Table S1. Meta-regression analyses examining the association of the ESA dose (per erythropoietin-α equivalent 10,000 units/week increment), target and achieved hemoglobin, with all-cause and cardiovascular mortality.

	Unadjusted		Adjusted for target hemoglobin		Adjusted for first-3-month achieved mean hemoglobin	
Outcome / predictor	No. trials (No. patients)	IRR (95% CI)	No. trials (No. patients)	IRR (95% CI)	No. trials (No. patients)	IRR (95% CI)
All-cause mortality						
First-3-month mean ESA dose	11 (4565)	1.42 (1.10, 1.83)	10 (4385)	1.71 (0.90, 3.24)	11 (4565)	1.48 (1.02, 2.14)
Target hemoglobin		–		0.96 (0.86, 1.08)		–
First-3-month achieved mean hemoglobin		–		–		0.95 (0.68, 1.32)
Total-study-period mean ESA dose	21 (11,285)	1.09 (1.02, 1.18)	21 (11,105)	1.41 (1.08, 1.82)	21 (11,285)	1.27 (0.97, 1.65)
Target hemoglobin		–		0.91 (0.82, 1.00)		–
Total-study-period achieved mean hemoglobin		–		–		0.89 (0.73, 1.09)
Cardiovascular mortality						
First-3-month mean ESA dose	6 (2085)	1.31 (0.92, 1.86)	5 (1979)	Not performed *	6 (2085)	Not performed *
Target hemoglobin		–		Not performed *		–
First-3-month achieved mean hemoglobin		–		–		Not performed *
Total-study-period mean ESA dose	10 (7148)	1.07 (0.97, 1.17)	10 (7042)	Not performed †	10 (7148)	1.38 (0.93, 2.03)
Target hemoglobin		–		Not performed †		–
Total-study-period achieved mean hemoglobin		–		–		0.81 (0.60, 1.10)

* The analysis was not performed due to insufficient observations. † The analysis was not performed due to collinearity. IRR, incidence rate ratio.