

## **SUPPLEMENTAL METHODS**

### **Data Extraction and quality assessment**

Hazard ratio (HR) of survival curves, where not reported, was derived from the graph by using the method by Tierney JF et al<sup>1</sup>. Briefly, Kaplan-Meier curves from each study were read with both Engauge Digitiser and paint.net software to retrieve coordinates (months after randomization on the X axis and cumulative probability on the Y axis) of at least 20 points of each original curve to ensure the best fitting. Subsequently, these values were entered in the calculations spreadsheet provided by the authors to estimate HR and its 95% CI<sup>1</sup>.

### **Pair-wise meta-analyses**

All comparisons included in the pair-wise meta-analyses were performed as follows: 1) experimental therapy versus conventional bortezomib-based therapy (with subgroup analyses for class of drugs – bortezomib+HDACi (BORT+HDAC), bortezomib+mAbs (BORT+mAbs), bortezomib+bevacizumab/siltuximab/PLD or subcutaneous bortezomib (BORT+OTHER), carfilzomib (CARF), IMiDs – and for “single” (X +/- DEX, 2 drugs regimen) versus “double” (X + Y +/- DEX, 3 drugs regimen) schedules), and 2) experimental therapy versus conventional IMiDs-based therapy (with subgroup analyses for class of drugs – bortezomib (BORT), IMiDs + mAbs, Pls+mAbs – and for “single” (X +/- DEX, 2 drugs regimen) versus “double” (X + Y +/- DEX, 3 drugs regimen) schedules).

### **References**

1. Tierney JF, Stewart LA, Ghersi D, Burdett S, Sydes MR. Practical methods for incorporating summary time-to-event data into meta-analysis. *Trials*. 2007;8:16.

## Supplementary figures legends

**Figure S1:** funnel plots of studies included in bortezomib and IMiDs pair-wise meta-analysis

**Figure S2:** forest plots of comparisons between experimental and standard treatments in term of PFS and OS. Bortezomib +/- DEX represents the standard treatment in A (PFS) and C (OS) while IMiDs represent the standard treatment in B (PFS) and D (OS). Subgroups have been made according to the number of drugs (excluding DEX) included in the experimental regimen (one or two) against standard therapy.

**Figure S3:** forest plots of comparisons between experimental treatment and bortezomib +/- DEX standard treatment in term of overall response rate (ORR, A-B), very good partial response rate (VGPR, C-D) and complete response rate (CR, E-F). Subgroups have been made according to drug classes (A, C, E) or to the number of drugs (excluding DEX) included in the experimental regimen (one or two) against standard therapy (B, D, F).

**Figure S4:** forest plots of comparisons between experimental treatment and IMiDs standard treatment in term of overall response rate (ORR, A-B), very good partial response rate (VGPR, C-D) and complete response rate (CR, E-F). Subgroups have been made according to drug classes (A, C, E) or to the number of drugs (excluding DEX) included in the experimental regimen (one or two) against standard therapy (B, D, F).

**Figure S5:** A: network plots of all treatment groups evaluated in the NMA for the analysis of OS, ORR, CR, and safety. B: network plots of all regimens evaluated in the NMA for the analysis PFS, ORR, CR, and safety.

**Figure S6:** on the upper side, interval plots reporting the effect of each treatment group as compared to all other regimens in term of PFS (left) or OS (right). On the lower side, effect estimates of the treatment in term of overall response rate (column headings being compared to row headings) complete response rate safety (row headings being compared to column headings).

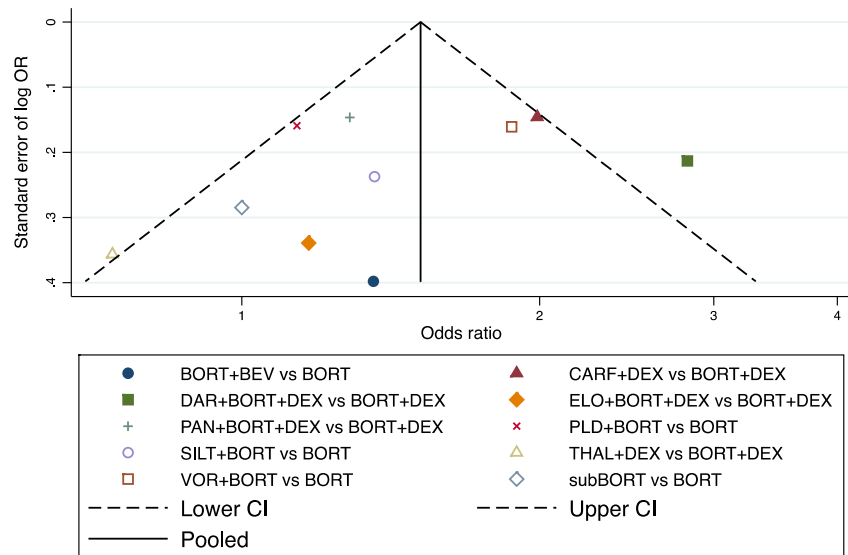
**Figure S7:** A: probability of each treatment group to rank as the best regimen in term of progression free survival (PFS), overall survival (OS), overall response rate (ORR), complete response rate (CR) and toxicity. B shows all the surface under the cumulative ranking curve (SUCRA) values for each treatment group as regard to PFS, OS, ORR, CR and Toxicity (TOX, in this case the higher is the SUCRA the safer is the regimen for patients). An average SUCRA and the average ranking is further provided. C: probability of being at each rank for all treatment groups evaluated in our analysis.

**Figure S8:** A: probability of each schedule to rank as the best regimen in term of progression free survival (PFS), overall survival (OS), overall response rate (ORR), complete response rate (CR) and toxicity. B: cumulative ranking probabilities for each regimen evaluated in network meta-analysis as regard to PFS and OS.

**Figure S9:** A: IF plot evaluating inconsistency and loop-specific heterogeneity for network meta-analysis on progression free survival (PFS) and overall survival (OS) end-points. B: P-scores (frequentist equivalent of surface under the cumulative ranking curve (SUCRA)) for each regimen as regard to PFS, OS, overall response rate (ORR), complete response rate (CR) and toxicity (TOX). An average P-score and the average ranking is further provided.

