

Selenium, antioxidants, cardiovascular disease, and all-cause mortality: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

David JA Jenkins

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Selenium, antioxidants, cardiovascular disease, and all-cause mortality: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.

David JA Jenkins, MD, PhD^{1,2,3,4,5}; David Kitts, PhD⁶; Edward L Giovannucci, MD, ScD⁷; Sandhya Sahye-Pudaruth, MPH, RD^{1,4}; Melanie Paquette, MSc, RD^{1,4}; Sonia Blanco Mejia, MD MSc^{1,3,4}; Darshna Patel, BA^{1,4}; Meaghan Kavanagh, MSc^{1,4}; Tom Tsirakis, BA⁴; Cyril WC Kendall^{1,3,4,11}, PhD; Sathish C. Pichika, MSc⁴; John L Sievenpiper, MD, PhD^{1,2,3,4,5}

¹Department of Nutritional Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; ²Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, ³Toronto 3D Knowledge Synthesis and Clinical Trials Unit, ⁴Clinical Nutrition Risk Factor Modification Centre, and ⁵Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, St. Michael's Hospital, 30 Bond Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; ⁶Food Nutrition and Health, Faculty of Land and Food Systems, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C, Canada, ⁷Department of Nutrition and Epidemiology, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA, USA; ¹¹College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada.

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Supplementary Table 1. Search Strategy. Search was done from database inception to June 5th 2020.

Databases	Search Terms
MEDLINE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. exp Dietary Supplements/ 2. supplement*.mp. 3. exp ANTIOXIDANTS/ 4. antioxidant*.mp. 5. exp Vitamin A/ 6. vitamin A.mp. 7. retinol.mp. 8. vitamin C.mp. 9. exp Ascorbic Acid/ 10. ascorbic acid.mp. 11. exp Vitamin E/ 12. vitamin E.mp. 13. alpha tocopherol.mp. 14. beta carotene.mp. 15. alpha carotene.mp. 16. selenium.mp. 17. zinc.mp. 18. copper.mp. 19. exp Cardiovascular Diseases/ 20. cardiovascular disease*.mp. 21. coronary heart disease*.mp. 22. coronary artery disease*.mp. 23. acute coronary syndrome*.mp. 24. myocardial ischemia*.mp. 25. ischemic heart disease*.mp. 26. heart infarction*.mp. 27. myocardial infarction*.mp. 28. stroke*.mp. 29. cerebrovascular*.mp. 30. cardiovascular mortality.mp. 31. cardiovascular death.mp. 32. exp MORTALITY/ 33. mortality.mp. 34. exp DEATH/ 35. death.mp. 36. all cause mortality.mp.

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	<p>37. exp Neoplasms/ 38. neoplasm*.mp. 39. cancer*.mp. 40. 1 or 2 41. 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 42. 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32 or 33 or 34 or 35 or 36 or 37 or 38 or 39 43. 40 and 41 and 42 44. "randomized controlled trial".pt. 45. (random\$ or placebo\$ or single blind\$ or double blind\$ or triple blind\$).ti,ab. 46. (retraction of publication or retracted publication).pt. 47. or/44-46 48. (animals not humans).sh. 49. ((comment or editorial or meta-analysis or practice-guideline or review or letter or journal correspondence) not "randomized controlled trial").pt. 50. (random sampl\$ or random digit\$ or random effect\$ or random survey or random regression).ti,ab. not "randomized controlled trial".pt. 51. 47 not (48 or 49 or 50) 52. (review or review,tutorial or review, academic).pt. 53. (medline or medlars or embase or pubmed or cochrane).tw,sh. 54. (scisearch or psychinfo or psycinfo).tw,sh. 55. (psychlit or psyclit).tw,sh. 56. cinahl.tw,sh. 57. ((hand adj2 search\$) or (manual\$ adj2 search\$)).tw,sh. 58. (electronic database\$ or bibliographic database\$ or computeri?ed database\$ or online database\$).tw,sh. 59. (pooling or pooled or mantel haenszel).tw,sh. 60. (peto or dersimonian or der simonian or fixed effect).tw,sh. 61. (retraction of publication or retracted publication).pt. 62. or/53-61 63. 52 and 62 64. meta-analysis.pt. 65. meta-analysis.sh. 66. (meta-analys\$ or meta analys\$ or metaanalys\$).tw,sh. 67. (systematic\$ adj5 review\$).tw,sh. 68. (systematic\$ adj5 overview\$).tw,sh. 69. (quantitativ\$ adj5 review\$).tw,sh. 70. (quantitativ\$ adj5 overview\$).tw,sh. 71. (quantitativ\$ adj5 synthesis\$).tw,sh. 72. (methodologic\$ adj5 review\$).tw,sh. 73. (methodologic\$ adj5 overview\$).tw,sh.</p>
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	<p>74. (integrative research review\$ or research integration).tw. 75. or/64-74 76. 63 or 75 77. 43 and 51 78. 43 and 76 79. 77 or 78 80. limit 79 to "all child (0 to 18 years)" 81. 79 not 80</p>
<p>EMBASE</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. exp nutrition supplement/ 2. supplement*.mp. 3. exp antioxidant/ 4. antioxidant*.mp. 5. vitamin A.mp. 6. retinol.mp. 7. exp ascorbic acid/ 8. vitamin C.mp. 9. ascorbic acid.mp. 10. vitamin E.mp. 11. alpha tocopherol.mp. 12. beta carotene.mp. 13. alpha carotene.mp. 14. selenium.mp. 15. zinc.mp. 16.copper.mp 17. exp cardiovascular disease/ 18. cardiovascular disease*.mp. 19. coronary heart disease*.mp. 20. coronary artery disease*.mp. 21. coronary disease*.mp. 22. acute coronary syndrome*.mp. 23. ischemic heart disease*.mp. 24. myocardial ischemia*.mp. 25. heart infarction*.mp. 26. acute heart infarction*.mp. 27. myocardial infarction*.mp. 28. stroke*.mp. 29. cerebrovascular*.mp. 30. cardiovascular mortality.mp. 31. cardiovascular death.mp. 32. exp mortality/

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	<p>33. mortality.mp. 34. exp death/ 35. death.mp. 36. all cause mortality.mp. 37. exp neoplasm/ 38. neoplasm*.mp. 39. cancer*.mp. 40. 1 or 2 41. 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 42. 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32 or 33 or 34 or 35 or 36 or 37 or 38 or 39 43. 40 and 41 and 42 44. (random\$ or placebo\$ or single blind\$ or double blind\$ or triple blind\$).ti,ab. 45. RETRACTED ARTICLE/ 46. or/44-45 47. (animal\$ not human\$).sh,hw. 48. (book or conference paper or editorial or letter or review).pt. not exp randomized controlled trial/ 49. (random sampl\$ or random digit\$ or random effect\$ or random survey or random regression).ti,ab. not exp randomized controlled trial/ 50. 46 not (47 or 48 or 49) 51. exp review/ 52. (literature adj3 review\$).ti,ab. 53. exp meta analysis/ 54. exp "Systematic Review"/ 55. or/51-54 56. (medline or medlars or embase or pubmed or cinahl or amed or psychlit or psyclit or psychinfo or psycinfo or scisearch or cochrane).ti,ab. 57. RETRACTED ARTICLE/ 58. 56 or 57 59. 55 and 58 60. (systematic\$ adj2 (review\$ or overview)).ti,ab. 61. (meta?anal\$ or meta anal\$ or meta-anal\$ or metaanal\$ or metanal\$).ti,ab. 62. 59 or 60 or 61 63. 43 and 50 64. 43 and 62 65. 63 or 64 66. limit 65 to (embryo <first trimester> or infant <to one year> or child <unspecified age> or preschool child <1 to 6 years> or school child <7 to 12 years> or adolescent <13 to 17 years>) 67. 65 not 66</p>
COCHRANE	1. supplement*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]

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	<p>2. antioxidant*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>3. vitamin A.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>4. retinol.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>5. vitamin C.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>6. ascorbic acid.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>7. vitamin E.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>8. alpha tocopherol.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>9. beta carotene.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>10. alpha carotene.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>11. selenium.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>12. zinc.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>13. copper.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>14. cardiovascular disease*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>15. coronary heart disease*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>16. coronary artery disease*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>17. coronary disease*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>18. acute coronary syndrome*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>19. ischemic heart disease*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>20. myocardial ischemia*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>21. heart infarction*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>22. acute heart infarction*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>23. myocardial infarction*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>24. stroke*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>25. cerebrovascular*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>26. cardiovascular mortality.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>27. cardiovascular death.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>28. mortality.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>29. death.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>30. all cause mortality.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>31. cancer*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>32. neoplasm*.mp. [mp=ti, ot, ab, sh, hw, kw, tx, ct]</p> <p>33. 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13</p> <p>34. 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32</p> <p>35. 1 and 33 and 34</p> <p>36. limit 35 to (cochrane childhood cancer group or cochrane neonatal group or "cochrane pregnancy and childbirth group") [Limit not valid in CDSR; records were retained]</p> <p>37. 35 not 36</p>
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Supplementary Table 2. NNT/NNH calculations
 (Method A); $NNT = 1/ARR$, where $ARR = CER \cdot RRR$; $RRR = 1 - RR$
 (Method B); $NNT = 1/ARR$, where $ARR = CER - EER$

METHOD A ($NNT = 1/ARR$, where $ARR = CER \cdot RRR$; $RRR = 1 - RR$)						
Antioxidants and CVD mortality (Studies with Selenium)						
Control						
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNT
176	10691	0.0164624	0.77	0.23	0.0037863	264
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies with Selenium)						
Control						
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNT
930	21016	0.0442519	0.9	0.1	0.0044251	226
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies without Selenium)						
Control						
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNH
3498	36067	0.0969861	1.09	-0.09	-0.0087287	115
Antioxidants and Stroke mortality (Studies with Retinol)						
Control						
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNT
77	3548	0.0217023	0.71	0.29	0.0062936	159
Antioxidants and Cancer mortality (Studies with Retinol)						
Control						
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNT
107	3548	0.0301578	0.75	0.25	0.0075394	133
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies without Retinol)						
Control						
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNH
3724	44641	0.083421	1.04	-0.04	-0.0033368	300
Antioxidants and stroke mortality (Studies with Zinc)						
Control						
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNT
77	3548	0.0217023	0.71	0.29	0.0062936	159
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies without Zinc)						

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Control							
Events	Total	CER	RR	RRR	ARR	NNH	
3742	44371	0.0843343	1.07	-0.07	-0.0059034	169	
Method B (NNT = 1/ARR, where ARR = CER – EER)							
Antioxidants and CVD mortality (Studies with Selenium)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNT
136	10694	176	10691	0.0127174	0.0164624	0.003745	267
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies with Selenium)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNT
948	21445	930	21016	0.0442061	0.0442519	0.0000458	21834
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies without Selenium)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNH
4218	39678	3498	36067	0.1063057	0.0969861	-0.0093196	107
Antioxidants and stroke mortality (Studies with Retinol)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNT
55	3570	77	3548	0.0154061	0.0217023	0.0062962	159
Antioxidants and cancer mortality (Studies with Retinol)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNT
81	3570	107	3548	0.022689	0.0301578	0.0074688	134
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies without Retinol)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNH
4372	48133	3724	44641	0.0908316	0.083421	-0.0074106	135
Antioxidants and stroke mortality (Studies with Zinc)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNT
55	3570	77	3548	0.0154061	0.0215686	0.0061625	162

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Antioxidants and all-cause mortality (Studies without Zinc)							
Antioxidants		Control					
Events	Total	Events	Total	EER	CER	ARR	NNH
4409	48002	3742	44371	0.0918503	0.0843343	-0.007516	133

ARR, absolute risk reduction; CER, control event rate; EER, experimental event rate; CVD, cardiovascular disease; NNH, number needed to harm; NNT, number needed to treat; RR, relative risk; RRR, relative risk reduction.

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Supplementary Table 3. Characteristics of included RCT studies for CVD, CVD outcomes, cancer, cancer mortality, and all-cause mortality

Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
ANTIOXIDANTS ONLY										
McKeown-Eyssen et al., 1988(1)	Canada	History of polyp	58	2 years	Urine sample	Vitamin C – 400 mg Vitamin E – 400 mg	96/89	4/3	All-cause mortality	Industry
DeCosse et al., 1989(2)	USA	Familial Adenomatous Polyposis	35	4 years	Interview, urine sample	Vitamin C – 4 g Vitamin E – 400 mg	36/22	0/1	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							36/22	0/1	Stroke	
Blot et al., 1993 – Linxian Trial (3)	China	Healthy	40 – 69	5 years	Pill count	Retinol – 5000 IU Vitamin E – 30 mg Beta-Carotene – 15 mg Selenium – 50 mcg Zinc – 22.5 mg	3570/3548	55/77	Stroke mortality	Agency-Industry
							3570/3548	81/107	Cancer mortality	
							3570/3548	250/280	All-cause mortality	
Omenn et al., 1996 – CARET(4)	USA	Smoked cigarettes or who have had occupational exposure to asbestos	45 – 74	4 years	Pill count	Retinol – 25 000 IU Beta-Carotene – 30 mg	9420/8894	544/424	All-cause mortality	Agency-industry
Girodon et	France	Institution	65 –	2 years	Pill count,	Vitamin C –	61/20	18/7	All-cause	Industry

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
al., 1997(5)		alized	102		plasma conc.	120 mg Vitamin E – 15 mg Beta- carotene – 6 mg Selenium – 100 mcg Zinc – 20 mg			mortality	
Tardif et al., 1997 - MVP(6)	Canada	Scheduled angioplasty	58.5	7 months	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin C – 500 mg Vitamin E – 700 IU Beta-Carotene – 30 000 IU	158/159	4/3	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							158/159	4/3	Total CHD	
							158/159	3/2	MI	
							158/159	1/1	CVD mortality	
							158/159	1/1	CHD mortality	
158/159	1/1	All-cause mortality								
Girodon et al., 1999 – MINVITOA X (7)	France	Long-term institutionalized elderly patients	65 – 103	2 years	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin C– 120 mg Vitamin E– 15 mg Beta-Carotene – 6 mg (1000 RE) Selenium Sulfide – 100 ug Zinc Sulfate – 20 mg	543/182	155/51	All-cause mortality	Agency-industry
Correa et al., 2000	Colombia	History of precancer	29 – 69	6 years	Pill count, plasma	Vitamin C – 2 g	255/237	6/2	All-cause mortality	Agency-Industry

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
(8)		ous lesion			conc., interview	Beta-carotene – 30 mg				
Jacobson et al., 2000(9)	USA	Smokers	> 18	6 months	n/a	Vitamin C – 250 mg Vitamin E – 200 IU Beta-Carotene – 6mg	57/55	0/1	All-cause mortality	Agency-Industry
Leppala et al., 2000 - ATBC(10)	Finland	Smokers	50 – 69	6.1 years	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin E – 50 mg Beta-Carotene – 20 mg	7118/7153	258/252	Stroke	Agency
							7118/7153	46/34	Stroke mortality	
Salonen et al., 2000 – ASAP(11)	Denmark	Hypercholesterolemia	45 – 69	3 years	Pill count	Vitamin C – 250 mg (136 IU) Vitamin E – 91 mg (136 IU)	130/130	1/1	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							130/130	1/1	CVD mortality	
							130/130	1/1	All-cause mortality	
AREDS 2001(12)	USA	Advanced Acute Degeneration (AMD)	55 – 80	6.3 years	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin C – 500 mg Vitamin E – 400 IU Beta-Carotene – 15 mg Zinc – 80 mg	2370/2387	251/240	All-cause mortality	Agency-industry
Brown et al., 2001 – HATS (13)	USA	Previous CHD (with clinical coronary disease)	53	3 years	Pill count	Vitamin C – 1000 mg Vitamin E – 800 IU Beta-	84/76	6/8	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							84/76	4/5	MI	
							84/76	2/2	Stroke	
							84/76	1/1	CVD mortality	

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
		defined as previous MI, coronary interventions or confirmed angina)				Carotene – 25 mg Selenium – 100 mcg Simvastatin – Niacin	84/76	1/1	All-cause mortality	
Chylack et al., 2002 – REACT(14)	UK and USA	Cataract	67.8	3 years	Plasma conc.	Vitamin C – 750 mg	149/148	2/1	CVD mortality	Agency-industry
						Vitamin E – 600 mg	149/148	2/1	CHD mortality	
						Beta-Carotene – 18 mg	149/148	2/1	MI mortality	
							149/148	3/2	Cancer mortality	
							149/148	3/9	All-cause mortality	
HPS Collaborative Group 2002(15)	UK	Previous CHD	40 – 80	5 years	Capsule count	Vitamin C – 250 mg	10269/10267	2306/2312	Total CVD	Agency-industry
						Vitamin E – 600 mg	10269/10267	1063/1047	Total CHD	
						Beta-Carotene – 20 mg	10269/10267	464/467	MI	
							10269/10267	511/518	Stroke	
							10269/10267	878/840	CVD mortality	
							10269/10267	664/630	CHD mortality	
							10269/10267	108/107	Stroke mortality	
							10269/10267	1446/1389	All-cause mortality	
Waters et al., 2002 – WAVE(16)	USA and Canada	Coronary Stenosis	65 ± 9	3 years	Capsule count	Vitamin C – 500 mg	212/211	26/18	Total CVD	Agency
						Vitamin E – 400 IU	212/211	14/8	Total CHD	
							212/211	4/4	MI	
							212/211	6/7	Stroke	

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (year s)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
							212/211	10/4	CVD mortality	
							212/211	6/5	Total cancer	
							212/211	16/6	All-cause mortality	
Virtamo et al., 2003 – ATBC(17)	Finland	Smokers	50 – 69	6.1 years	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin E – 50 mg Beta-Carotene – 20 mg	7278/7287	579/551	Total cancer	Agency
							7278/7287	932/851	All-cause mortality	
Tornwall et al., 2004 – ATBC(18)	Finland	Smokers	50 – 69	6.1 years	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin E – 50 mg Beta-Carotene – 20 mg	6781/6849	511/534	Total CHD	Agency
							497/438	123/93		
							6781/6849	289/296	MI	
							497/438	58/54		
							6781/6849	222/238	CHD mortality	
							497/438	65/39		
Mooney et al., 2005(19)	USA	Smokers	31.2 – 41.1	2 years (Data is presented on 15-month follow-up?)	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin C – 500 mg Vitamin E – 400 IU	142/142	1/0	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							142/142	1/0	Total CHD	
							142/142	1/0	MI	
							142/142	1/0	CVD mortality	
							142/142	1/0	CHD mortality	
							142/142	1/0	MI mortality	
							142/142	1/1	Total cancer	
							142/142	1/0	All-cause mortality	
Stone et	USA	Previous	< 85	1 year	Pill count	Vitamin C –	101/96	7/8	Total CVD	Agency-

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
al., 2005(20)		CHD				1000 mg/day Vitamin E – 800 mg/day	101/96	3/1	MI	industry
							101/96	0/1	Stroke	
							101/96	0/1	CVD mortality	
							101/96	0/1	All-cause mortality	
Bairati et al., 2006(21)	Canada	Stage I and II head and neck cancer	Not specifies for this specific group	3 years, however, beta-carotene supplementation stopped after first 156 enrolled. Duration period of beta-carotene supplementation not specified	Pill count	Vitamin E – 400 IU Beta-Carotene – 30 mg	79/77	37/30	All-cause mortality	Agency-industry
CLIPS 2007(22)	Europe	Pulmonary Artery Disease	66	2 years	Capsule count, interview	Vitamin C – 250 mg Vitamin E – 600 mg Beta-Carotene – 20 mg	185/181	16/11	Total CVD	Agency-Industry
							185/181	9/4	MI	
							185/181	6/5	Stroke	
							185/181	6/3	CVD mortality	
							185/181	2/2	MI mortality	
							185/181	3/0	Stroke mortality	
							185/181	1/1	Cancer	

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (year s)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
							185/181	7/4	mortality All-cause mortality	
Cook et al., 2007- WACS (23)	USA	History of vascular disease or at least three cardiovascular risk factors	60.6	9.4 years	Pill count	Vitamin C – 500 mg Vitamin E – 600 IU (every other day) Beta-Carotene – 50 mg (every other day)	4085/1022	507/124	All-cause mortality	Agency-industry
Plummer et al., 2007(24)	Venezuela	Pre-cancerous lesions of the stomach	35 – 69	3 years	Pill count	Vitamin C – 750 mg Vitamin E – 600 mg Beta-Carotene – 18 mg/day	990/990	1/0	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							990/990	3/2	Total cancer	
							990/990	16/11	All-cause mortality	
Sesso et al., 2008 – PHS II (25)	USA	Physicians	64.3 ± 9.2	7.6 years	Questionnaire	Vitamin C – 500 mg Vitamin E – 400 IU (every other day)	3656/3653	310/316	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							3656/3653	133/144	MI	
							3656/3653	104/113	Stroke	
							3656/3653	127/122	CVD mortality	
Lippman et al., 2009 – SELECT(26)	USA, Canada, and Puerto Rico	Healthy	62.5	7 years	Pill count, plasma conc.	Vitamin E – 400 IU/day Selenium 200 mcg/day	8904/8910	1041/1050	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							8904/8910	111/100	Stroke	
							8904/8910	117/142	CVD mortality	
							8904/8910	12/8	Stroke mortality	
							8904/8910	846/824	Total cancer	

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
							8904/8910	117/125	Cancer mortality	
							8904/8910	359/382	All-cause mortality	
Herberg et al., 2010 – SUVIMAX (27)	France	Healthy	35 – 60	7.5 years	Questionnaire	Vitamin C – 120 mg Vitamin E – 30 mg Beta-Carotene – 6 mg Selenium – 100 mcg Zinc – 20 mg	6377/6364	137/143	Total CHD	Agency-industry
							6377/6364	278/300	Total cancer	
							6377/6364	77/99	All-cause mortality	
Ma et al., 2012 – SIT(28)	China	Healthy	35 – 64	7.3 years	Pill count	Vitamin C – 500 mg Vitamin E – 200 IU Beta-Carotene – 15 mg (stopped early) Selenium – 75 mcg	1706/1705	18/33	CVD mortality	Agency-industry
							1706/1705	10/14	Stroke mortality	
							1706/1705	41/42	Cancer mortality	
							1706/1705	82/101	All-cause mortality	
Arruda et al., 2013(29)	Brazil	Sickle cell anaemia patients	18 – 68	180 days	Pill count	Vitamin C – 1400 mg Vitamin E – 800 mg	46/42	2/0	Total CVD	Agency-industry
							46/42	2/0	Stroke	
							46/42	0/1	All-cause mortality	
Bonelli et al.,	Italy	Removal of adenoid	29 – 83	5 years (or until	interview	Vitamin A – 2 mg	200/211	1/2	Total cancer	Agency-industry

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
2013(30)		from large colon		recurrent adenoma occurrence)		Vitamin C – 180 mg Vitamin E – 30 mg Selenium – 200 mcg Zinc – 30 mg	200/211	6/9	All-cause mortality	
Wang et al., 2014 – PHS II (31)	USA	Physicians	64.3 ± 9.2	7.6 years	Questionnaire	Vitamin C – 500 mg Vitamin E – 400 IU (every other day)	3656/3653	504/486	Total cancer	Agency-industry
							3656/3653	440/406	All-cause mortality	
SELENIUM ONLY										
Korpela et al., 1989(32)	Finland	Previous MI	48-68	6 months	Serum selenium status	Selenium – 100 mcg	40/41	1/6	Total CVD	Unknown
							40/41	1/6	Total CHD	
							40/41	1/6	MI	
							40/41	0/4	CVD mortality	
							40/41	0/4	CHD mortality	
							40/41	0/4	MI mortality	
							40/41	0/4	All-cause mortality	
Duffield-Lillico et al., 2002 – NPC (33)	USA	Previous skin cancer	18-80	7.4 years	Patient-reported and blood samples	Selenium – 200 mcg	653/659	107/139	Total cancer	Agency-Industry
							653/659	40/66	Total cancer mortality	
Limburg et	China	Esophage	34-	10	Pill count and	Selenium –	180/180	1/1	Total CVD	Agency-

