

Table S4 Outcome comparisons for corticosteroids

Outcome	ICS & OCS	No. of studies	OCS only	No. of studies
Hospitalisations*	0.59 (0.44 to 0.78) ⁺	9[8,9,15,18,19,21,23,24,27]	0.43 (0.08 to 2.18)	1[28]
ER visits*	0.81 (0.69 to 0.96) ⁺	9[8,9,15,18,19,22,23,24,27]	0.67 (0.46 to 0.97) ⁺	1[28]
Days off work [#]	-0.35 (-0.49 to -0.21) ⁺	6[8,9,10-14,18,19,21]	-0.13 (-0.34 to 0.08)	3[17,26,28]
Nocturnal asthma*	0.84 (0.67 to 1.05)	3[18,19,24]	0.30 (0.16 to 0.55) ⁺	1[28]
FEV1 [#]	0.27 (-0.01 to 0.56)	3[19,20,27]	0.03 (-0.12 to 0.18)	2[16,28]
PEF [#]	0.39 (0.23 to 0.56) ⁺	5[15,19,20,24,27]	-0.02 (-0.17 to 0.13)	2[16,28]

*Relative risk (95% CI).

[#]Standardised mean difference (95% CI).

ICS: inhaled corticosteroid.

OCS: oral corticosteroid.

⁺ p<0.05.