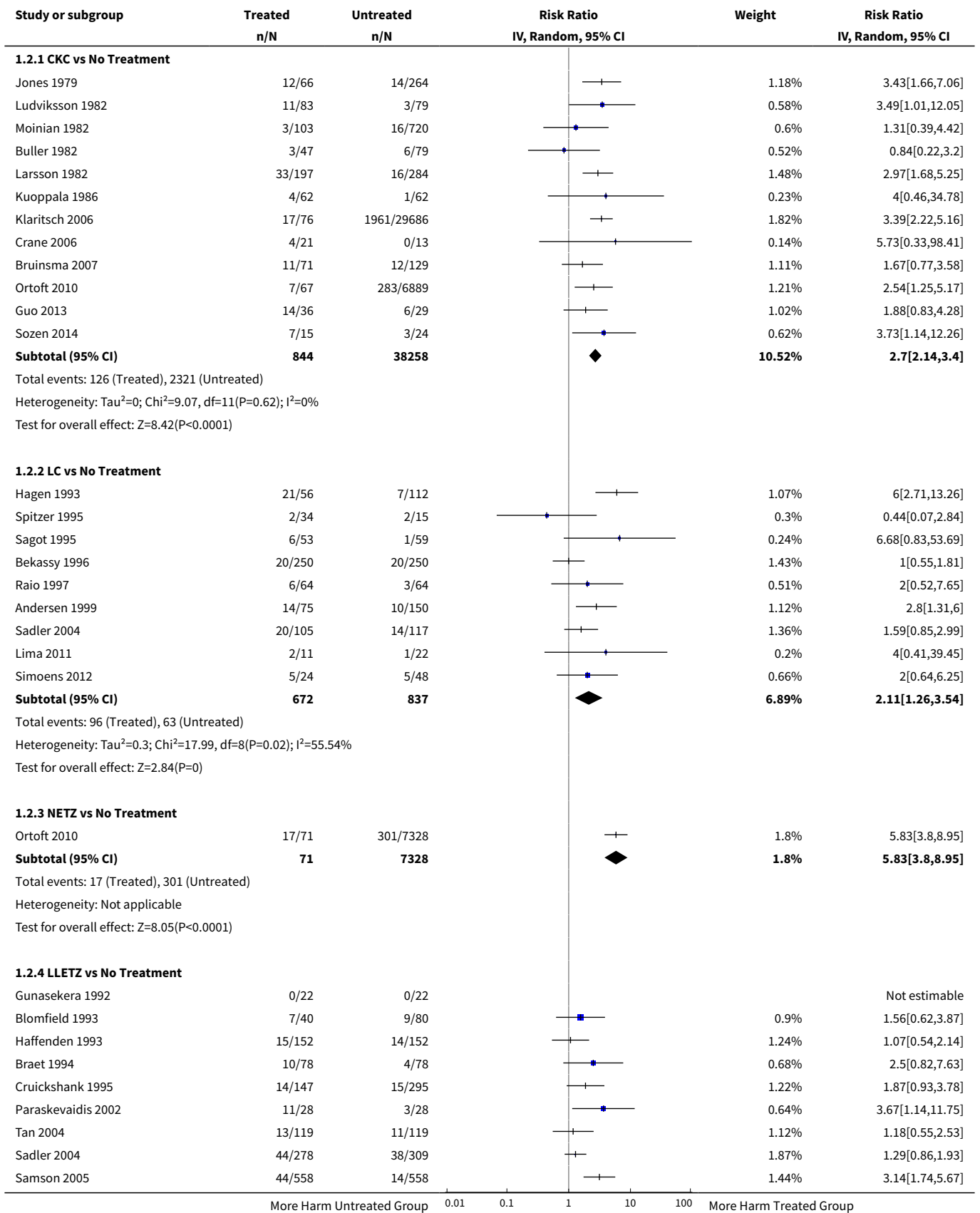
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
69 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	3	33934	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.30 [1.57, 3.35]
69.1 LLETZ	2	33407	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.92 [1.14, 7.46]
69.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	1	527	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.03 [1.33, 3.10]
70 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥20mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	2	511834	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.63 [1.67, 7.90]
70.1 LC	1	192	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.12 [2.57, 14.57]
70.2 LLETZ	1	511642	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.68 [2.15, 3.35]
71 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥20mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	2	32717	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.32 [0.93, 20.03]
71.1 LLETZ	2	32717	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.32 [0.93, 20.03]
72 PTB (<37w)-Depth 10/13-15/16mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	1	511959	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.31 [0.99, 1.72]
72.1 LLETZ	1	511959	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.31 [0.99, 1.72]
73 PTB (<37w)-Depth 10/13-15/16mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	3	33693	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.14 [0.90, 1.44]
73.1 LLETZ	2	33153	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.12 [0.80, 1.57]
73.2 Excisional Treatment NOS	1	540	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.29 [0.79, 2.12]
74 PTB (<37w)-Depth 15/16-19/20mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group	2	511660	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.16 [1.65, 2.84]
74.1 LC	1	169	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.26 [0.50, 10.08]
74.2 LLETZ	1	511491	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.16 [1.64, 2.84]
75 PTB (<37w)-Depth 15/16-19/20mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy	2	32598	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.38 [1.04, 5.42]
75.1 LLETZ	2	32598	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.38 [1.04, 5.42]

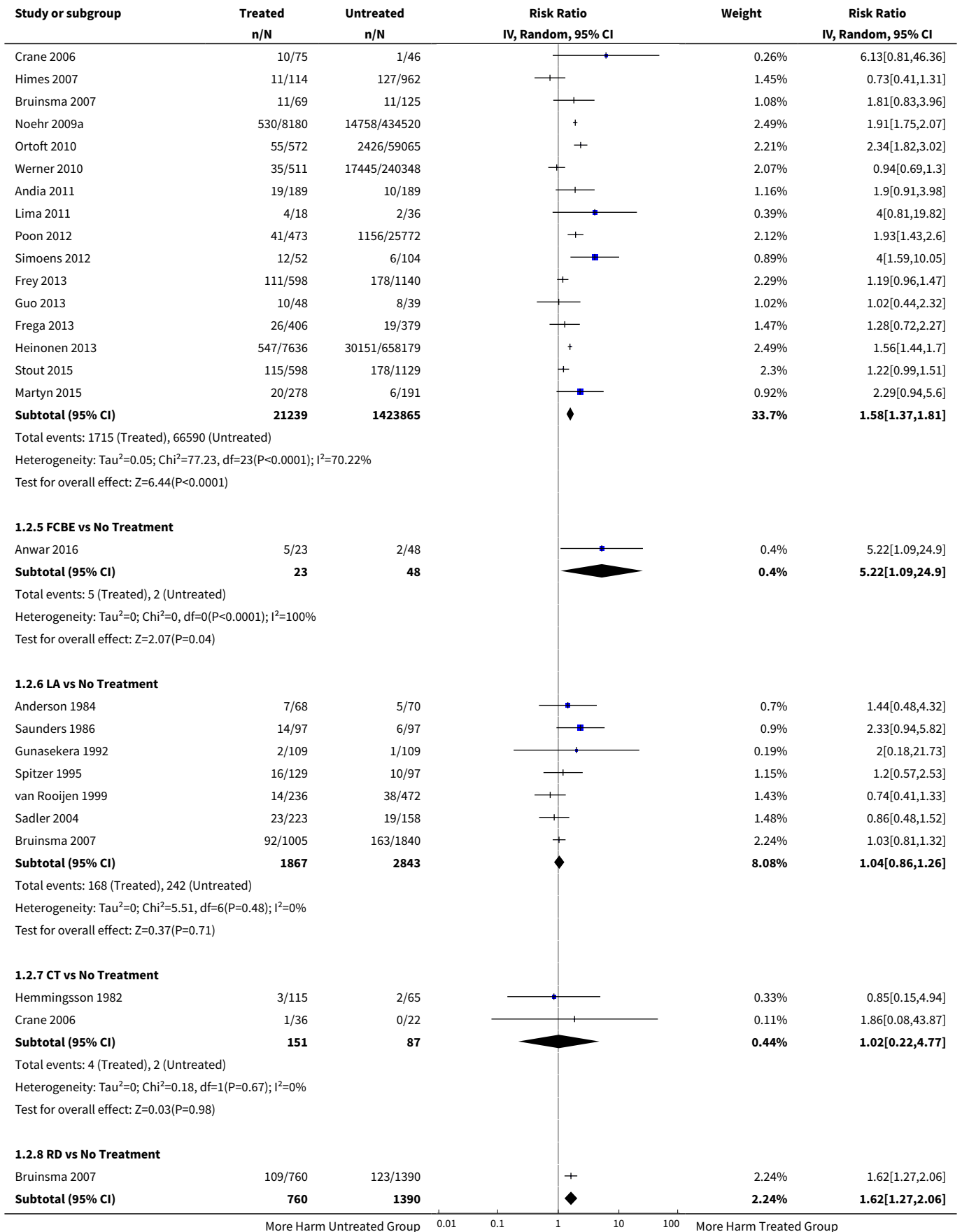
Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 1 PTB (<37w).

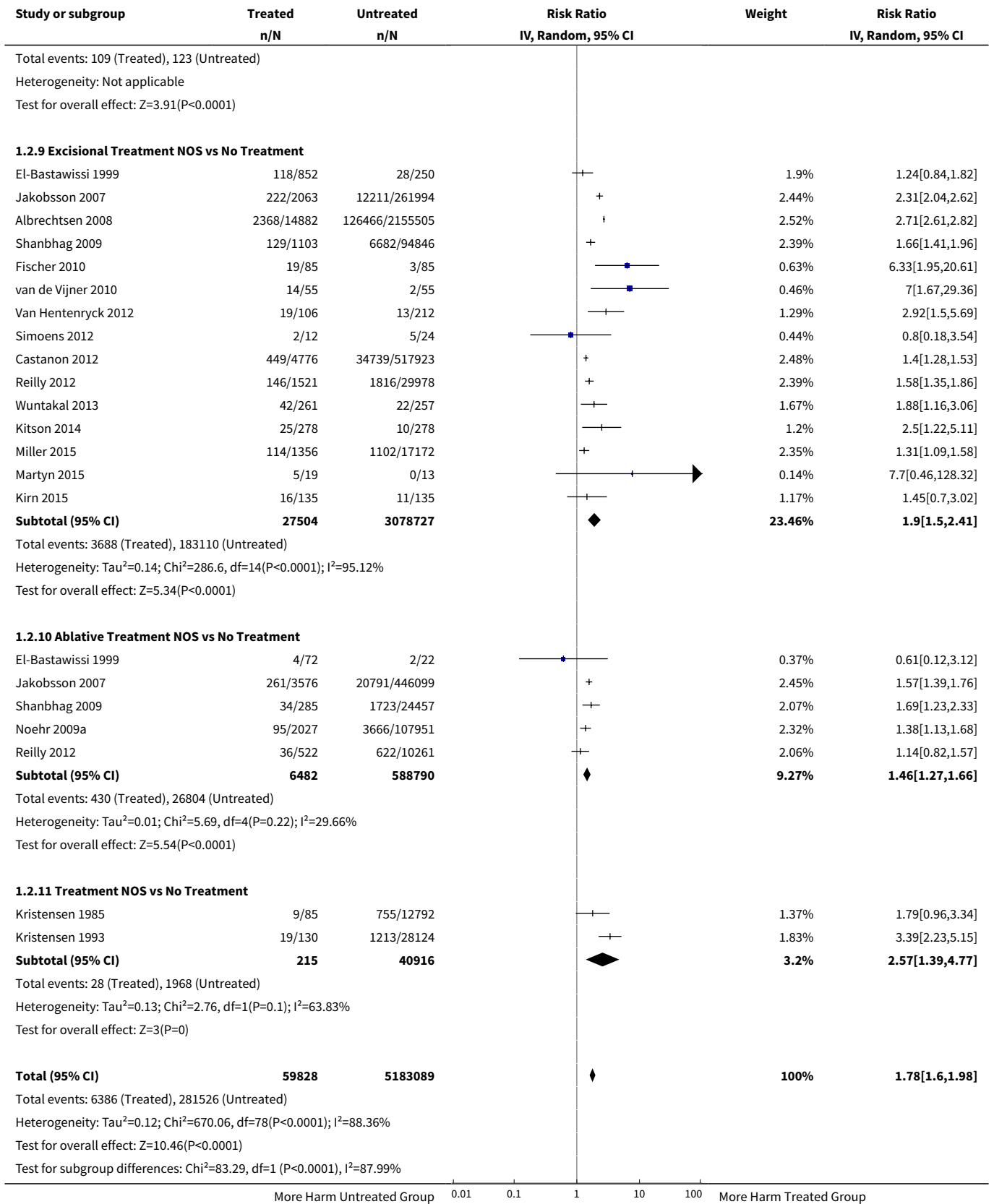




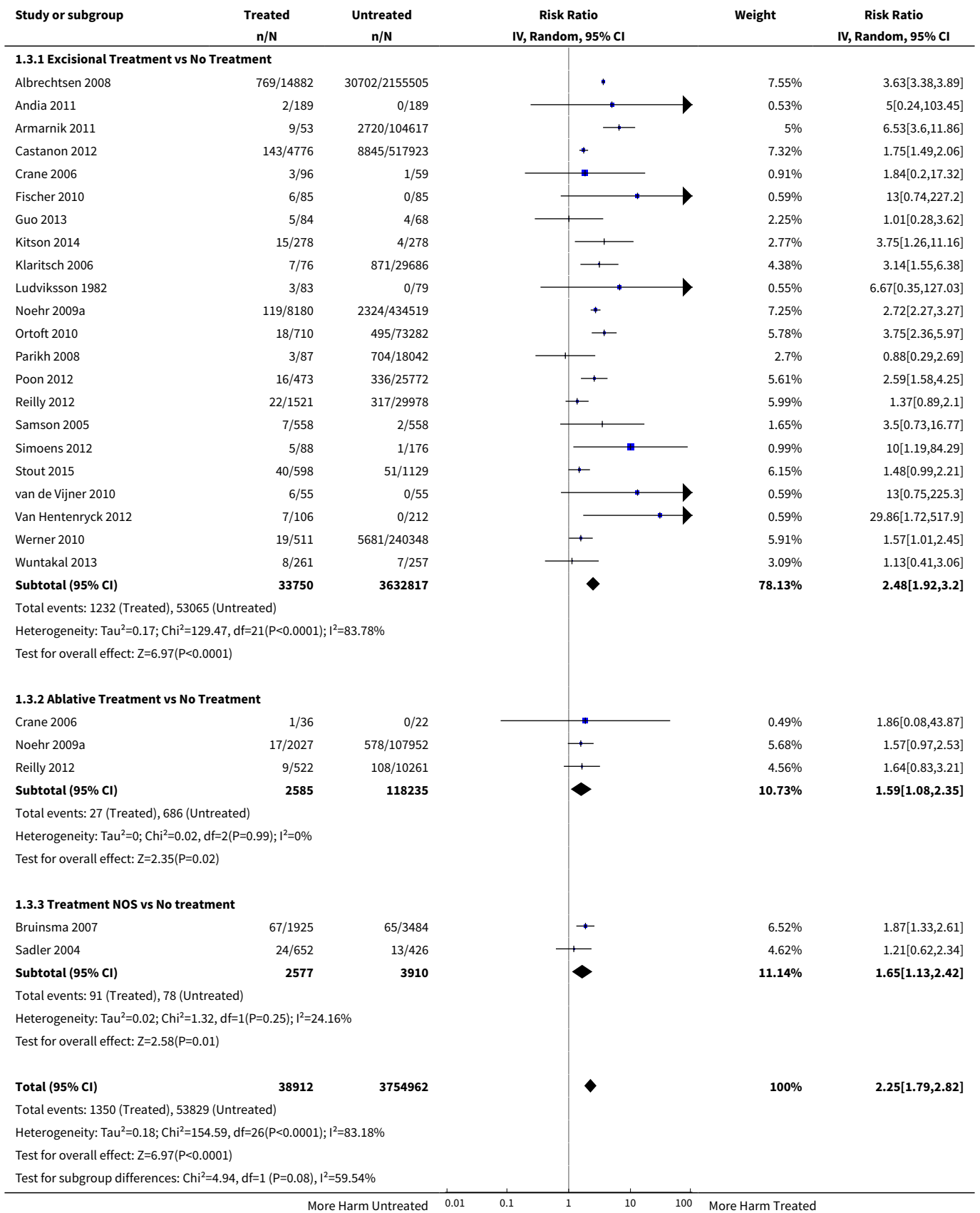
Analysis 1.2. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 2 PTB (<37w)-Analysis by treatment modality.



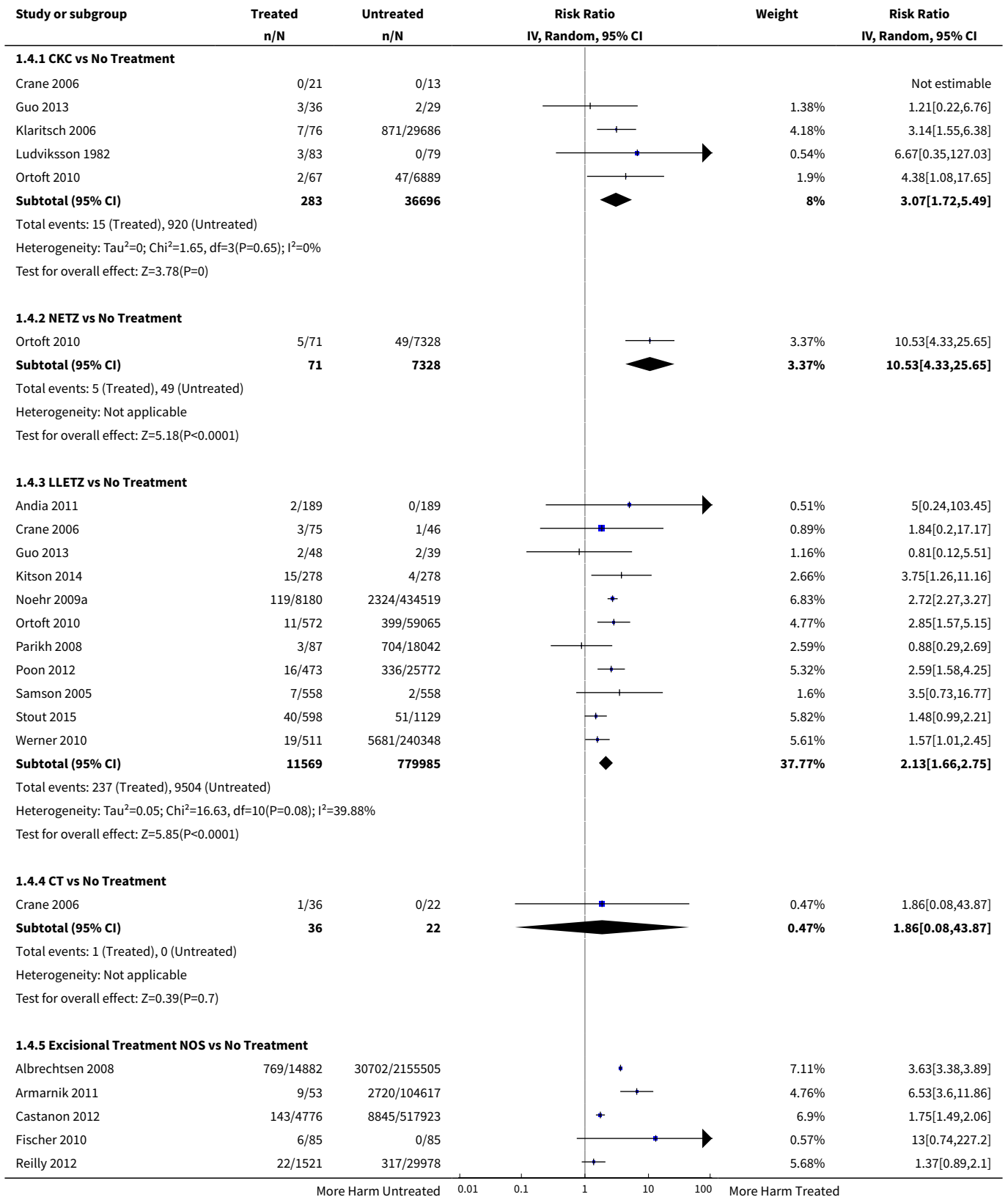


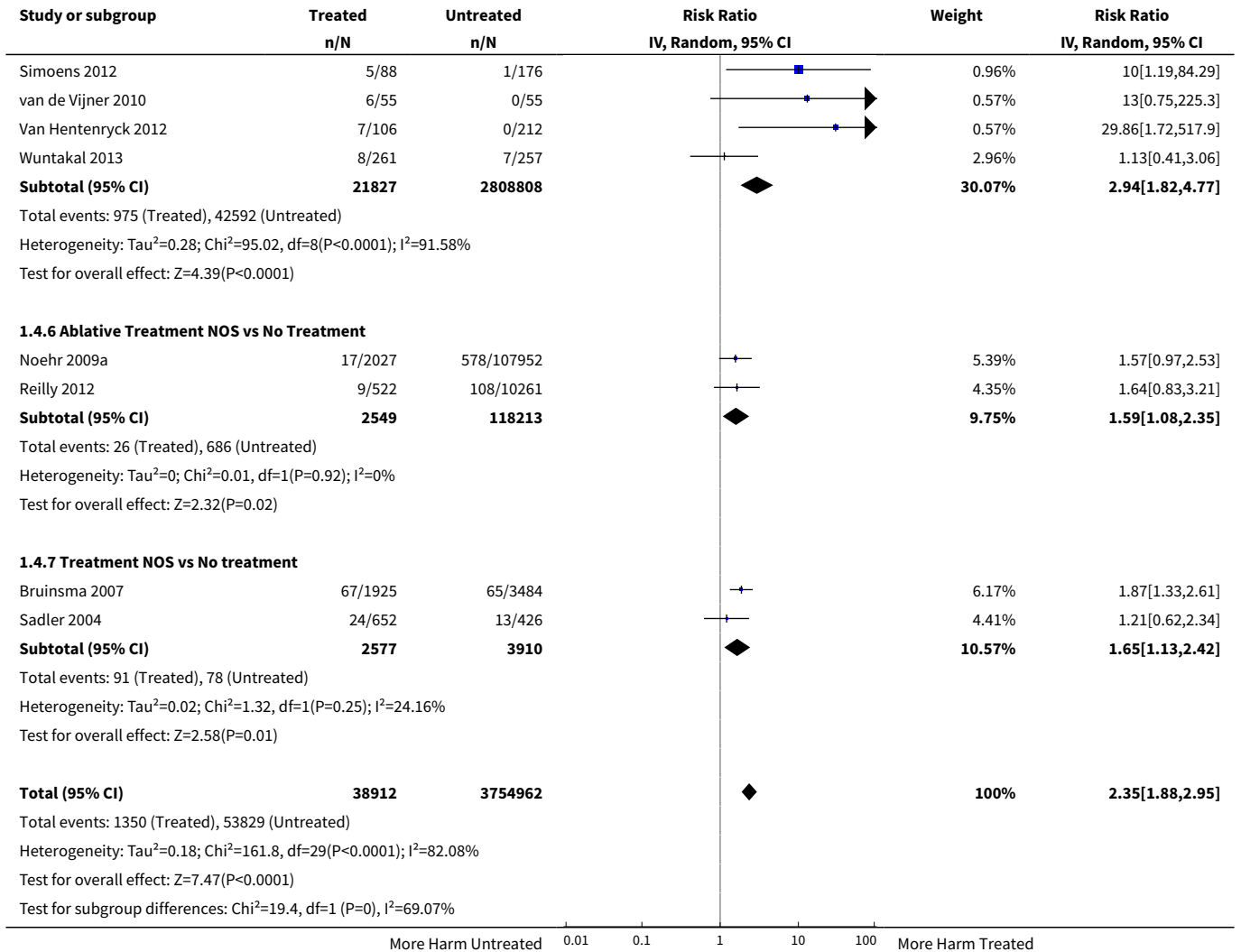


Analysis 1.3. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 3 PTB (<32-34w).

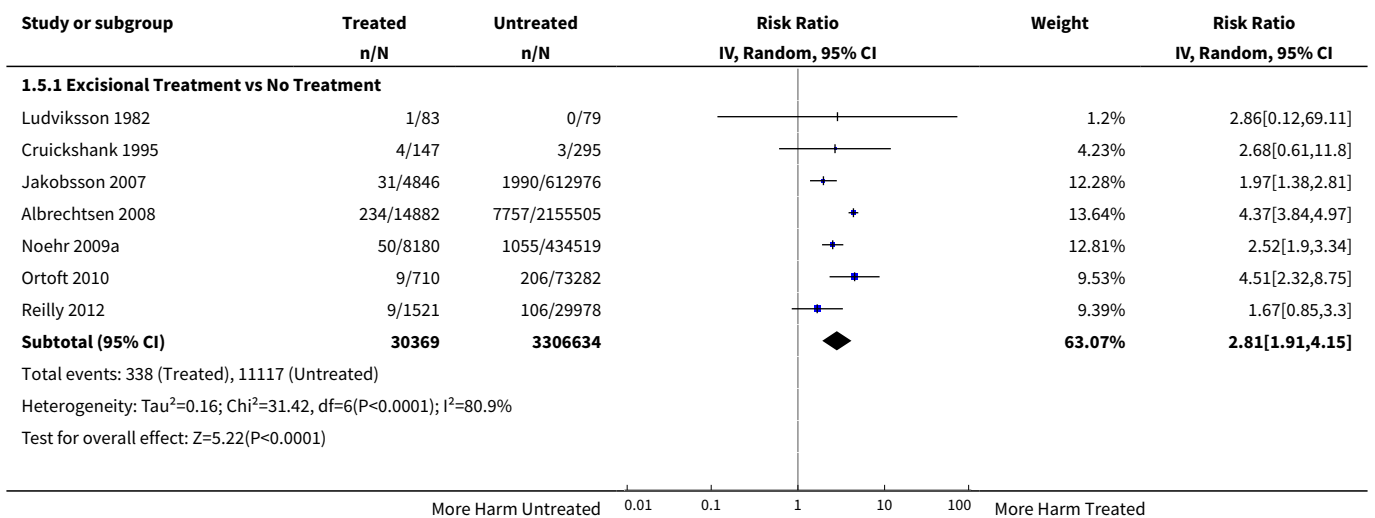


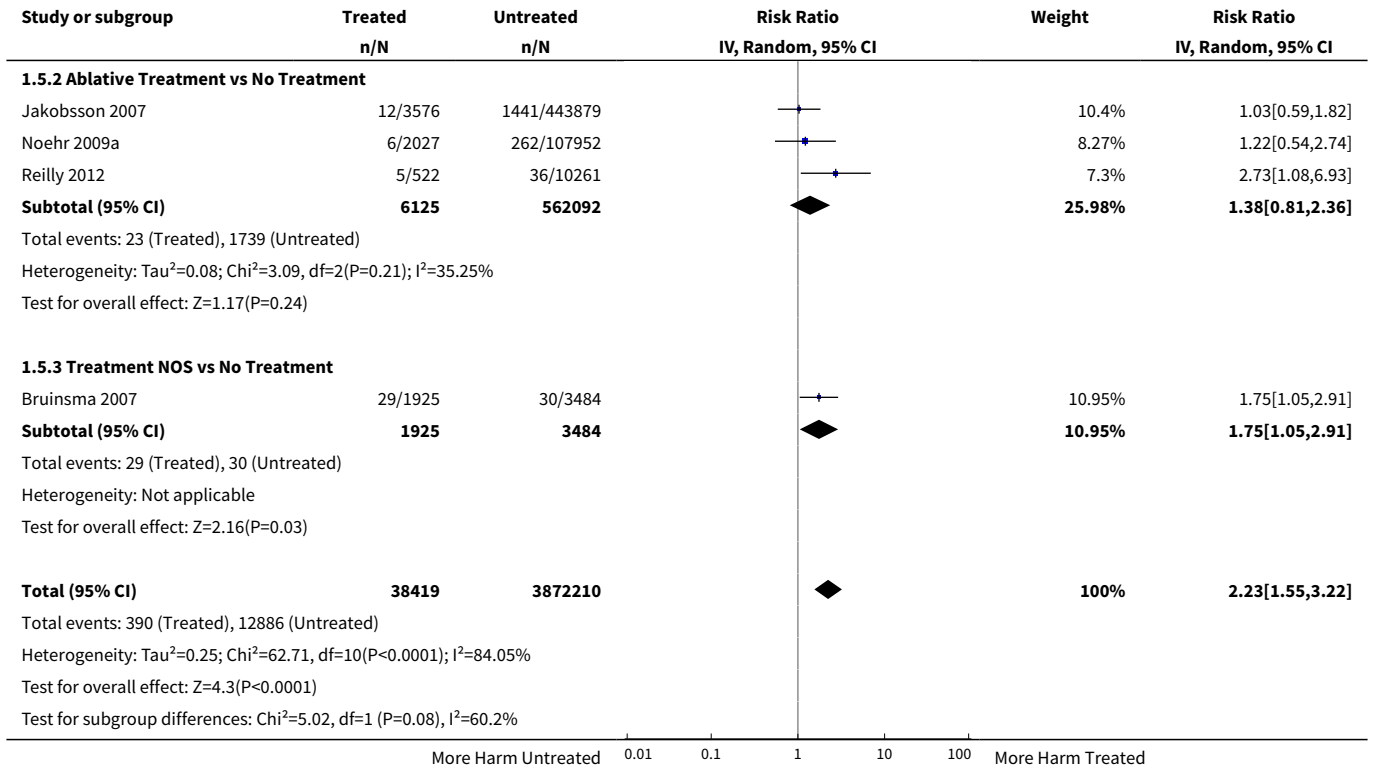
Analysis 1.4. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 4 PTB (<32-34w)-Analysis by treatment modality.



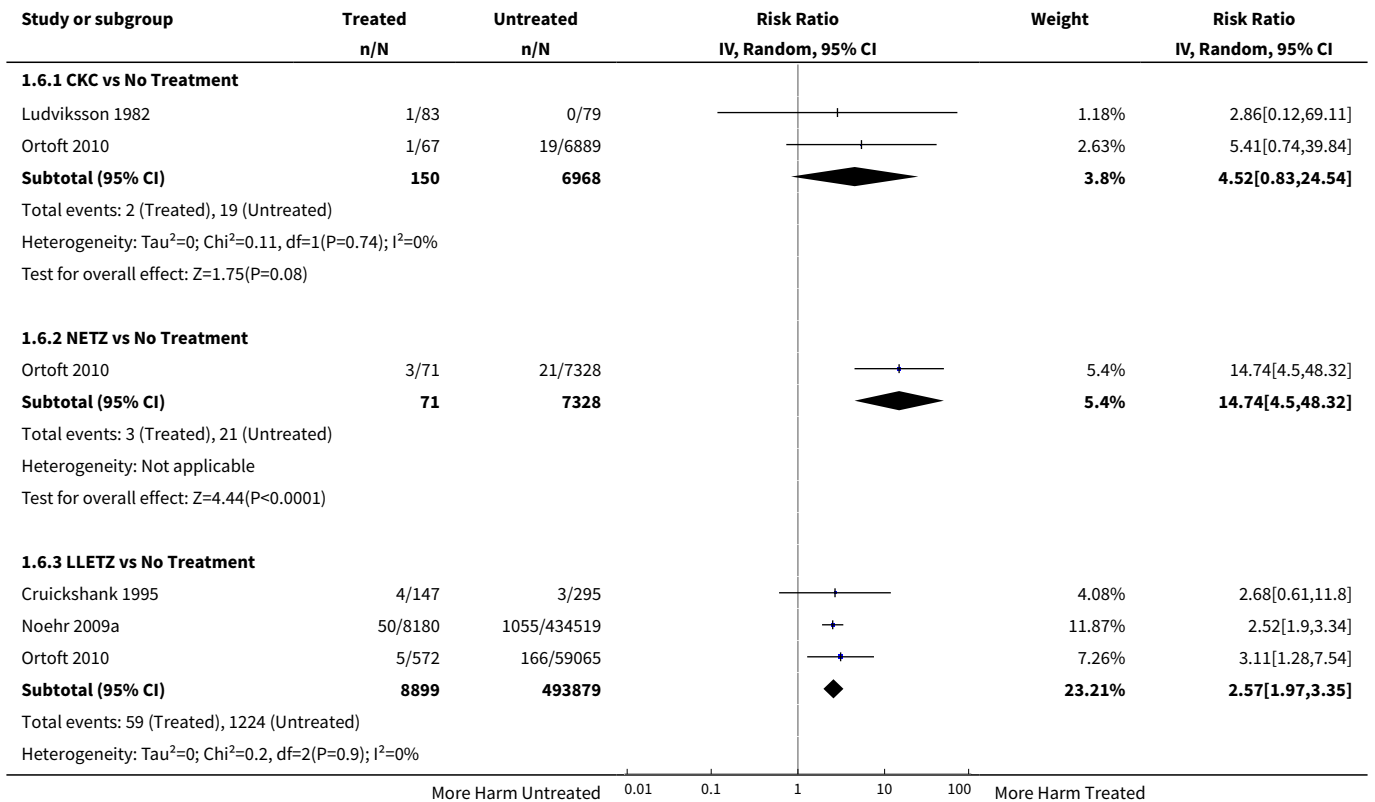


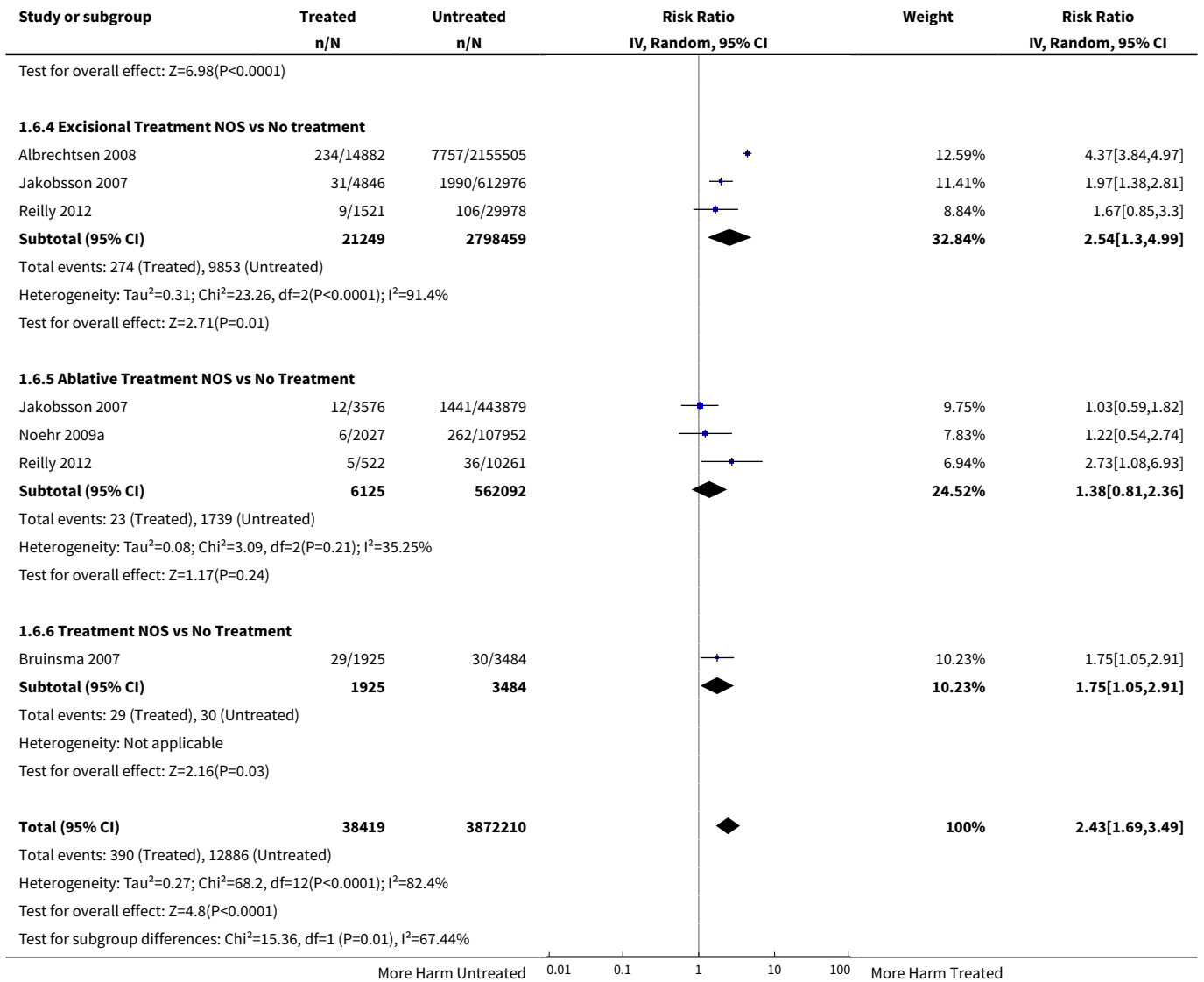
Analysis 1.5. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 5 PTB (<28-30w).



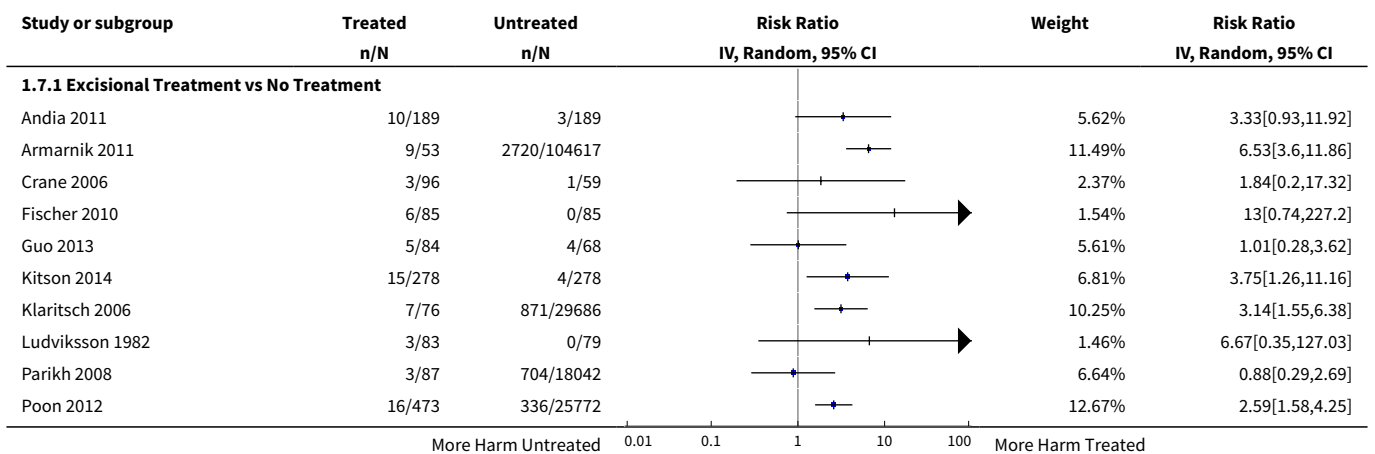


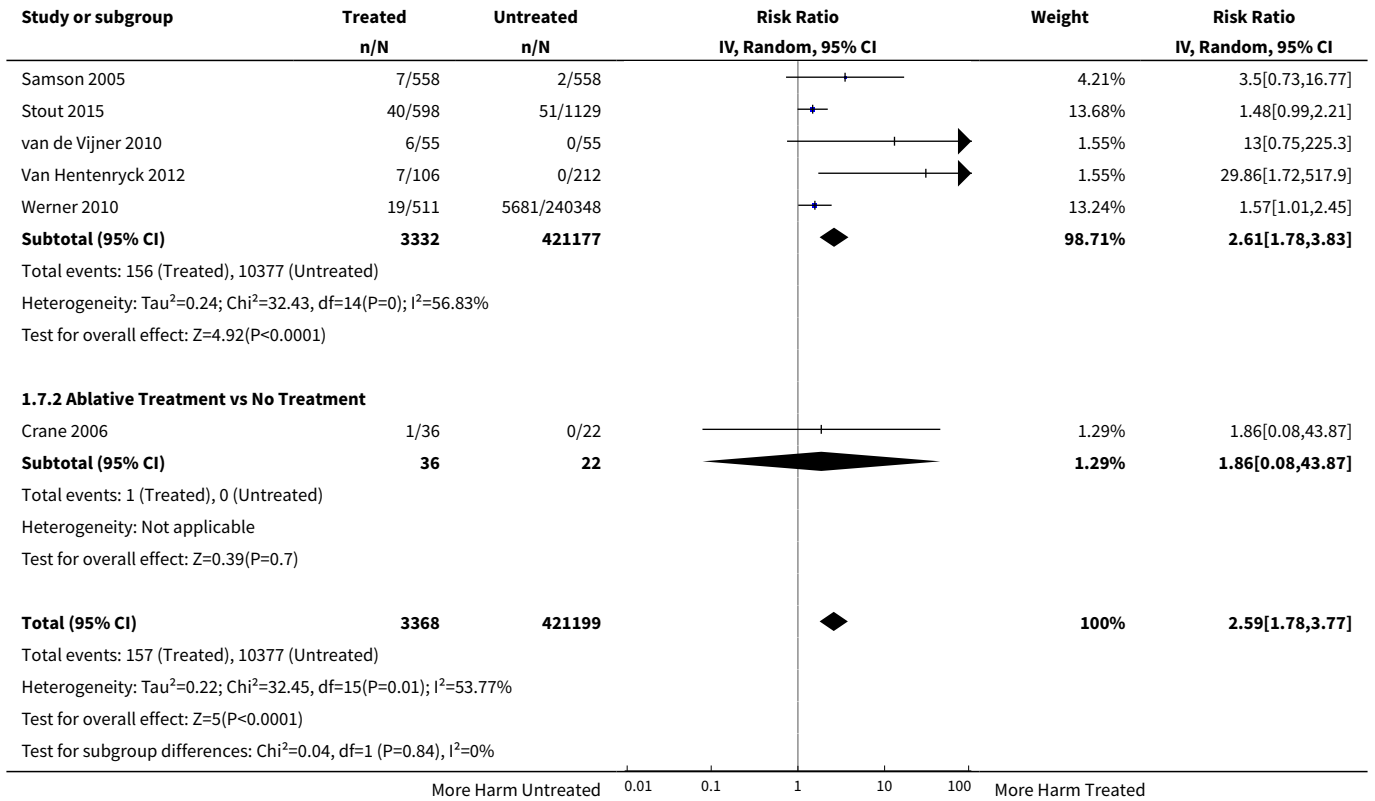
Analysis 1.6. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 6 PTB (<28-30w)-Analysis by treatment modality.



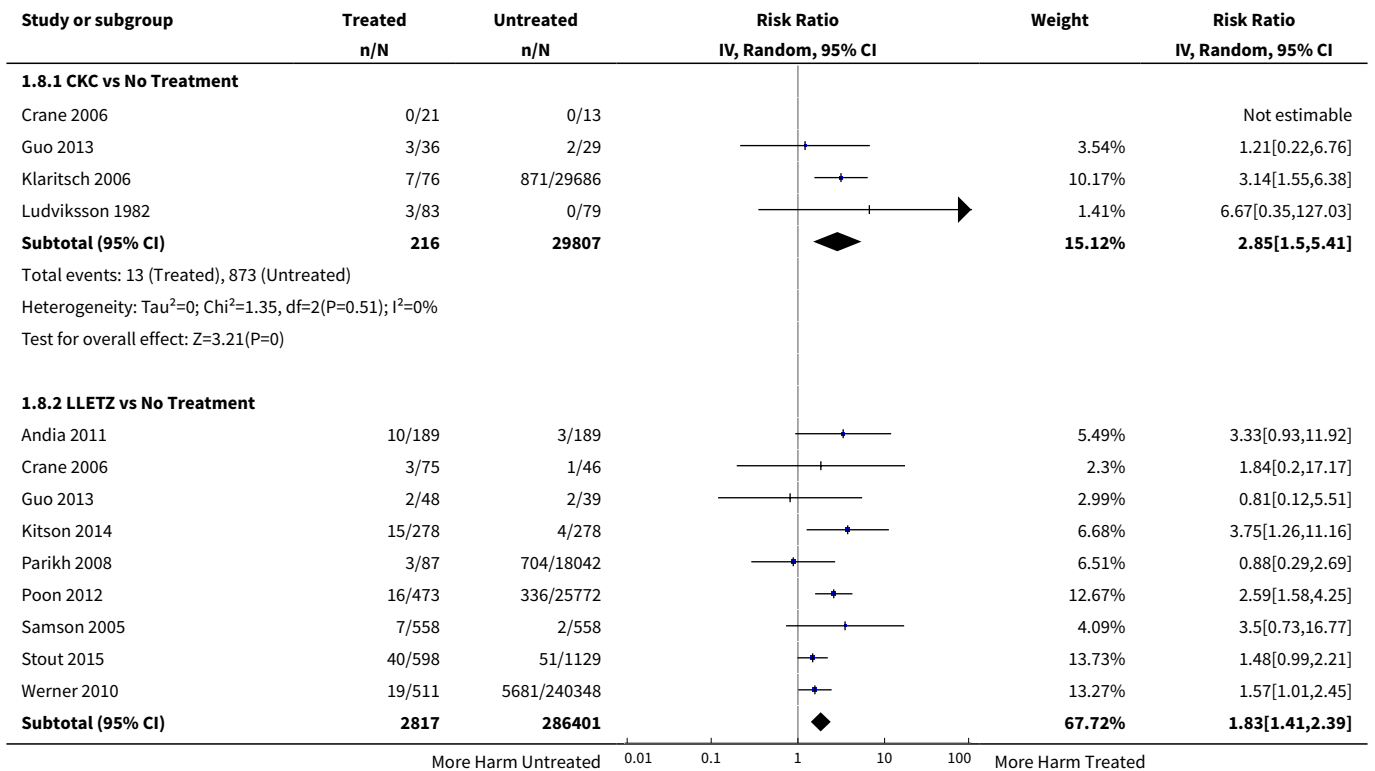


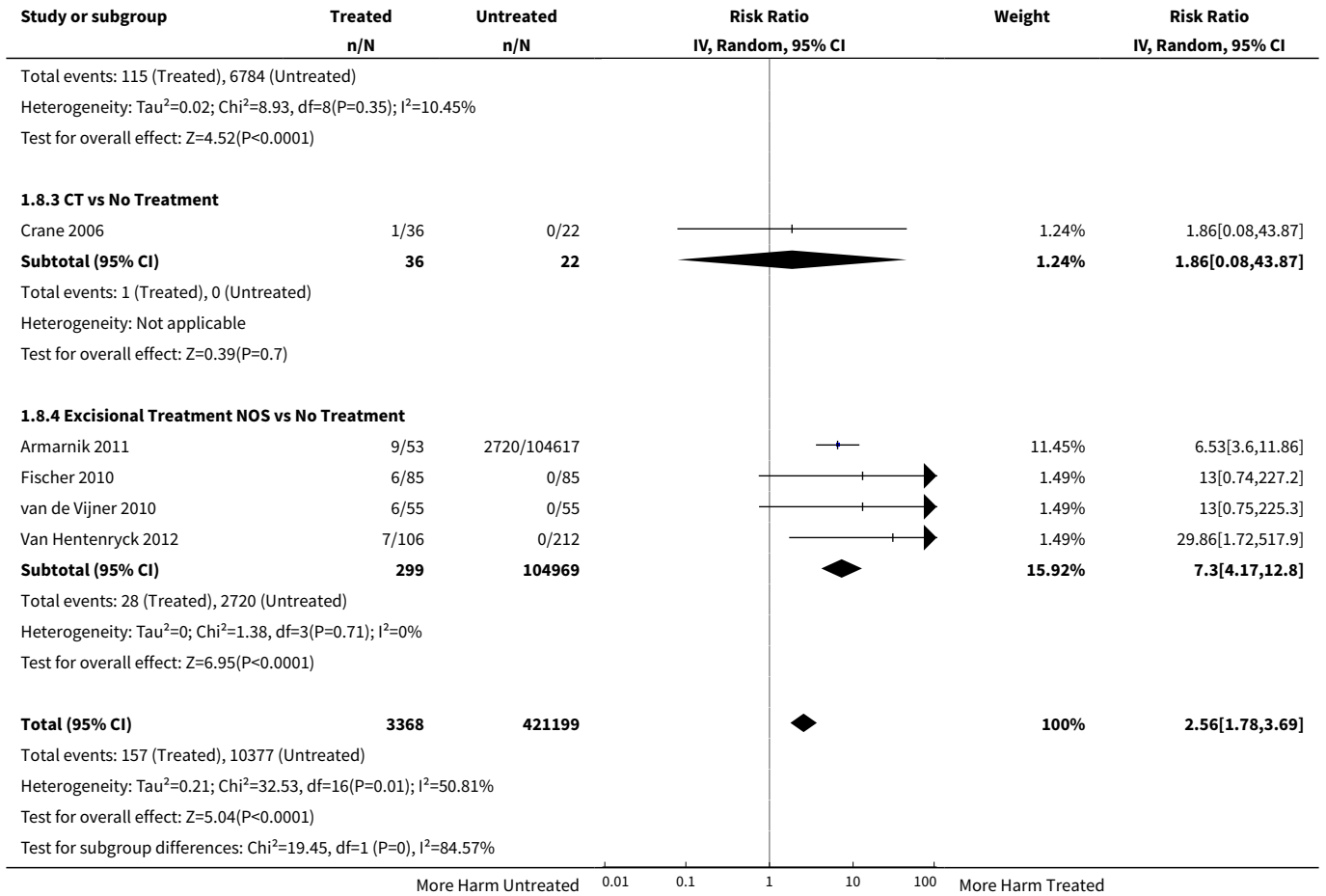
Analysis 1.7. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 7 PTB (≤34w).



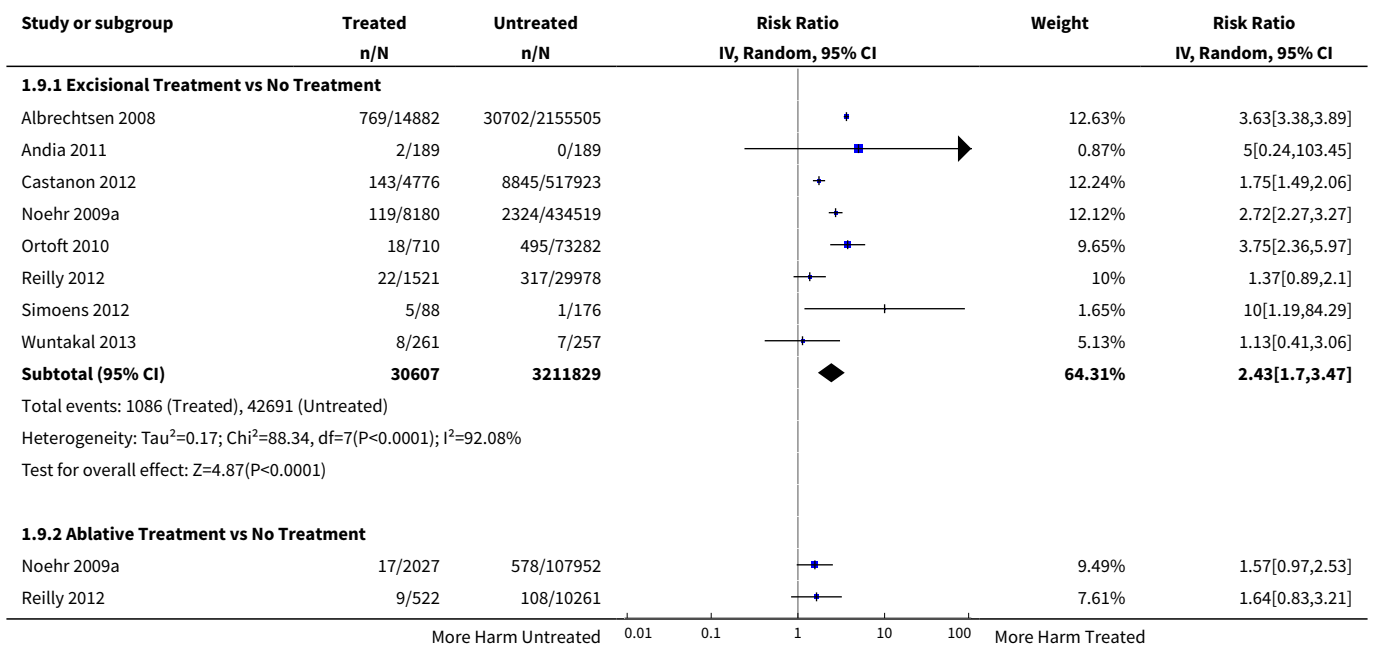


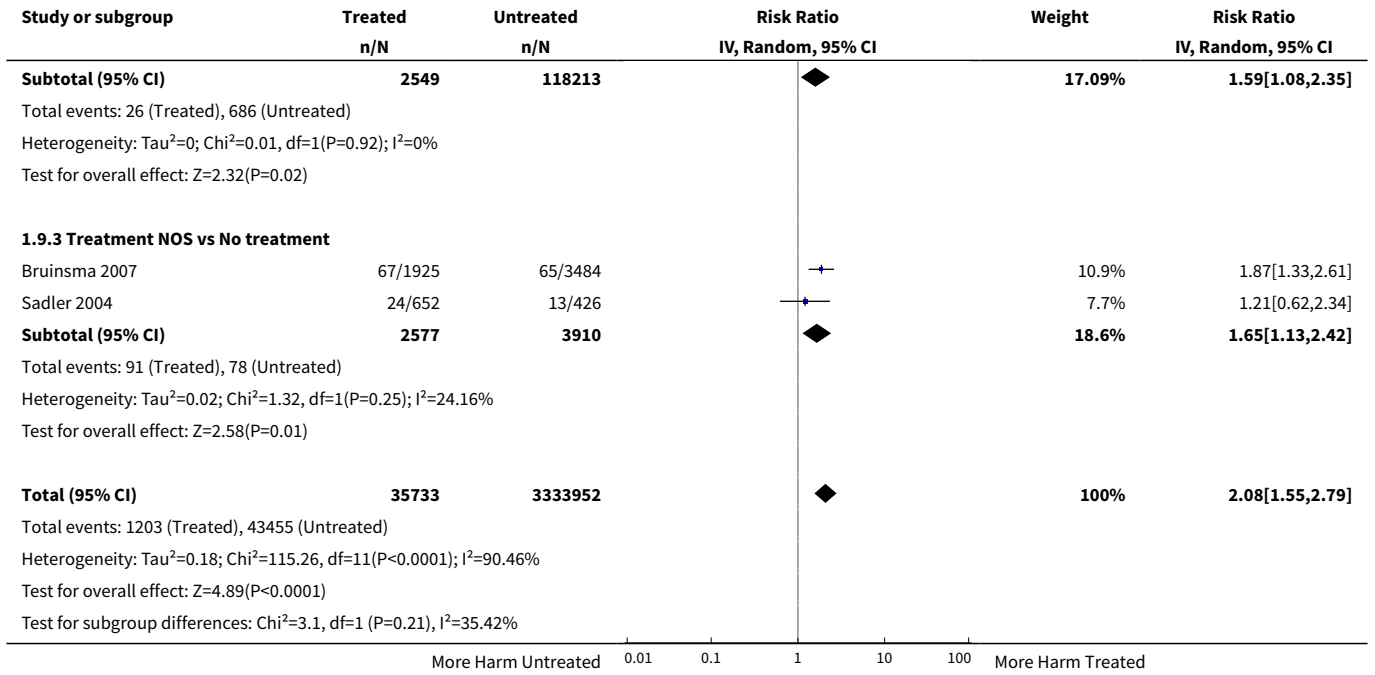
Analysis 1.8. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 8 PTB (≤34w)-Analysis by treatment modality.



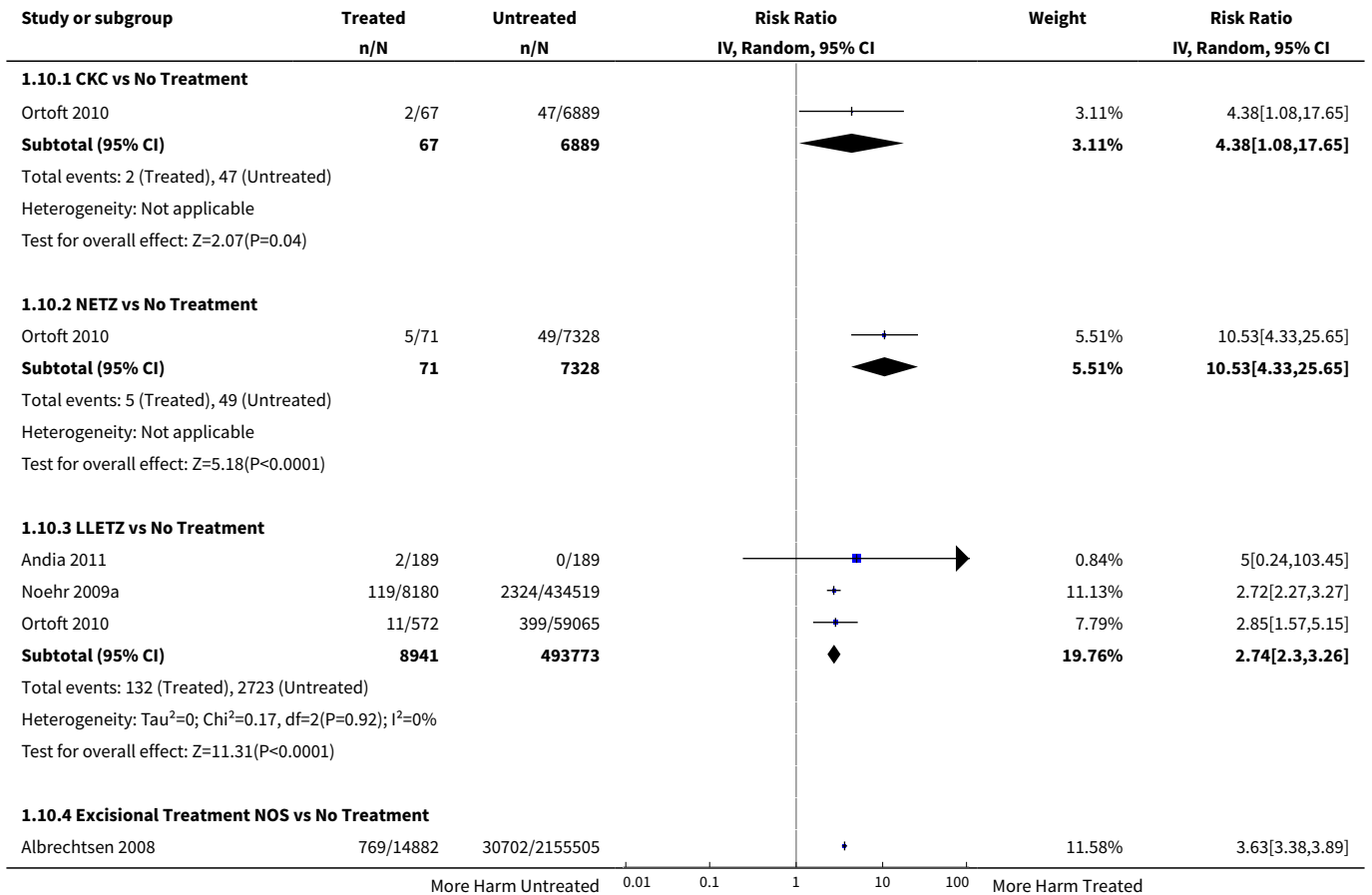


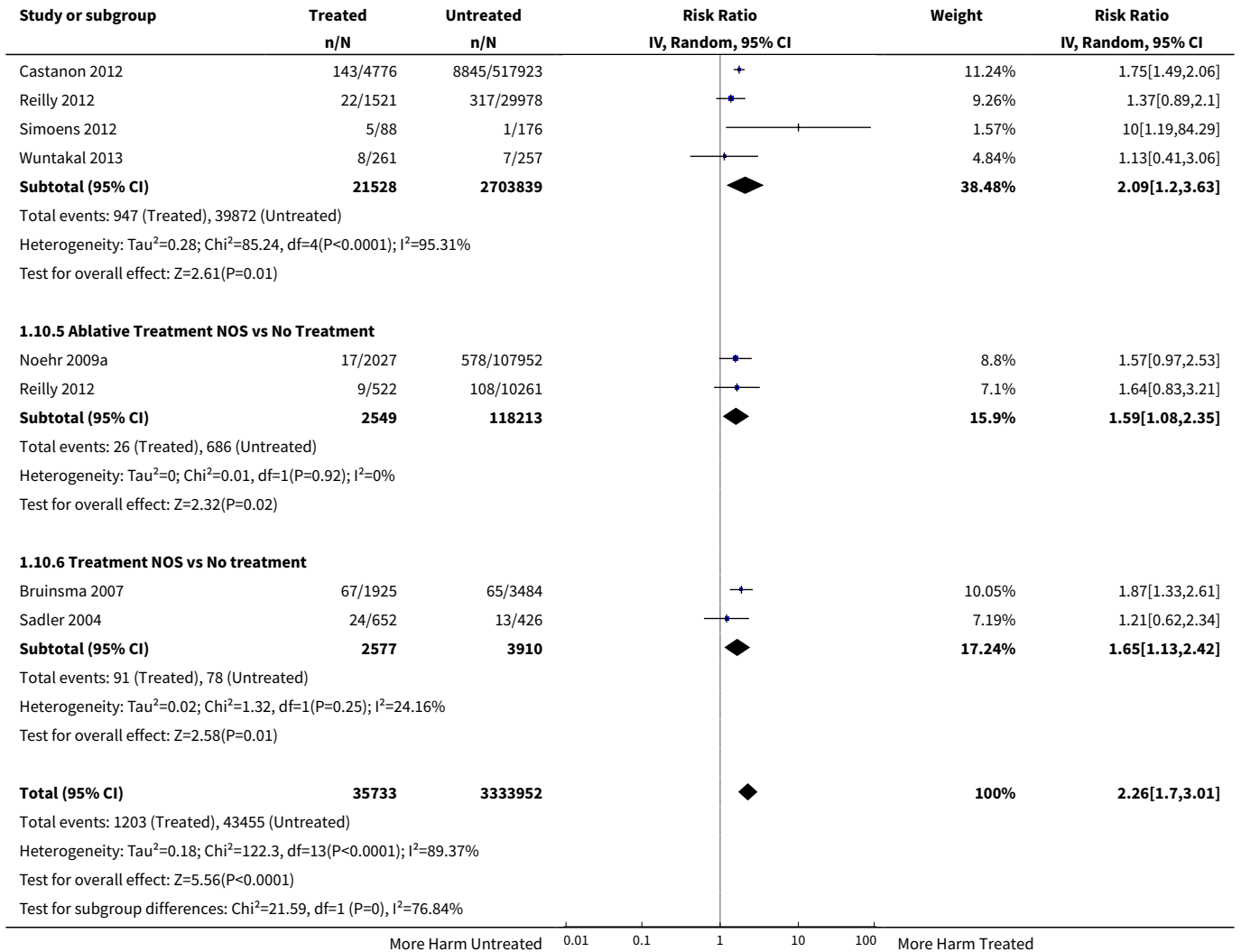
Analysis 1.9. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 9 PTB (<32-33w).



