Supplementary Material

Table S1. Literature search results from Medline, Embase, and Web of Science.

	Medline	Results
1	exp colorectal neoplasms/	187315
2	(colorectal cancer* or colorectal or neoplasm* or colon cancer* or colon neoplasm* or bowel cancer* or colorectal adenoma* or colorectal adenocarcinoma* or colorectal polyp*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]	2688871
3	(25-OH-D or cholecalciferol or calcidiol or calcitriol or 25-hydroxyVitamin D or hydroxycholecalciferols or 25-hydroxyVitamin D3 or 1-alpha-hydroxylase or Vitamin D).mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]	80293
4	(Asia* or Afghanistan or Armenia or Azerbaijan or Bahrain or Bangladesh or Bhutan or Brunei or Cambodia or China or Cyprus or Georgia or India or Indonesia or Iran or Iraq or Israel or Japan or Jordan or Kazakhstan or Kuwait or Kyrgyzstan or Laos or Lebanon or Malaysia or Maldives or Mongolia or Myanmar or Burma or Nepal or North Korea or Oman or Pakistan or Palestine or Philippines or Qatar or Russia or Saudi Arabia or Singapore or South Korea or Sri Lanka or Syria or Taiwan or Tajikistan or Thailand or Timor-Leste or Turkey or Turkmenistan or United Arab Emirates or Uzbekistan or Vietnam or Yemen).mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]	
5	1 or 2	2690742
6	3 and 4 and 5	258
7	limit 6 to English language	250

	Embase	Results
1	exp colorectal neoplasms/	26250
2	(colorectal cancer* or colorectal or neoplasm* or colon cancer* or colon neoplasm* or bowel cancer* or colorectal adenoma* or colorectal adenocarcinoma* or colorectal polyp*).mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]	1075151
3	(25-OH-D or cholecalciferol or calcidiol or calcitriol or 25-hydroxyVitamin D or hydroxycholecalciferols or 25-hydroxyVitamin D3 or 1-alpha-hydroxylase or Vitamin D).mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]	137427
4	(Asia* or Afghanistan or Armenia or Azerbaijan or Bahrain or Bangladesh or Bhutan or Brunei or Cambodia or China or Cyprus or Georgia or India or Indonesia or Iran or Iraq or Israel or Japan or Jordan or Kazakhstan or Kuwait or Kyrgyzstan or Laos or Lebanon or Malaysia or Maldives or Mongolia or Myanmar or Burma or Nepal or North Korea or Oman or Pakistan or Palestine or Philippines or Qatar or Russia or Saudi Arabia or Singapore or South Korea or Sri Lanka or Syria or	

	Taiwan or Tajikistan or Thailand or Timor-Leste or Turkey or Turkmenistan or United Arab Emirates or Uzbekistan or Vietnam or Yemen).mp. [mp=title, abstract original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]				
5	1 or 2	1075151			
6	3 and 4 and 5	279			
7	limit 6 to English language	272			

	Web of science	Results
1	TS= (colorectal neoplasm or colorectal cancer* or colorectal or neoplasm* or colon cancer* or colon neoplasm* or bowel cancer* or colorectal adenoma* or colorectal adenocarcinoma* or colorectal polyp*)	460,541
2	TS= (25-OH-D or cholecalciferol or calcidiol or calcitriol or 25-hydroxyVitamin D or hydroxycholecalciferols or 25-hydroxyVitamin D3 or 1-alpha-hydroxylase or Vitamin D)	99,758
3	TS=(Asia* or Afghanistan or Armenia or Azerbaijan or Bahrain or Bangladesh or Bhutan or Brunei or Cambodia or China or Cyprus or Georgia or India or Indonesia or Iran or Iraq or Israel or Japan or Jordan or Kazakhstan or Kuwait or Kyrgyzstan or Laos or Lebanon or Malaysia or Maldives or Mongolia or Myanmar or Burma or Nepal or North Korea or Oman or Pakistan or Palestine or Philippines or Qatar or Russia or Saudi Arabia or Singapore or South Korea or Sri Lanka or Syria or Taiwan or Tajikistan or Thailand or Timor-Leste or Turkey or Turkmenistan or United Arab Emirates or Uzbekistan or Vietnam or Yemen)	2,184,572
4	#1 AND #2 AND #3	106
5	(#4) AND LANGUAGE: (English) AND DOCUMENT TYPES: (Article)	89

