Appendix 2 (as supplied by authors)

eTable 1. Summary of Quantitative Results

Outcome		No. of studies	No. of South Asians/No. of White Caucasians	M.D/O.R*	C.I	p-value	I^2	P_{Het}
BMI, kg/m^2	Men	5 cross-sectional	496/1788	-0.52	-1.51,0.47	0.31	76%	<0.001
	Women	5 cross-sectional	457/2561	-0.14	-0.99,0.74	0.77	59%	0.02
%Body fat	Men	3 cross-sectional	191/154	3.23	0.83,5.62	0.008	87%	<0.001
	Women	3 cross-sectional	155/183	4.09	3.46,4.72	<0.0001	6%	0.35
WHR	Men	5 cross-sectional	412/346	0.02	-0.01,0.04	0.20	82%	<0.001
	Women	5 cross-sectional	400/407	0.02	0.01,0.04	0.006	59%	0.04
Obesity Prevalence		3 Database reviews	3507/155237	0.62	0.40,0.96	0.03	40%	0.19
Waist Circumference, cm	Men	7 cross-sectional	578/2024	-0.64	-3.38,2.09	0.65	85%	<0.001
	Women	7 cross-sectional	578/3067	-0.02	-2.32,2.28	0.98	82%	<0.001
Type II Diabetes Prevalence		6 cross-sectional, 9 database reviews	14750/587563	2.24	1.80,2.79	<0.001	92%	<0.001
Fasting Insulin, pmol/L		6 cross-sectional	956/1450	19.16	13.86,24.46	<0.001	96%	<0.001
Fasting Glucose, mmol/L		6 cross-sectional	975/1454	0.02	-0.22,0.26	0.87	98%	<0.001
HOMA-IR		5 cross-sectional	849/1367	0.75	0.33,1.17	<0.001	96%	<0.001
SBP, mmHg		6 cross-sectional	975/1473	-1.96	-3.76,-0.16	0.03	77%	<0.001
DBP, mmHg		6 cross-sectional	975/1454	-0.82	-5.04, 3.39	0.70	100%	<0.001
Hypertension Prevalence		4 cross-sectional 9 database reviews	14916/638424	1.11	1.02,1.22	0.02	70%	<0.001
HDL-C, mmoL/L		7 cross-sectional	1054/1534	-0.19	-0.25,-0.13	<0.001	65%	<0.01
LDL-C, mmoL/L		5 cross-sectional	919/1402	0.09	-0.13,0.30	0.43	94%	<0.001
TC, mmoL/L		6 cross-sectional	998/1482	0.17	-0.09,0.44	0.20	87%	<0.001
TC:HDL-C		6 cross-sectional	927/1418	0.65	0.28,1.01	<0.001	90%	<0.001
Fasting TG, mmoL/L		6 cross-sectional	975/1454	0.20	0.02,0.37	0.03	76%	<0.01
CRP, mg/L		4 cross-sectional	679/644	0.76	0.37,1.15	<0.001	3%	0.38
Smoking		7 cross-sectional 9 database reviews 1 case-control	11642/506023	0.38	0.24,0.60	<0.001	97%	<0.001

*Mean Difference (M.D.) were reported for continuous outcomes and prevalence odds ratio (O.R.) were reported for dichotomous outcomes. BMI: Body Mass Index,WHR: Waist-to-hip ratio, HOMA-IR: Homeostatic Model Assessment- Insulin Resistance, SBP: Systolic Blood Pressure, DBP: Diastolic Blood Pressure, HDL-C: High Density Lipoprotein-Cholesterol, LDL-C: Low Density Lipoprotein-Cholesterol, TC: Total Cholesterol, TC:HDL-C: Ratio of Total Cholesterol to High Density Lipoprotein- Cholesterol, TG: Triglycerides, CRP: C-Reactive Protein

Appendix to: Rana A, de Souza RJ, Kandasamy S, Lear SA, Anand SS. Cardiovascular risk among South Asians living in Canada: a systematic review. *CMAJ Open* 2014. DOI: 10.9778/cmajo.20130064.
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eTable 2. Secondary analyses to examine heterogeneity in results.

		Secondary analyses of high quality studies							Secondary analyses by sampling method**					
Outcome		**No. of Studies**	**No. of South Asians/No. of White Caucasians**	**M.D/ O.R**	**C.I**	**p-value**	I^2	P_{Het}	I^2 **Random Sampling**	P_{Het}	I^2 **Non-Random Sampling**	P_{Het}	I^2 **Between Sub-group**	P_{Het}
BMI, kg/m^2	Men	2 cross-sectional	292/258	-1.11	-3.66,1.44	0.39	89%	0.003	N/A	N/A	0	0.45	93.2%	<0.0001
	Women	2 cross-sectional	258/270	-0.52	-1.51,0.48	0.31	0%	0.33						
% Body fat	Men	1 cross-sectional	105/101	4.70	2.88, 6.52	<0.001	N/A	N/A						
	Women	1 cross-sectional	103/101	3.30	1.29,5.31	0.001	N/A	N/A						
WHR	Men	2 cross-sectional	292/258	0	-0.02,0.02	0.93	50%	0.16						
	Women	2 cross-sectional	258/270	0.02	-0.02,0.06	0.33	87%	0.005	N/A	N/A	49%	0.12	61.7 %	0.11
Waist Circumference, cm*	Men	2 cross-sectional	282/255	-2.96	-9.13,3,21	0.35	90%	0.002						
	Women	2 cross-sectional	254/268	0.28	-3.53,4.09	0.89	72%	0.06						
Fasting Insulin, pmol/L		2 cross-sectional	530/523	24.72	17.33, 32.10	<0.001	60%	0.11						
Fasting Glucose, mmol/L		2 cross-sectional	549/527	0.26	0.13, 0.40	<0.001	35%	0.21						
HOMA-IR		2 cross-sectional	516/509	0.84	0.64, 1.05	<0.001	56%	0.13						
SBP, mmHg		2 cross-sectional	549/527	0.26	-1.64,2.15	0.79	0%	0.32						
DBP, mmHg		2 cross-sectional	549/527	2.08	0.13,4.04	0.04	59%	0.12						
HDL-C, mmol/L		2 cross-sectional	549/527	-0.15	-0.18, -0.11	<0.01	0%	0.81						
LDL-C, mmol/L		2 cross-sectional	549/527	0.09	-0.01,0.19	0.09	2%	0.31						
TC, mmol/L*		2 cross-sectional	549/527	0.33	-0.34, 1.01	0.33	91%	<0.001						