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
al., 2005 (34)		al squamous dysplasia	68	months	direct observation	200 mcg	180/180	1/0	Total CHD	Industry
							180/180	1/0	MI	
							180/180	0/1	Stroke	
							180/180	1/0	CVD mortality	
							180/180	1/0	CHD mortality	
							180/180	1/0	MI mortality	
							180/180	0/1	Total cancer	
							180/180	1/0	All-cause mortality	
Stranges et al., 2006 – NPC (35)	USA	Previous skin cancer	52-73	7.6 years	Patient-reported and blood samples	Selenium – 200 mcg	504/500	103/96	Total CVD	Agency-Industry
							504/500	63/59	Total CHD	
							504/500	41/43	MI	
							504/500	35/32	Stroke	
							504/500	40/31	CVD mortality	
							504/500	9/8	MI mortality	
							504/500	110/111	All-cause mortality	
Lippman et al., 2009 – SELECT (26)	USA, Canada, Puerto Rico	Healthy	62.5	7 years	Pill count, plasma conc.	Selenium - 200 mcg/day	17760/17773	2121/2084	Total CVD	Agency-Industry
							17760/17773	172/162	Stroke	
							17760/17773	246/261	CVD mortality	
							17760/17773	21/17	Stroke mortality	
							17760/17773	1683/1680	Total cancer	
							17760/17773	245/231	Total cancer mortality	

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
							17760/17773	737/740	All-cause mortality	
Stratton et al., 2010 (36)	USA	Prostate cancer	72.8 ± 6.65	5 years	Pill count	Selenium – 200 mcg	94/46	5/4	Total cancer	Agency-Industry
							94/46	4/1	All-cause mortality	
Rayman et al., 2011 – UK PRECISE (37)	UK	Healthy	60-74	6 months	Pill count	Selenium – 100 mcg	380/121	1/0	All-cause mortality	Agency-Industry
Marshall et al., 2011 – SWOG (38)	USA	High risk for prostate cancer	>40 yrs	3 years	Pill count, plasma selenium conc.	Selenium – 200mcg	227/225	4/6	All-cause mortality	Agency
Algotar et al., 2013 (39)	USA and New Zealand	Elevated PSA	65.4 ± 7.7	USA (5 years) New Zealand (3 years)	Pill count	Selenium – 200mcg or 400 mcg	467/232	52/29	Total cancer	Agency-Industry
							467/232	5/5	All-cause mortality	
Karp et al., 2013(40)	USA	Previous cancer	24-93	4 years	Pill count, compliance form	Selenium – 200 mcg	1040/521	18/12	All-cause mortality	Agency-Industry
Goossens et al., 2016 – SELEBLAT (41)	Belgium	Previous cancer	46-91	3 years	Pill count	Selenium – 200 mcg	151/141	1/0	All-cause mortality	Agency-Industry
Thompson et al., 2016 – SELCEL(42)	USA	Colorectal adenomas	40-80	2.75 years	Pill count, plasma selenium conc.	Selenium – 200 mcg	910/914	17/16	All-cause mortality	Agency-Industry
Rayman et	Denmar	Healthy	60-	5 years	Pill count	Selenium –	365/126	7/2	CVD	Agency-

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Study (reference)	Country	Health status	Age (years)	Duration (mean, median or range)	Supplement intake assessment	Supplement exposure (median or range, units)	Participants (intervention /control)	Incident cases (intervention /control)	Outcome	Funding source
al., 2018 – DEN-MARK PRECISE (43)	k		74			100mcg, 200 mcg, 300 mcg			mortality	Industry-
							365/126	14/4	Total cancer mortality	
							365/126	23/8	All-cause mortality	

ATBC, The Alpha- Tocopherol, Beta-Carotene Cancer Prevention Study; AMD, advanced acute degeneration; AREDS, Age-Related Eye Disease Study; ASAP, Antioxidant Supplementation in Atherosclerosis Prevention; CVD, cardiovascular disease; CARET, Carotene and Retinol Efficacy Trial; CHD, coronary heart disease; CLIPS, Critical Leg Ischaemia Prevention Study; HATS, HDL-Atherosclerosis Treatment Study; HPS, Heart Protection Study Collaborative Group; IU, international units; MI, myocardial infarction; MINVITOAX, Mineral Vitamin Antioxidant; MVP, Multivitamins and Probuco Study Group; NPC, The Nutritional Prevention of Cancer; PHS, The Physicians Health Study; PRECISE, Prevention of Cancer by Intervention with Selenium; REACT, The Roche European American Cataract Trial; SELCEL, The Selenium and Celecoxib (Sel/Cel) Trial; SELEBLAT, Selenium and Bladder Cancer Trial; SELECT, The Selenium and Vitamin E Cancer Prevention; SIT, Shadong Intervention Trial; SU.VI.MAX, The Supplémentation en Vitamines et Minéraux Antioxydants study; WAVE, Women’s Angiographic Vitamin and Estrogen; WACS, The Women’s Antioxidant Cardiovascular Study; SWOG, Southwest Oncology Group.

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Supplementary Table 4. GRADE assessment for antioxidants and CVD, cancer, cancer mortality, and all-cause mortality

Outcomes	Anticipated absolute effects* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No of participants (studies)	Certainty of the evidence (GRADE)
	Risk with placebo	Risk with Antioxidants			
Antioxidants and Total CVD	150 per 1,000	150 per 1,000 (144 to 156)	RR 1.00 (0.96 to 1.04)	49792 (13 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ HIGH
Antioxidants and Total CHD	75 per 1,000	76 per 1,000 (71 to 80)	RR 1.01 (0.95 to 1.07)	48866 (7 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{a,b,c,d}
Antioxidants and MI	44 per 1,000	43 per 1,000 (40 to 47)	RR 0.98 (0.90 to 1.07)	44157 (10 RCTs)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{e,f}
Antioxidants and Stroke	32 per 1,000	32 per 1,000 (29 to 35)	RR 1.00 (0.92 to 1.09)	61222 (10 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE ^g
Antioxidants and Total CVD mortality	45 per 1,000	44 per 1,000 (39 to 50)	RR 0.98 (0.87 to 1.11)	51374 (12 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE ^h
Antioxidants and Total CHD mortality	50 per 1,000	53 per 1,000 (48 to 58)	RR 1.05 (0.95 to 1.15)	35999 (6 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{d,i,j,k}
Antioxidants and MI mortality	6 per 1,000	10 per 1,000 (2 to 38)	RR 1.51 (0.39 to 5.93)	947 (3 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{d,l,m}
Antioxidants and Stroke mortality	8 per 1,000	7 per 1,000 (6 to 10)	RR 0.99 (0.75 to 1.32)	63516 (6 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE ^{d,n}
Antioxidants and Total Cancer	78 per 1,000	80 per 1,000 (76 to 84)	RR 1.02 (0.97 to 1.08)	55527 (8 RCTs)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{d,o,p}
Antioxidants and Cancer Mortality	19 per 1,000	17 per 1,000 (14 to 20)	RR 0.88 (0.74 to 1.04)	29006 (5 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE ^{d,q}
Antioxidants and all-cause mortality	78 per 1,000	81 per 1,000 (76 to 85)	RR 1.04 (0.98 to 1.10)	118206 (27 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE ^r

CI, confidence interval; CVD, cardiovascular disease; CHD, coronary heart disease; GRADE, Grading of Recommendations Assessment Development and Evaluation; MI, Myocardial infarction; RR, risk ratio.

Explanations

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- a. Serious risk of bias for antioxidant supplementation and Total CHD risk as both allocation concealment and incomplete outcome data was either high or unclear in >70% of studies.
- b. Serious indirectness for antioxidants supplementation and total CHD risk as the study population were mostly European (>95%) and all but one of the studies were conducted in specific populations: previous CHD (HPS Group, 2002); coronary stenosis (Waters et al., 2002); smokers (Tornwall et al., 2004 and Mooney et al., 2005; and in those undergoing angioplasty (Tardif et al., 1997).
- c. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.95-1.07) overlaps with the minimally important difference for clinical harm (RR>1.05).
- d. Publication bias was not assessed since there were <10 studies.
- e. Serious risk of bias for antioxidant supplementation and MI risk as both allocation concealment and incomplete outcome data was either high or unclear in 70% and 60% of studies respectively.
- f. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and MI risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.90-1.07) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- g. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.91-1.09) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- h. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.87-1.11) include both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- i. Serious risk of bias for antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk as incomplete outcome data was either high or unclear in >65% of studies.
- j. Serious indirectness for antioxidants supplementation and CHD mortality risk as the study population were mostly European (>98%) and all of the studies were conducted in specific populations: previous CHD (HPS Group, 2002); smokers (Tornwall et al., 2004 and Mooney et al., 2005; in those undergoing angioplasty (Tardif et al., 1997) and in an older population with cataracts (Chylack et al., 2002).
- k. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.95-1.15) overlaps with the minimally important difference for clinical harm (RR>1.05).
- l. Serious indirectness for antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk, as the included studies were conducted in specific populations: smokers (Mooney et al., 2005), peripheral artery disease (CLIPS group 2007) and in an older population with cataracts (Chylack et al., 2002).
- m. Very serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.39-5.93) include both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- n. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.75-1.32) include both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- o. Serious indirectness for antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk as three studies accounting for more than 70% of the population were conducted in males only.
- p. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.97-1.08) overlaps with the minimally important difference for clinical harm (RR>1.05).
- q. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.74-1.04) overlaps with the minimally important difference for clinical benefit (RR<0.95).

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r. Serious imprecision for antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.98-1.10) overlaps with the minimally important difference for clinical harm (RR>1.05).

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Supplementary Table 5. GRADE assessment for selenium and CVD, cancer, cancer mortality, and all-cause mortality.

Outcomes	Anticipated absolute effects* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	№ of participants (studies)	Certainty of the evidence (GRADE)
	Risk with placebo	Risk with Selenium			
Selenium and total CVD	118 per 1,000	121 per 1,000 (114 to 128)	RR 1.02 (0.96 to 1.08)	36978 (4 RCTs)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{a,b,c}
Selenium and total CHD	90 per 1,000	71 per 1,000 (22 to 240)	RR 0.79 (0.24 to 2.66)	1445 (3 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{c,d,e}
Selenium and MI	68 per 1,000	50 per 1,000 (16 to 157)	RR 0.74 (0.24 to 2.31)	1445 (3 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{c,f,g}
Selenium and Stroke	11 per 1,000	11 per 1,000 (9 to 14)	RR 1.06 (0.87 to 1.29)	36897 (3 RCTs)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{c,h,i}
Selenium and CVD mortality	16 per 1,000	16 per 1,000 (13 to 20)	RR 1.00 (0.81 to 1.22)	37469 (5 RCTs)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{c,j,k}
Selenium and CHD mortality	18 per 1,000	10 per 1,000 (0 to 248)	RR 0.54 (0.02 to 13.71)	441 (2 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{c,l,m}
Selenium and MI mortality	17 per 1,000	14 per 1,000 (3 to 57)	RR 0.85 (0.21 to 3.43)	1445 (3 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{c,n,o}
Selenium and Stroke mortality	1 per 1,000	1 per 1,000 (1 to 2)	RR 1.24 (0.65 to 2.34)	35533 (1 RCT)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{c,p,q,r}
Selenium and Total cancer	98 per 1,000	89 per 1,000 (77 to 105)	RR 0.91 (0.78 to 1.07)	38044 (5 RCTs)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{c,s,t}
Selenium and cancer mortality	16 per 1,000	14 per 1,000 (9 to 22)	RR 0.87 (0.56 to 1.37)	37336 (3 RCTs)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW ^{c,u,v,w}
Selenium and all-cause mortality	43 per 1,000	43 per 1,000 (39 to 47)	RR 0.99 (0.90 to 1.08)	42938 (12 RCTs)	⊕⊕○○ LOW ^{x,y}

CI, confidence interval; CVD, cardiovascular disease; CHD, coronary heart disease; GRADE, Grading of Recommendations Assessment Development and Evaluation; MI, Myocardial infarction; RR, risk ratio.

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Explanations

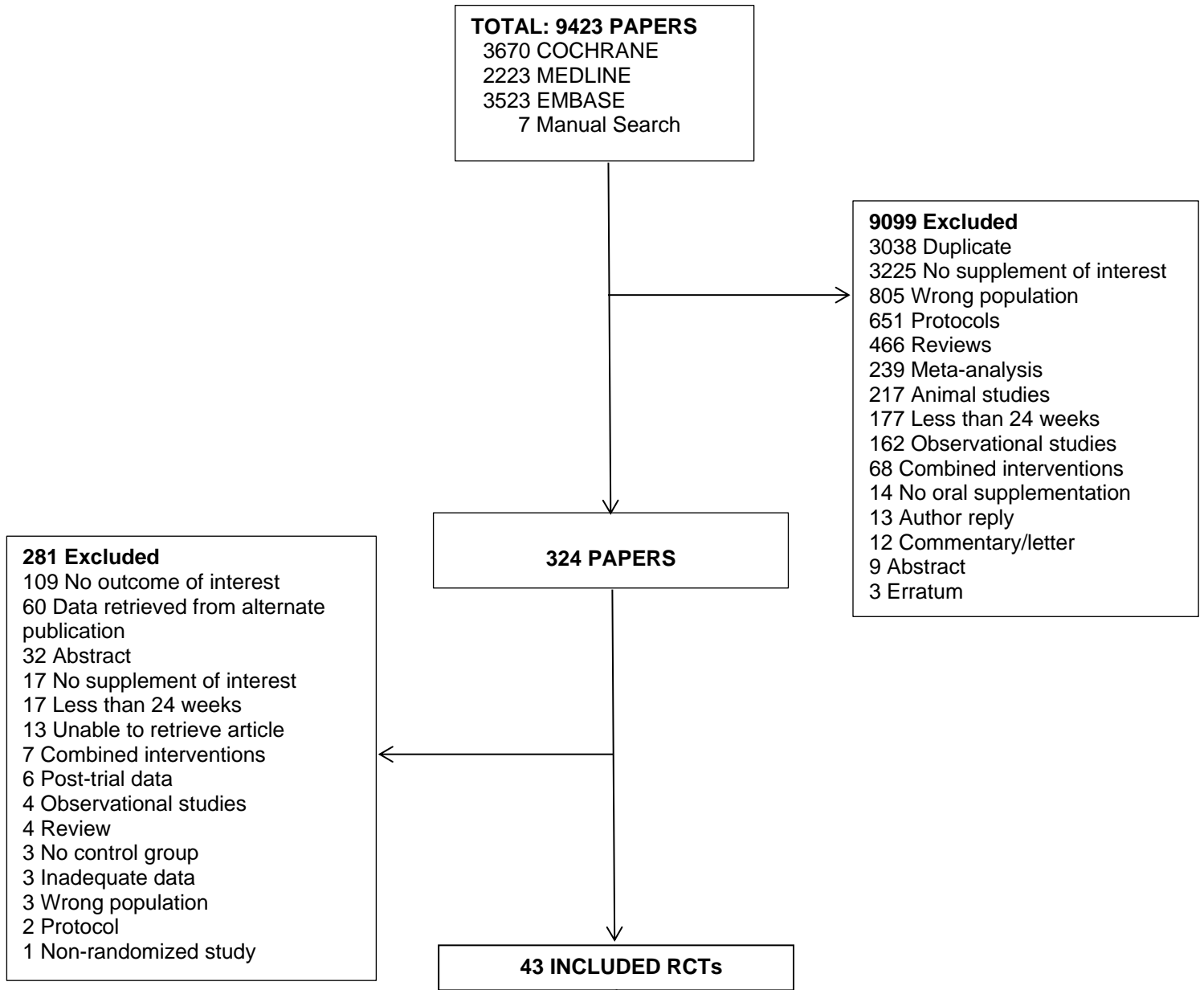
- a. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and total CVD risk as >98% of the population were men.
- b. Serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and total CVD risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.96-1.08) overlaps with the minimally important difference for clinical harm (RR>1.05).
- c. Publication bias was not assessed since there were <10 studies.
- d. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and total CHD risk as all of the studies were conducted in specific populations: previous MI (Korpela et al., 1989); esophageal squamous dysplasia (Limburg et al., 2005) and previous skin cancer (Stranges et al., 2006).
- e. Very serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and total CHD risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.24-2.66) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- f. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and MI risk as all of the studies were conducted in specific populations: previous MI (Korpela et al., 1989); esophageal squamous dysplasia (Limburg et al., 2005) and previous skin cancer (Stranges et al., 2006).
- g. Very serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and MI risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.24-2.31) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- h. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and stroke risk as >98% of the population were men.
- i. Serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and stroke risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.87-1.29) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- j. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and CVD mortality risk as >95% of the population were men.
- k. Serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and CVD mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.81-1.22) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- l. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and CHD mortality risk as both studies were conducted in specific populations: previous MI (Korpela et al., 1989) and esophageal squamous dysplasia (Limburg et al., 2005).
- m. Very serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and CHD mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.02-13.71) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- n. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and MI mortality risk as all of the studies were conducted in specific populations: previous MI (Korpela et al., 1989); esophageal squamous dysplasia (Limburg et al., 2005) and previous skin cancer (Stranges et al., 2006).
- o. Very serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and MI mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.21-3.43) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- p. Unable to assess inconsistency as only one study was included.
- q. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and stroke mortality risk as the sole study included was conducted in men only.
- r. Serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and stroke mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.65-2.34) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- s. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and total cancer risk as >98% of the population were men.

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- t. Serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and total cancer risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.78-1.07) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- u. Serious inconsistency for selenium supplementation and cancer mortality risk, as $I^2 = 71\%$ and $P=0.03$.
- v. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and cancer mortality risk as >98% of the population were men.
- w. Serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and cancer mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.56-1.37) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).
- x. Serious indirectness for selenium supplementation and total cancer risk as >90% of the population were men.
- y. Serious imprecision for selenium supplementation and all-cause mortality risk as the 95% CI (RR, 0.90-1.08) includes both clinically important benefit (RR<0.95) and harm (RR>1.05).

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Antioxidant supplements and risk of CVD, cancer & all-cause mortality



Number of RCTs for each outcome

	Antioxidants	Selenium
Total CVD	13	4
Total CHD	7	3
MI	10	3
Stroke	10	3
CVD mortality	12	5
CHD mortality	6	2
MI mortality	3	3
Stroke mortality	6	1
Cancer	8	5
Cancer mortality	5	3
All-cause mortality	27	12

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Supplementary Figure 1. Search Summary. Flow diagram outlining the search strategy used to identify publications that report RCT data on antioxidant supplementation and risk of CVD, CVD outcomes, cancer and all-cause mortality. The publications are from database inceptions to June 5, 2020 of single RCTs identified by searching Cochrane, Medline, Embase and by manual searches. Titles and abstracts were reviewed in the first stage of screening while full manuscript review was done in the second stage. RCT, randomized controlled trial; CVD, cardiovascular disease; CHD, coronary heart disease; MI, myocardial infarction.

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	Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Selective reporting (reporting bias)
AREDS Research Group 2001	+	+	+	+	+
Arruda et al., 2013	?	+	+	+	+
Bairati et al., 2006	+	?	+	+	+
Blot et al., 1993 - Linxian Trial	?	?	?	?	+
Bonelli et al., 2013	?	+	+	+	+
Brown et al., 2001 - HATS	?	+	+	+	+
Chylack et al., 2002 - REACT	+	+	+	+	+
CLIPS Group 2007	+	-	+	+	+
Collins et al., 2002 - HPS Collaborative Group	+	+	+	+	+
Cook et al., 2007 - WAC	?	+	+	+	+
Correa et al., 2000	+	+	+	+	+
De Cosse et al., 1989	+	?	+	+	+
Girodon et al., 1997	?	+	+	?	+
Girodon et al., 1999 - MIN.VIT.AOX	?	+	+	+	+
Hercberg et al., 2010 - SU.VI.MAX	+	?	+	+	+
Jacobson et al., 2000	?	?	+	-	+
Leppala 2000 - ATBC	?	-	+	?	+
Lippman et al., 2009 - SELECT	?	+	+	+	+
Ma et al., 2012 - SIT	?	-	+	+	+
McKeown-Eyssen et al., 1988	?	?	+	-	?
Mooney et al., 2005	+	+	+	-	+
Omenn et al., 1996 - CARET	?	?	+	+	+
Plummer et al., 2007	?	-	+	+	+
Salonen et al., 2000 - ASAP	?	+	+	+	+
Sesso et al., 2008 - PHS2	+	-	+	+	+
Stone et al., 2005	?	?	+	?	+
Tardif et al., 1997 - MVP	?	?	+	-	+
Tornwall et al., 2004 - ATBC	?	-	+	?	+
Virtamo et al., 2003 - ATBC	?	-	+	?	+
Wang et al., 2014 - PHS II	+	-	+	+	+
Waters et al., 2002 - WAVE	?	-	+	-	+

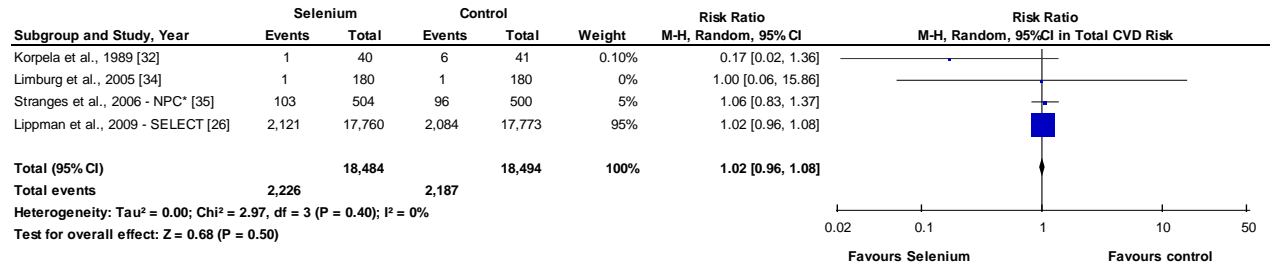
Supplementary Figure 2. Risk of bias summary for antioxidant supplementation and CVD, CVD outcomes, cancer, cancer mortality, and all-cause mortality. Review authors' judgments about each risk of bias item for each included study.

