



**Figure S3** Prior sensitivity analyses for synthetic Gaussian, binary, Binomial, and Poisson case studies. Posterior mean with 95% credible interval for prior  $\text{InvGamma}(a, b)$ , where  $a = b$  is equal to 0.0001, 0.01, 0.5, 1 and 10, respectively (note that estimates are shifted relative to the x-axis for clarity). **(A)** Gaussian data for  $\sigma_u^2 = 0$  (filled squares, dashed line) and  $\sigma_u^2 = 0.31$  (open squares, solid line) for INLA, **(B)** binary data for  $h^2 = 0$ , INLA (open squares, solid line) and MCMC (filled squares, dashed line), **(C)** Binomial data for  $h^2 = 0.9$  (open squares, solid line) and  $h^2 = 0.038$  (filled squares, dashed line) for INLA, **(D)** zero-inflated Poisson data for  $\sigma_u^2 = 0.31$  (open squares, solid line) and  $\sigma_u^2 = 0$  (filled squares, dashed line) for INLA.