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TC:HDL-C	**2 cross-sectional**	**535/522**	**0.50**	**0.29, 0.72**	**<0.001**	**26%**	**0.24**						
Fasting TG, mmol/L	2 cross-sectional	549/527	0.29	0.14, 0.43	<0.001	0%	0.63						
Smoking Prevalence	2 cross-sectional 1 database review 1 case-control	770/3806	0.28	0.21,0.37	<0.001	0%	0.50						
CRP, mg/L	2 cross-sectional	530/523	0.79	0.29,1.28	0.002	0%	0.75						
								Secondary analyses by study design**					
								I^2 **Database**	P_{Het}	I^2 **Cross-sectional**	P_{Het}	I^2	P_{Het}
Diabetes Prevalence	2 cross-sectional 1 database review 1 case-control	3668/79819	2	1.85,2.14	<0.001	0%	0.67	96%	<0.01	0%	0.61	92%	<0.001
Hypertension Prevalence	1 cross-sectional 1 database review	3403/77640	1.14	1.06,1.22	<0.001	0%	0.60	70%	<0.01	47%	0.13	58.3	0.12

*For a detailed explanation on heterogeneity, see Appendix 3.
** Secondary sub-groups analyses to explain heterogeneity, if unexplained by analyses of high-quality studies
BMI: Body Mass Index,WHR: Waist-to-hip ratio, HOMA-IR: Homeostatic Model Assessment- Insulin Resistance, SBP: Systolic Blood Pressure, DBP: Diastolic Blood Pressure, HDL-C: High Density Lipoprotein- Cholesterol, LDL-C: Low Density Lipoprotein-Cholesterol, TC: Total Cholesterol, TC:HDL-C: Ratio of Total Cholesterol to High Density Lipoprotein- Cholesterol, TG: Triglycerides, CRP: C-Reactive Protein

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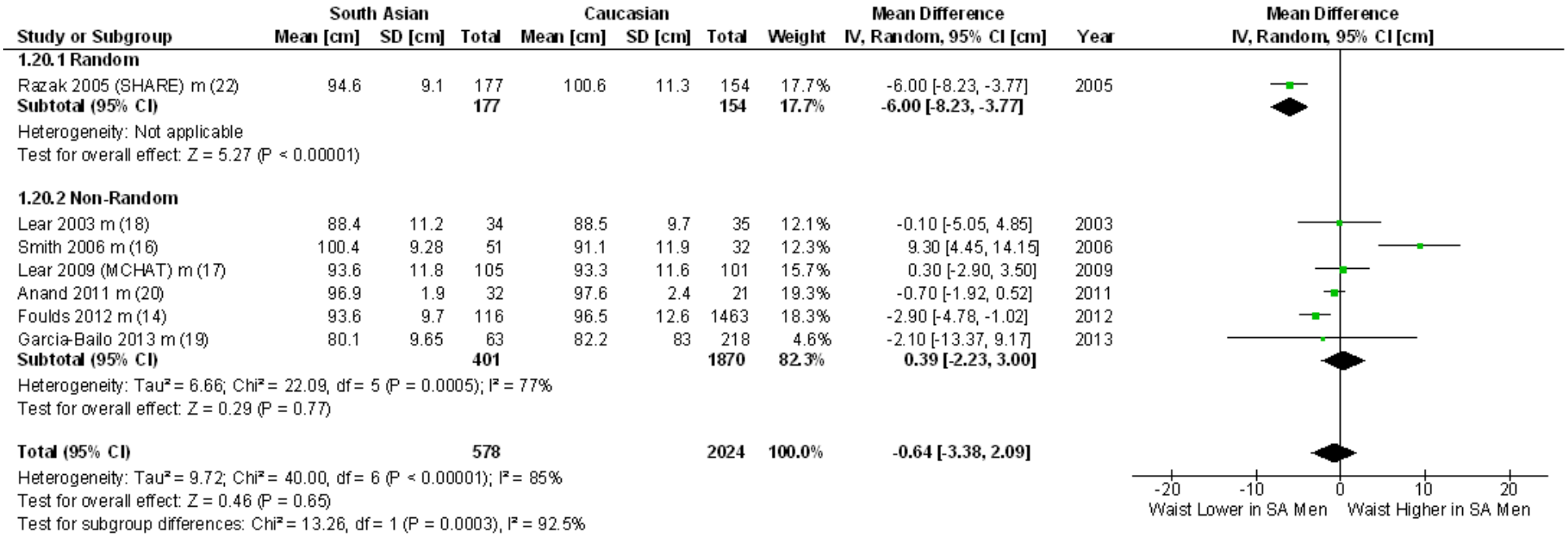
eFigure 1. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Waist Circumference [cm] men.