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	Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Selective reporting (reporting bias)
Algotar et al., 2013	?	+	+	+	+
Duffield-Lillico et al., 2002 - NPC	?	+	+	+	+
Goossens et al., 2016 - SELEBLAT	+	-	+	+	+
Karp et al., 2013	?	+	+	+	+
Korpela et al., 1989	?	?	+	?	+
Limburg et al., 2005	+	+	+	+	+
Lippman et al., 2009 - SELECT	?	+	+	+	+
Marshall et al., 2011 - SWOG	?	?	+	?	+
Rayman et al., 2011 - UK PRECISE	+	+	+	+	+
Rayman et al., 2018 - DENMARK PRECISE	+	?	+	+	+
Stranges et al., 2006 - NPC	?	+	+	+	+
Stratton et al., 2010	?	?	+	+	+
Thompson et al., 2016	+	-	?	+	+

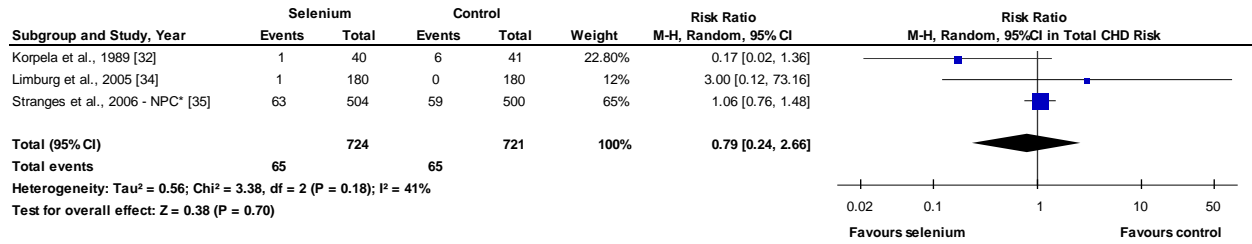
Supplementary Figure 3. Risk of bias summary for selenium supplementation and CVD, CVD outcomes, cancer, cancer mortality, and all-cause mortality. Review authors' judgments about each risk of bias item for each included study.

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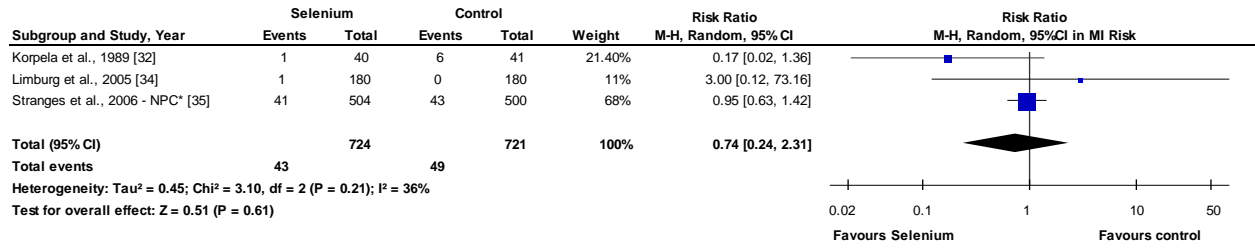
Supplementary Figure 4. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and total CVD risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. ***Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline (35).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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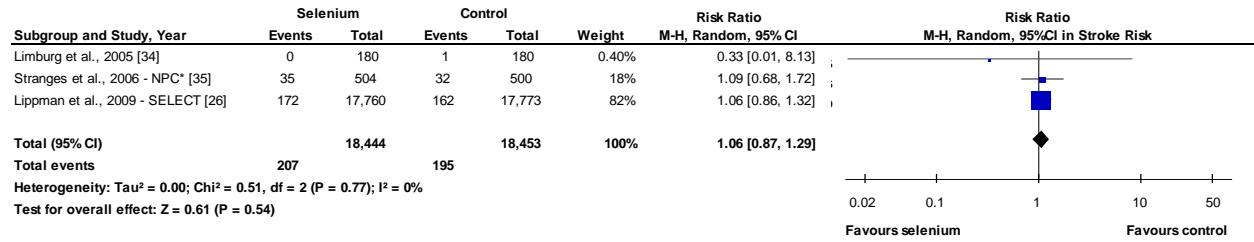
Supplementary Figure 5. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and total CHD risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. ***Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline (35).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 6. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and MI risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. ***Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline (35).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

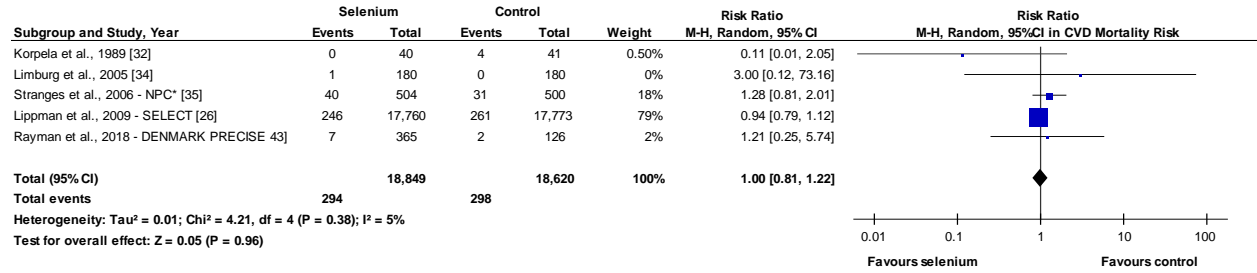
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Supplementary Figure 7. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and stroke risk.

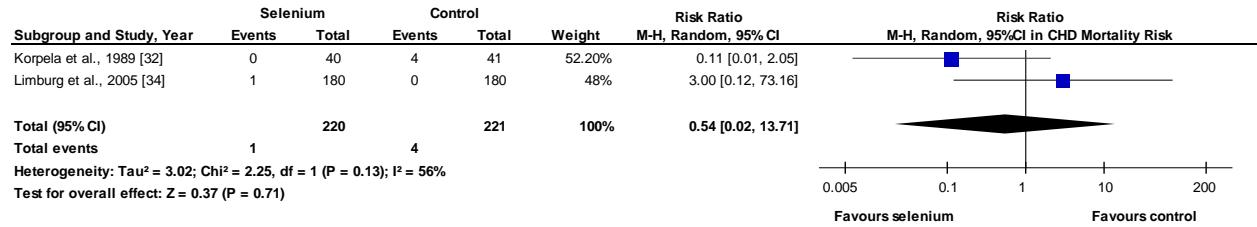
M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. *Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline (35). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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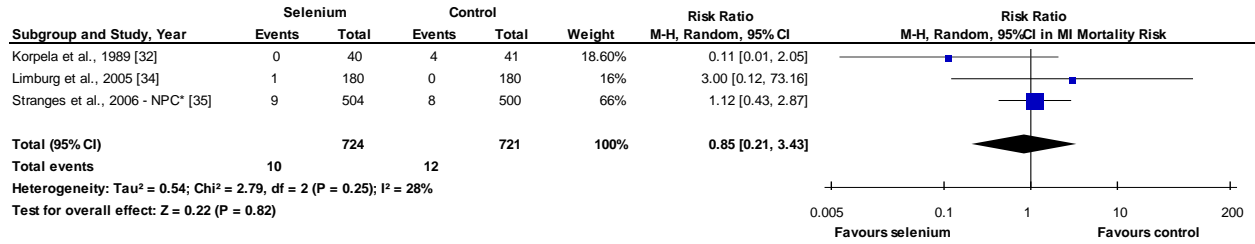
Supplementary Figure 8. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and CVD mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. ***Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline (35).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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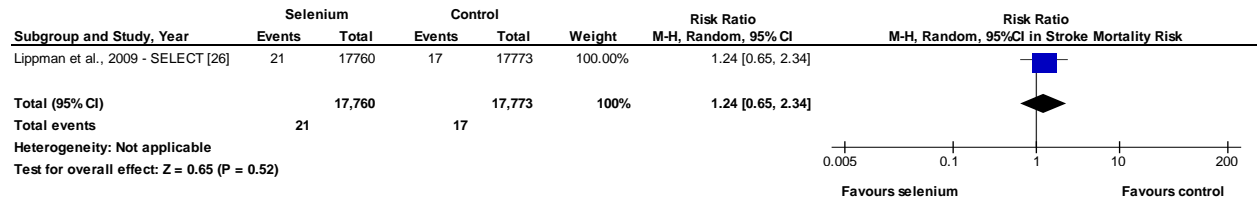
Supplementary Figure 9. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and CHD mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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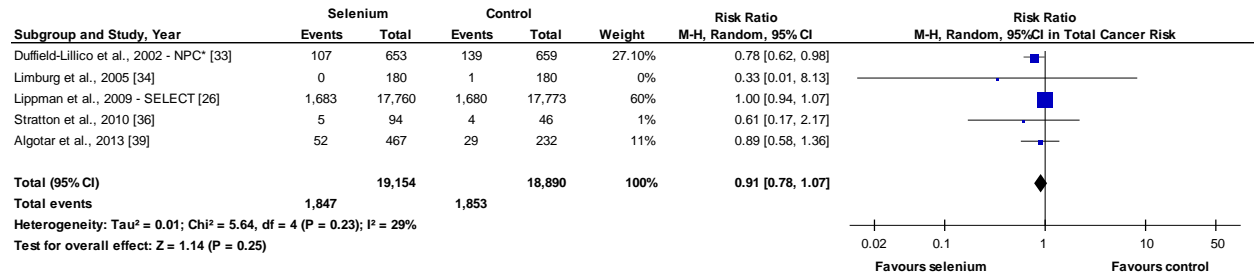
Supplementary Figure 10. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and MI mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. ***Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline (35).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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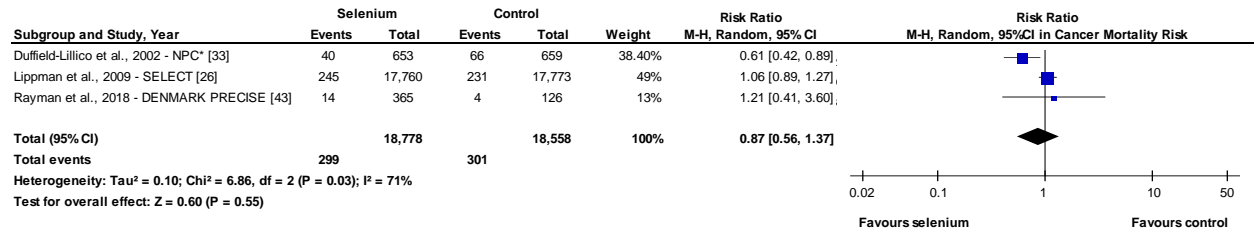
Supplementary Figure 11. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and stroke mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (χ^2) at a significance level of $P < 0.10$, and quantified by the I^2 statistic. An I^2 value $\geq 50\%$ is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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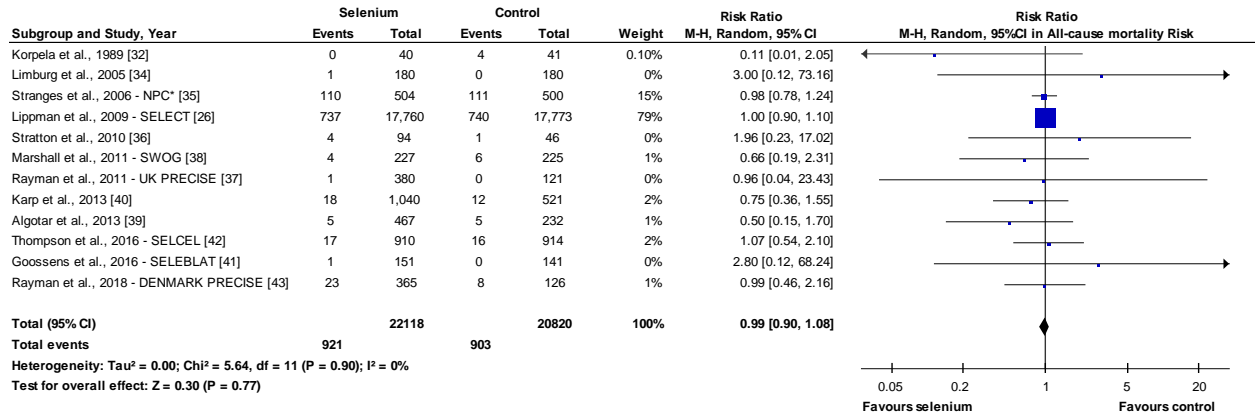
Supplementary Figure 12. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and total cancer risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. ***Duffield-Lillico et al., 2002 excluded 62 participants from their analysis, including 4 cancer cases; these were re-added to the events and totals(33).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 13. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and cancer mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. * Duffield-Lillico et al., 2002 excluded 62 participants from their analysis; these were re-added to the totals(33). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

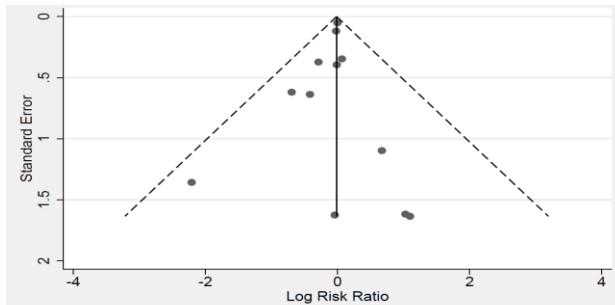
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Supplementary Figure 14. Forest plot of selenium supplementation only and all-cause mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. *Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline (35). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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A. Selenium supplementation and all-cause mortality risk

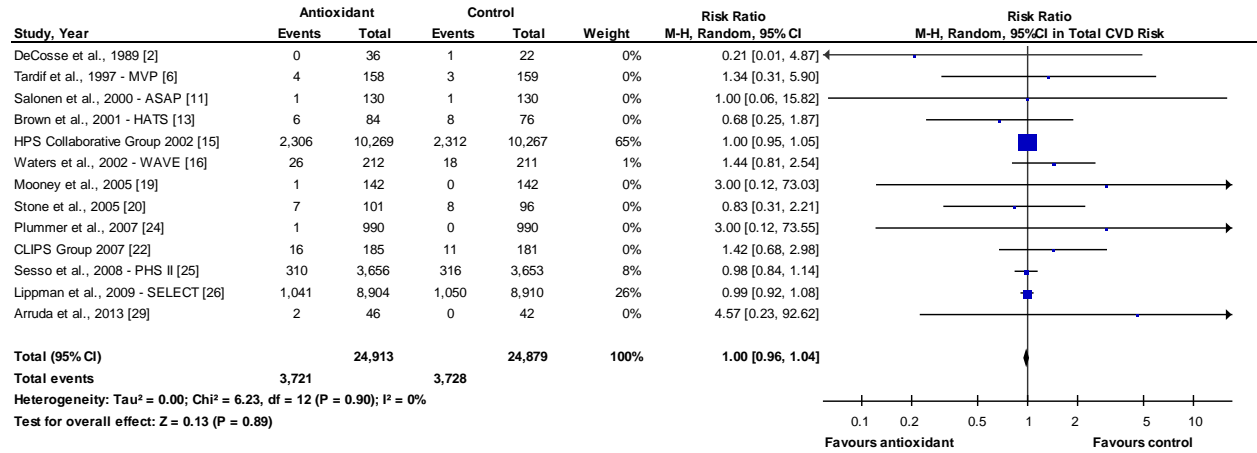


Begg's test = 0.63

Egger's test = 0.44

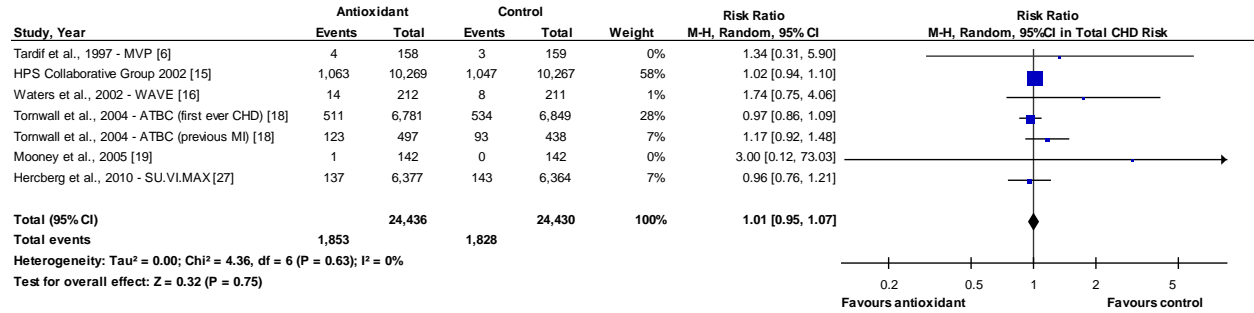
Supplementary Figure 15. Funnel plot of selenium supplementation and all-cause mortality risk. Dashed lines represent pseudo – 95% confidence intervals (CI). The circles represent risk estimates for each study, and the horizontal lines represent standard errors of the RR. We were unable to test for funnel plot asymmetry for other CVD and cancer outcomes (<10 RCTs).

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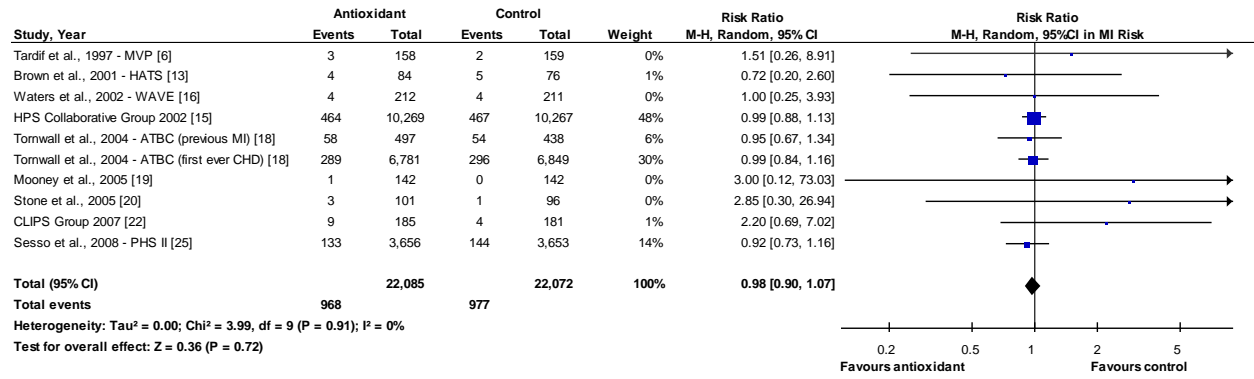
Supplementary Figure 16. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 17. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

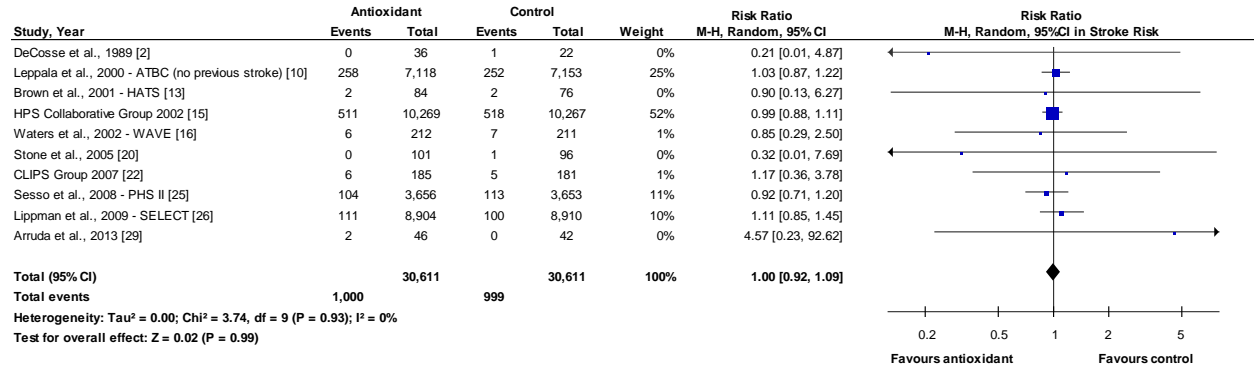
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Supplementary Figure 18. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk.

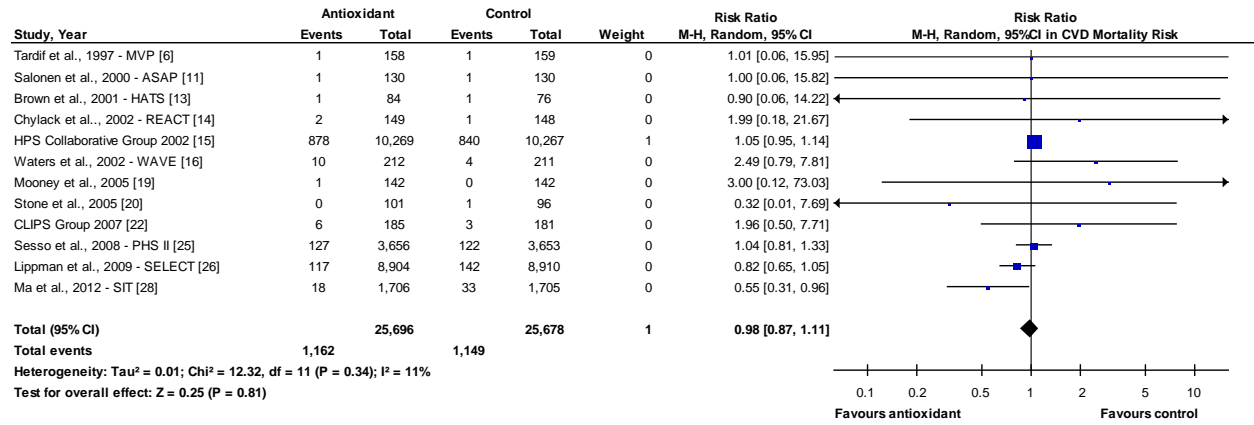
M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 19. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

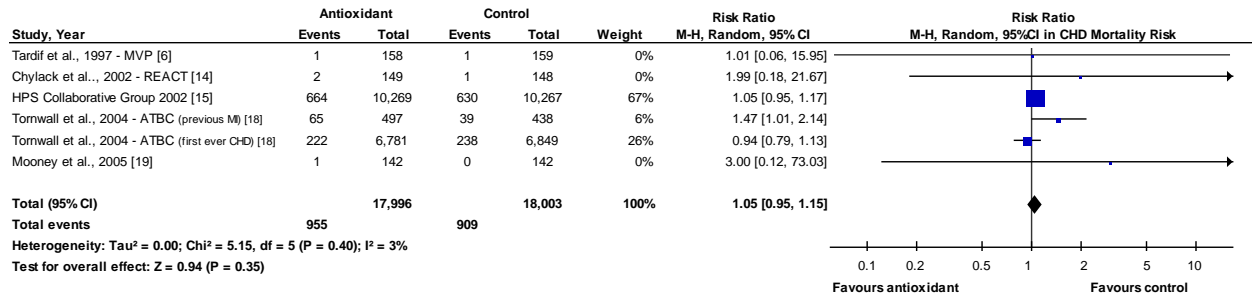
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Supplementary Figure 20. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk.