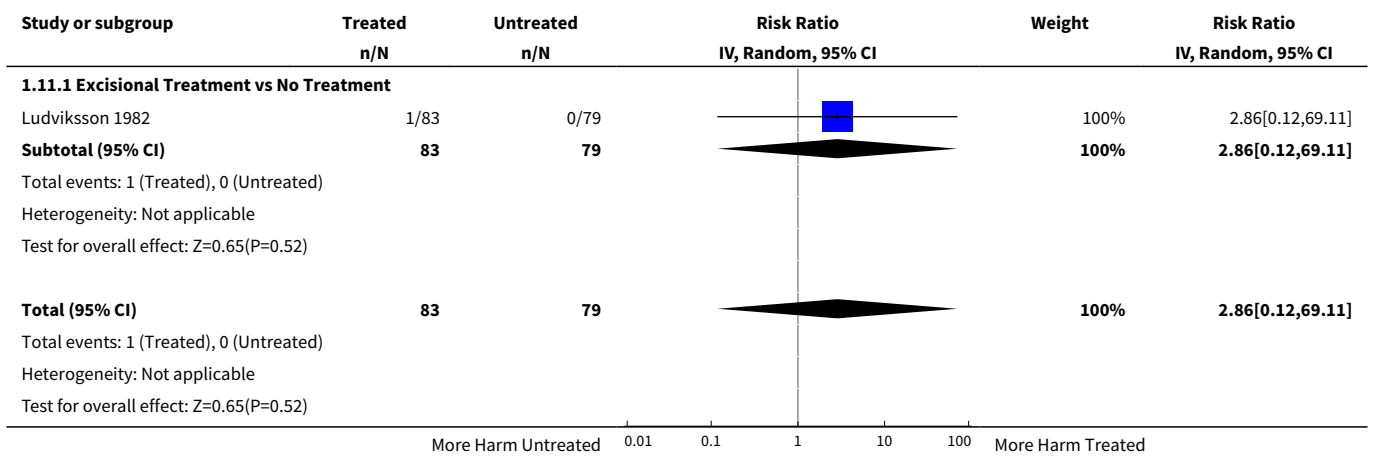


Analysis 1.10. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 10 PTB (<32-33w)-Analysis by treatment modality.

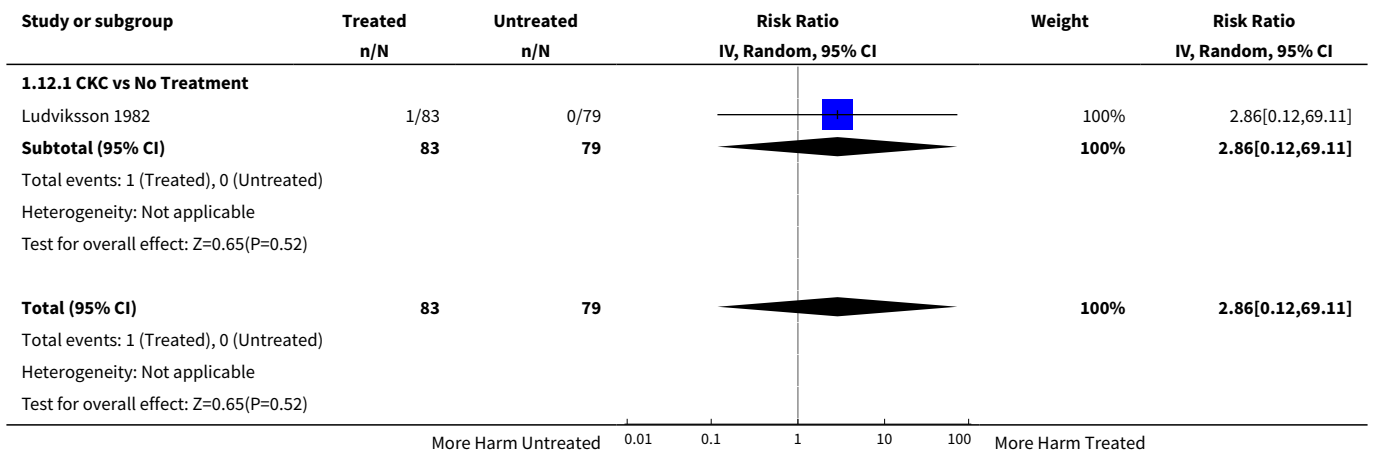




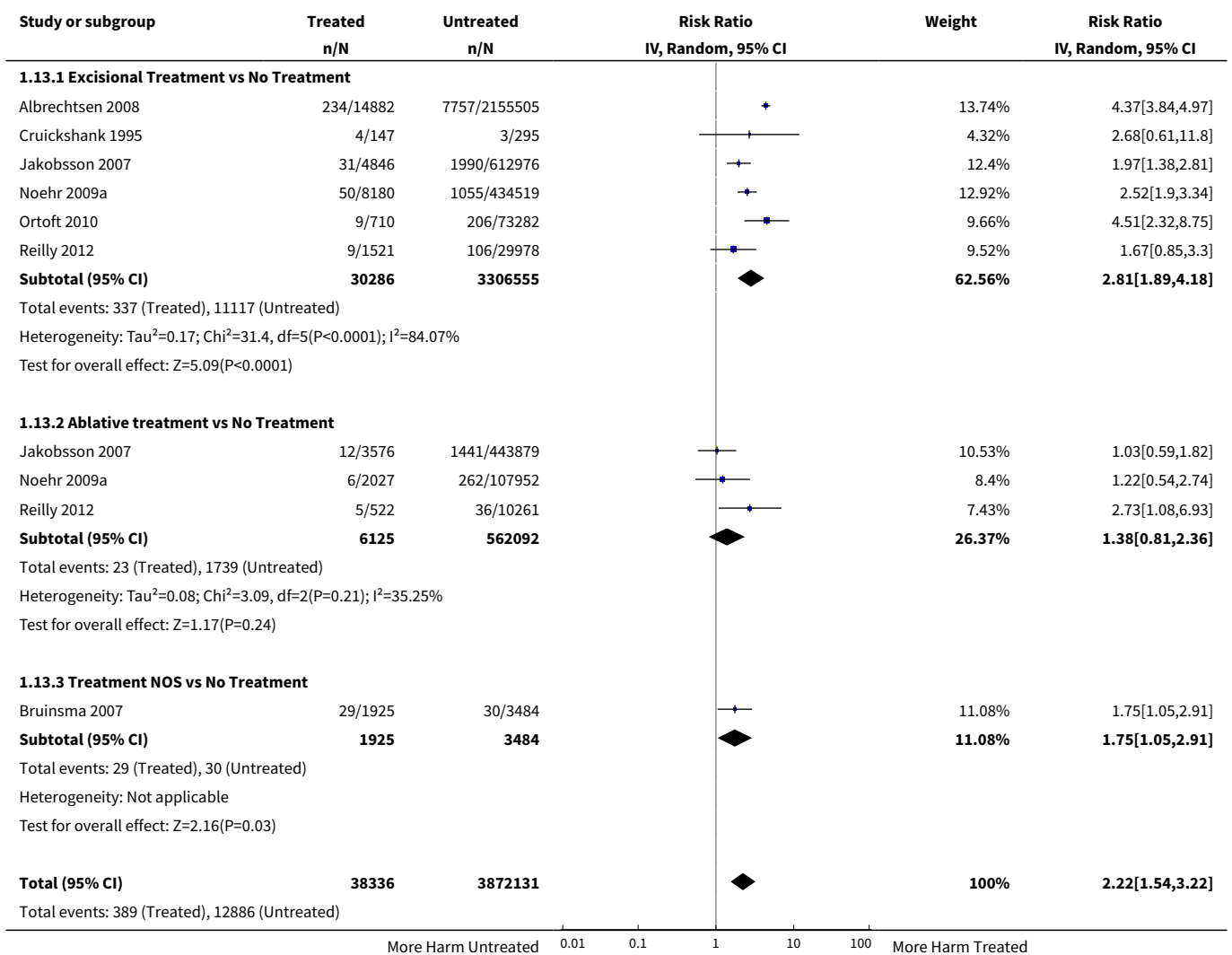
Analysis 1.11. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 11 PTB (<30w).



Analysis 1.12. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 12 PTB (<30w)-Analysis by treatment modality.



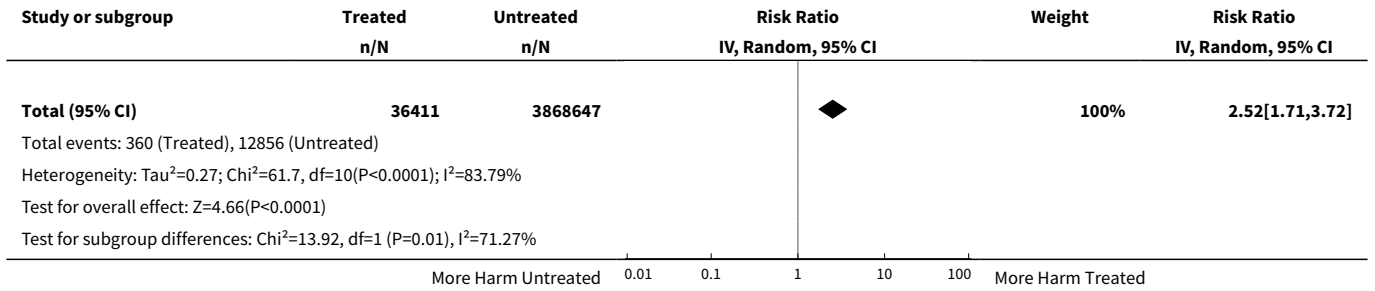
Analysis 1.13. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 13 PTB (<28w).



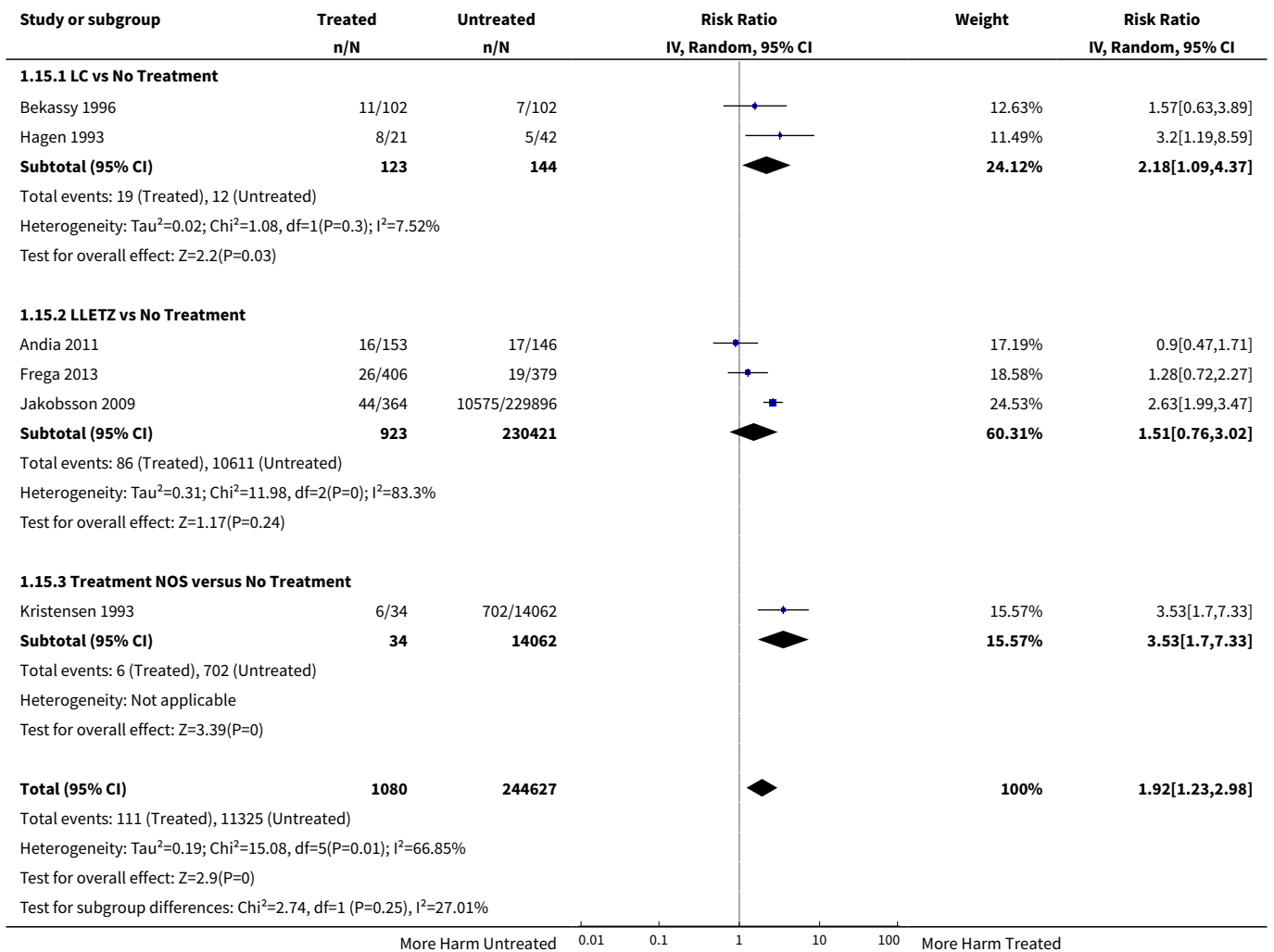
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.26; Chi ² =62.7, df=9(P<0.0001); I ² =85.65%					
Test for overall effect: Z=4.22(P<0.0001)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =4.9, df=1 (P=0.09), I ² =59.17%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

Analysis 1.14. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 14 PTB (<28w)-Analysis by treatment modality.

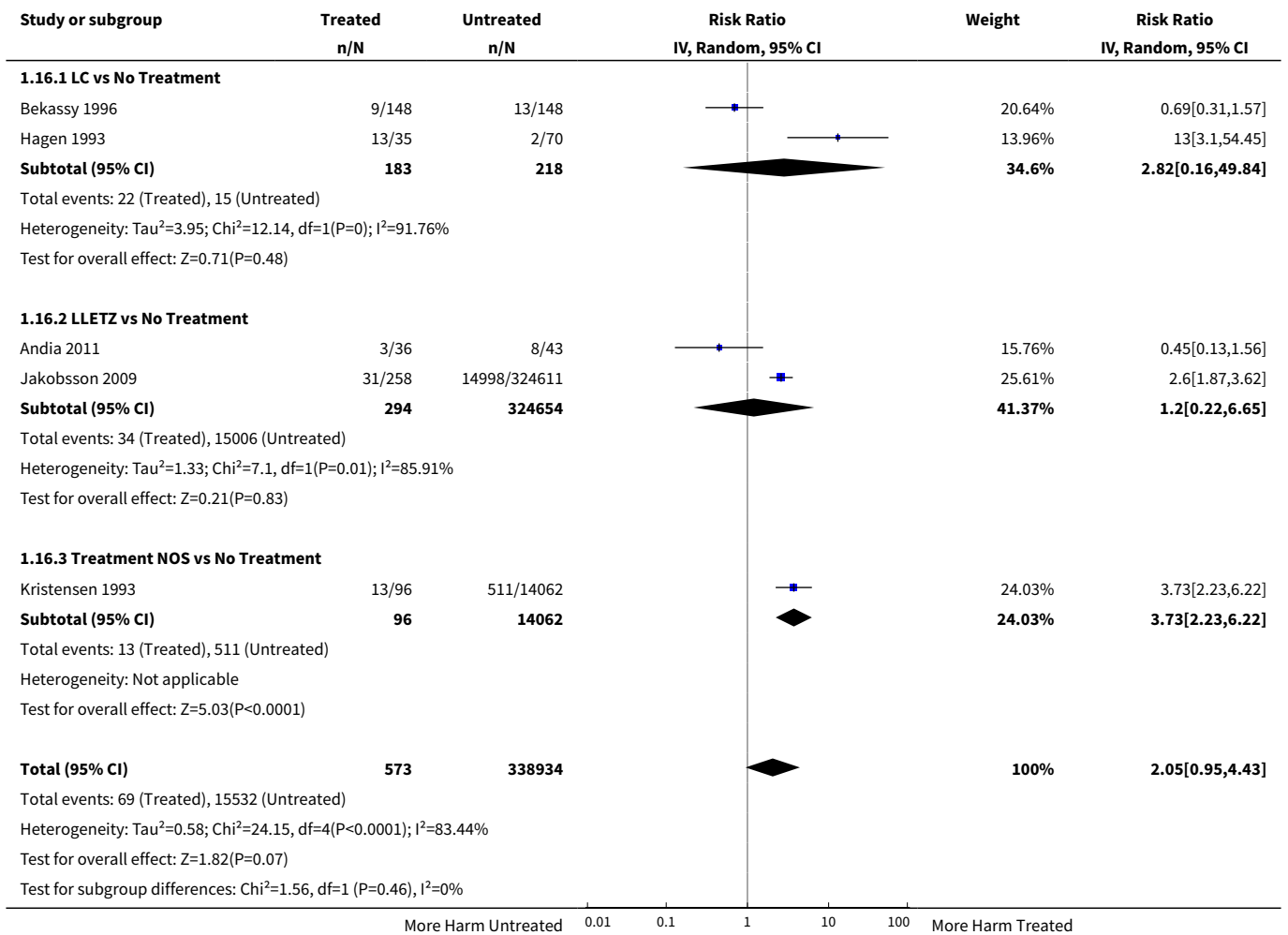
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.14.1 CKC vs No Treatment					
Ortoft 2010	1/67	19/6889		3%	5.41[0.74,39.84]
Subtotal (95% CI)	67	6889		3%	5.41[0.74,39.84]
Total events: 1 (Treated), 19 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=1.66(P=0.1)					
1.14.2 NETZ vs No Treatment					
Ortoft 2010	3/71	21/7328		6.14%	14.74[4.5,48.32]
Subtotal (95% CI)	71	7328		6.14%	14.74[4.5,48.32]
Total events: 3 (Treated), 21 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=4.44(P<0.0001)					
1.14.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment					
Cruikshank 1995	4/147	3/295		4.65%	2.68[0.61,11.8]
Noehr 2009a	50/8180	1055/434519		13.33%	2.52[1.9,3.34]
Ortoft 2010	5/572	166/59065		8.22%	3.11[1.28,7.54]
Subtotal (95% CI)	8899	493879		26.2%	2.57[1.97,3.35]
Total events: 59 (Treated), 1224 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0; Chi ² =0.2, df=2(P=0.9); I ² =0%					
Test for overall effect: Z=6.98(P<0.0001)					
1.14.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No treatment					
Albrechtsen 2008	234/14882	7757/2155505		14.12%	4.37[3.84,4.97]
Jakobsson 2007	31/4846	1990/612976		12.82%	1.97[1.38,2.81]
Reilly 2012	9/1521	106/29978		9.99%	1.67[0.85,3.3]
Subtotal (95% CI)	21249	2798459		36.93%	2.54[1.3,4.99]
Total events: 274 (Treated), 9853 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.31; Chi ² =23.26, df=2(P<0.0001); I ² =91.4%					
Test for overall effect: Z=2.71(P=0.01)					
1.14.5 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment					
Jakobsson 2007	12/3576	1441/443879		10.99%	1.03[0.59,1.82]
Noehr 2009a	6/2027	262/107952		8.86%	1.22[0.54,2.74]
Reilly 2012	5/522	36/10261		7.87%	2.73[1.08,6.93]
Subtotal (95% CI)	6125	562092		27.72%	1.38[0.81,2.36]
Total events: 23 (Treated), 1739 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.08; Chi ² =3.09, df=2(P=0.21); I ² =35.25%					
Test for overall effect: Z=1.17(P=0.24)					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					



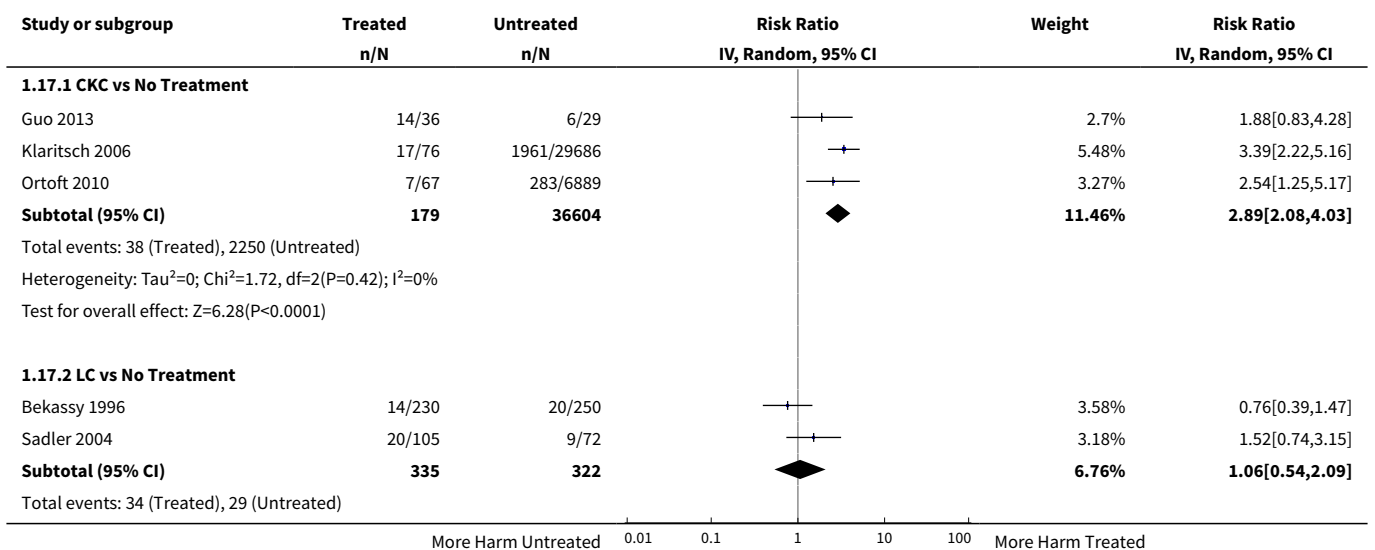
Analysis 1.15. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 15 PTB (<37w)-Nulliparous women.

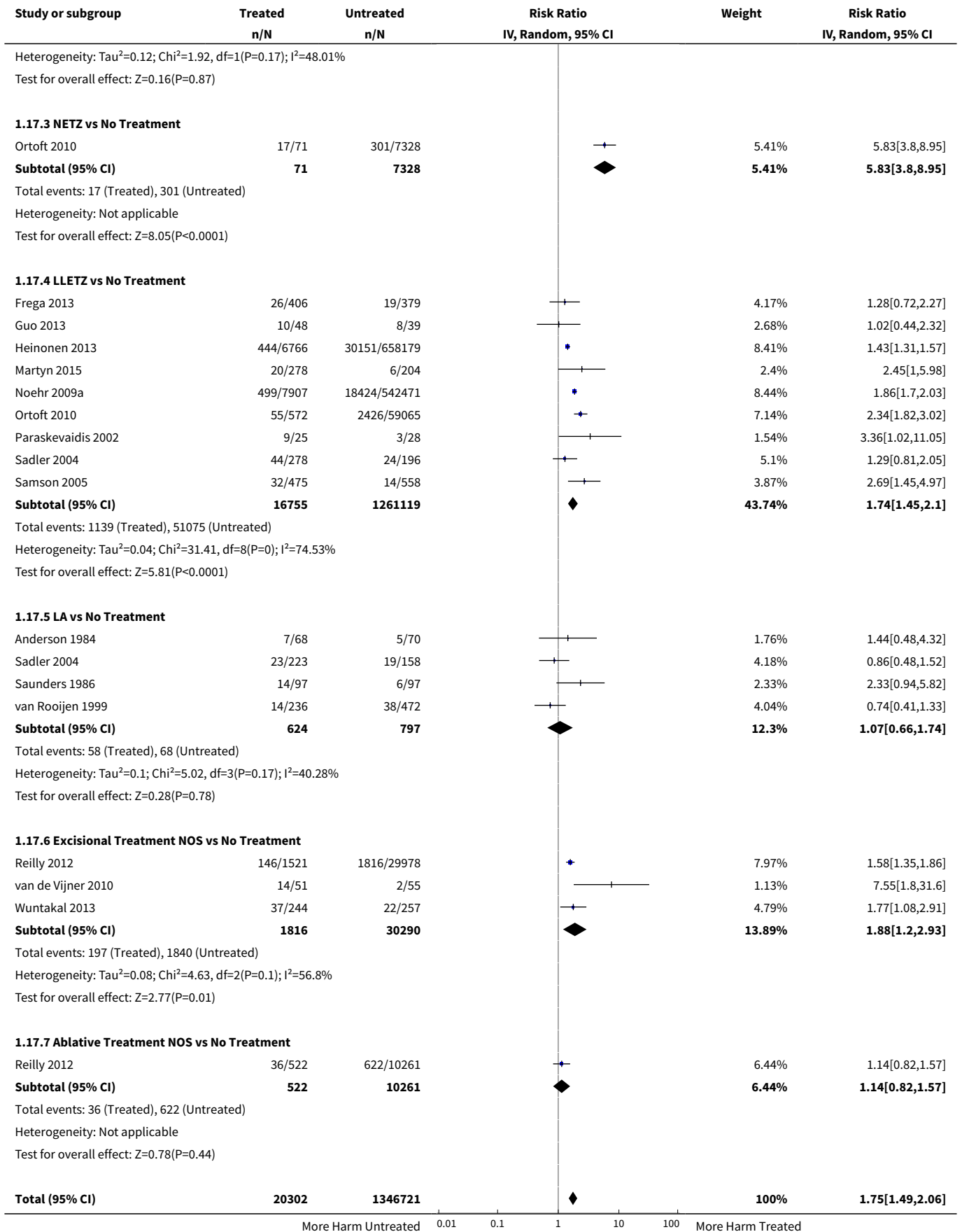


Analysis 1.16. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 16 PTB (<37w)-Parous women.



Analysis 1.17. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 17 PTB (<37w)-Single cone.

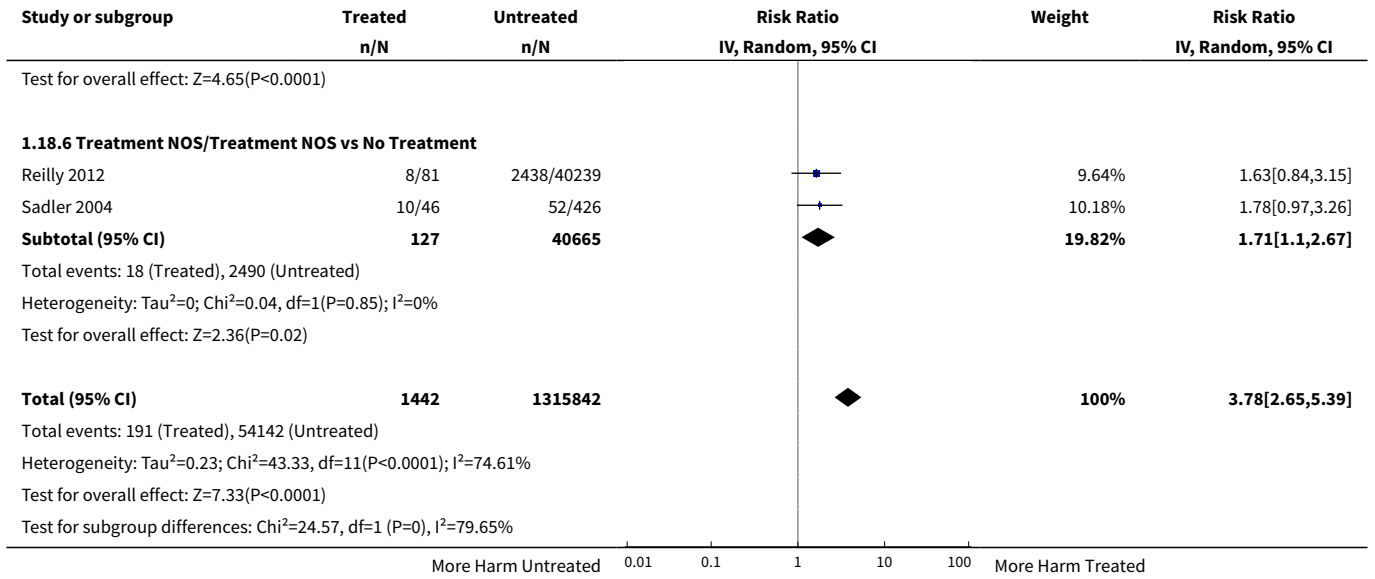




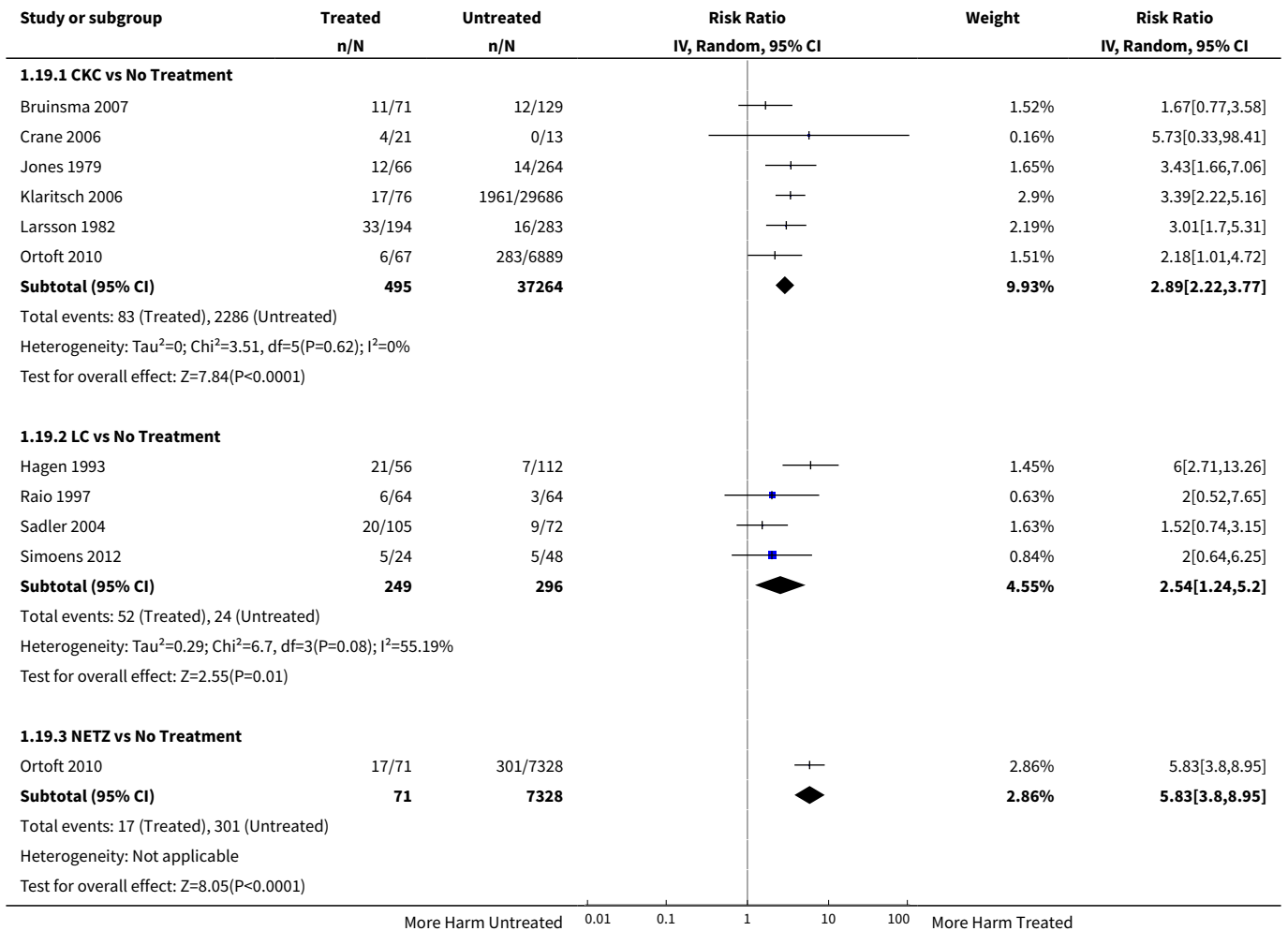
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
Total events: 1519 (Treated), 56185 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.08; Chi ² =105, df=22(P<0.0001); I ² =79.05%					
Test for overall effect: Z=6.75(P<0.0001)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =50.99, df=1 (P<0.0001), I ² =88.23%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

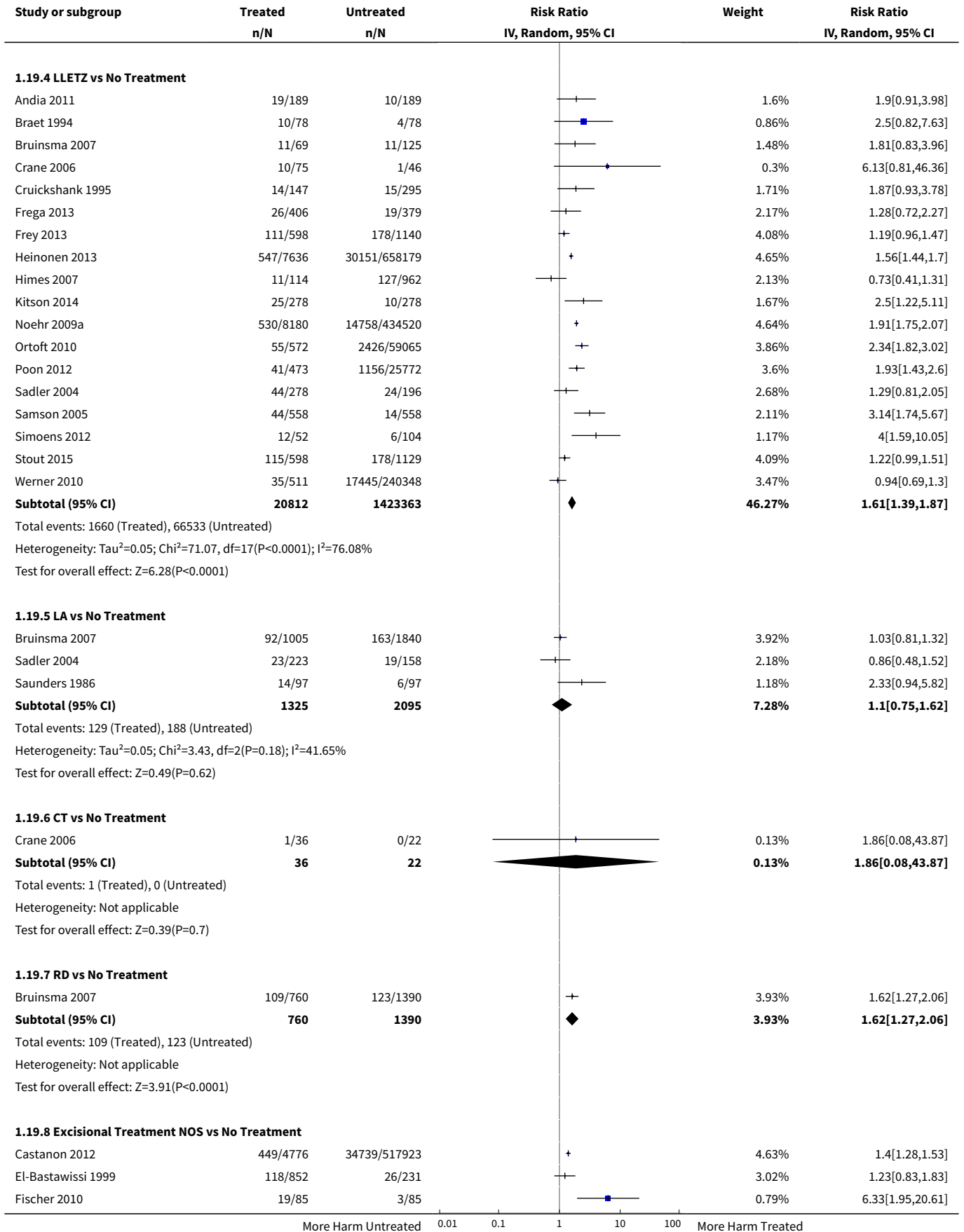
Analysis 1.18. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 18 PTB (<37w)-Repeat cones.

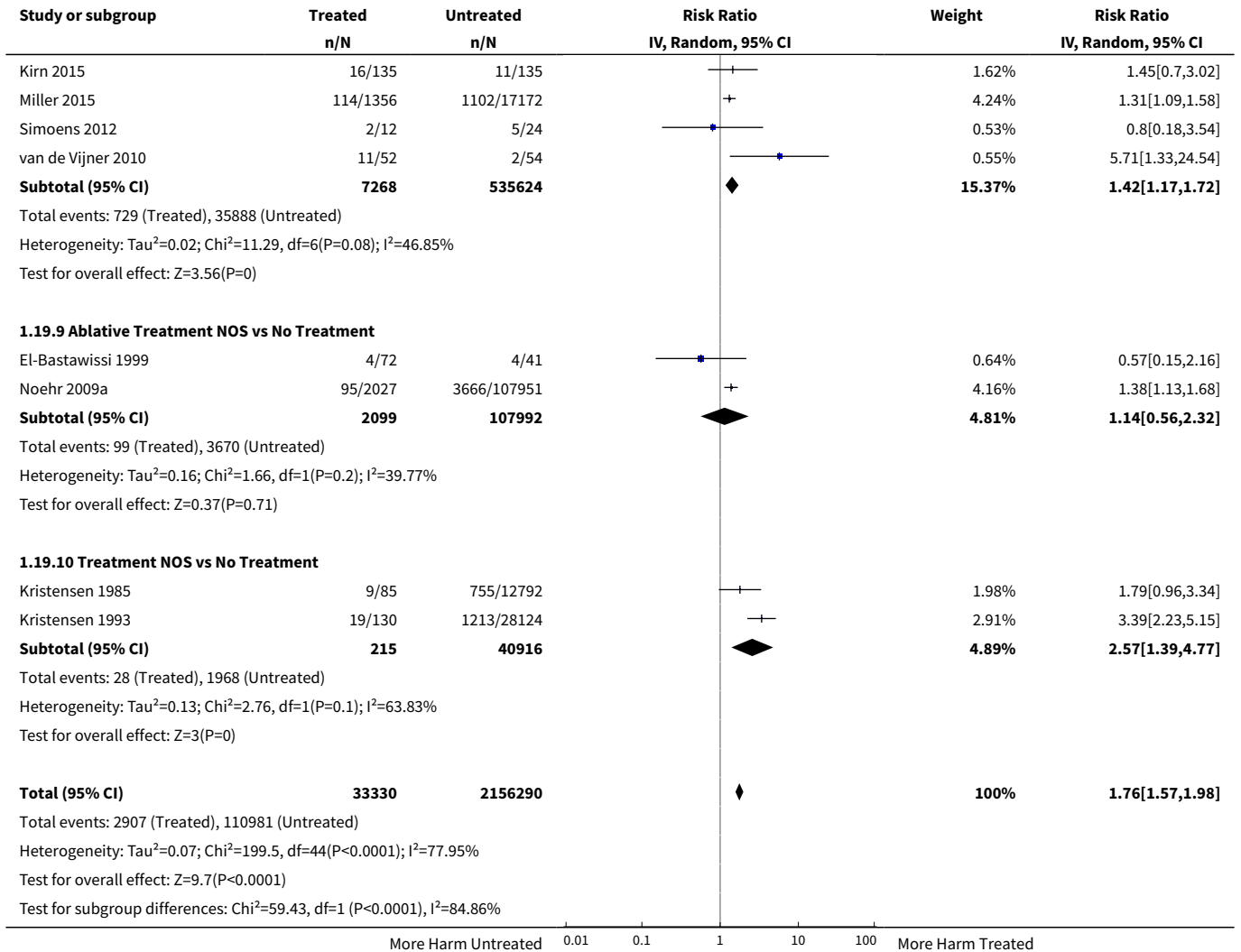
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.18.1 CKC/LA vs No Treatment					
Saunders 1986	2/2	6/97		7.5%	12.56[5.11,30.87]
Subtotal (95% CI)	2	97		7.5%	12.56[5.11,30.87]
Total events: 2 (Treated), 6 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=5.52(P<0.0001)					
1.18.2 LC/LC vs No Treatment					
Bekassy 1996	6/20	20/250		8.42%	3.75[1.7,8.27]
Subtotal (95% CI)	20	250		8.42%	3.75[1.7,8.27]
Total events: 6 (Treated), 20 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=3.28(P=0)					
1.18.3 LLETZ/LLETZ vs No Treatment					
Heinonen 2013	103/870	30151/658179		13.9%	2.58[2.16,3.1]
Noehr 2009a	31/273	18424/542471		12.81%	3.34[2.4,4.66]
Paraskevaidis 2002	2/3	3/28		4.75%	6.22[1.64,23.66]
Samson 2005	3/49	8/301		4.96%	2.3[0.63,8.39]
Subtotal (95% CI)	1195	1200979		36.42%	2.81[2.33,3.39]
Total events: 139 (Treated), 48586 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0; Chi ² =3.28, df=3(P=0.35); I ² =8.65%					
Test for overall effect: Z=10.84(P<0.0001)					
1.18.4 LLETZ/Treatment NOS vs No Treatment					
Samson 2005	9/41	6/257		6.89%	9.4[3.53,25.03]
Subtotal (95% CI)	41	257		6.89%	9.4[3.53,25.03]
Total events: 9 (Treated), 6 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=4.49(P<0.0001)					
1.18.5 Excisional Treatment NOS/Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment					
Ortoft 2010	12/36	3010/73282		11.58%	8.12[5.11,12.9]
van de Vijner 2010	0/4	2/55		1.36%	2.24[0.12,40.52]
Wuntakal 2013	5/17	22/257		8.01%	3.44[1.49,7.94]
Subtotal (95% CI)	57	73594		20.95%	5.48[2.68,11.24]
Total events: 17 (Treated), 3034 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.18; Chi ² =3.63, df=2(P=0.16); I ² =44.84%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					



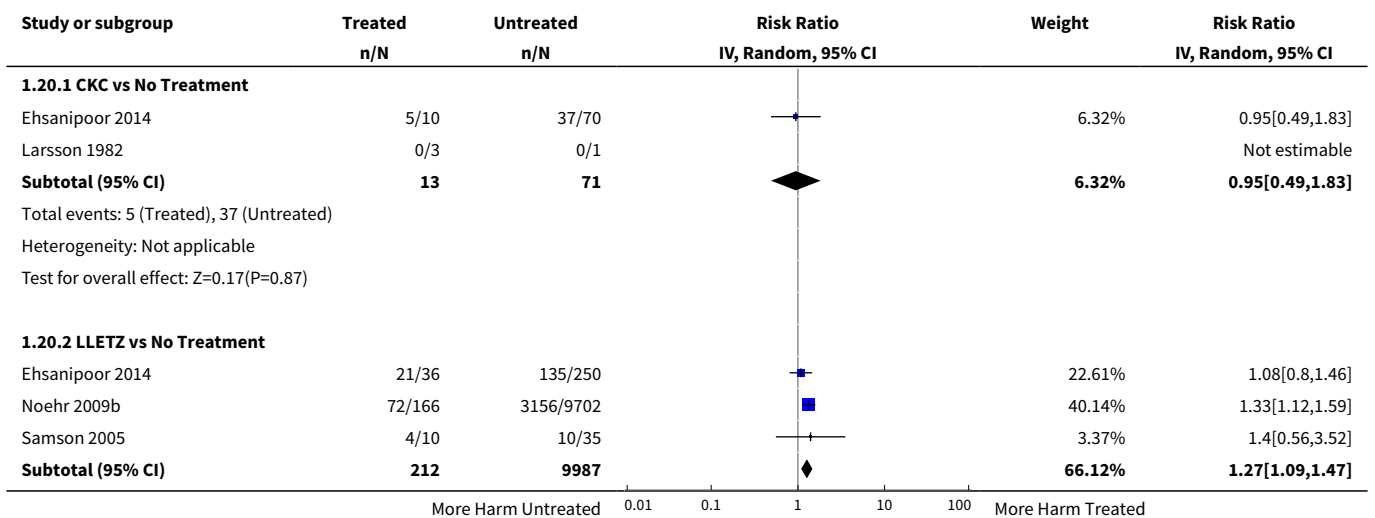
Analysis 1.19. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 19 PTB (<37w)-Singleton pregnancies.

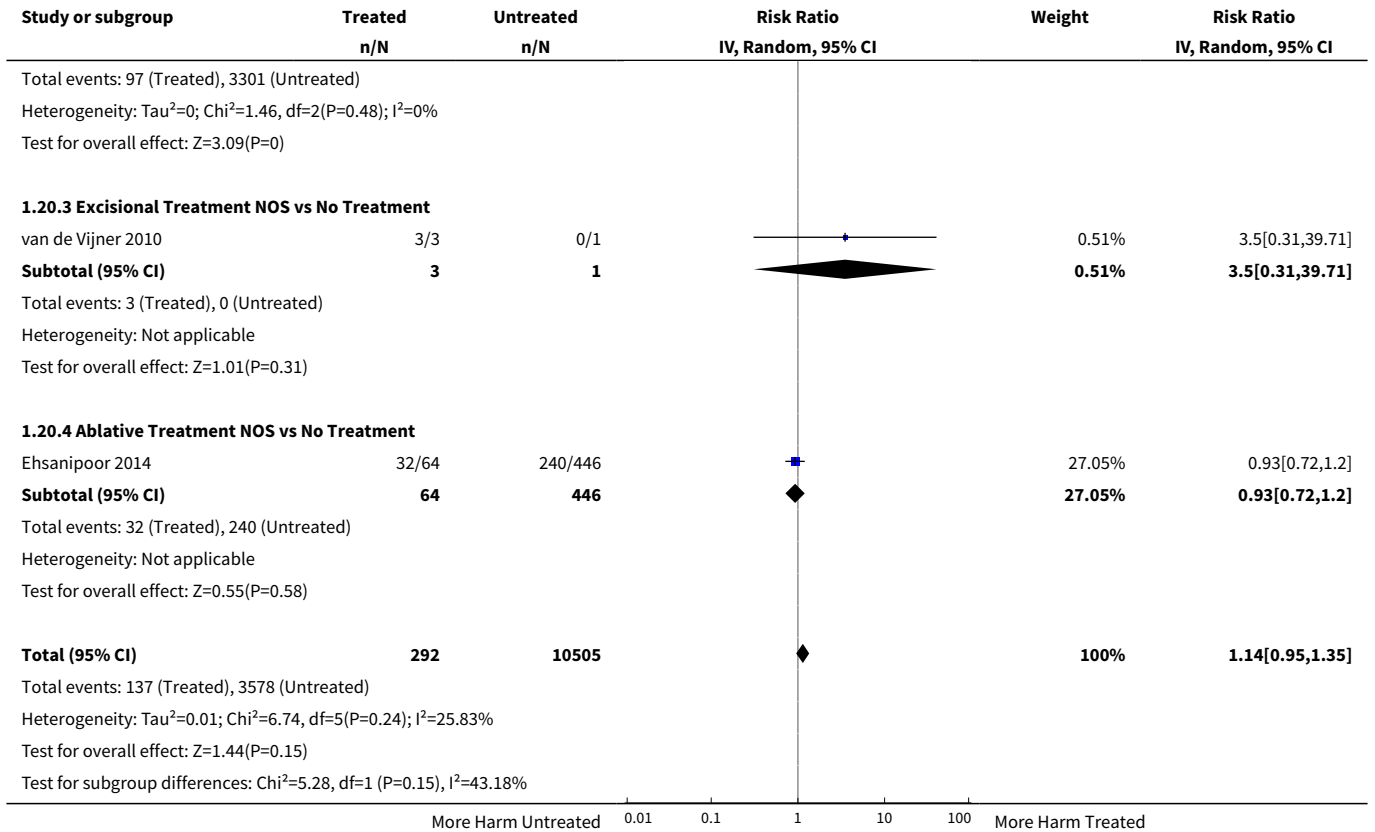




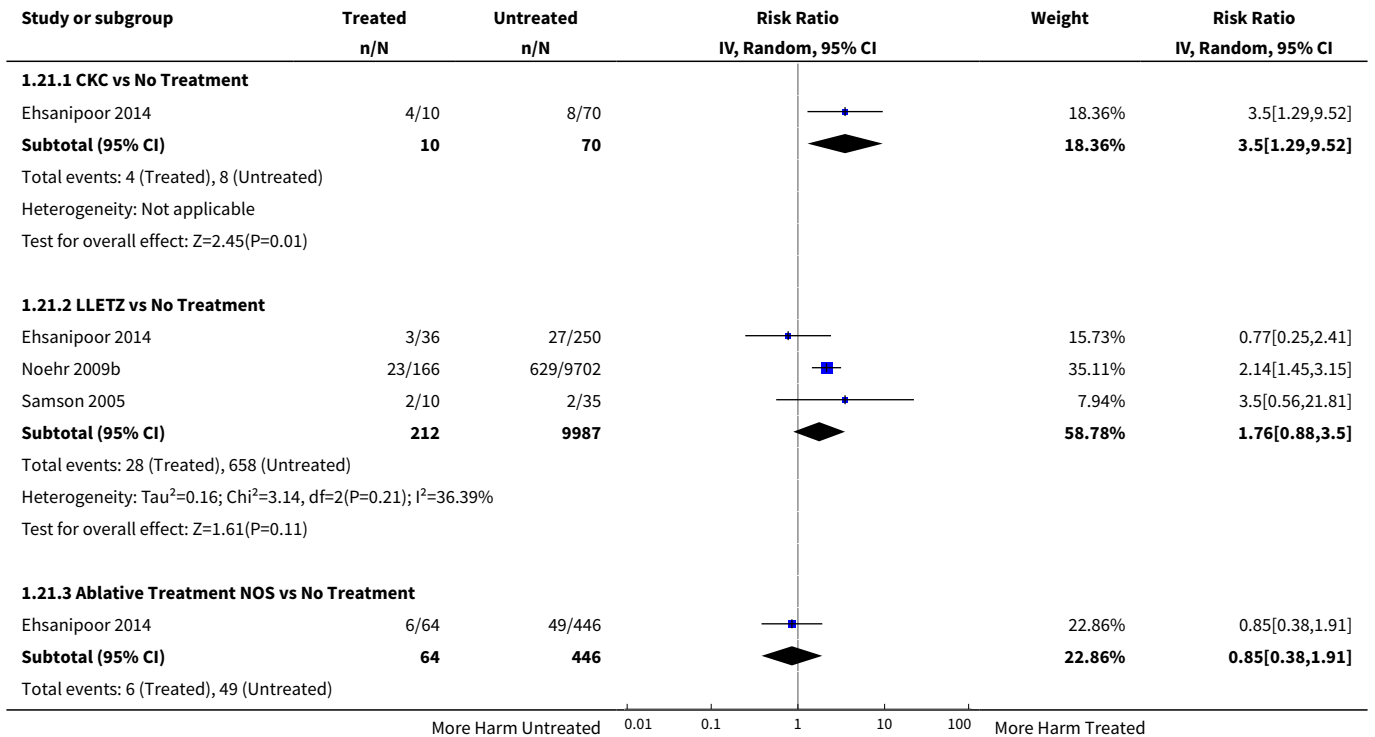


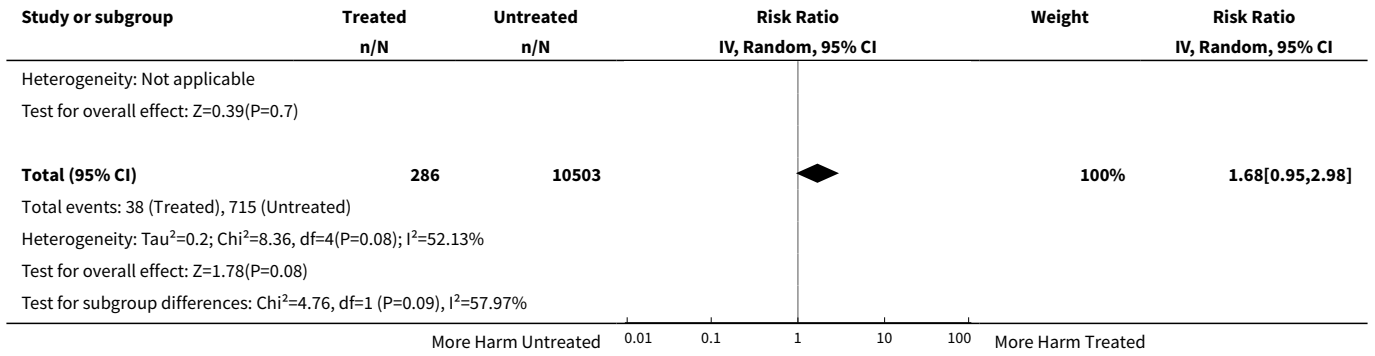
Analysis 1.20. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 20 PTB (<37w)-Multiple pregnancies.



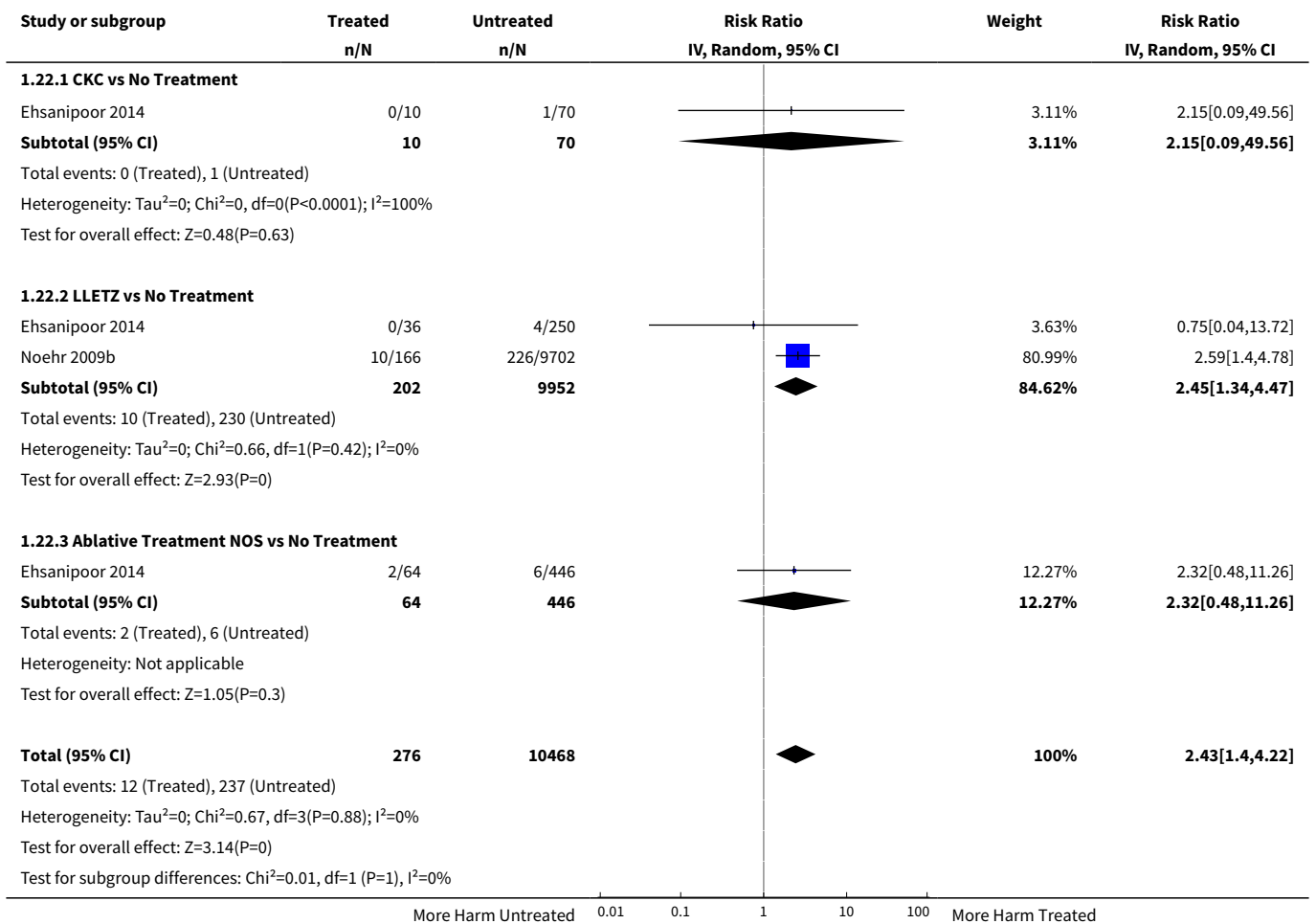


Analysis 1.21. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 21 PTB (<32-34w)-Multiple pregnancies.

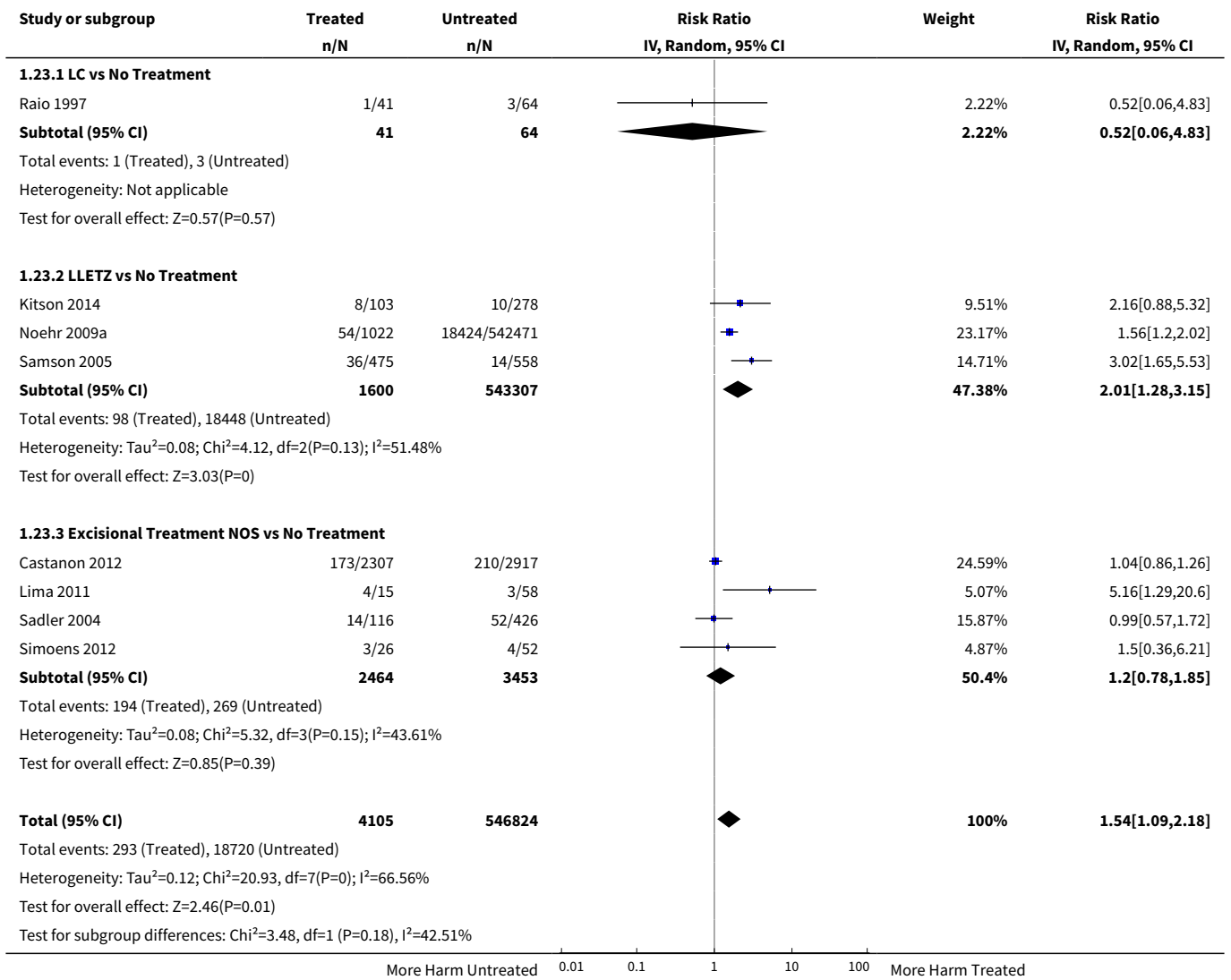




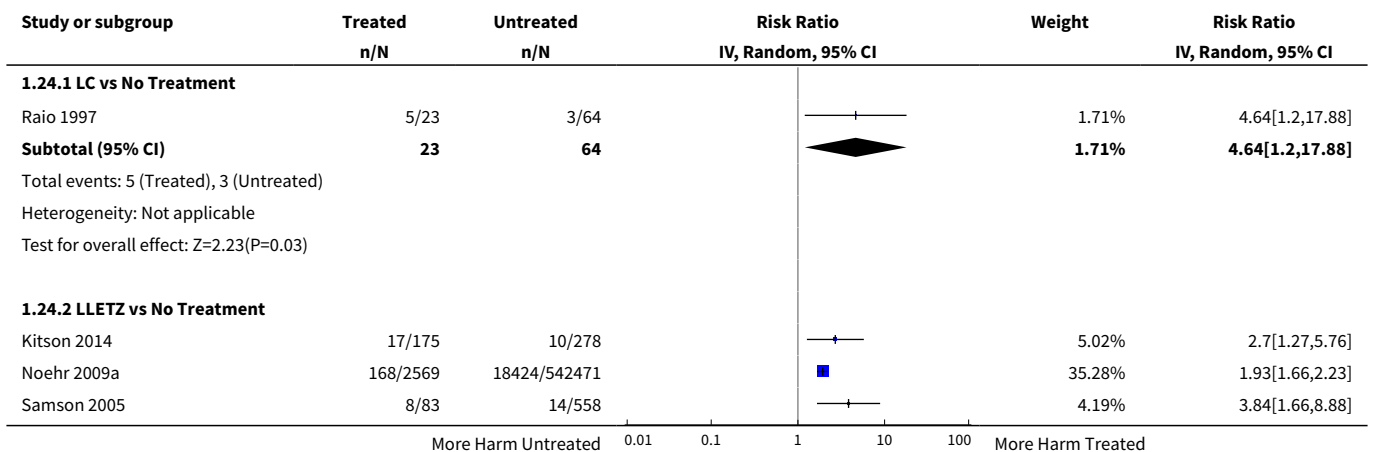
Analysis 1.22. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 22 PTB (<28w)-Multiple pregnancies.