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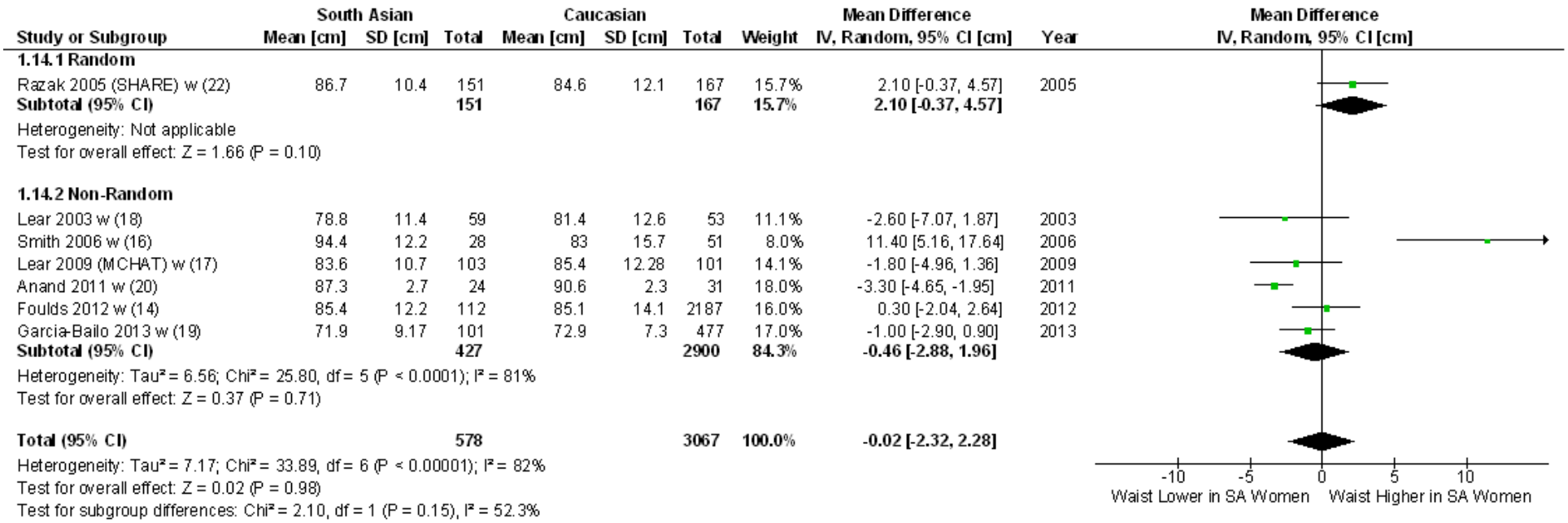
eFigure 2. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Waist Circumference [cm] women.



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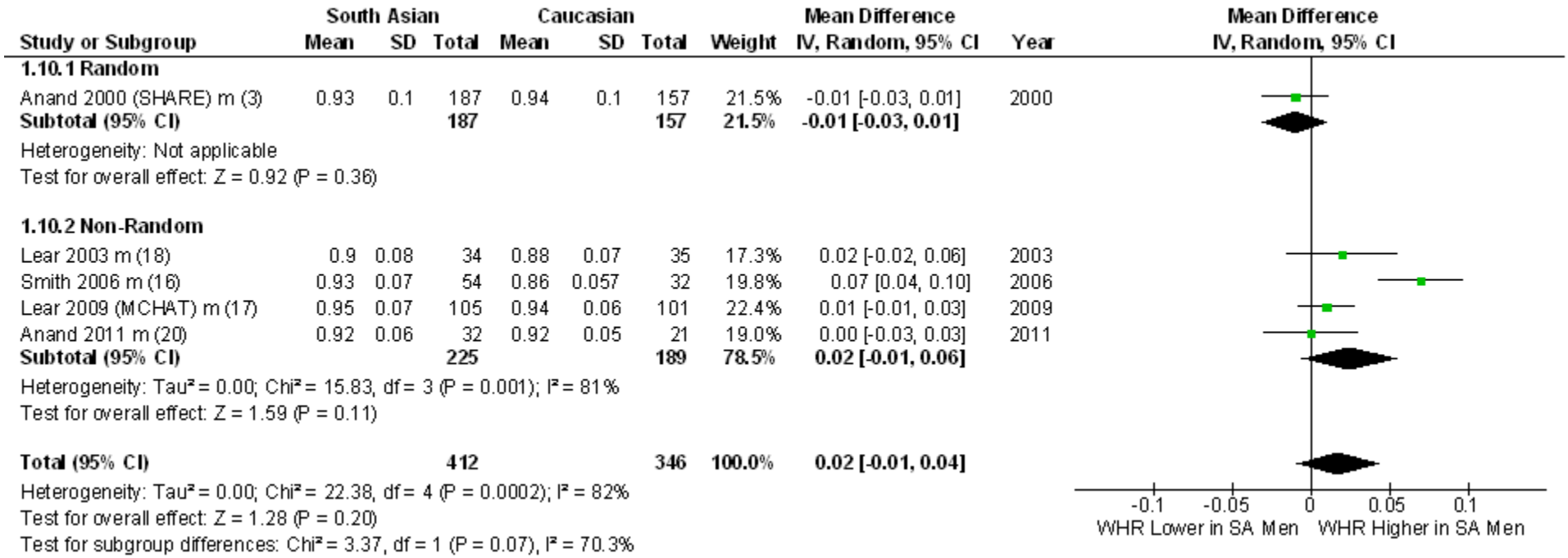
eFigure 3. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: WHR men