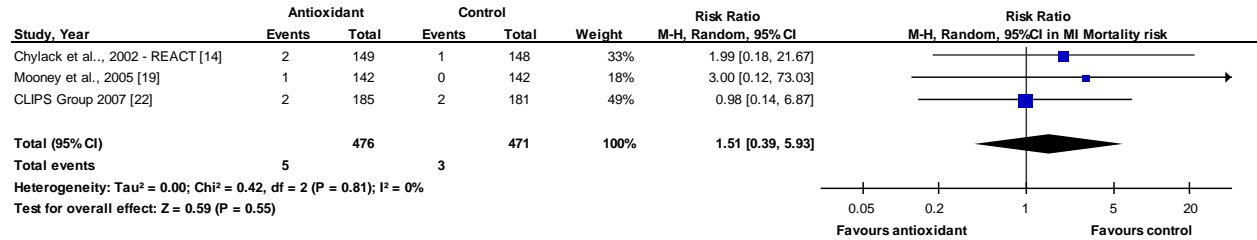
M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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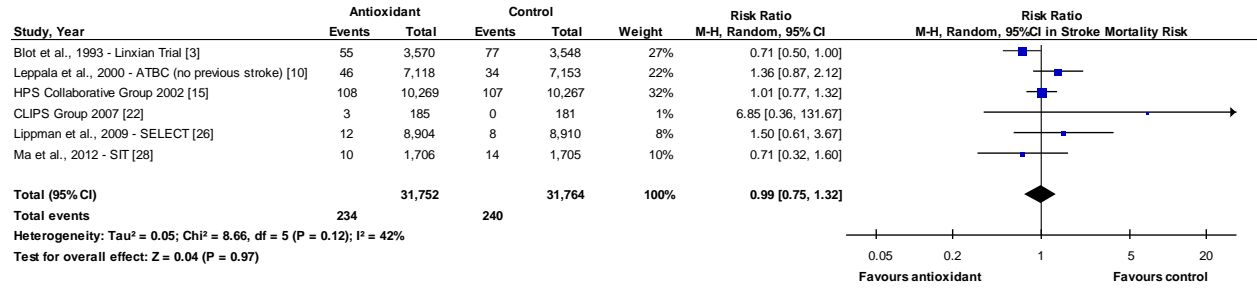
Supplementary Figure 21. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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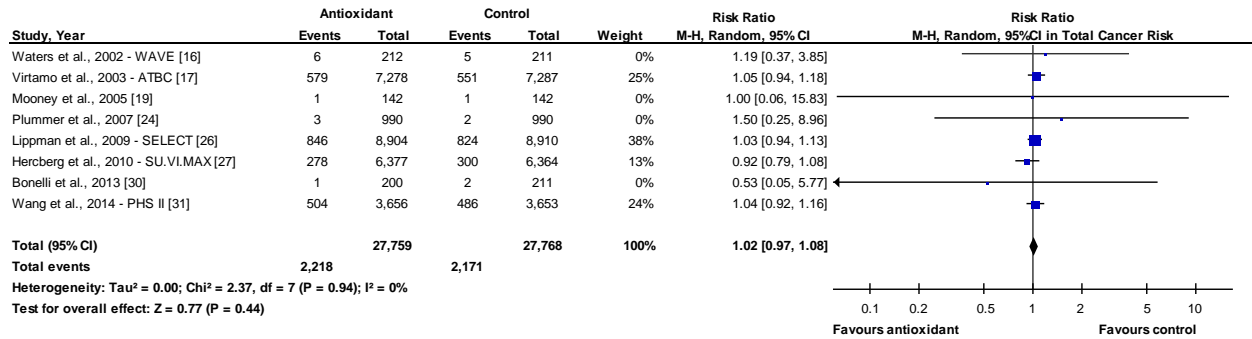
Supplementary Figure 22. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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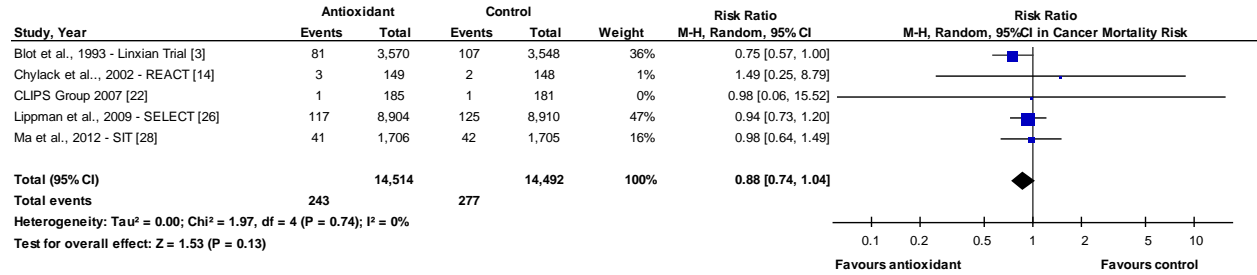
Supplementary Figure 23. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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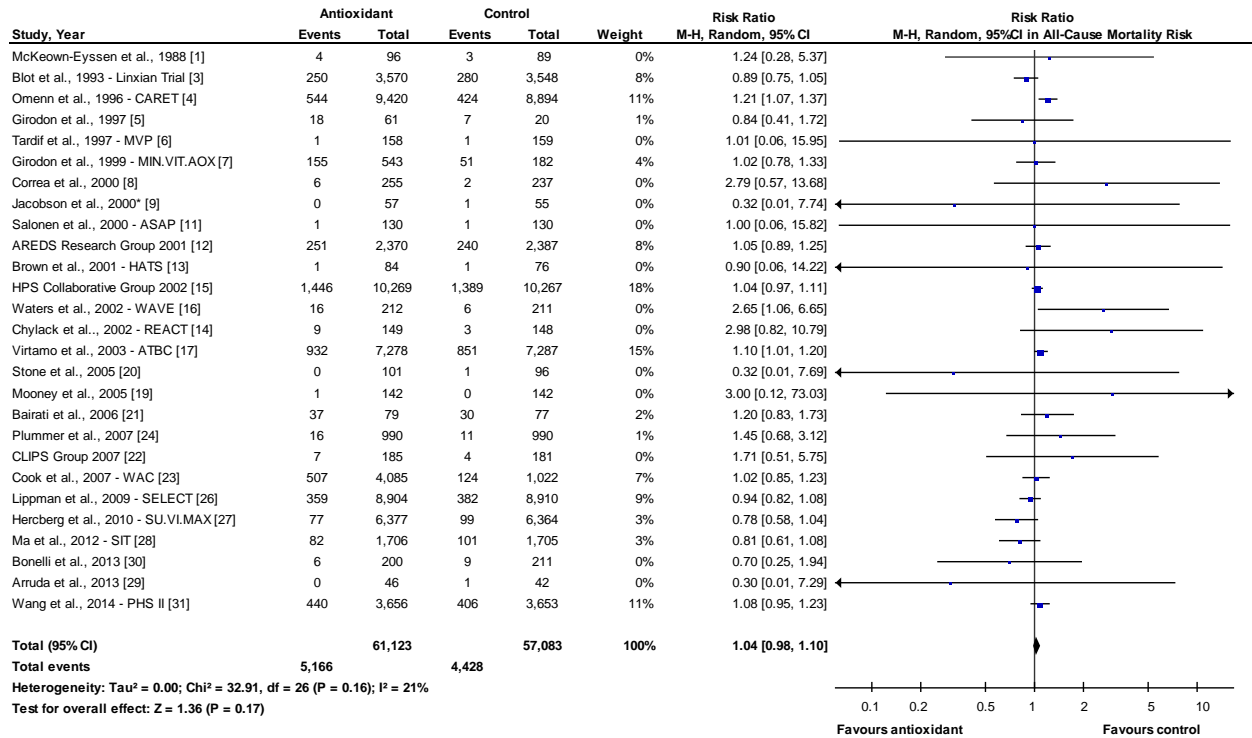
Supplementary Figure 24. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 25. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

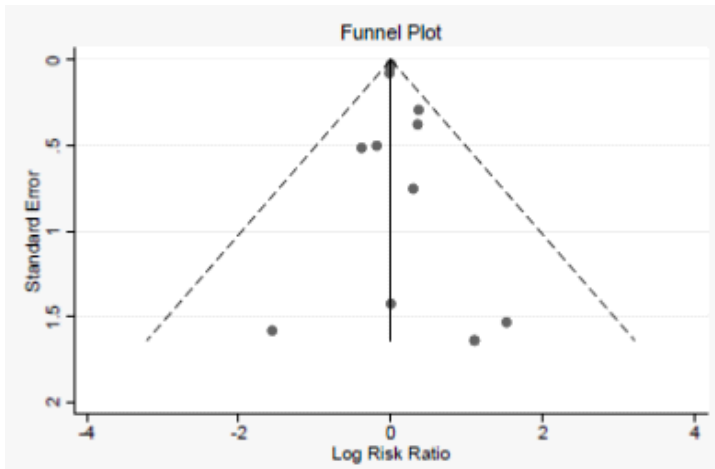
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Supplementary Figure 26. Forest plot of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. ***Jacobson et al., 2000 – data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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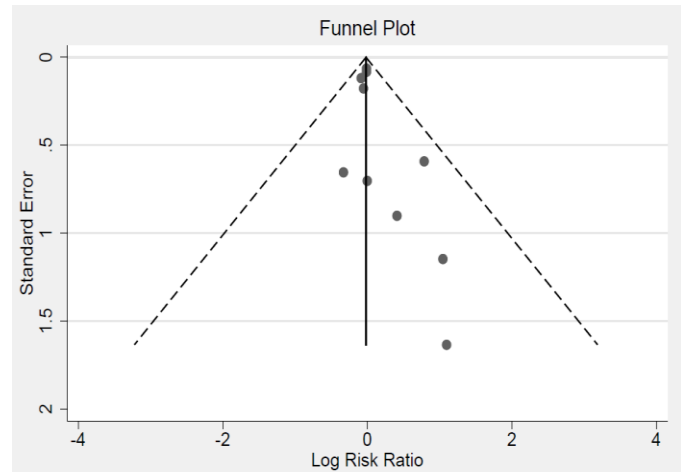
A. Antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk



Begg's test = 1.00

Egger's test = 0.29

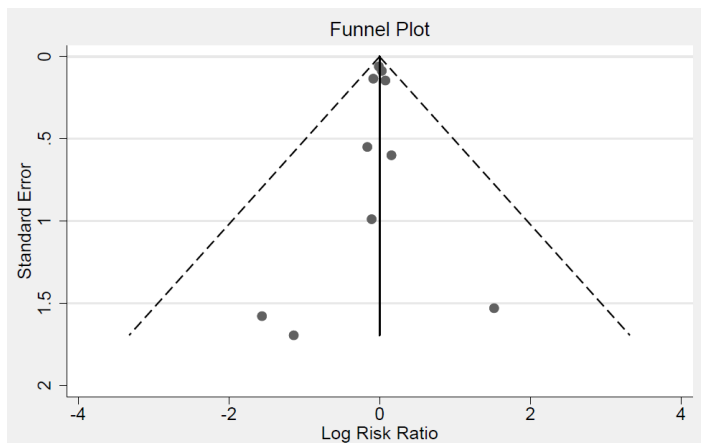
B. Antioxidant supplementation and MI risk



Begg's test = 0.24

Egger's test = 0.12

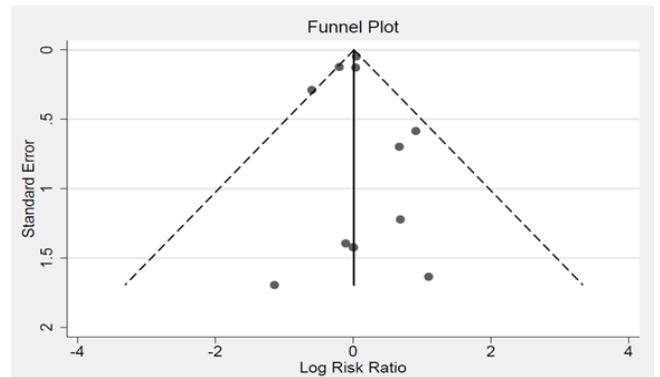
C. Antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk



Begg's test = 0.53

Egger's test = 0.66

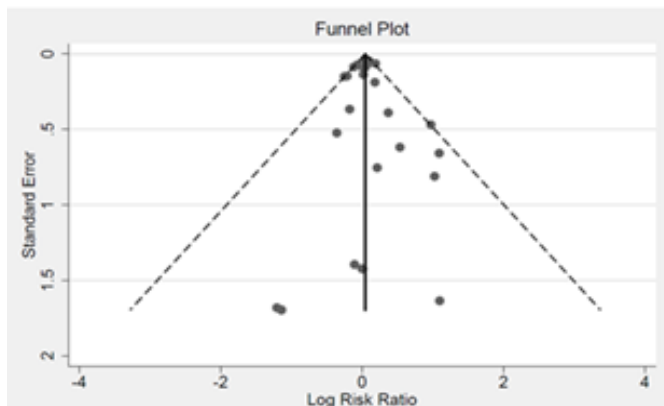
D. Antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality



Begg's test = 0.58

Egger's test = 0.99

E. Antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality

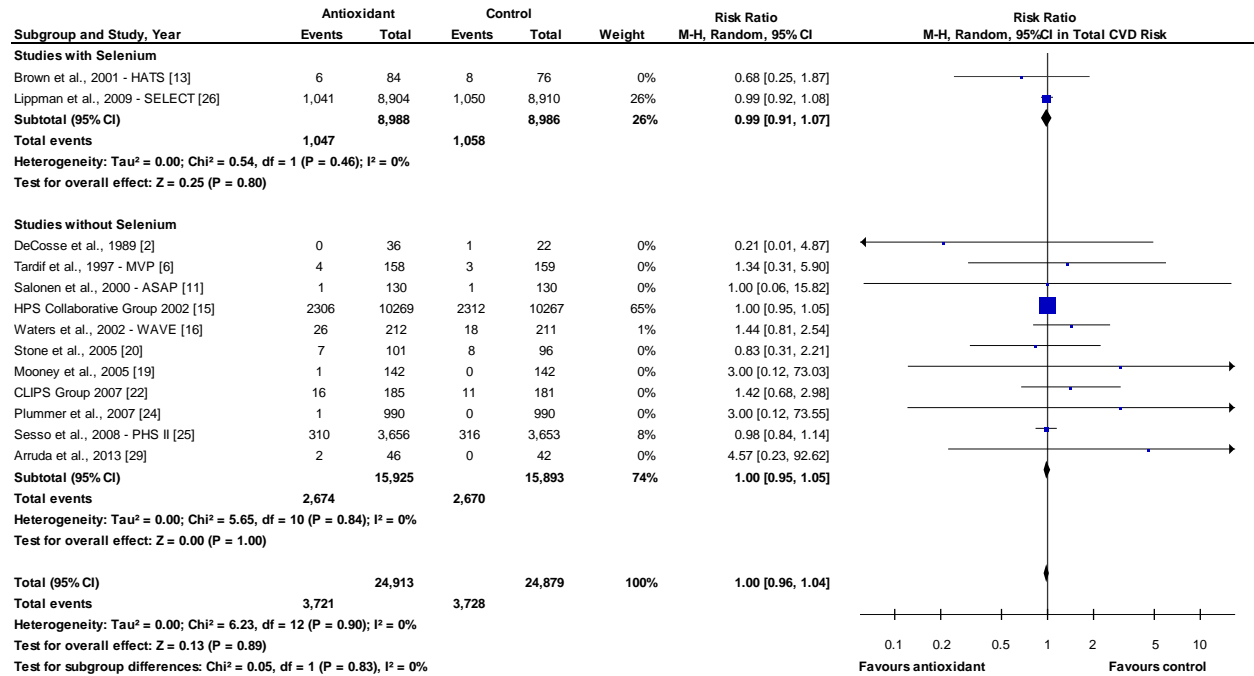


Begg's test = 0.82

Egger's test = 0.95

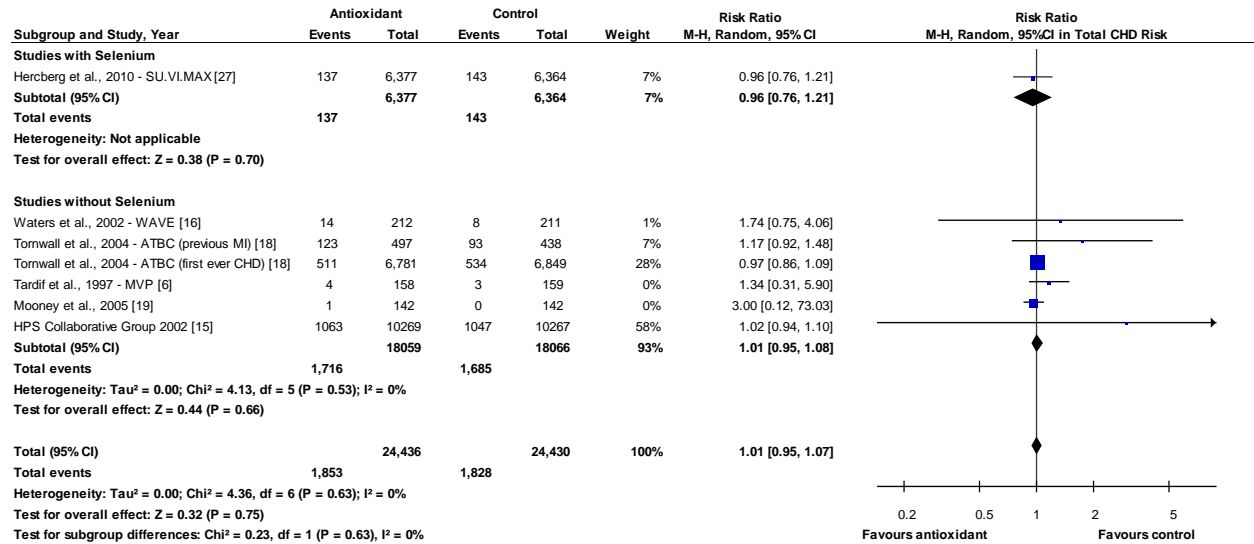
Supplementary Figure 27. Funnel plots of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD, MI, stroke, CVD mortality, and all-cause mortality risk. Dashed lines represent pseudo – 95% confidence intervals (CI). The circles represent risk estimates for each study, and the horizontal lines represent standard errors of the RR. We were unable to test for funnel plot asymmetry for other CVD and cancer outcomes (<10 RCTs).

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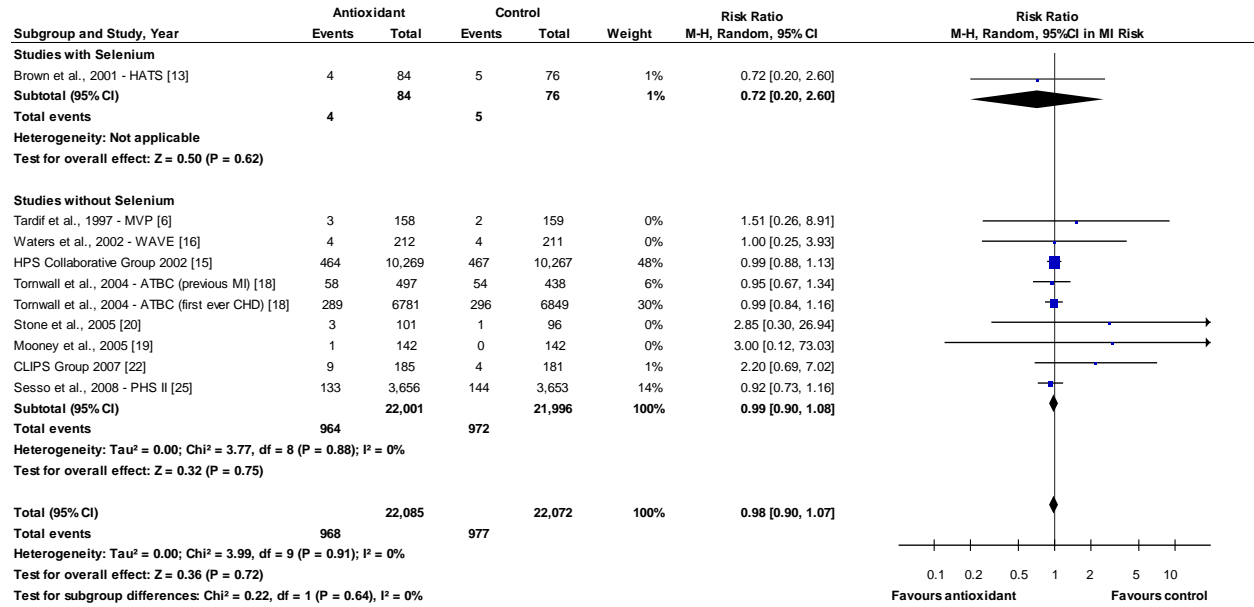
Supplementary Figure 28. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 29. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

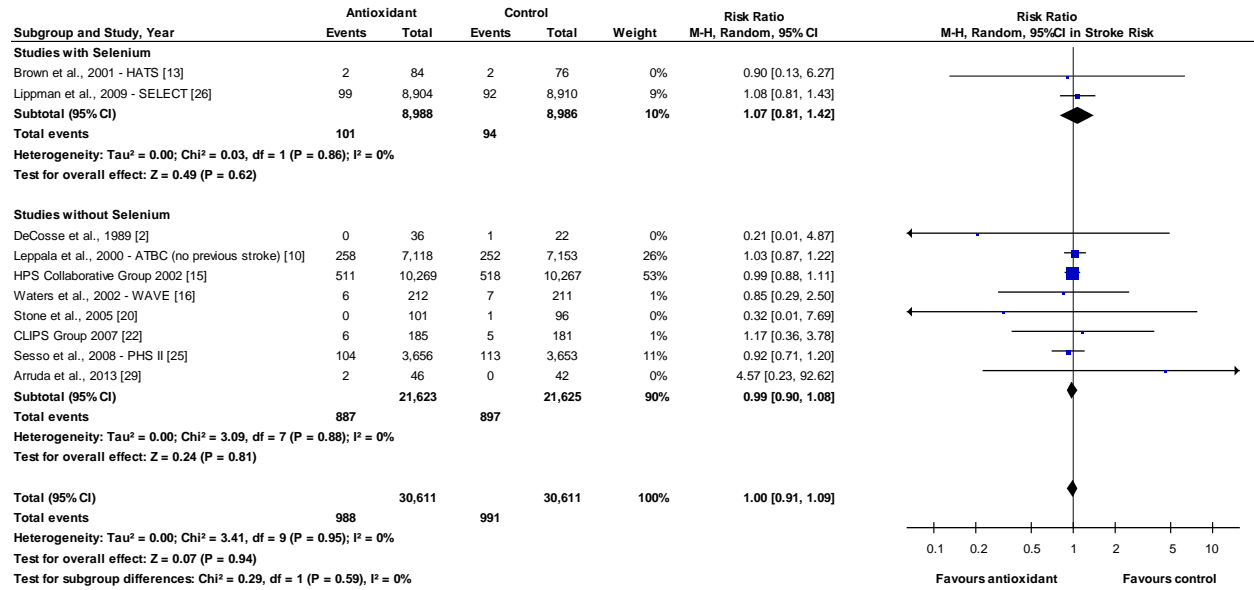
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Supplementary Figure 30. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction.