Figure S1

### Bortezomib



### IMiDs

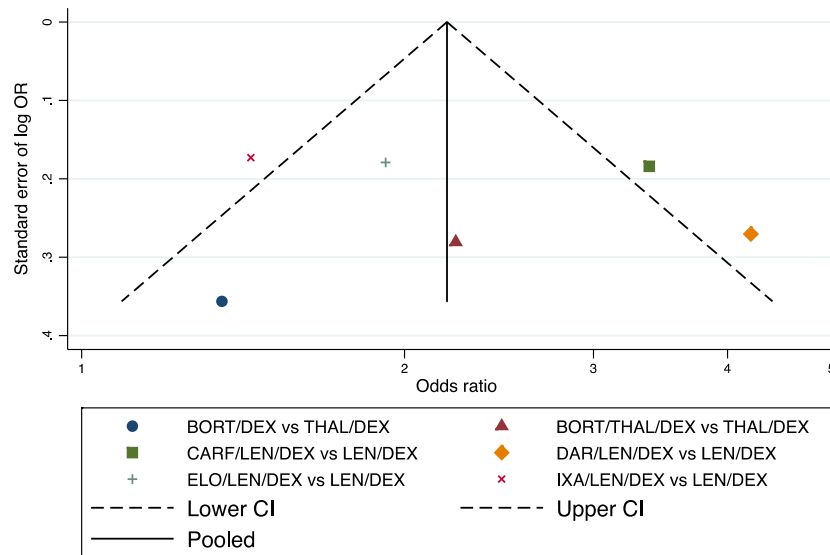


Figure S2

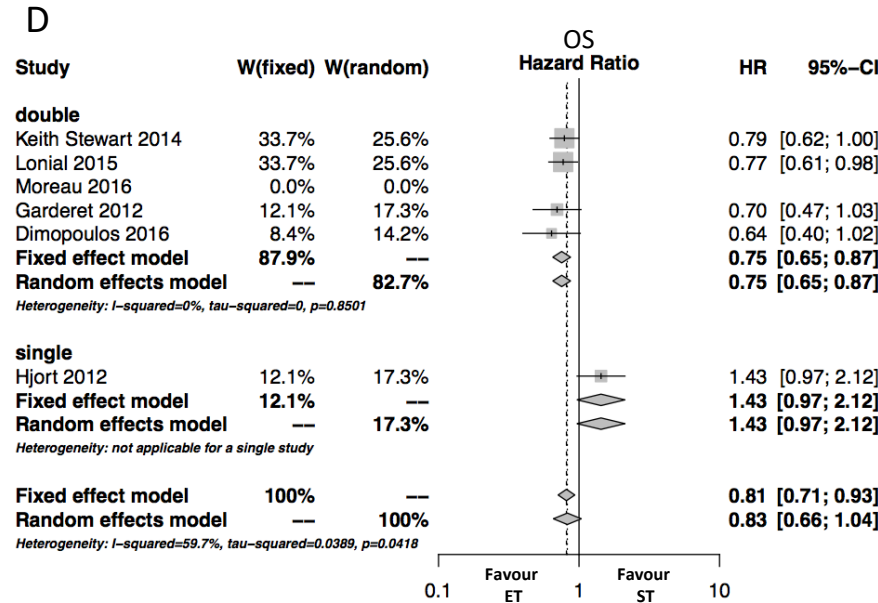
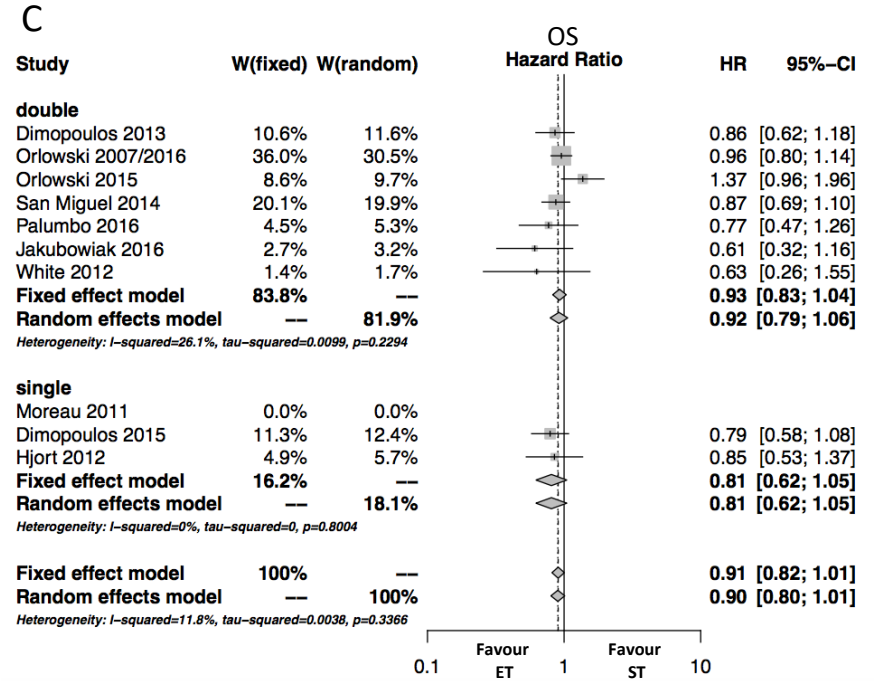
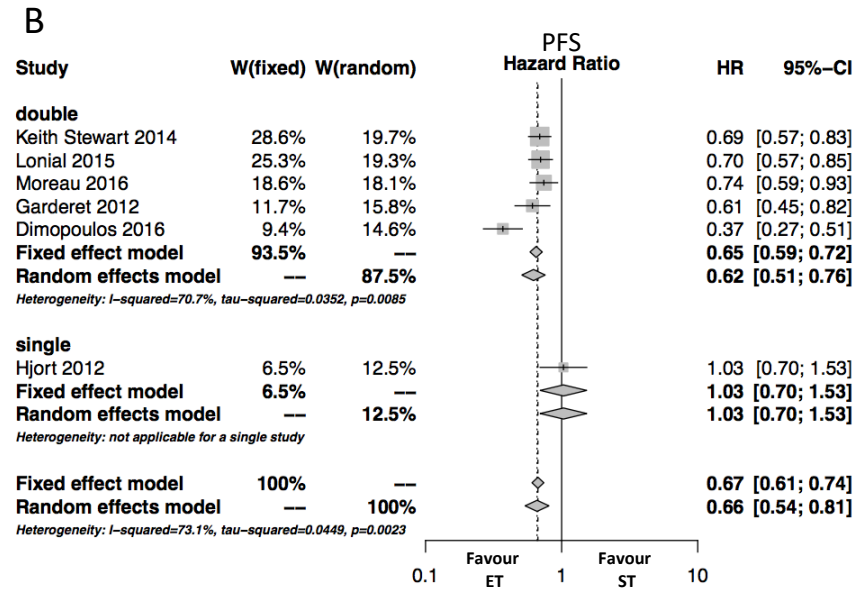
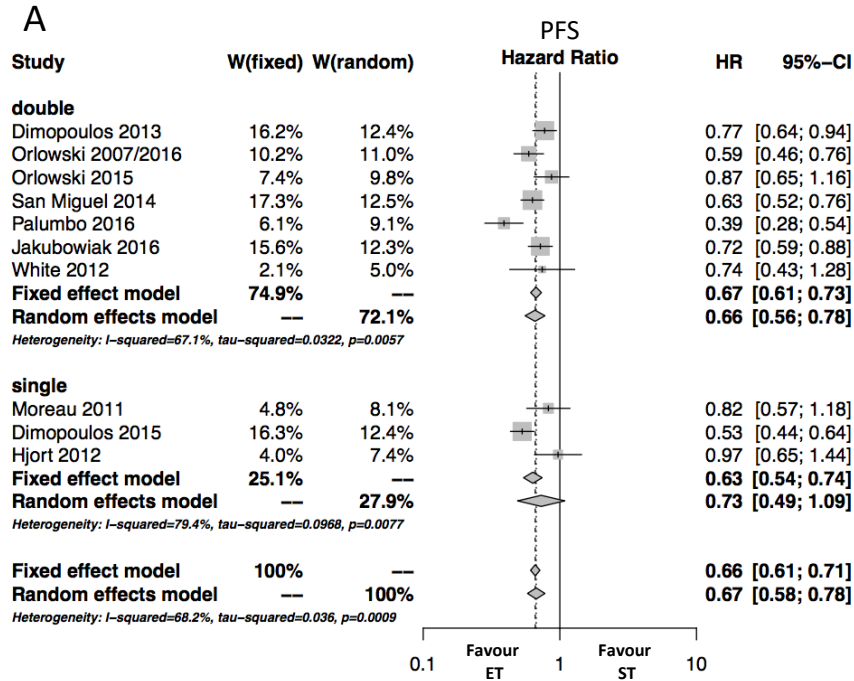