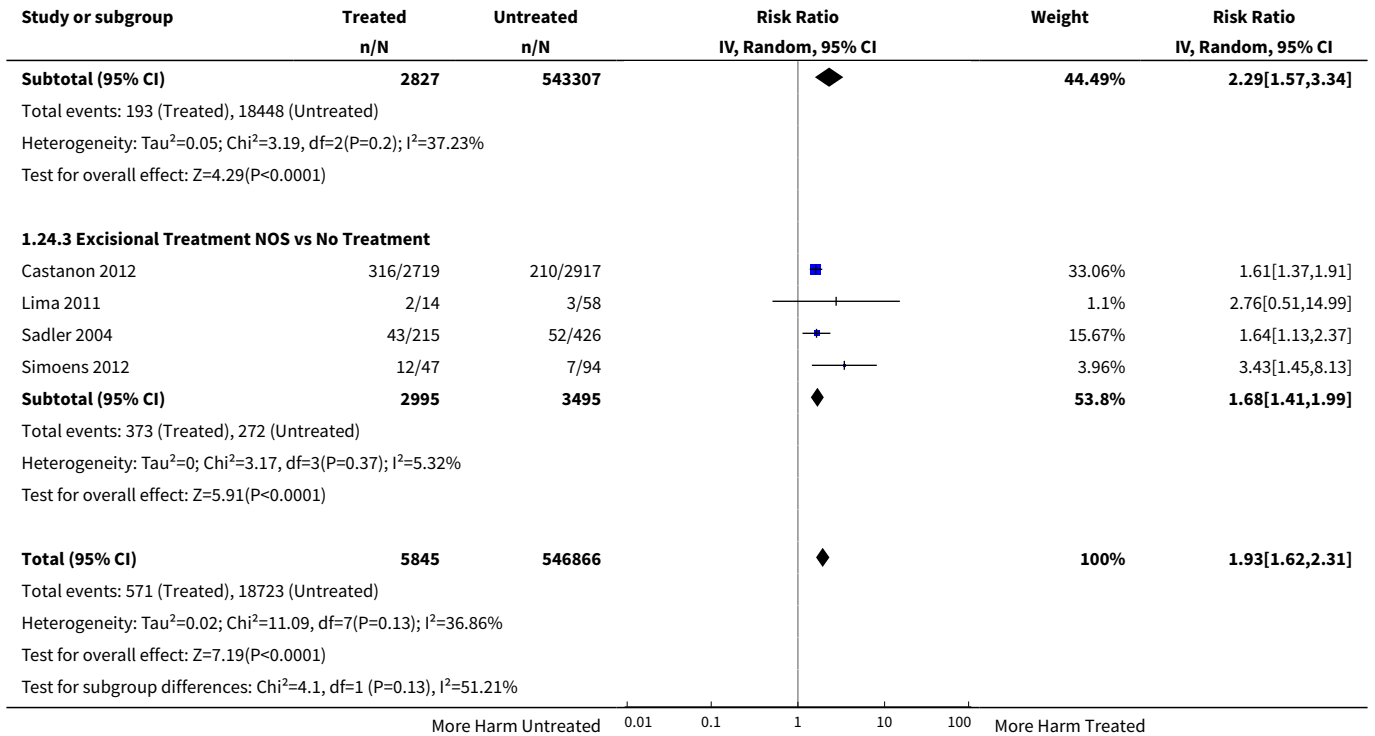


Analysis 1.23. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 23 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm.

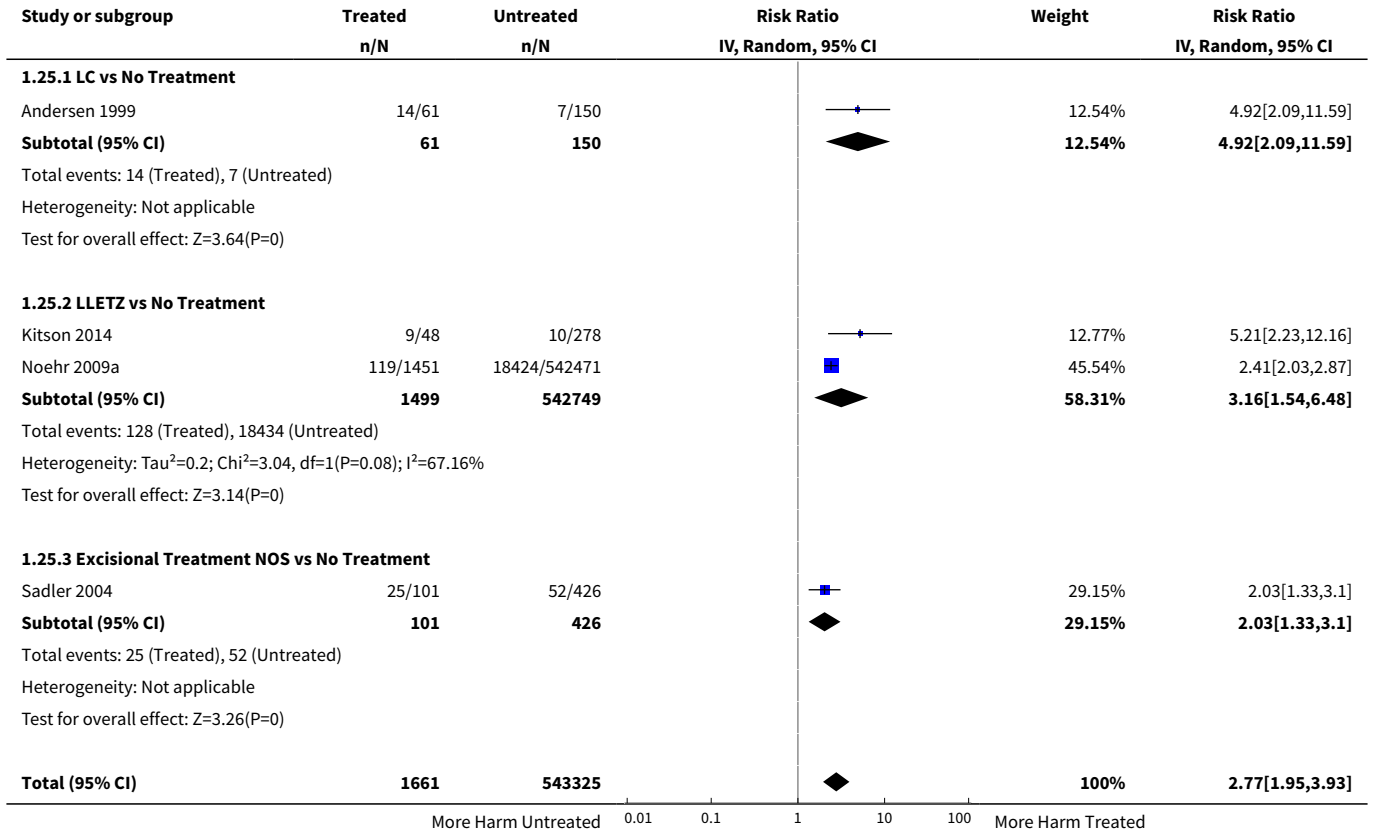


Analysis 1.24. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 24 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm.





Analysis 1.25. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 25 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm.



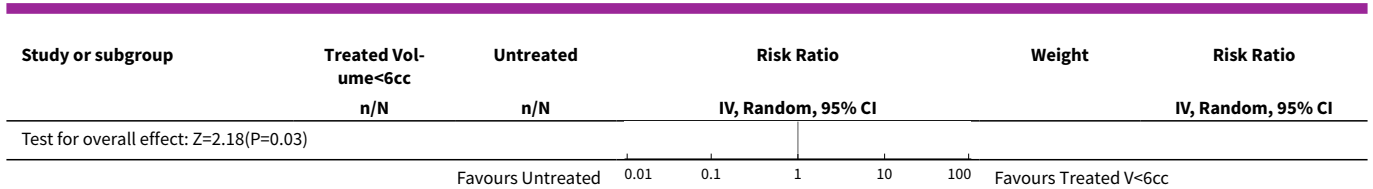
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
Total events: 167 (Treated), 18493 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.06; Chi ² =6.36, df=3(P=0.1); I ² =52.84%					
Test for overall effect: Z=5.71(P<0.0001)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =3.71, df=1 (P=0.16), I ² =46.14%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

Analysis 1.26. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 26 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥20mm.

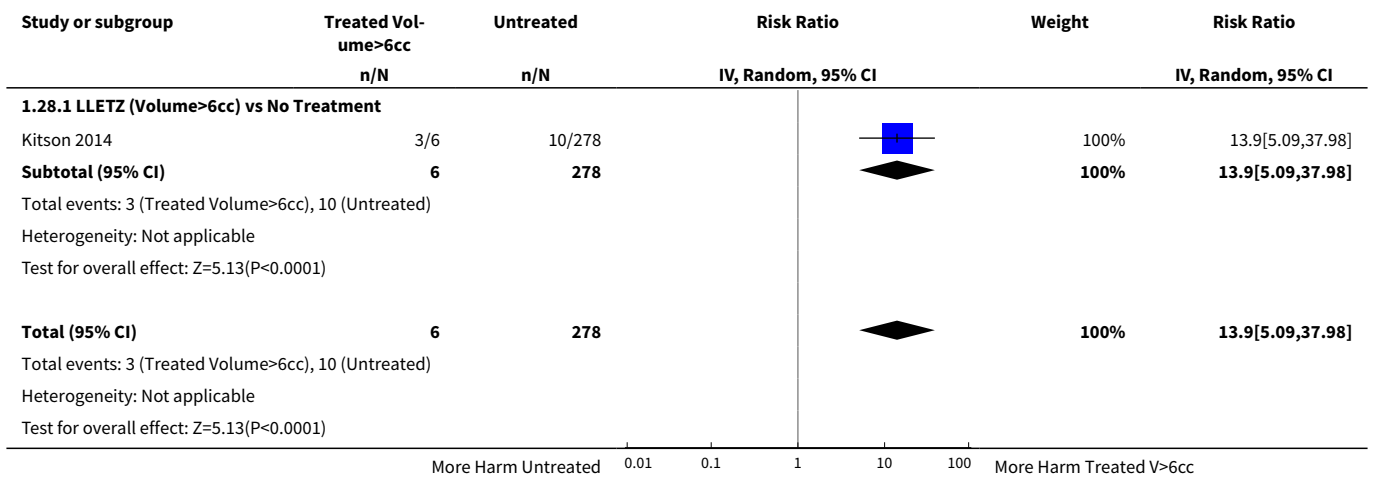
Study or subgroup	Treatment n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.26.1 LC vs No Treatment					
Andersen 1999	12/42	7/150		30.71%	6.12[2.57,14.57]
Subtotal (95% CI)	42	150		30.71%	6.12[2.57,14.57]
Total events: 12 (Treatment), 7 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=4.1(P<0.0001)					
1.26.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment					
Kitson 2014	3/8	10/278		26.23%	10.43[3.53,30.76]
Noehr 2009a	72/801	18424/542471		43.07%	2.65[2.12,3.3]
Subtotal (95% CI)	809	542749		69.29%	4.72[1.25,17.8]
Total events: 75 (Treatment), 18434 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.78; Chi ² =5.92, df=1(P=0.01); I ² =83.11%					
Test for overall effect: Z=2.29(P=0.02)					
Total (95% CI)	851	542899		100%	4.91[2.06,11.68]
Total events: 87 (Treatment), 18441 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.44; Chi ² =8.88, df=2(P=0.01); I ² =77.47%					
Test for overall effect: Z=3.59(P=0)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =0.1, df=1 (P=0.75), I ² =0%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

Analysis 1.27. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 27 PTB (<37w)-Volume<6cc.

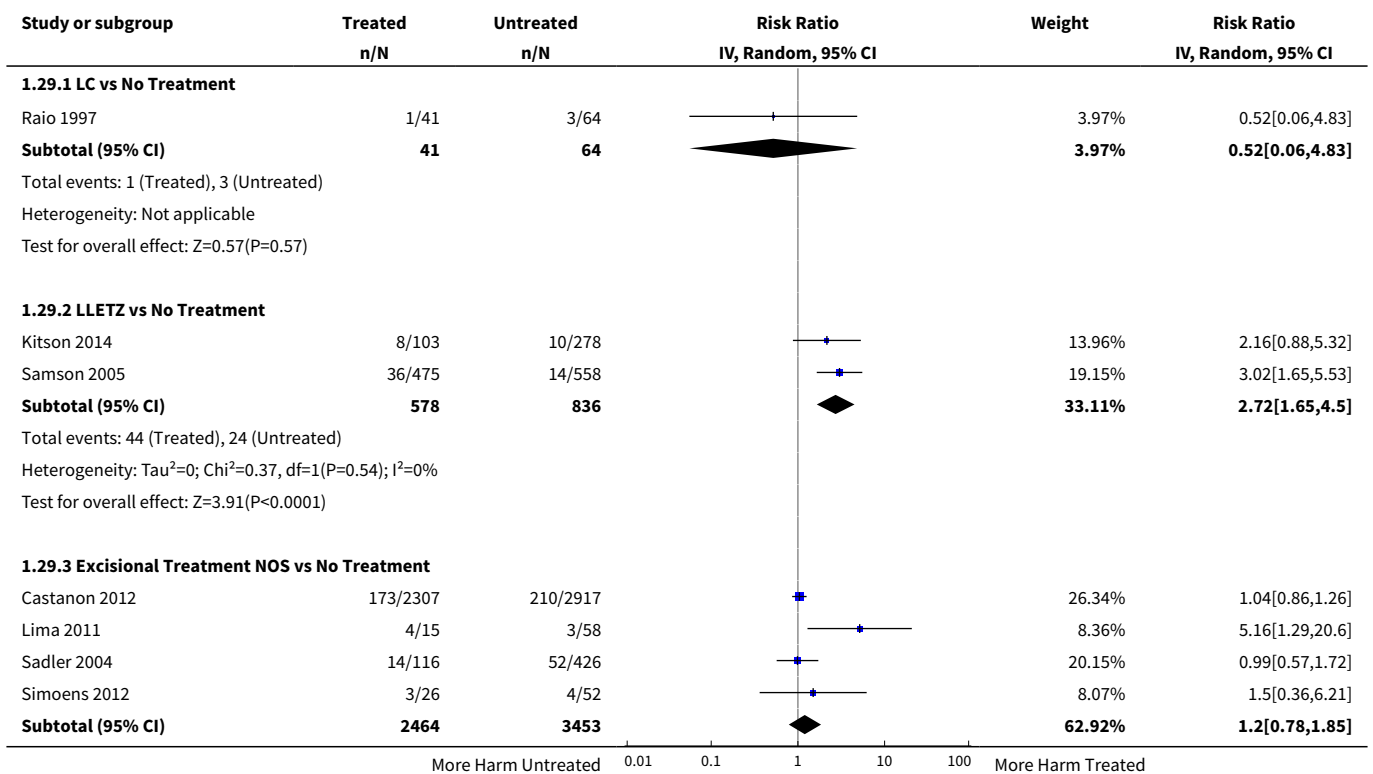
Study or subgroup	Treated Vol- ume<6cc n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.27.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment					
Kitson 2014	22/272	10/278		100%	2.25[1.09,4.66]
Subtotal (95% CI)	272	278		100%	2.25[1.09,4.66]
Total events: 22 (Treated Volume<6cc), 10 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=2.18(P=0.03)					
Total (95% CI)	272	278		100%	2.25[1.09,4.66]
Total events: 22 (Treated Volume<6cc), 10 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Favours Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 Favours Treated V<6cc					

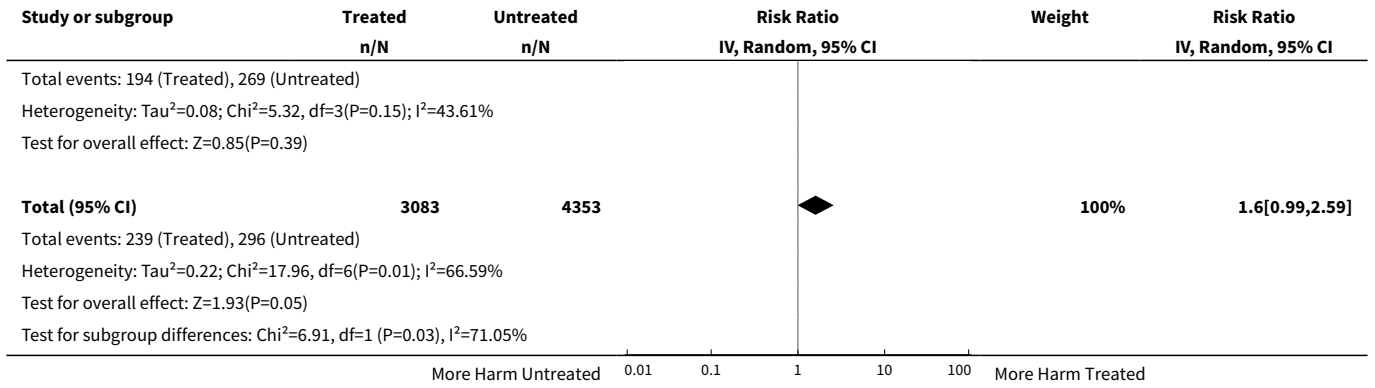


Analysis 1.28. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 28 PTB (<37w)-Volume>6cc.

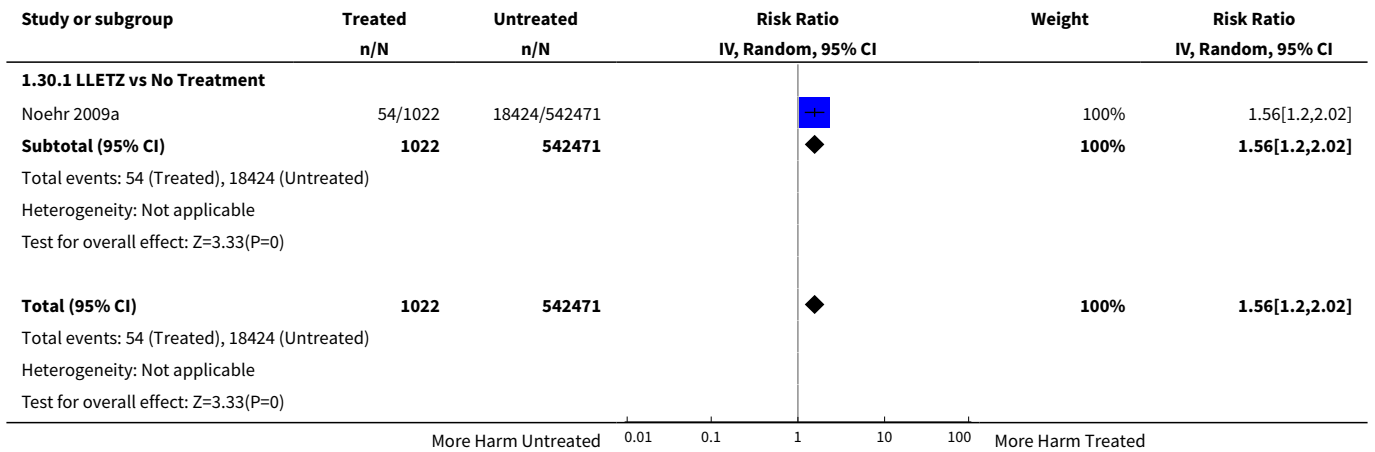


Analysis 1.29. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 29 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10mm.

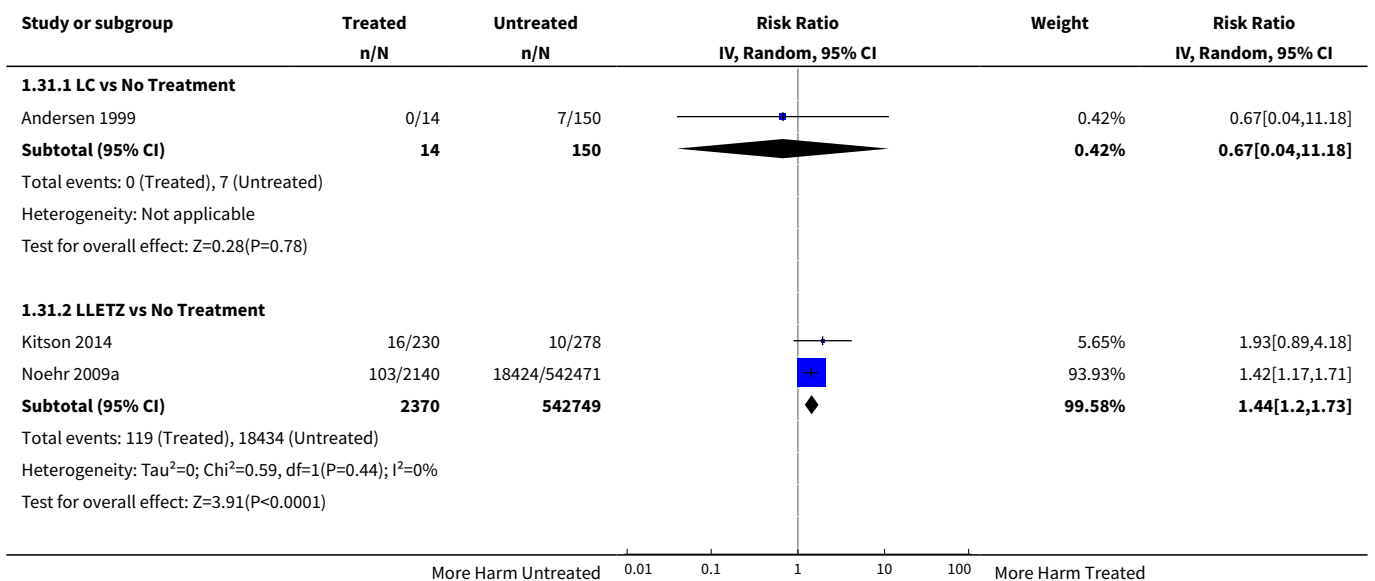


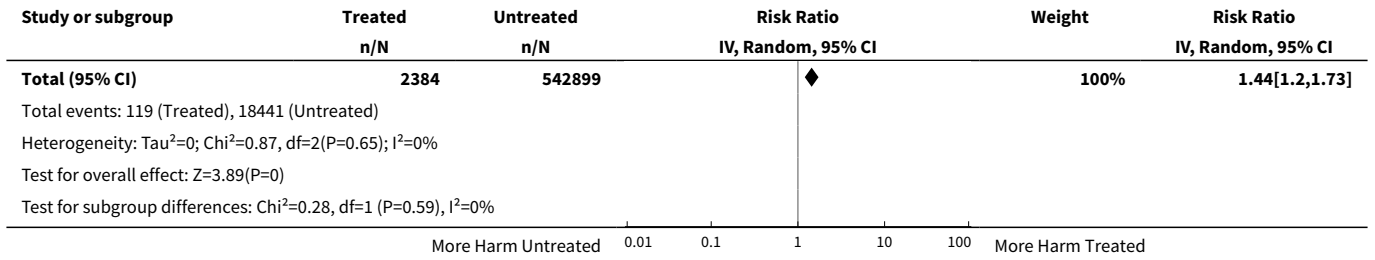


Analysis 1.30. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 30 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤12mm.

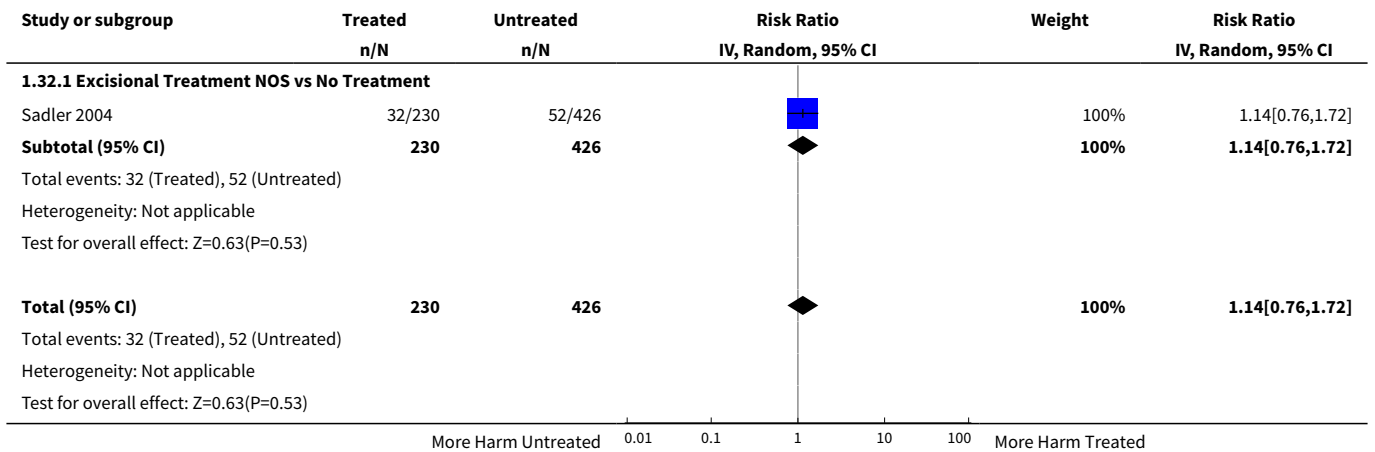


Analysis 1.31. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 31 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15mm.

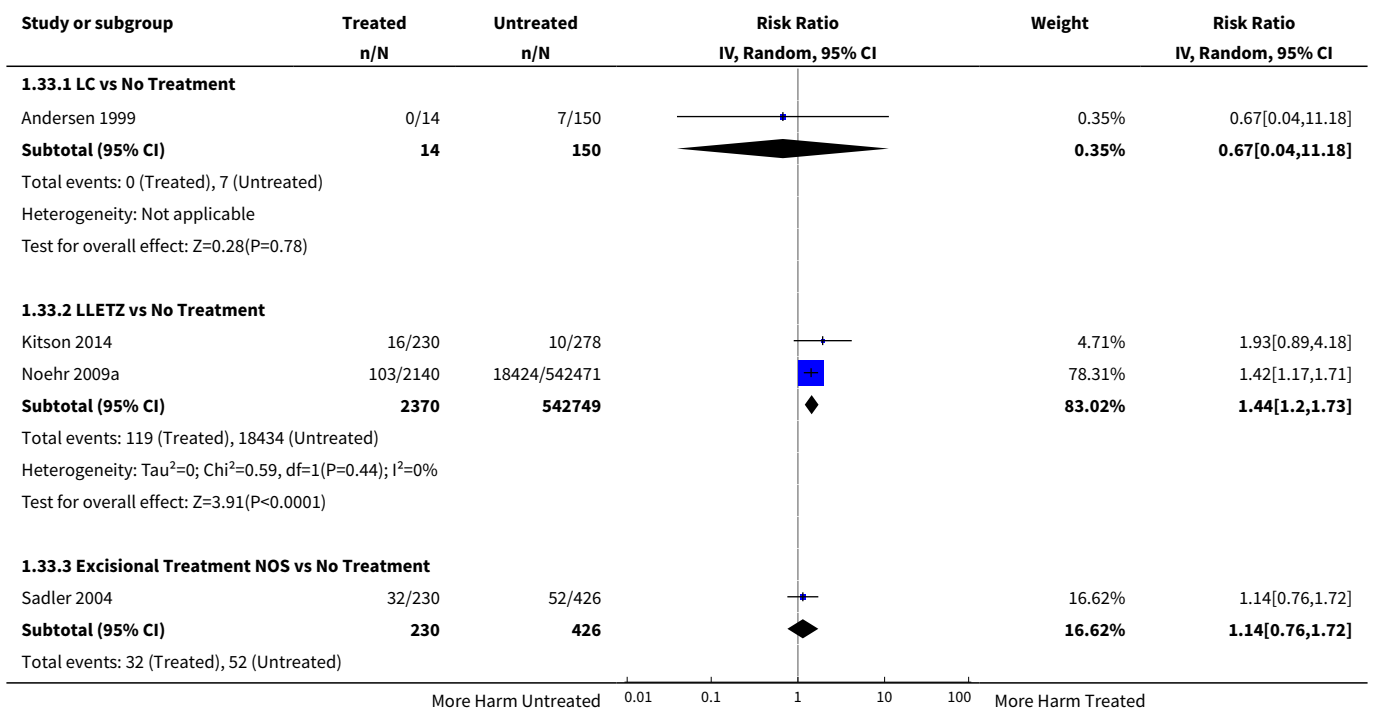


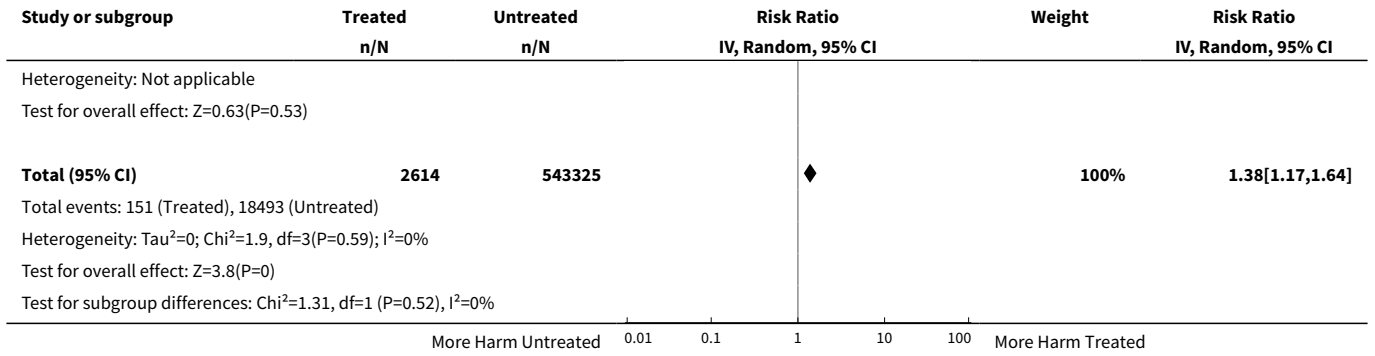


Analysis 1.32. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 32 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤17mm.

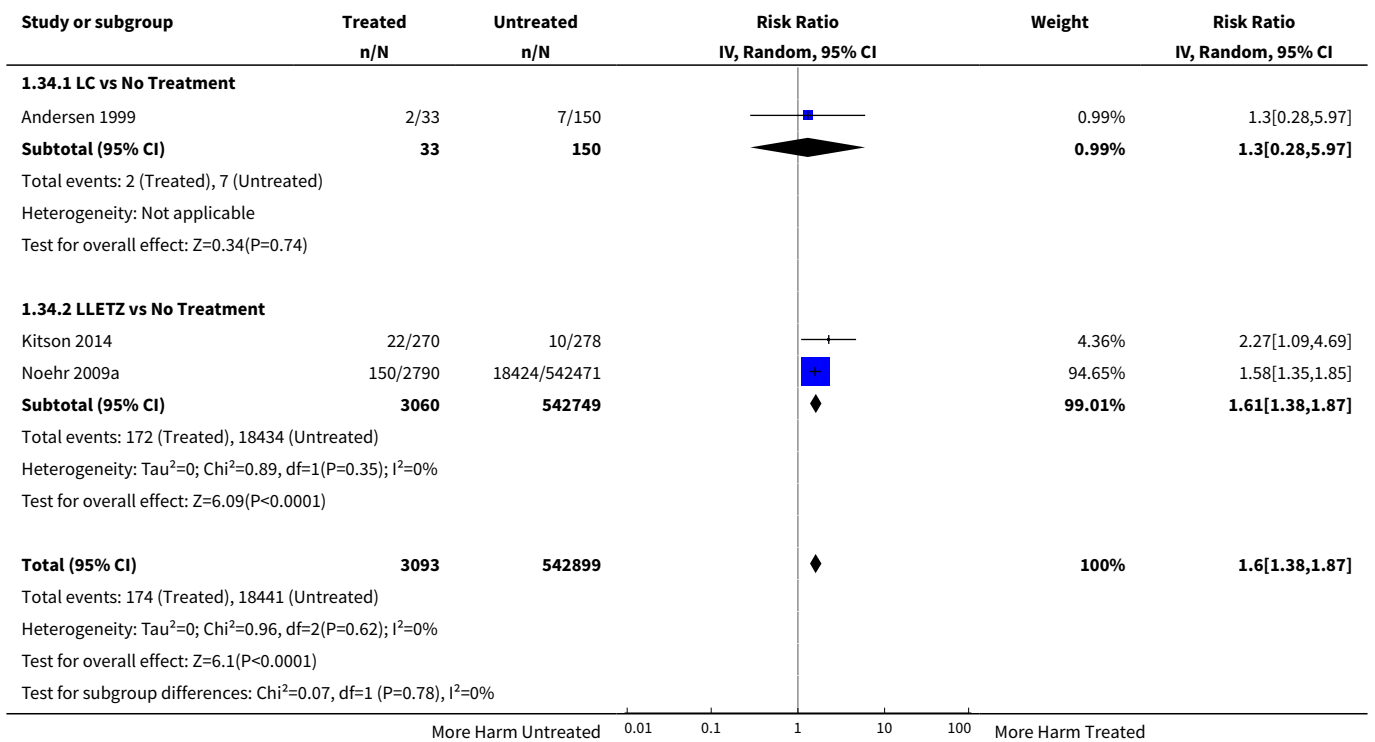


Analysis 1.33. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 33 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15-17mm.

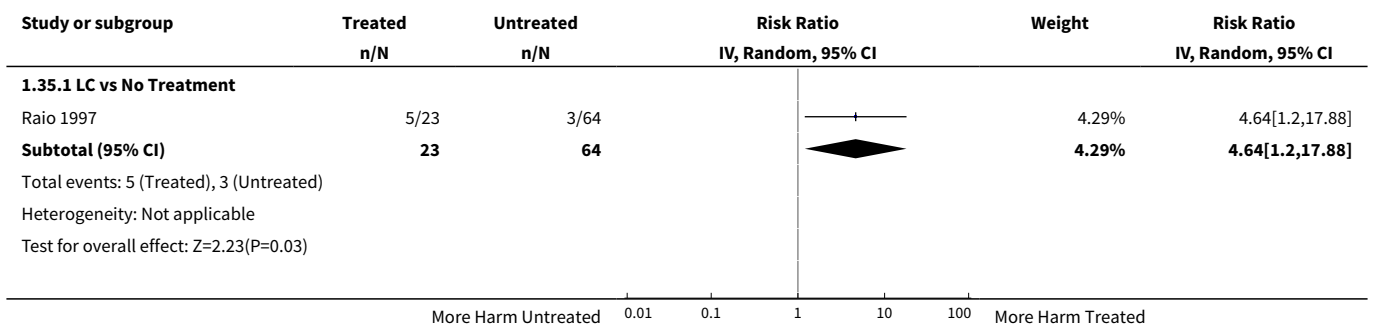


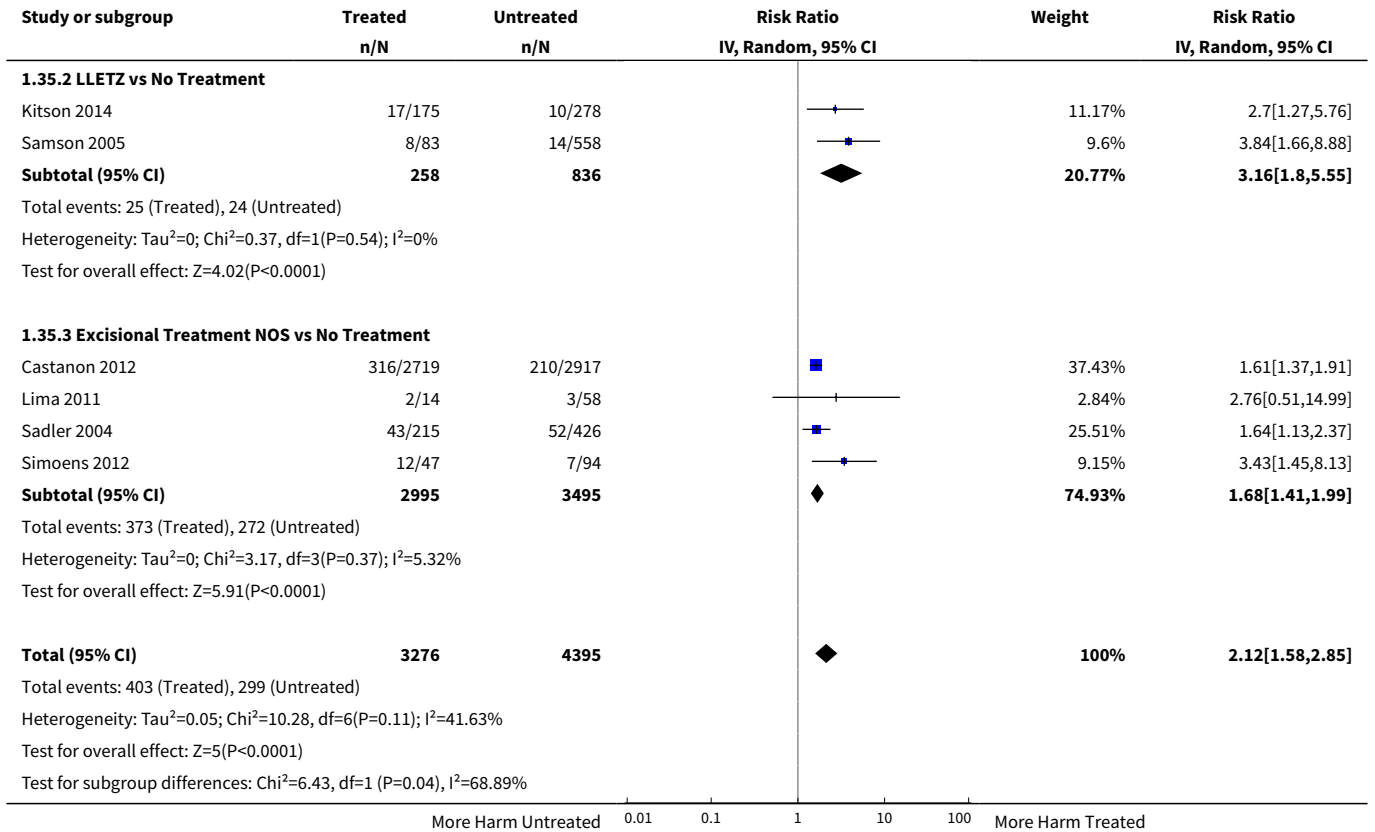


Analysis 1.34. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 34 PTB (<37w)-Depth≤20mm.

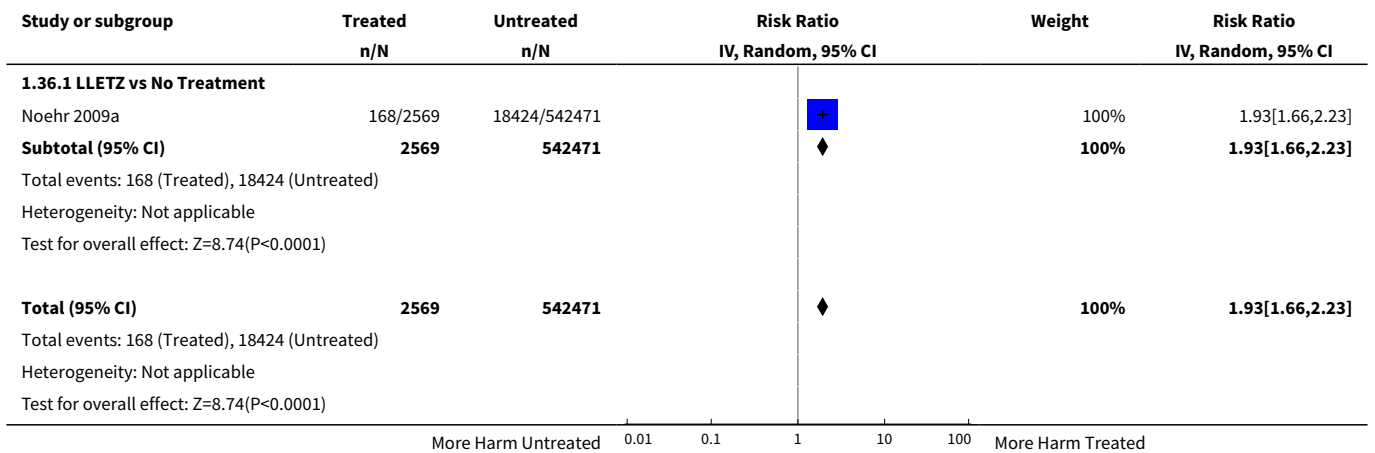


Analysis 1.35. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 35 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10mm.

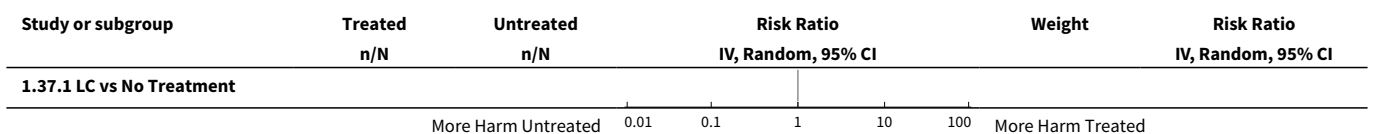


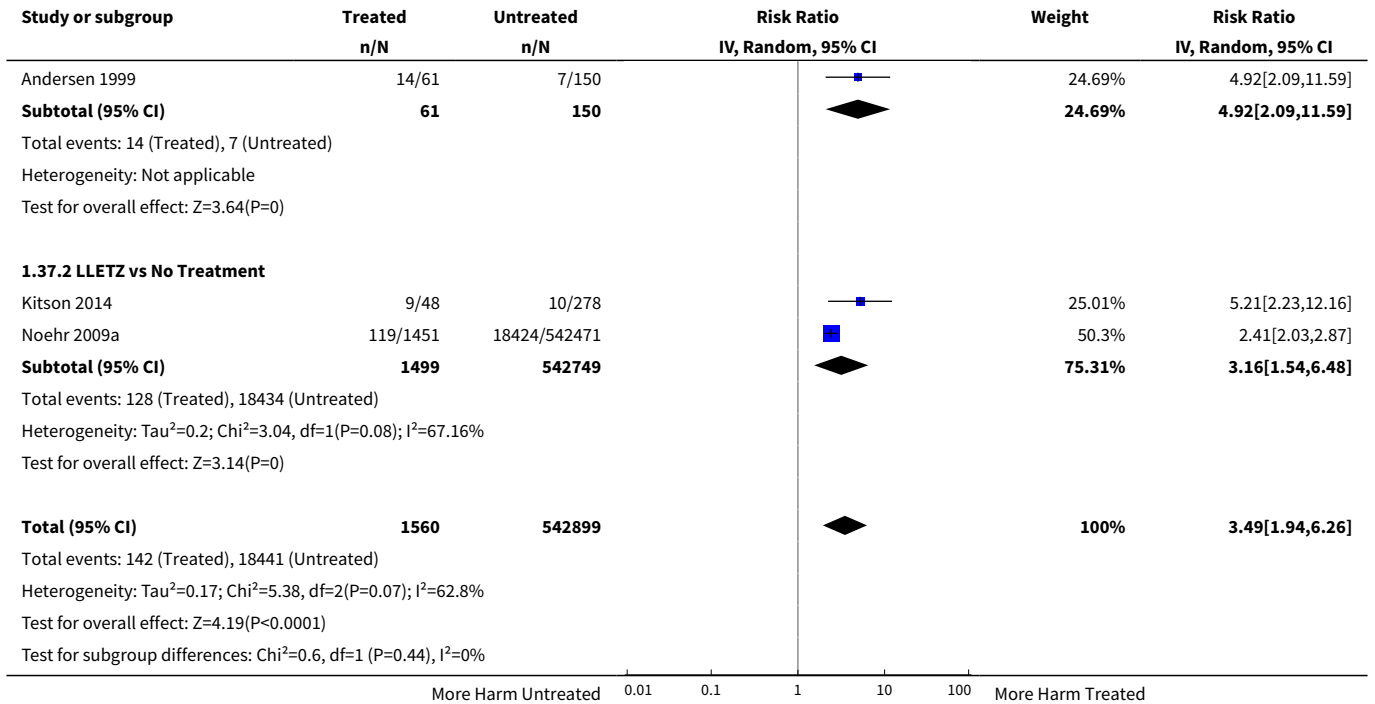


Analysis 1.36. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 36 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥12mm.

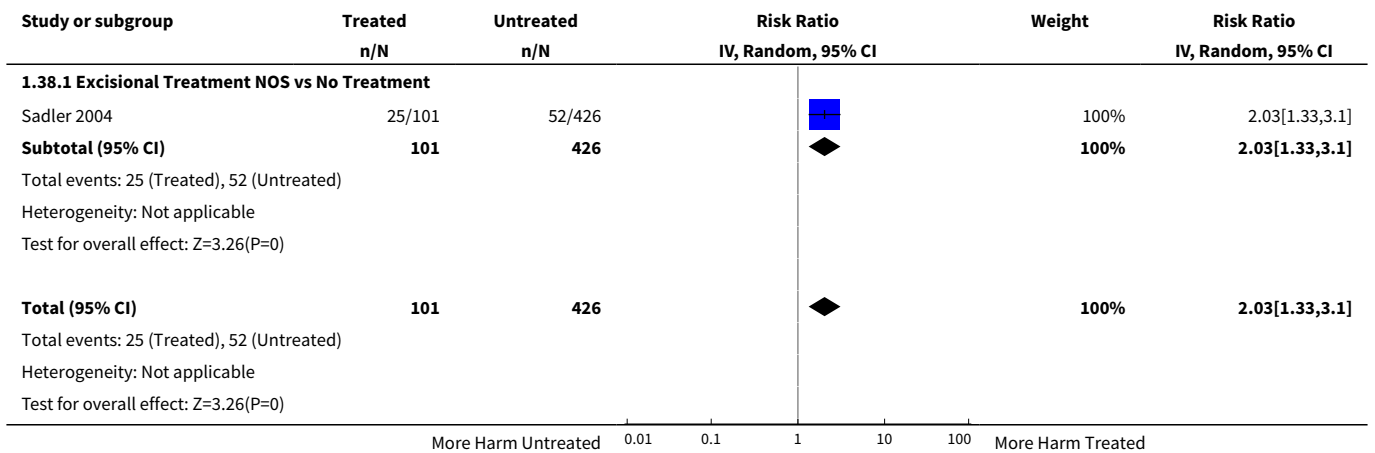


Analysis 1.37. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 37 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15mm.

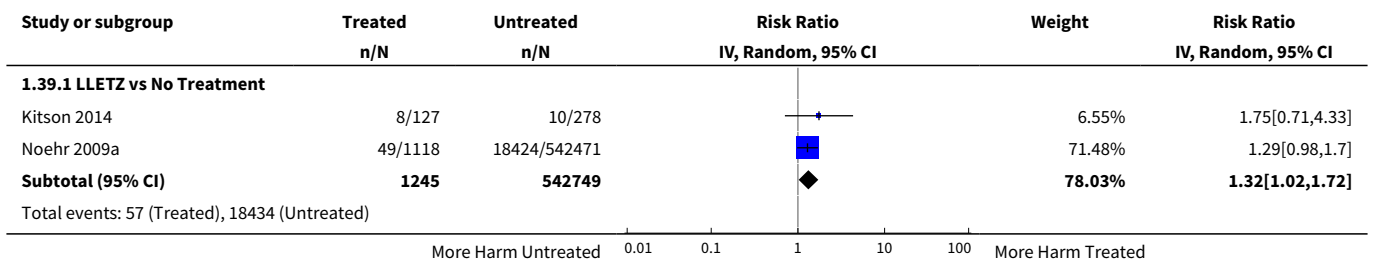


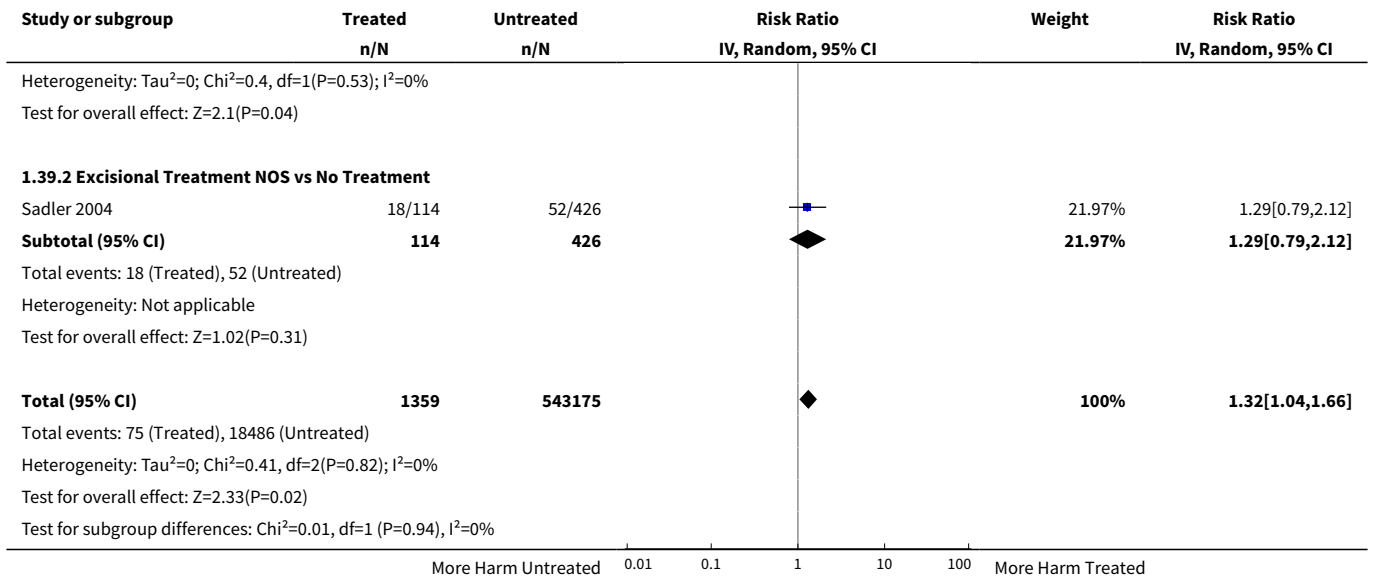


Analysis 1.38. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 38 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥17mm.

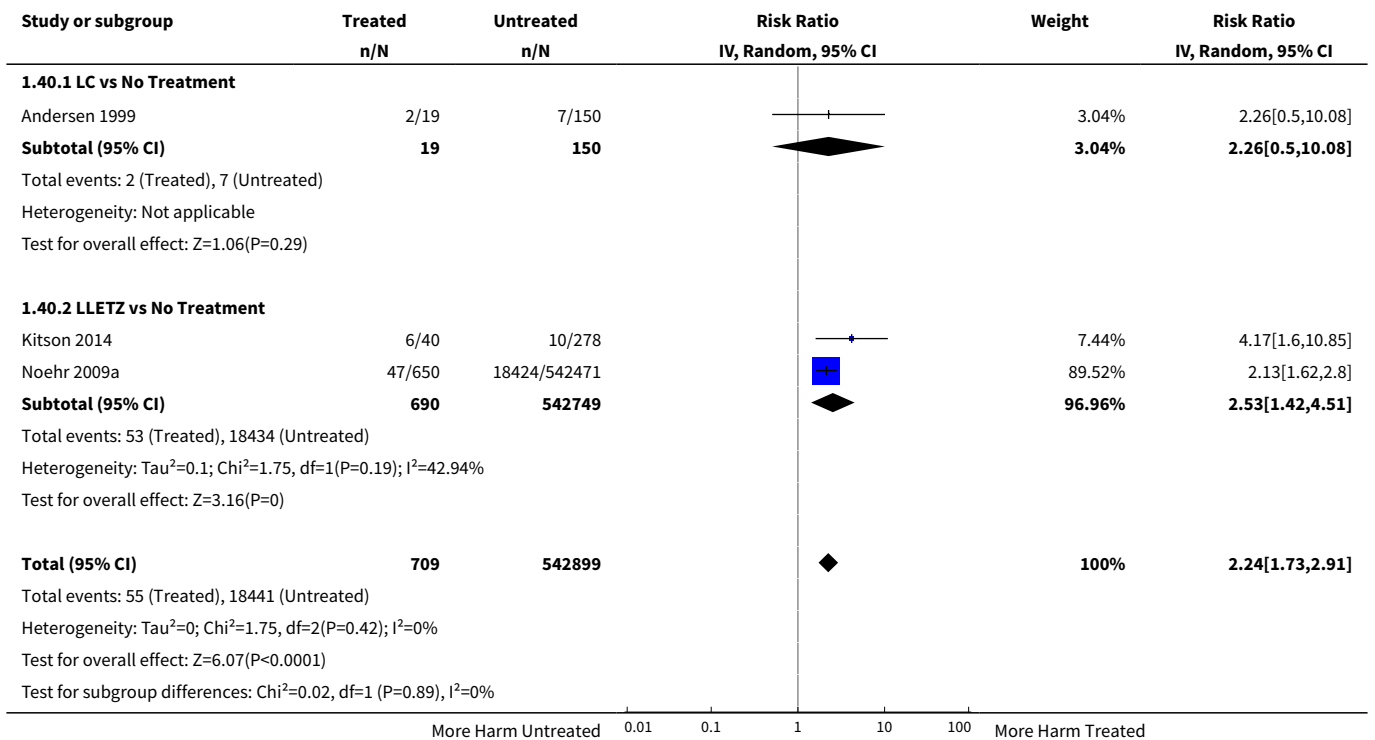


Analysis 1.39. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 39 PTB (<37w)-Depth 10/13-15/16mm.

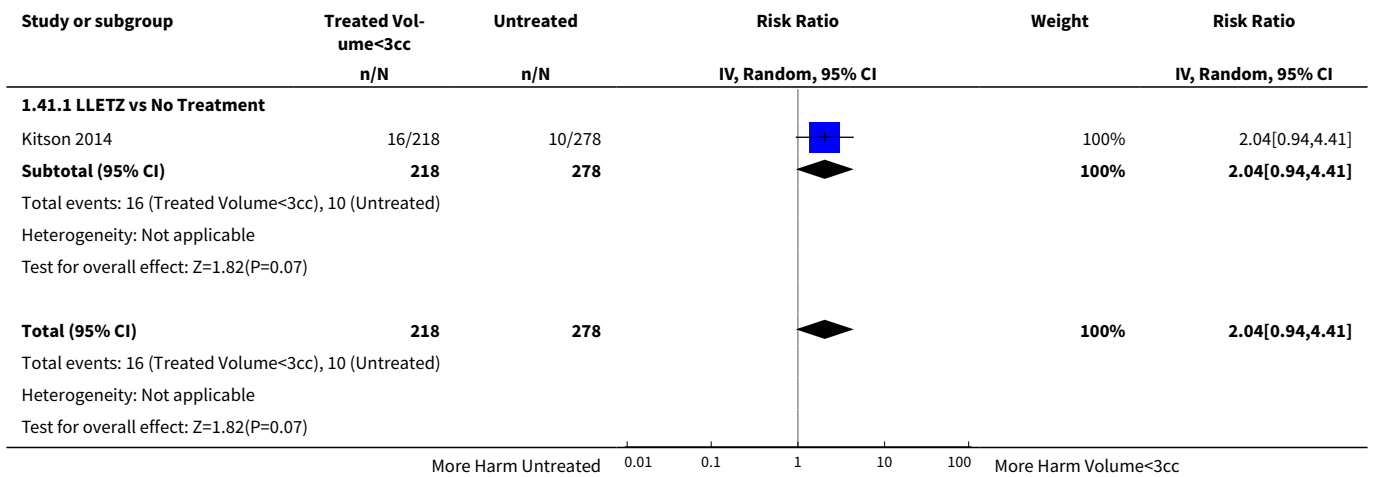




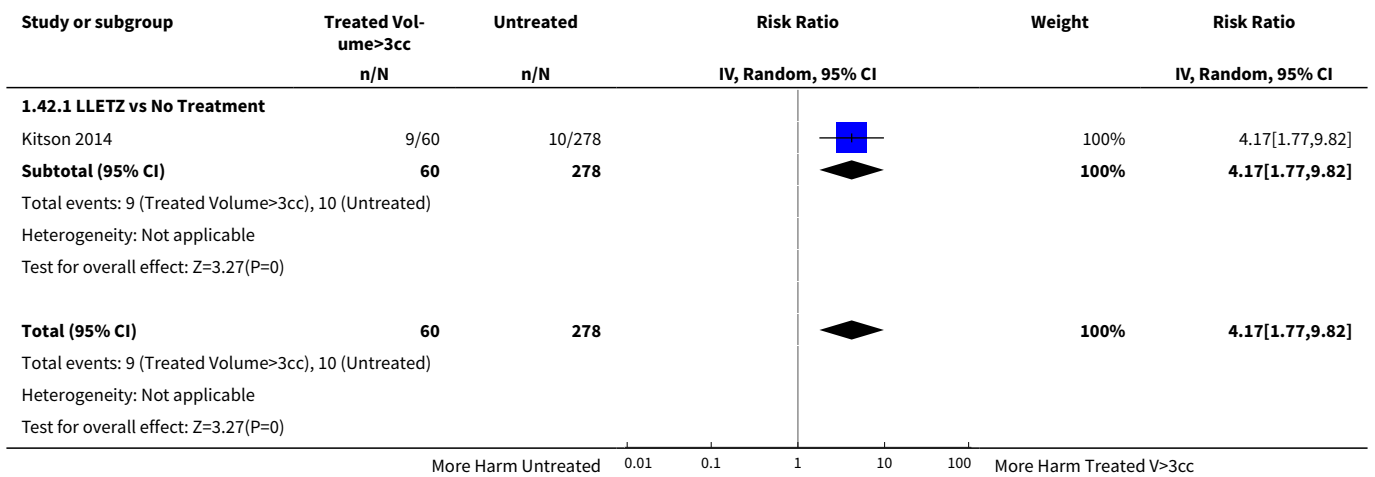
Analysis 1.40. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 40 PTB (<37w)-Depth 15/16-19/20mm.



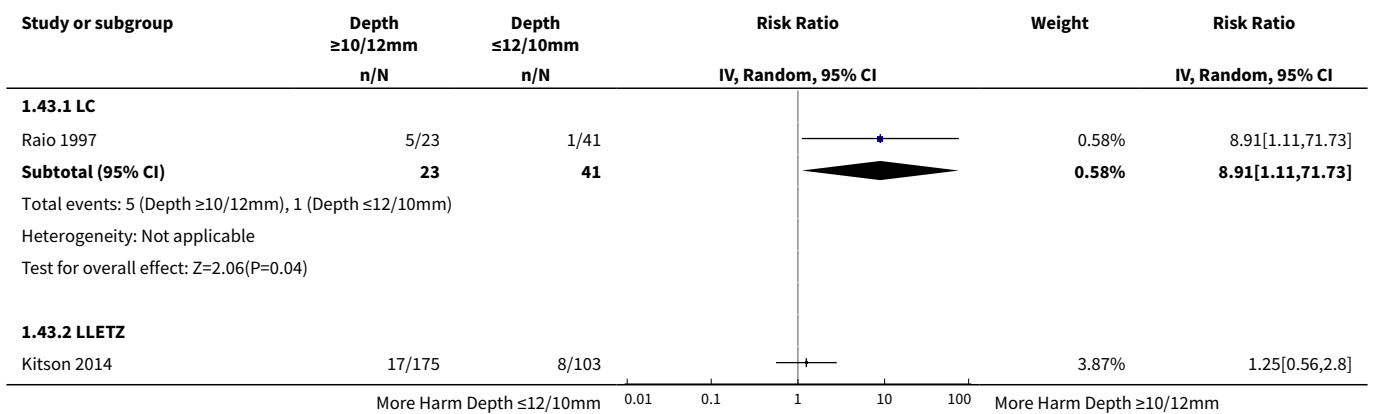
Analysis 1.41. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 41 PTB (<37w)-Volume<3cc.

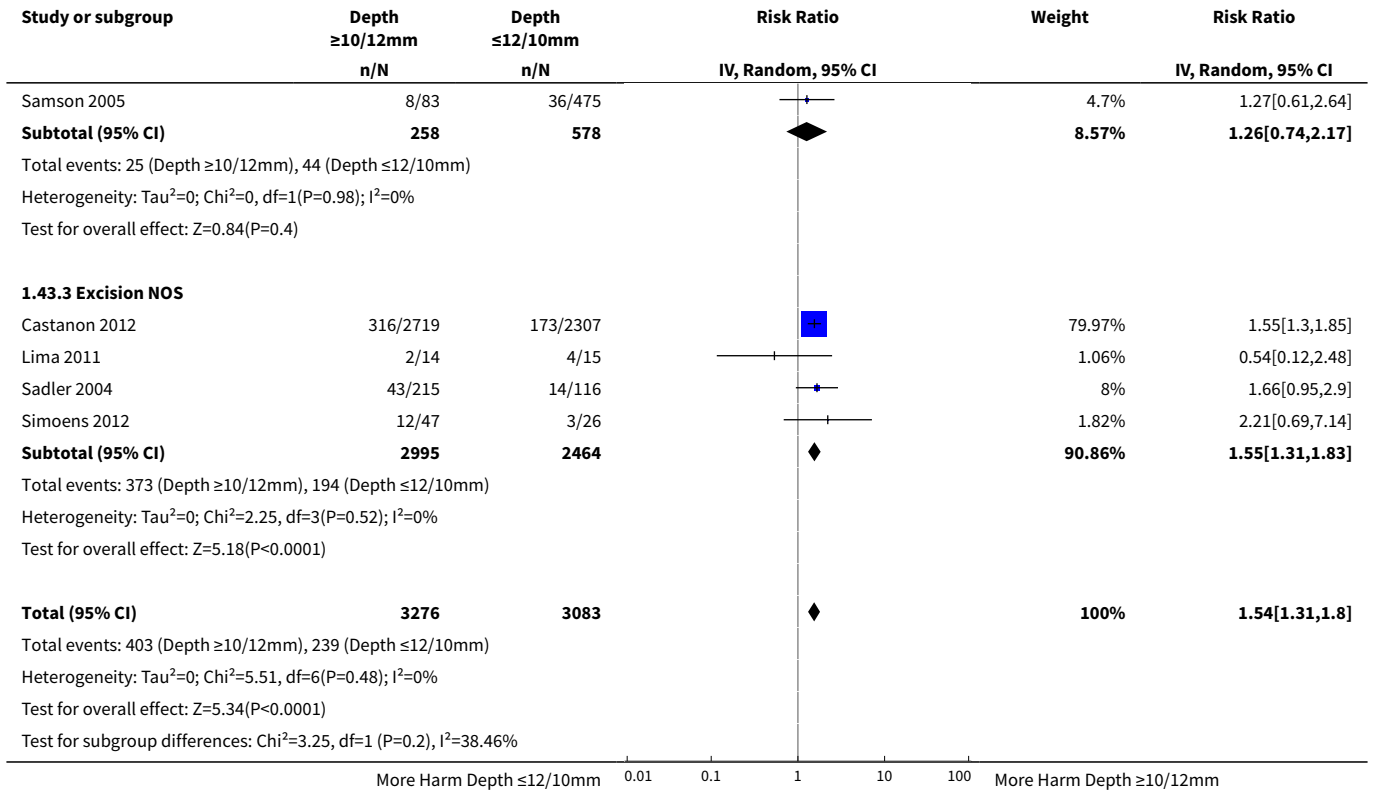


Analysis 1.42. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 42 PTB (<37w)-Volume>3cc.