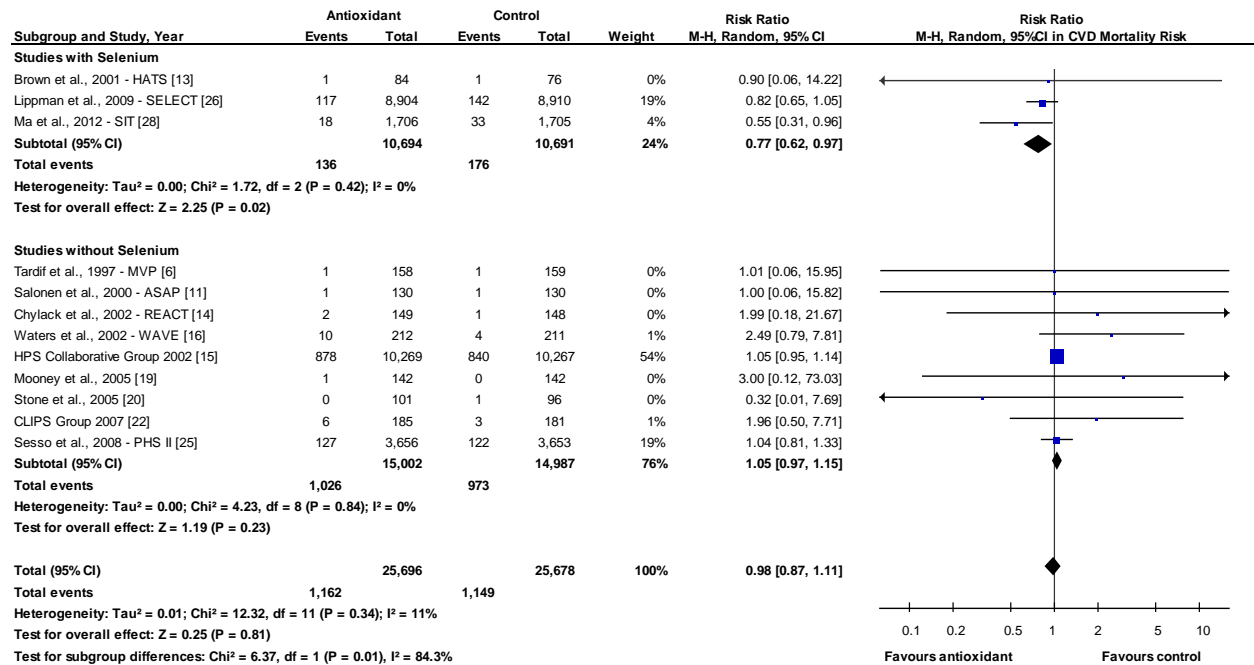
The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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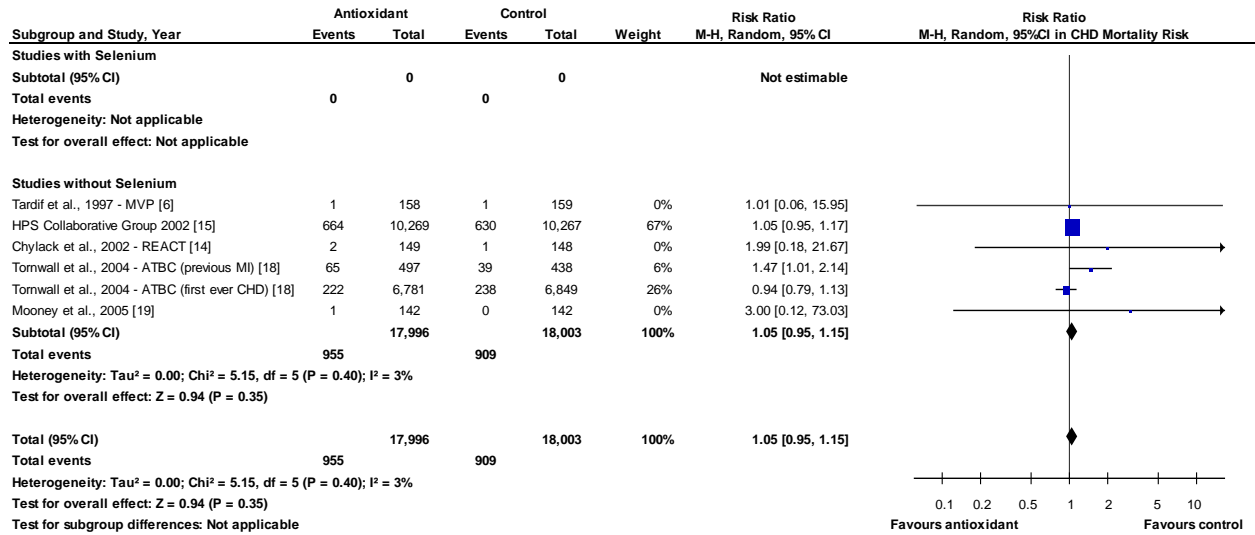
Supplementary Figure 31. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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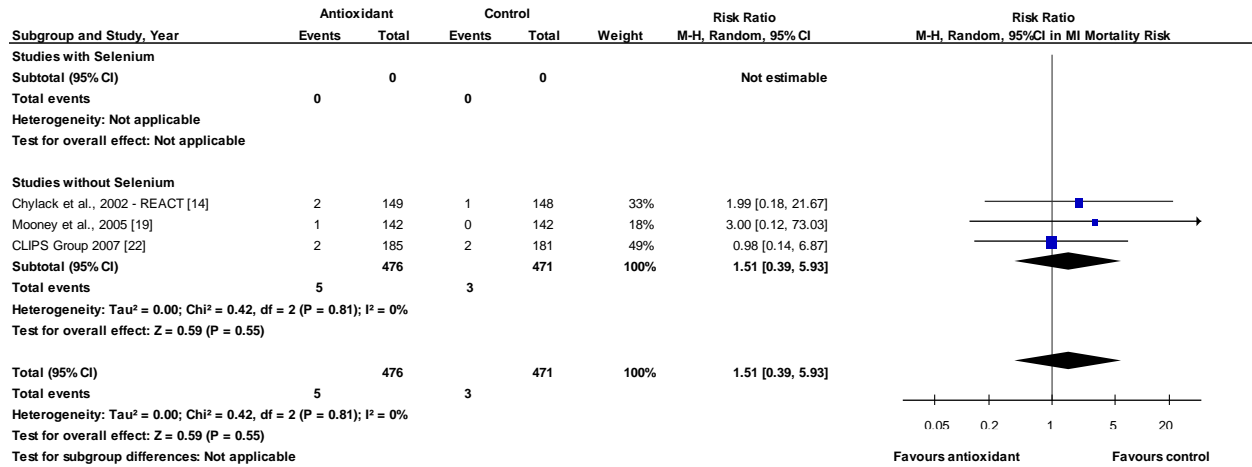
Supplementary Figure 32. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk for studies with and without selenium. NNT for antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk for studies with selenium is 264. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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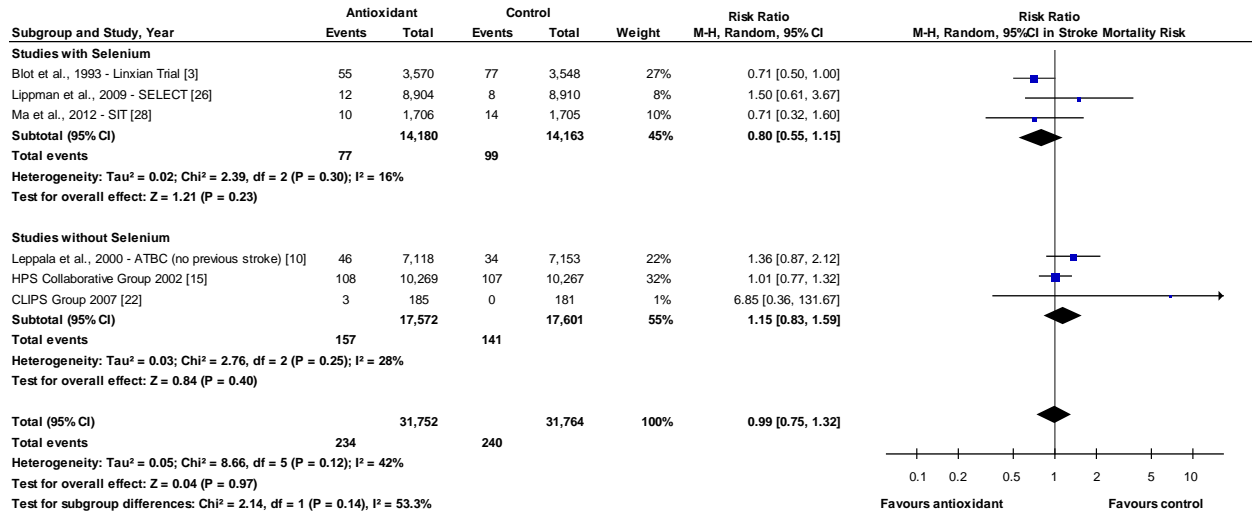
Supplementary Figure 33. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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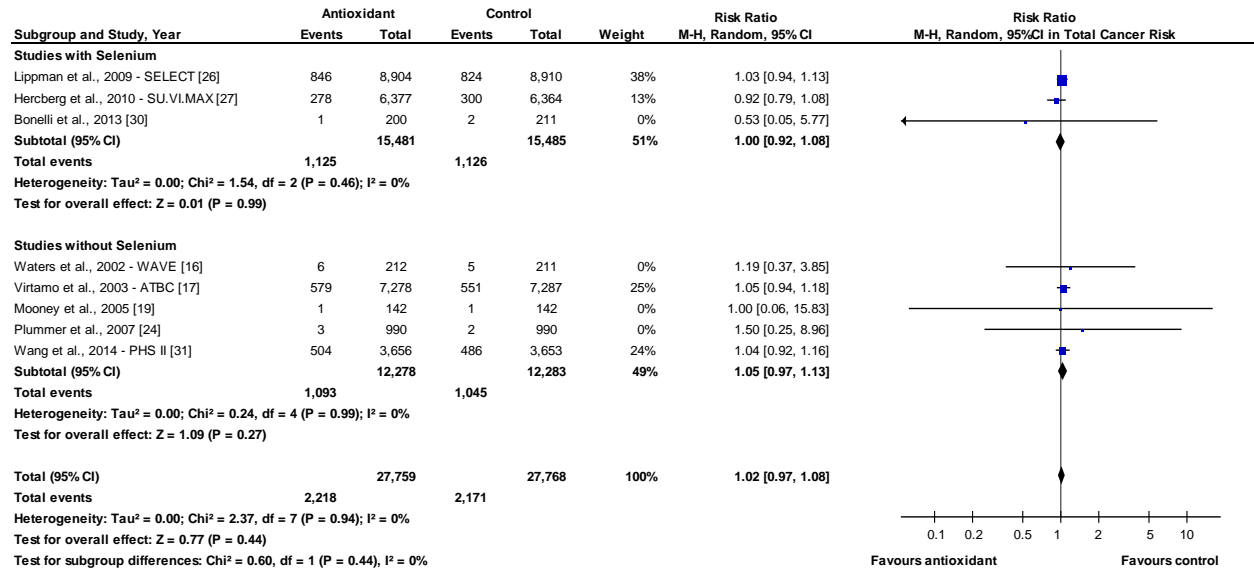
Supplementary Figure 34. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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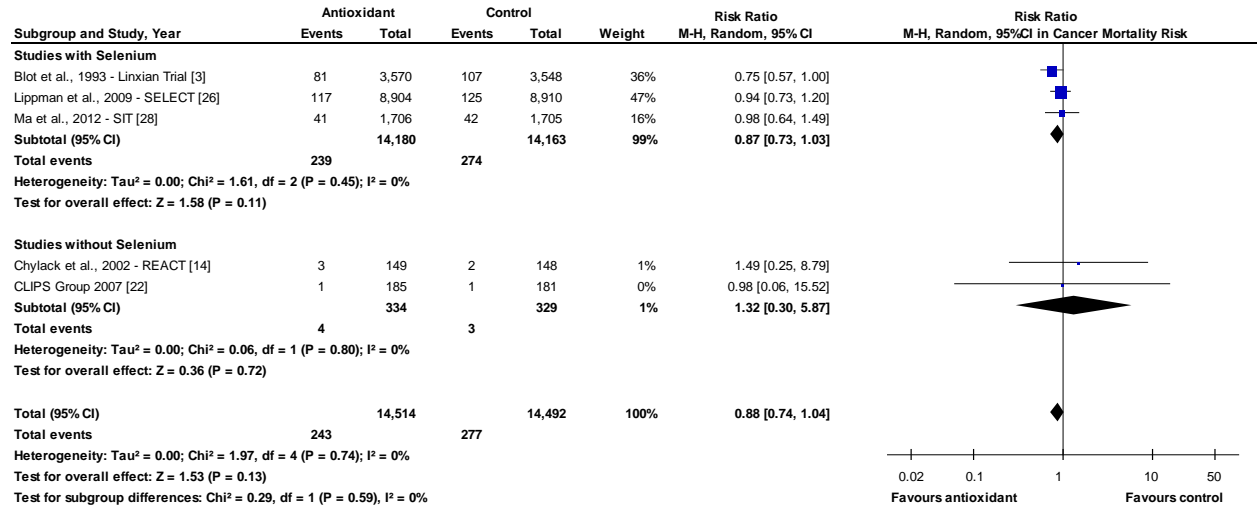
Supplementary Figure 35. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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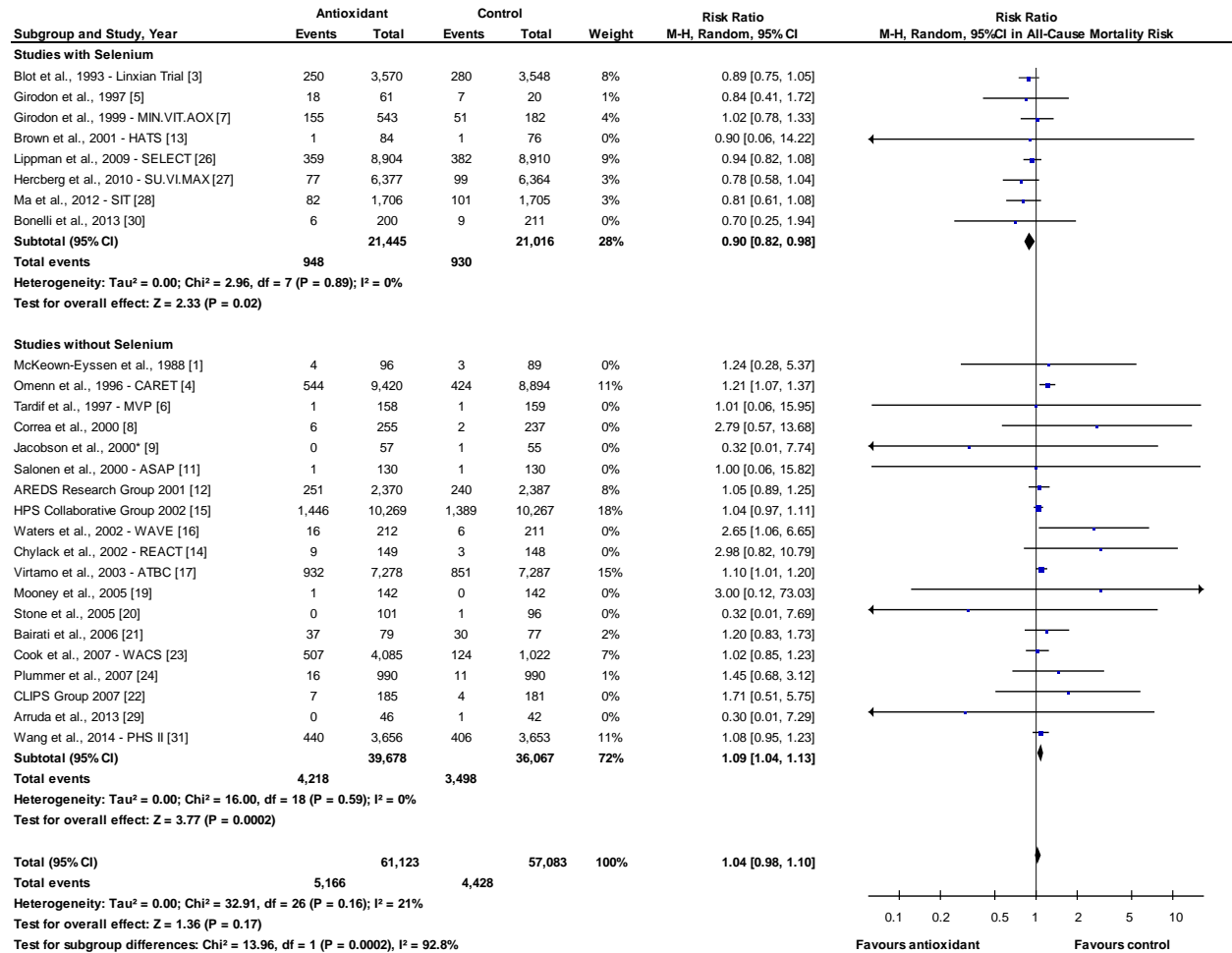
Supplementary Figure 36. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 37. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with and without selenium. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

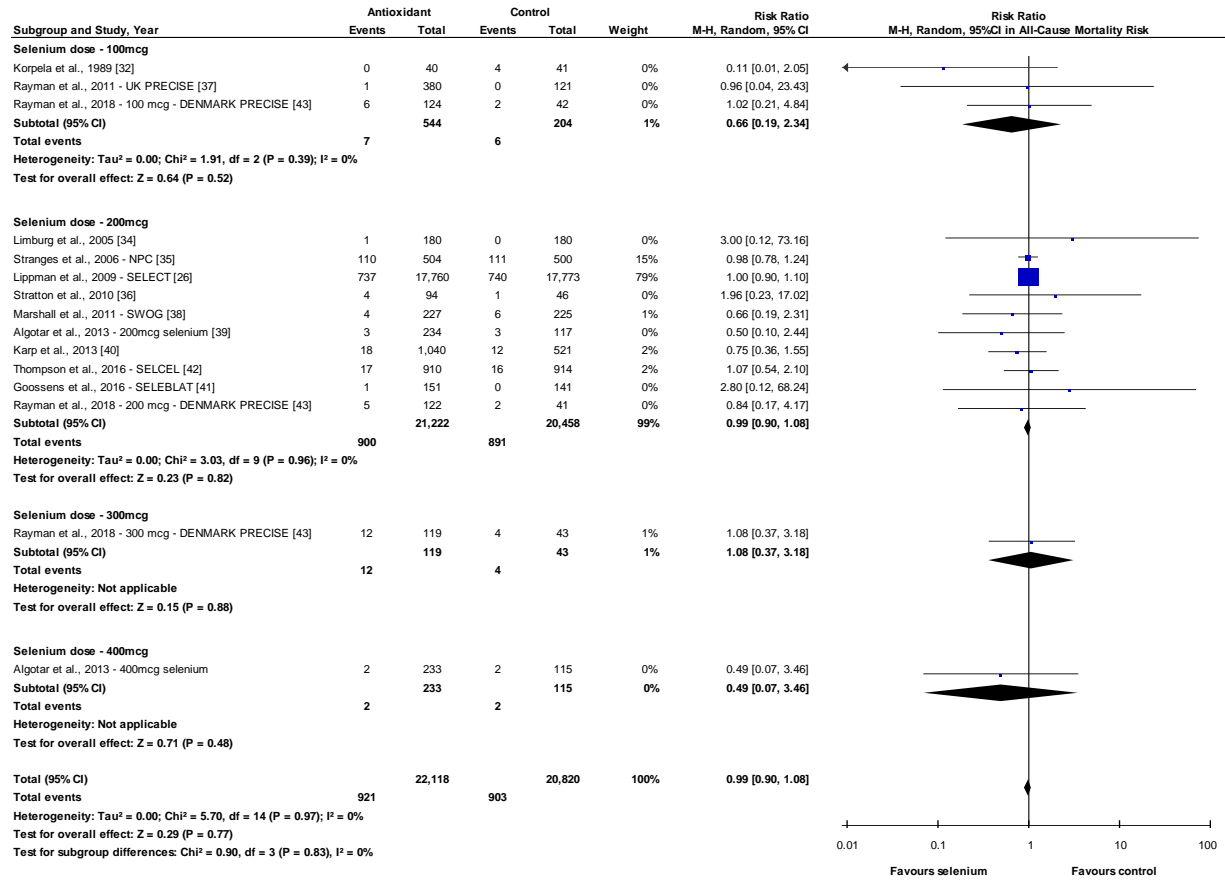
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Supplementary Figure 38. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without selenium. NNT for antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with selenium is 226. NNH for antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies without selenium is 115. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. *Jacobson et al., 2000 – Data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