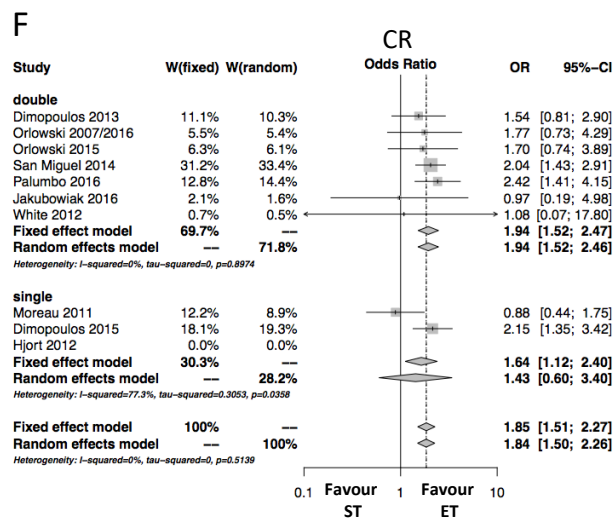
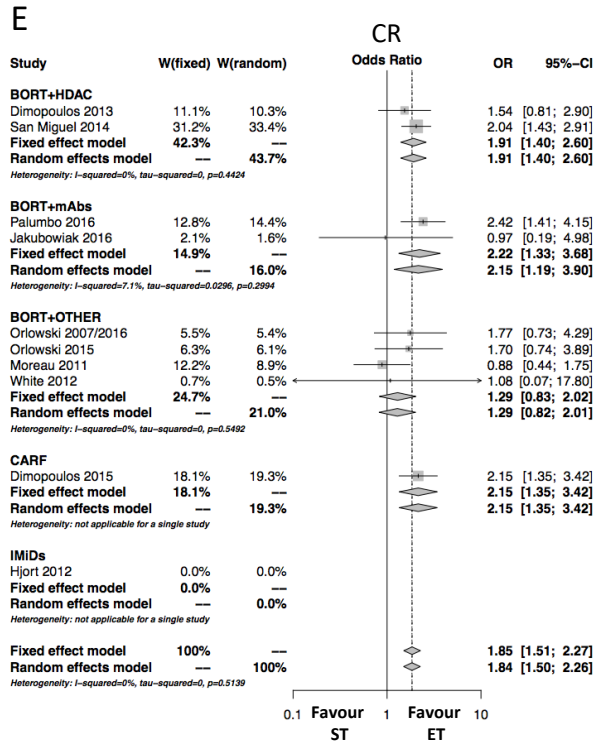
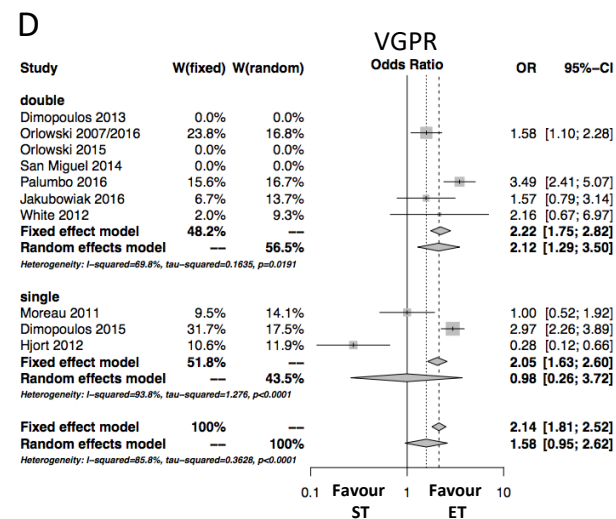
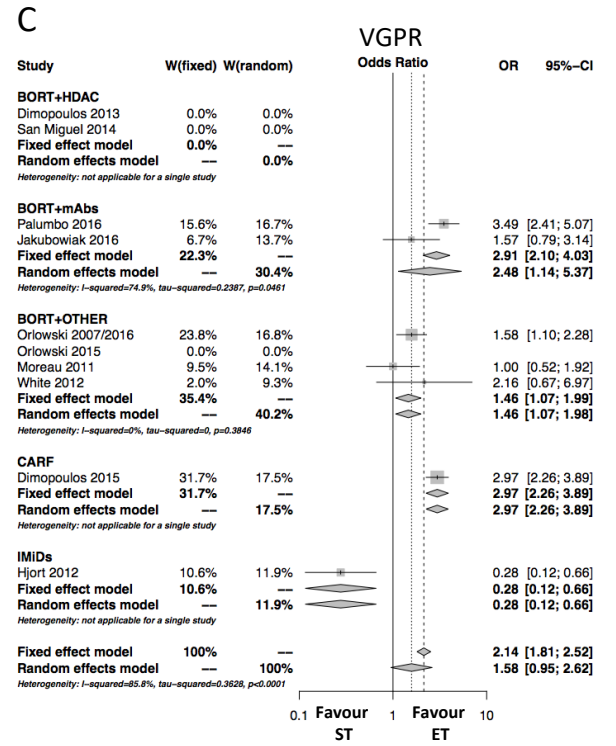
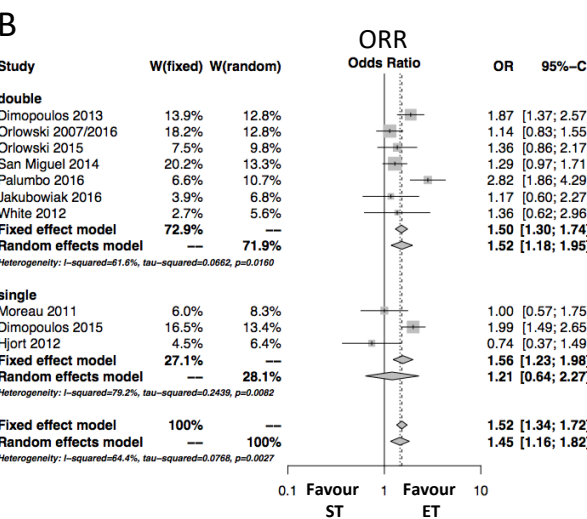
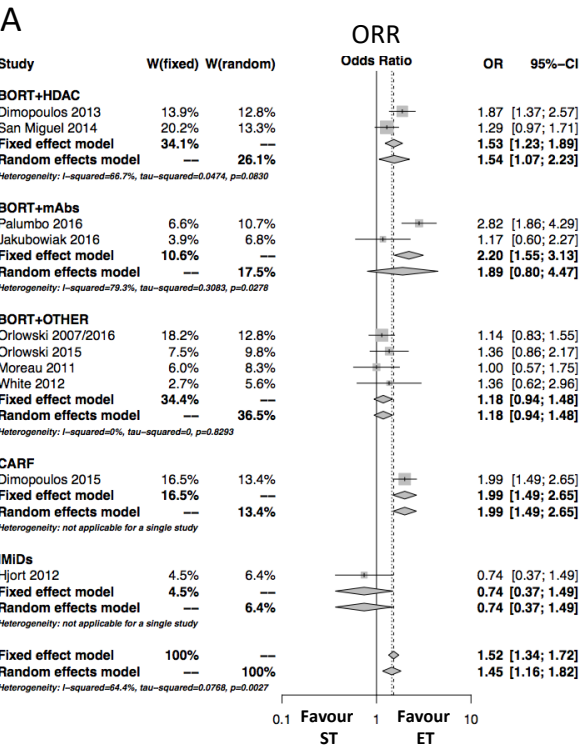
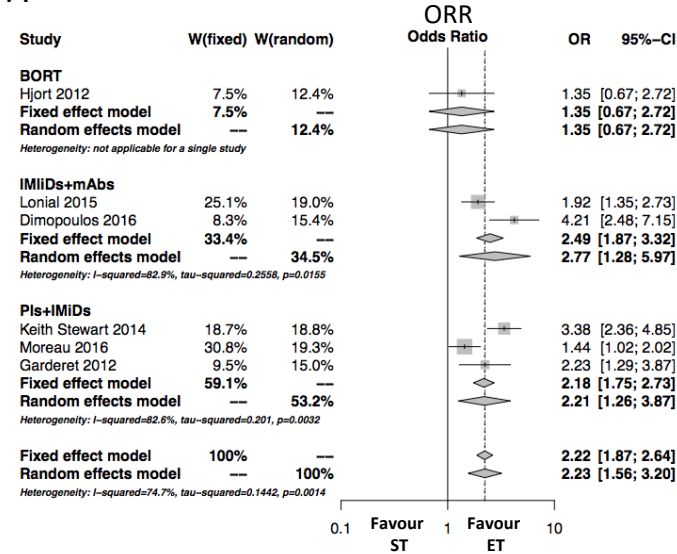