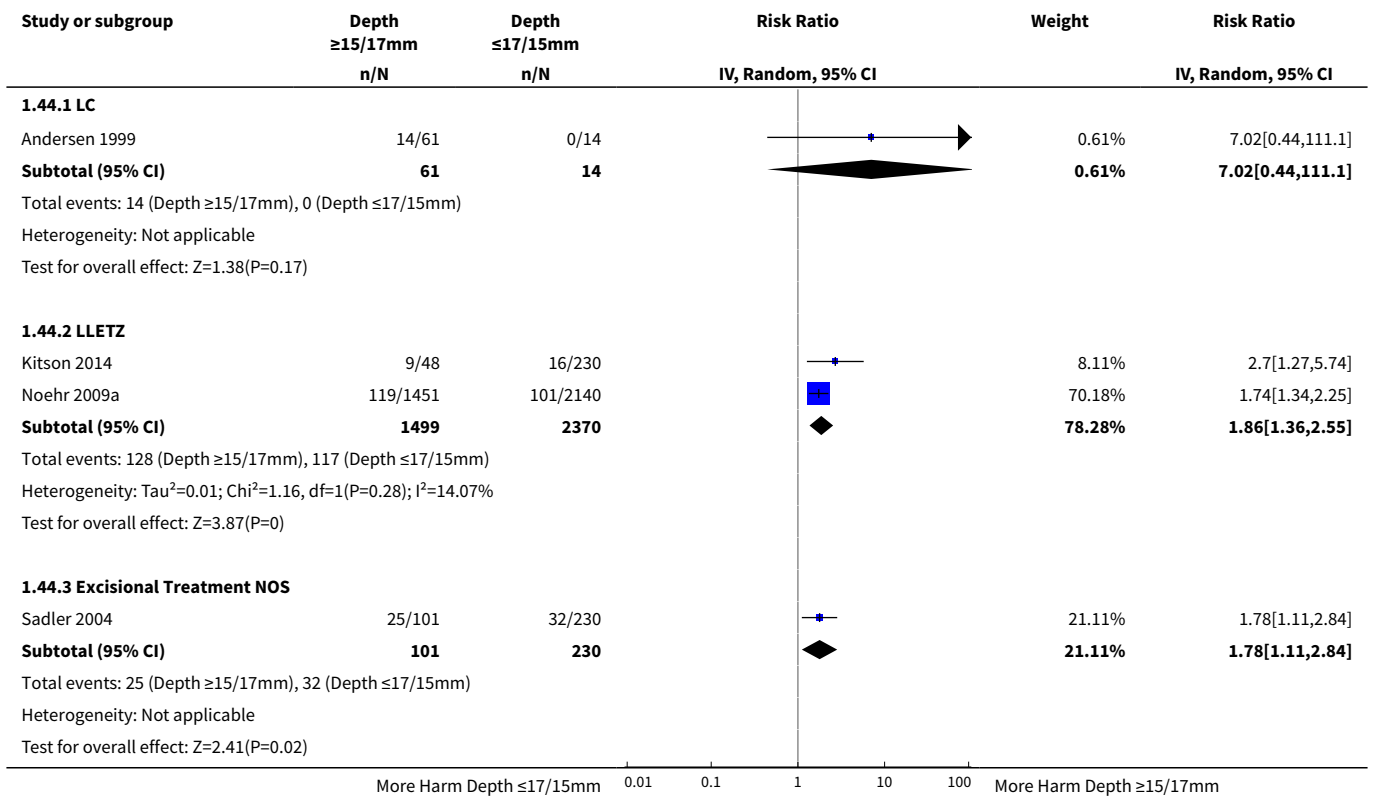


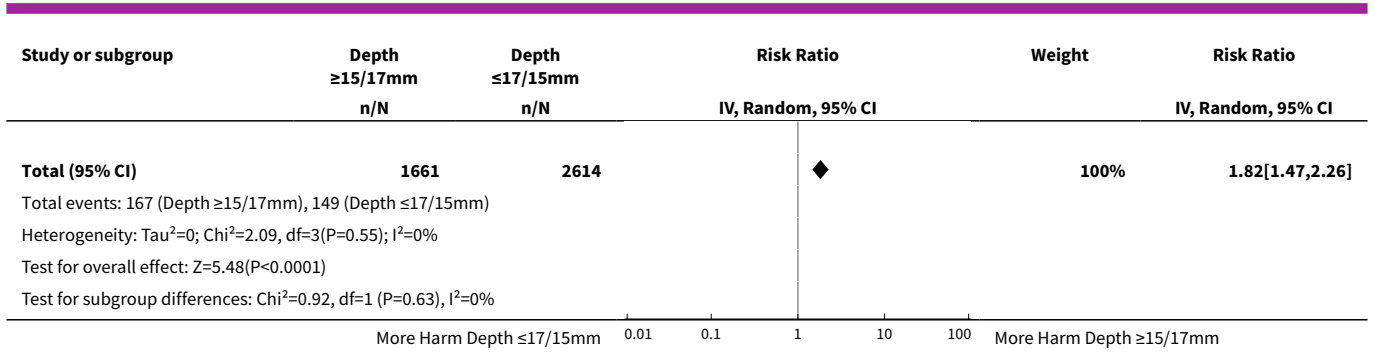
Analysis 1.43. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 43 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs ≤10-12mm.



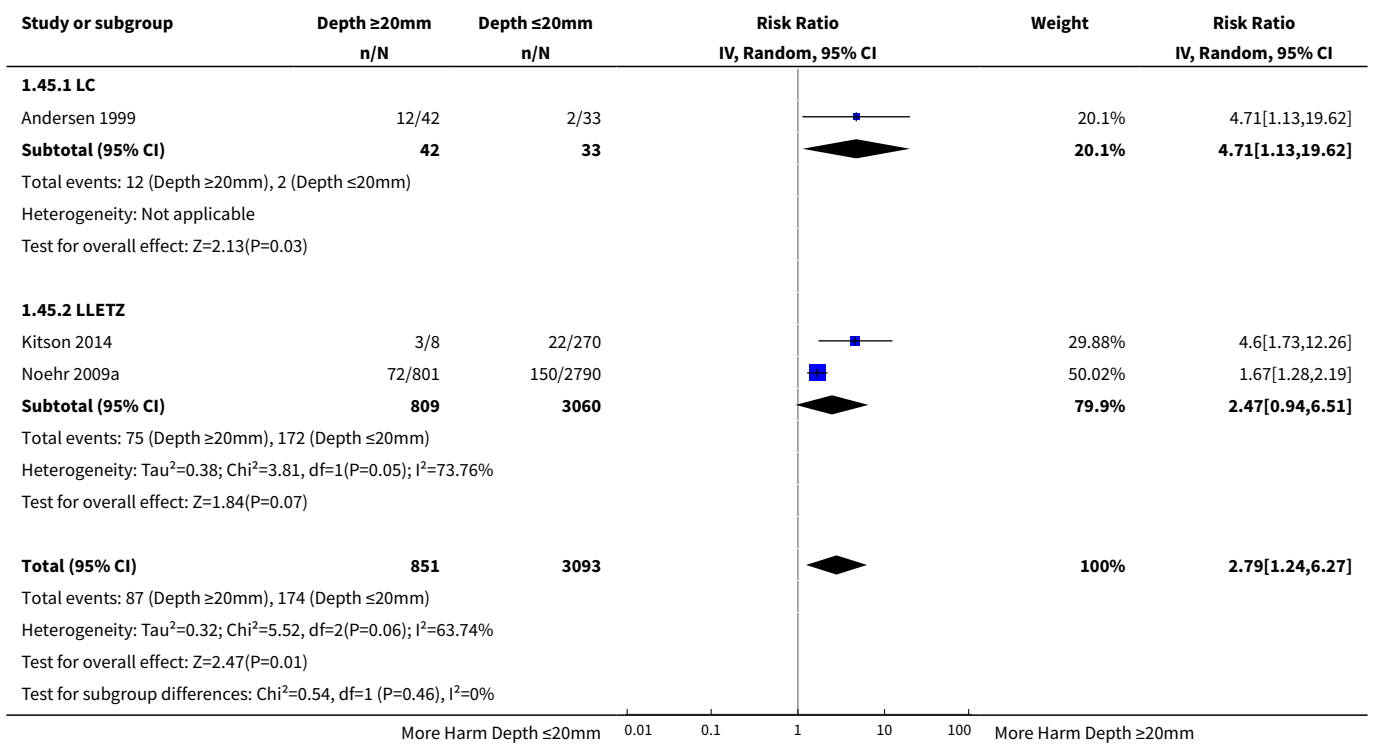


Analysis 1.44. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 44 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm vs ≤15-17mm.

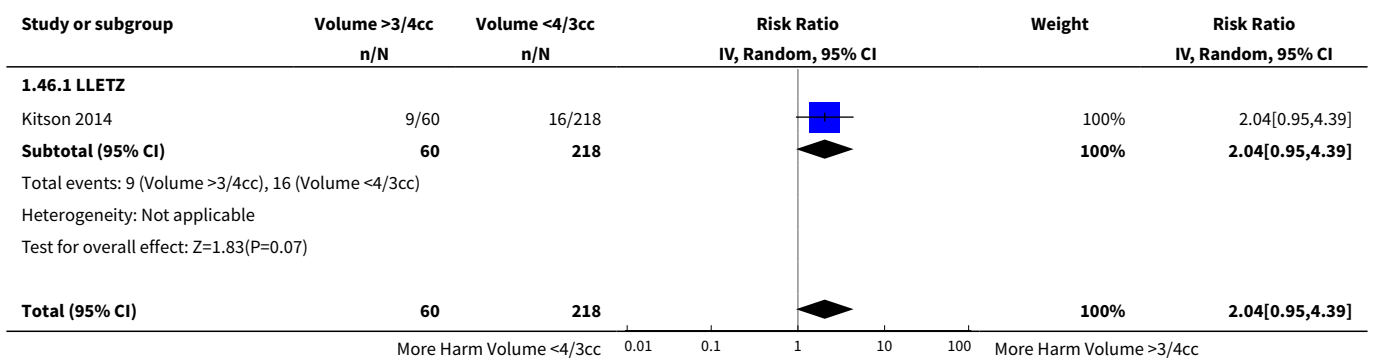


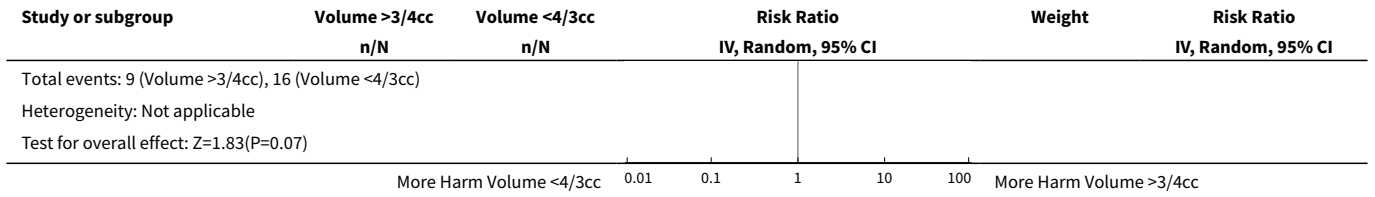


Analysis 1.45. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 45 PTB (<37w)-Depth $\geq 20\text{mm}$ vs $\leq 20\text{mm}$.

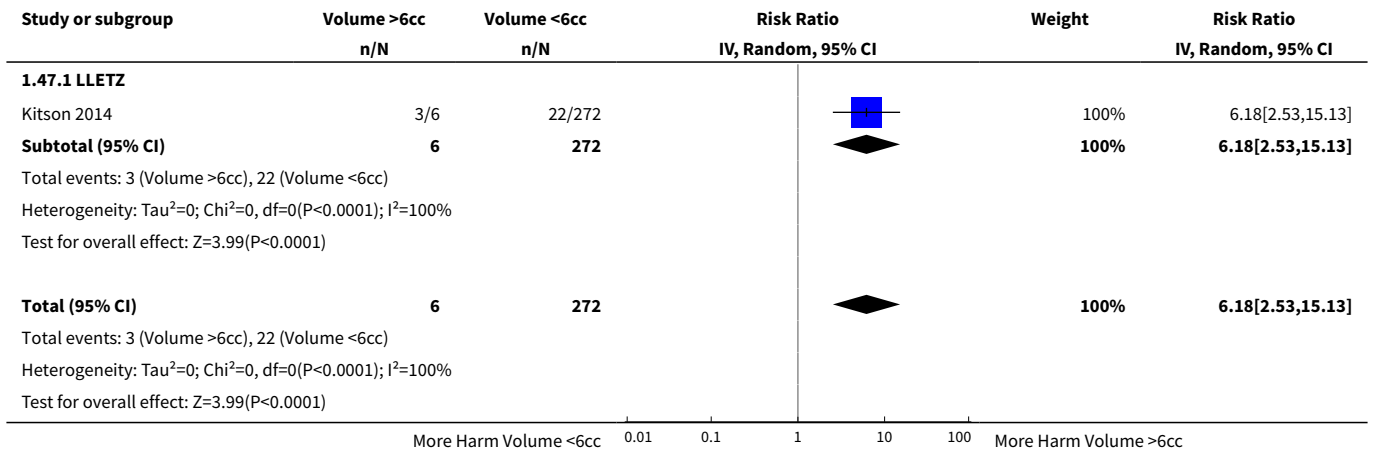


Analysis 1.46. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 46 PTB (<37w)-Volume $>3\text{cc}$ vs $<3\text{cc}$.

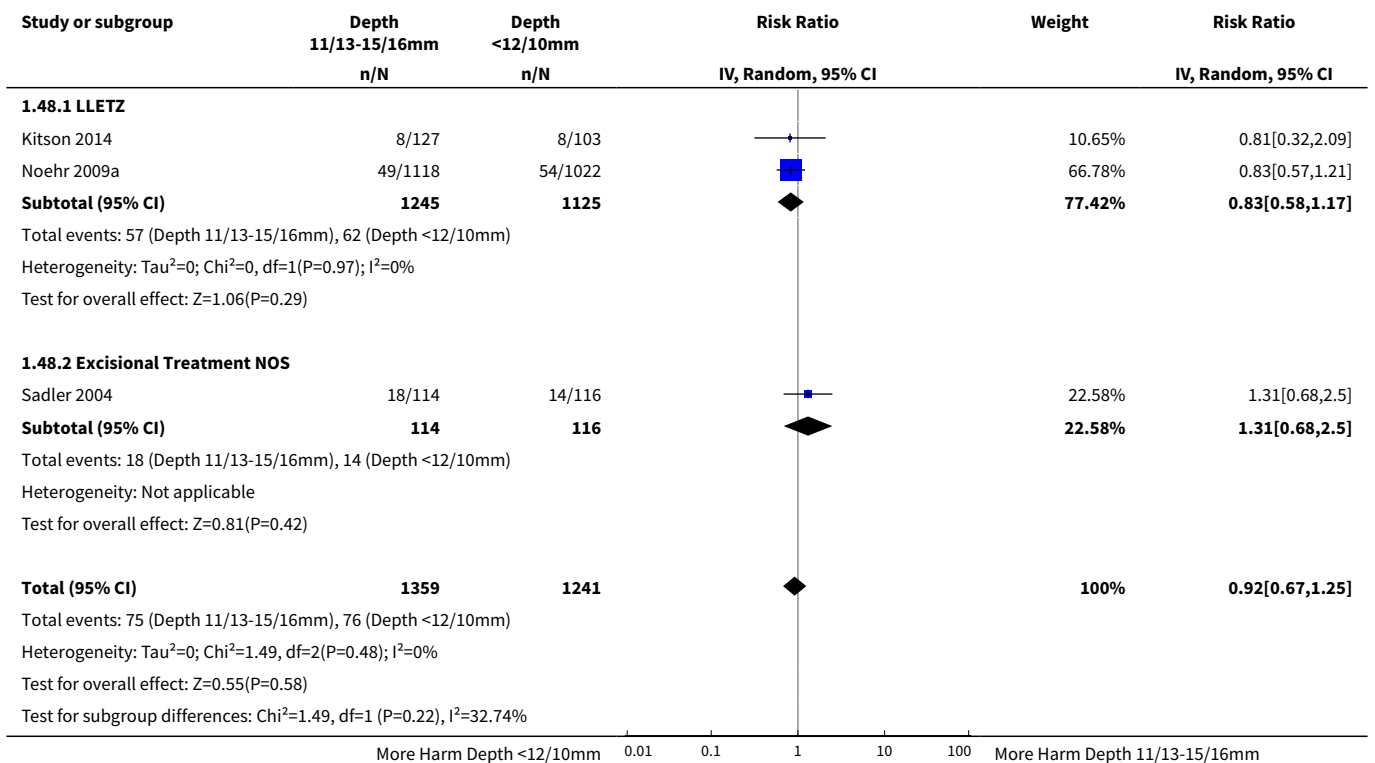




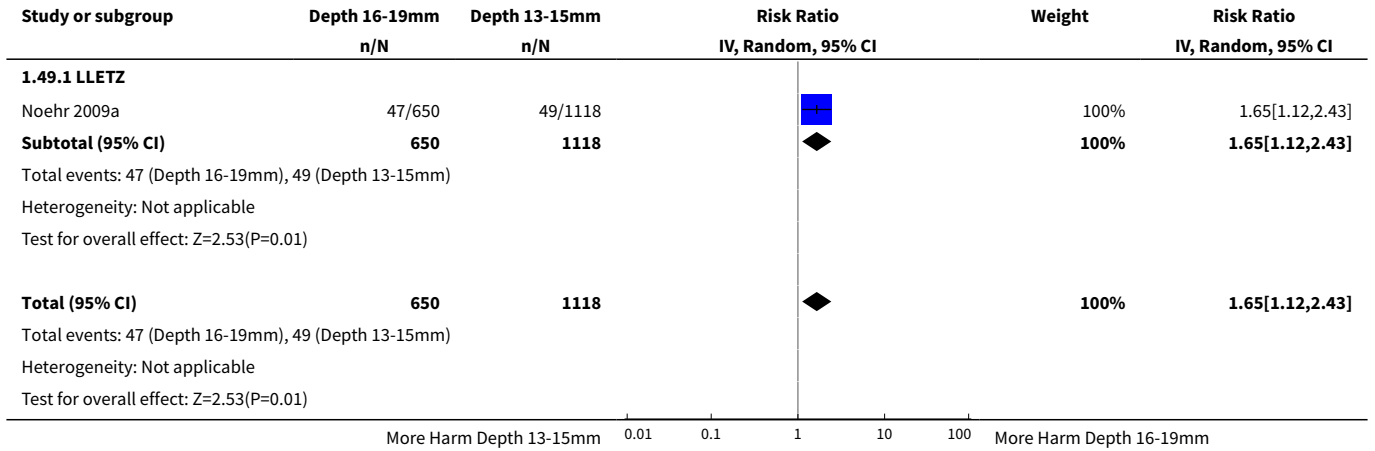
Analysis 1.47. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 47 PTB (<37w)-Volume>6cc vs <6cc.



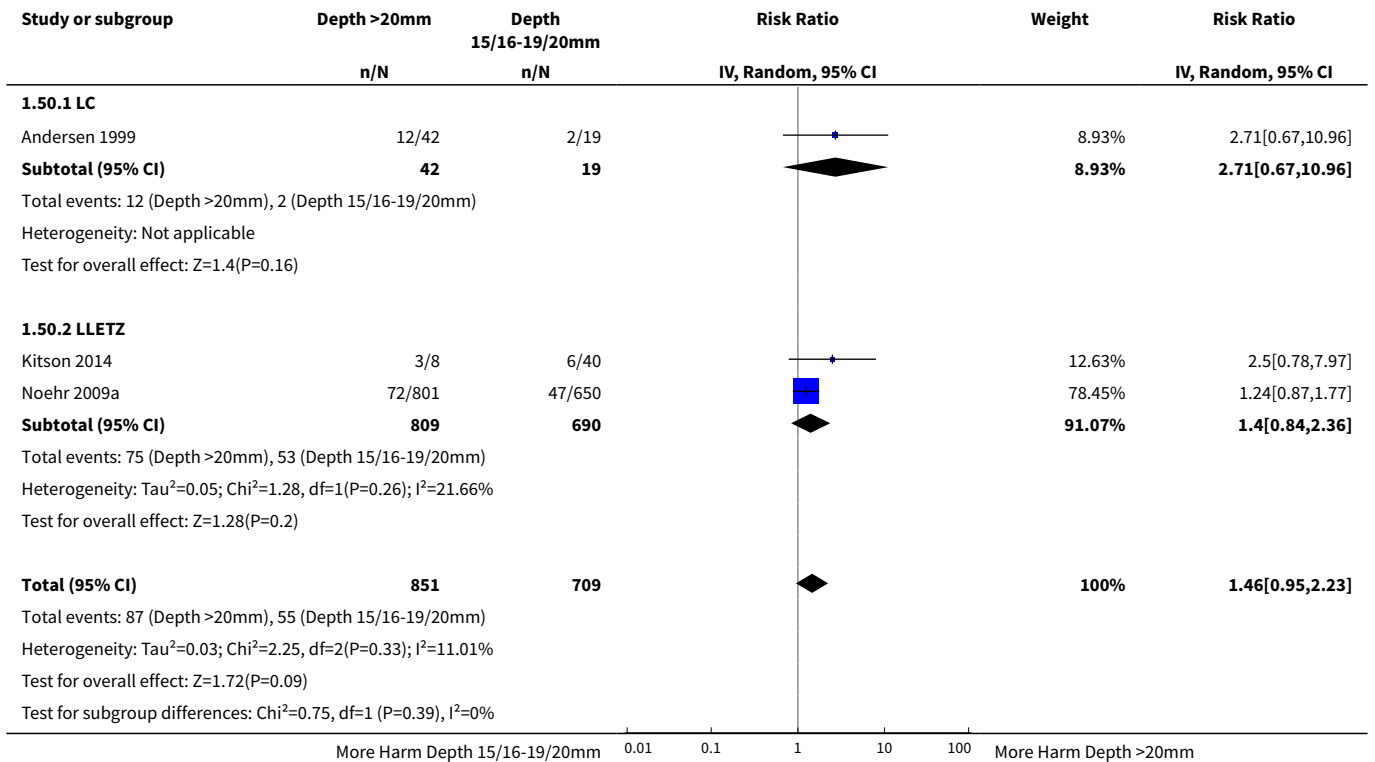
Analysis 1.48. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 48 PTB (<37w)-Depth 11/13-15/16mm vs ≤10-12mm.



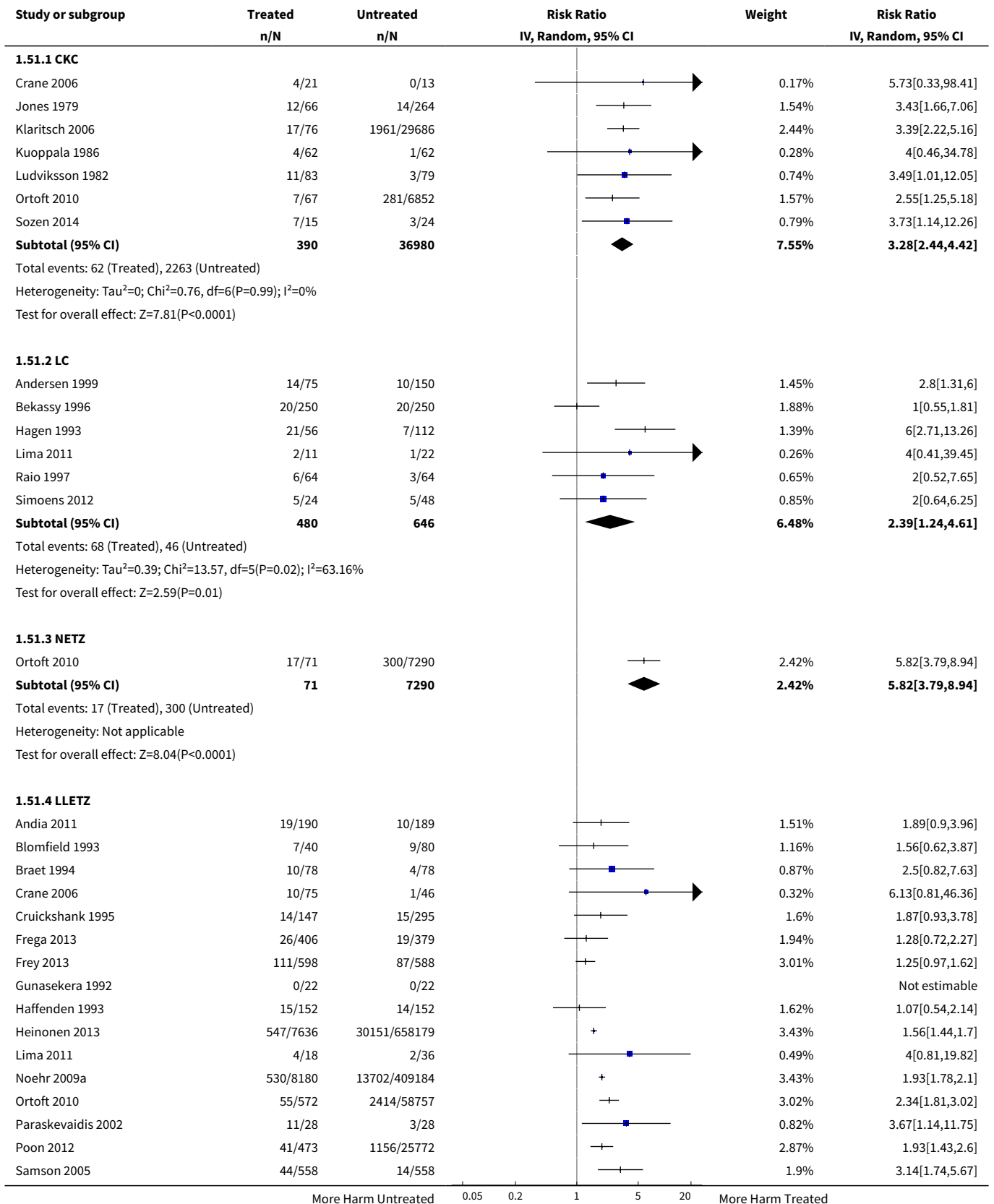
Analysis 1.49. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 49 PTB (<37w)-Depth 16-19mm vs 13-15mm.

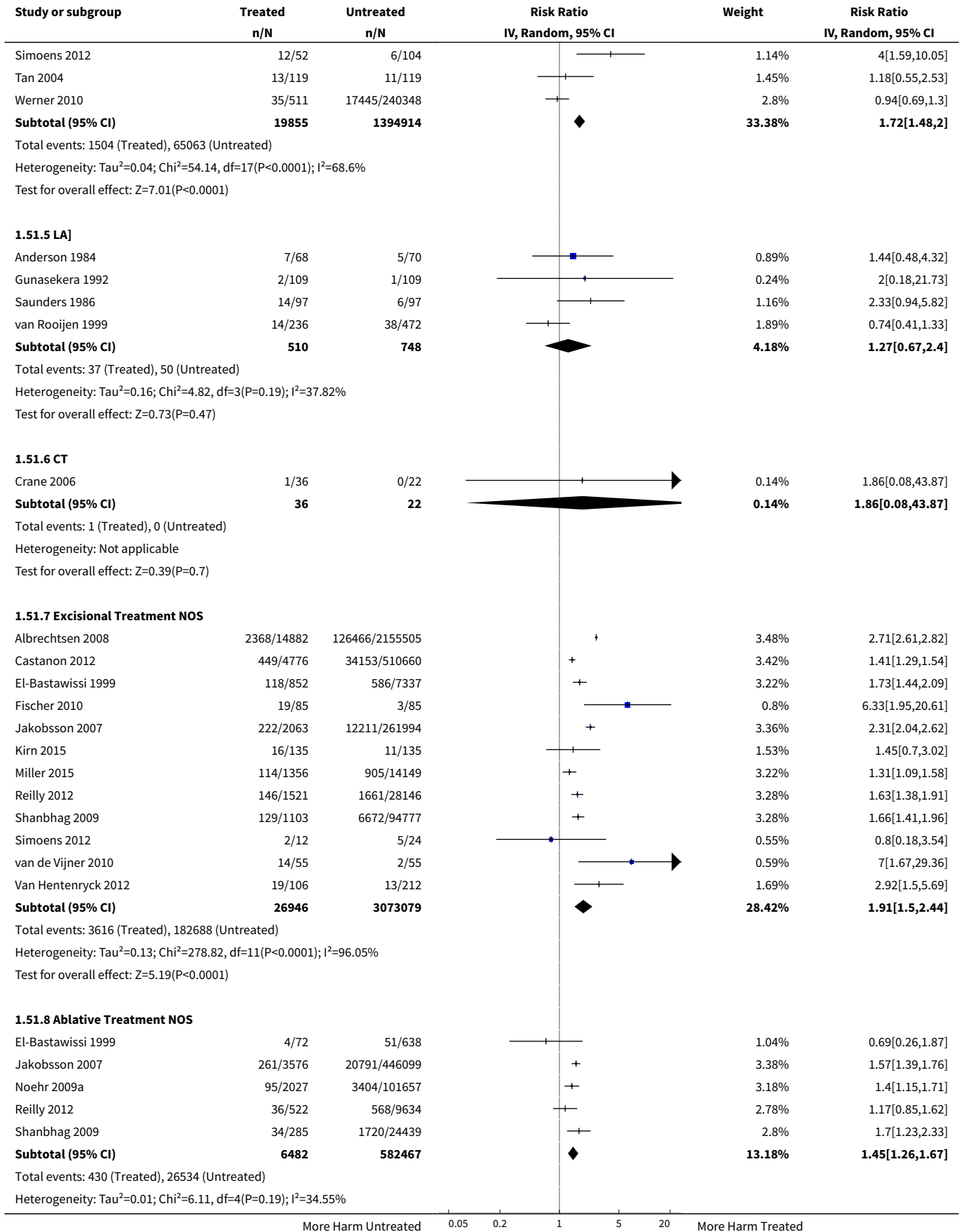


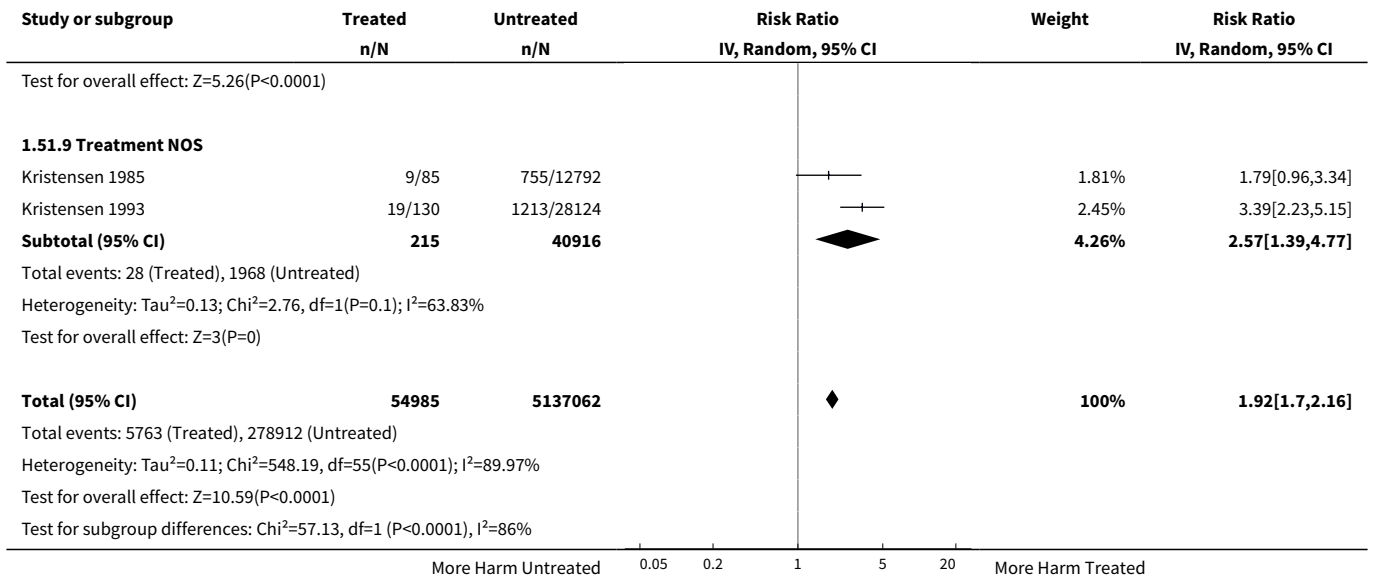
Analysis 1.50. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 50 PTB (<37w)-Depth ≥20mm vs 15/16-19/20mm.



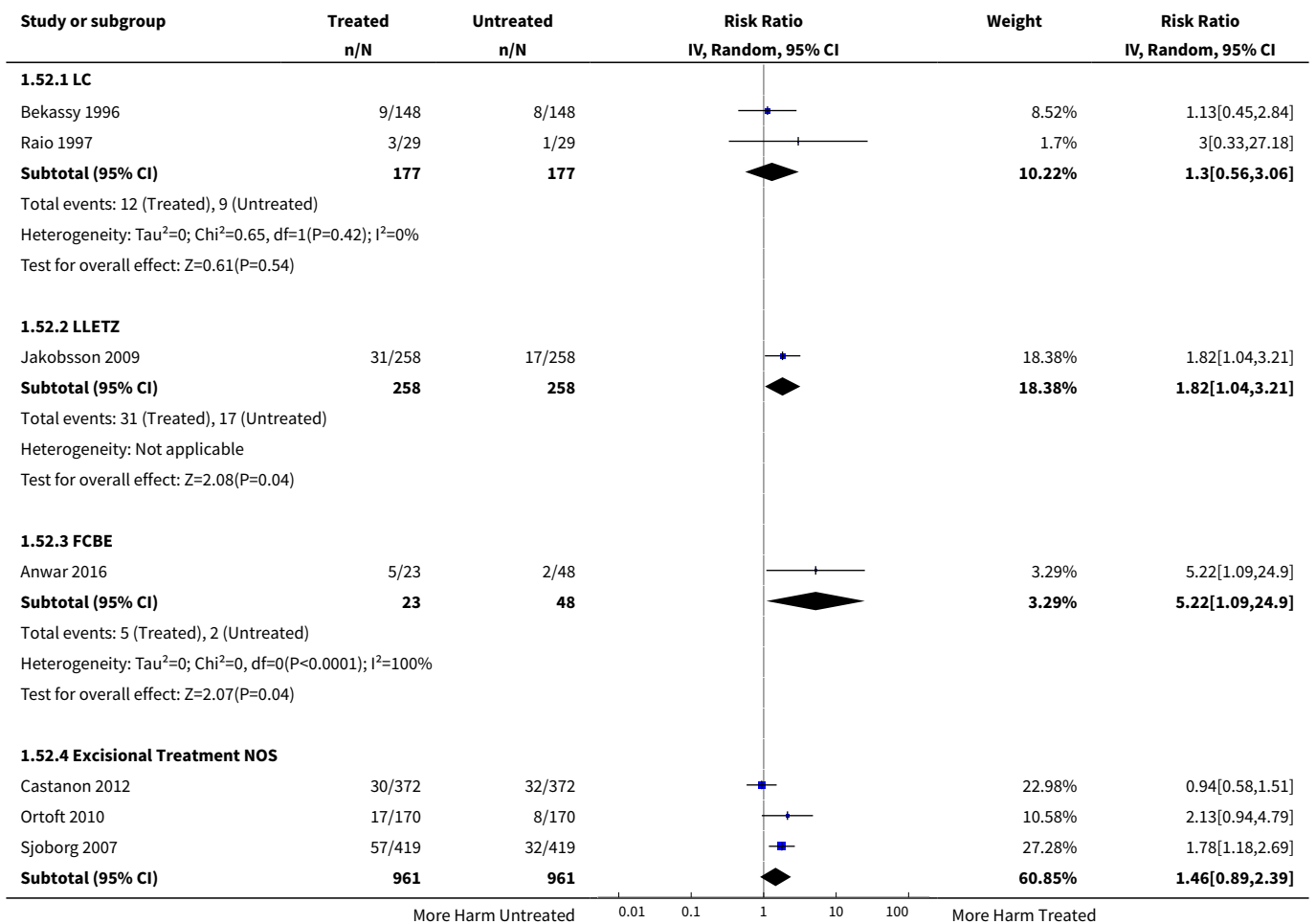
Analysis 1.51. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 51 PTB (<37w)-Untreated External Comparison Group.

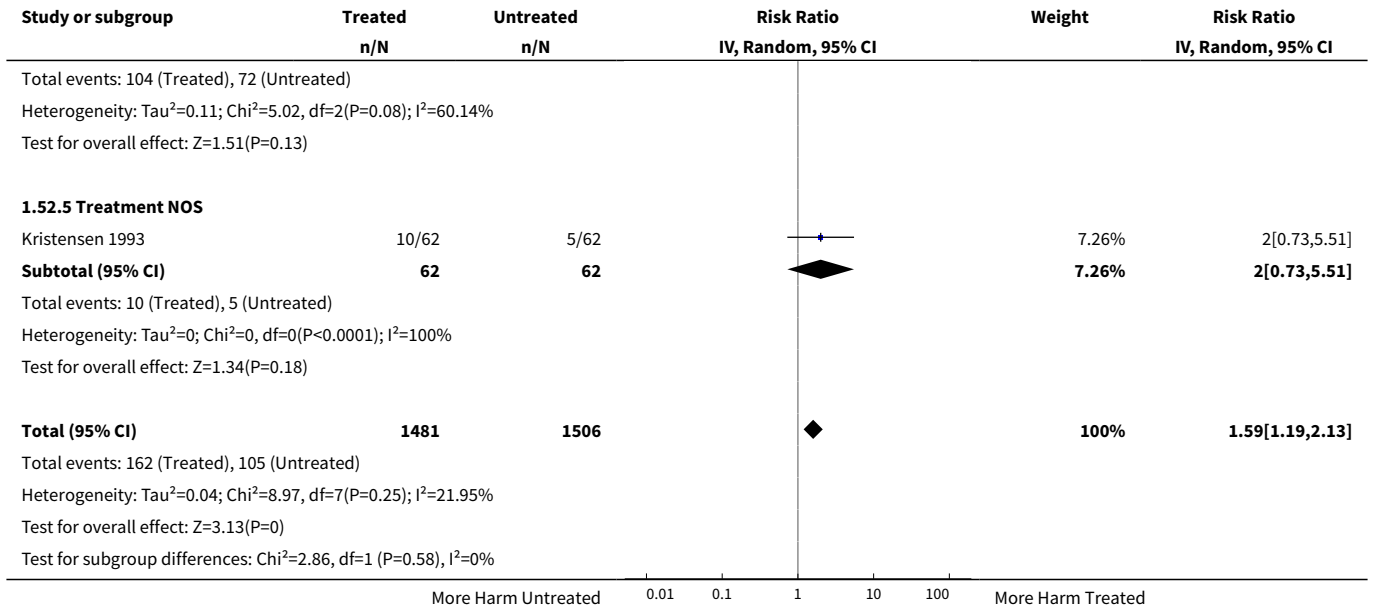




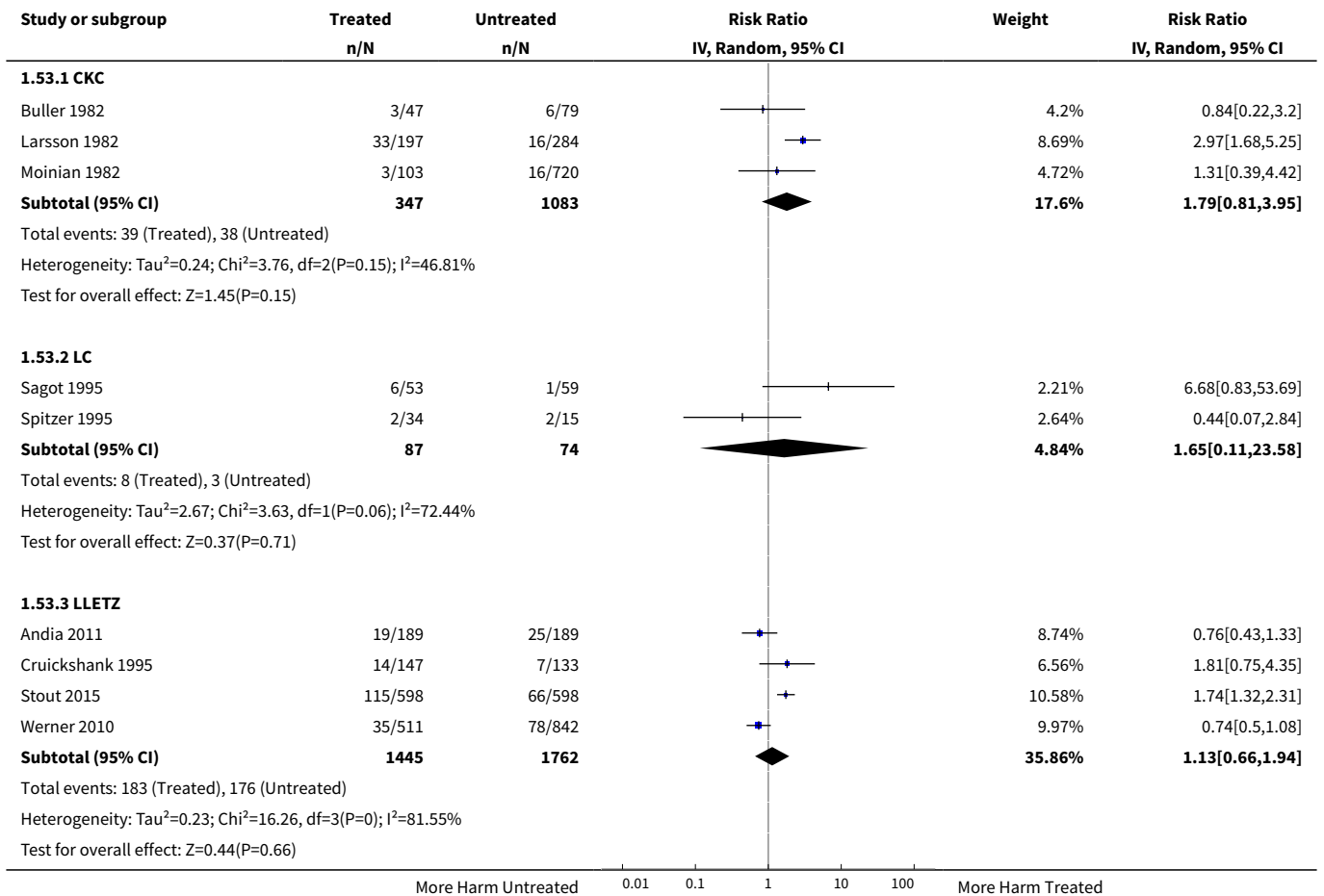


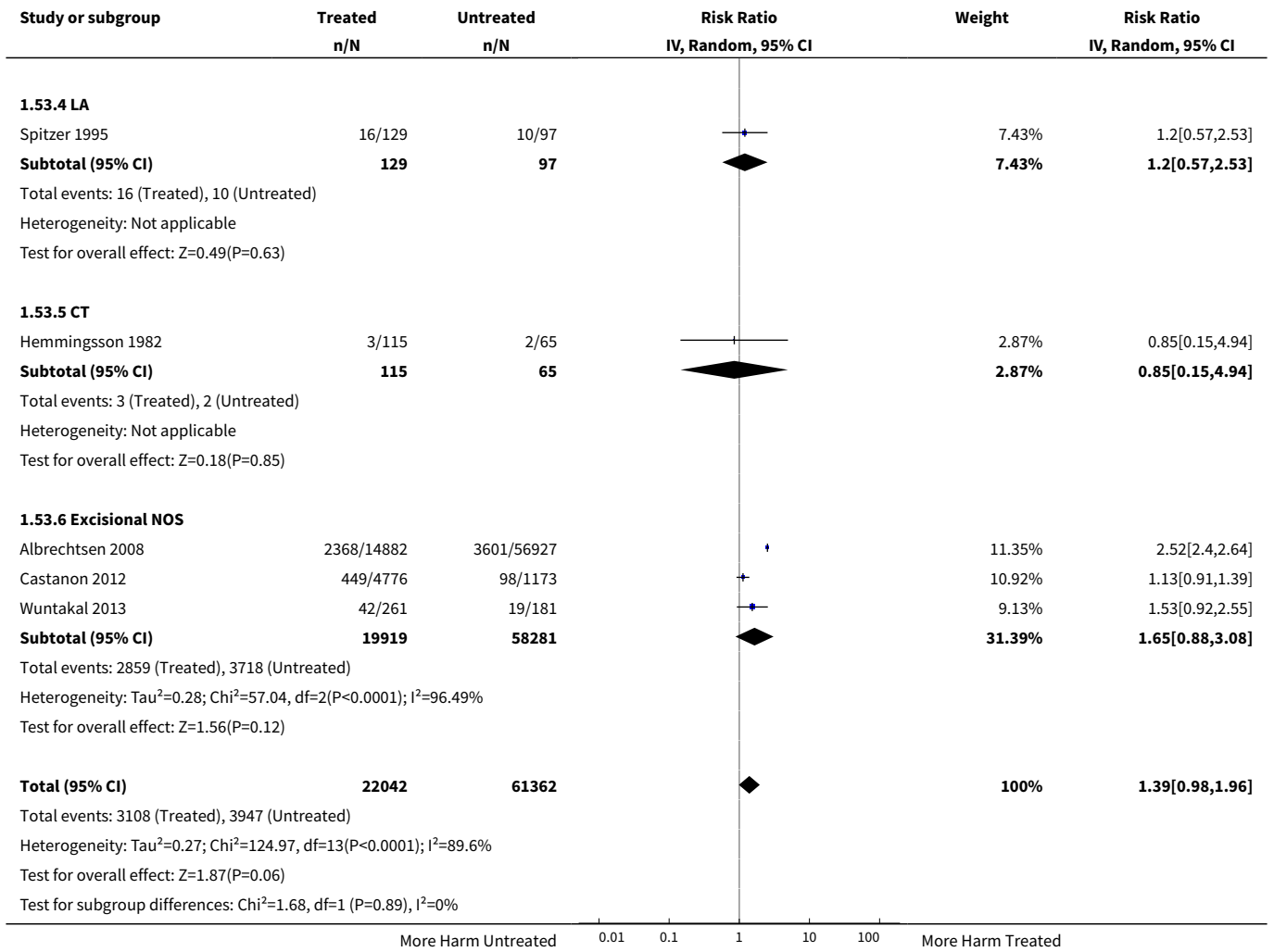
**Analysis 1.52. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 52
PTB (<37w)-Untreated Internal Comparison Group (self-matching).**



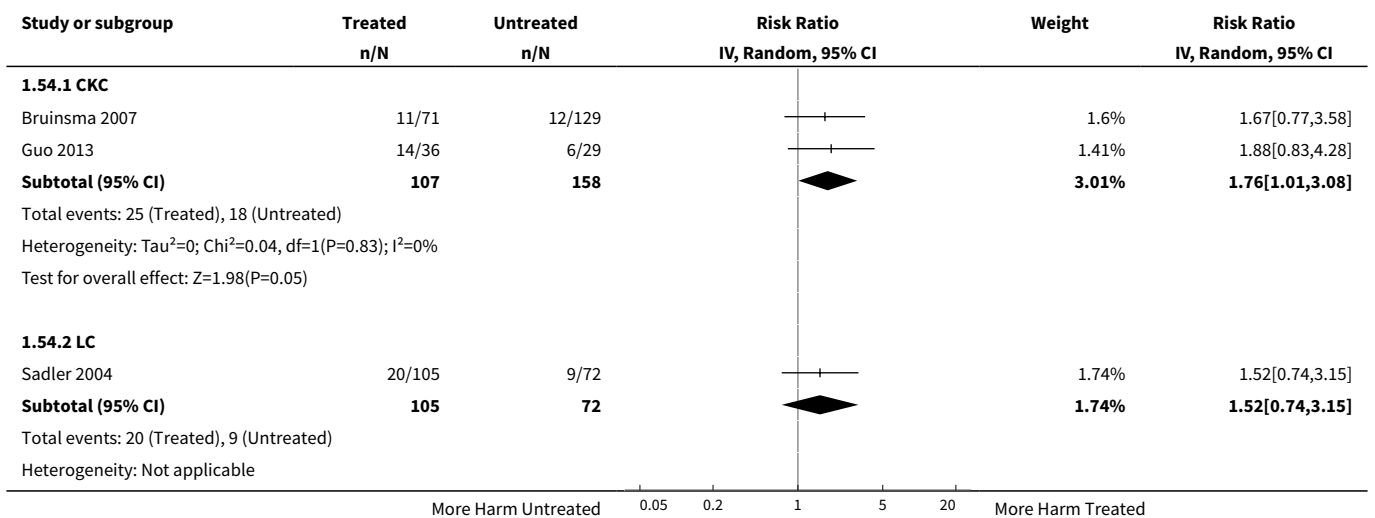


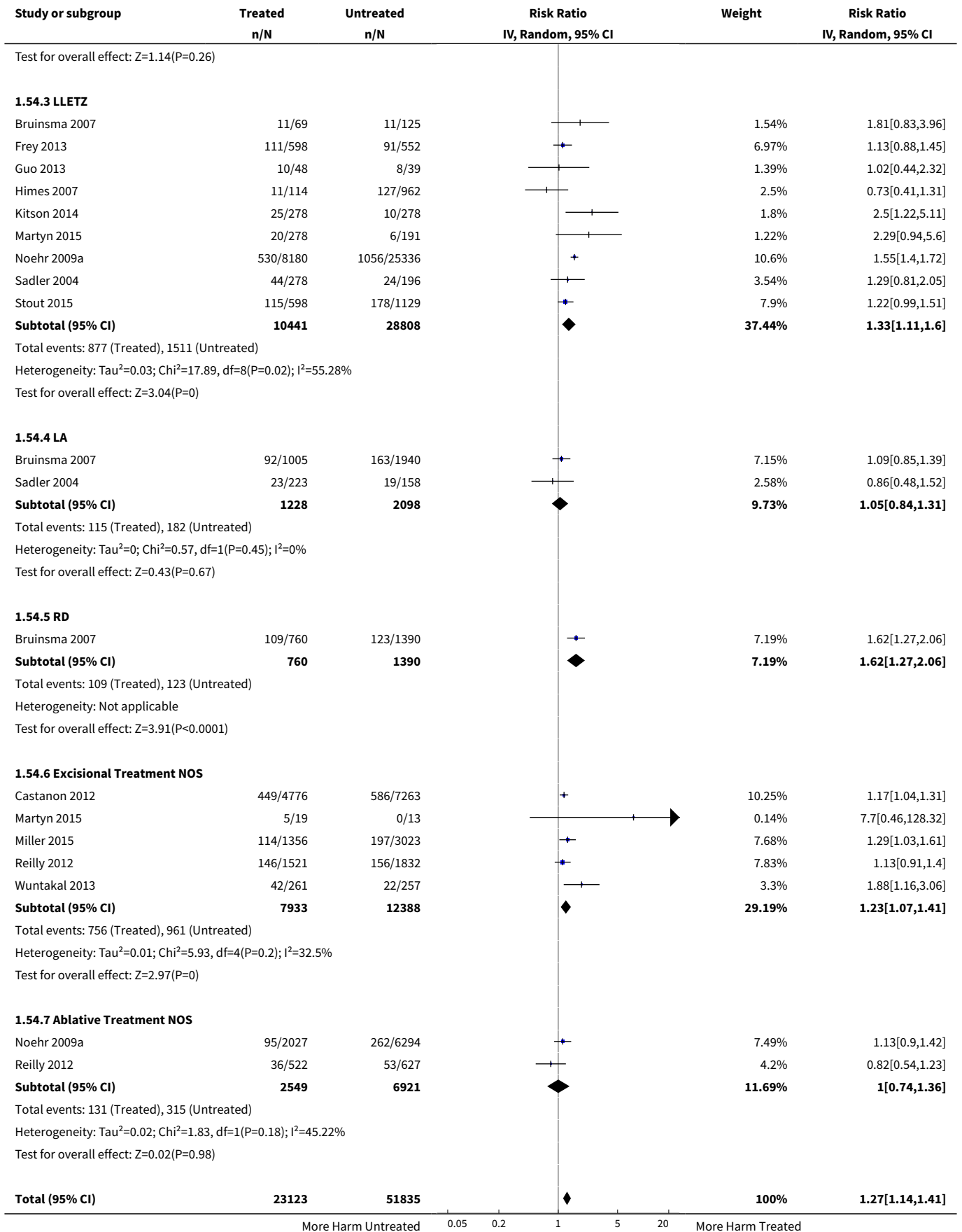
Analysis 1.53. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 53 PTB (<37w)-Untreated Internal Comparison Group (pre-treatment pregnancies).





**Analysis 1.54. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 54
PTB (<37w)-Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy Comparison Group.**





Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
Total events: 2033 (Treated), 3119 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.02; Chi ² =46.99, df=21(P=0); I ² =55.31%					
Test for overall effect: Z=4.48(P<0.0001)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =10.97, df=1 (P=0.09), I ² =45.31%					
More Harm Untreated 0.05 0.2 1 5 20 More Harm Treated					

Analysis 1.55. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 55 PTB (<37w)-Untreated HSIL Comparison Group.

Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.55.1 CKC					
Ortoft 2010	7/67	1/36		4.54%	3.76[0.48,29.39]
Subtotal (95% CI)	67	36		4.54%	3.76[0.48,29.39]
Total events: 7 (Treated), 1 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=1.26(P=0.21)					
1.55.2 NETZ					
Ortoft 2010	17/71	2/38		8.31%	4.55[1.11,18.66]
Subtotal (95% CI)	71	38		8.31%	4.55[1.11,18.66]
Total events: 17 (Treated), 2 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=2.1(P=0.04)					
1.55.3 LLETZ					
Ortoft 2010	55/572	12/309		20.91%	2.48[1.35,4.55]
Subtotal (95% CI)	572	309		20.91%	2.48[1.35,4.55]
Total events: 55 (Treated), 12 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=2.92(P=0)					
1.55.4 Excisional Treatment NOS					
El-Bastawissi 1999	118/852	28/250		26.37%	1.24[0.84,1.82]
Shanbhag 2009	129/1103	10/69		21.23%	0.81[0.44,1.46]
Subtotal (95% CI)	1955	319		47.6%	1.06[0.71,1.59]
Total events: 247 (Treated), 38 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.03; Chi ² =1.39, df=1(P=0.24); I ² =27.89%					
Test for overall effect: Z=0.3(P=0.76)					
1.55.5 Ablative Treatment NOS					
El-Bastawissi 1999	4/72	2/22		6.67%	0.61[0.12,3.12]
Shanbhag 2009	34/285	3/18		11.98%	0.72[0.24,2.11]
Subtotal (95% CI)	357	40		18.65%	0.68[0.28,1.68]
Total events: 38 (Treated), 5 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0; Chi ² =0.03, df=1(P=0.87); I ² =0%					
Test for overall effect: Z=0.83(P=0.4)					
Total (95% CI)	3022	742		100%	1.37[0.85,2.19]
Total events: 364 (Treated), 58 (Untreated)					
More Harm Untreated 0.05 0.2 1 5 20 More Harm Treated					

Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
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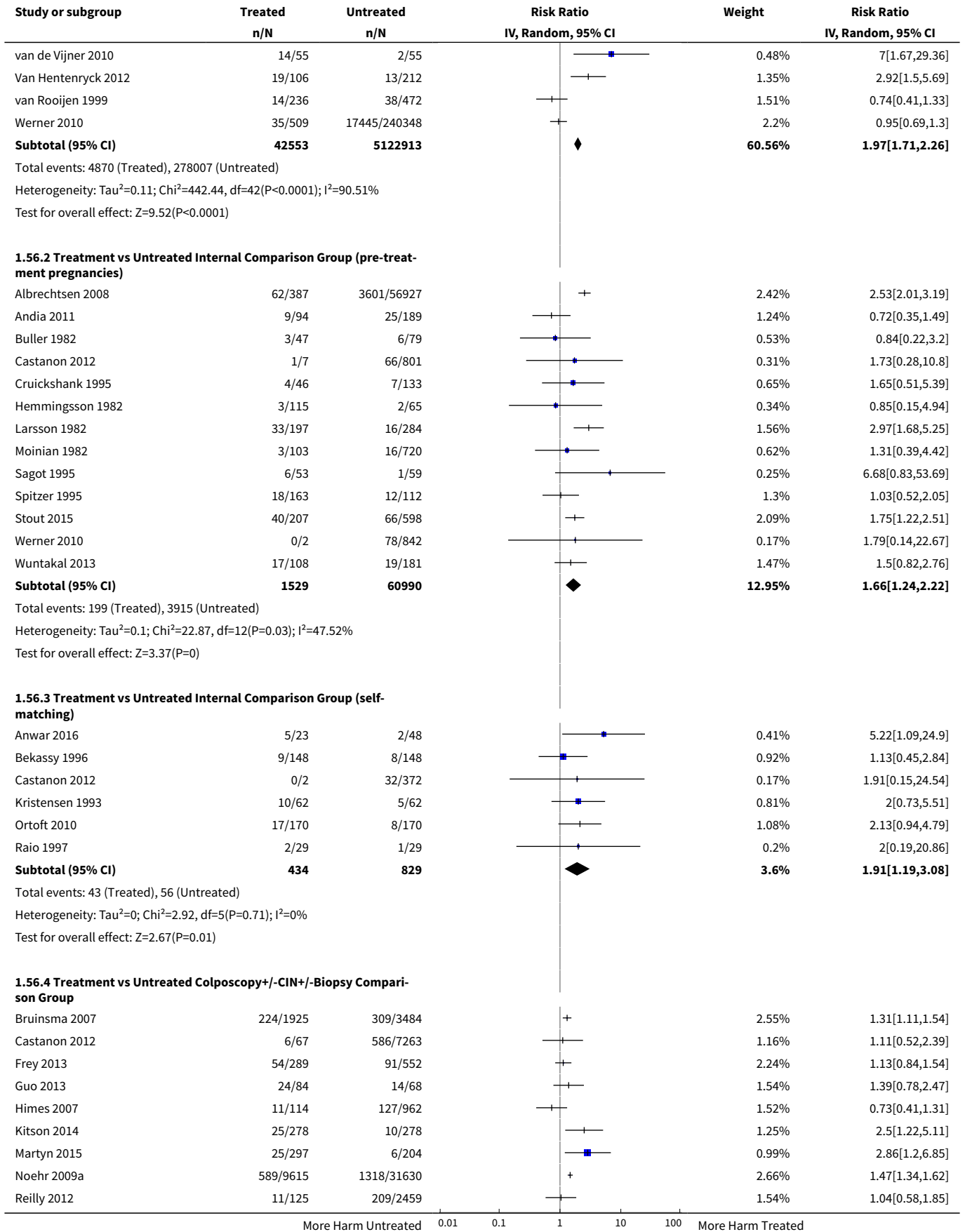
Heterogeneity: Tau²=0.18; Chi²=12.87, df=6(P=0.05); I²=53.38%
 Test for overall effect: Z=1.3(P=0.19)
 Test for subgroup differences: Chi²=11.18, df=1 (P=0.02), I²=64.23%

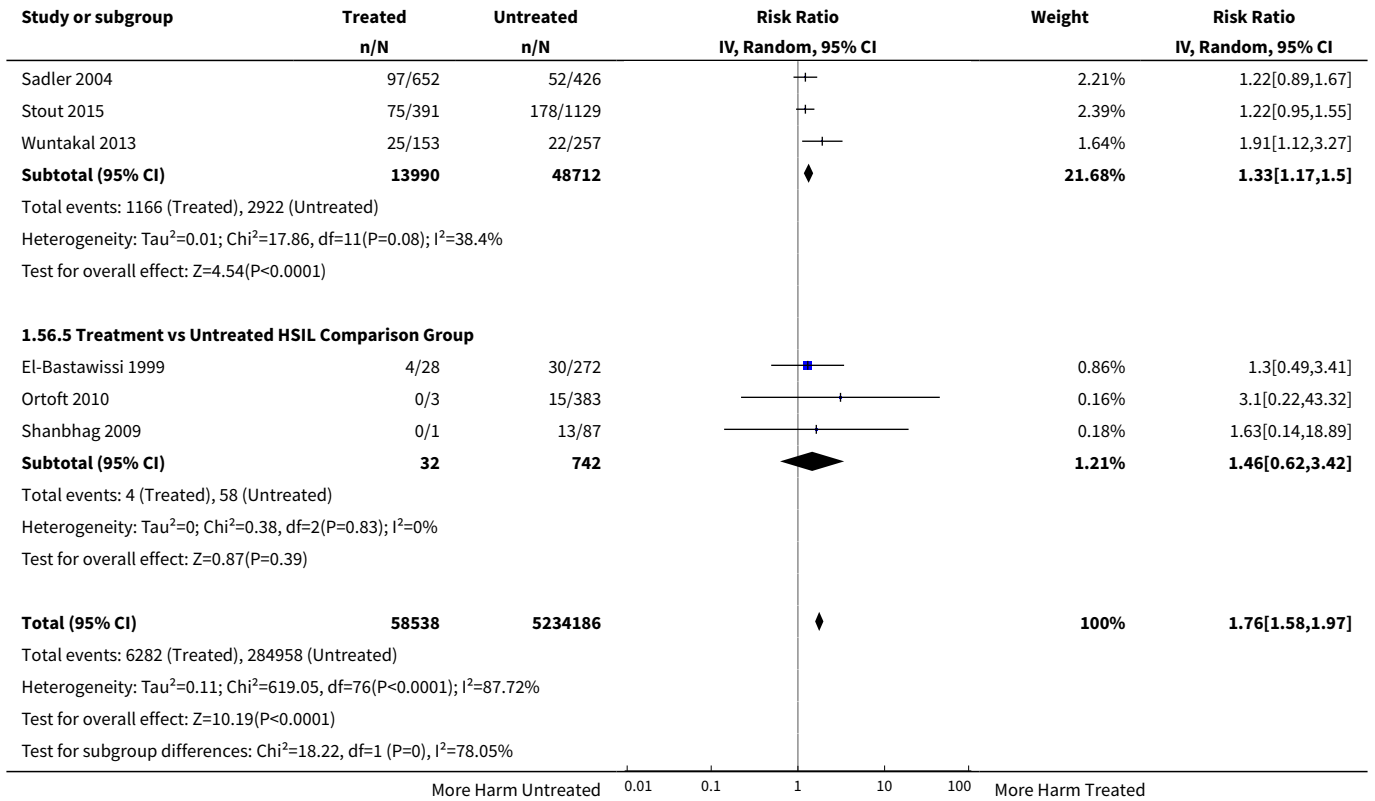
More Harm Untreated 0.05 0.2 1 5 20 More Harm Treated

Analysis 1.56. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 56 PTB (<37w)-All Comparison Groups.