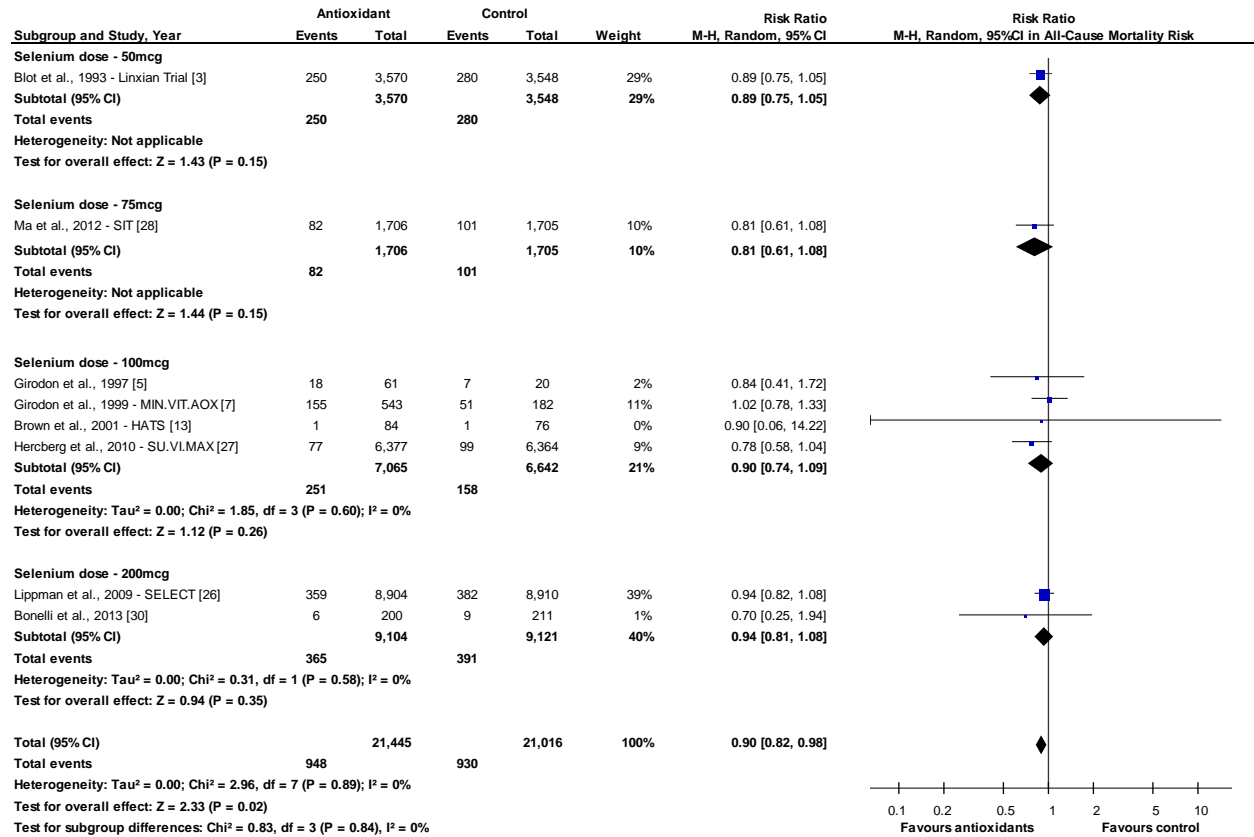
Supplementary Figure 38. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without selenium. NNT for antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with selenium is 226. NNH for antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies without selenium is 115. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. *Jacobson et al., 2000 – Data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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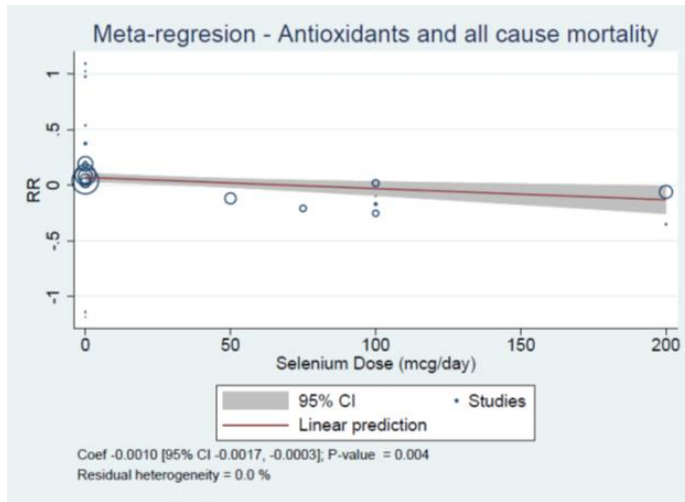
Supplementary Figure 39. Forest plot showing the dose response analysis of selenium supplementation only and all-cause mortality. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. ***Stranges et al., 2006 was used as it contained data up until the end of treatment but only in those free of CVD at baseline(35).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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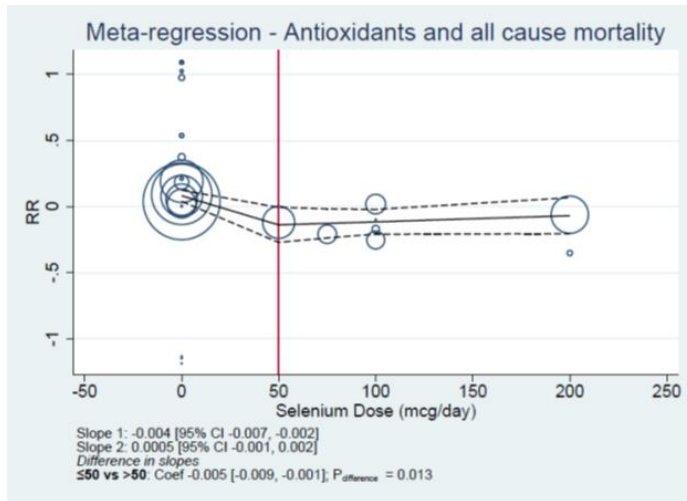
Supplementary Figure 40. Forest plot showing the dose response analysis of antioxidant supplementation for studies with selenium and all-cause mortality. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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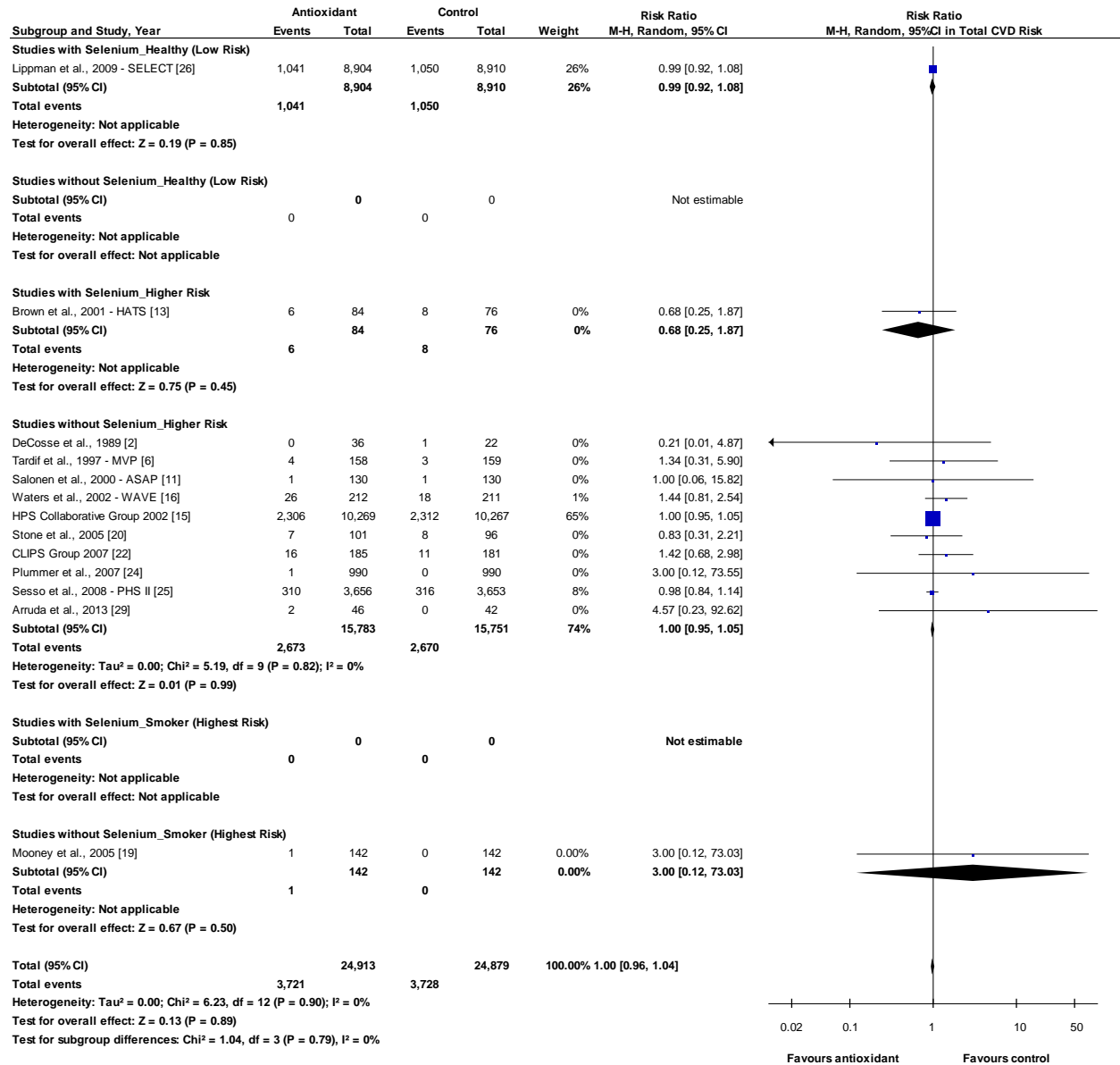
Supplementary Figure 41. Linear dose-response relationship between selenium intake and all-cause mortality risk in studies with antioxidant intake. Individual studies are represented by the circles, with their weight in the overall analysis represented by the size of the circles. The straight red line represents the estimate linear dose response and the grey area represent the upper and lower 95% Confidence Intervals.

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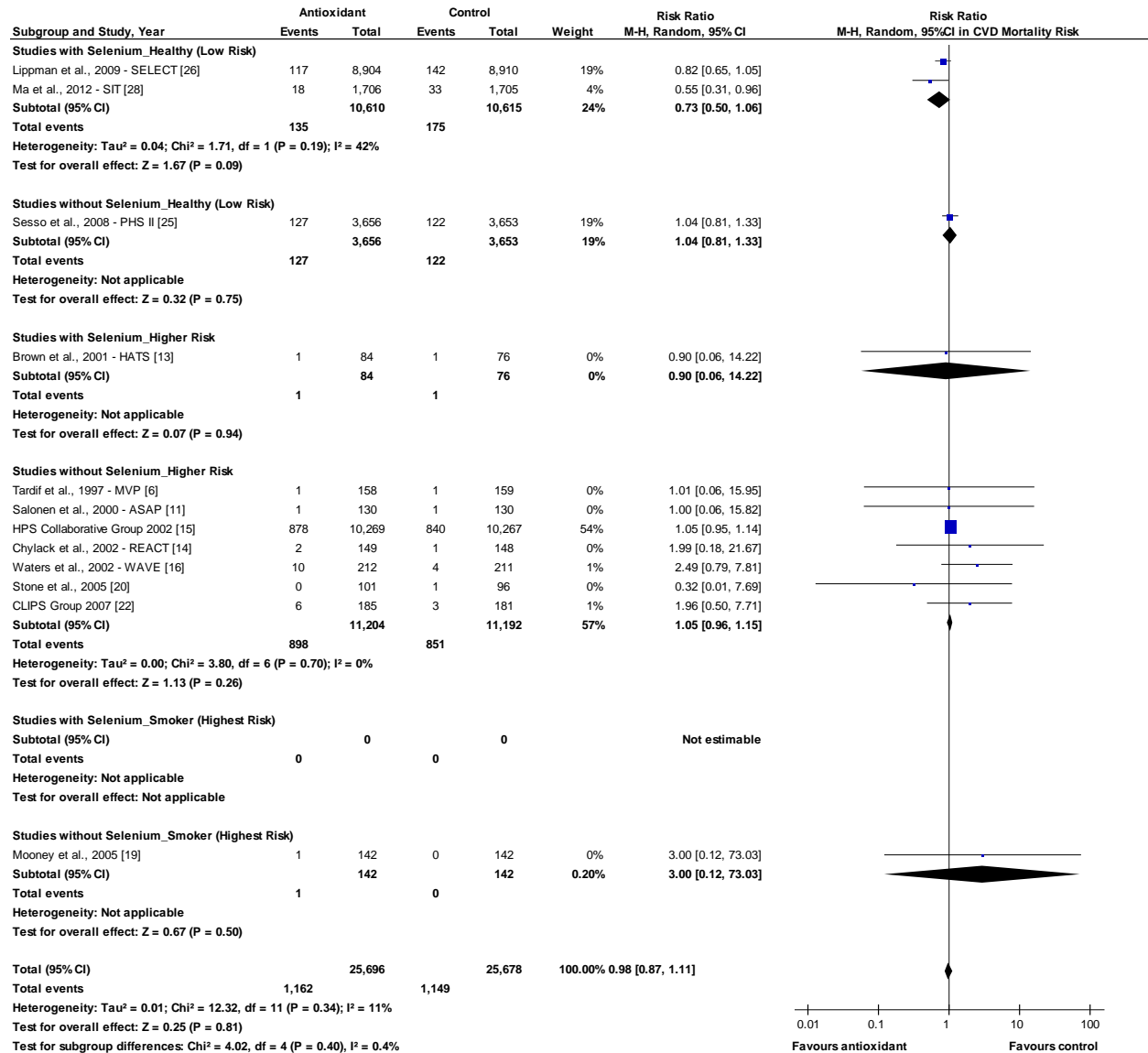
Supplementary Figure 42. Non-linear dose-response relationship between selenium intake and all-cause mortality risk in studies with antioxidant intake. Individual studies are represented by the circles, with their weight in the overall analysis represented by the size of the circles. The straight lines represent the estimate dose response and the dashed lines represent the upper and lower 95% Confidence Intervals. The red line represents the knot at 50 mcg/day of selenium.

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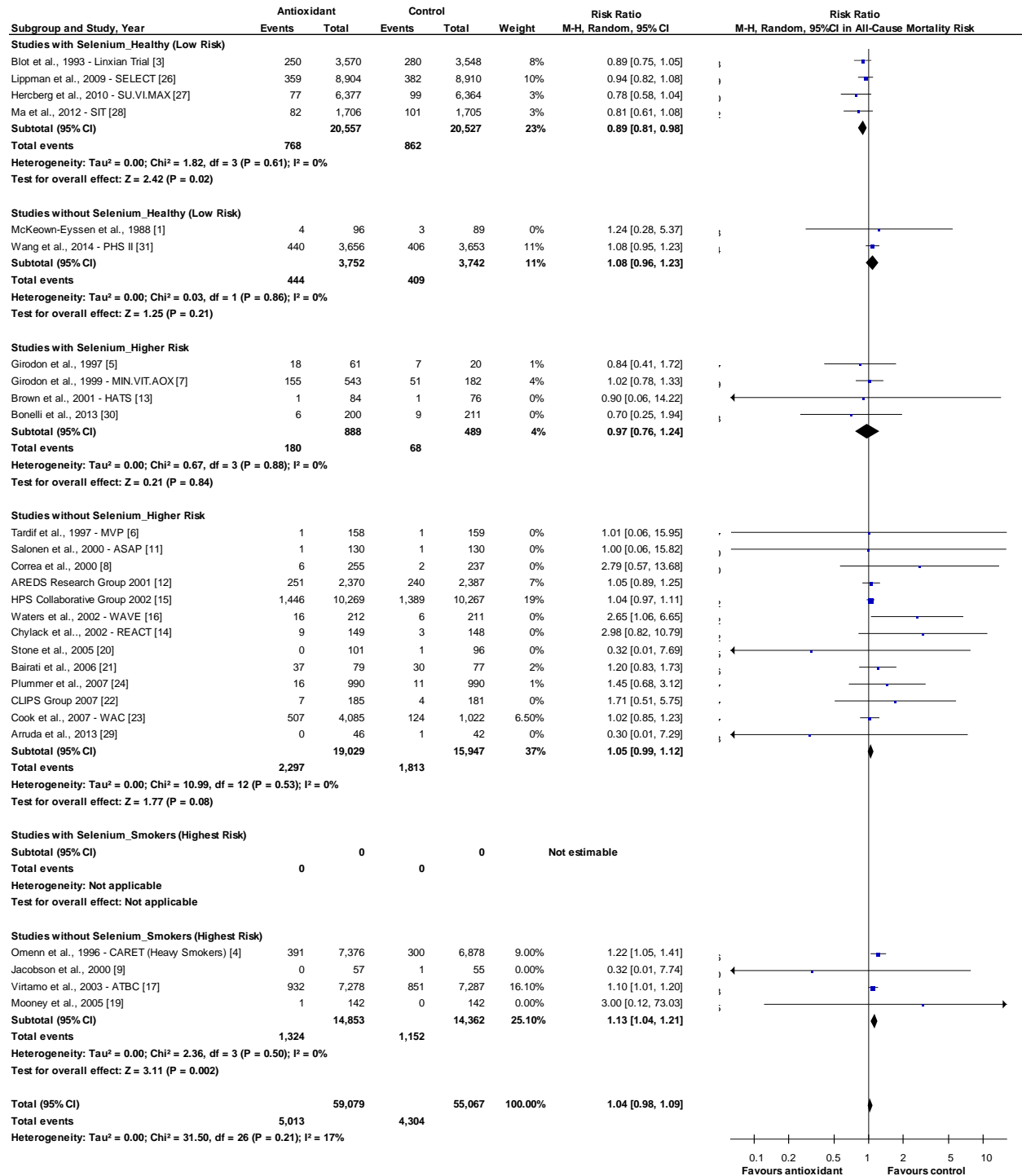
Supplementary Figure 43. Forest plot showing antioxidants (with and without selenium) and total CVD by risk group. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 44. Forest plot showing antioxidants (with and without selenium) and total CVD mortality by risk group. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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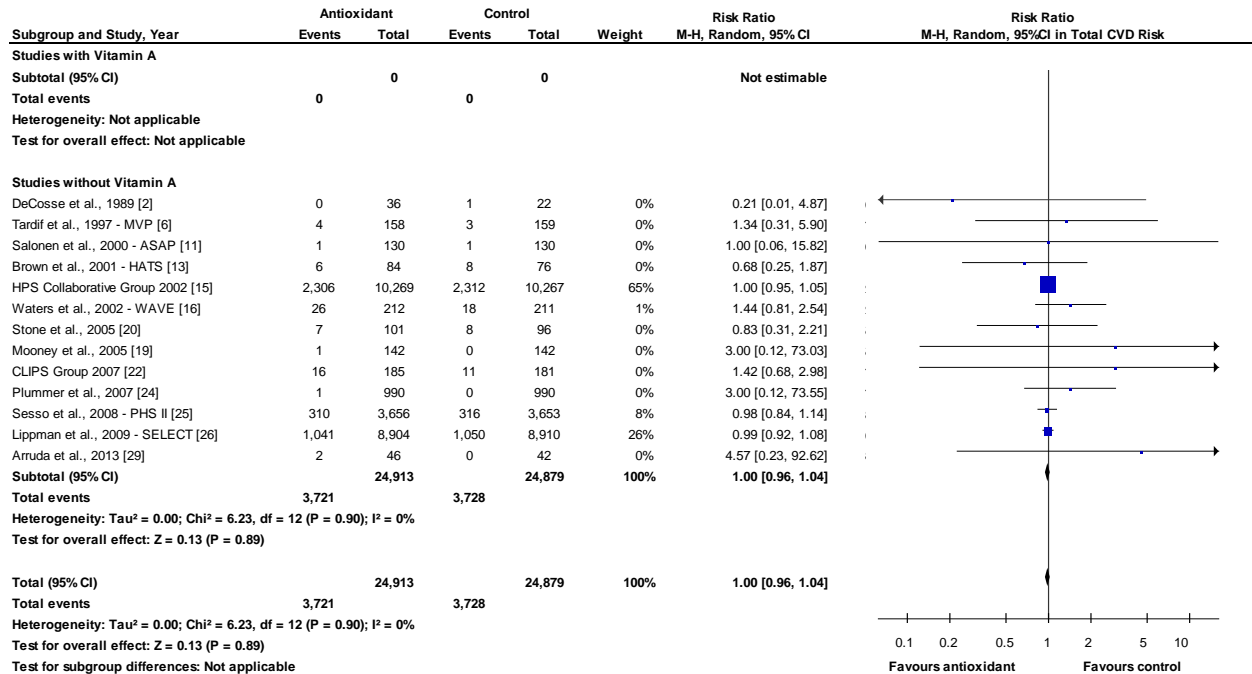


Supplementary Figure 45. Forest plot showing antioxidants (with and without selenium) and all-cause mortality by risk group. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. *Jacobson et al., 2000 – data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012(44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model. The sub

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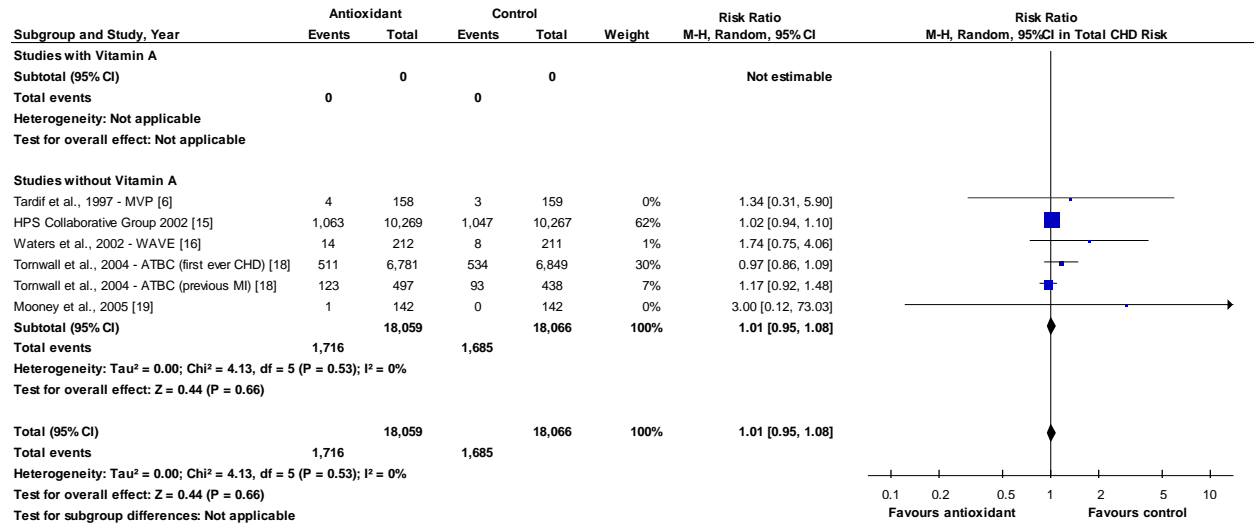
group difference between studies with and without selenium among the healthy (low risk) group was significant ($p = 0.01$, $I^2 = 83.4\%$) while the subgroup difference within the higher risk group was not significant ($p = 0.54$, $I^2 = 0\%$).