Figure S3

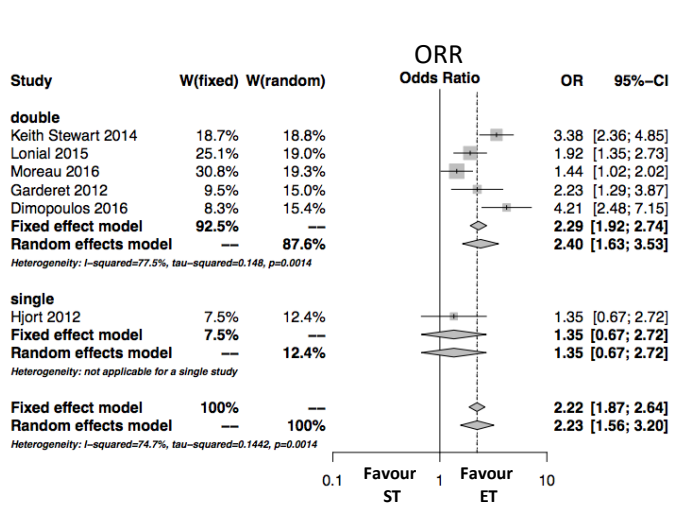


# Figure S4

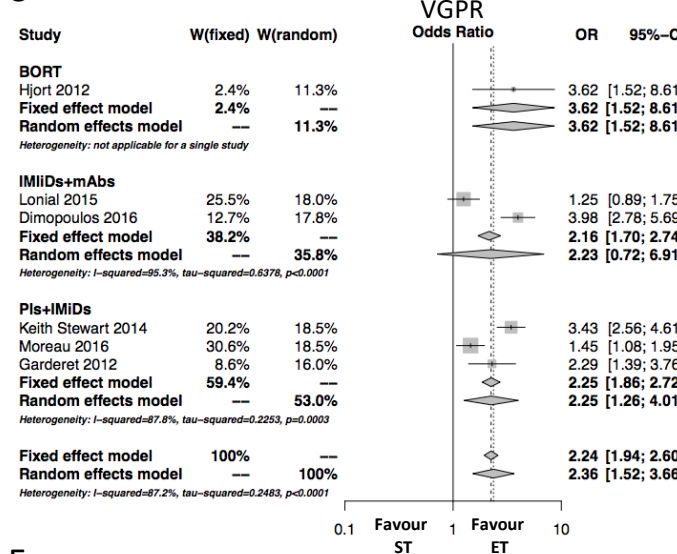
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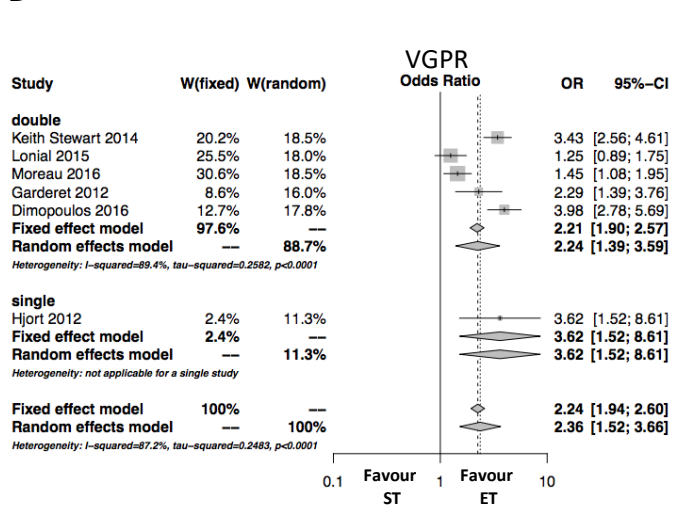
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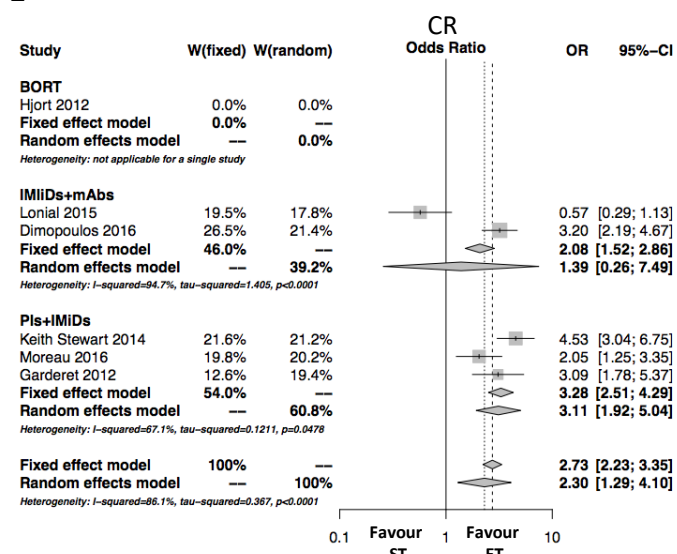
**C**