Table S2. List and details of the excluded studies from the meta-analysis

D C				
Reason for exclusion	Author	Year	Study title	Journal
Studied	Wong HL,	2003	Vitamin D receptor start codon polymorphism and	Carcinogenesis
genotype of	et al.		colorectal cancer risk: Effect modification by dietary	
Vitamin D			calcium and fat in Singapore Chinese	
receptor(n=7)	Li C, et al.	2009	Vitamin D receptor gene polymorphisms and the risk of	Digestive Diseases and
receptor(ii /)	Li C, Ci ai.	2009	colorectal cancer in a Chinese population	Sciences
	Kang JW et	2015	Role of vitamin D and local vitamin D receptor	Journal of
		2013	1	
	al.		expression in colon carcinogenesis	Gastroenterology and
	T-11-:	2015	Ai-ti 1 -t (VDR)	Hepatology Asian Pac J Cancer
	Takeshige	2015	Associations between vitamin D receptor (VDR) gene	
	N, et al.		polymorphisms and colorectal cancer risk and effect	Prev
			modifications of dietary calcium and vitamin D in a	
		2016	Japanese population	~ .
	Aumpansub	2016	Strong association of single nucleotide polymorphisms	Gastroenterology
	P, et al.		of vitamin D receptor gene, BSMI, and colorectal	
			cancer in Asian population	
	Budhathoki	2016	Vitamin D receptor gene polymorphism and the risk of	PLoS ONE
	S, et al.		colorectal cancer: A nested case-control study	
	Gong C, et	2017	Dietary factors and polymorphisms in vitamin D	Scientific Reports
	al.		metabolism genes: the risk and prognosis of colorectal	_
			cancer in northeast China	
Not report the	Mizoue T, et	2005	Dietary patterns and colorectal adenomas in Japanese	American Journal of
association	al.		men - The self-defense forces health study.	Epidemiology
with	Atoum MF,	2014	Association between circulating vitamin D, the Taq1	Asian Pacific Journal
estimation(n=4)	et al.	201.	vitamin D receptor gene polymorphism and colorectal	of Cancer Prevention
estimation(ii i)	et ai.		cancer risk among Jordanians. Asian Pacific journal of	of current frevention
			cancer prevention	
	Kumagai Y,	2014		Cancer Causes &
		2014	Dietary patterns and colorectal cancer risk in Japan: the	
	et al.	2015	Ohsaki Cohort Study.	Control
	Hessami	2017	Rising rates of colorectal cancer among younger	Current Oncology
	Arani S, et		iranians: Is diet to blame?	
	al.	•		
Meeting	Grant WB,	2011	Ecological study findings regarding vitamin D and	Anticancer Research
proceeding	et al.		cancer.	
(n=3)	Li K, et al.	2014	The association between serum vitamin D	Clinical Chemistry and
			concentrations and colorectal cancer.	Laboratory Medicine
	Ozer C, et	2015	The relationship between serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D	Clinical Chemistry and
	al.		levels and insulin resistance in breast and colon cancer.	Laboratory Medicine
Letter to the	Dunnigan	1990	Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D and colon cancer.	Lancet
reviewer (n=2)	MG, et al.			
	Qu B, et al.	2017	Role of Circulating and Supplemental Calcium and	J Clin Gastroenterol
			Vitamin D in the Occurrence and Development of	
			Colorectal Adenoma or Colorectal Cancer.	
Reports from	Byeon JS, et	2007		Gastrointestinal
Reports from same study	Byeon JS, et al.	2007	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a	
same study		2007	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy	Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
	al.		Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey.	Endoscopy
same study	al. Shin A, et	2007	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a	
same study sample (n=2)	al. Shin A, et al.	2011	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population.	Endoscopy PLoS ONE
same study sample (n=2)	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM,		Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced	Endoscopy
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al.	2011	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis.	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer
same study sample (n=2)	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et	2011	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer	Endoscopy PLoS ONE
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2)	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al.	2011 2015 2015	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients.	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et	2011	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2)	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al.	2011 2015 2015	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients.	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et al.	2011 2015 2015 2008	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer risk: The Fukuoka colorectal cancer study.	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et	2011 2015 2015	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention American Journal of
Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D intake (n=2)	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et al. Ishihara J, et al.	2011 2015 2015 2008	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer risk: The Fukuoka colorectal cancer study. Dietary calcium, vitamin D, and the risk of colorectal cancer.	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention American Journal of Clinical Nutrition
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D intake (n=2)	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et al. Ishihara J, et	2011 2015 2015 2008	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer risk: The Fukuoka colorectal cancer study. Dietary calcium, vitamin D, and the risk of colorectal	Endoscopy PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention American Journal of Clinical Nutrition Journal of
Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D intake (n=2)	Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et al. Ishihara J, et al.	2011 2015 2015 2008	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer risk: The Fukuoka colorectal cancer study. Dietary calcium, vitamin D, and the risk of colorectal cancer.	PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention American Journal of Clinical Nutrition
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D intake (n=2)	al. Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et al. Ishihara J, et al. Sy AM, et	2011 2015 2015 2008	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer risk: The Fukuoka colorectal cancer study. Dietary calcium, vitamin D, and the risk of colorectal cancer. Association between serum vitamin D levels and	Endoscopy PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention American Journal of Clinical Nutrition Journal of
same study sample (n=2) Studied survivorship (n=2) Vitamin D intake (n=2) Western population	al. Shin A, et al. Wesa KM, et al. Woo KW, et al. Mizoue T, et al. Ishihara J, et al. Sy AM, et	2011 2015 2015 2008	Colorectal neoplasm in asymptomatic Asians: a prospective multinational multicenter colonoscopy survey. Site-specific risk factors for colorectal cancer in a korean population. Serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D and survival in advanced colorectal cancer: a retrospective analysis. Vitamin D deficiency in Hong Kong advanced cancer patients: Result of first 50 patients. Calcium, dairy foods, vitamin D, and colorectal cancer risk: The Fukuoka colorectal cancer study. Dietary calcium, vitamin D, and the risk of colorectal cancer. Association between serum vitamin D levels and	Endoscopy PLoS ONE Nutr Cancer Annals of Oncology Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention American Journal of Clinical Nutrition Journal of Gastrointestinal