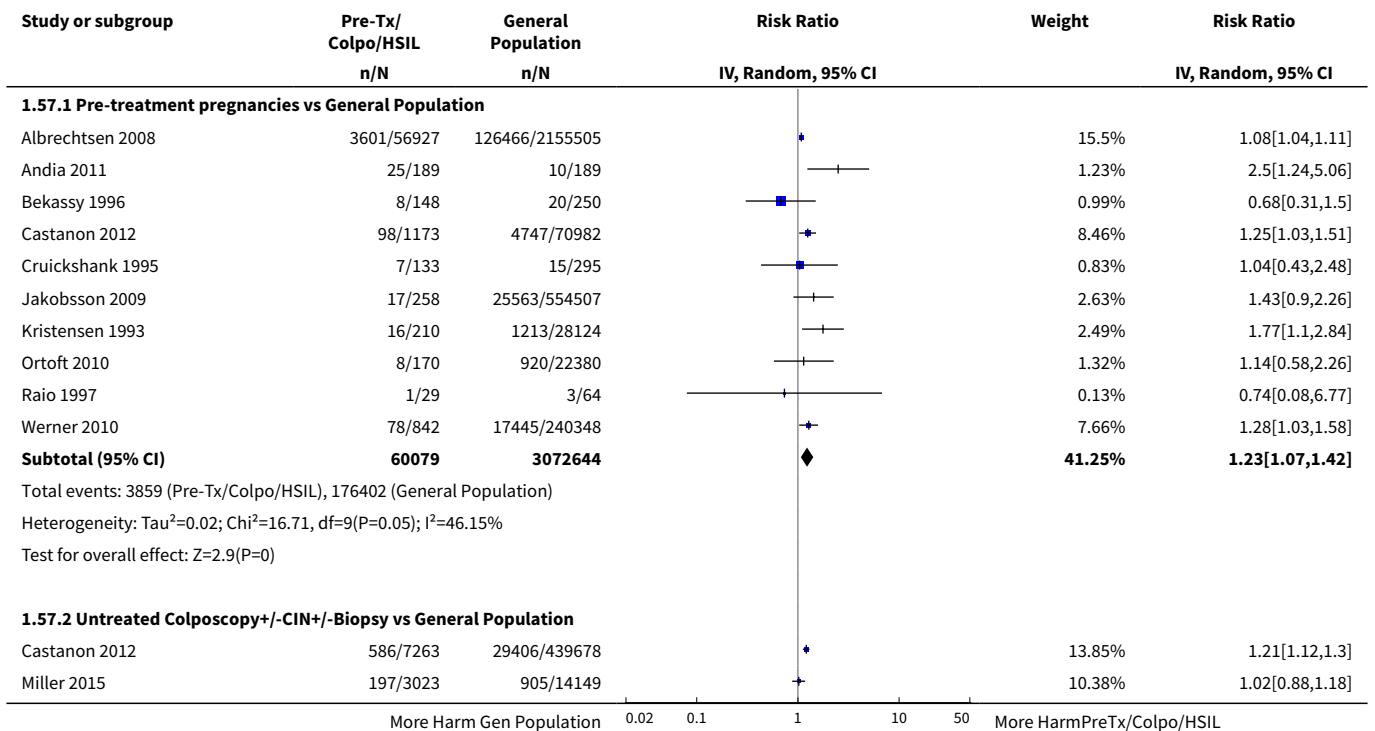
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.56.1 Treatment vs Untreated External Comparison Group					
Albrechtsen 2008	2306/14495	126466/2155505		2.7%	2.71[2.61,2.82]
Andersen 1999	14/75	10/150		1.17%	2.8[1.31,6]
Anderson 1984	7/68	5/70		0.72%	1.44[0.48,4.32]
Andia 2011	10/95	10/189		1.04%	1.99[0.86,4.61]
Bekassy 1996	11/102	20/250		1.28%	1.35[0.67,2.71]
Blomfield 1993	7/40	9/80		0.94%	1.56[0.62,3.87]
Braet 1994	10/78	4/78		0.71%	2.5[0.82,7.63]
Castanon 2012	442/4700	34153/510660		2.66%	1.41[1.29,1.54]
Crane 2006	15/132	1/81		0.27%	9.2[1.24,68.37]
Cruikshank 1995	10/101	15/295		1.16%	1.95[0.9,4.2]
El-Bastawissi 1999	118/896	637/7975		2.52%	1.65[1.37,1.98]
Fischer 2010	19/85	3/85		0.65%	6.33[1.95,20.61]
Frega 2013	26/406	19/379		1.55%	1.28[0.72,2.27]
Frey 2013	57/309	87/588		2.24%	1.25[0.92,1.69]
Gunasekera 1992	2/131	1/131		0.19%	2[0.18,21.79]
Haffenden 1993	15/152	14/152		1.29%	1.07[0.54,2.14]
Hagen 1993	21/56	7/112		1.11%	6[2.71,13.26]
Heinonen 2013	547/7636	30151/658179		2.67%	1.56[1.44,1.7]
Jakobsson 2007	483/5639	33002/708093		2.66%	1.84[1.69,2]
Jones 1979	12/66	14/264		1.24%	3.43[1.66,7.06]
Kirn 2015	16/135	11/135		1.22%	1.45[0.7,3.02]
Klaritsch 2006	17/76	1961/29686		1.93%	3.39[2.22,5.16]
Kristensen 1985	9/85	755/12792		1.44%	1.79[0.96,3.34]
Kristensen 1993	9/68	1213/28124		1.46%	3.07[1.67,5.65]
Kuoppala 1986	4/62	1/62		0.23%	4[0.46,34.78]
Lima 2011	6/29	3/58		0.55%	4[1.08,14.86]
Ludviksson 1982	11/83	3/79		0.6%	3.49[1.01,12.05]
Noehr 2009a	36/592	17106/510841		2.2%	1.82[1.32,2.49]
Ortoft 2010	62/537	2995/72899		2.4%	2.81[2.22,3.56]
Paraskevaidis 2002	11/28	3/28		0.66%	3.67[1.14,11.75]
Poon 2012	41/473	1156/25772		2.25%	1.93[1.43,2.6]
Raio 1997	3/35	3/64		0.42%	1.83[0.39,8.58]
Reilly 2012	171/1918	2229/37780		2.58%	1.51[1.3,1.75]
Samson 2005	44/558	14/558		1.51%	3.14[1.74,5.67]
Saunders 1986	14/97	6/97		0.93%	2.33[0.94,5.82]
Shanbhag 2009	163/1387	8392/119216		2.58%	1.67[1.44,1.93]
Simoens 2012	19/88	16/176		1.46%	2.38[1.29,4.39]
Sozen 2014	7/15	3/24		0.64%	3.73[1.14,12.26]
Tan 2004	13/119	11/119		1.17%	1.18[0.55,2.53]

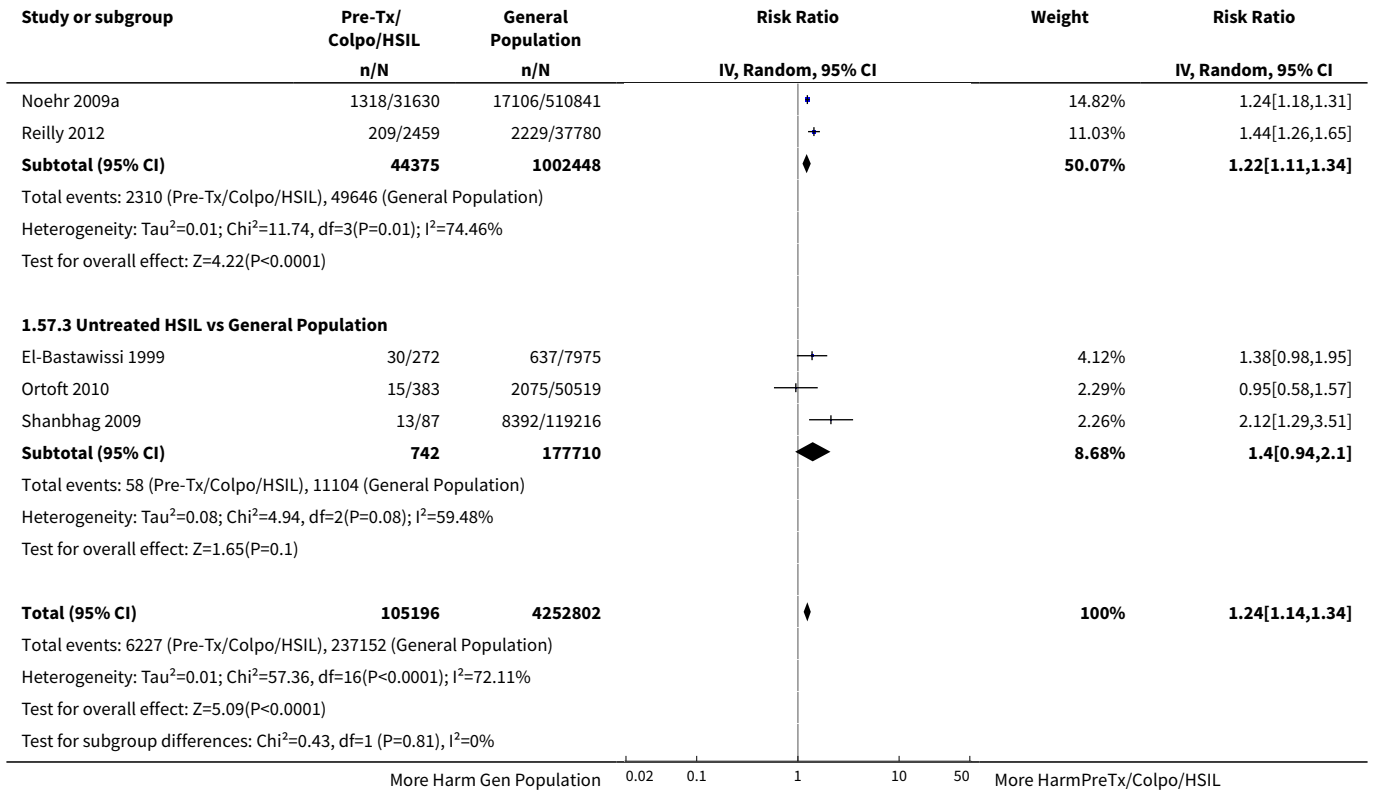
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated



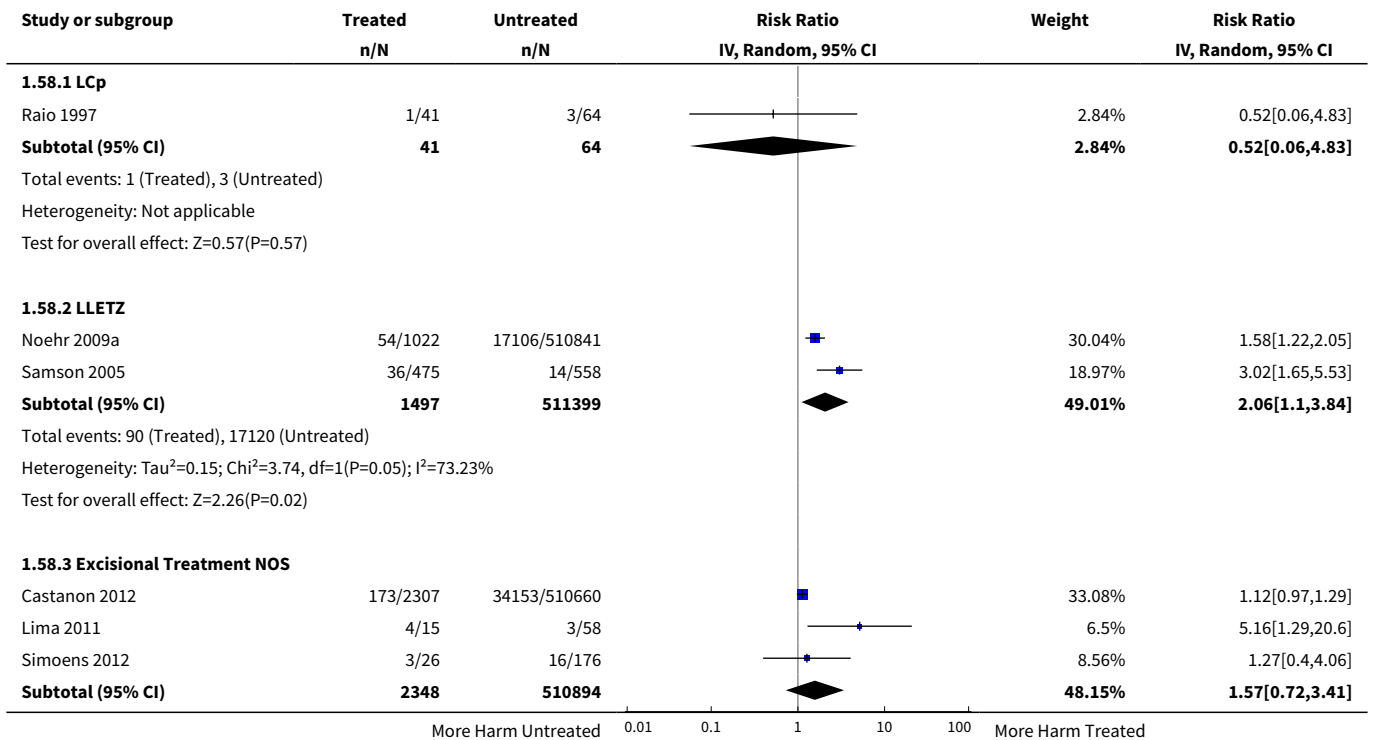


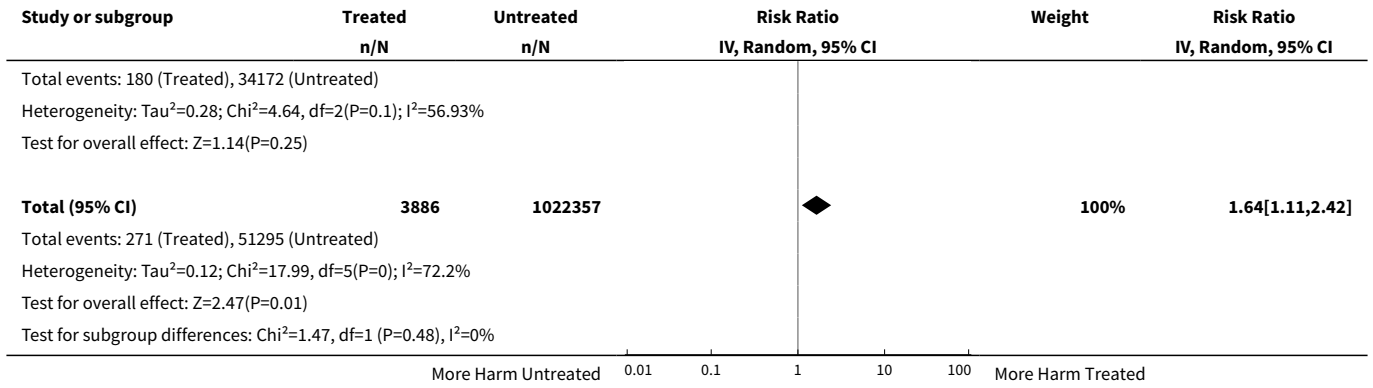
Analysis 1.57. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 57 PTB (<37w)-Untreated High-risk Population vs General Population.



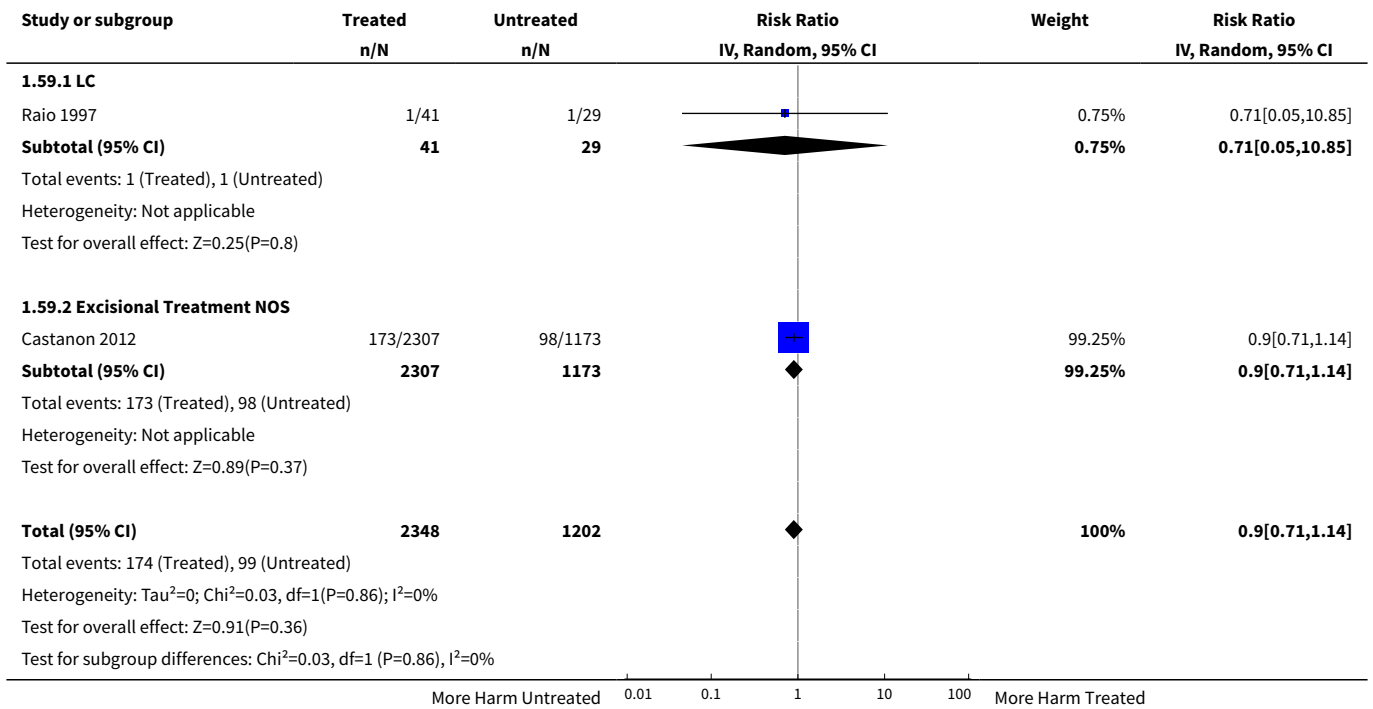


**Analysis 1.58. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 58
PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.**

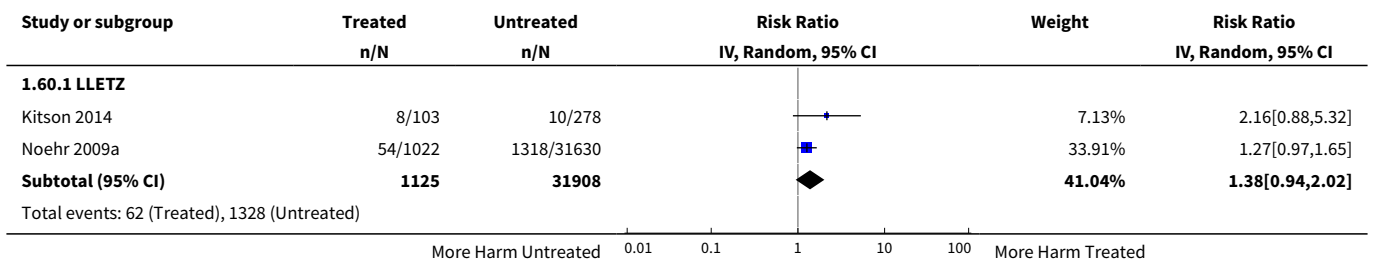


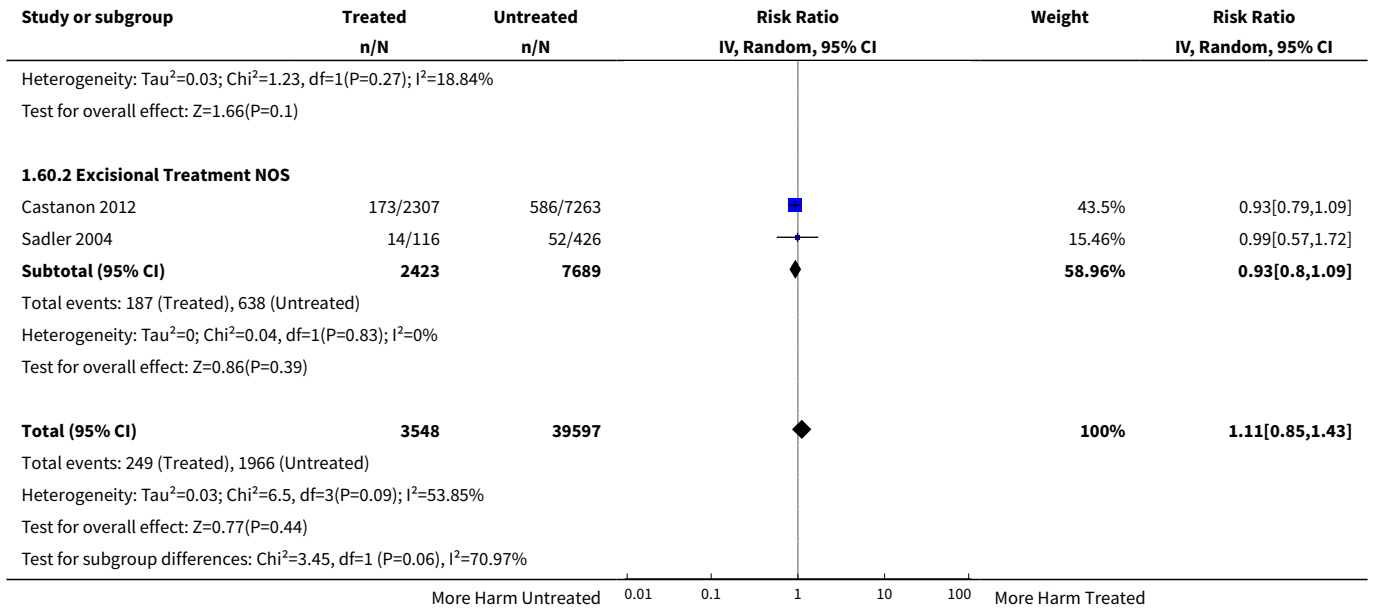


**Analysis 1.59. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 59
PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm vs Untreated Internal Comparison Group.**

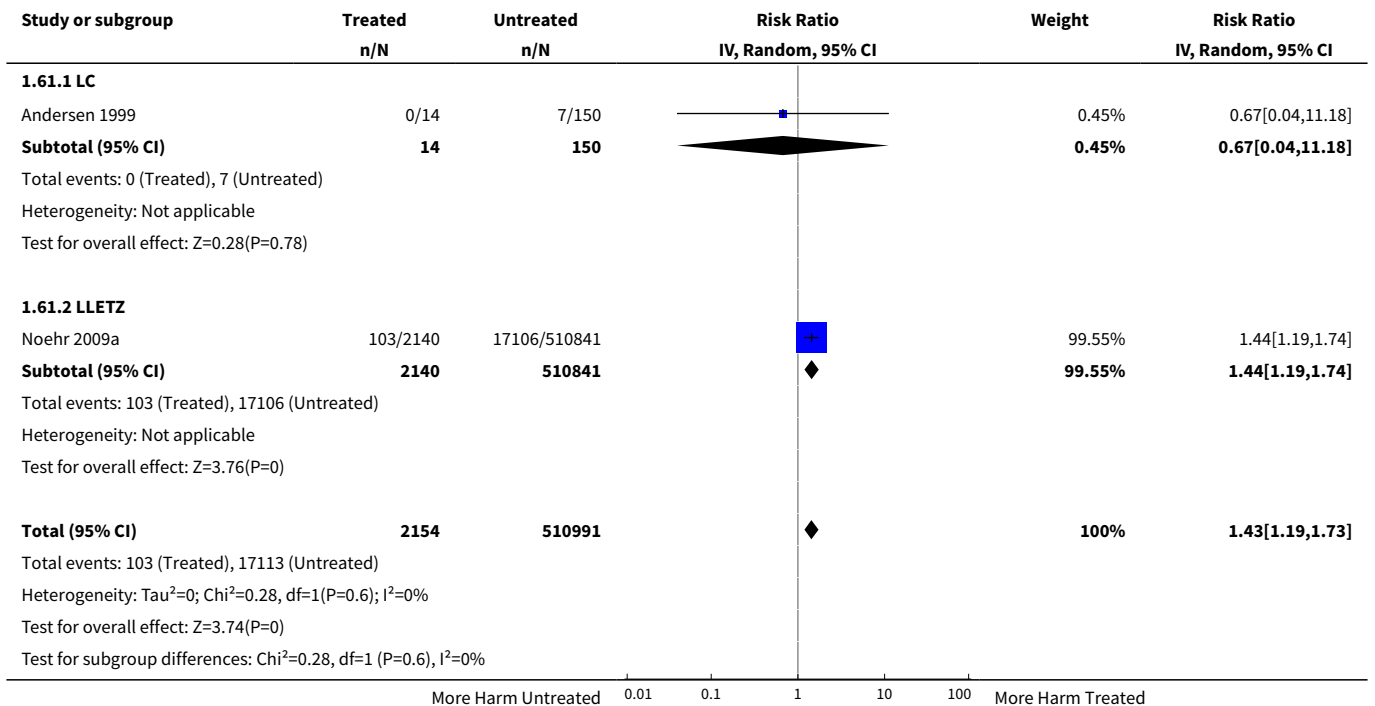


**Analysis 1.60. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 60
PTB (<37w)-Depth≤10-12mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.**

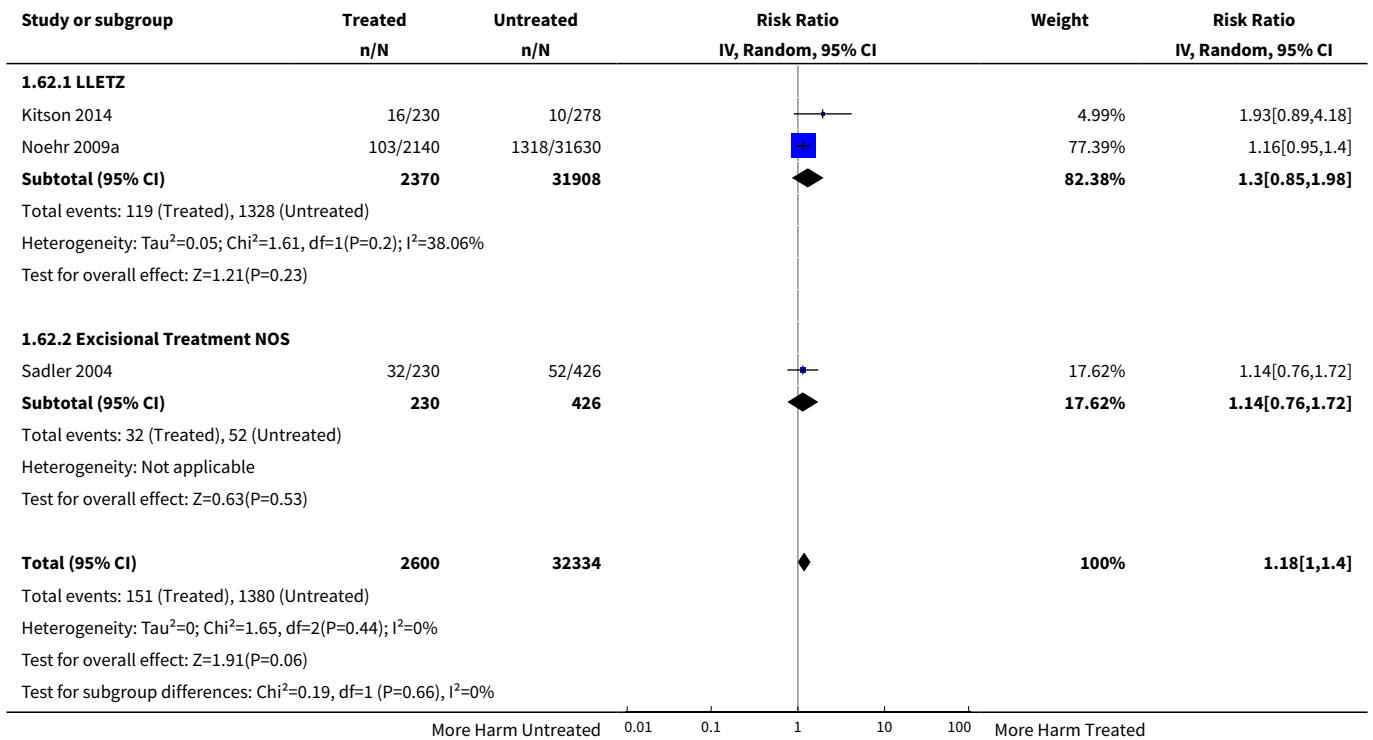




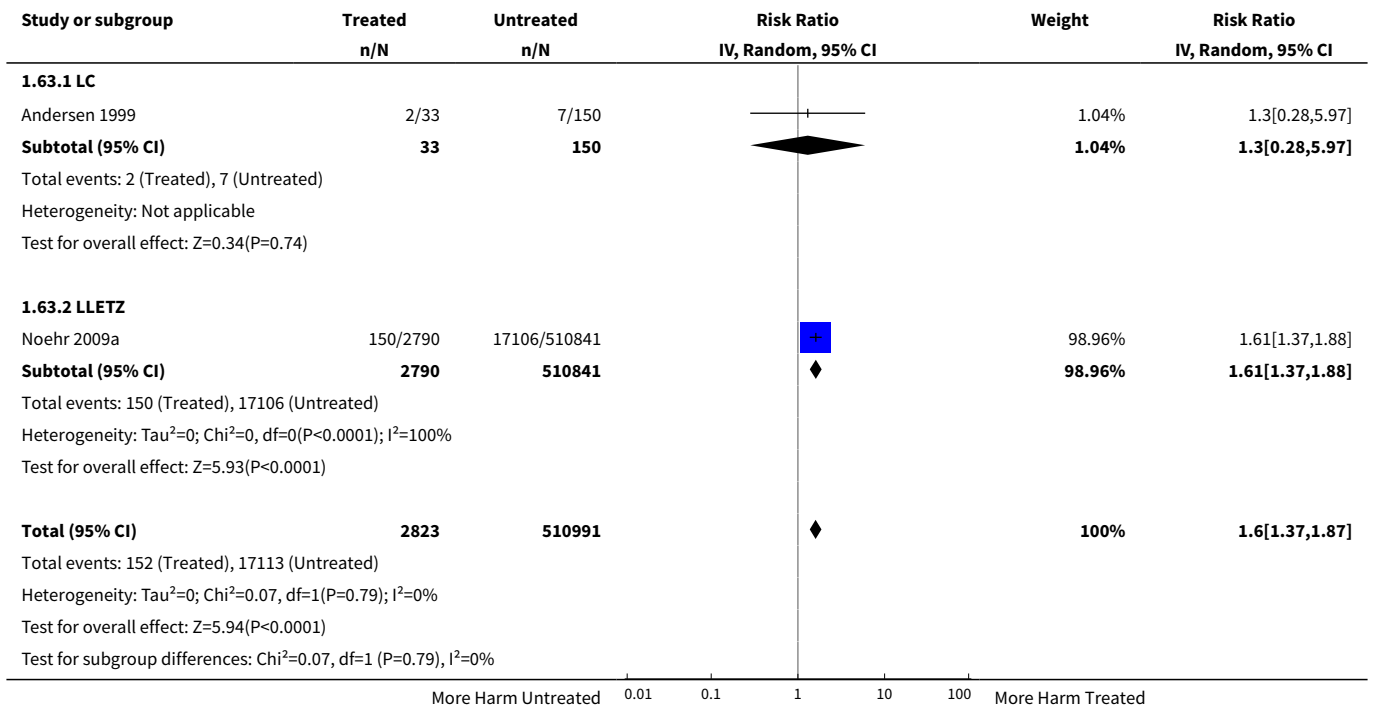
**Analysis 1.61. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 61
PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15-17mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.**



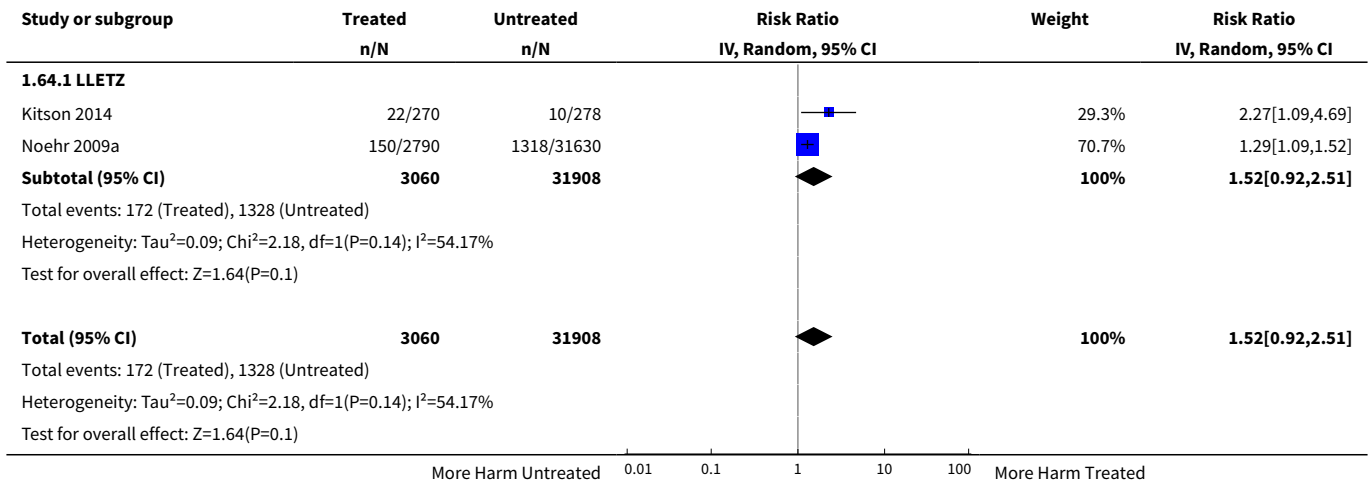
**Analysis 1.62. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 62
PTB (<37w)-Depth≤15-17mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.**



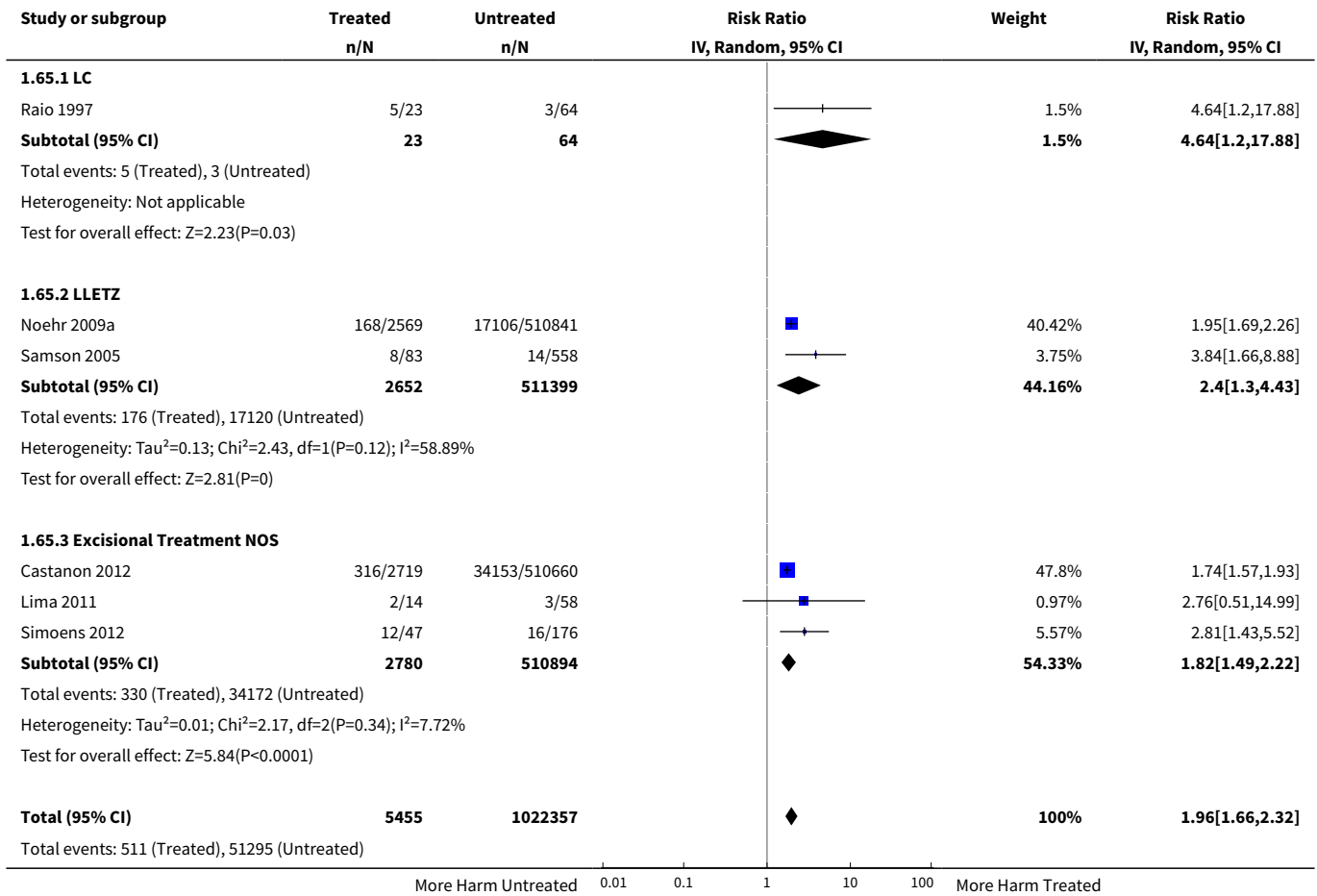
**Analysis 1.63. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 63
PTB (<37w)-Depth≤20mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.**



**Analysis 1.64. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 64
PTB (<37w)-Depth≤20mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.**



**Analysis 1.65. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 65
PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.**



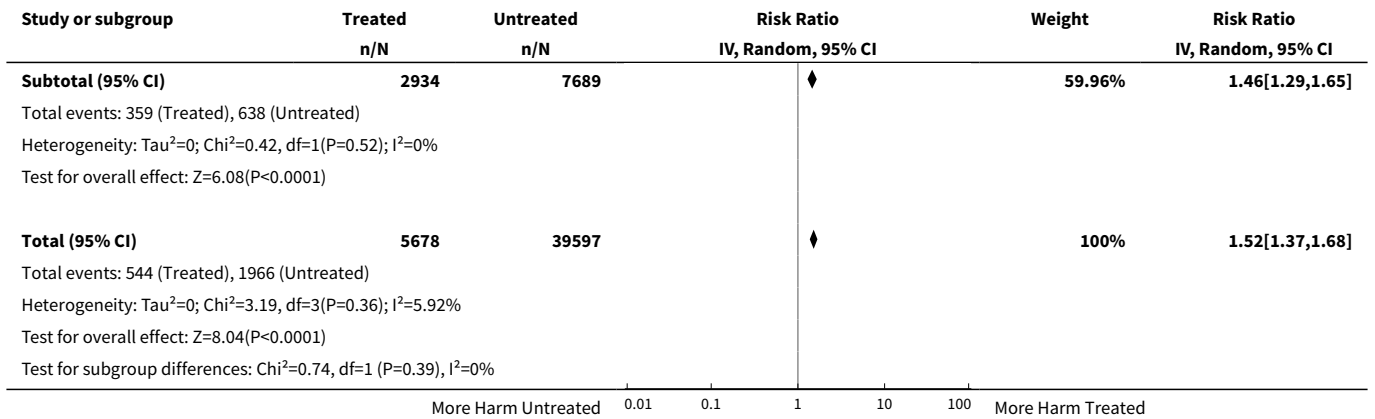
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.01; Chi ² =8.28, df=5(P=0.14); I ² =39.65%					
Test for overall effect: Z=7.9(P<0.0001)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =2.43, df=1 (P=0.3), I ² =17.53%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

**Analysis 1.66. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 66
PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs Untreated Internal Comparison Group.**

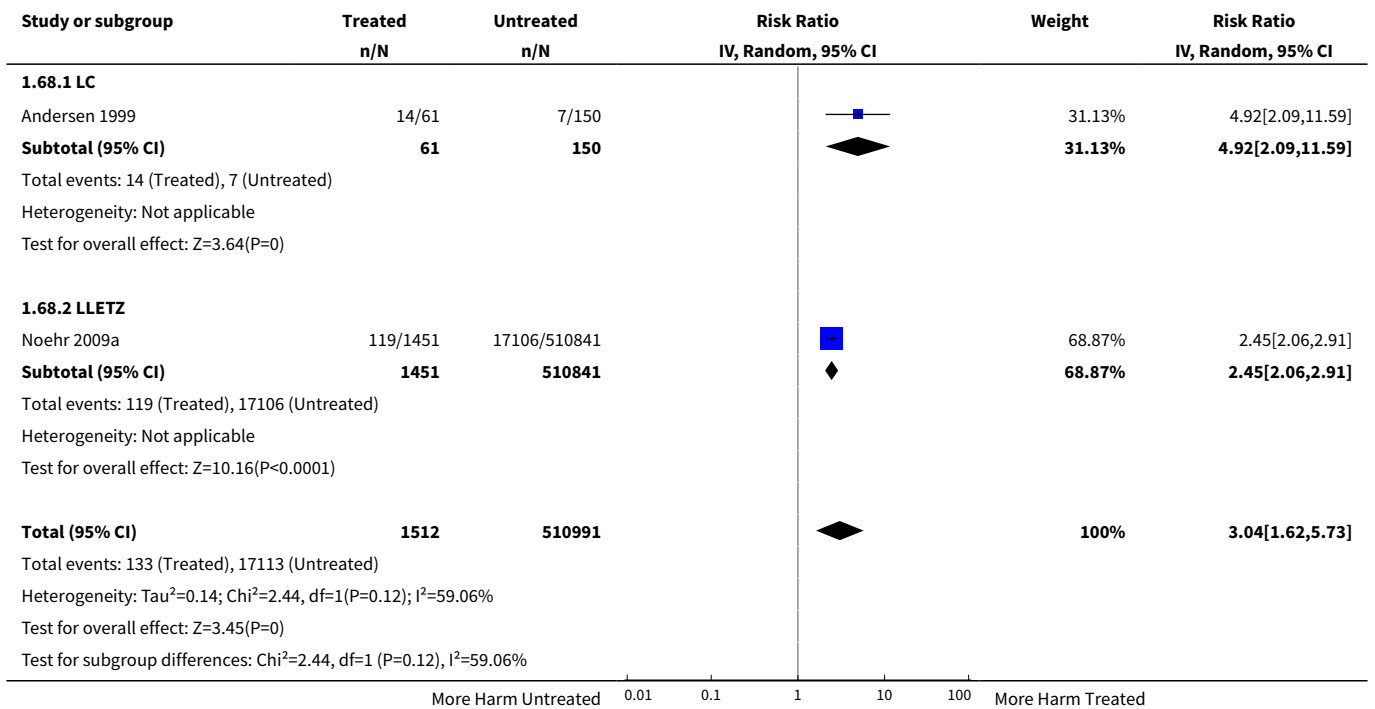
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.66.1 LC					
Raio 1997	5/23	1/29		25.7%	6.3[0.79,50.27]
Subtotal (95% CI)	23	29		25.7%	6.3[0.79,50.27]
Total events: 5 (Treated), 1 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=1.74(P=0.08)					
1.66.2 Excisional Treatment NOS					
Castanon 2012	316/2719	98/1173		74.3%	1.39[1.12,1.73]
Subtotal (95% CI)	2719	1173		74.3%	1.39[1.12,1.73]
Total events: 316 (Treated), 98 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=2.99(P=0)					
Total (95% CI)	2742	1202		100%	2.05[0.56,7.48]
Total events: 321 (Treated), 99 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.57; Chi ² =2.01, df=1(P=0.16); I ² =50.33%					
Test for overall effect: Z=1.09(P=0.28)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =2.01, df=1 (P=0.16), I ² =50.33%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

**Analysis 1.67. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 67
PTB (<37w)-Depth≥10-12mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.**

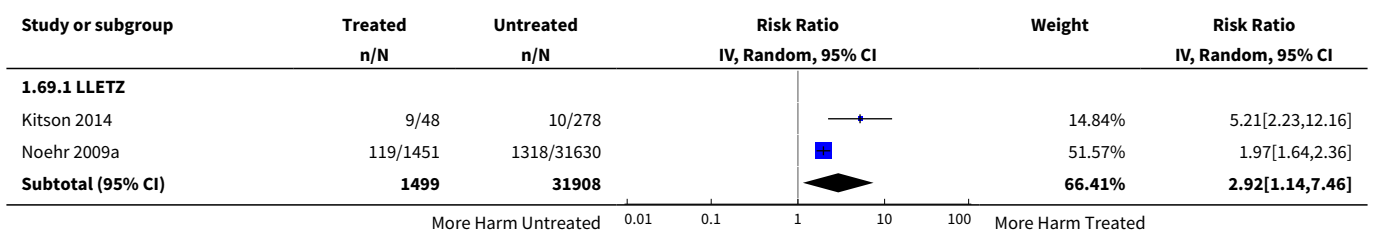
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
1.67.1 LLETZ					
Kitson 2014	17/175	10/278		1.8%	2.7[1.27,5.76]
Noehr 2009a	168/2569	1318/31630		38.24%	1.57[1.34,1.83]
Subtotal (95% CI)	2744	31908		40.04%	1.8[1.13,2.87]
Total events: 185 (Treated), 1328 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.07; Chi ² =1.89, df=1(P=0.17); I ² =47.12%					
Test for overall effect: Z=2.49(P=0.01)					
1.67.2 Excisional Treatment NOS					
Castanon 2012	316/2719	586/7263		52.49%	1.44[1.27,1.64]
Sadler 2004	43/215	52/426		7.47%	1.64[1.13,2.37]
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

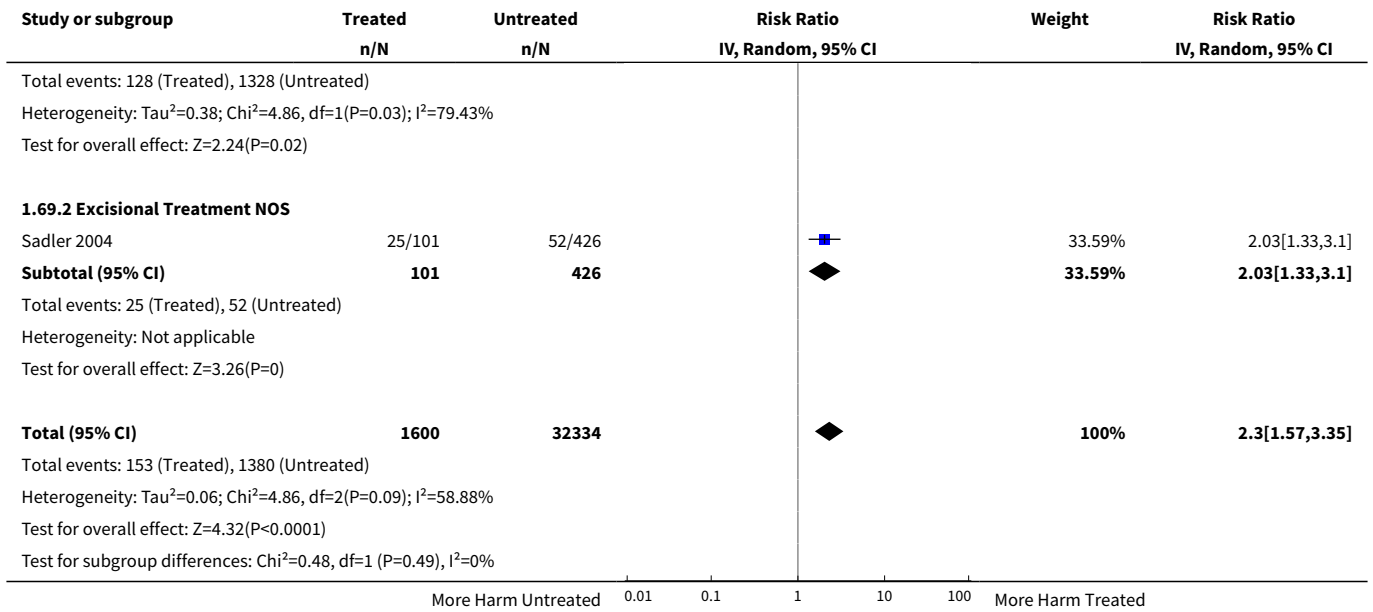


**Analysis 1.68. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 68
PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.**

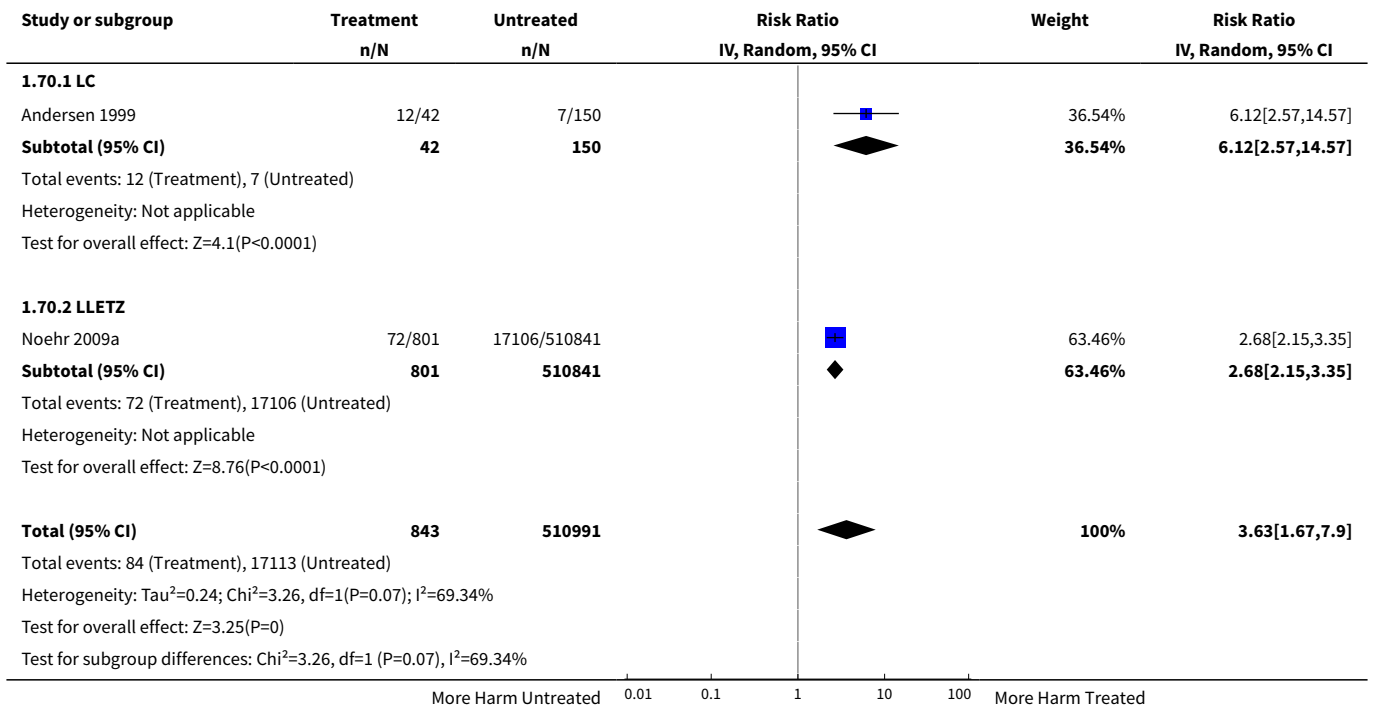


**Analysis 1.69. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 69
PTB (<37w)-Depth≥15-17mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.**

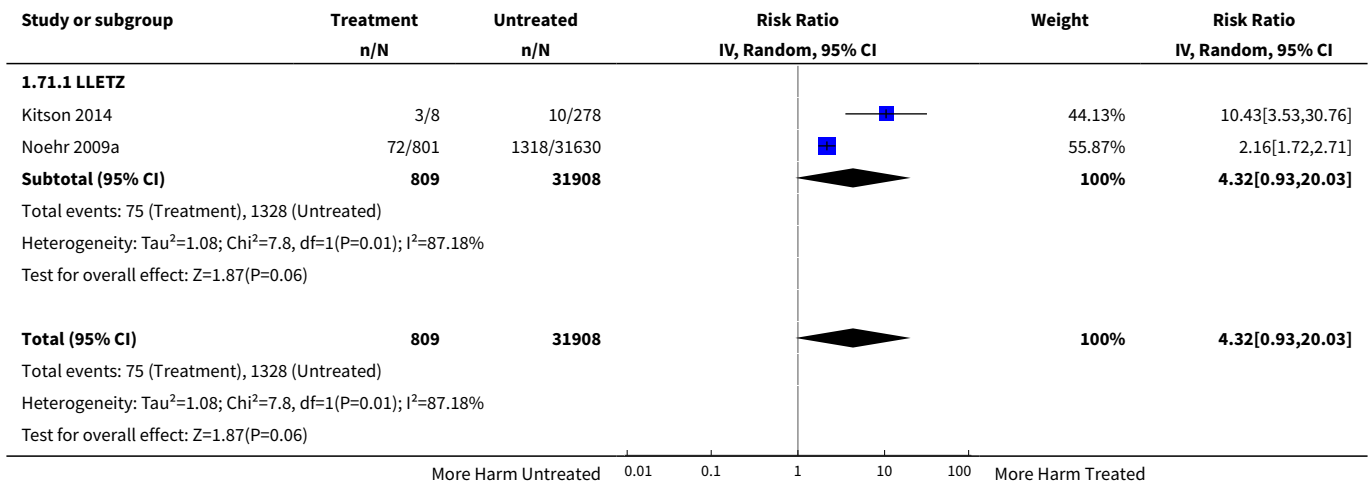




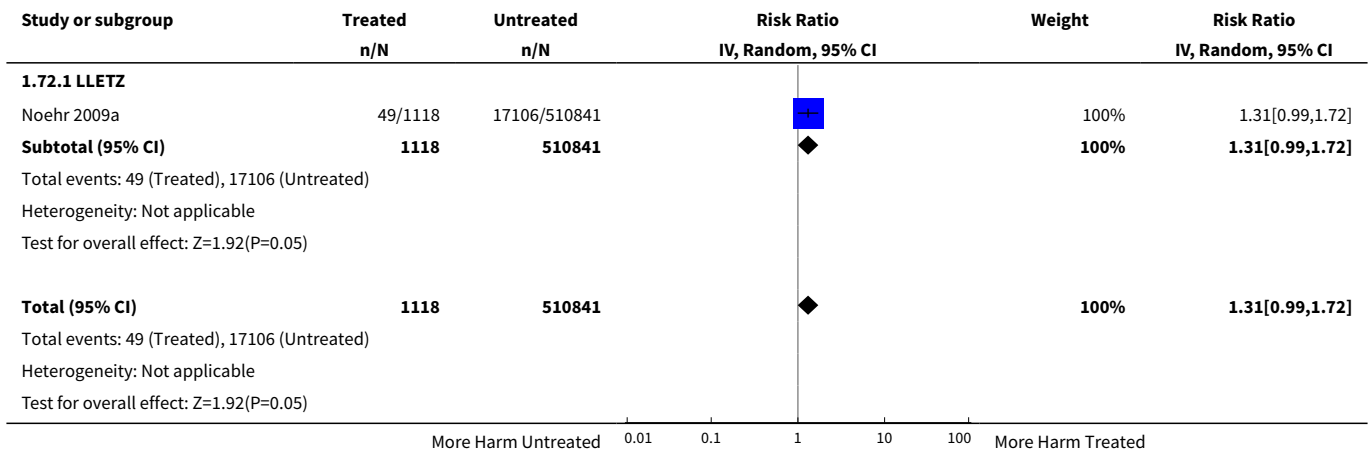
Analysis 1.70. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 70 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥20mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.



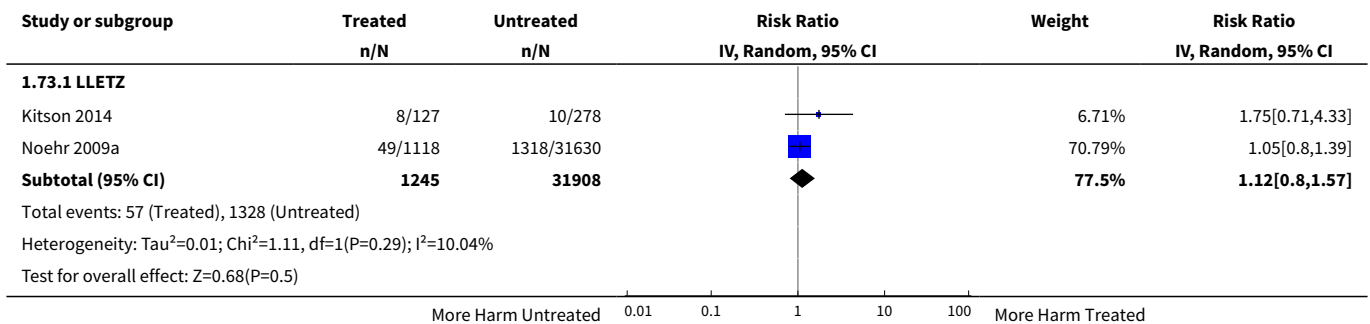
Analysis 1.71. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 71 PTB (<37w)-Depth≥20mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.

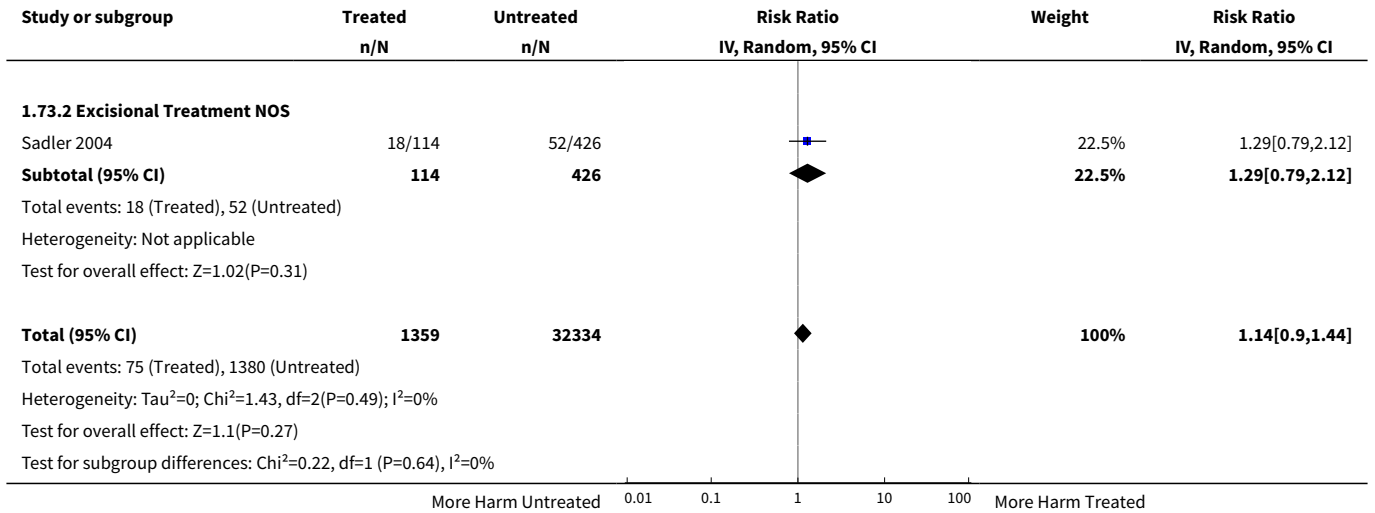


Analysis 1.72. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 72 PTB (<37w)-Depth 10/13-15/16mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.

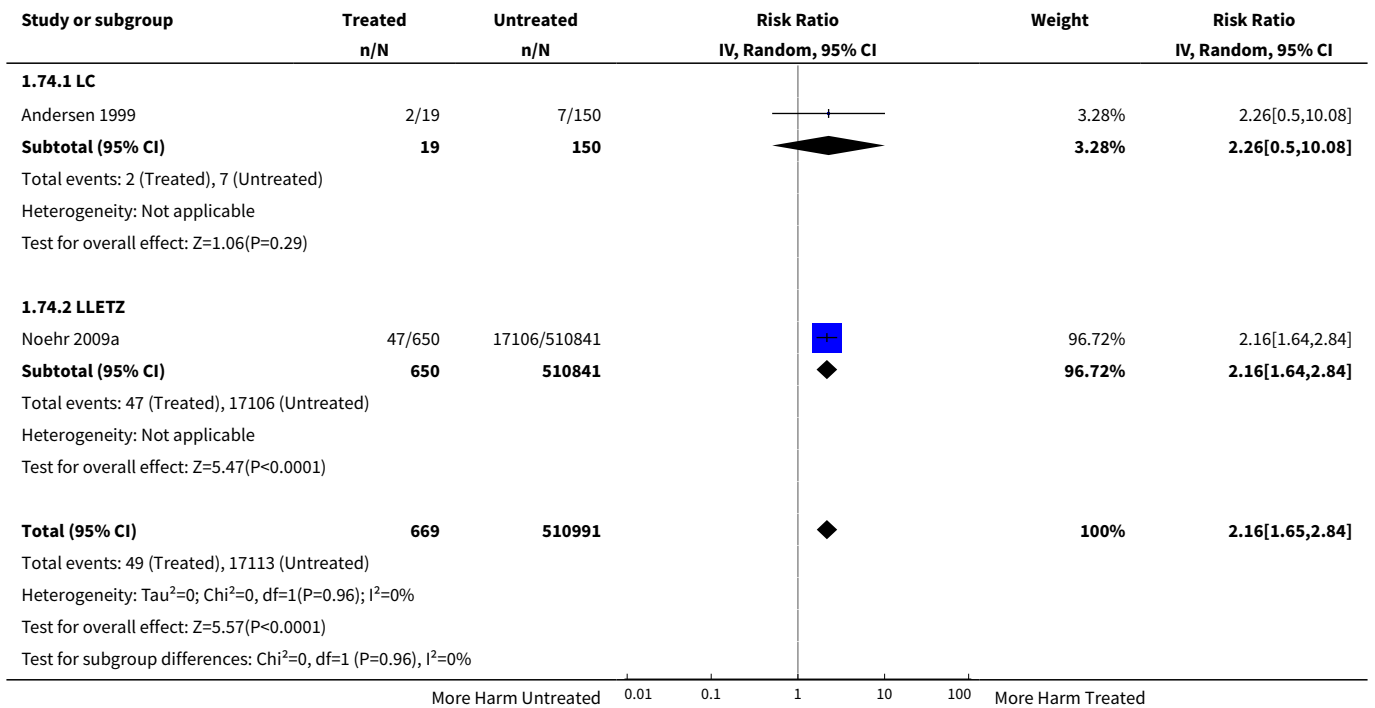


Analysis 1.73. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 73 PTB (<37w)-Depth 10/13-15/16mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.