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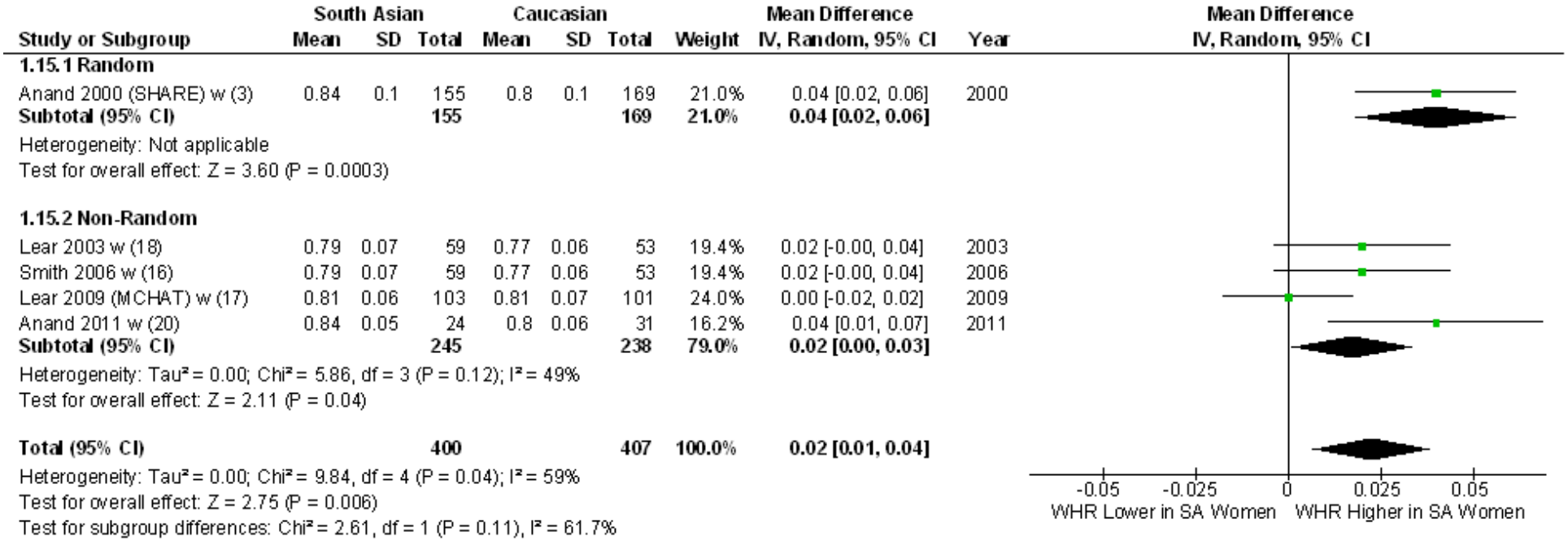
eFigure 4. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: WHR women



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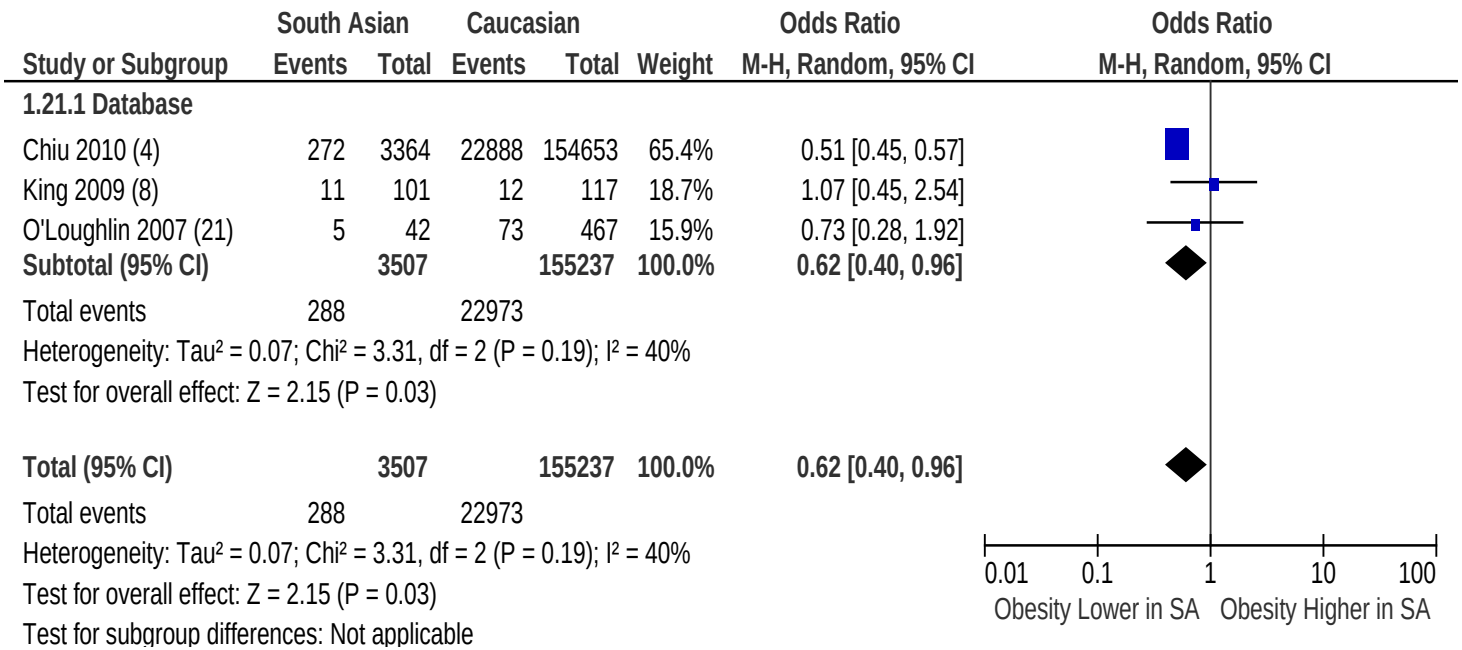
eFigure 5. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Obesity



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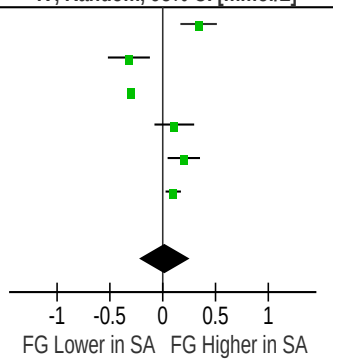
eFigure 6. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Fasting Blood Glucose [mmol/L].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mmol/L]	SD [mmol/L]	Total	Caucasian Mean [mmol/L]	SD [mmol/L]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mmol/L]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	5.47	1.1	342	5.13	1.08	326	16.3%	0.34 [0.17, 0.51]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	5.06	0.7	93	5.38	0.54	69	15.9%	-0.32 [-0.51, -0.13]	2003
He 2010 (41)	4.7	0.1	113	5	0.1	111	17.6%	-0.30 [-0.33, -0.27]	2010
Anand 2011 (20)	5.03	0.449	56	4.92	0.5048	52	16.1%	0.11 [-0.07, 0.29]	2011
Lear 2012 (24)	5.4	0.7	207	5.2	0.8	201	16.6%	0.20 [0.05, 0.35]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	4.9	0.4	164	4.8	0.3	695	17.4%	0.10 [0.03, 0.17]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**975**			**1454**	**100.0%**	**0.02 [-0.22, 0.26]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.09; Chi² = 218.13, df = 5 (P < 0.00001); I² = 98%