**D**



**E**



**F**

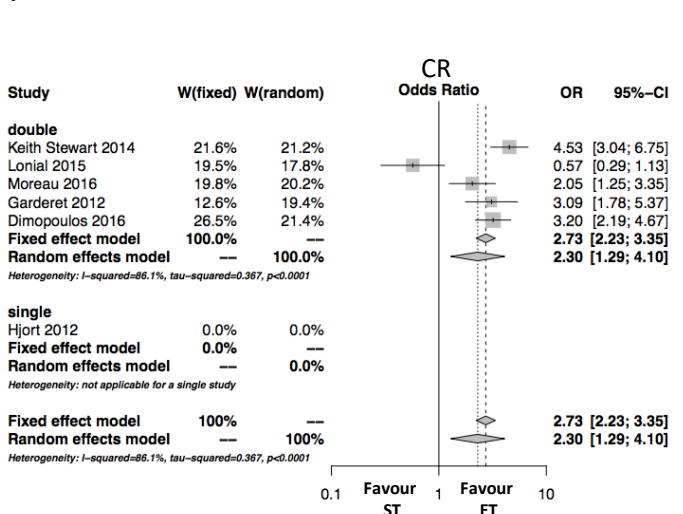


Figure S5

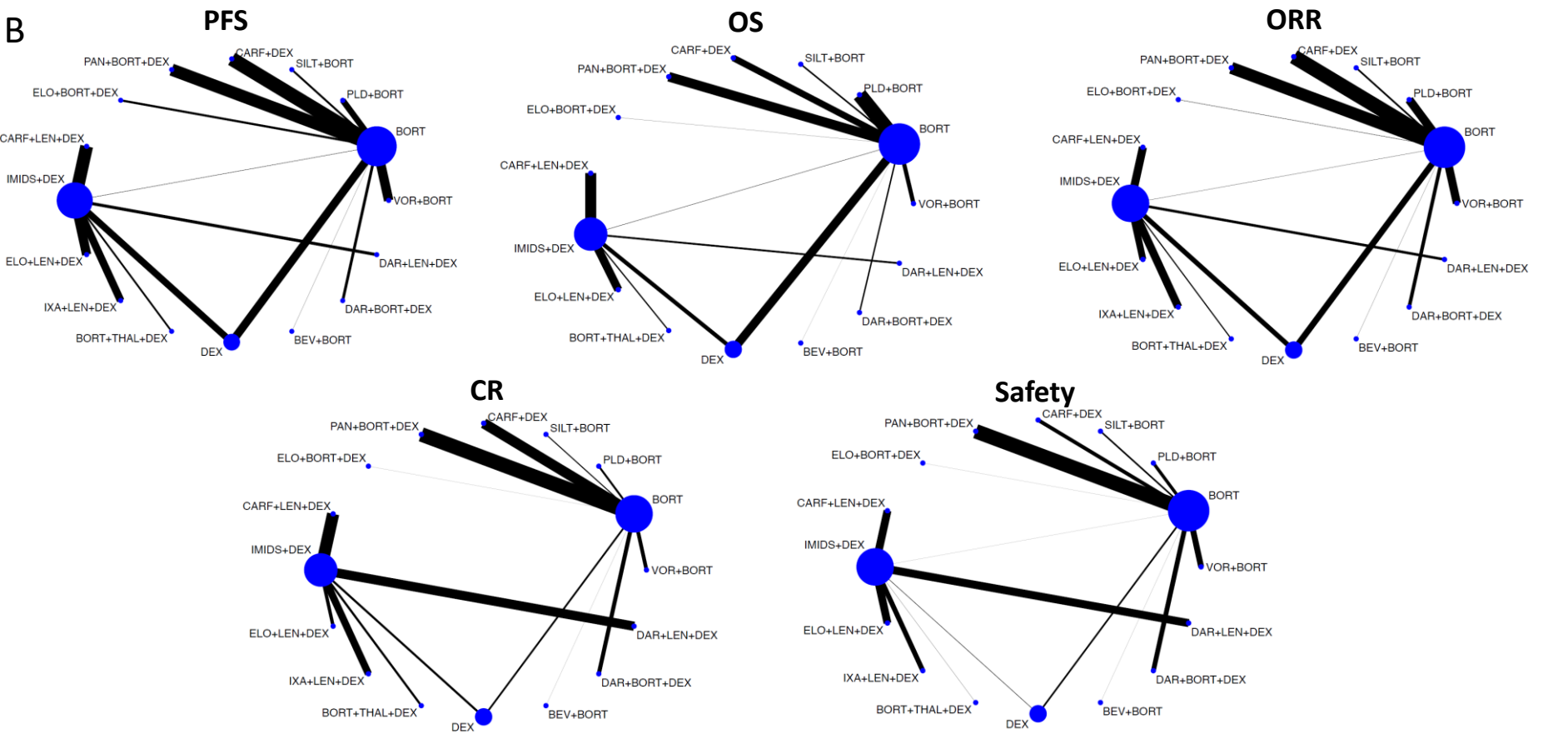
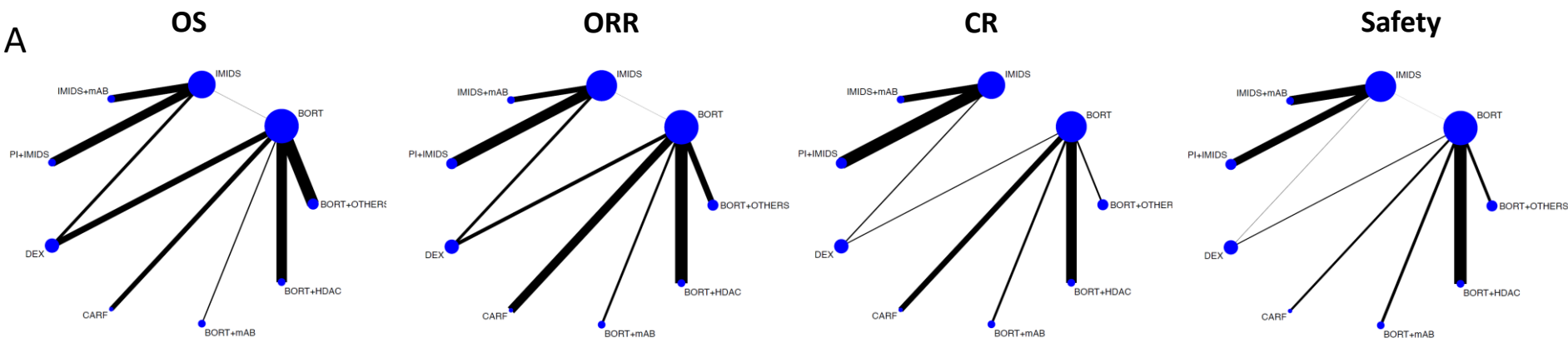
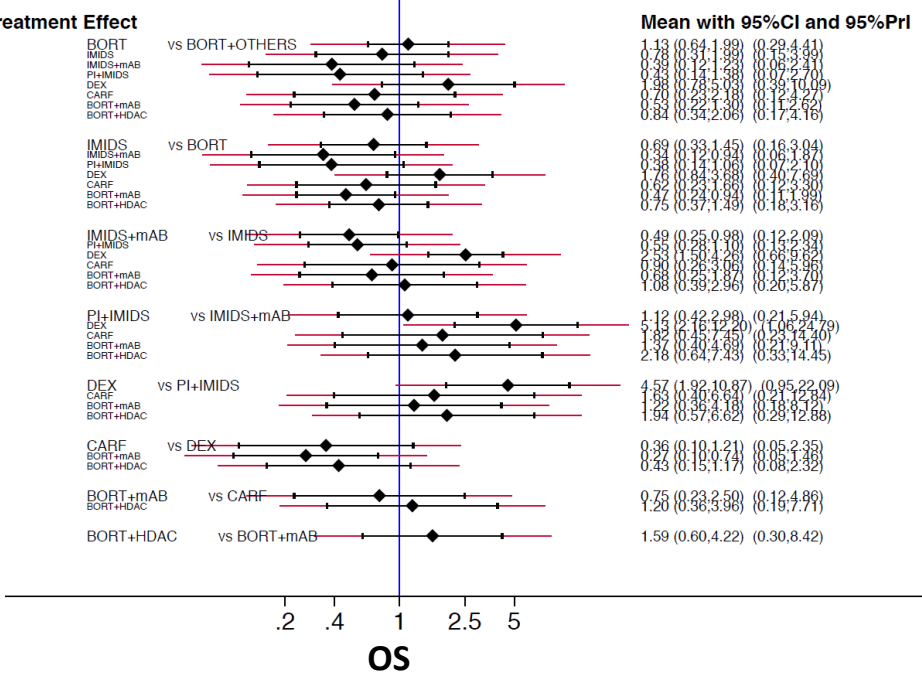
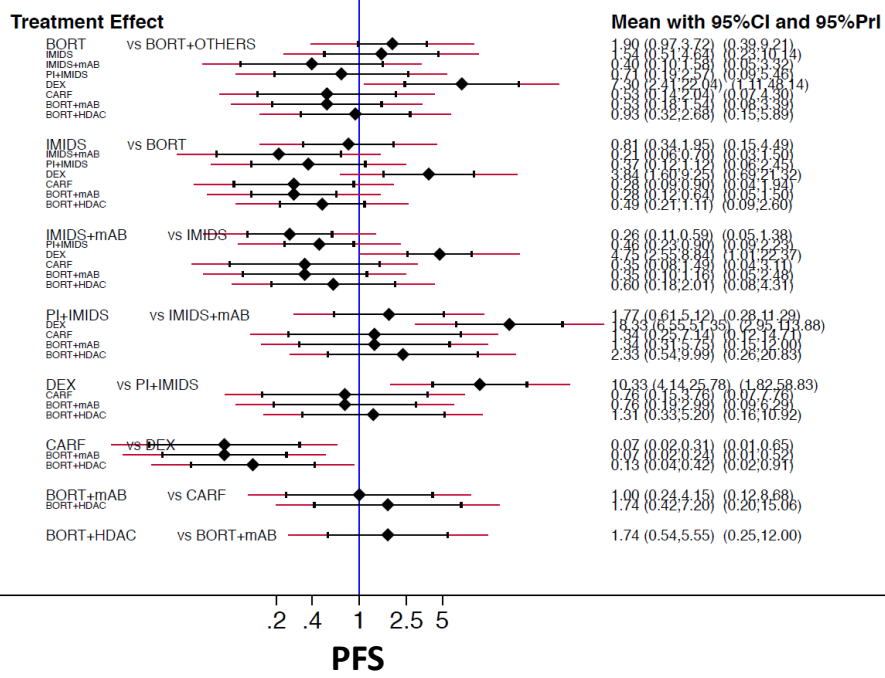