Table S3. Newcastle-Ottawa Scale for assessing the quality of studies in the systematic review

			Selection				Comparability		Exposure			Total
Author (Year)	Country	Region	S1	S2	S3	S4	C1	C2	E1	E2	E3	Score
Budhathoki et al. (2018)[1]	Japan	Eastern Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		8
Choi et al. (2015)[2]	Korea	Eastern Asian	*				*	*	*	*		5
Hong et al. (2012)[3]	Korea	Eastern Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		8
Otani et al. (2007)[4]	Japan	Eastern Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	9
Takahashi et al. (2010)[5]	Japan	Eastern Asian	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	8
Yamaji et al. (2012)[6]	Japan	Eastern Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	9
Ying et al. (2015)[7]	China	Eastern Asian	*			*	*	*	*	*	*	7
Yurekli et al.(2015)[8]	Turkey	Western Asian	*				*	*	*	*		5

Guidelines for review

Selection:

- S1, Case definition adequacy: ★a) requires independent validation (>1 person/record/time/process to extract information or reference to primary record sources such as colonoscopy or medical/hospital records); b) record linkage or self-report with no reference to primary record; c) no description
- S2, Representativeness of the cases: ★a) consecutive or representative series of cases; b) potential for selection biases or not stated
- S3, Selection of controls: ★a) community controls; b) hospital controls, within same community as cases; c) no description
- S4, Definition of controls: ★a) no history of colorectal cancer or adenoma; b) no description of the source *Comparability*:
- C1, \star Study adjusted for confounder, such as age and sex (the most important factors);
- C2, ★ Study adjusted for any additional confounders (1> additional factors, e.g., BMI, drinking or smoking)
- E1, Ascertainment of exposure: ★a) secure record (e.g., medical records); ★b) structured interview were blind to case/control status; e) interview not blinded to case/control status; d) written self-report or medical record only; e) no description
- E2, Same method of ascertainment for cases and controls: ★a) yes; b) no
- E3, Non-response rate: *\pia) the same rate for both groups; b) non-respondents described; c) rate different and no designation

Figure S1. Subgroup meta-analysis, including stratified by outcome (colorectal cancer or colorectal adenoma, **S1A**), sex (women, men or both, **S1B**), blood sample type (serum or plasma, **S1C**), range (≤15 or >15 ng/mL **S1D**), subregion (Eastern Asia or Western Asia, **S1E**).