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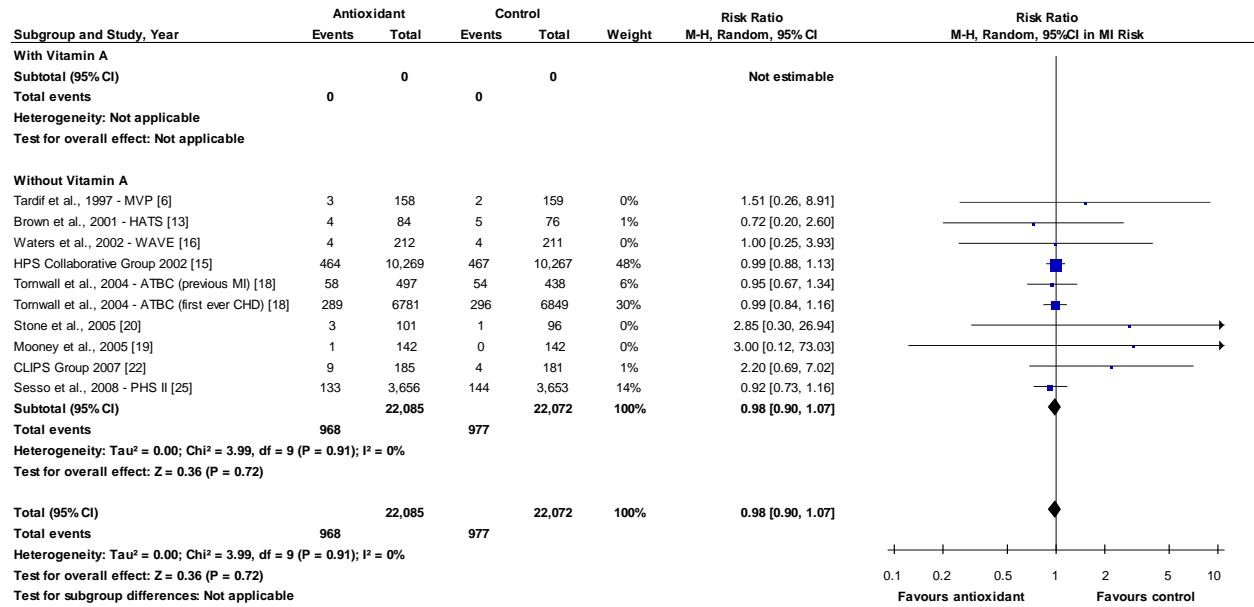
Supplementary Figure 46. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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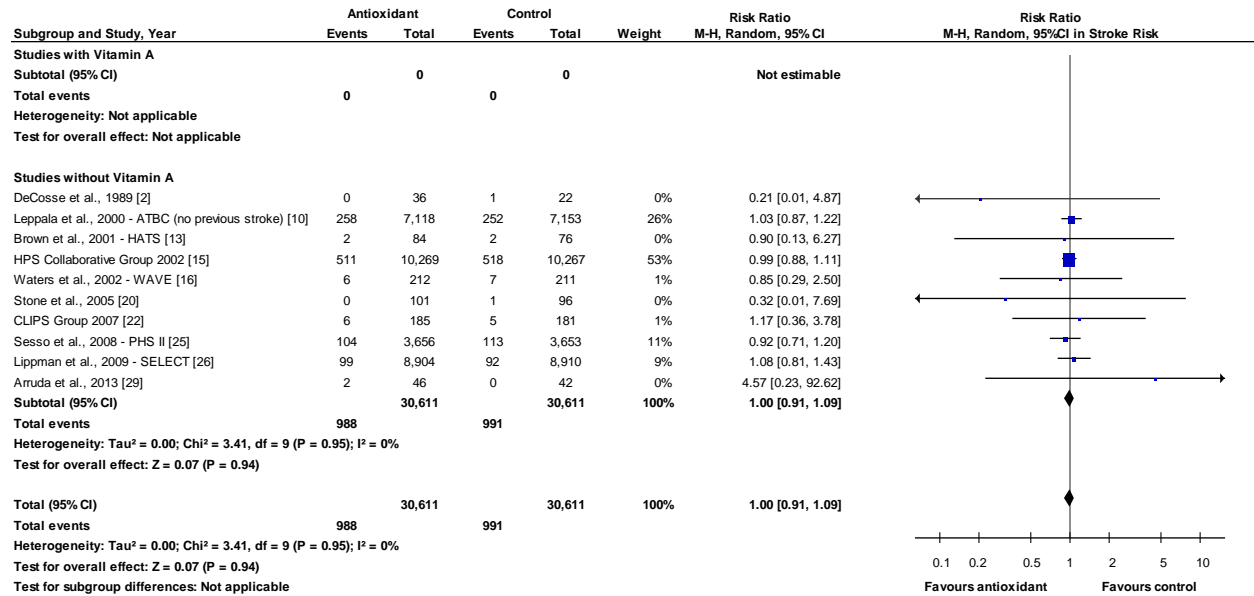
Supplementary Figure 47. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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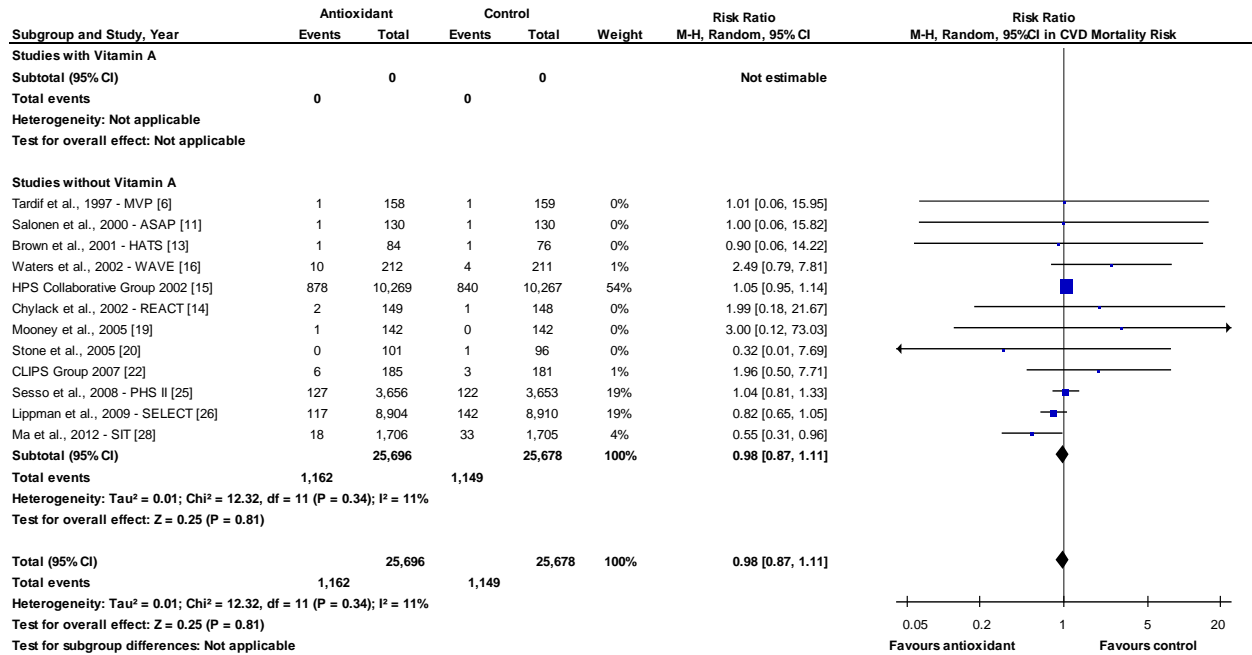
Supplementary Figure 48. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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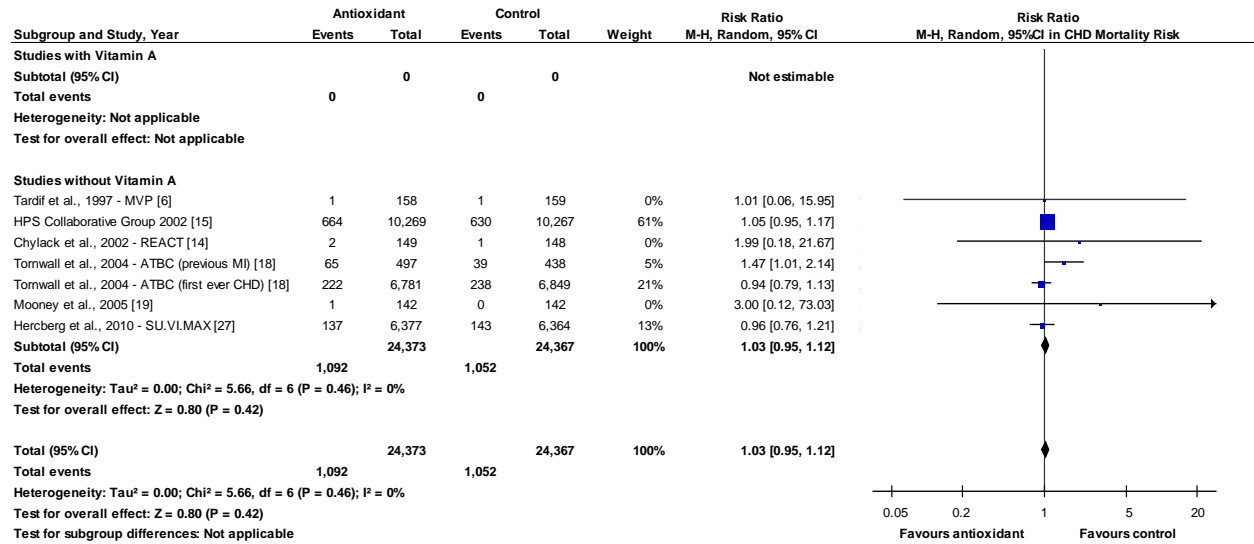
Supplementary Figure 49. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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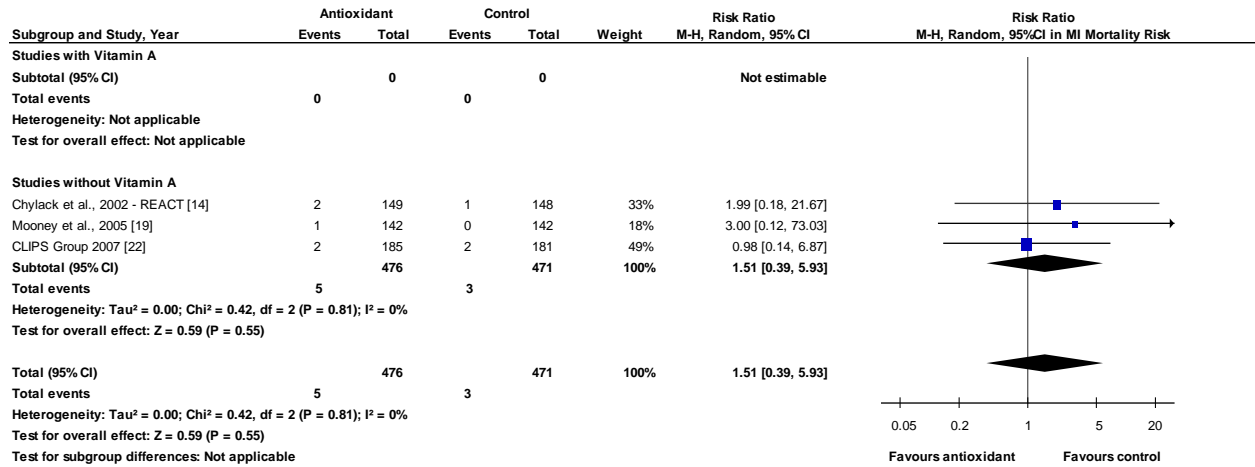
Supplementary Figure 50. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation total CVD mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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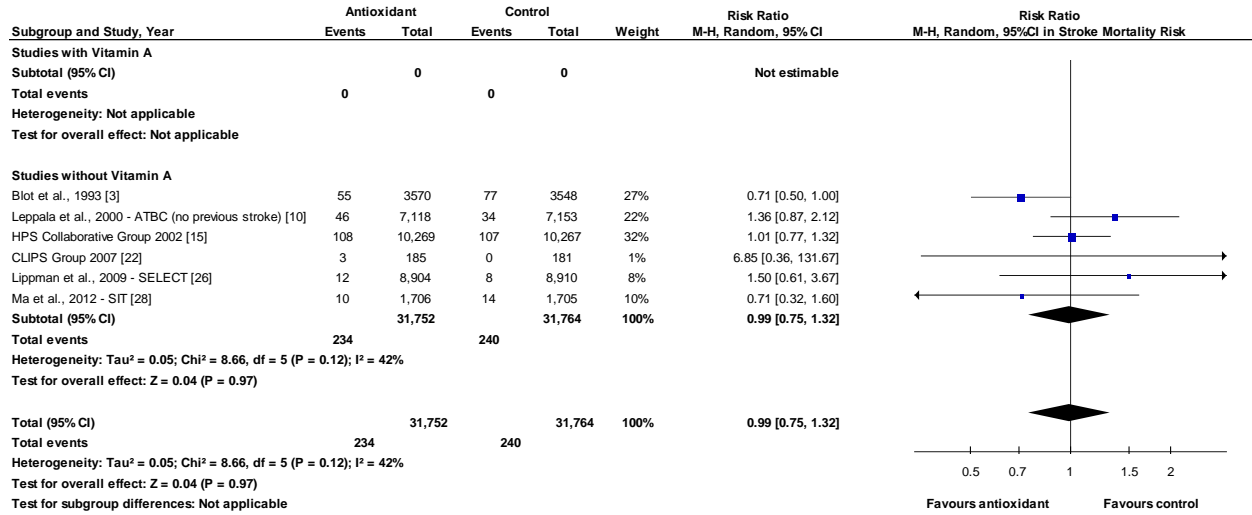
Supplementary Figure 51. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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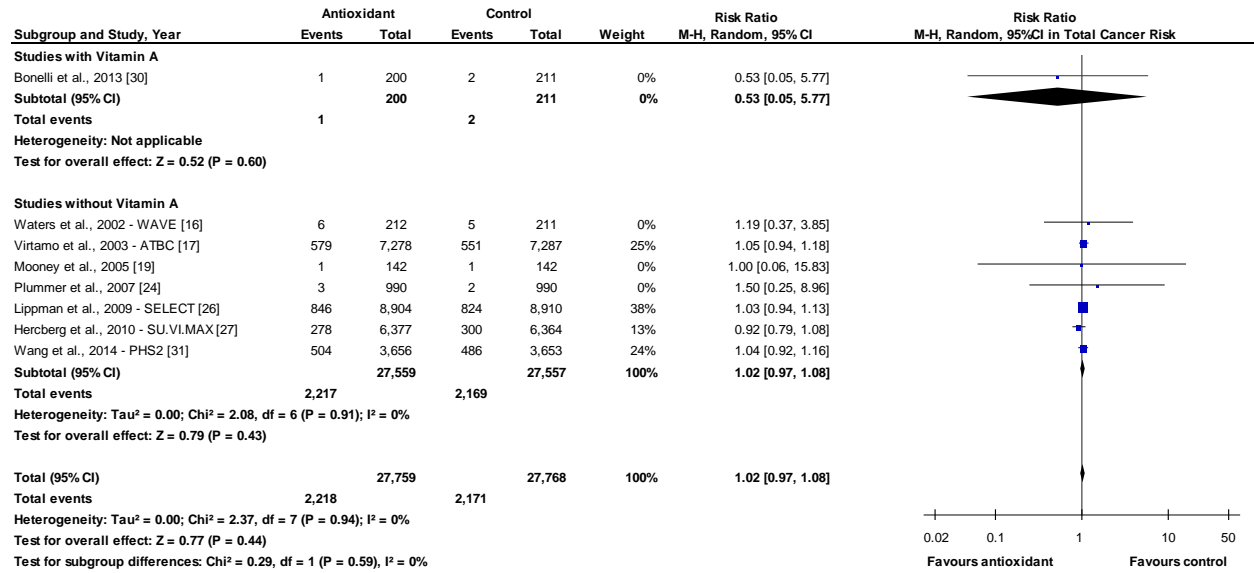
Supplementary Figure 52. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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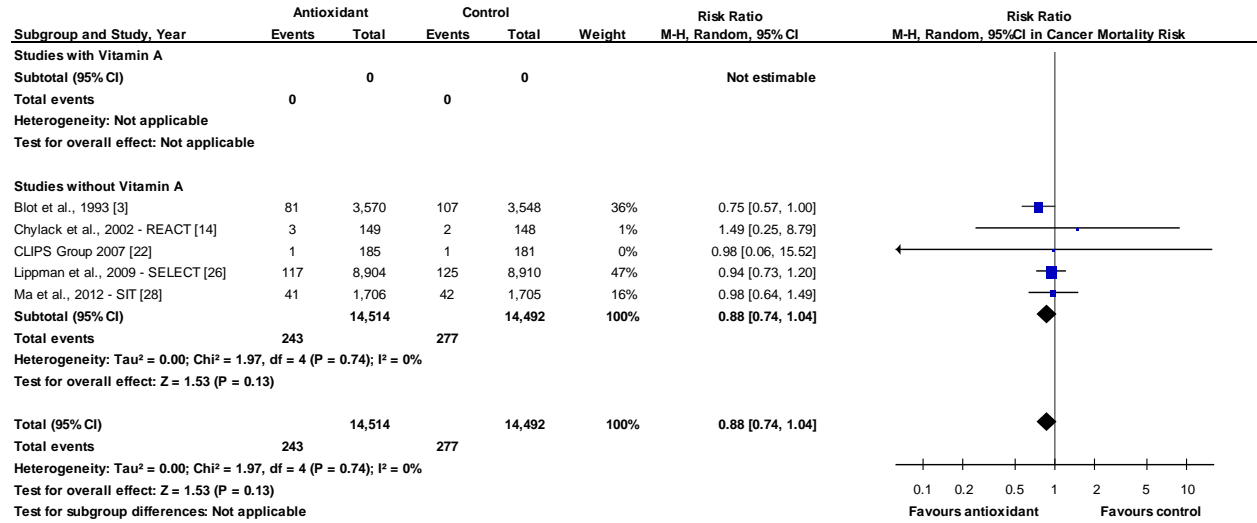
Supplementary Figure 53. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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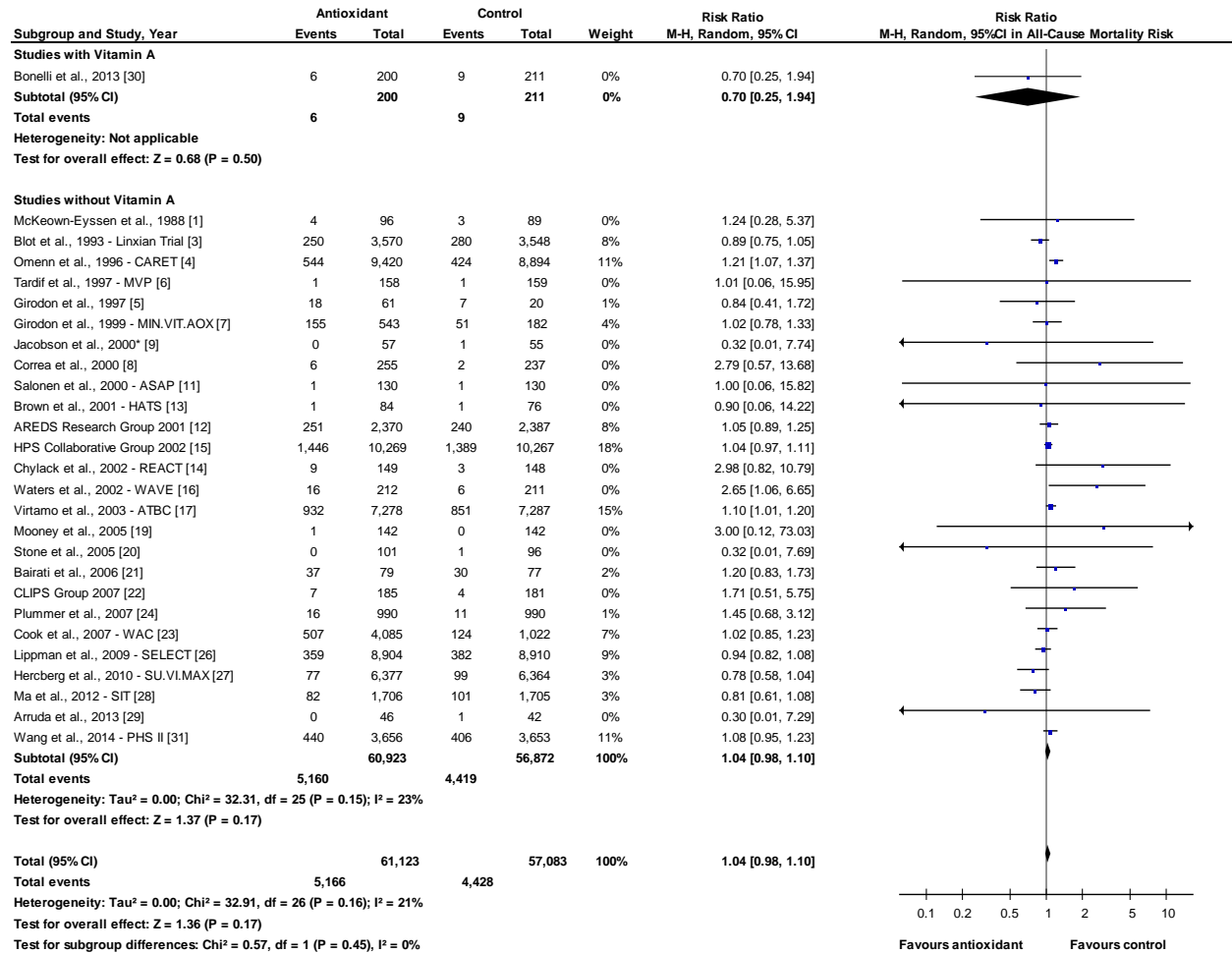
Supplementary Figure 54. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 55. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

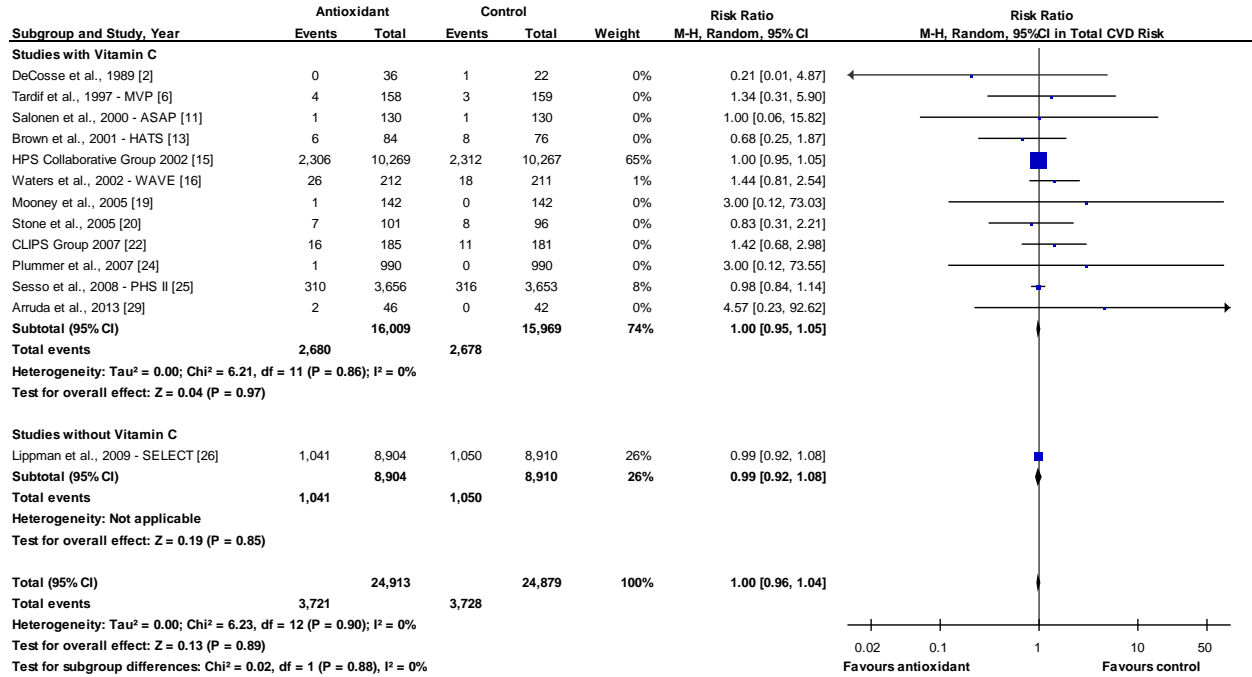
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Supplementary Figure 56. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin A. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel.

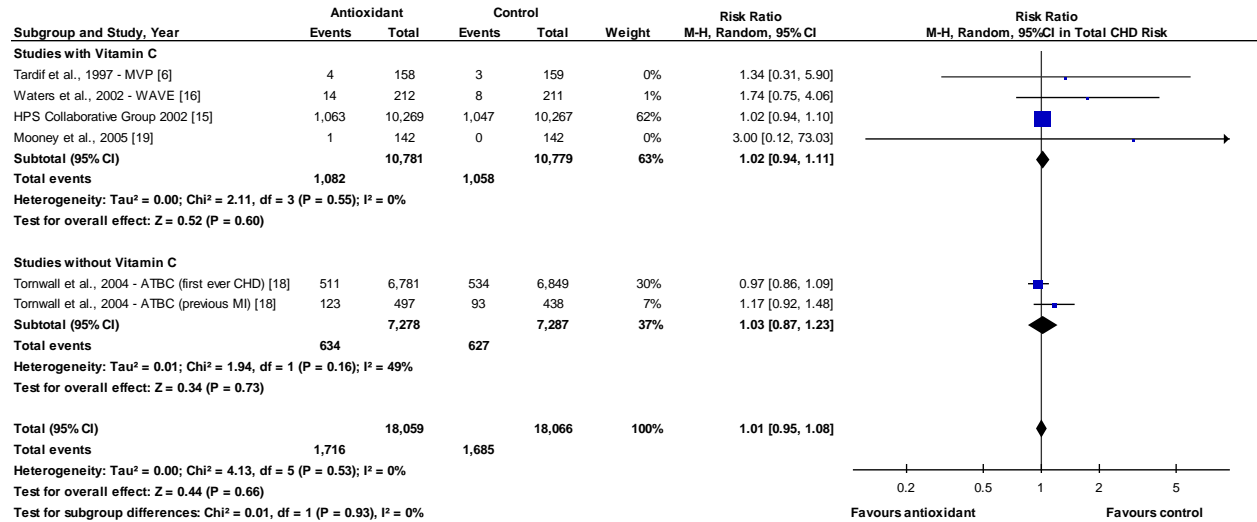
*Jacobson et al., 2000 – data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random.

