

Supplementary Table 3. Studies that were excluded from the current meta-analysis

Study	Reasons for exclusion
Sesso et al. (2008) [27]	Wrong reference group: It includes rarely drinkers.
Tsuruta et al. (2000) [28]	Wrong reference group: It includes rarely drinkers (0–3 g/day).
Stranges et al. (2004) [29]	Wrong reference group: Lifetime abstainers were defined as participants who reported a consumption of < 12 drinks during their lifetime or in any 1-year period.
Yamada et al. (1991) [30]	Wrong comparison: Two groups, subjects with or without an elevated serum r-glutamyl transpeptidase, were compared; Unavailable to assess the effect size in the form of relative risks (or odds ratio/hazard ratio) and 95% confidence intervals
Curtis et al. (1997) [31]	Wrong outcome: Hypertension was defined as a blood pressure \geq 160/95 mmHg or taking anti-hypertensive medications.