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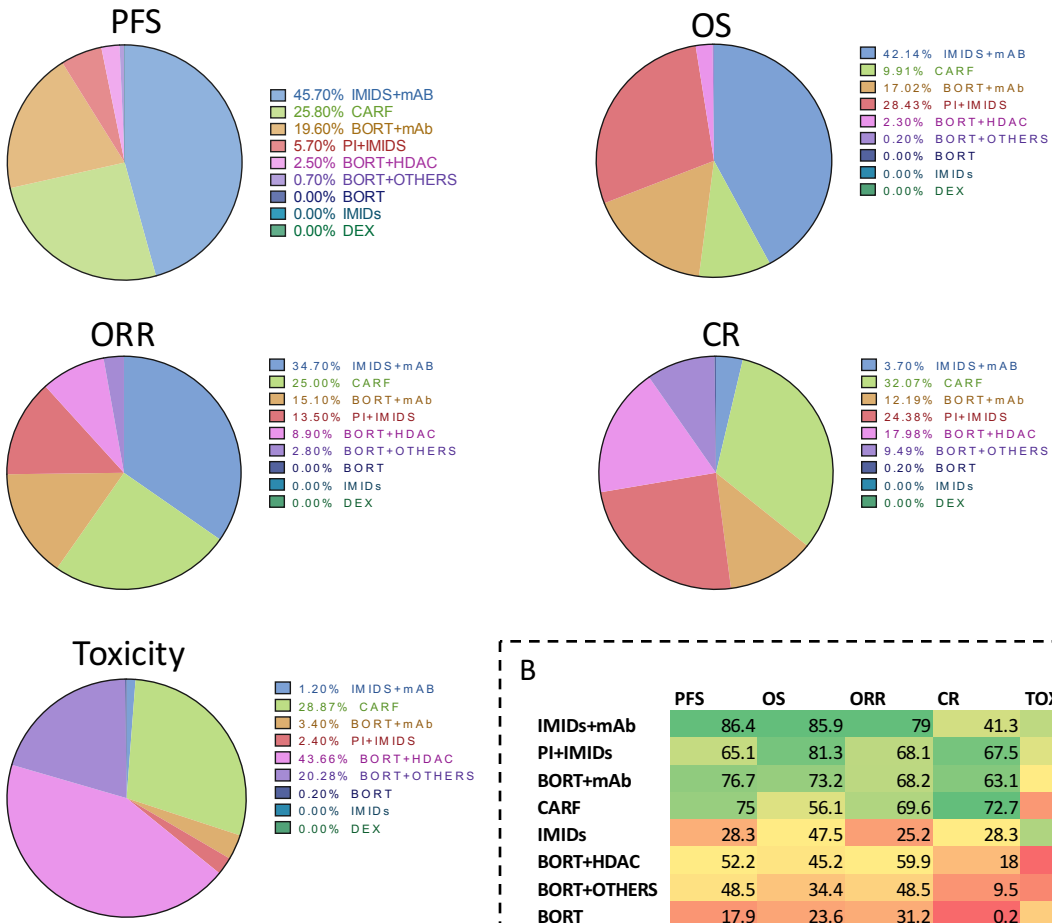
	IMIDS+mAB	CARF	BORT+mAB	PI+IMIDS	BORT+HDAC	BORT+OTHERS	BORT	IMIDS	DEX	ORR
<b>IMIDS+mAB</b>	1.44 (0.05,45.45)	1.72 (0.08,34.79)	1.65 (0.18,14.72)	2.37 (0.12,47.97)	3.50 (0.20,60.17)	5.73 (0.48,68.63)	8.05 (1.48,43.89)	60.45 (7.21,506.90)		
<b>CARF</b>	9.06 (0.03,2945.02)	1.19 (0.06,22.55)	1.14 (0.04,31.39)	1.65 (0.09,31.10)	2.44 (0.15,38.86)	3.98 (0.36,43.82)	5.59 (0.28,113.17)	42.01 (2.08,849.81)		
<b>BORT+mAB</b>	4.68 (0.02,892.12)	0.52 (0.01,34.92)	0.96 (0.06,16.48)	1.38 (0.13,15.20)	2.04 (0.23,18.23)	3.33 (0.61,18.19)	4.68 (0.39,56.16)	35.18 (2.93,421.66)		
<b>PI+IMIDS</b>	5.13 (0.22,118.35)	0.57 (0.00,154.89)	1.10 (0.01,172.53)	1.44 (0.08,24.72)	2.13 (0.15,30.69)	3.48 (0.35,34.06)	4.88 (1.22,19.51)	36.69 (5.56,242.29)		
<b>BORT+HDAC</b>	6.22 (0.03,1183.35)	0.69 (0.01,46.30)	1.33 (0.04,41.47)	1.21 (0.01,190.59)	1.48 (0.17,13.21)	2.42 (0.44,13.17)	3.39 (0.28,40.68)	25.50 (2.13,305.43)		
<b>BORT+OTHERS</b>	4.36 (0.03,685.10)	0.48 (0.01,25.59)	0.93 (0.04,21.64)	0.85 (0.01,109.52)	0.70 (0.03,16.24)	1.63 (0.41,6.53)	2.30 (0.23,22.50)	17.25 (1.76,168.96)		
<b>BORT</b>	1.98 (0.02,207.36)	0.22 (0.01,6.81)	0.42 (0.04,4.83)	0.39 (0.00,32.55)	0.32 (0.03,3.62)	0.45 (0.06,3.33)	1.41 (0.23,8.62)	10.55 (1.72,64.73)		
<b>IMIDS</b>	0.55 (0.05,6.20)	0.06 (0.00,11.46)	0.12 (0.00,12.23)	0.11 (0.01,0.77)	0.09 (0.00,9.19)	0.13 (0.00,10.56)	0.28 (0.01,14.53)	7.51 (2.08,27.08)		
<b>DEX</b>	0.02 (0.00,0.54)	0.00 (0.00,0.34)	0.01 (0.00,0.34)	0.00 (0.00,0.08)	0.00 (0.00,0.25)	0.01 (0.00,0.29)	0.04 (0.01,0.31)			