Test for overall effect: Z = 0.16 (P = 0.87)

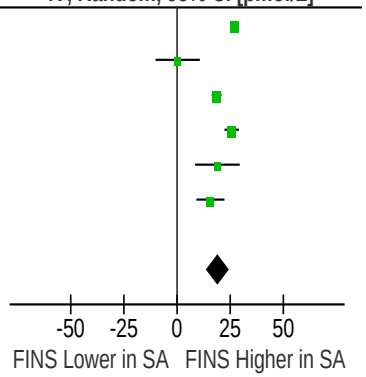


eFigure 7. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Fasting Insulin [pmol/L].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [pmol/L]	SD [pmol/L]	Total	Caucasian Mean [pmol/L]	SD [pmol/L]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [pmol/L]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	99.7	3.23	323	72.5	3.24	322	20.7%	27.20 [26.70, 27.70]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	66.6	39.1	93	66.3	26	69	11.9%	0.30 [-9.74, 10.34]	2003
He 2010 (41)	64.8	7.4411	113	46.2	7.375	111	20.1%	18.60 [16.66, 20.54]	2010
Anand 2011 (20)	70.8	8.082	56	45.1	7.8601	52	19.4%	25.70 [22.69, 28.71]	2011
Lear 2012 (24)	90	55	207	71	49	201	11.8%	19.00 [8.90, 29.10]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	60.4	36.7	164	44.7	35.6	695	16.1%	15.70 [9.49, 21.91]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**956**			**1450**	**100.0%**	**19.16 [13.86, 24.46]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 35.30; Chi² = 111.41, df = 5 (P < 0.00001); I² = 96%

Test for overall effect: Z = 7.09 (P < 0.00001)



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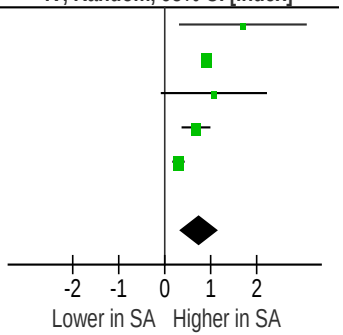
eFigure 8. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: HOMA-IR

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [index]	SD [index]	Total	Caucasian Mean [index]	SD [index]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [index]	Year
He 2010 (41)	2.4	0.2	113	0.7	7.37	111	7.1%	1.70 [0.33, 3.07]	2010
Mente 2010 (SHARE) (43)	3.03	0.23	317	2.12	0.14	312	29.3%	0.91 [0.88, 0.94]	2010
Anand 2011 (20)	3.07	3.143	56	2	2.8844	52	9.3%	1.07 [-0.07, 2.21]	2011
Gasevic 2012 (MCHAT) (42)	2.63	1.72	199	1.95	1.25	197	25.6%	0.68 [0.38, 0.98]	2011
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	1.1	0.7	164	0.8	0.6	695	28.7%	0.30 [0.18, 0.42]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**849**			**1367**	**100.0%**	**0.75 [0.33, 1.17]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.16; Chi² = 102.74, df = 4 (P < 0.00001); I² = 96%

Test for overall effect: Z = 3.48 (P = 0.0005)

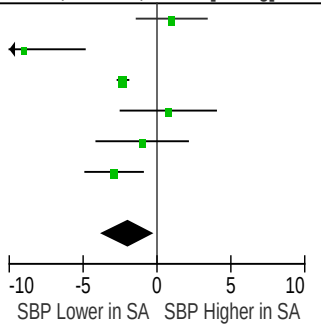


eFigure 9. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: SBP [mmHg].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mmHg]	SD [mmHg]	Total	Caucasian Mean [mmHg]	SD [mmHg]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mmHg]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	119	15.7	342	118	15.8	326	17.3%	1.00 [-1.39, 3.39]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	108.17	13.75	93	117.14	14.35	88	10.8%	-8.97 [-13.07, -4.87]	2003
He 2010 (41)	116.4	1.5	113	118.7	1.4	111	24.7%	-2.30 [-2.68, -1.92]	2010
Anand 2011(mol-SHARE)(20)	112.36	8.6058	56	111.59	8.5812	52	13.8%	0.77 [-2.47, 4.01]	2011
Lear 2012 (24)	119	15	207	120	17	201	14.3%	-1.00 [-4.11, 2.11]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	112.9	11.6	164	115.8	11.4	695	19.2%	-2.90 [-4.87, -0.93]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**975**			**1473**	**100.0%**	**-1.96 [-3.76, -0.16]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 3.37; Chi² = 21.86, df = 5 (P = 0.0006); I² = 77%

Test for overall effect: Z = 2.14 (P = 0.03)



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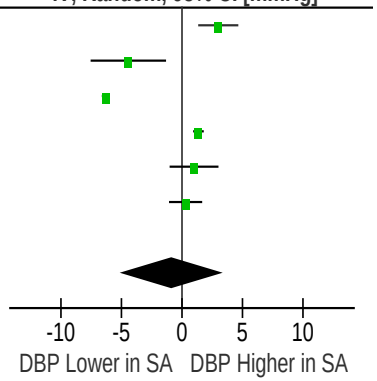
eFigure 10. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: DBP [mmHg].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mmHg]	SD [mmHg]	Total	Caucasian Mean [mmHg]	SD [mmHg]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mmHg]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	76	10.3	342	73	10.6	326	16.7%	3.00 [1.41, 4.59]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	68.73	9.8	93	73.16	9.78	69	15.7%	-4.43 [-7.48, -1.38]	2003
He 2010 (41)	72.1	1	113	78.4	0.9	111	17.1%	-6.30 [-6.55, -6.05]	2010
Anand 2011(mol-SHARE)(20)	75.22	0.96	56	73.86	1	52	17.1%	1.36 [0.99, 1.73]	2011
Lear 2012 (24)	78	11	207	77	9	201	16.5%	1.00 [-0.95, 2.95]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	70	7.6	164	69.7	7.8	695	16.8%	0.30 [-1.00, 1.60]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**975**			**1454**	**100.0%**	**-0.82 [-5.04, 3.39]**	