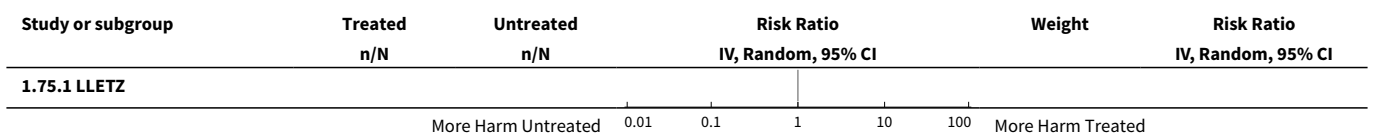


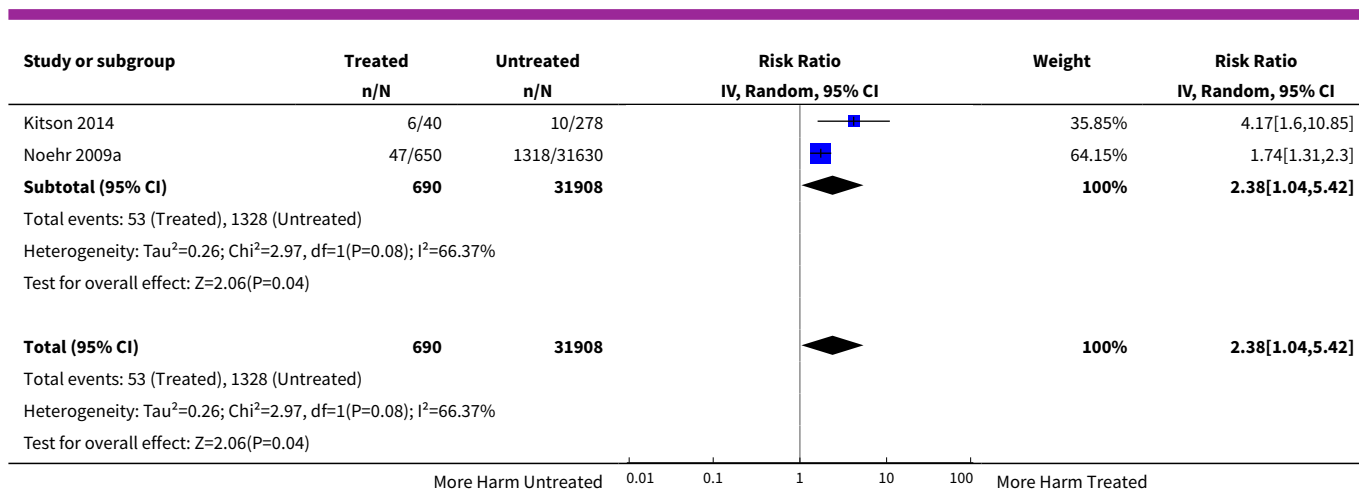


Analysis 1.74. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 74 PTB (<37w)-Depth 15/16-19/20mm vs Untreated External Comparison Group.



Analysis 1.75. Comparison 1 Maternal Outcomes-PTB, Outcome 75 PTB (<37w)-Depth 15/16-19/20mm vs Untreated Colposcopy+/-CIN+/-Biopsy.





Comparison 2. Other maternal Outcomes

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 sPTB (<37w)	14	1.024731E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.76 [1.47, 2.11]
1.1 CKC vs No Treatment	3	7320	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.53 [2.05, 6.05]
1.2 LC vs No Treatment	2	222	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.40 [0.51, 3.81]
1.3 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.83 [3.80, 8.95]
1.4 LLETZ vs No Treatment	11	773123	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.60 [1.22, 2.08]
1.5 LA vs No Treatment	1	356	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.34, 2.68]
1.6 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [0.08, 43.87]
1.7 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	95985	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.70 [1.17, 2.46]
1.8 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	134720	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.42 [1.20, 1.70]
1.9 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.30 [1.00, 1.69]
2 sPTB (<32-34w)	7	655675	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.63 [1.91, 3.62]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
2.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	6990	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.38 [1.08, 17.65]
2.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	10.53 [4.33, 25.65]
2.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	6	530985	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.37 [1.82, 3.08]
2.4 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.86 [0.08, 43.87]
2.5 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	264	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	13.92 [0.73, 266.57]
2.6 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	109979	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.57 [0.97, 2.53]
3 sPTB (<28w)	2	626670	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.18 [1.64, 6.16]
3.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6956	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.41 [0.74, 39.84]
3.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	14.74 [4.50, 48.32]
3.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	502336	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.57 [1.96, 3.36]
3.4 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	109979	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.22 [0.54, 2.74]
4 pPROM (<37w)	21	477011	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.36 [1.76, 3.17]
4.1 CKC vs No Treatment	4	36733	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.11 [2.05, 8.25]
4.2 LC vs No Treatment	4	635	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.89 [0.97, 3.66]
4.3 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7279	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	8.83 [5.39, 14.46]
4.4 LLETZ vs No Treatment	8	302974	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.15 [1.48, 3.12]
4.5 LA vs No Treatment	2	548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.62 [0.74, 3.55]
4.6 CT vs No Treatment	1	180	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.13 [0.21, 6.00]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
4.7 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	5	98372	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.66 [1.13, 6.24]
4.8 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	24742	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.47 [1.01, 2.15]
4.9 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.44 [1.05, 1.97]
5 pPROM (<32w)	1	72788	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	8.30 [2.03, 33.98]
5.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6842	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.32 [0.72, 39.19]
5.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7279	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	25.38 [9.80, 65.74]
5.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	58667	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.74 [1.66, 8.41]
6 pPROM (<28w)	1	72788	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	9.09 [1.04, 79.18]
6.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6842	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.64 [0.38, 115.16]
6.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7279	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	43.51 [11.48, 164.86]
6.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	58667	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.81 [0.25, 13.08]
7 Threatened PTB	5	903	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.44 [1.37, 4.33]
7.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	126	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.40 [0.45, 4.34]
7.2 LC vs No Treatment	1	112	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.56 [0.53, 4.62]
7.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	237	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.0 [0.75, 21.37]
7.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	428	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.51 [1.68, 12.06]
8 Chorioamnionitis	4	29198	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.43 [1.36, 8.64]
8.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	28531	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.39 [0.61, 9.43]

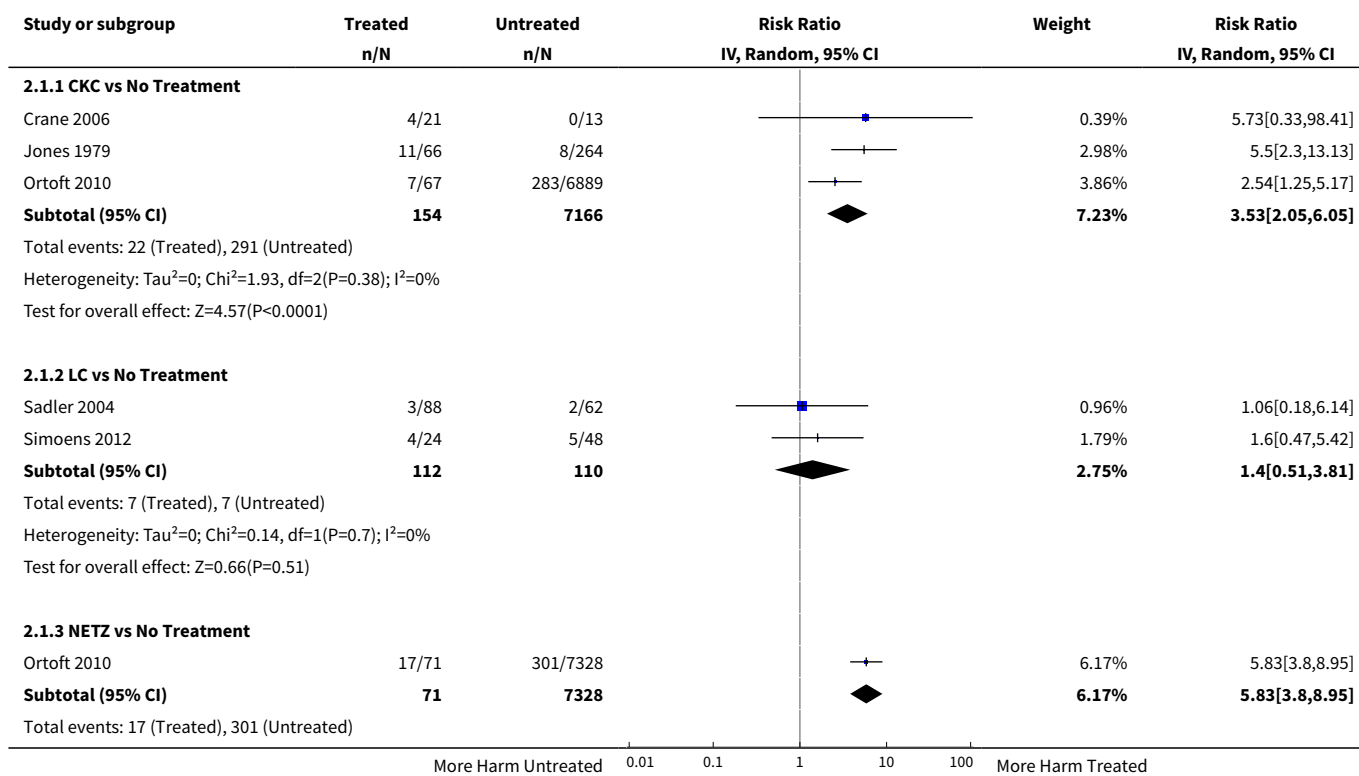
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
8.2 LC vs No Treatment	1	112	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.33 [0.14, 80.11]
8.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	237	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	10.00 [1.19, 84.15]
8.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	318	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.0 [0.51, 17.68]
9 Caeserean Section	36	272360	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.06 [0.98, 1.14]
9.1 CKC vs No Treatment	6	30462	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.24 [0.91, 1.68]
9.2 LC vs No Treatment	5	1038	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [0.90, 2.11]
9.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	14	5436	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.94, 1.15]
9.4 LA vs No Treatment	4	1258	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.86 [0.61, 1.20]
9.5 CT vs No Treatment	2	238	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.47 [1.02, 6.01]
9.6 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	9	203532	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.89, 1.20]
9.7 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	24848	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.38 [0.42, 4.58]
9.8 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.13 [1.00, 1.27]
10 Instrumental Deliveries (ventouse/forceps)	16	9588	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.88, 1.08]
10.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	454	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.33 [0.66, 2.70]
10.2 LC vs No Treatment	2	668	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.16 [0.65, 2.07]
10.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	6	1418	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.89 [0.68, 1.17]
10.4 LA vs No Treatment	3	550	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.62, 1.41]
10.5 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	3	950	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.71 [0.46, 1.10]

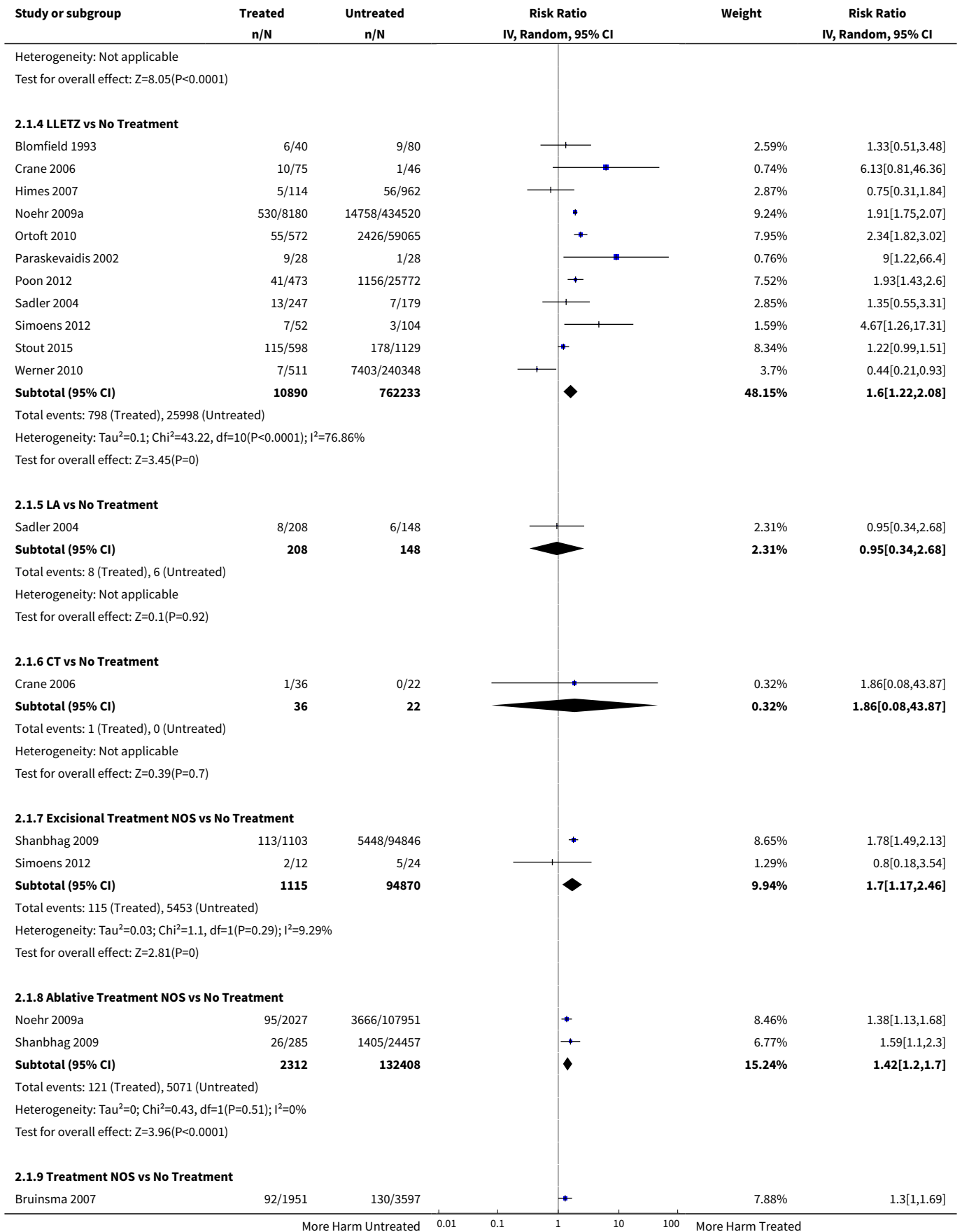
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
10.6 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.89, 1.15]
11 Precipitous Labour (<2hours)	5	1059	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.26 [0.80, 1.96]
11.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	289	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.24 [0.47, 3.27]
11.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	4	770	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.26 [0.76, 2.08]
12 Prolonged labour (>12hours)	7	1854	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.25 [0.92, 1.69]
12.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	325	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.99 [0.89, 4.45]
12.2 LC vs No Treatment	1	500	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.41, 2.04]
12.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	4	673	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.55, 1.70]
12.4 LA vs No Treatment	2	356	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.41 [0.88, 2.26]
13 Induction of Labour	11	4668	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.89, 1.15]
13.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	137	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.54, 2.29]
13.2 LLETZ vs No treatment	8	4056	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.82, 1.20]
13.3 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.61 [0.22, 1.66]
13.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	417	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.64, 1.28]
14 Oxytocin Use	6	2006	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.90 [0.64, 1.26]
14.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	103	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.59, 1.63]
14.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	4	1804	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.76 [0.43, 1.34]
14.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	99	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.18 [0.67, 2.05]

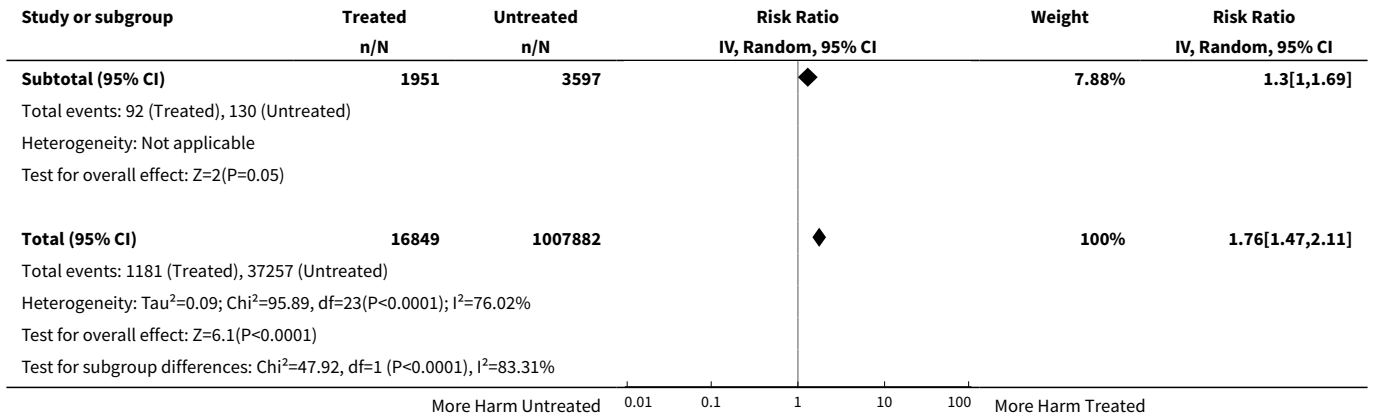
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
15 Epidural Use	5	105488	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.68, 1.53]
15.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	4	818	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.86 [0.64, 1.16]
15.2 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	104670	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.79 [1.29, 2.50]
16 Pethidine Use	2	394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.72, 1.24]
16.1 LLETZ vs No treatment	2	394	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.94 [0.72, 1.24]
17 Analgesia Use NOS	1	103	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.62, 1.98]
17.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	103	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.62, 1.98]
18 Cervical stenosis	2	680	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.26 [0.24, 21.59]
18.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	500	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.0 [0.12, 73.29]
18.2 CT vs No Treatment	1	180	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.71 [0.07, 41.31]
19 Antepartum Haemorrhage	4	1245	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.40, 3.12]
19.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	34	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.24 [0.26, 5.83]
19.2 LC vs No Treatment	1	168	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	17.84 [0.98, 325.68]
19.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	2	277	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.52 [0.16, 1.67]
19.4 LA vs No Treatment	1	708	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	8.00 [0.90, 71.18]
19.5 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.41 [0.07, 2.25]
20 Postpartum Haemorrhage (>600ml)	1	149	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.60 [1.38, 15.36]
20.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	149	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.60 [1.38, 15.36]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
21 Massive Obstetric Haemorrhage (>1000ml)	1	149	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.95 [0.45, 34.48]
21.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	149	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.95 [0.45, 34.48]
22 Cervical cerclage	8	141300	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	14.29 [2.85, 71.65]
22.1 CKC vs No Treatment	3	30744	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	31.42 [2.32, 426.22]
22.2 LC vs No Treatment	1	112	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.68 [0.83, 53.69]
22.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	56	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	11.00 [0.64, 189.96]
22.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	104840	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	42.45 [28.99, 62.16]
22.5 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.16 [1.24, 3.76]

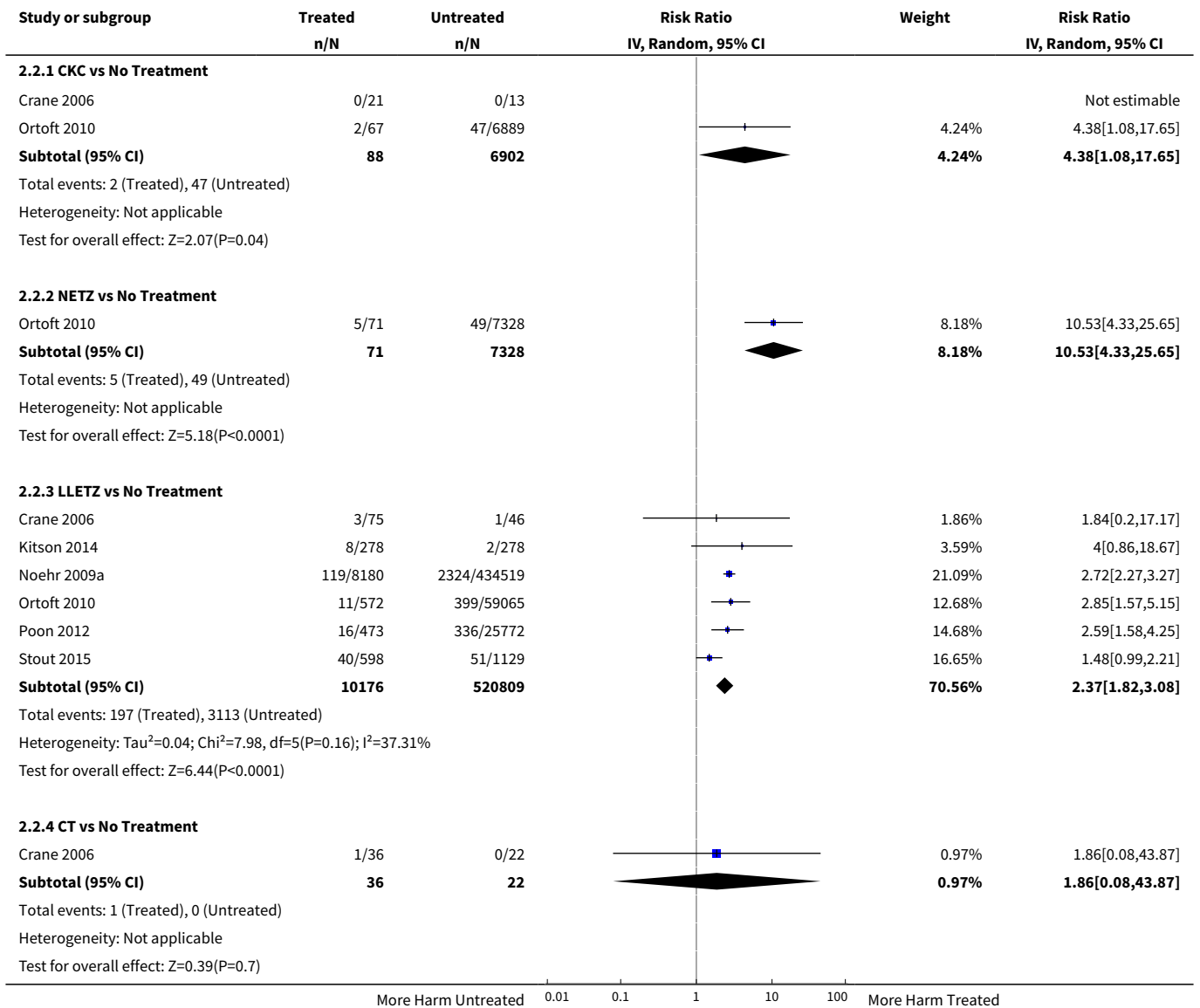
Analysis 2.1. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 1 sPTB (<37w).

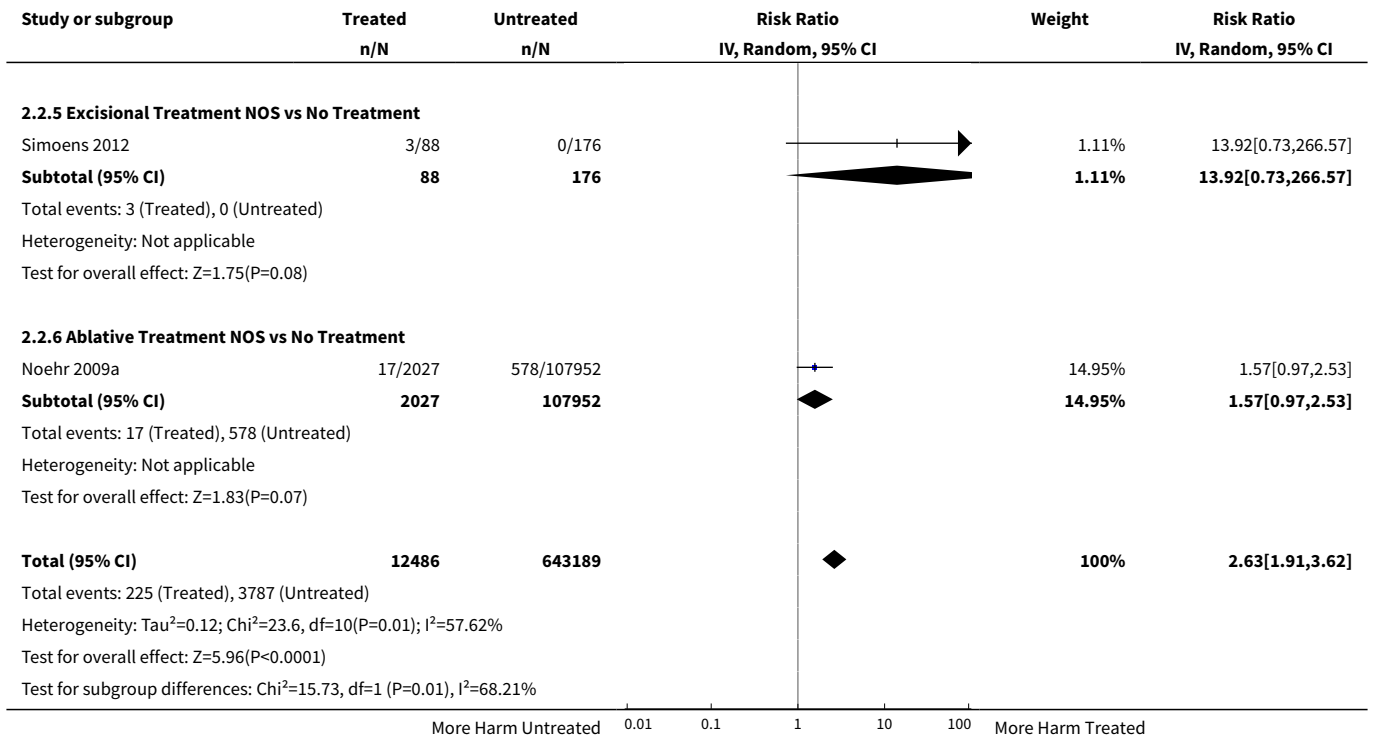




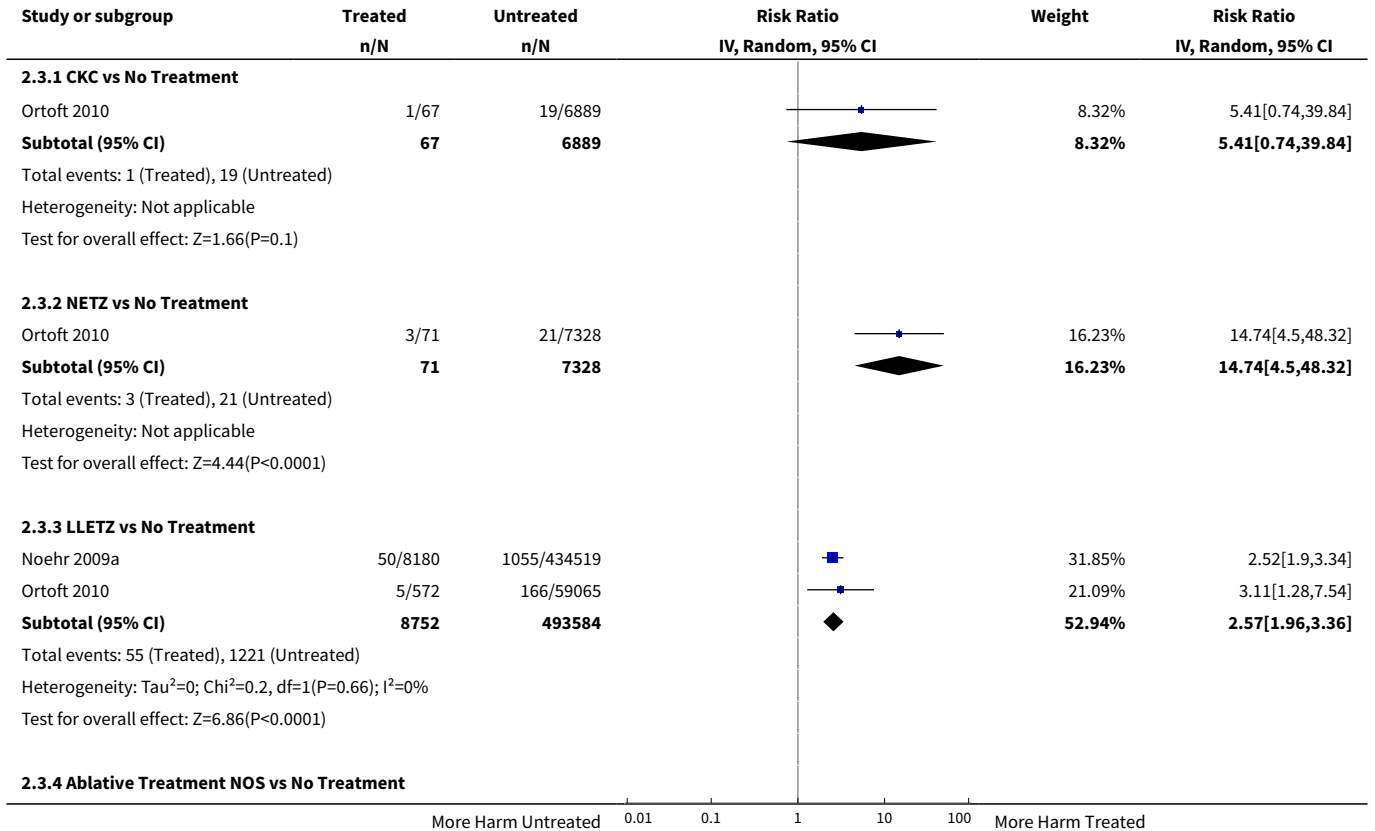


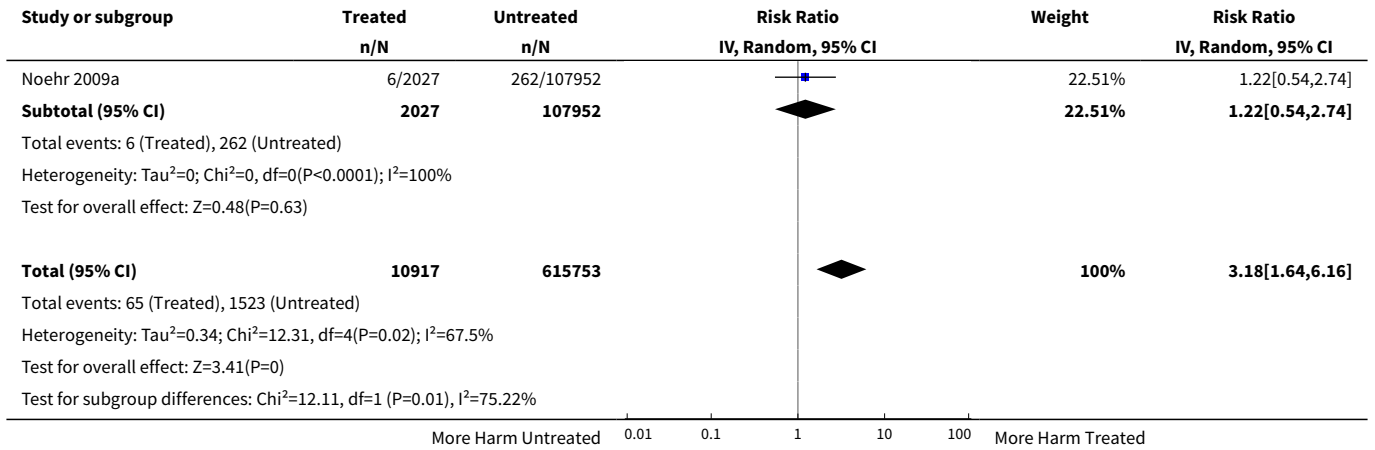
Analysis 2.2. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 2 sPTB (<32-34w).



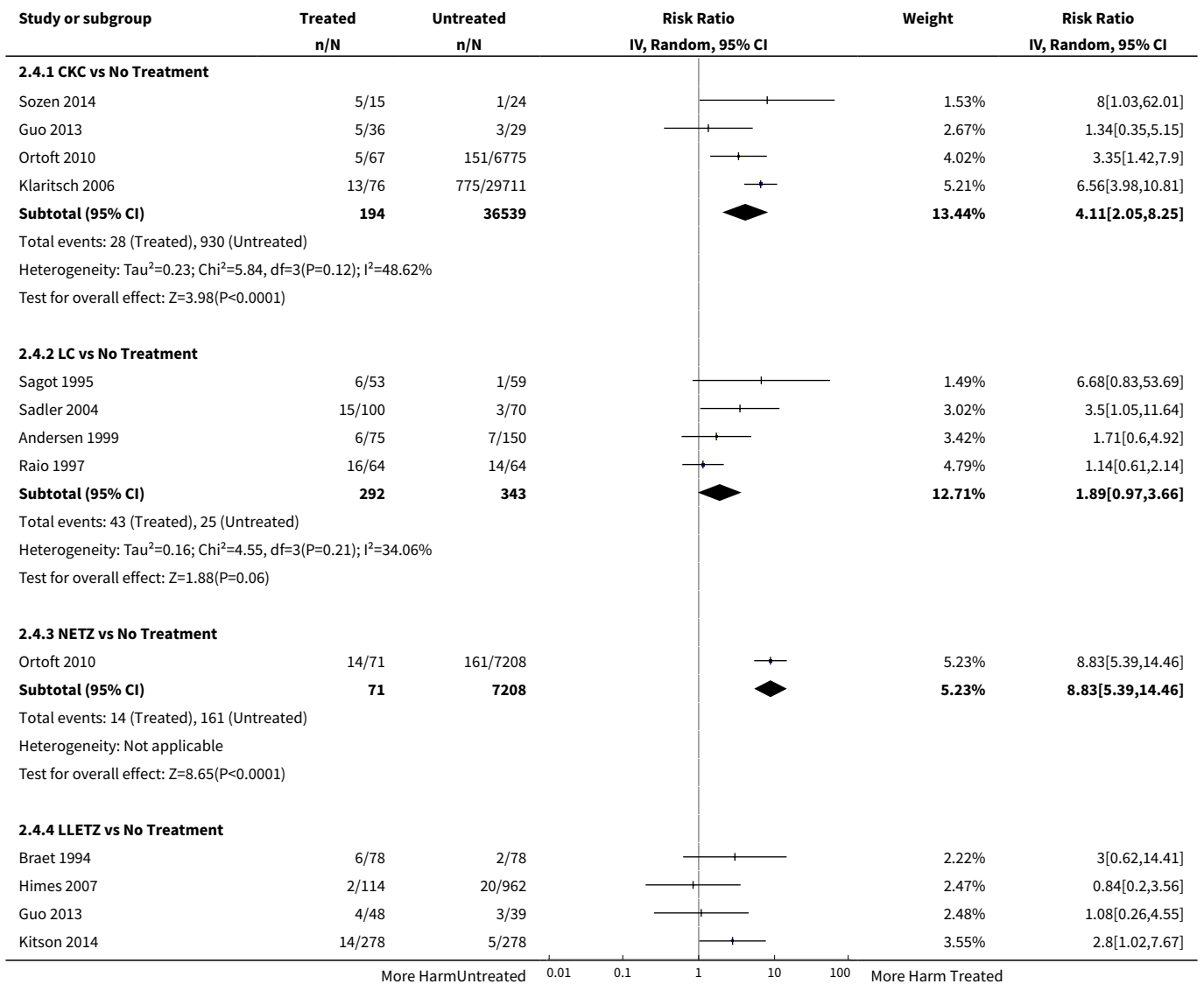


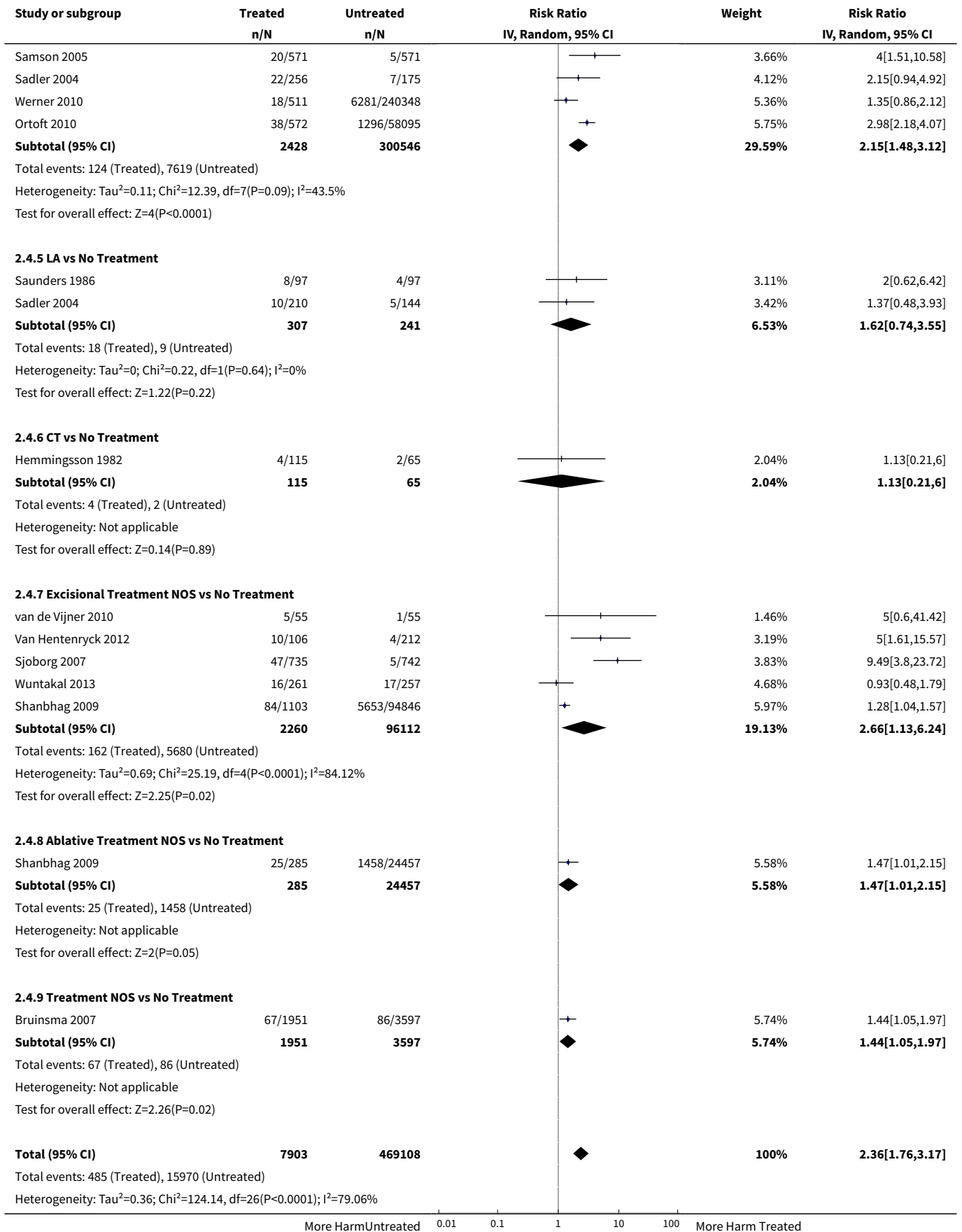
Analysis 2.3. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 3 sPTB (<28w).





Analysis 2.4. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 4 pPROM (<37w).





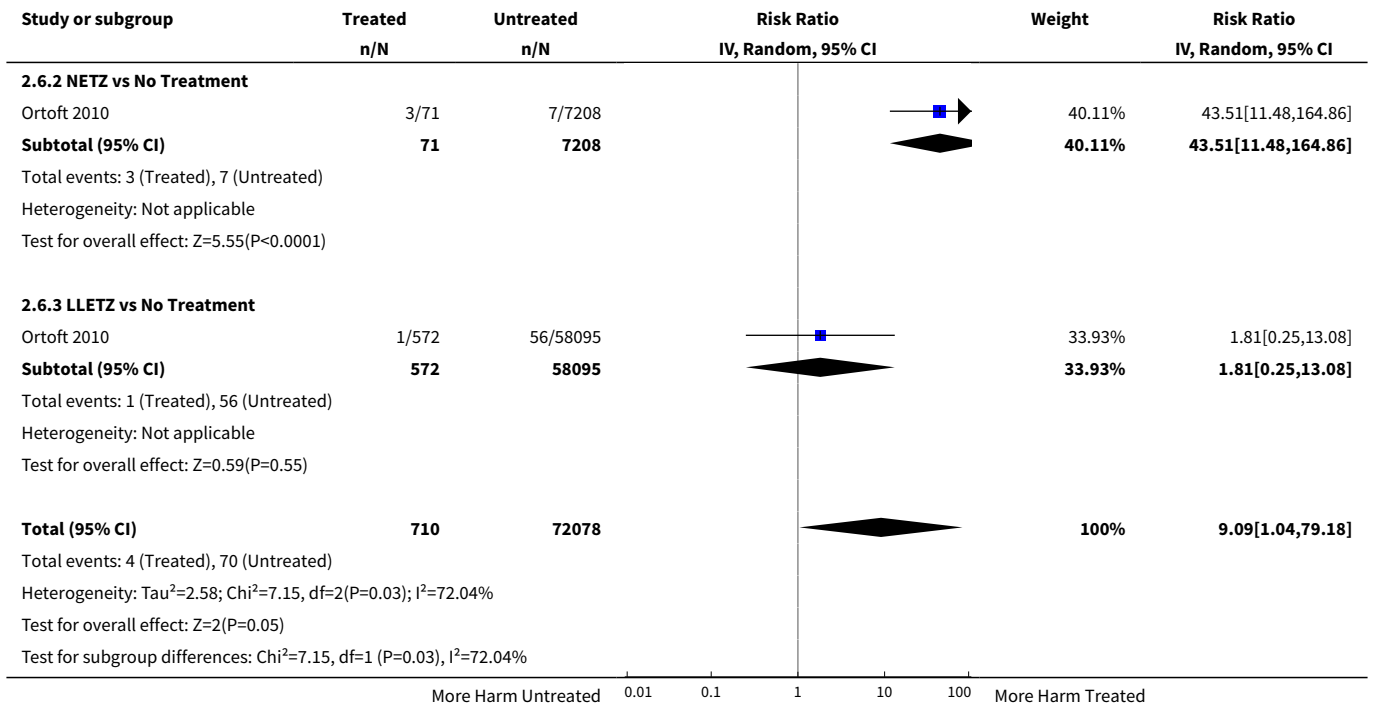
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
Test for overall effect: $Z=5.77(P<0.0001)$					
Test for subgroup differences: $\text{Chi}^2=46.41, \text{df}=1 (P<0.0001), I^2=82.76\%$					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

Analysis 2.5. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 5 pPROM (<32w).

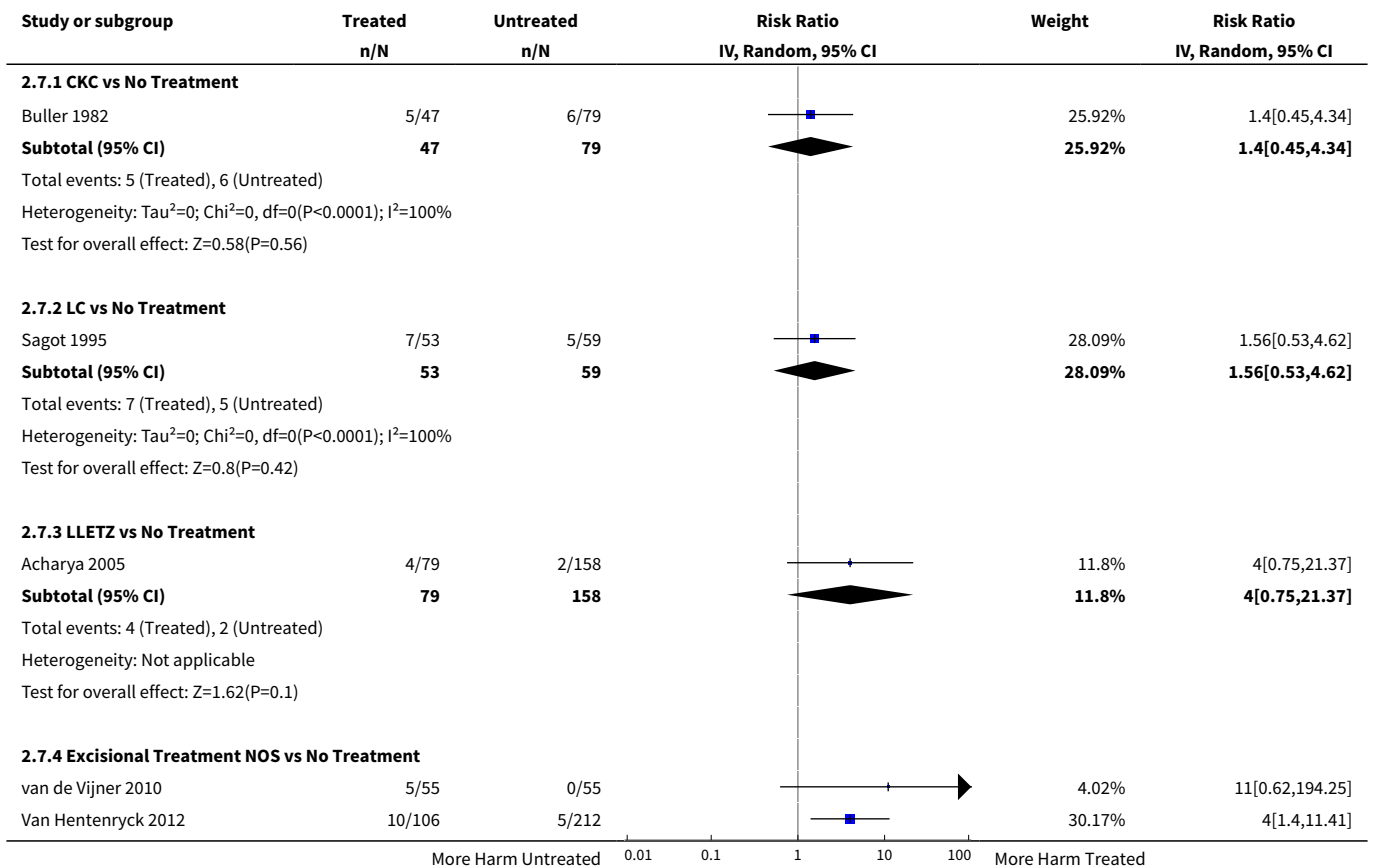
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
2.5.1 CKC vs No Treatment					
Ortoft 2010	1/67	19/6775		23.63%	5.32[0.72,39.19]
Subtotal (95% CI)	67	6775		23.63%	5.32[0.72,39.19]
Total events: 1 (Treated), 19 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: $Z=1.64(P=0.1)$					
2.5.2 NETZ vs No Treatment					
Ortoft 2010	5/71	20/7208		37.28%	25.38[9.8,65.74]
Subtotal (95% CI)	71	7208		37.28%	25.38[9.8,65.74]
Total events: 5 (Treated), 20 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: $Z=6.66(P<0.0001)$					
2.5.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment					
Ortoft 2010	6/572	163/58095		39.1%	3.74[1.66,8.41]
Subtotal (95% CI)	572	58095		39.1%	3.74[1.66,8.41]
Total events: 6 (Treated), 163 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: $Z=3.19(P=0)$					
Total (95% CI)	710	72078		100%	8.3[2.03,33.98]
Total events: 12 (Treated), 202 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: $\text{Tau}^2=1.15; \text{Chi}^2=9.2, \text{df}=2(P=0.01); I^2=78.25\%$					
Test for overall effect: $Z=2.94(P=0)$					
Test for subgroup differences: $\text{Chi}^2=9.2, \text{df}=1 (P=0.01), I^2=78.25\%$					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

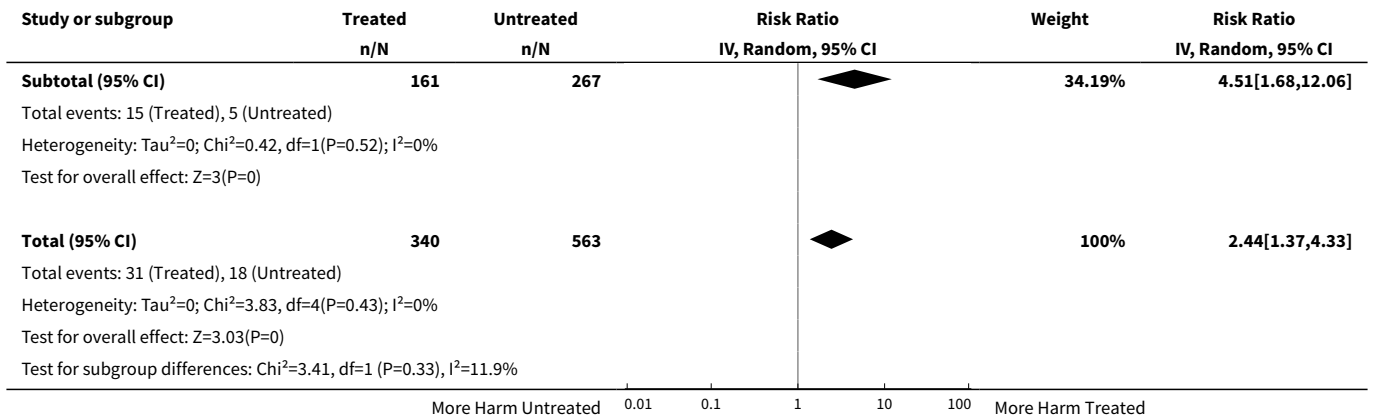
Analysis 2.6. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 6 pPROM (<28w).

Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
2.6.1 CKC vs No Treatment					
Ortoft 2010	0/67	7/6775		25.97%	6.64[0.38,115.16]
Subtotal (95% CI)	67	6775		25.97%	6.64[0.38,115.16]
Total events: 0 (Treated), 7 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: $Z=1.3(P=0.19)$					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

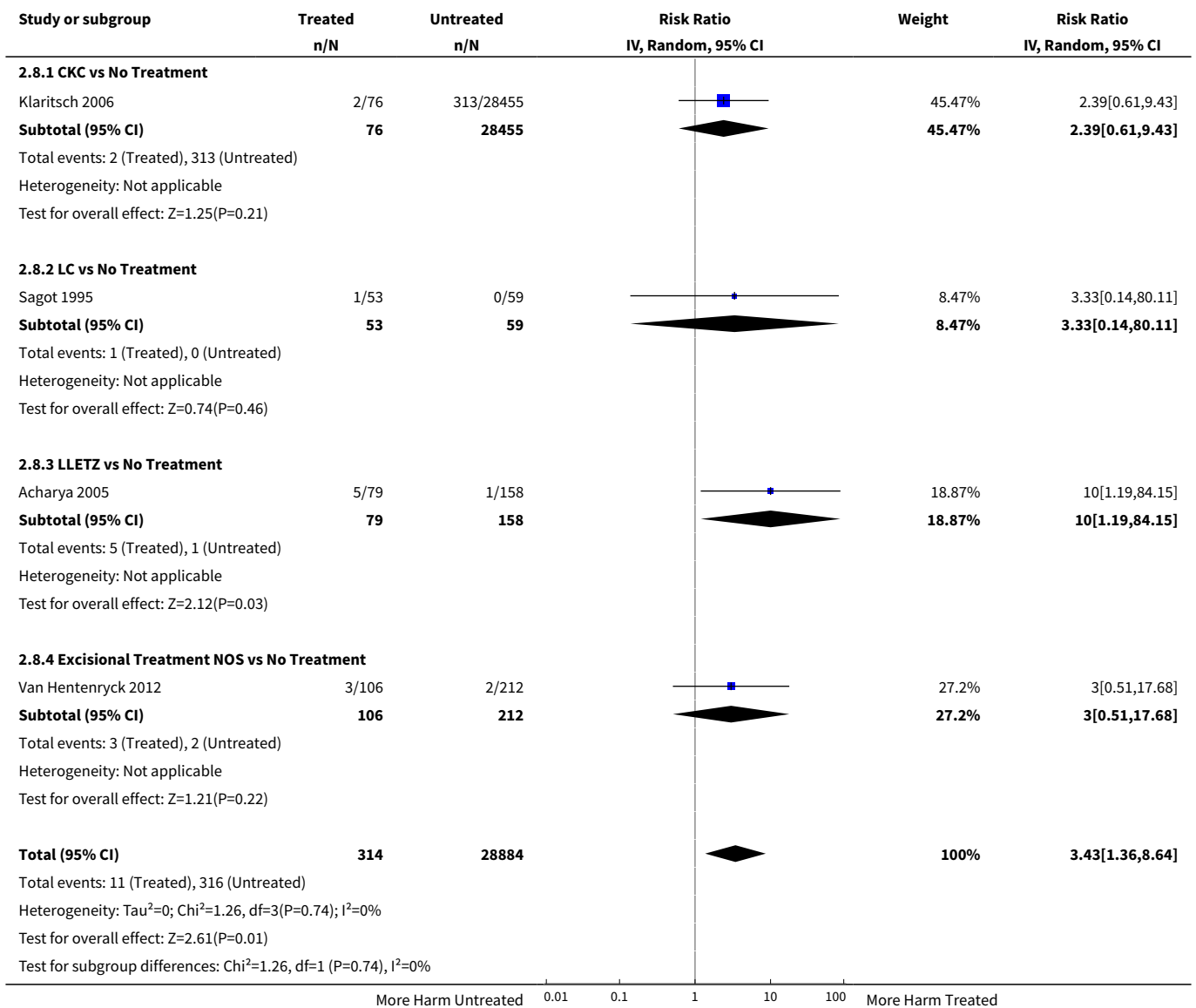


Analysis 2.7. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 7 Threatened PTB.

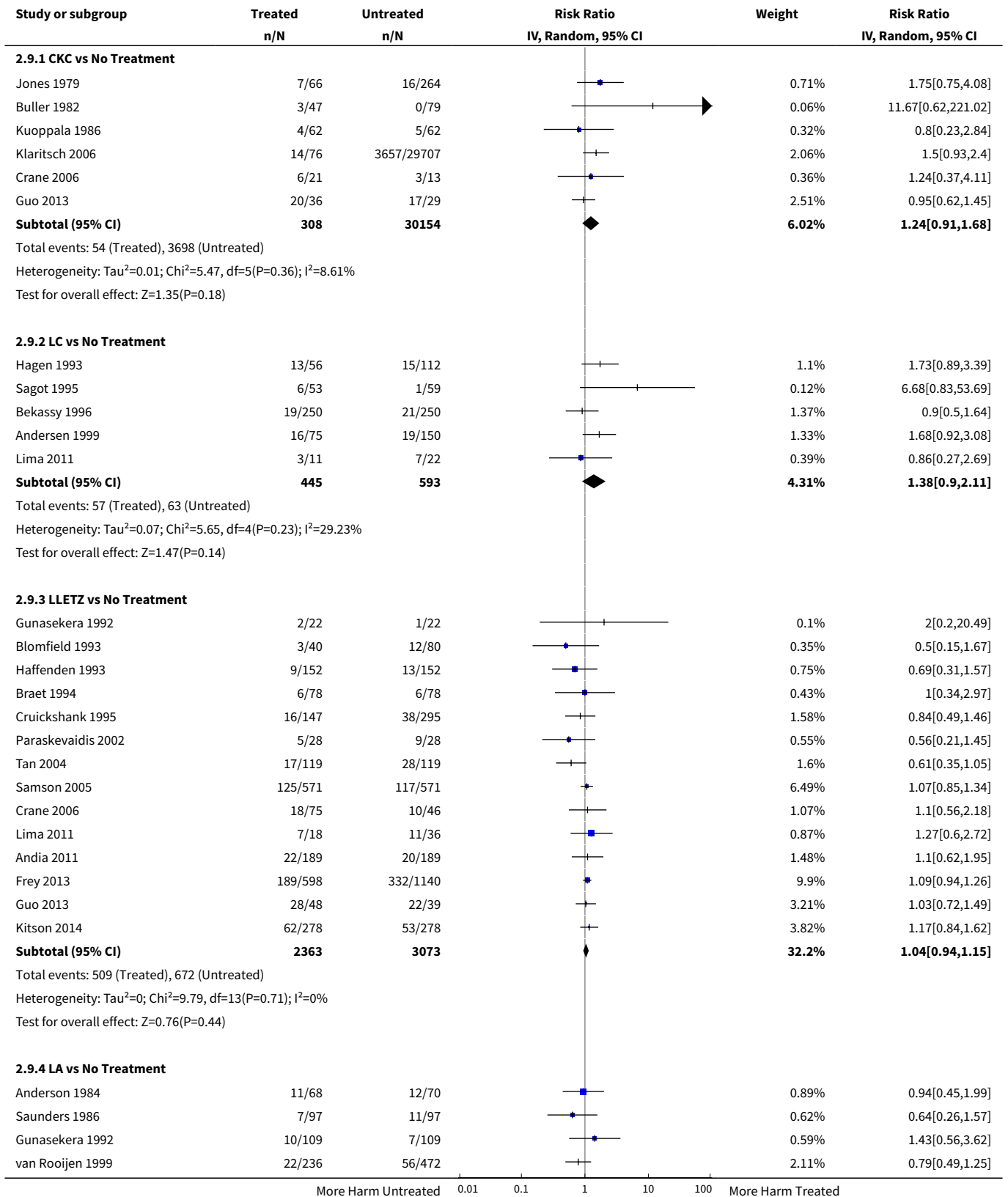


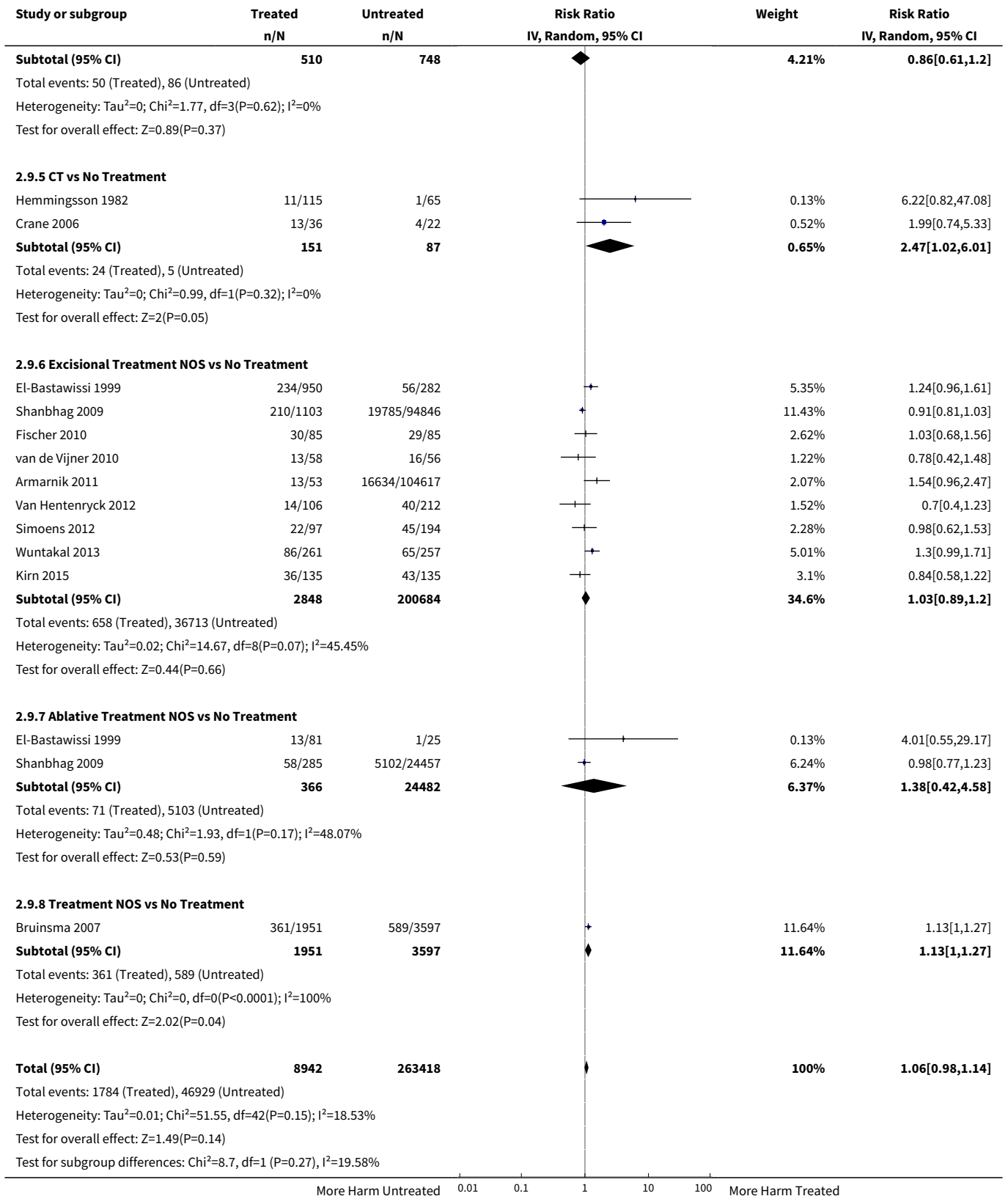


Analysis 2.8. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 8 Chorioamnionitis.

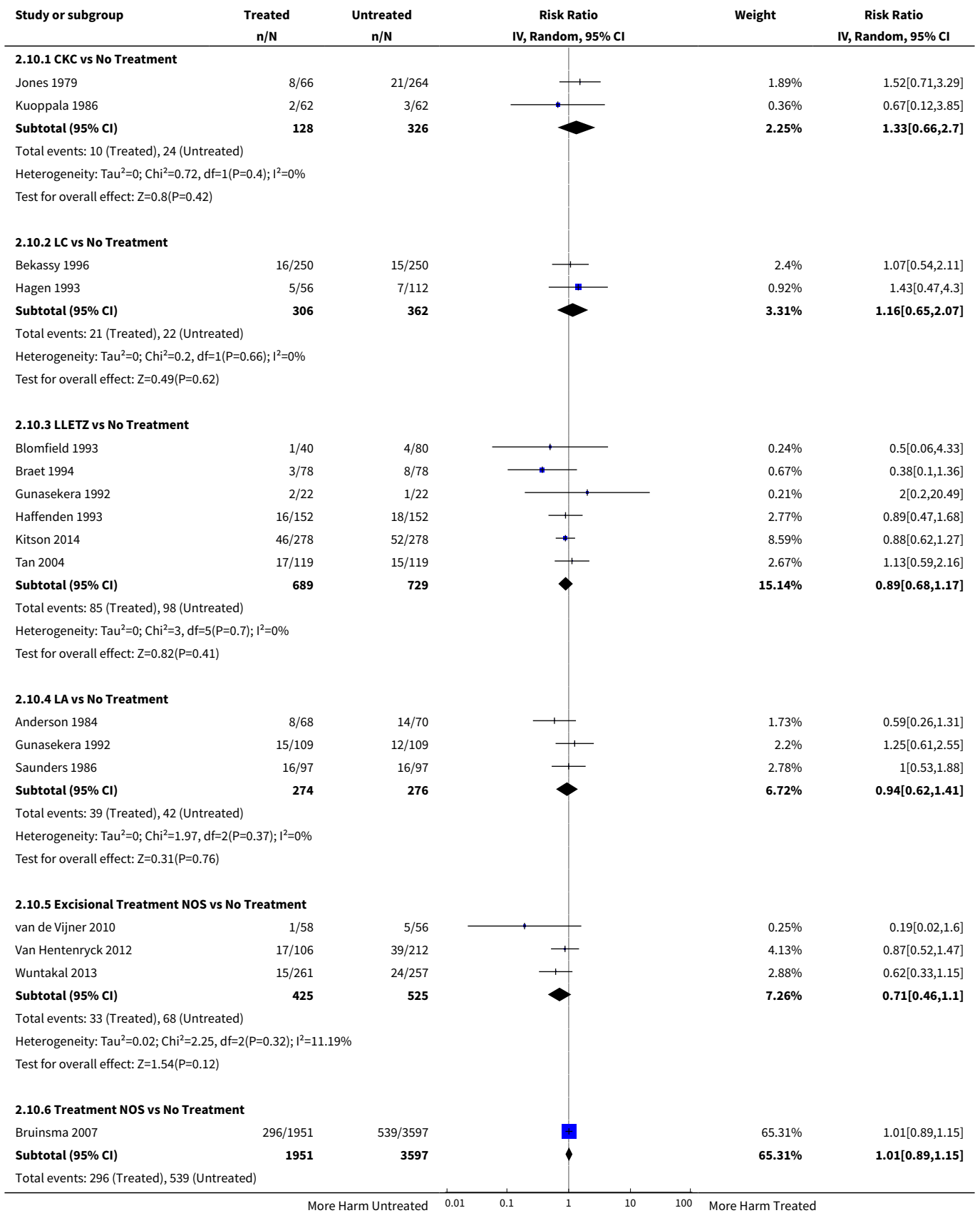


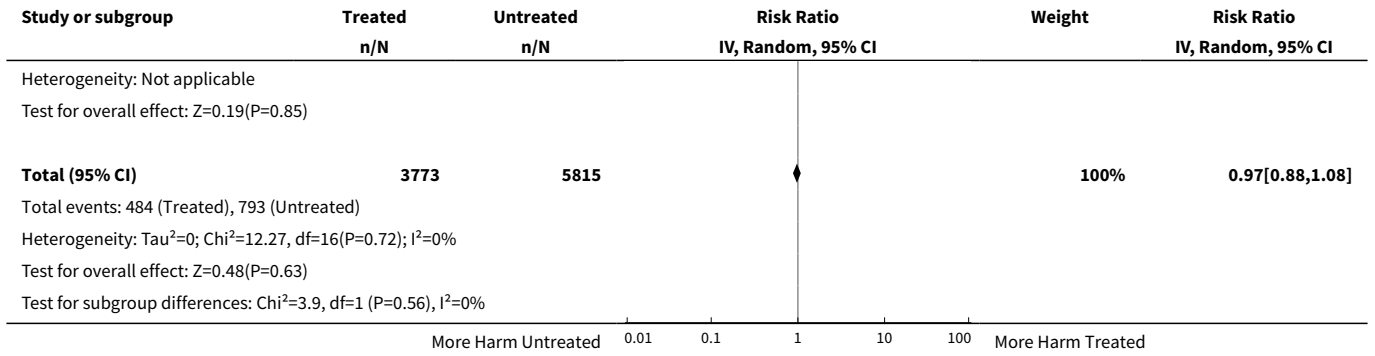
Analysis 2.9. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 9 Caesarean Section.