CR



Figure S7

A



B

	PFS	OS	ORR	CR	TOX	average	ranking
IMiDs+mAb	86.4	85.9	79	41.3	69.3	<b>72.38</b>	1
PI+IMiDs	65.1	81.3	68.1	67.5	58.6	<b>68.12</b>	2
BORT+mAb	76.7	73.2	68.2	63.1	47.3	<b>65.7</b>	3
CARF	75	56.1	69.6	72.7	26	<b>59.88</b>	4
IMiDs	28.3	47.5	25.2	28.3	74.2	<b>40.7</b>	5
BORT+HDAC	52.2	45.2	59.9	18	13.7	<b>37.8</b>	6
BORT+OTHERS	48.5	34.4	48.5	9.5	21.5	<b>32.48</b>	7
BORT	17.9	23.6	31.2	0.2	39.7	<b>22.52</b>	8
DEX	0	2.8	0.4	0	99.7	<b>20.58</b>	9

C

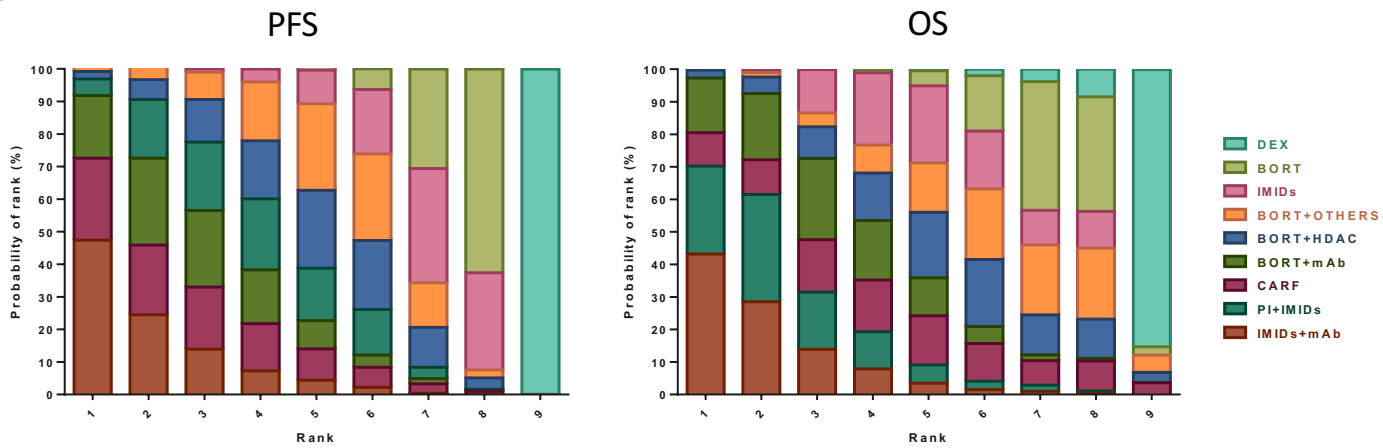
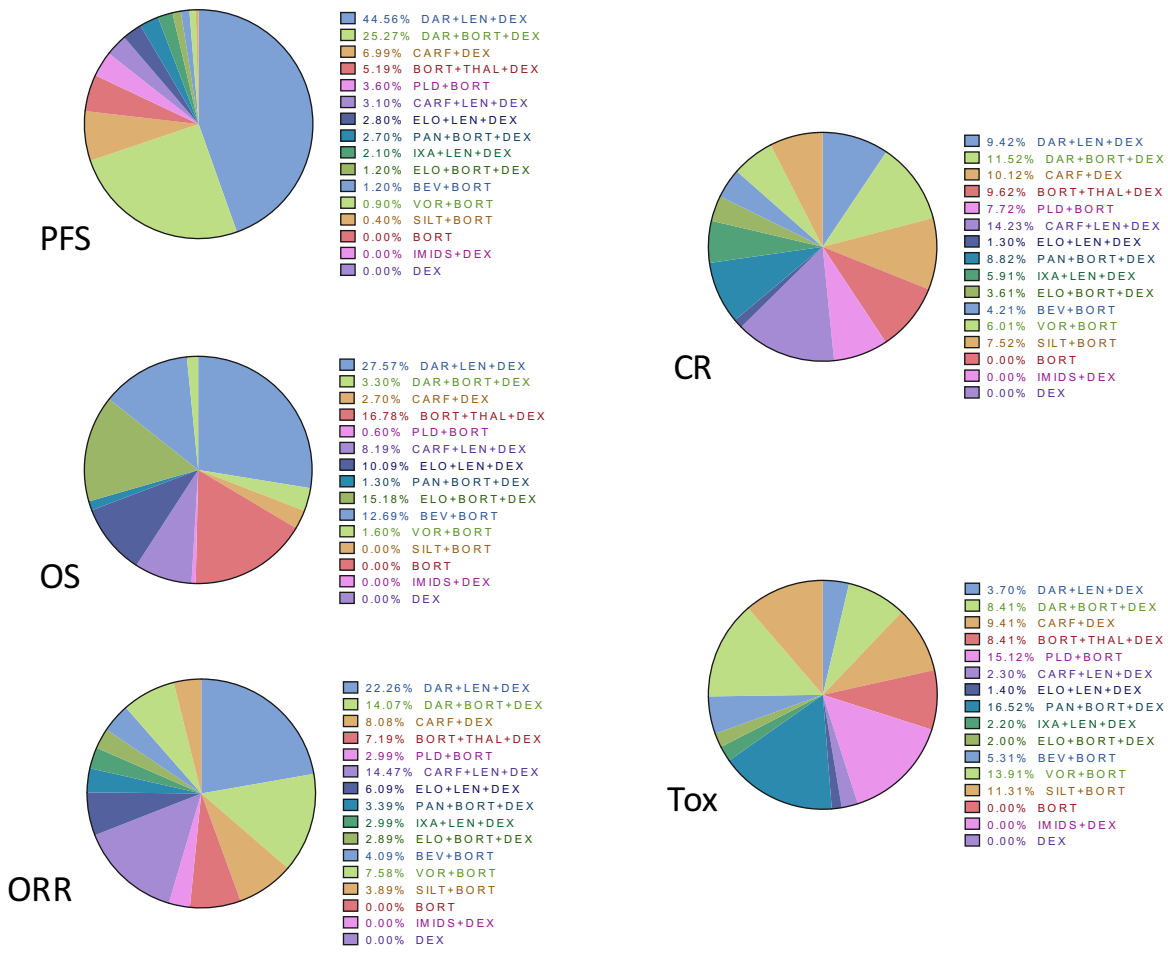