Heterogeneity: $Tau^2 = 27.04$; $Chi^2 = 1263.39$, df = 5 ($P < 0.00001$); $I^2 = 100\%$

Test for overall effect: Z = 0.38 (P = 0.70)



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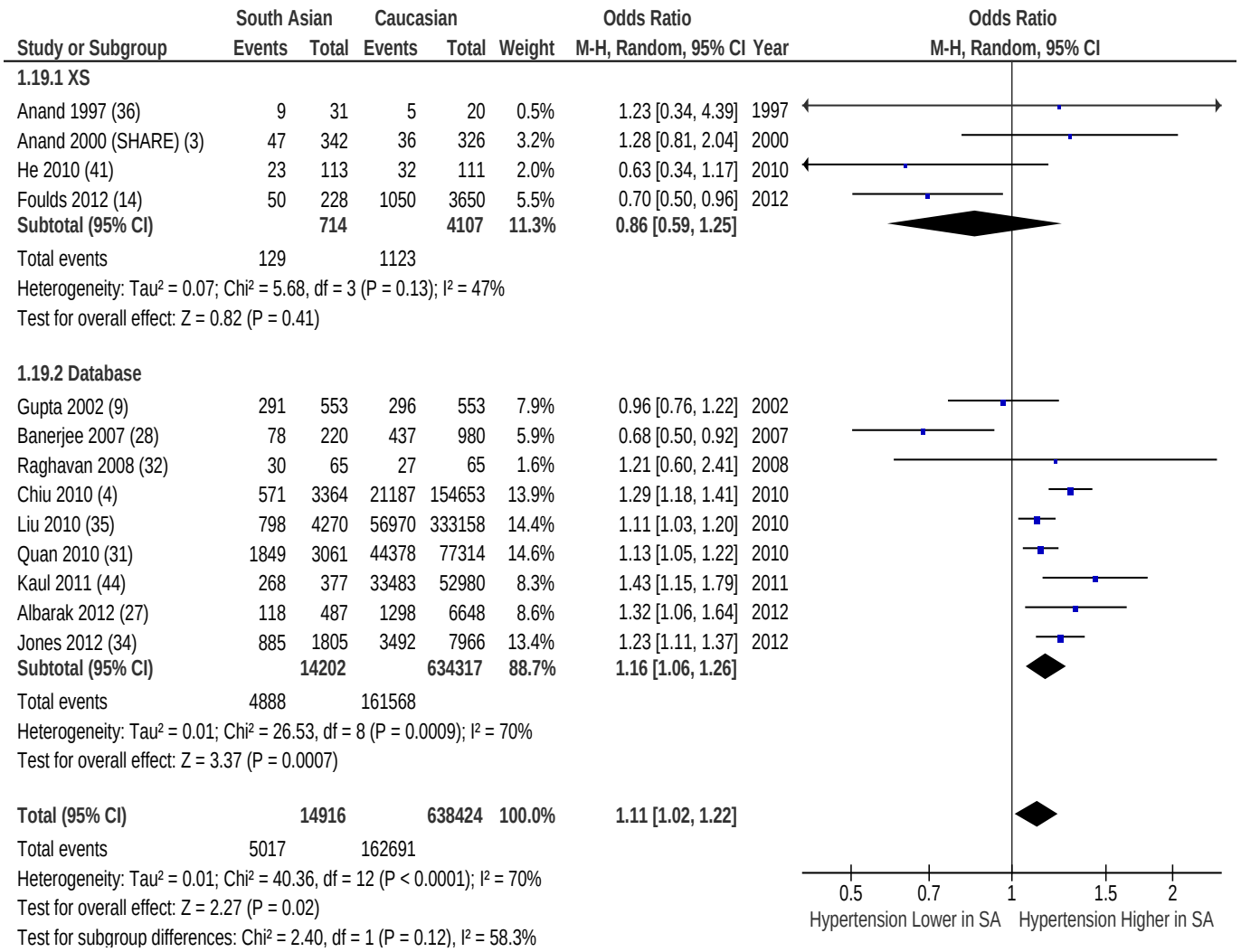
eFigure 11. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Hypertension.



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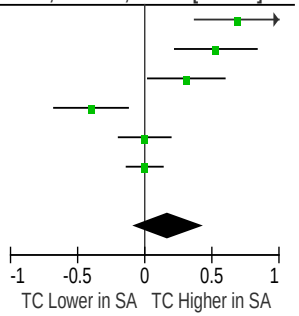
eFigure 12. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Total Cholesterol [mmol/L].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mmol/L]	SD [mmol/L]	Total	Caucasian Mean [mmol/L]	SD [mmol/L]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mmol/L]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	5.43	2.1	342	4.74	2.1	326	15.4%	0.69 [0.37, 1.01]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	4.75	1.1	93	4.22	0.89	69	15.6%	0.53 [0.22, 0.84]	2003
Smith 2006 (16)	5.24	0.9	79	4.93	0.95	80	16.0%	0.31 [0.02, 0.60]	2006
He 2010 (41)	4.7	1.063	113	5.1	1.0536	111	16.3%	-0.40 [-0.68, -0.12]	2010
Lear 2012 (24)	5.28	0.97	207	5.28	1.04	201	17.9%	0.00 [-0.20, 0.20]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	4.2	0.8	164	4.2	0.8	695	18.8%	0.00 [-0.14, 0.14]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**998**			**1482**	**100.0%**	**0.17 [-0.09, 0.44]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.09; Chi² = 38.27, df = 5 (P < 0.00001); I² = 87%

Test for overall effect: Z = 1.28 (P = 0.20)