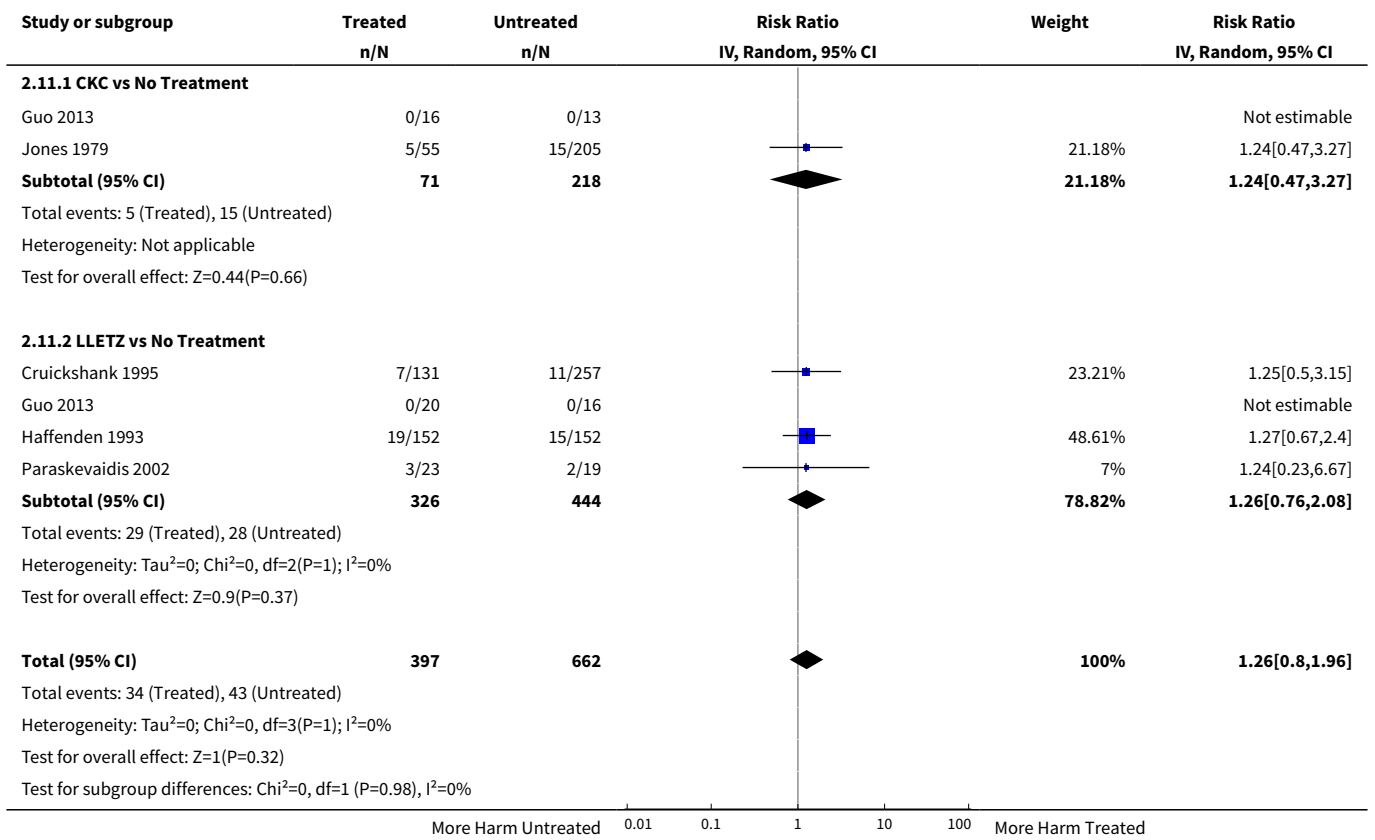


Analysis 2.10. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 10 Instrumental Deliveries (ventouse/forceps).

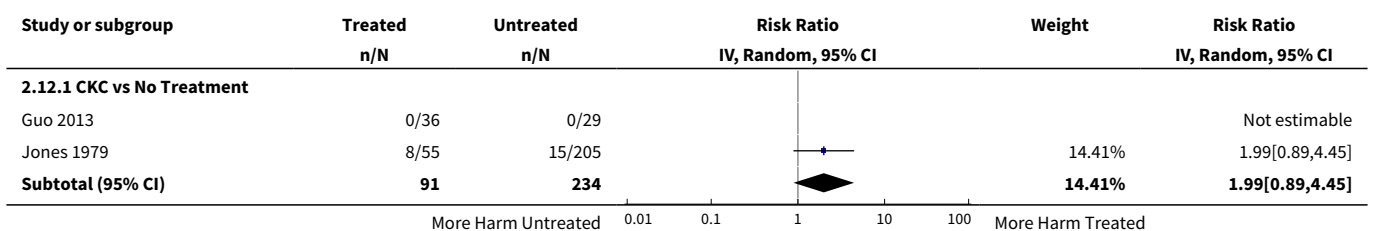


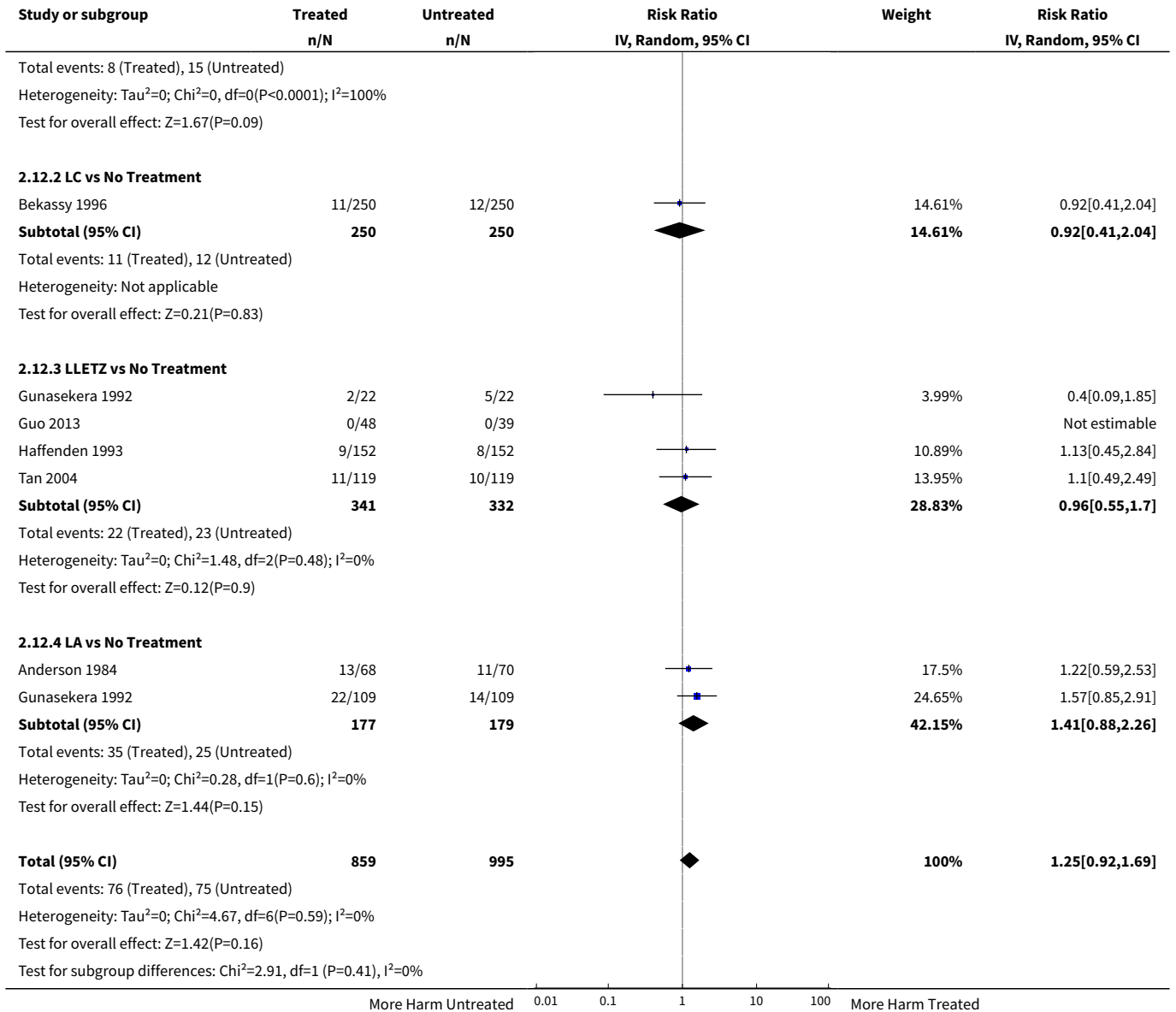


Analysis 2.11. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 11 Precipitous Labour (<2hours).

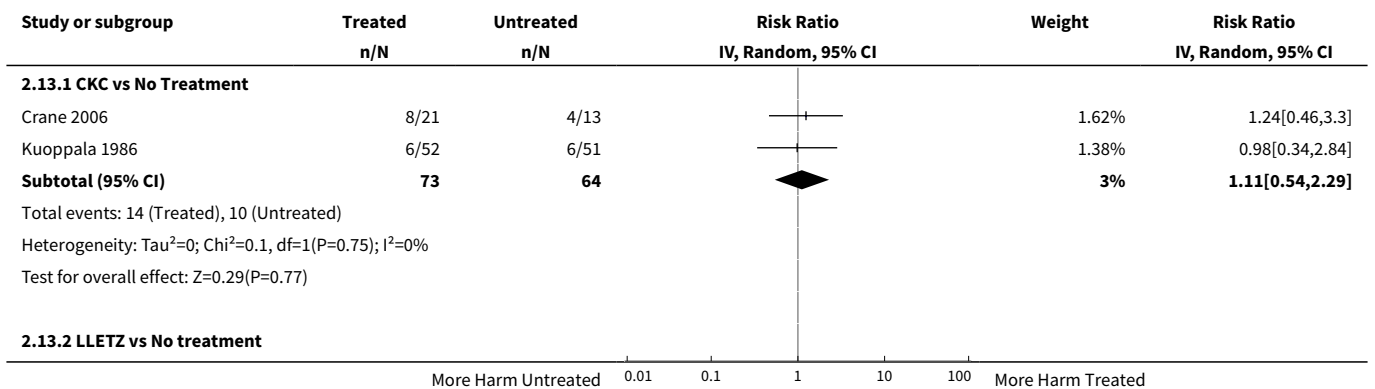


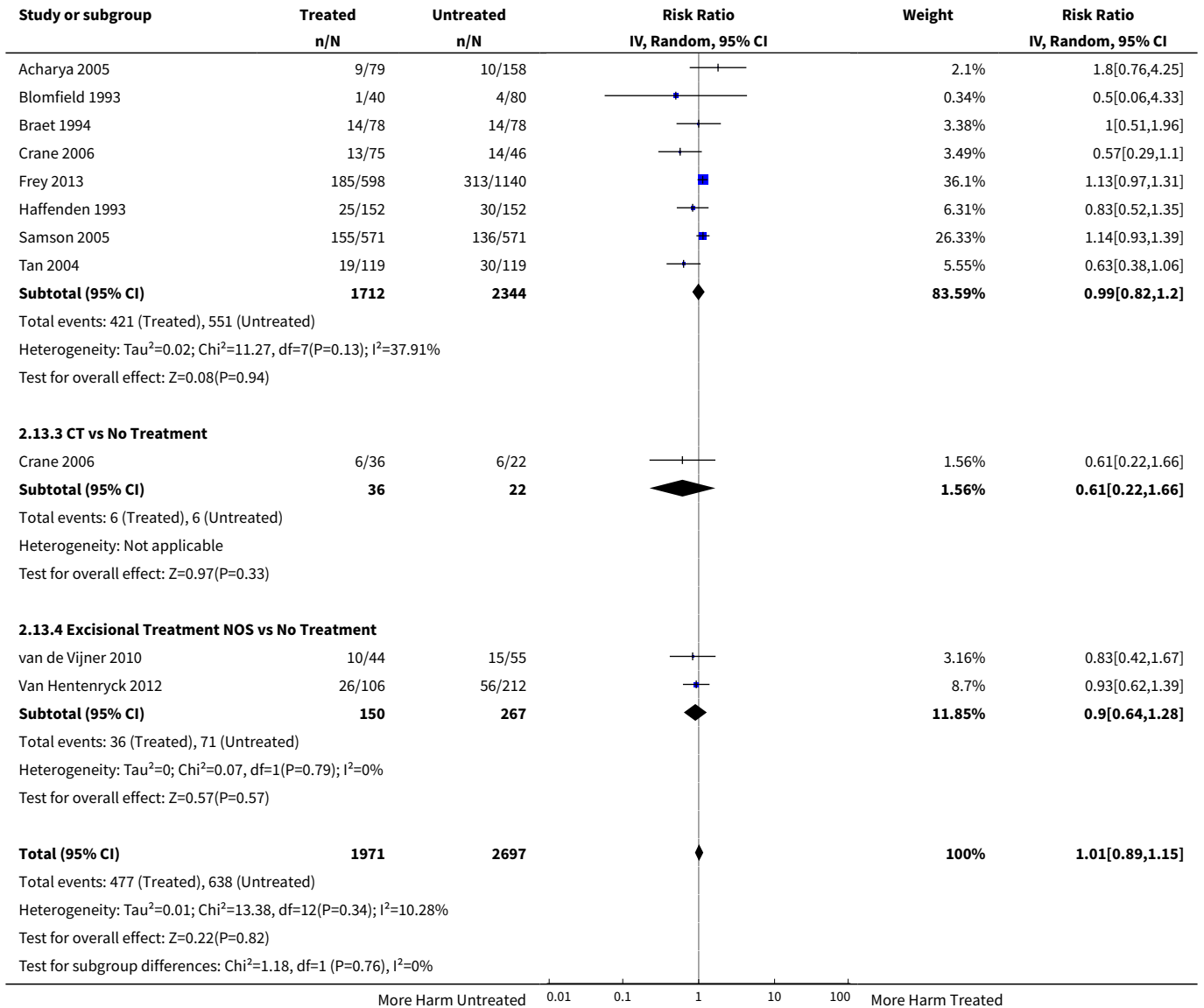
Analysis 2.12. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 12 Prolonged labour (>12hours).



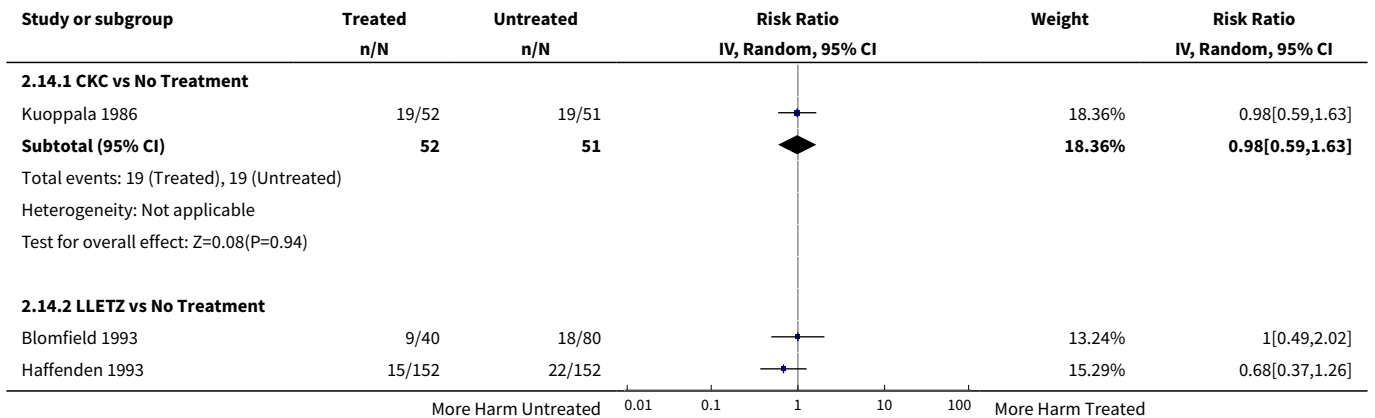


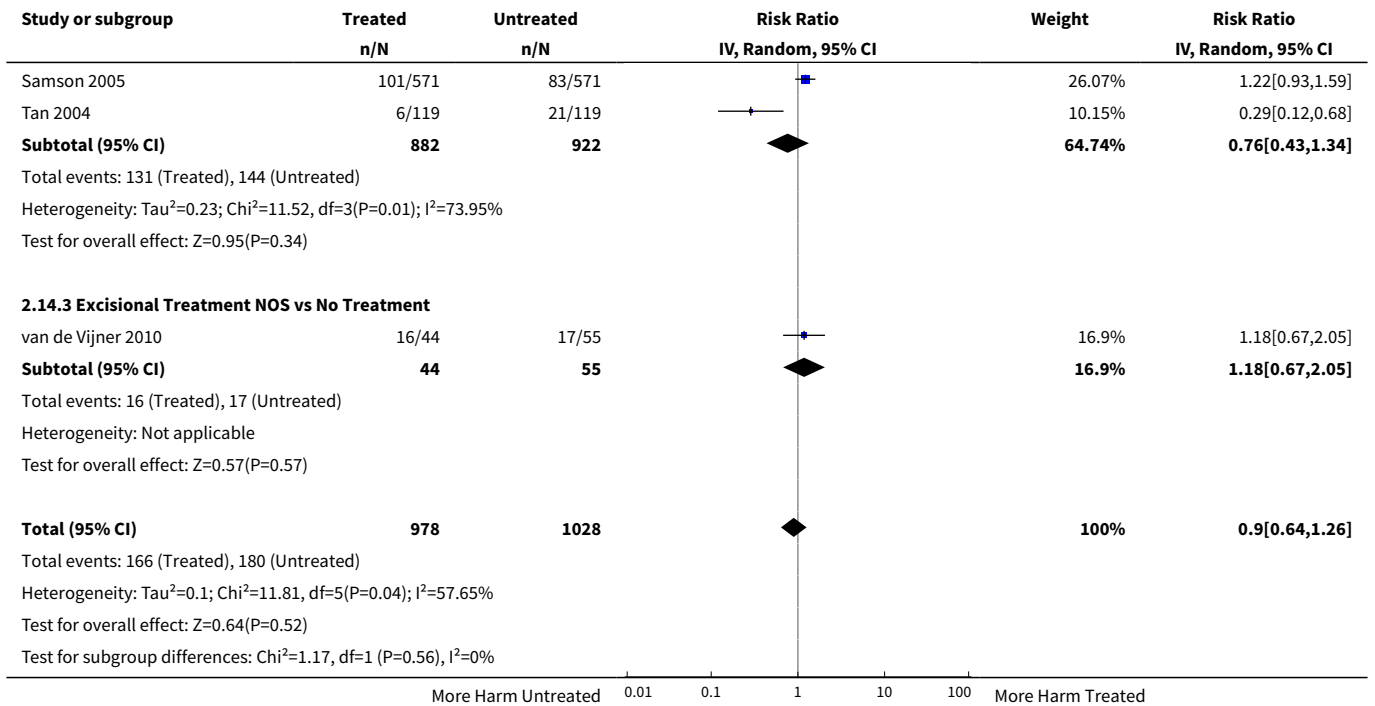
Analysis 2.13. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 13 Induction of Labour.



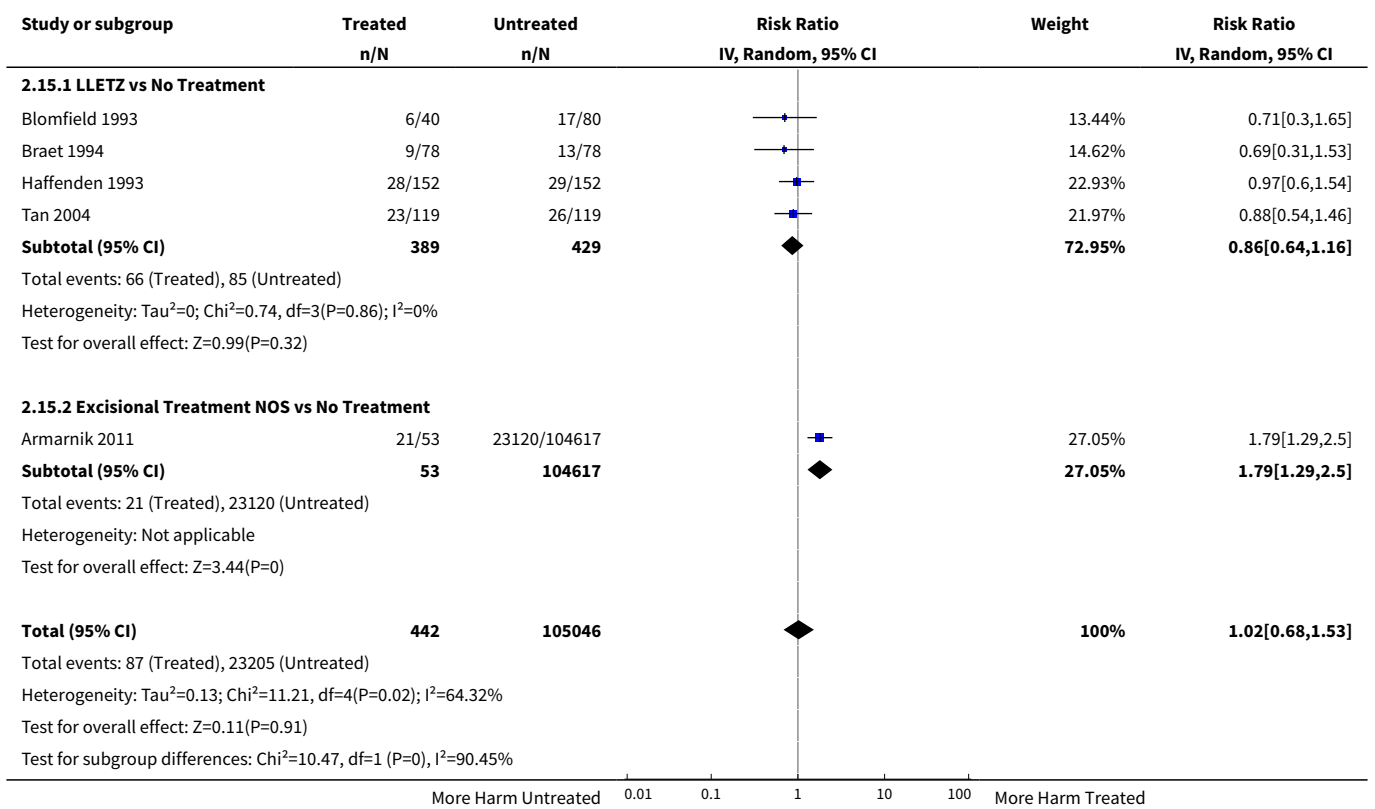


Analysis 2.14. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 14 Oxytocin Use.

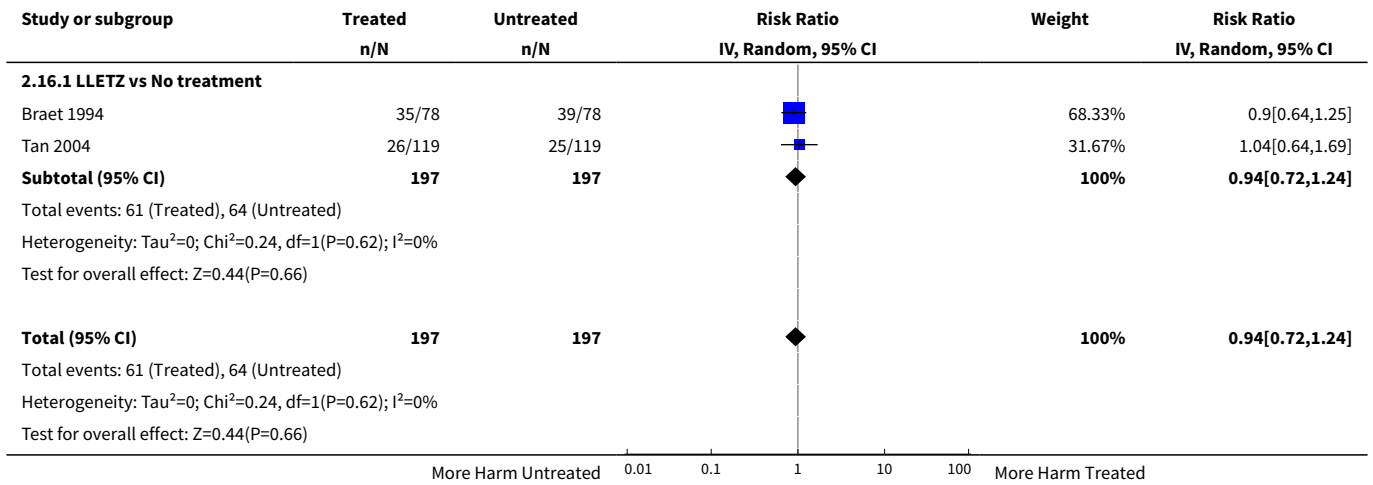




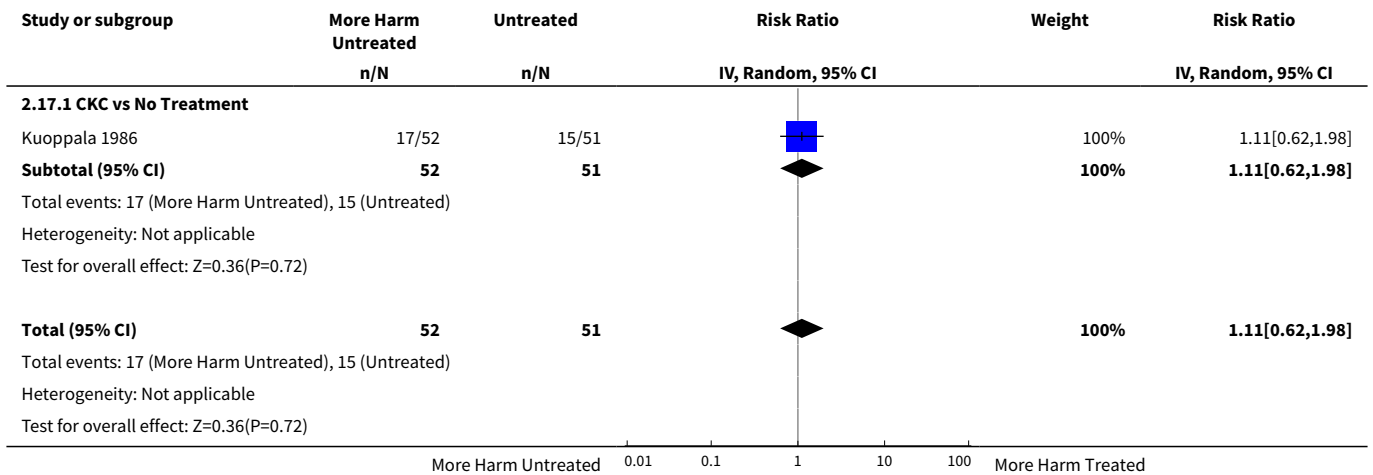
Analysis 2.15. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 15 Epidural Use.



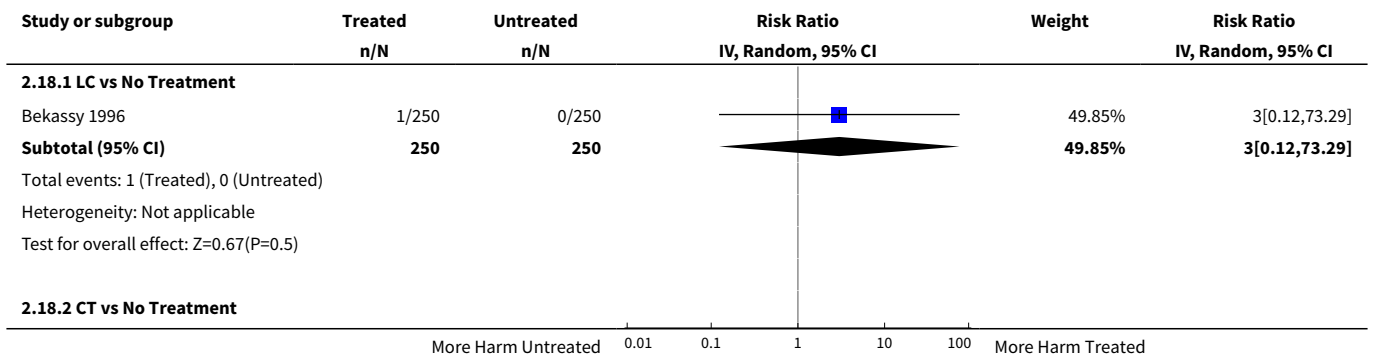
Analysis 2.16. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 16 Pethidine Use.

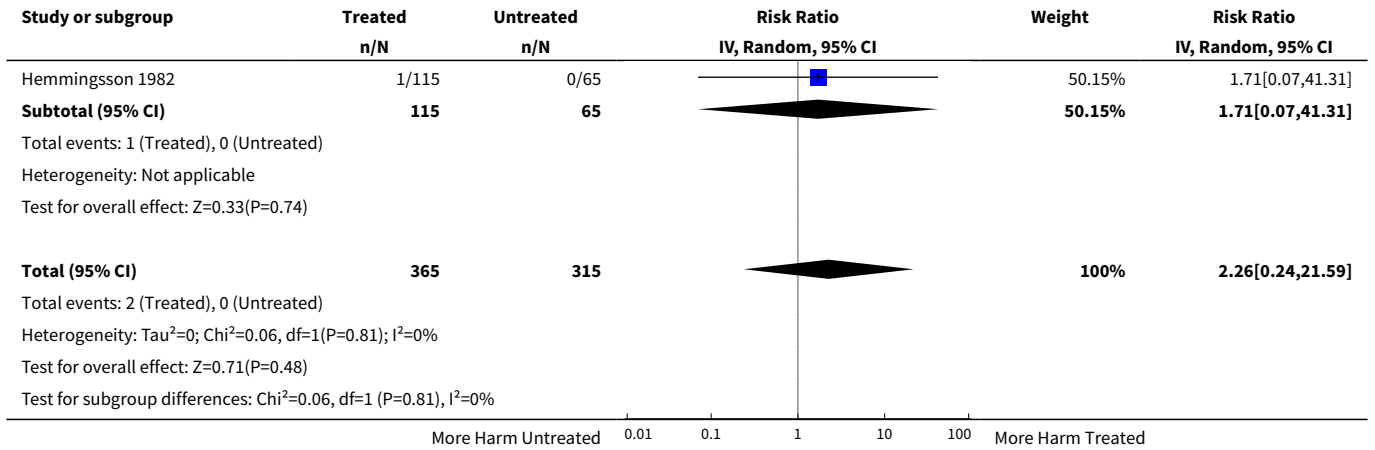


Analysis 2.17. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 17 Analgesia Use NOS.

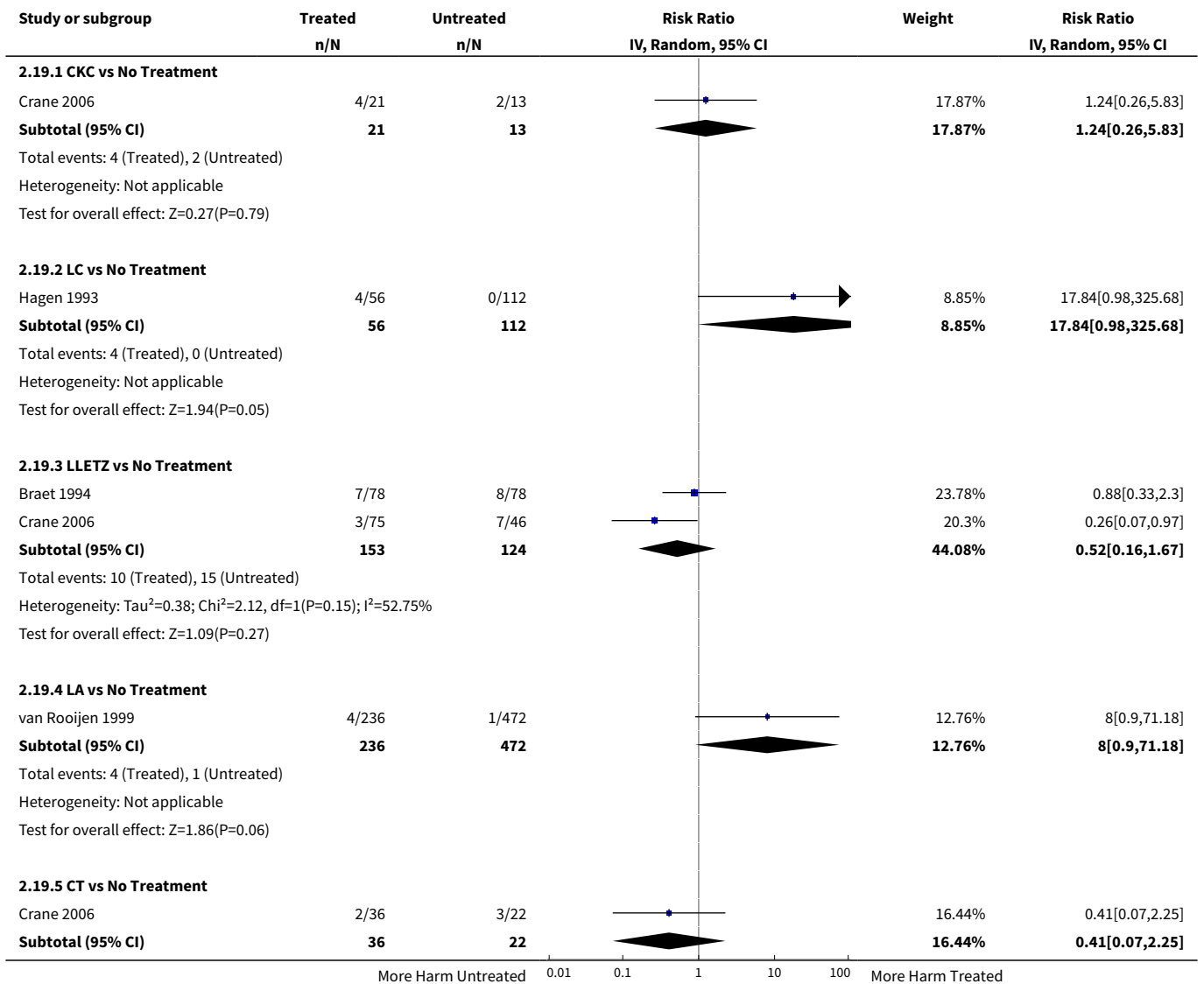


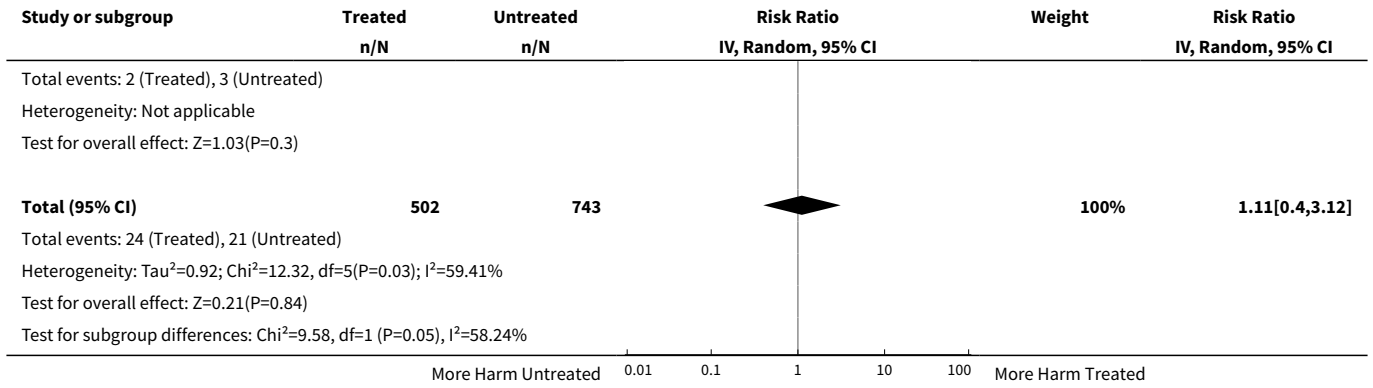
Analysis 2.18. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 18 Cervical stenosis.



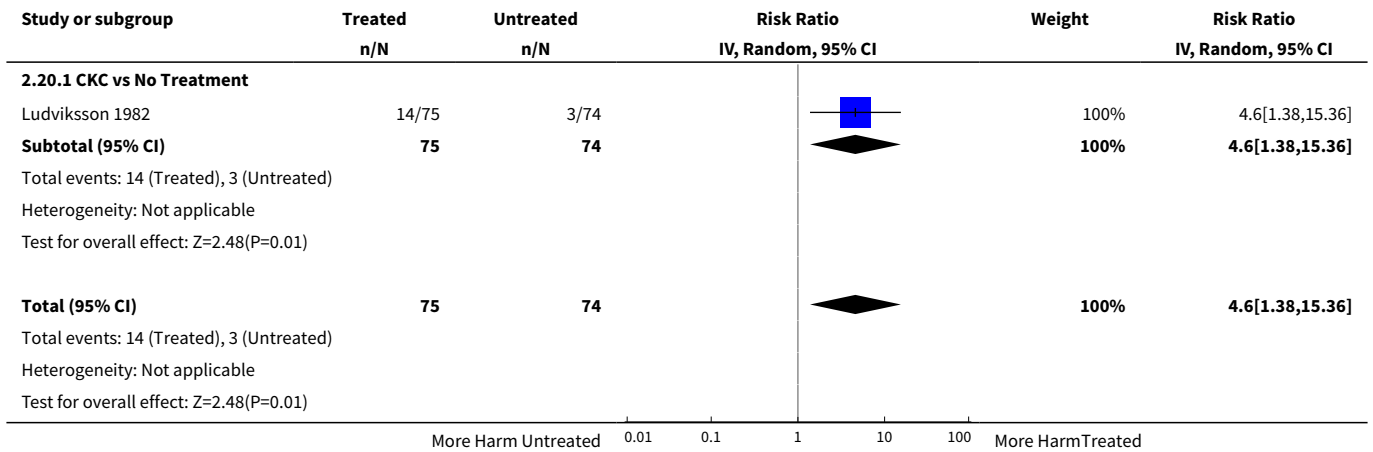


Analysis 2.19. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 19 Antepartum Haemorrhage.

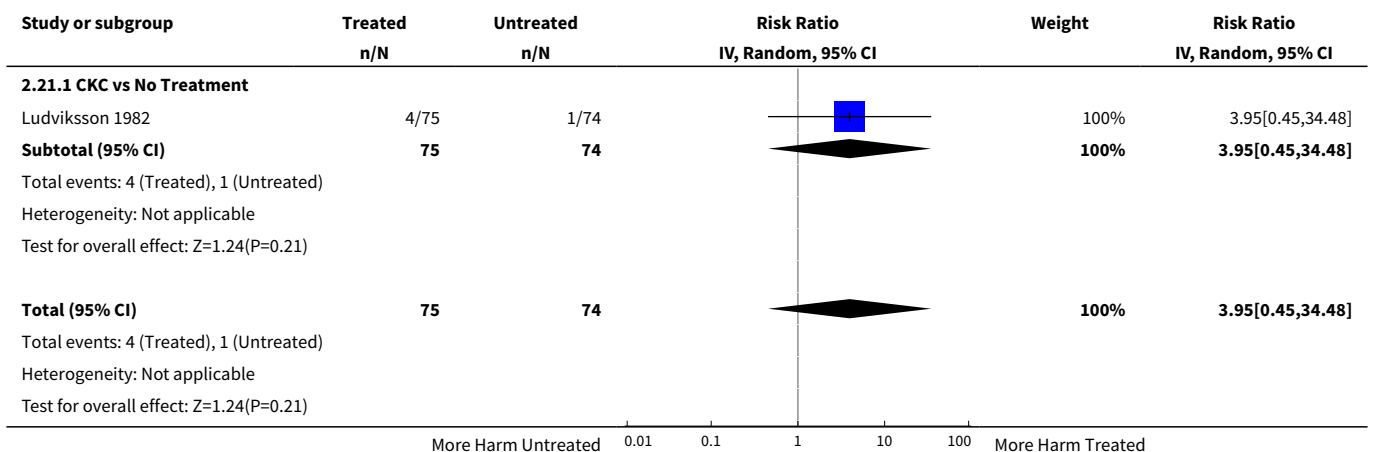




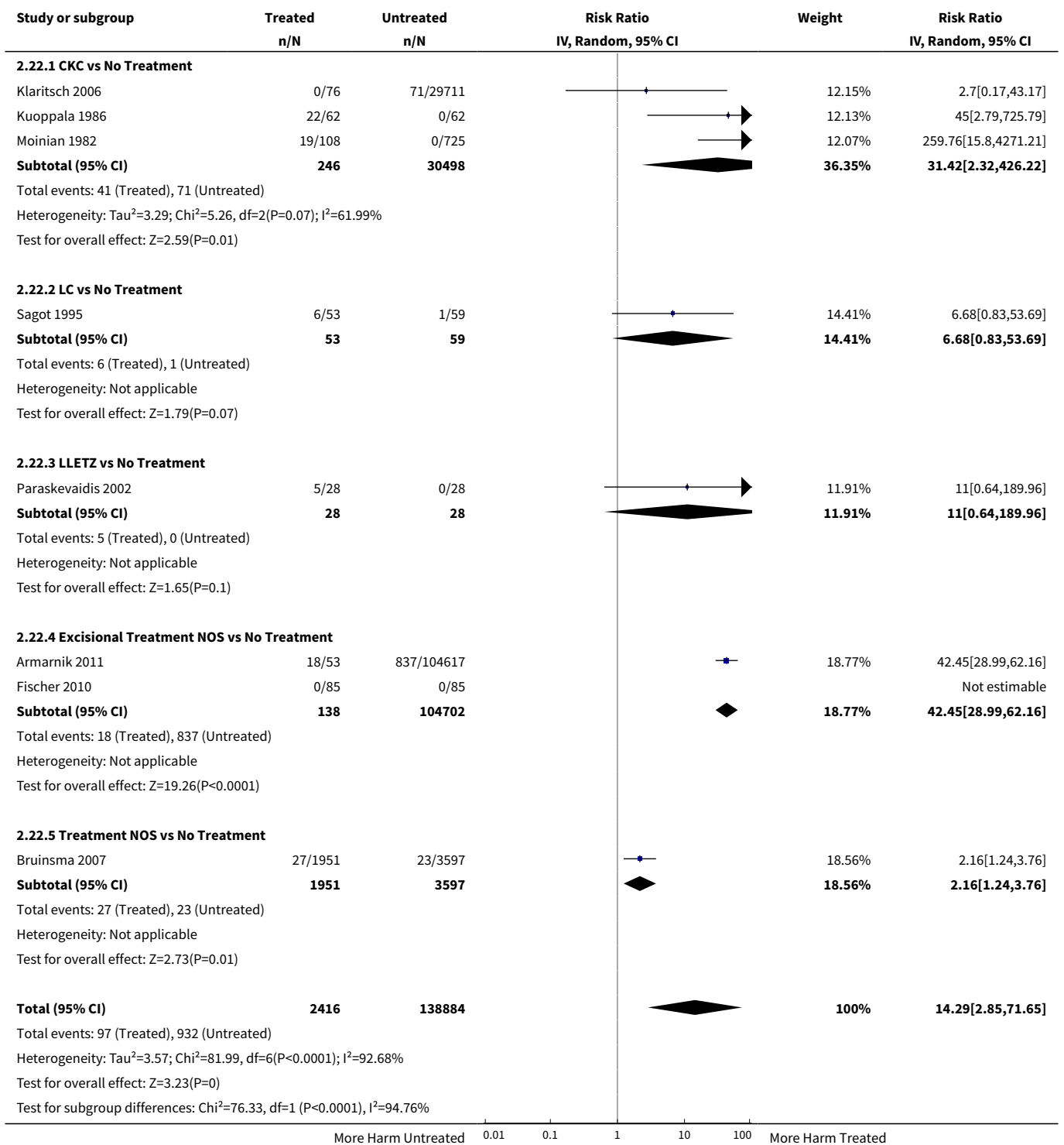
Analysis 2.20. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 20 Postpartum Haemorrhage (>600ml).



Analysis 2.21. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 21 Massive Obstetric Haemorrhage (>1000ml).



Analysis 2.22. Comparison 2 Other maternal Outcomes, Outcome 22 Cervical cerclage.



Comparison 3. Neonatal Outcomes

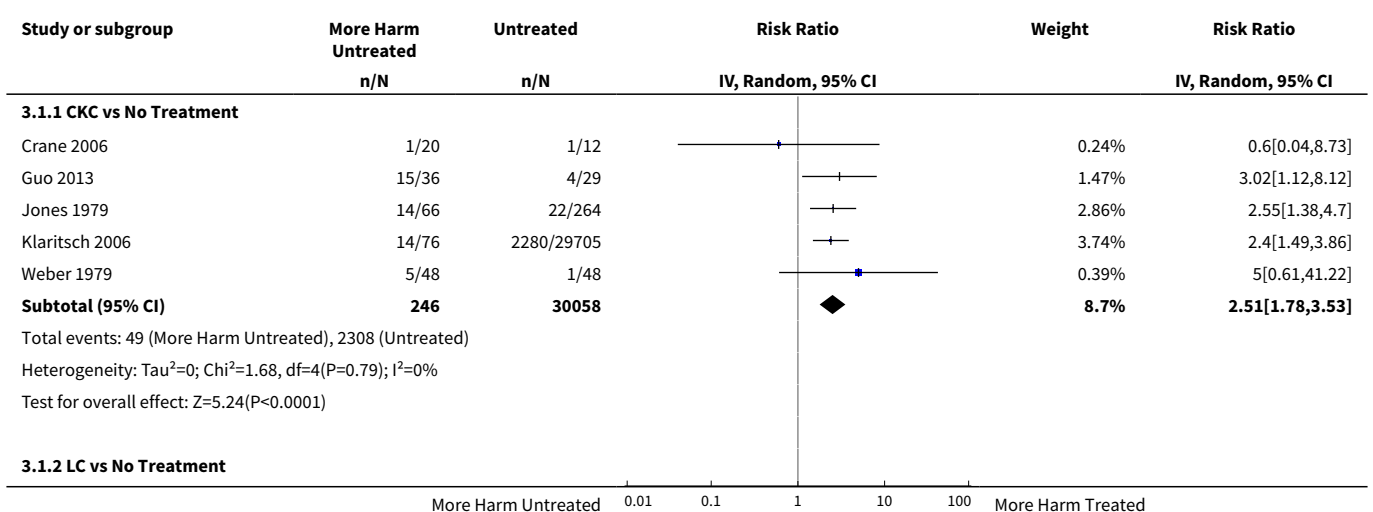
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 LBW (<2500g)	30	1.348206E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.81 [1.58, 2.07]
1.1 CKC vs No Treatment	5	30304	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.51 [1.78, 3.53]
1.2 LC vs No Treatment	4	786	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.76 [0.72, 4.35]
1.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	12	3357	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.11 [1.51, 2.94]
1.4 LA vs No Treatment	4	1104	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.07 [0.59, 1.92]
1.5 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.67 [0.47, 28.47]
1.6 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	10	823648	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.01 [1.62, 2.49]
1.7 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	4	483402	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.36 [1.19, 1.55]
1.8 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5547	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.35 [1.14, 1.60]
2 LBW (<2000g)	3	74981	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.49 [0.97, 6.36]
2.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	181	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.46 [1.36, 14.59]
2.2 LA vs No Treatment	2	772	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.39, 2.29]
2.3 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	74028	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.60 [3.32, 6.37]
3 LBW (<1500g)	5	76836	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.00 [1.54, 5.85]
3.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	181	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	12.75 [1.53, 106.44]
3.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	378	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	7.0 [0.36, 134.59]
3.3 LA vs No Treatment	2	772	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.68 [0.16, 2.80]
3.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	75505	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.34 [2.02, 5.54]

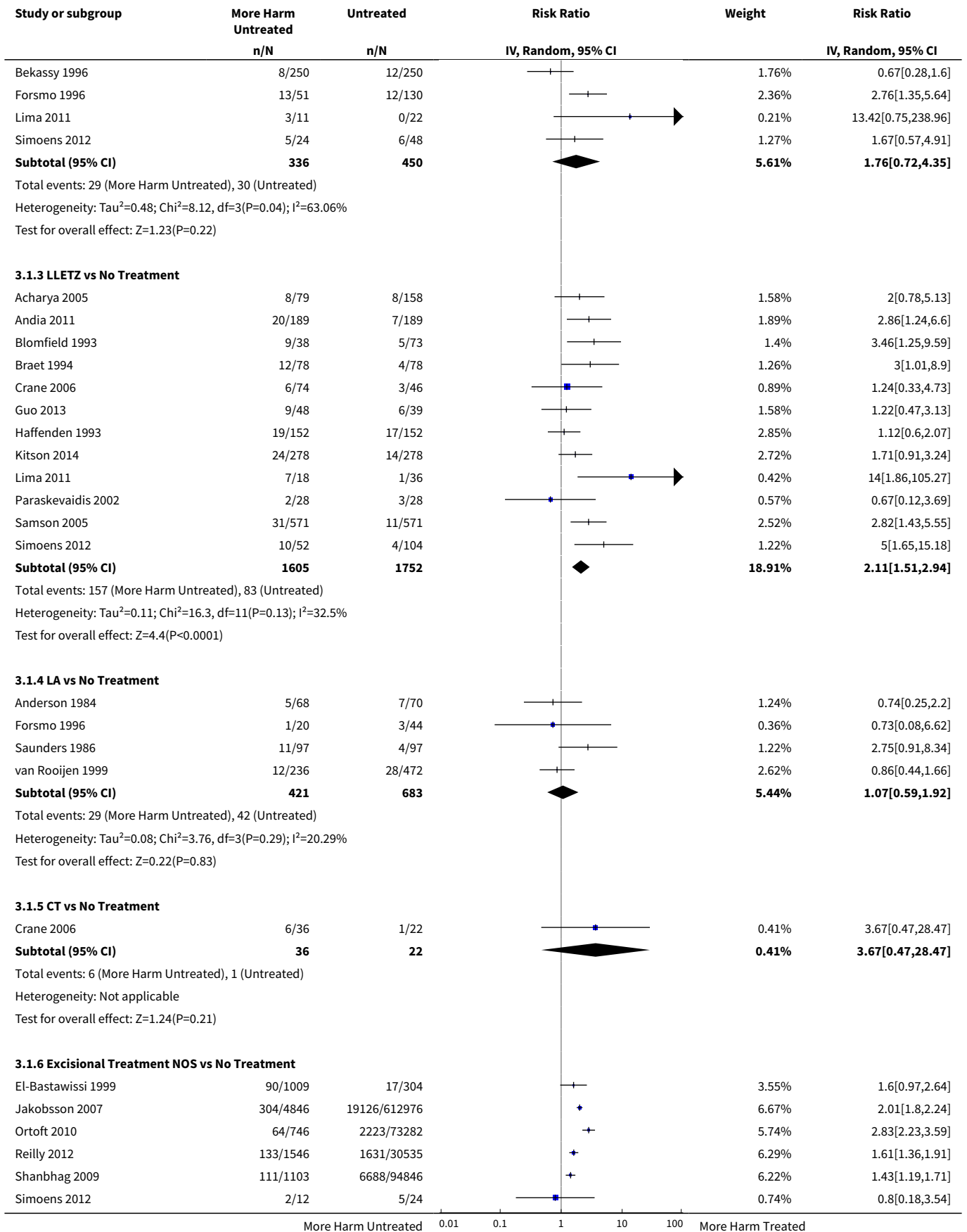
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
4 LBW (<1000g)	2	2185	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.09 [0.06, 74.71]
4.1 LA vs No Treatment	1	708	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.29 [0.01, 5.50]
4.2 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	1477	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	11.10 [1.44, 85.79]
5 NICU Admission	8	2557	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.45 [1.16, 1.81]
5.1 CKC vs No Treatment	2	71	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.40 [0.52, 3.75]
5.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	5	1994	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.42 [1.01, 1.99]
5.3 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	2.44 [0.29, 20.49]
5.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	434	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.76 [1.13, 2.75]
6 Perinatal Mortality	23	1.659433E6	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.51 [1.13, 2.03]
6.1 CKC vs No Treatment	7	50588	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.46 [0.83, 2.57]
6.2 LC vs No Treatment	3	906	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.89 [0.26, 13.87]
6.3 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	9.99 [3.13, 31.92]
6.4 LLETZ vs No Treatment	7	302271	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.53 [0.88, 2.67]
6.5 LA vs No Treatment	2	258	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.0 [0.12, 72.74]
6.6 CT vs No Treatment	2	238	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.19 [0.01, 4.59]
6.7 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	5	820028	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.85 [1.02, 3.36]
6.8 Ablative Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	2	472197	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.69 [0.42, 1.13]
6.9 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.00 [0.63, 1.58]

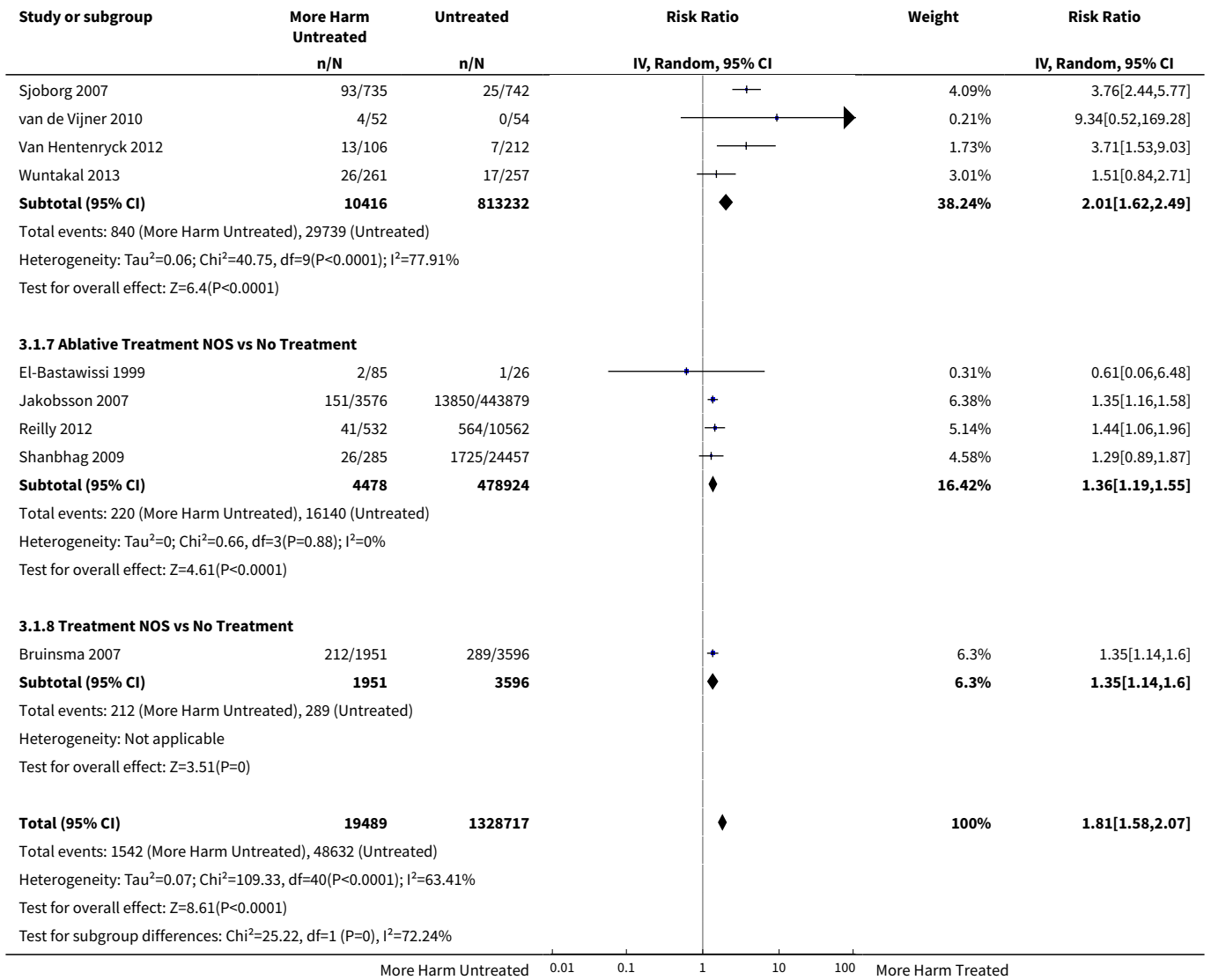
Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
7 Perinatal Mortality (<37w)	1	73992	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	9.40 [2.01, 43.89]
7.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6956	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.33 [0.31, 90.71]
7.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	30.96 [8.71, 110.13]
7.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	59637	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	3.92 [1.24, 12.38]
8 Perinatal Mortality (<32w)	1	73992	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	12.81 [2.70, 60.87]
8.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6956	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	6.75 [0.39, 117.10]
8.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	44.23 [11.67, 167.61]
8.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	59637	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	5.43 [1.71, 17.30]
9 Perinatal Mortality (<28w)	1	73992	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	13.76 [2.37, 79.89]
9.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	6956	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	9.21 [0.51, 164.95]
9.2 NETZ vs No Treatment	1	7399	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	51.61 [13.17, 202.29]
9.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	59637	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	4.49 [1.09, 18.45]
10 Stillbirth	12	249855	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.63, 1.52]
10.1 CKC vs No Treatment	3	935	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.61 [0.48, 5.40]
10.2 LC vs No Treatment	2	725	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.33 [0.03, 3.18]
10.3 LLETZ vs No Treatment	4	242473	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.42 [0.62, 3.26]
10.4 LA vs No Treatment	1	64	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]
10.5 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	110	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
10.6 Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	5548	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.77 [0.42, 1.40]
11 Apgar score (≤5)(1min)	1	225	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.57 [0.12, 2.68]
11.1 LC vs No Treatment	1	225	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.57 [0.12, 2.68]
12 Apgar score (<7)(1min)	1	152	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.63 [0.07, 5.71]
12.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	87	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.16 [0.01, 3.30]
12.2 CKC vs No Treatment	1	65	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	1.61 [0.15, 16.90]
13 Apgar score (<7)(5min)	2	297	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.82 [0.19, 3.59]
13.1 CKC vs No Treatment	1	32	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]
13.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment	1	120	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.93 [0.16, 5.37]
13.3 CT vs No Treatment	1	58	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.61 [0.04, 9.28]
13.4 Excisional Treatment NOS vs No Treatment	1	87	Risk Ratio (IV, Random, 95% CI)	0.0 [0.0, 0.0]

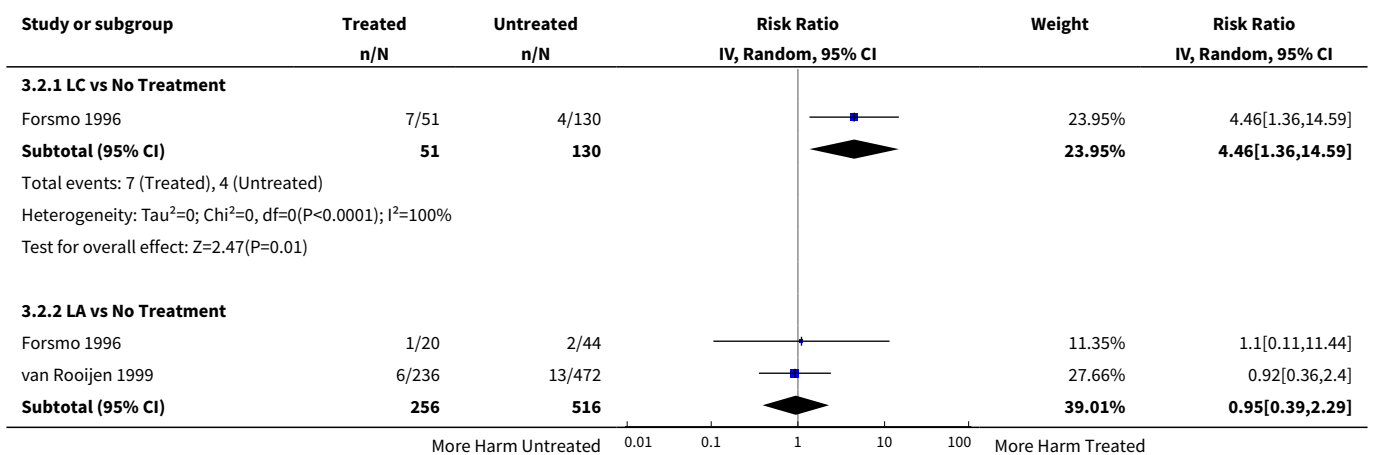
Analysis 3.1. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 1 LBW (<2500g).