Figure S1A

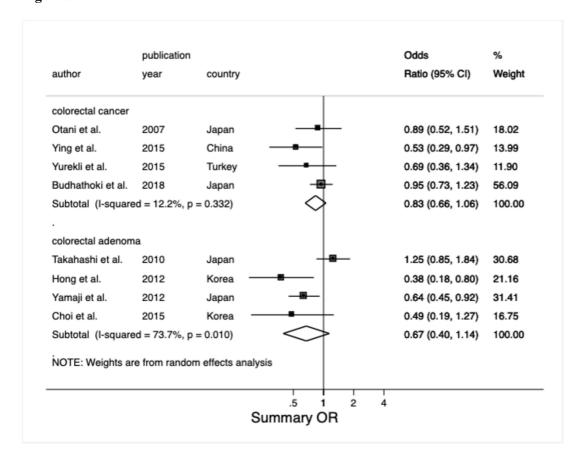


Figure S1B

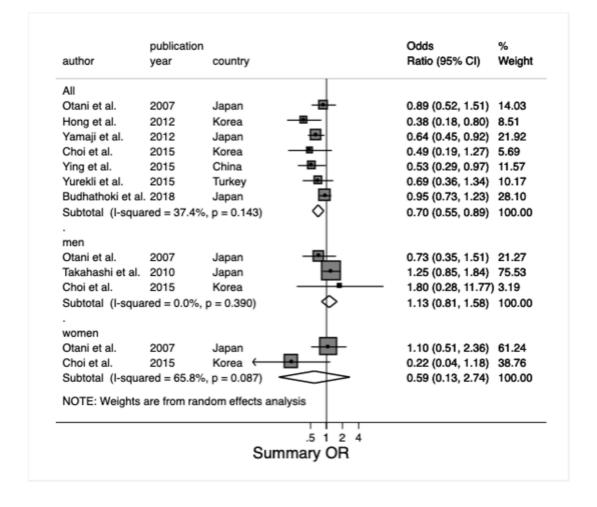


Figure S1C

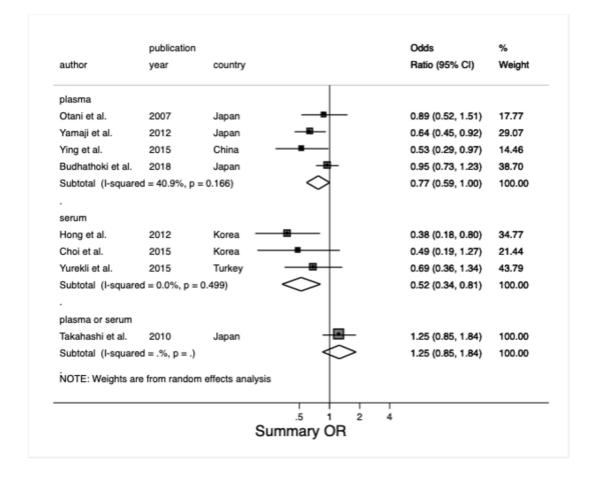


Figure S1D

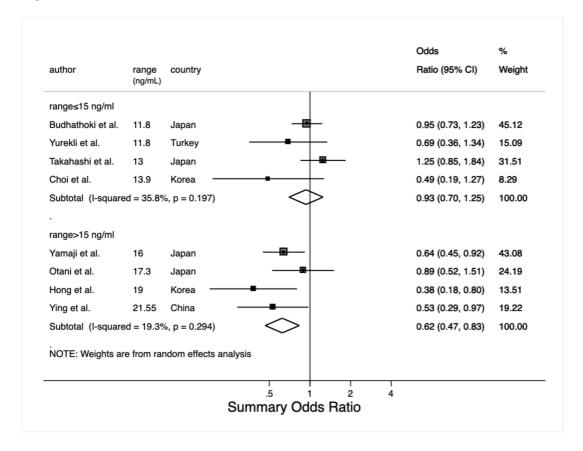


Figure S1E

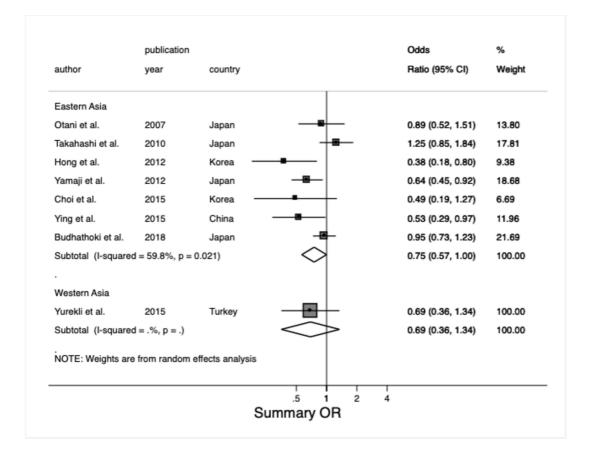


Figure S2. Funnel plot for all studies included in the meta-analysis and between blood circulating Vitamin D and the colorectal cancer risk in Asian countries

