

## Effect measure transformation

Effect measures were transformed as follows:

### *Controlled Before-After (CBA) studies*

For each study the effect size was calculated as the ratio of the proportion of events before and after intervention took place divided by the corresponding ratio of proportions in the control group, i.e. a ratio of 1.1 corresponds to a 10% increase in the intervention group compared to the control group and a ratio of 1.0 corresponds to no effect. This ratio was logarithmised to centre the value around the null.

### *Controlled Trials with dichotomous outcome*

For each trial and each intervention the effect size was calculated as the odds ratio of intervention to control. This ratio was logarithmised to centre the value around the null.

### *Controlled Trials with continuous outcome*

The standardized mean differences (MD) were calculated and then converted into an odds ratio following the approach of (Hasselblad and Hedges, 1995):

$$MD = \frac{\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2}{SD}$$

$$OR_{MD} = \exp\left(\frac{\pi \cdot MD}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

This ratio was logarithmised to centre the value around the null.