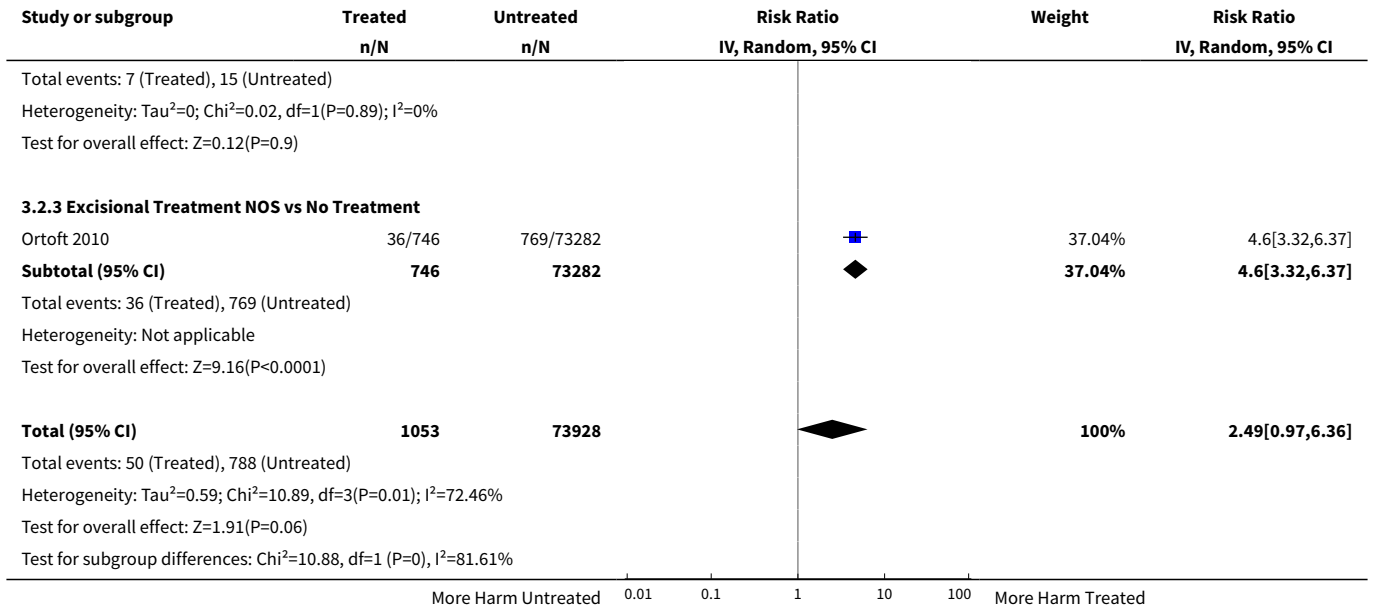




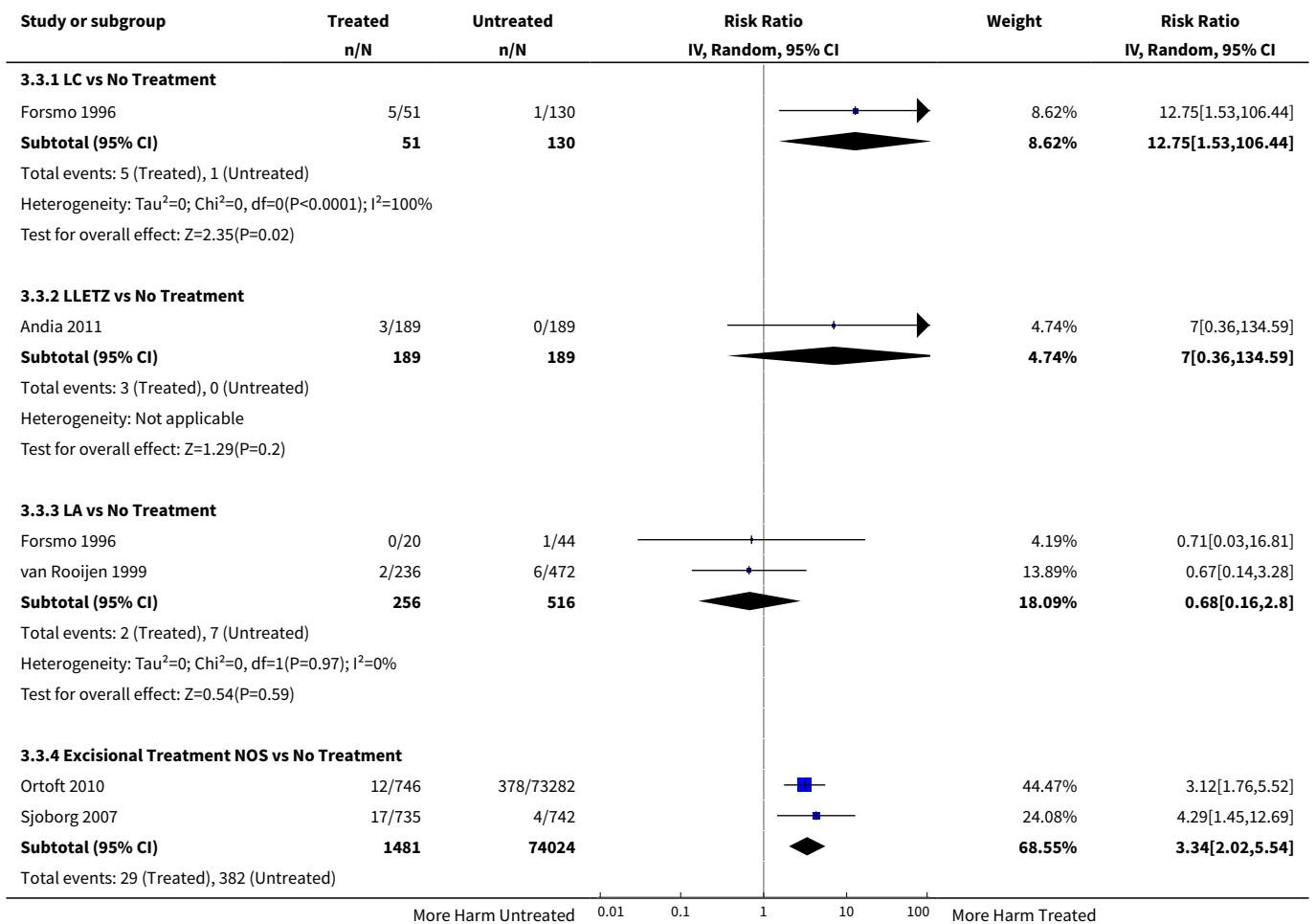


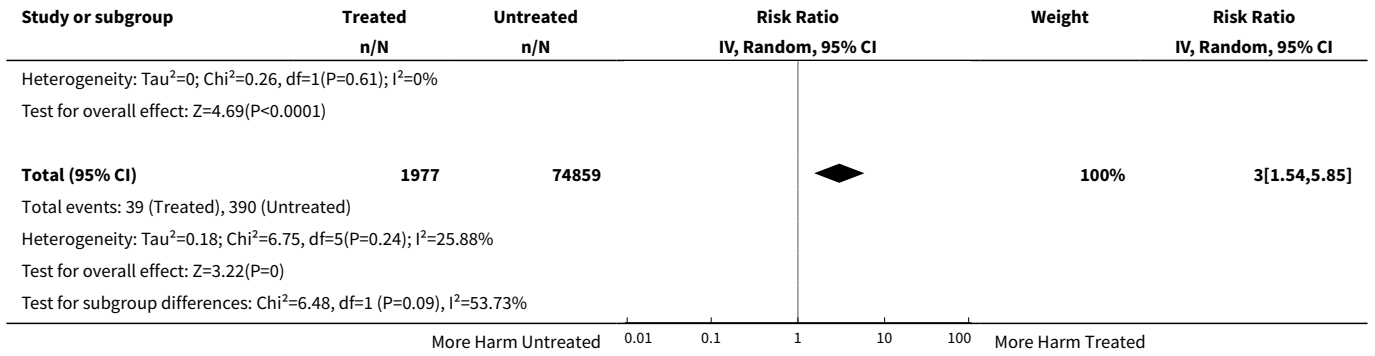
Analysis 3.2. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 2 LBW (<2000g).



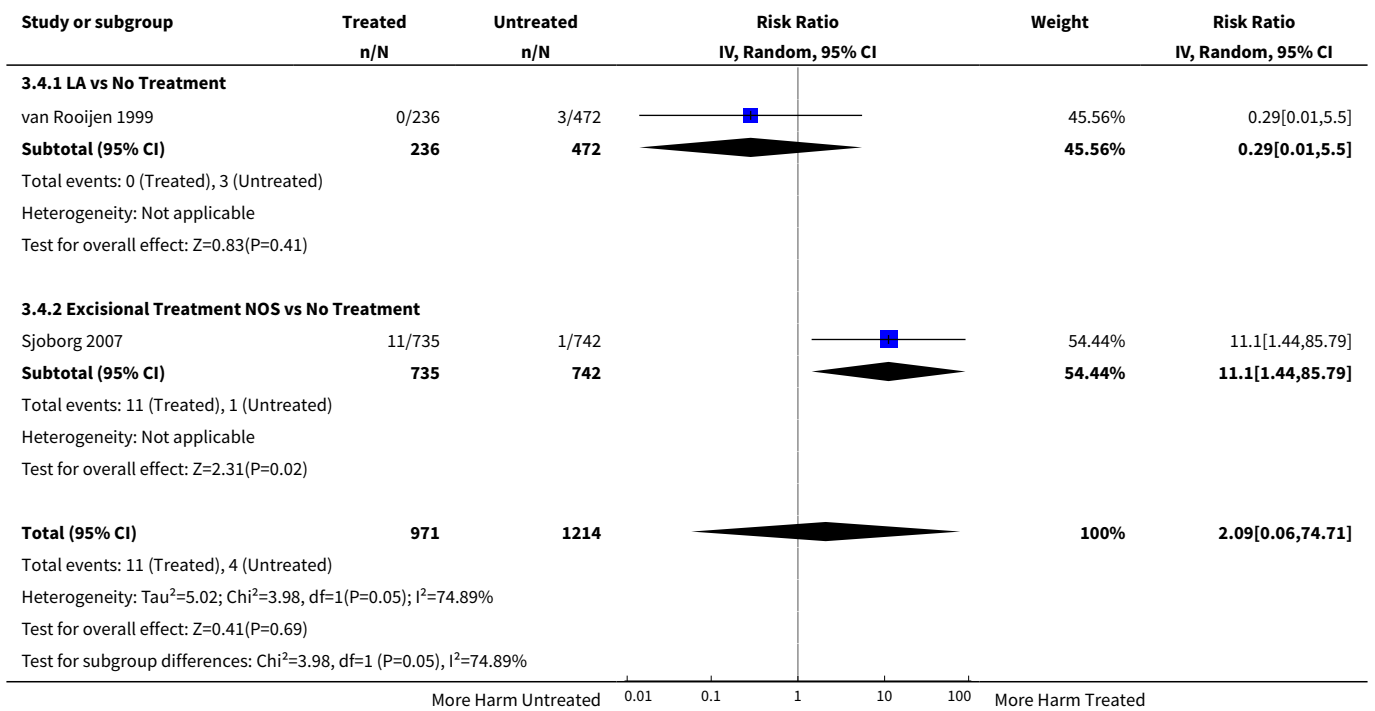


Analysis 3.3. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 3 LBW (<1500g).

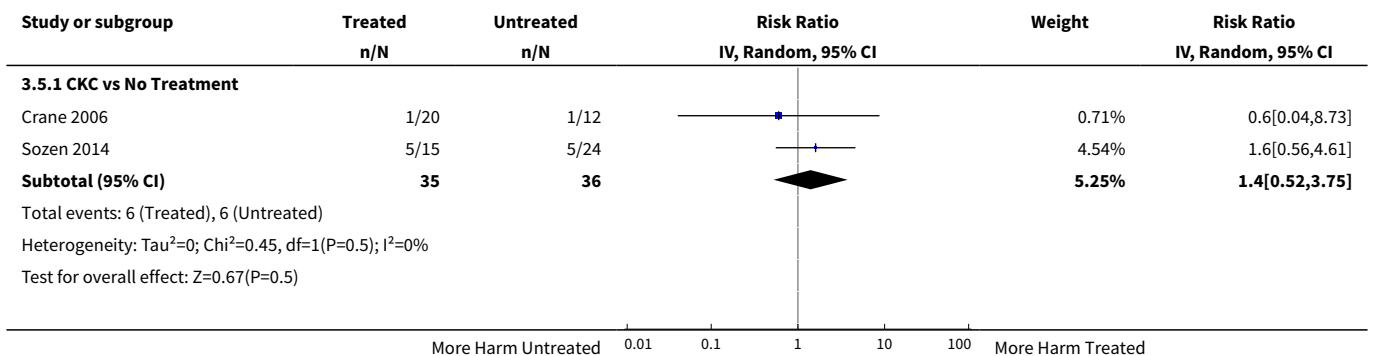


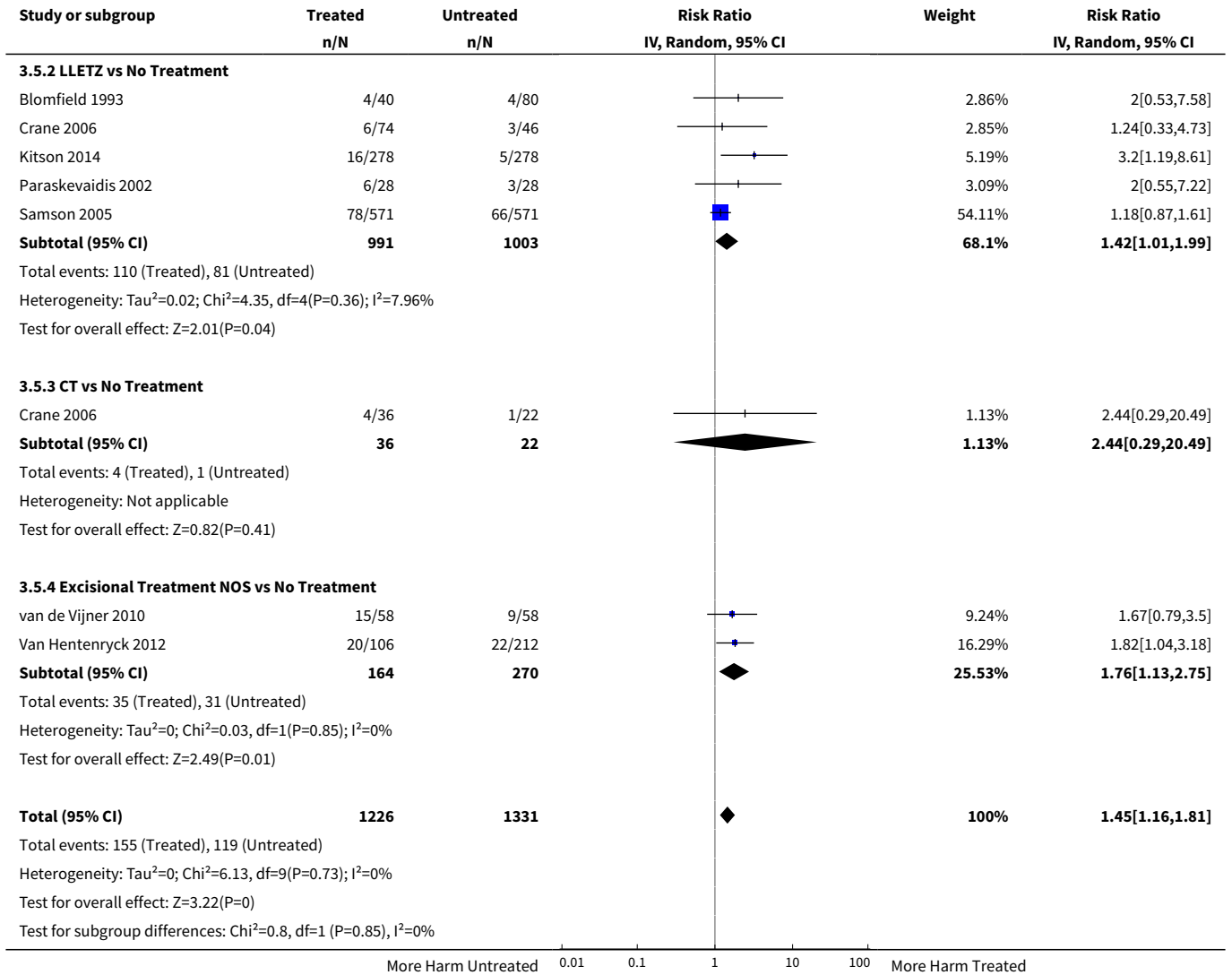


Analysis 3.4. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 4 LBW (<1000g).

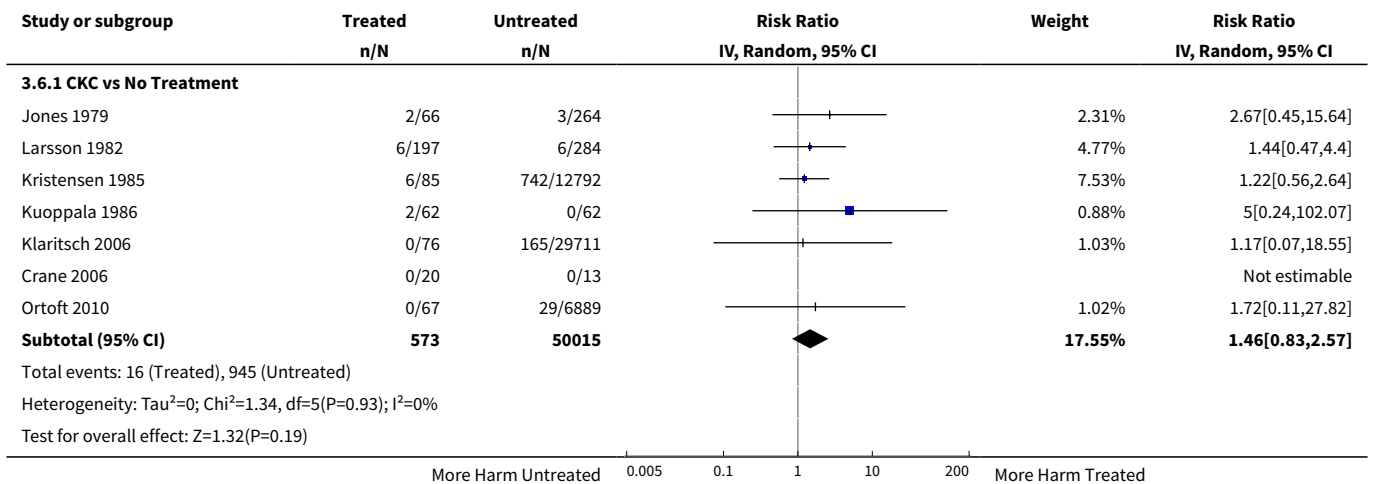


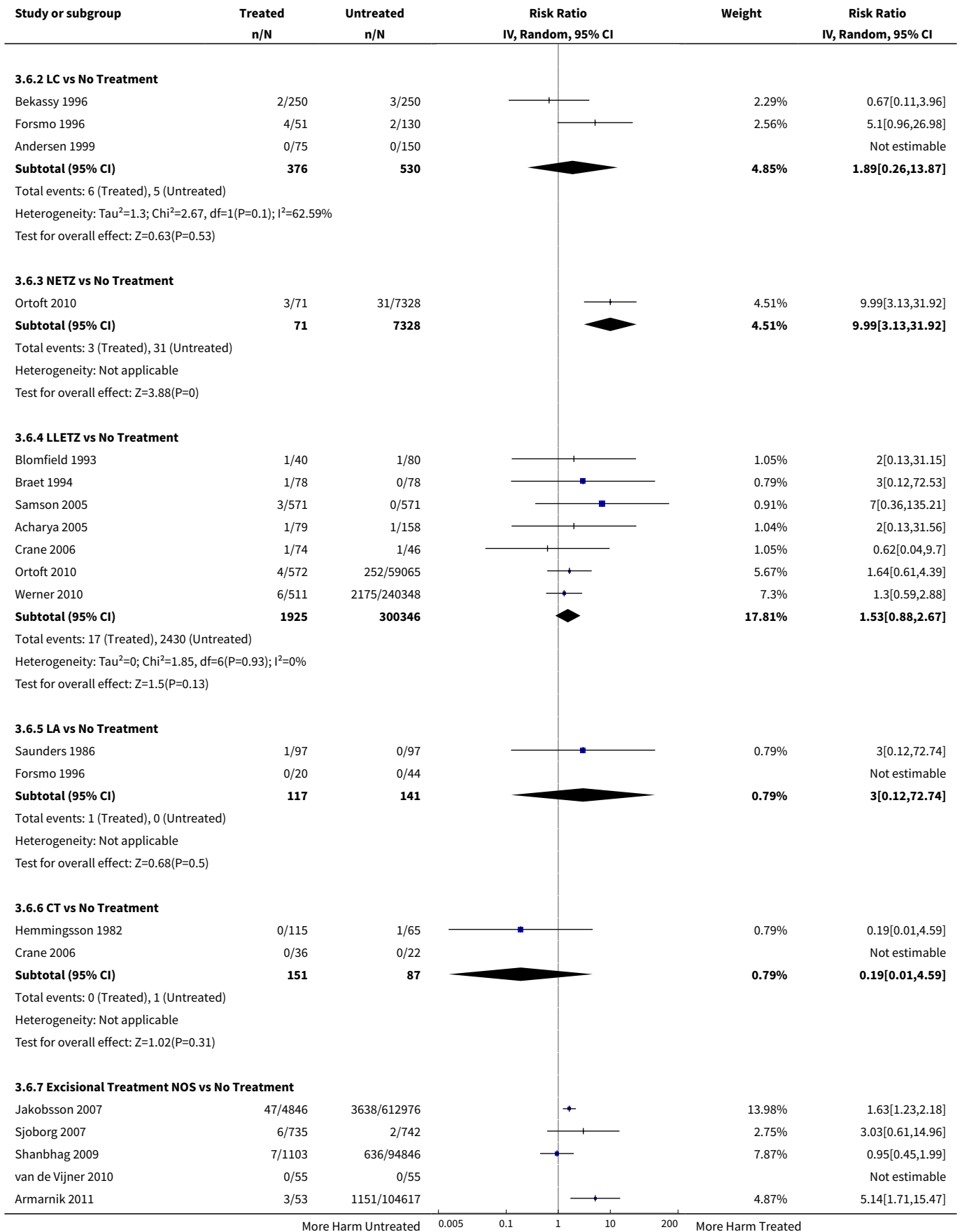
Analysis 3.5. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 5 NICU Admission.

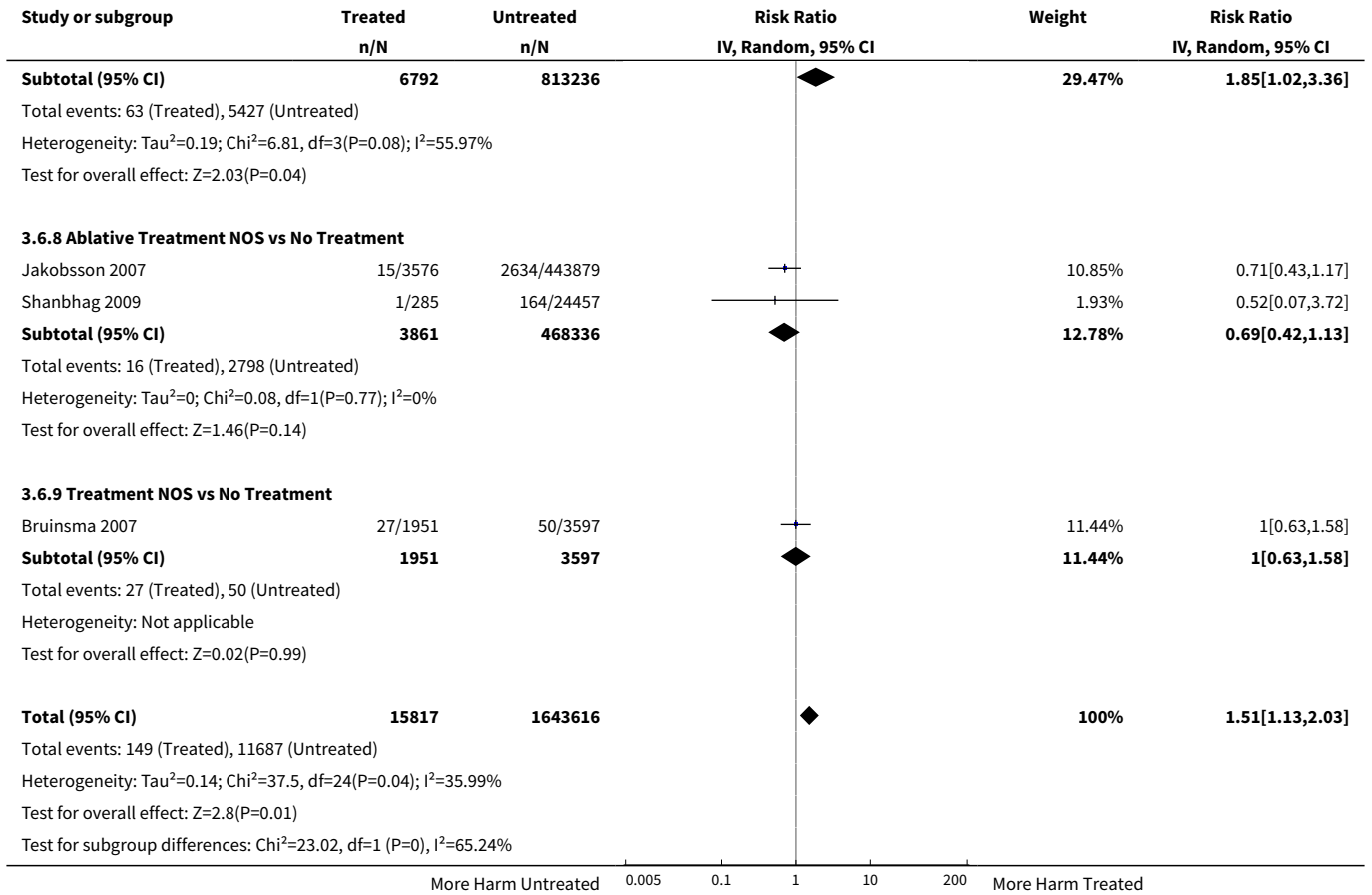




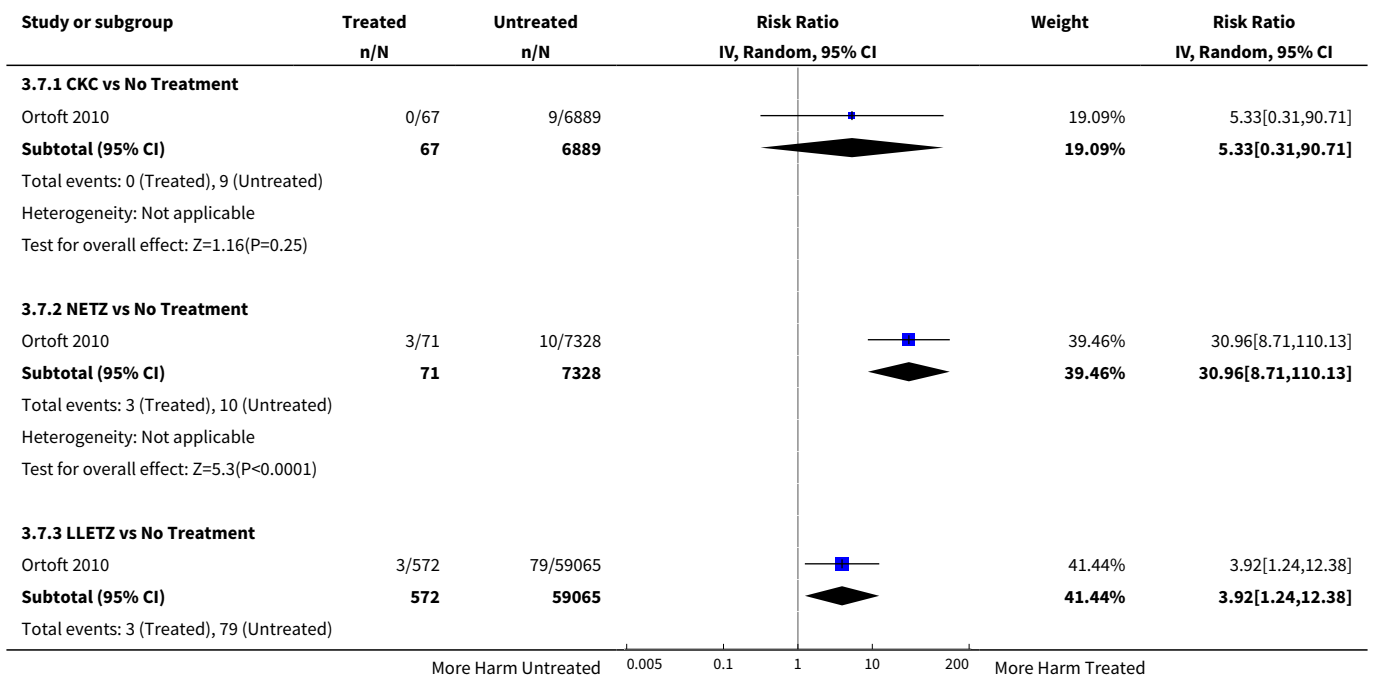
Analysis 3.6. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 6 Perinatal Mortality.

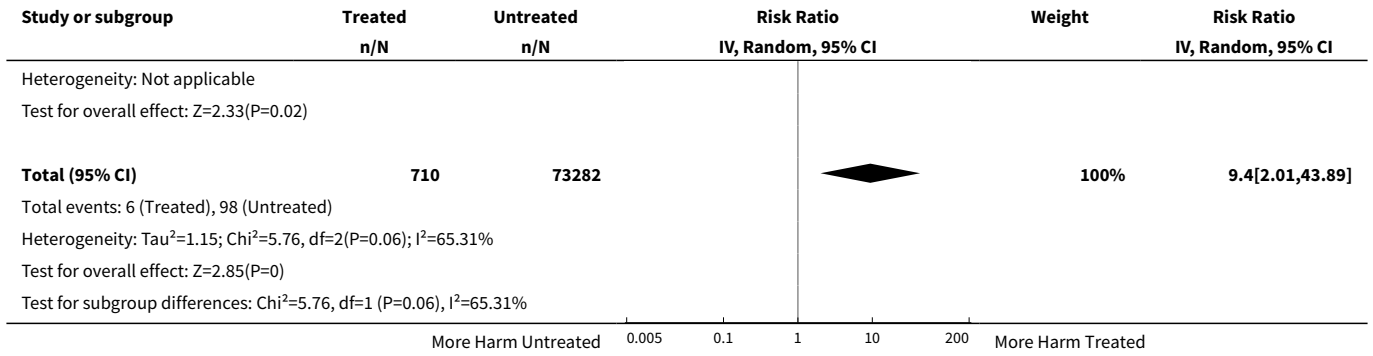




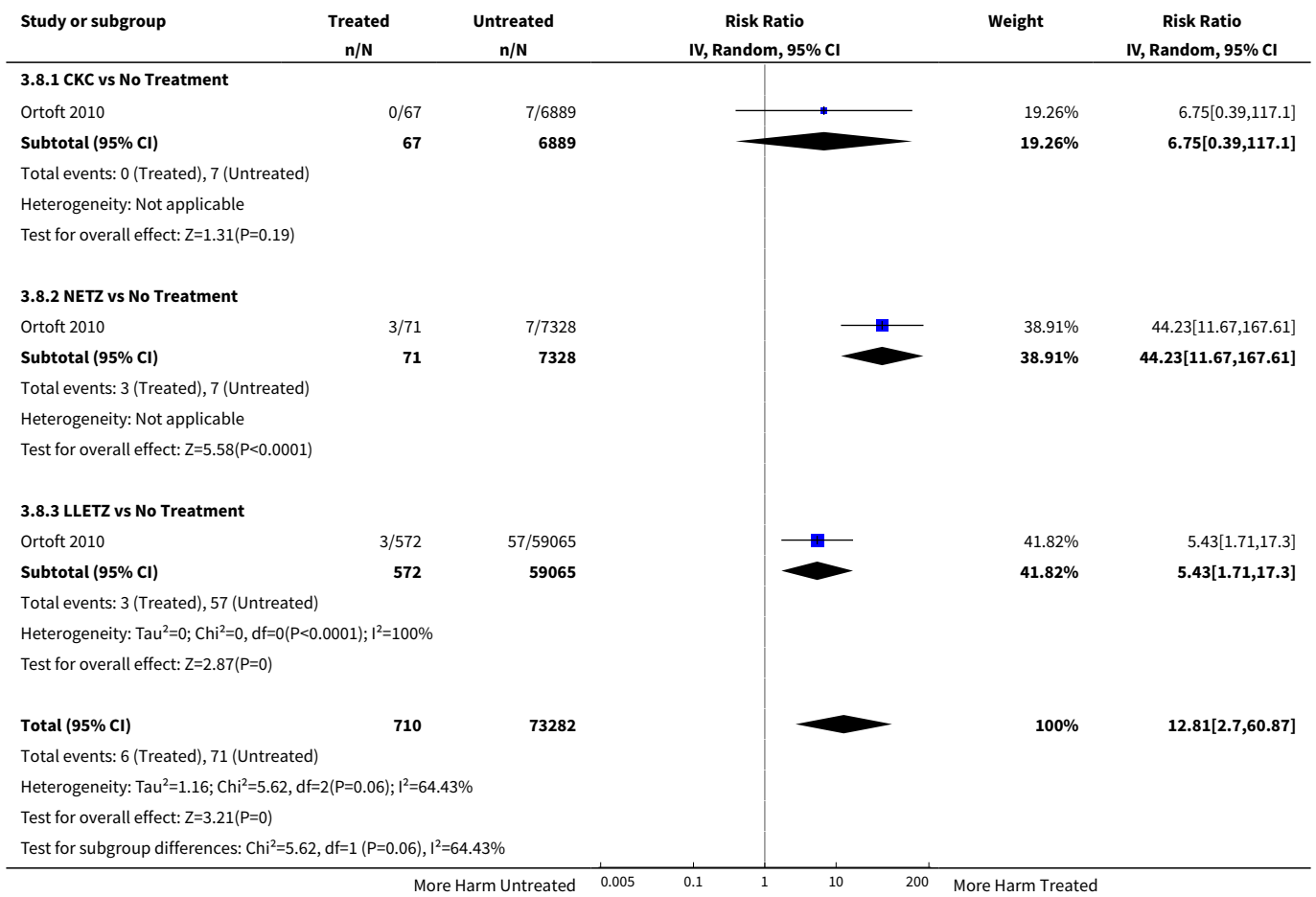


Analysis 3.7. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 7 Perinatal Mortality (<37w).

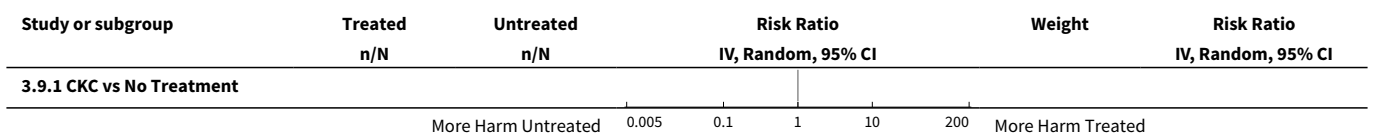


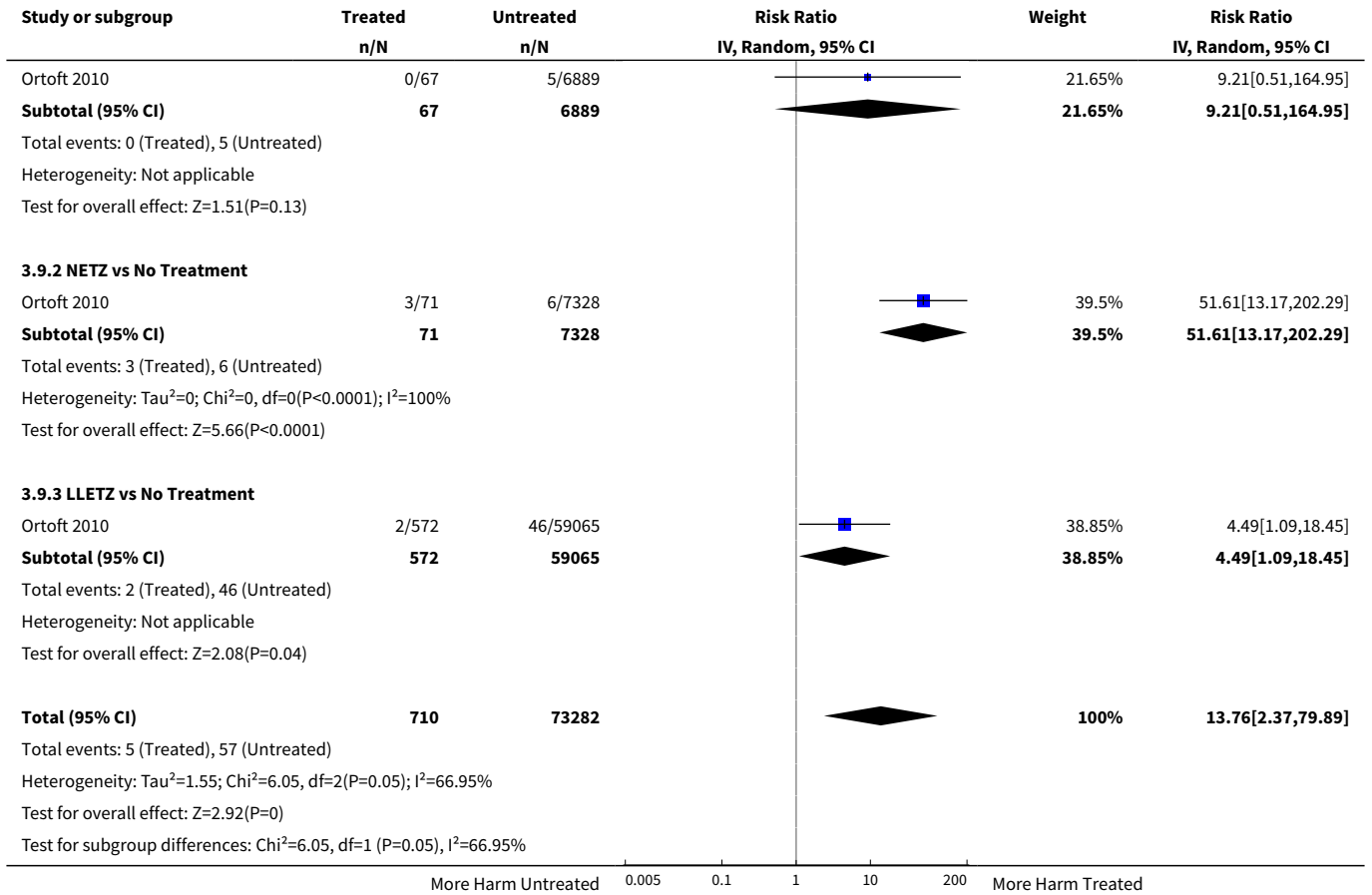


Analysis 3.8. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 8 Perinatal Mortality (<32w).

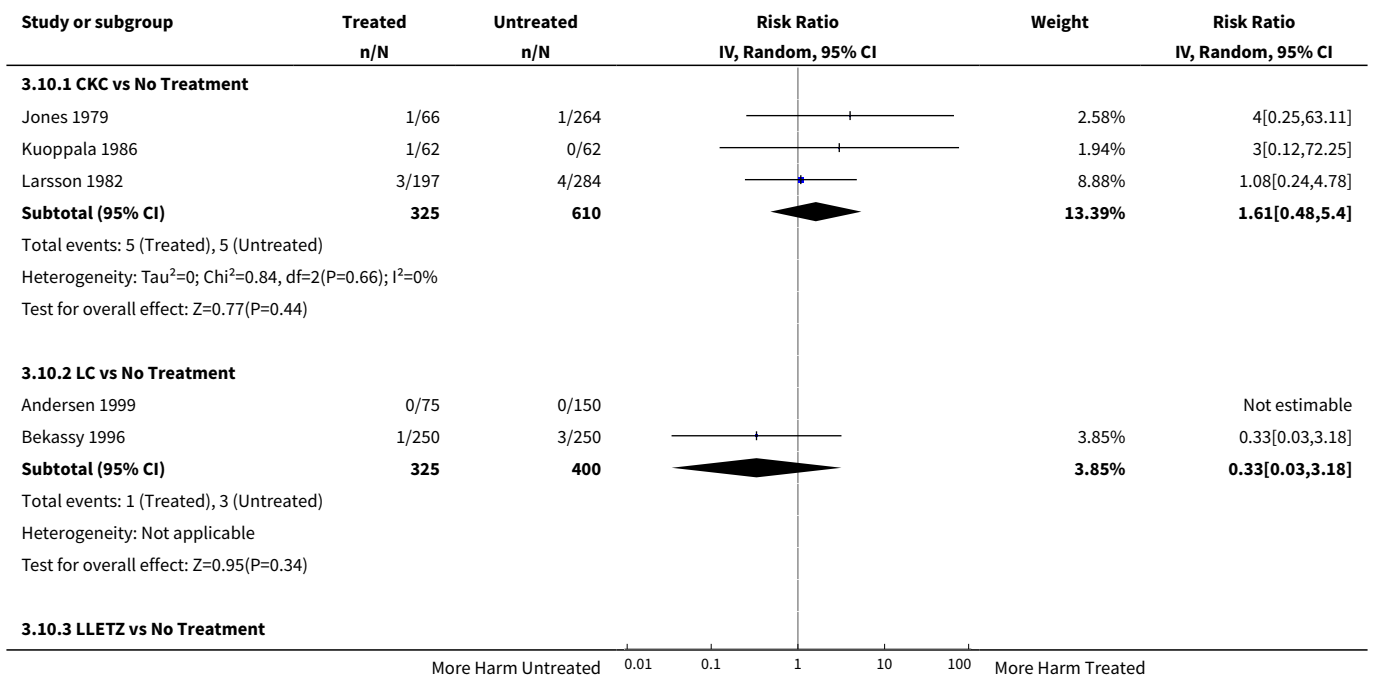


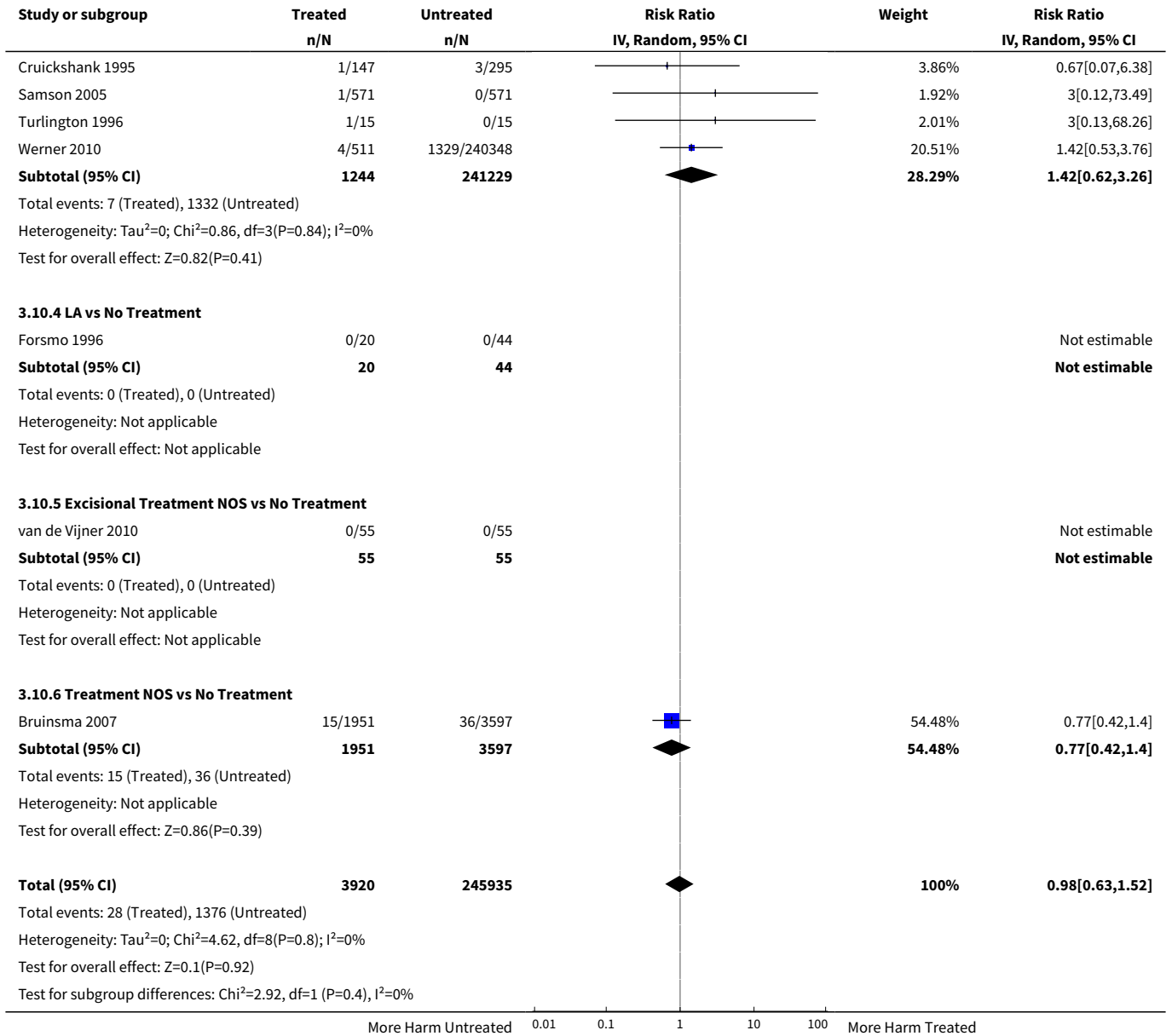
Analysis 3.9. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 9 Perinatal Mortality (<28w).



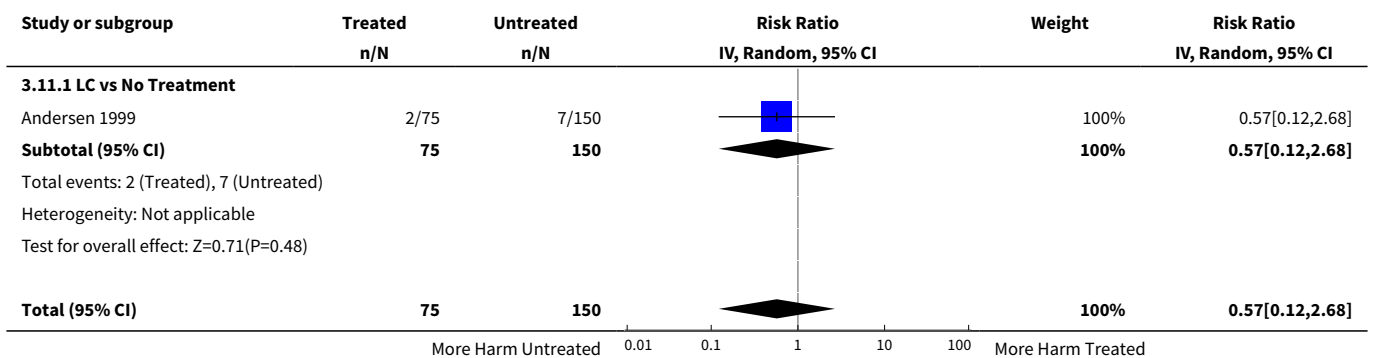


Analysis 3.10. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 10 Stillbirth.





Analysis 3.11. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 11 Apgar score (≤5)(1min).



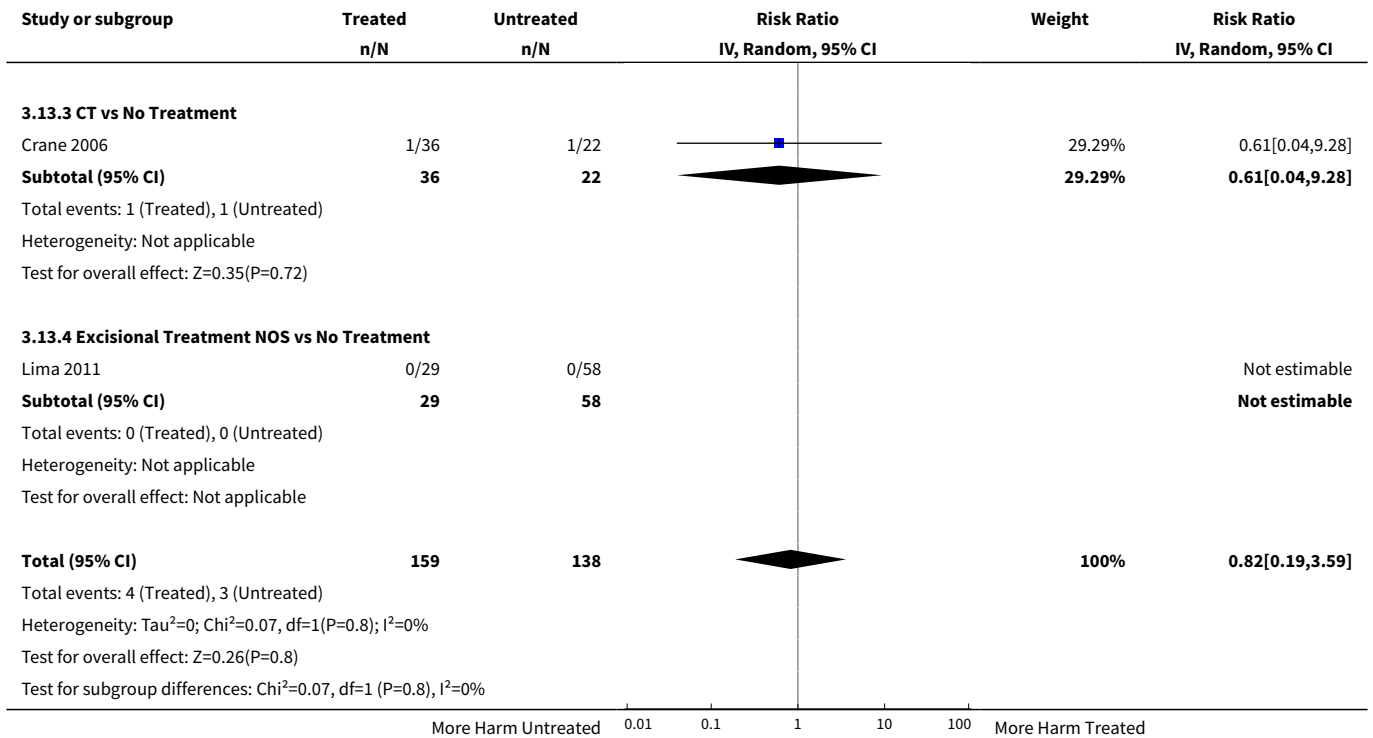
Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
Total events: 2 (Treated), 7 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=0.71(P=0.48)					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

Analysis 3.12. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 12 Apgar score (<7)(1min).

Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
3.12.1 LLETZ vs No Treatment					
Guo 2013	0/48	2/39		41.25%	0.16[0.01,3.3]
Subtotal (95% CI)	48	39		41.25%	0.16[0.01,3.3]
Total events: 0 (Treated), 2 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=1.18(P=0.24)					
3.12.2 CKC vs No Treatment					
Guo 2013	2/36	1/29		58.75%	1.61[0.15,16.9]
Subtotal (95% CI)	36	29		58.75%	1.61[0.15,16.9]
Total events: 2 (Treated), 1 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=0.4(P=0.69)					
Total (95% CI)	84	68		100%	0.63[0.07,5.71]
Total events: 2 (Treated), 3 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =0.72; Chi ² =1.38, df=1(P=0.24); I ² =27.64%					
Test for overall effect: Z=0.41(P=0.68)					
Test for subgroup differences: Chi ² =1.38, df=1 (P=0.24), I ² =27.64%					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					

Analysis 3.13. Comparison 3 Neonatal Outcomes, Outcome 13 Apgar score (<7)(5min).

Study or subgroup	Treated n/N	Untreated n/N	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI	Weight	Risk Ratio IV, Random, 95% CI
3.13.1 CKC vs No Treatment					
Crane 2006	0/20	0/12			Not estimable
Subtotal (95% CI)	20	12			Not estimable
Total events: 0 (Treated), 0 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Not applicable					
3.13.2 LLETZ vs No Treatment					
Crane 2006	3/74	2/46		70.71%	0.93[0.16,5.37]
Subtotal (95% CI)	74	46		70.71%	0.93[0.16,5.37]
Total events: 3 (Treated), 2 (Untreated)					
Heterogeneity: Not applicable					
Test for overall effect: Z=0.08(P=0.94)					
More Harm Untreated 0.01 0.1 1 10 100 More Harm Treated					



APPENDICES

Appendix 1. CENTRAL search strategy

CENTRAL search strategy

- #1 MeSH descriptor Uterine Cervical Neoplasms explode all trees
- #2 cervi* and (cancer* or tumor* or tumour* or neoplas* or malignan* or carcinom*)
- #3 MeSH descriptor Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia explode all trees
- #4 CIN
- #5 cervi* and (intraepithel* or epithel* or dysplasia or pre-cancer* or precancer*)
- #6 (#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5)
- #7 MeSH descriptor Conization explode all trees
- #8 conisation or conization
- #9 MeSH descriptor Laser Therapy explode all trees
- #10 laser
- #11 MeSH descriptor Cryotherapy explode all trees
- #12 cryotherapy
- #13 cold coagulation
- #14 MeSH descriptor Diathermy explode all trees
- #15 diatherm*
- #16 cone biopsy
- #17 loop
- #18 LLETZ
- #19 LEEP
- #20 ablat*
- #21 excision*
- #22 transformation zone
- #23 CKC or LA or LC or CC or RD or TZ
- #24 conservative and (method* or treatment* or intervention* or management)
- #25 (#7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14 OR #15 OR #16 OR #17 OR #18 OR #19 OR #20 OR #21 OR #22 OR #23 OR #24)
- #26 (#6 AND #25)

#27 MeSH descriptor Premature Birth explode all trees
 #28 preterm or premature
 #29 MeSH descriptor Infant, Low Birth Weight explode all trees
 #30 birth weight
 #31 MeSH descriptor Perinatal Mortality explode all trees
 #32 perinatal mortality
 #33 MeSH descriptor Intensive Care, Neonatal explode all trees
 #34 neonat* and (intensive care)
 #35 MeSH descriptor Fertility explode all trees
 #36 fertil*
 #37 conception
 #38 MeSH descriptor Pregnancy explode all trees
 #39 pregnancy
 #40 gestation*
 #41 MeSH descriptor Abortion, Spontaneous explode all trees
 #42 miscarriage*
 #43 MeSH descriptor Cesarean Section explode all trees
 #44 cesarean or caesarean
 #45 MeSH descriptor Obstetric Labor, Premature explode all trees
 #46 MeSH descriptor Labor, Obstetric explode all trees
 #47 labor or labour
 #48 MeSH descriptor Fetal Membranes, Premature Rupture explode all trees
 #49 pPROM
 #50 (#27 OR #28 OR #29 OR #30 OR #31 OR #32 OR #33 OR #34 OR #35 OR #36 OR #37 OR #38 OR #39 OR #40 OR #41 OR #42 OR #43 OR #44 OR #45 OR #46 OR #47 OR #48 OR #49)
 #51 (#26 AND #50)

Appendix 2. MEDLINE search strategy

- 1 exp Uterine Cervical Neoplasms/
- 2 (cervi* and (cancer* or tumor* or tumour* or neoplas* or malignan* or carcinom*)).mp.
- 3 exp Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia/
- 4 CIN.mp.
- 5 (cervi* and (intraepithel* or epithel* or dysplasia or pre-cancer* or precancer*)).mp.
- 6 or/1-5
- 7 exp Conization/
- 8 (conisation or conization).mp.
- 9 exp Laser Therapy/
- 10 laser.mp.
- 11 exp Cryotherapy/
- 12 cryotherapy.mp.
- 13 cold coagulation.mp.
- 14 exp Diathermy/
- 15 diatherm*.mp.
- 16 cone biopsy.mp.
- 17 loop.mp.
- 18 LLETZ.mp.
- 19 LEEP.mp.
- 20 ablat*.mp.
- 21 excision*.mp.
- 22 transformation zone.mp.
- 23 (CKC or LA or LC or CC or RD or TZ).mp.
- 24 (conservative and (method* or treatment* or intervention* or management)).mp.
- 25 or/7-24
- 26 6 and 25
- 27 exp Premature Birth/
- 28 (preterm or premature).mp.
- 29 exp Infant, Low Birth Weight/
- 30 birth weight.mp.
- 31 Perinatal Mortality/
- 32 perinatal mortality.mp.
- 33 exp Intensive Care, Neonatal/

34 (neonatal and intensive care).mp.
 35 exp Fertility/
 36 fertil*.mp.
 37 conception.mp.
 38 exp Pregnancy/
 39 pregnancy.mp.
 40 gestation*.mp.
 41 exp Abortion, Spontaneous/
 42 miscarriage*.mp.
 43 exp Cesarean Section/
 44 (cesarean or caesarean).mp.
 45 exp Obstetric Labor, Premature/
 46 exp Labor, Obstetric/
 47 (labor or labour).mp.
 48 Fetal Membranes, Premature Rupture/
 49 pPROM.mp.
 50 or/27-49
 51 26 and 50

key:

mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word

Appendix 3. Embase search strategy

1 exp uterine cervix tumor/
 2 (cervi* and (cancer* or tumor* or tumour* or neoplas* or malignan* or carcinom*)).mp.
 3 uterine cervix carcinoma in situ/
 4 CIN.mp.
 5 (cervi* and (intraepithel* or epithel* or dysplasia or pre-cancer* or precancer*)).mp.
 6 or/1-5
 7 uterine cervix conization/
 8 (conisation or conization).mp.
 9 low level laser therapy/
 10 laser.mp.
 11 exp cryotherapy/
 12 cryotherapy.mp.
 13 cold coagulation.mp.
 14 diathermy/
 15 diatherm*.mp.
 16 cone biopsy.mp.
 17 loop.mp.
 18 LLETZ.mp.
 19 LEEP.mp.
 20 ablat*.mp.
 21 excision*.mp.
 22 transformation zone.mp.
 23 (CKC or LA or LC or CC or RD or TZ).mp.
 24 (conservative and (method* or treatment* or intervention* or management)).mp.
 25 or/7-24
 26 6 and 25
 27 prematurity/
 28 (preterm or premature).mp.
 29 exp low birth weight/~
 30 birth weight.mp.
 31 perinatal mortality/
 32 perinatal mortality.mp.
 33 newborn intensive care/
 34 (neonat* and intensive care).mp.
 35 female fertility/
 36 fertil*.mp.
 37 conception/
 38 conception.mp.

39 exp pregnancy/
40 pregnancy.mp.
41 gestation*.mp.
42 spontaneous abortion/
43 miscarriage*.mp.
44 cesarean section/
45 (cesarean or caesarean).mp.
46 premature labor/
47 (labor or labour).mp.
48 premature fetus membrane rupture/
49 pPROM.mp.
50 or/27-49
51 26 and 50

key:

mp=title, abstract, subject headings, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer name

Appendix 4. List of abbreviations

CENTRAL: Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials
CC: Cold Coagulation
CI: (95%) Confidence Interval
CIN: Cervical Intra-epithelial Neoplasia
CKC: Cold Knife Conisation
CS: Ceasarean Section
CT: Cryotherapy
FCBE: Fischer Cone Biopsy Excisor
LA: Laser Ablation
LBW: Low Birth Weight
LEEP: Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure
LLETZ: Large Loop Excision of the Transformation Zone
NETZ: Needle Excision of the Transformation Zone
NICU: Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NOS: Not Otherwise Specified
pPROM: preterm premature rupture of membranes
PTB: Preterm Birth
RCT: Randomised Controlled Trial
RD: Radical Diathermy
RR: Relative Risk
SWETZ: Straight Wire Excision of the Transformation Zone
TZ: Transformation Zone

Appendix 5. List of definitions

Extreme prematurity: delivery (spontaneous or iatrogenic) at less than 28 to 30 weeks of gestation
First trimester miscarriage: miscarriage at less than 12 weeks of gestation
Low birth weight: birth weight less than 2500 g
Perinatal mortality rate: number of stillbirths and neonatal deaths occurring within seven days after birth (early perinatal mortality) or within seven to 28 days after birth (late perinatal mortality) per 1000 total births
Overall prematurity: delivery (spontaneous or iatrogenic) at less than 37 weeks of gestation
Preterm prelabour rupture of membranes: rupture of membranes at less than 37 weeks of gestation and prior to initiation of labour
Second trimester miscarriage: miscarriage between 12 and 24 weeks of gestation
Severe prematurity: delivery (spontaneous or iatrogenic) at less than 32 to 34 weeks of gestation

CONTRIBUTIONS OF AUTHORS

The study was conceived and designed by MK, MA, PB, and EP. MK, AA, and MP acquired the data, which were collated and analysed by MK, AA, IK, and MA. All review authors drafted and critically revised the manuscript for important intellectual content. MA, PB, and EP are joint senior authors. All authors gave final approval of the version to be published and have contributed to the manuscript.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No known conflict of interest for the published work. Details are included in the individual conflict of interest forms completed by each author.

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(MK, IK, PRB)

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROTOCOL AND REVIEW

The original protocol was drafted to analyse fertility, early pregnancy and obstetric outcomes in women with a history of treatment for CIN versus untreated controls. Due to the clinical difference of the outcomes and the large number of studies, interventions and outcomes, it was decided to split the review into two. Fertility and early pregnancy outcomes were removed and published in a prior review ([Kyrgiou 2015b](#)).

The current review addresses the impact of conservative treatment on obstetric outcomes. We also included two treatment techniques, called needle excision of the transformation zone (NETZ) or straight wire excision of the transformation zone (SWETZ) and Fischer cone biopsy excisor (FCBE), respectively as they are a variation of large loop excision of the transformation zone (LLETZ)/loop electrosurgical excisional procedure (LEEP). We also extended the inclusion criteria to include women treated for early cervical cancer (stage IA1).

Only studies published in English were included as given the large number of included studies and the low quality of these small studies we considered that their inclusion would not alter the conclusions of the review. In future updates we will consider the inclusion of these reports ([Characteristics of studies awaiting classification](#)).

We considered both studies with adjusted or unadjusted data and extracted unadjusted data for the analysis as previously described in our protocol. More recent guidance recommends the use of adjusted data and this will be incorporated in future updates of this review.

INDEX TERMS

Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)

*Infant, Low Birth Weight; Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia [pathology] [*surgery]; Confidence Intervals; Conservative Treatment [*adverse effects] [methods]; Fetal Membranes, Premature Rupture [epidemiology]; Intensive Care, Neonatal [statistics & numerical data]; Neoplasm Invasiveness; Observational Studies as Topic; Perinatal Mortality; Postoperative Complications [*epidemiology]; Pregnancy Outcome; Premature Birth [*epidemiology]; Retrospective Studies; Uterine Cervical Neoplasms [pathology] [*surgery]

MeSH check words

Adult; Female; Humans; Infant, Newborn; Pregnancy