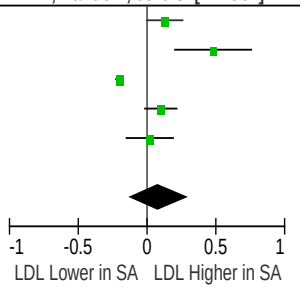


eFigure 13. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: LDL-C [mmol/L].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mmol/L]	SD [mmol/L]	Total	Caucasian Mean [mmol/L]	SD [mmol/L]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mmol/L]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	3.3	0.9	342	3.17	0.8	326	20.7%	0.13 [0.00, 0.26]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	2.8	0.97	93	2.32	0.83	69	16.2%	0.48 [0.20, 0.76]	2003
He 2010 (41)	2.8	0.1	113	3	0.1	111	22.4%	-0.20 [-0.23, -0.17]	2010
Garcia-Bailo 2012 (46)	2.4	0.7	164	2.3	0.6	695	21.0%	0.10 [-0.02, 0.22]	2012
Lear 2012 (24)	3.32	0.84	207	3.3	0.91	201	19.6%	0.02 [-0.15, 0.19]	2012
Total (95% CI)			**919**			**1402**	**100.0%**	**0.09 [-0.13, 0.30]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.05; Chi² = 72.22, df = 4 (P < 0.00001); I² = 94%

Test for overall effect: Z = 0.78 (P = 0.43)



Appendix to: Rana A, de Souza RJ, Kandasamy S, Lear SA, Anand SS. Cardiovascular risk among South Asians living in Canada: a systematic review. *CMAJ Open* 2014. DOI: 10.9778/cmajo.20130064.
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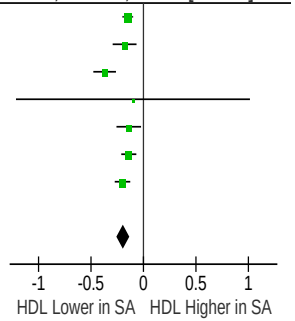
eFigure 14. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: HDL-C [mmol/L].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mmol/L]	South Asian SD [mmol/L]	South Asian Total	Caucasian Mean [mmol/L]	Caucasian SD [mmol/L]	Caucasian Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mmol/L]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	1.04	0.3	342	1.19	0.3	326	21.9%	-0.15 [-0.20, -0.10]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	1.28	0.34	93	1.46	0.35	69	13.3%	-0.18 [-0.29, -0.07]	2003
Smith 2006 (16)	1.03	0.25	79	1.4	0.39	80	14.0%	-0.37 [-0.47, -0.27]	2006
He 2010 (41)	1.3	4.2521	113	1.4	4.2143	111	0.3%	-0.10 [-1.21, 1.01]	2010
Anand 2011(mol-SHARE)(20)	1.24	0.2993	56	1.38	0.2884	52	12.9%	-0.14 [-0.25, -0.03]	2011
Lear 2012 (24)	1.18	0.29	207	1.32	0.38	201	19.0%	-0.14 [-0.21, -0.07]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	1.4	0.4	164	1.6	0.4	695	18.6%	-0.20 [-0.27, -0.13]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**1054**			**1534**	**100.0%**	**-0.19 [-0.25, -0.13]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 17.29, df = 6 (P = 0.008); I² = 65%

Test for overall effect: Z = 6.60 (P < 0.00001)

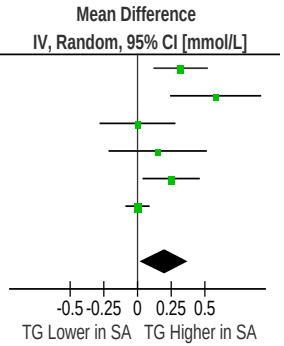


eFigure 15. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Fasting TG [mmol/L].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mmol/L]	South Asian SD [mmol/L]	South Asian Total	Caucasian Mean [mmol/L]	Caucasian SD [mmol/L]	Caucasian Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mmol/L]	Year
Anand 2000 (SHARE) (3)	1.96	1.3	342	1.64	1.3	326	18.6%	0.32 [0.12, 0.52]	2000
Lear 2003 (18)	1.56	1.51	93	0.98	0.55	69	13.0%	0.58 [0.25, 0.91]	2003
He 2010 (41)	1.3	1.063	113	1.3	1.0536	111	15.2%	0.00 [-0.28, 0.28]	2010
Anand 2011(mol-SHARE)(20)	1.48	0.9728	56	1.33	0.9374	52	12.1%	0.15 [-0.21, 0.51]	2011
Lear 2012 (24)	1.7	1.05	207	1.45	1.09	201	18.2%	0.25 [0.04, 0.46]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	1	0.5	164	1	0.5	695	23.0%	0.00 [-0.09, 0.09]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**975**			**1454**	**100.0%**	**0.20 [0.02, 0.37]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.03; Chi² = 20.61, df = 5 (P = 0.0010); I² = 76%

Test for overall effect: Z = 2.21 (P = 0.03)



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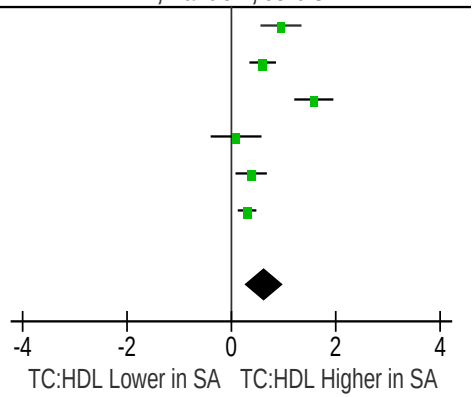
eFigure 16. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: TC:HDL.

