

**S4 Table. Sensitivity analyses and results of Egger's test**

| Category of risk factor | Risk factors                            | Comparisons  | N° of studies included in the meta-analysis | N° of studies with adjusted OR available | Pooled OR after substituting the adjusted OR for the crude OR | N° of studies of good quality | Pooled OR when including in the meta-analysis only studies of good quality | Egger regression test: p-value |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Child factors           | Age                                     | Age <1y vs >1  | 28  | 3  | 2.49 (1.79 - 3.48)  | 16                            | 2.65 (1.67- 4.20)  | 0.880                          |
|                         |   | Age <6m vs >12m  | 9   | 0  | –   | 6                             | 2.28 (1.53 - 3.41)   | 0.136                          |
|                         |   | Age <6m vs 7-59m                                       | 4   | 3  | 2.88 (0.94 - 8.80)  | 2                             | 2.64 (1.50- 4.66)  | 0.211                          |
|                         |   | Age <2m vs >12m  | 7   | 2  | 3.60 (2.14 - 6.11)  | 6                             | 5.25 (1.50 - 18.37)  | 0.231                          |
|                         | Female sex                              | Female vs male   | 23  | 5  | 1.20 (1.03 - 1.40)  | 16                            | 1.13 (0.96- 1.34)  | 0.501                          |
|                         | Prematurity                             | Yes vs no  | 6   | 2  | 2.52 (1.68- 3.78)   | 2                             | 0.61 (0.13 - 2.8)  | 0.020                          |
|                         | Ranking of birth                        | Higher vs lower  | 6   | 3  | 1.26 (0.86 - 1.85)  | 3                             | 0.90 (0.53 – 1.51)   | 0.082                          |
|                         | Birth weight <2500g                     | <2500g vs >2500  | 9   | 4  | 2.94 (2.15- 4.03)   | 5                             | 2.52 (1.56 - 4.08)   | 0.309                          |
|                         | Malnutrition                            | Severe malnutrition vs non-malnourished                | 21  | 7  | 5.24 (3.84 - 7.17)  | 13                            | 4.12 (3.19 - 5.31)   | 0.026                          |
|                         |   | Moderate malnutrition vs non-malnourished              | 18  | 5  | 2.34 (1.81-3.05)  | 12                            | 2.27 (1.62 - 3.19)   | 0.144                          |
|                         | Breastfeeding                           | Inadequate breastfeeding vs adequate                   | 12  | 3  | 1.77 (1.16 - 2.70)  | 5                             | 1.94 (1.43 - 2.63)   | 0.101                          |
|                         | HIV/AIDS                                | HIV  | 14  | 3  | 4.61 (3.65 - 5.83)  | 11                            | 4.90 (3.84 – 6.25)   | 0.881                          |
|                         | Chronic disease                         | Yes vs no  | 12  | 3  | 5.20 (3.33- 8.13)   | 7                             | 3.50 (2.45- 5.02)  | 0.041                          |
|                         | Malaria                                 | Yes vs no  | 3   | 1  | 1.26 (0.86 - 1.85)  | 3                             | 1.46 (1.02-2.11)   | 0.053                          |
|                         | Diarrhoea/dehydration                   | Yes vs no  | 6   | 4  | 2.66 (1.56 - 4.54)  | 5                             | 2.67 (1.58 -4.54)  | 0.208                          |
|                         | Previous ALRI                           | Yes vs no  | 5   | 2  | 2.98 (1.77- 5.01)   | 2                             | 1.73 (1.15 - 2.60)   | 0.447                          |
|                         | Severity of pneumonia as defined by WHO | Severe pneumonia vs pneumonia                          | 6   | 1  | 3.22 (2.27-4.58)  | 4                             | 2.92 (1.96- 4.35)  | 0.028                          |
|                         |   | Very severe pneumonia vs severe pneumonia or pneumonia | 11  | 3  | 11.04 (6.74-18.08)  | 8                             | 7.87 (5.68- 10.95)   | 0.448                          |
|                         | Respiratory Syncytial Virus             | Yes vs no  | 6   | 1  | 0.51(0.29- 0.88)  | 5                             | 0.31 8 (0.15- 0.63)  | 0.065                          |
|                         | Pneumocystis Carinii (jirovecii)        | Yes vs no  | 5   | 1  | 4.95 (2.64-9.30)  | 5                             | 4.79 (2.67-8.61)   | 0.283                          |
| Mother factors          | Mother's age                            | Younger vs older                                       | 4   | 2  | 1.78 (0.99- 3.20)   | 2                             | 2.07 (1.26- 3.42)  | 0.136                          |
|                         | Mother's educational level              | Lower vs higher  | 14  | 4  | 1.38 (1.09 - 1.75)  | 5                             | 1.53 (1.13-2.07)   | 0.977                          |

|   |                                   |   |  |   |                    |                   |                     |                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|   | Mother's paid job                 | Yes vs no                                       | 3  | 2 | 1.13 ( 0.48- 2.65) | 2                 | 0.89 (0.52 -1.54)   | 0.815             |
| <b>Socio-economic and environmental factors</b> | Socio-economic status             | Lower income or father's social class vs higher | 9  | 2 | 1.45 (1.17- 1.79)  | 4                 | 1.95 (1.13 - 3.34)  | 0.530             |
|   | Water, sanitation and hygiene     | Lack of sewerage/latrine vs presence            | 3  | 1 | 1.46 (1.01- 2.11)  | 2                 | 1.67 (1.09-2.54)    | 0.850             |
|   |                                   | Lower quality of drinking water                 | 3  | 1 | 2.10 (1.40 - 3.14) | 2                 | 1.96(1.28 - 3.01)   | 0.909             |
|   | Crowding                          | More people vs less                             | 9  | 3 | 1.36 (0.88- 2.11)  | 3                 | 1.14 (0.63- 2.05)   | 0.452             |
|   | Second-hand smoke exposure        | Yes vs no                                       | 8  | 3 | 1.52 (1.13-2.03)   | 2                 | 1.34 ( 0.85 - 2.13) | 0.459             |
|   | Indoor pollution from solid fuels | Yes vs no                                       | 6  | 2 | 3.28 (2.33-4.62)   | 2                 | 2.11 (1.33 - 3.33)  | 0.933             |
|   | Setting of residence              | Rural vs urban                                  | 3  | 0 | –                  | 2                 | 2.61 (1.02 - 6.68)  | 0.577             |
|   | Seasonality                       | Wet vs dry season                               | 4  | 1 | 1.04 (0.63 -1.70)  | 3                 | 0.82 (0.59-1.12)    | 0.702             |
| <b>Health care factors</b>                      | Routine immunization              | Yes vs no                                       | 12   | 4 | 0.53 (0.40- 0.70)  | 6                 | 0.64 (0.44- 0.92)   | 0.241             |
|   | Good ante-natal practices         | Antenatal care and birth-spacing vs absence     | 4  | 2 | 0.55 (0.35- 0.87)  | 1 (2 comparisons) | 0.45 (0.24- 0.82)   | 0.338             |
|   |                                   | Pre-hospital care                               | Pre-hospital antibiotics or community health worker consultation vs no | 3 | 0                  | –                 | 2                   | 2.78 (1.49- 5.22) |