Figure S8

A



B

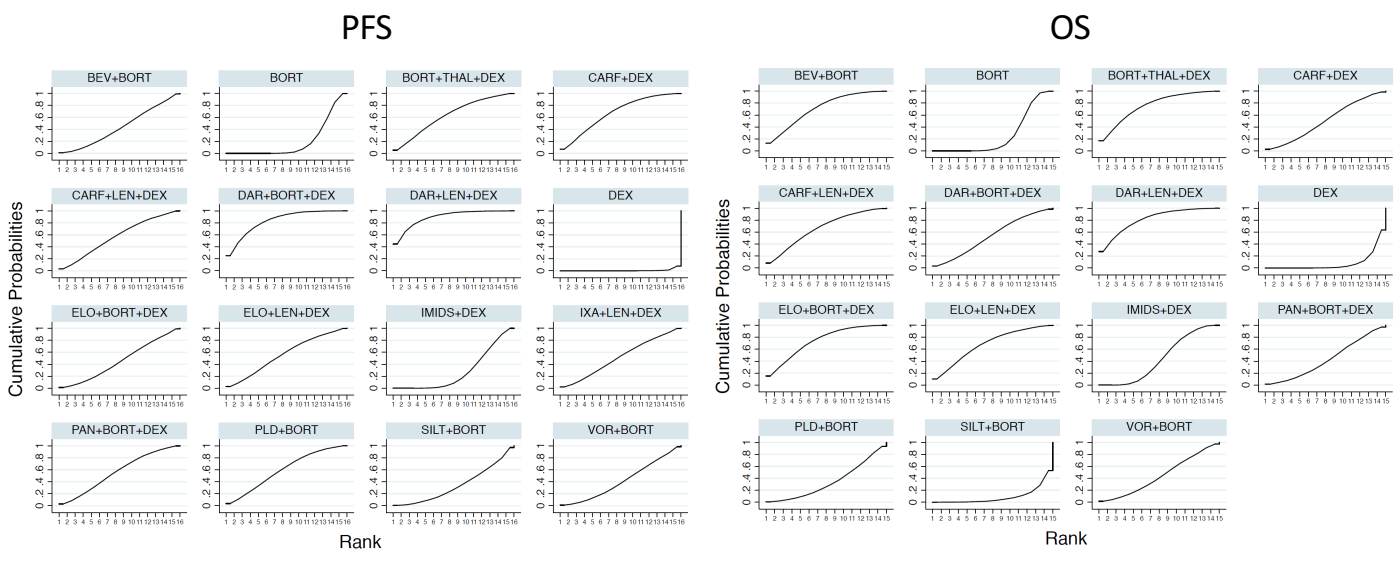
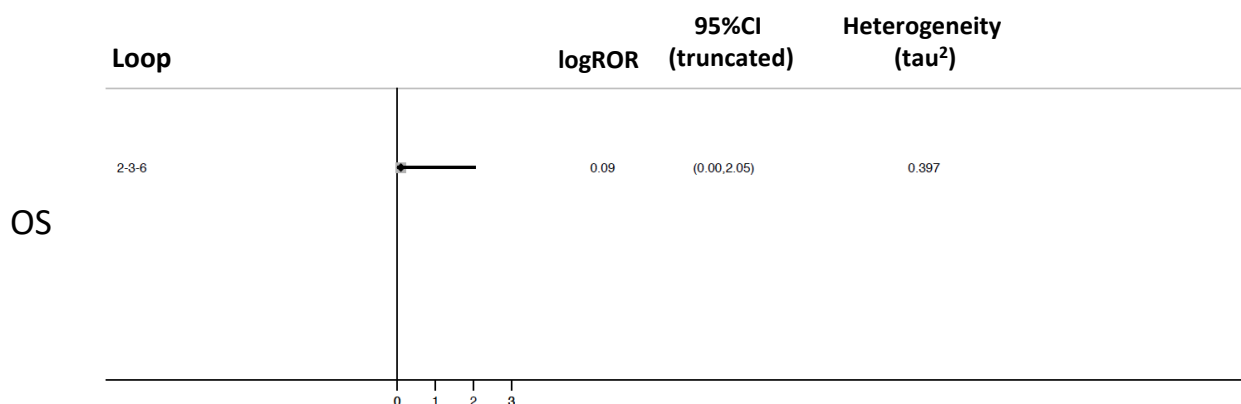
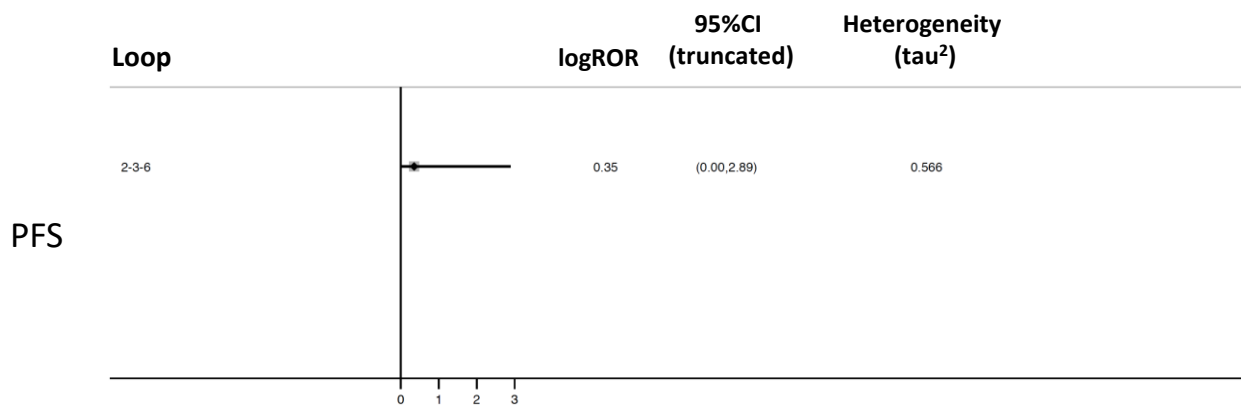


Figure S9

**A**



**B**

	PFS	OS	ORR	CR	TOX	average	ranking
DAR+IMiDs+DEX	0.898	0.826	0.764	0.624	0.553	<b>0.733</b>	<b>1</b>
CARF+IMiDs+DEX	0.571	0.695	0.712	0.695	0.604	<b>0.6554</b>	<b>2</b>
DAR+BORT+DEX	0.835	0.536	0.71	0.661	0.386	<b>0.6256</b>	<b>3</b>
BORT+IMiDs+DEX	0.65	0.777	0.592	0.611	0.429	<b>0.6118</b>	<b>4</b>
CARF+DEX	0.672	0.519	0.608	0.633	0.364	<b>0.5592</b>	<b>5</b>
ELO+IMiDs+DEX	0.561	0.716	0.547	0.24	0.684	<b>0.5496</b>	<b>6</b>
IXA+IMiDs+DEX	0.522		0.456	0.516	0.64	<b>0.5335</b>	<b>7</b>
ELO+BORT+DEX	0.462	0.708	0.438	0.443	0.605	<b>0.5312</b>	<b>8</b>
BEV+BORT	0.444	0.658	0.486	0.475	0.455	<b>0.5036</b>	<b>9</b>
PAN+BORT+DEX	0.556	0.424	0.468	0.621	0.284	<b>0.4706</b>	<b>10</b>
VOR+BORT	0.411	0.438	0.589	0.549	0.311	<b>0.4596</b>	<b>11</b>
PLD+BORT	0.598	0.328	0.428	0.584	0.296	<b>0.4468</b>	<b>12</b>
IMiDs+/-DEX	0.283	0.463	0.309	0.322	0.661	<b>0.4076</b>	<b>13</b>
SILT+BORT	0.335	0.08	0.486	0.574	0.336	<b>0.3622</b>	<b>14</b>
BORT+/-DEX	0.197	0.259	0.357	0.417	0.454	<b>0.3368</b>	<b>15</b>
DEX	0.006	0.071	0.051	0.037	0.94	<b>0.221</b>	<b>16</b>