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean	SD	Total	Caucasian Mean	SD	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI	Year
Lear 2003 (18)	3.99	1.53	93	3.04	0.9	69	15.9%	0.95 [0.57, 1.33]	2003
Razak 2005 (SHARE) (22)	5.3	1.6	328	4.7	1.5	321	17.7%	0.60 [0.36, 0.84]	2005
Smith 2006 (16)	5.29	1.26	79	3.71	1.03	80	16.2%	1.58 [1.22, 1.94]	2006
Anand 2011(mol-SHARE)(20)	3.9	1.2722	56	3.81	1.2259	52	14.6%	0.09 [-0.38, 0.56]	2011
Lear 2012 (24)	4.73	1.33	207	4.35	1.58	201	17.2%	0.38 [0.10, 0.66]	2012
Garcia-Bailo 2013 (19)	3.2	1	164	2.9	0.7	695	18.4%	0.30 [0.14, 0.46]	2013
Total (95% CI)			**927**			**1418**	**100.0%**	**0.65 [0.28, 1.01]**	

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.18; Chi² = 50.36, df = 5 (P < 0.00001); I² = 90%

Test for overall effect: Z = 3.45 (P = 0.0006)

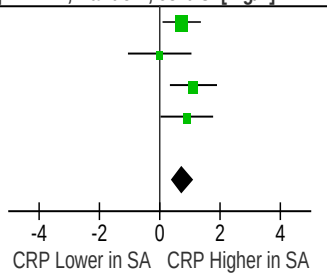


eFigure 17. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: CRP [mg/L].

Study or Subgroup	South Asian Mean [mg/L]	SD [mg/L]	Total	Caucasian Mean [mg/L]	SD [mg/L]	Total	Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI [mg/L]
Anand 2004 (SHARE) (47)	3.22	4.2	323	2.49	3.7	322	39.1%	0.73 [0.12, 1.34]
Anand 2011 (20)	2.11	2.78	56	2.11	2.67	52	14.2%	0.00 [-1.03, 1.03]
Lear 2003 (18)	2.5	3.04	93	1.38	1.85	69	25.9%	1.12 [0.36, 1.88]
Lear 2012 (24)	3.5	4.8	207	2.6	3.9	201	20.8%	0.90 [0.05, 1.75]
Total (95% CI)			**679**			**644**	**100.0%**	**0.76 [0.37, 1.15]**

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 3.08, df = 3 (P = 0.38); I² = 3%

Test for overall effect: Z = 3.82 (P = 0.0001)



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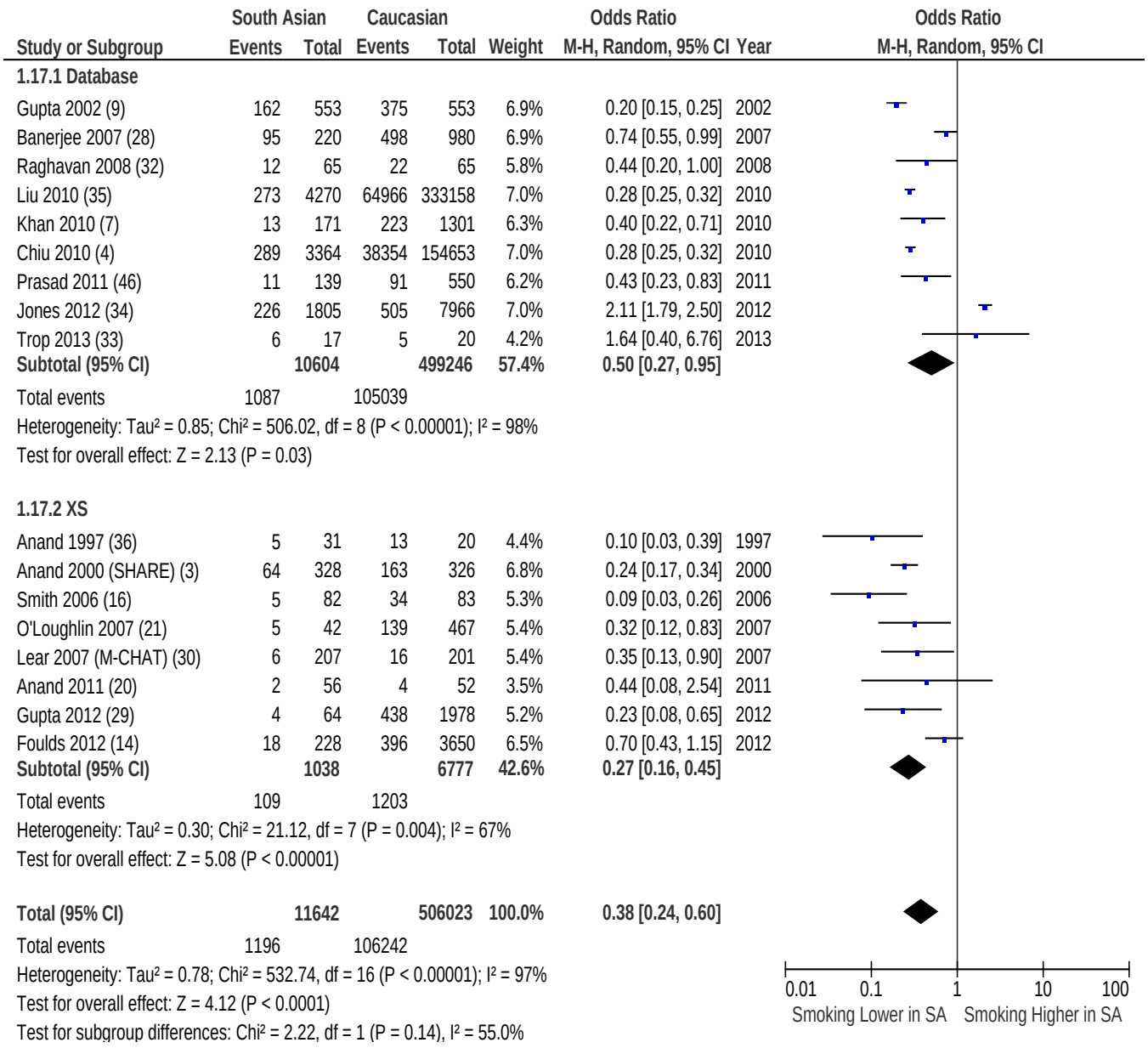
eFigure 18. Forest plot of comparison: South Asians vs. White Caucasians, outcome: Smoking



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