Study	Sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Participant blinding	Personnel blinding	Assessor blinding	Incomplete outcome data	Selective outcome reporting	Other sources of bias	Summary
Akhondzadeh 2008 (1)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Akhondzadeh 2010 (2)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Asadabadi 2013 (3)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Bent 2011 (4)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Bent 2014 (5)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Fahmy 2013 (6)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	High
Ghaleiha 2013a (7)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Ghaleiha 2013b (8)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Ghaleiha 2014 (9)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	High
Ghanizadeh 2013 (10)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	High
Hardan 2012 (11)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Hasanzadeh 2012 (12)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Hellings 2005 (13)	Unclear	Low	Low	High	Low	Unclear	High	Low	High
Hollander 2005 (14)	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	High
Hollander 2010 (15)	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Kent 2013 (16)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	High
King 2009 (17)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Klaiman 2013 (18)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Lemonnier 2012 (19)	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Marcus 2009 (20)	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	High
McCracken 2002 (21)	Unclear	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Mohammadi 2013 (22)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Nagaraj 2006 (23)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Rezaei 2010 (24)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Shea 2004 (25)	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

## Table S1: Cochrane Risk of bias within studies



Figure S1: Cochrane risk of bias graph, illustrating the proportion of studies within each category of risk for each domain.



Figure S2: Funnel Plot for assessing publication bias: Overall placebo effect (N=25).



Figure S3: Funnel Plot for assessing publication bias: Overall placebo effect excluding two outlier studies (2,3) (N=23)

Study name		Hedges' g (95% CI), random			n	Weight (%) Random	Hedges' g (95% CI)	
McCracken 2002 (21)	1		1		•	1	4.33	1.07 (0.97 to 1.18)
Shea 2004 (25)							4.28	1.15 (1.01 to 1.29)
Hellings 2005 (13)				_			4.00	0.97 (0.70 to 1.23)
Hollander 2005 (14)							3.99	0.63 (0.36 to 0.90)
Nagaraj 2006 (23)					-		2.99	1.91 (1.33 to 2.49)
Akhondzadeh 2008 (1)							2.89	2.13 (1.53 to 2.74)
King 2009 (17)							4.37	0.29 (0.22 to 0.37)
Marcus 2009 (20)				-			4.35	0.77 (0.68 to 0.86)
Akhondzadeh 2010 (2)						>	3.84	2.59 (2.27 to 2.91)
Hollander 2010 (15)					╉──		3.44	0.97 (0.52 to 1.41)
Rezaei 2010 (24)				-	+		4.16	1.03 (0.82 to 1.23)
Bent 2011 (4)							4.22	0.25 (0.08 to 0.43)
Hardan 2012 (11)				-#-	·		4.21	0.74 (0.56 to 0.93)
Hasanzadeh 2012 (12)				-			4.27	0.50 (0.35 to 0.65)
Lemonnier 2012 (19)				_	╋─		3.73	1.03 (0.68 to 1.38)
Asadabadi 2013 (3)						-∎-	4.00	1.67 (1.40 to 1.93)
Fahmy 2013 (6)				-	┽╋	-	3.25	1.29 (0.79 to 1.78)
Ghaleiha 2013a (7)					-	┣╾│	4.07	1.48 (1.24 to 1.72)
Ghaleiha 2013b (8)				-	·		4.26	0.75 (0.60 to 0.91)
Ghanizadeh 2013 (10)							4.24	0.60 (0.44 to 0.77)
Kent 2013 (16)					-	┣╴│	3.98	1.42 (1.15 to 1.69)
Klaiman 2013 (18)				-			4.28	0.33 (0.19 to 0.47)
Mohammadi 2013 (22)				-			4.24	0.47 (0.31 to 0.63)
Bent 2014 (5)				╉			4.35	0.27 (0.18 to 0.36)
Ghaleiha 2014 (9)				-	'		4.25	0.74 (0.58 to 0.90)
Overall (random)								0.96 (0.79 to 1.14)
	-2.00	-1.00	0.00	1.0	D	2.00		
	Wo	orsening Symptom	s	In	proving	Symptoms		

Figure S4: Forest plot for treatment response to active intervention (N = 25). CI: Confidence Interval

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