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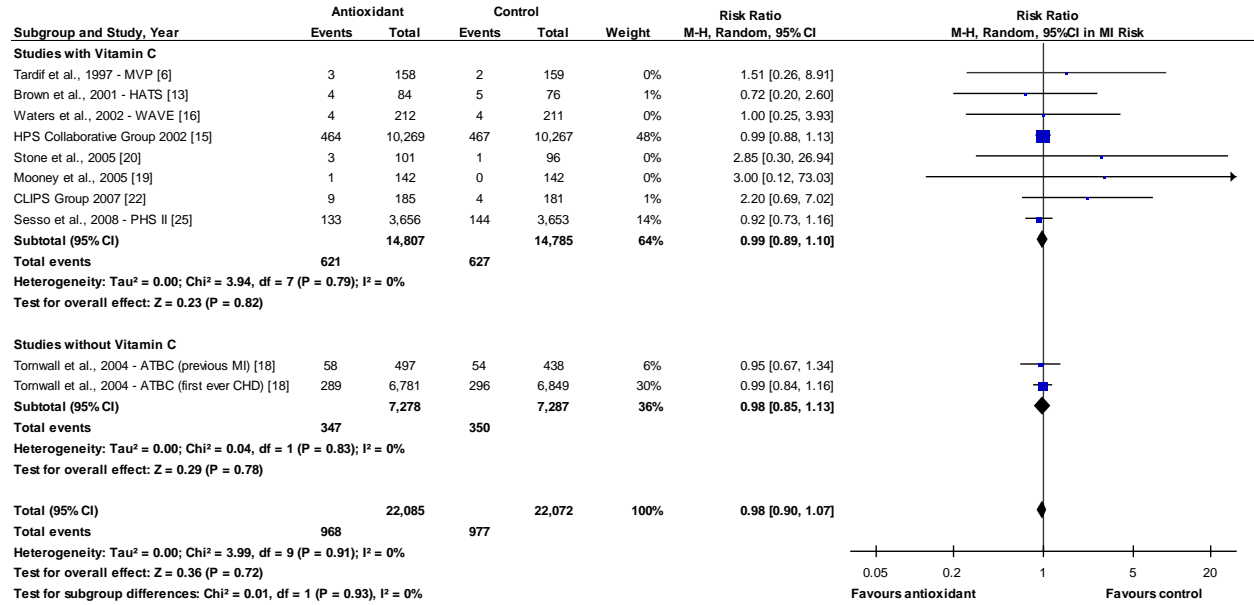
Supplementary Figure 57. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 58. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

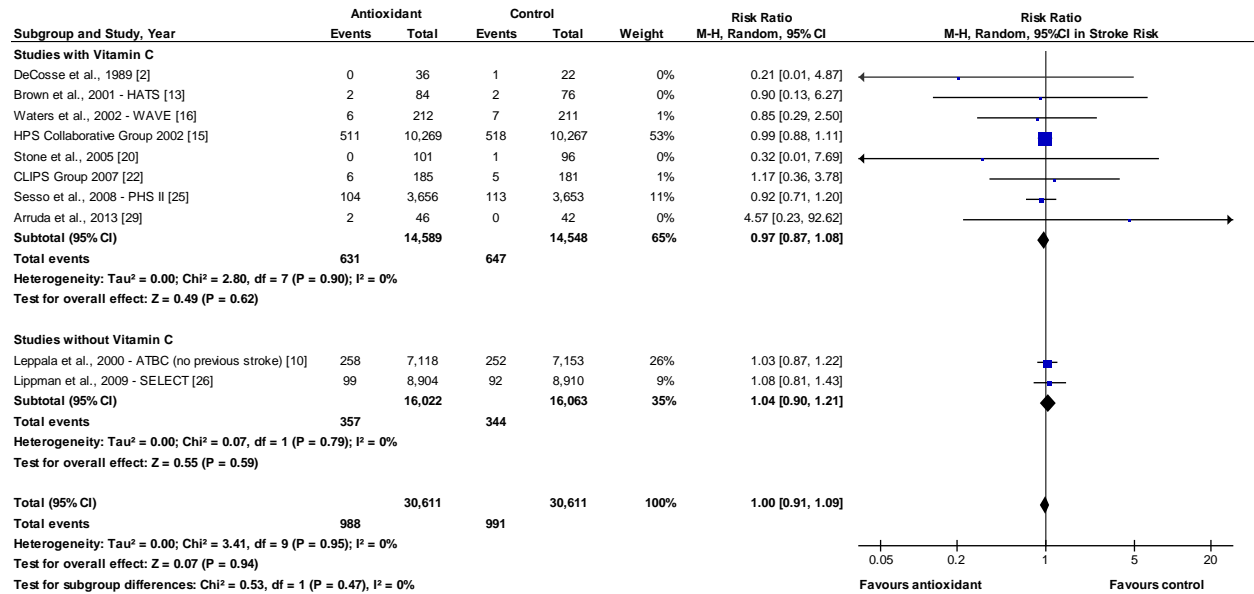
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Supplementary Figure 59. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction.

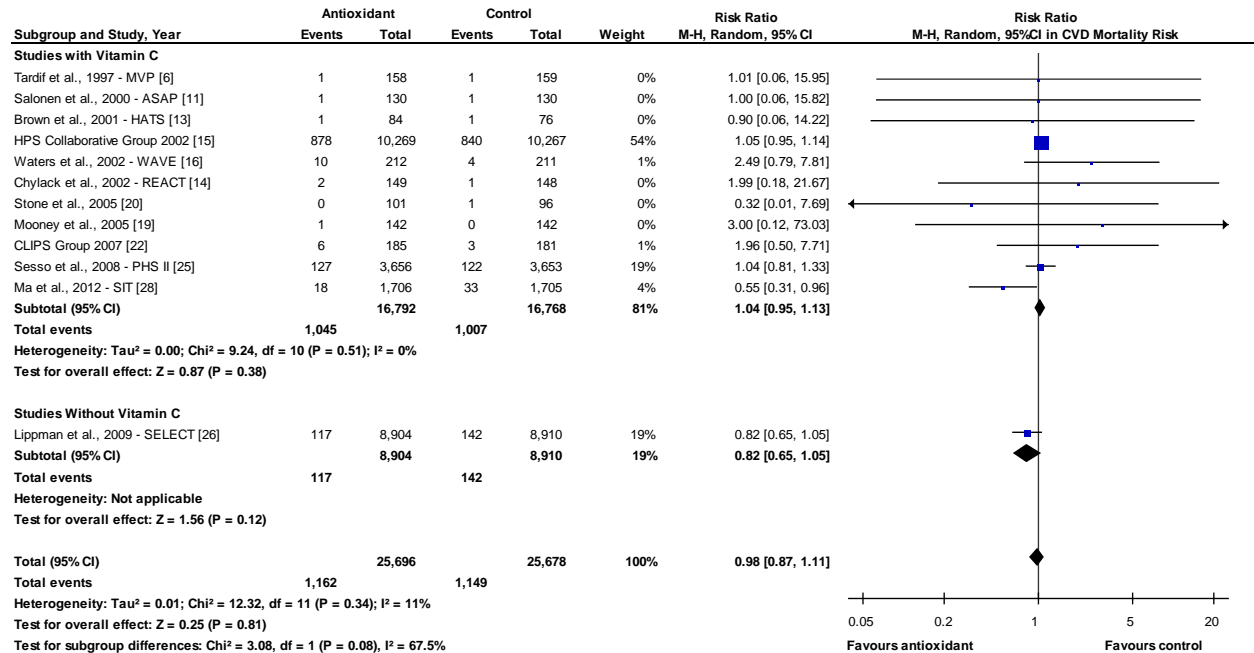
The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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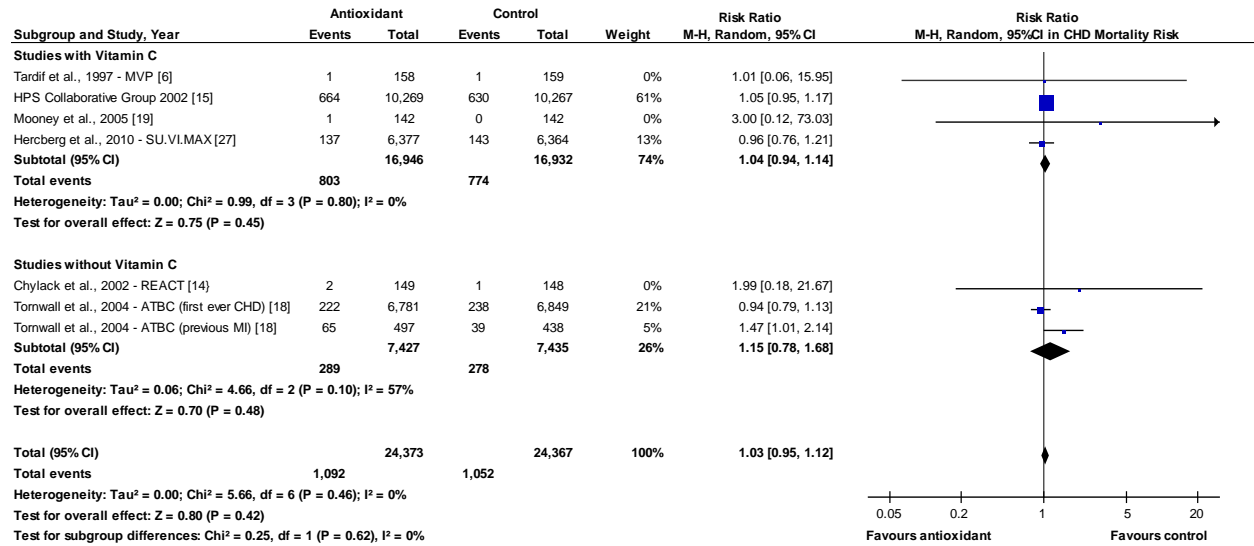
Supplementary Figure 60. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 61. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

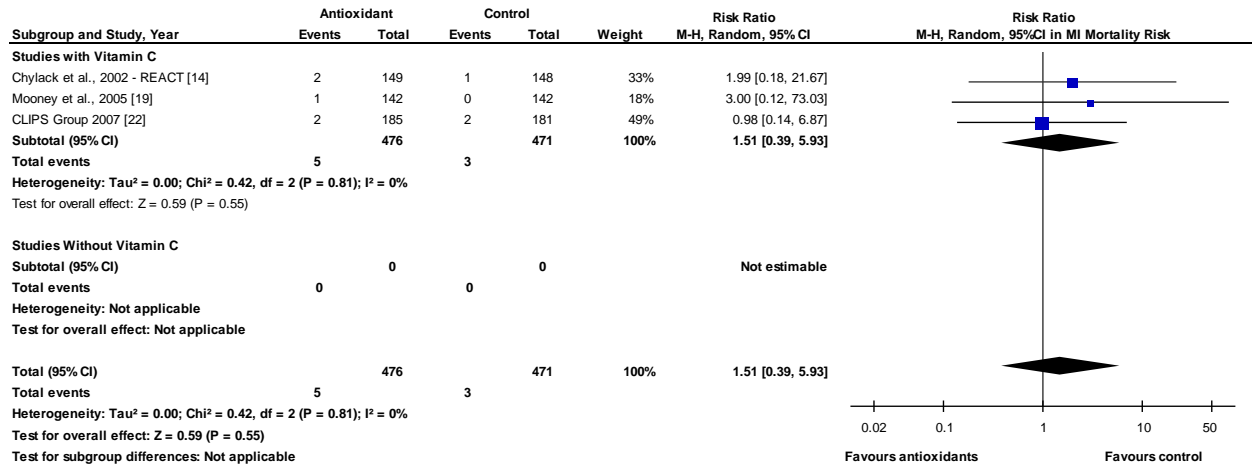
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Supplementary Figure 62. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin C.

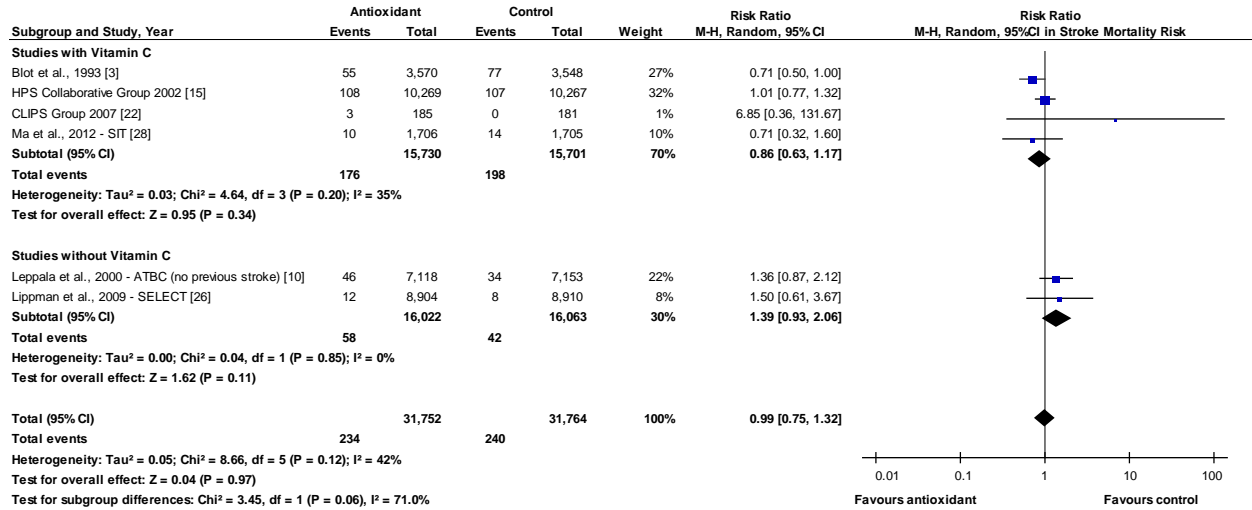
M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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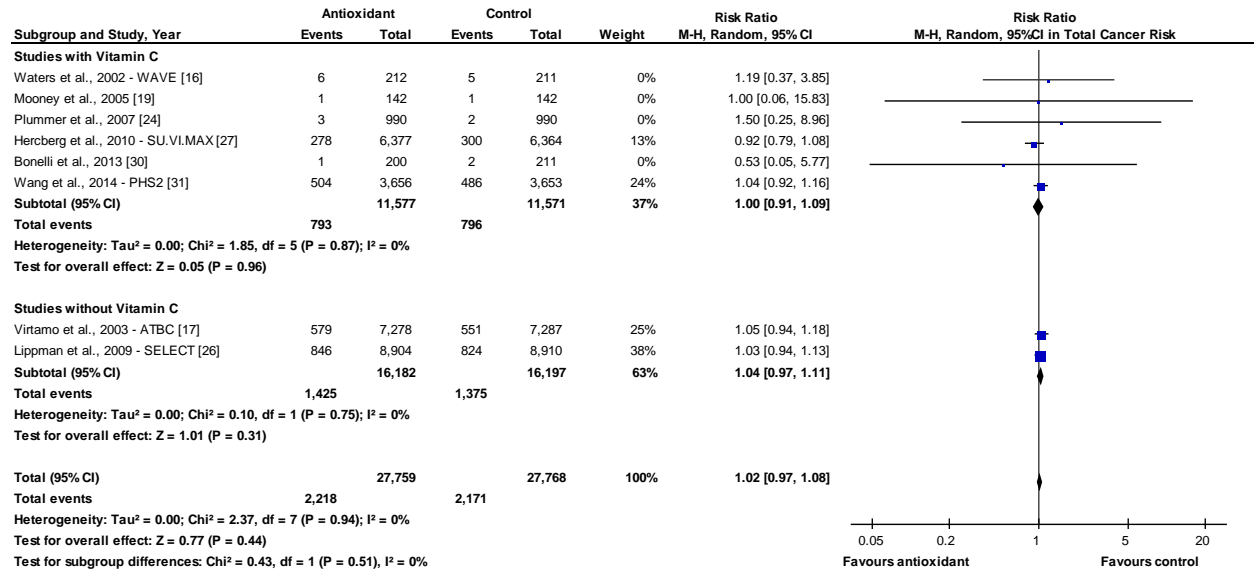
Supplementary Figure 63. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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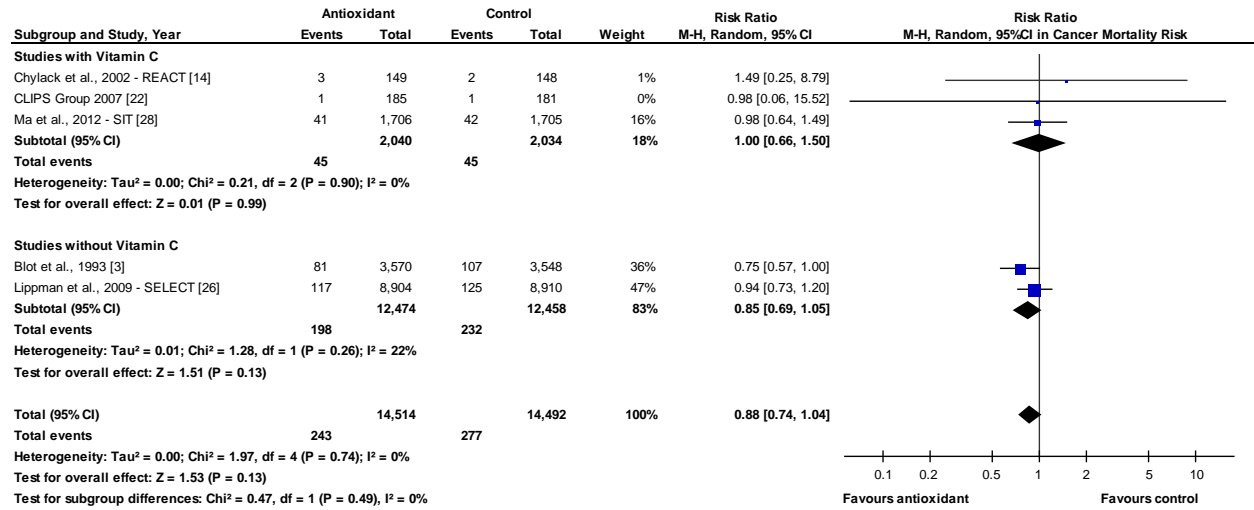
Supplementary Figure 64. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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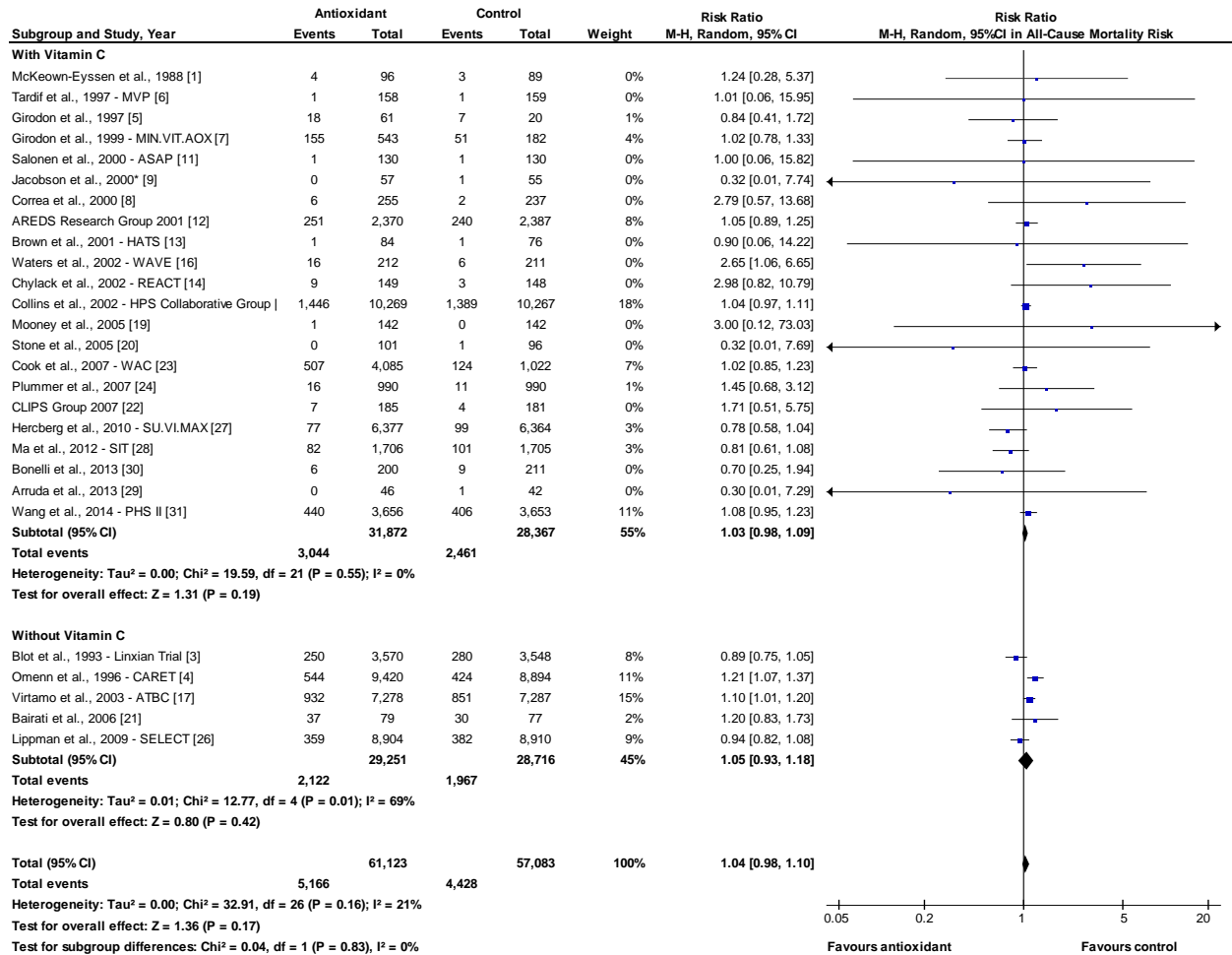
Supplementary Figure 65. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 66. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

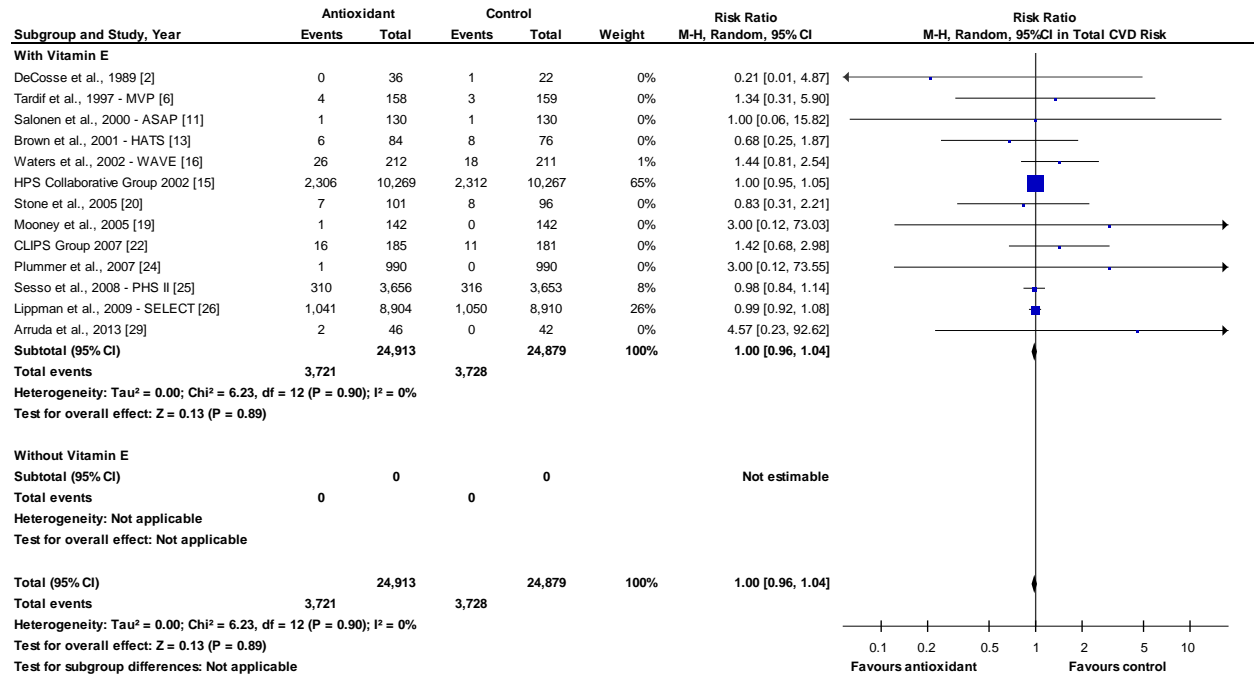
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Supplementary Figure 67. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin C. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel.

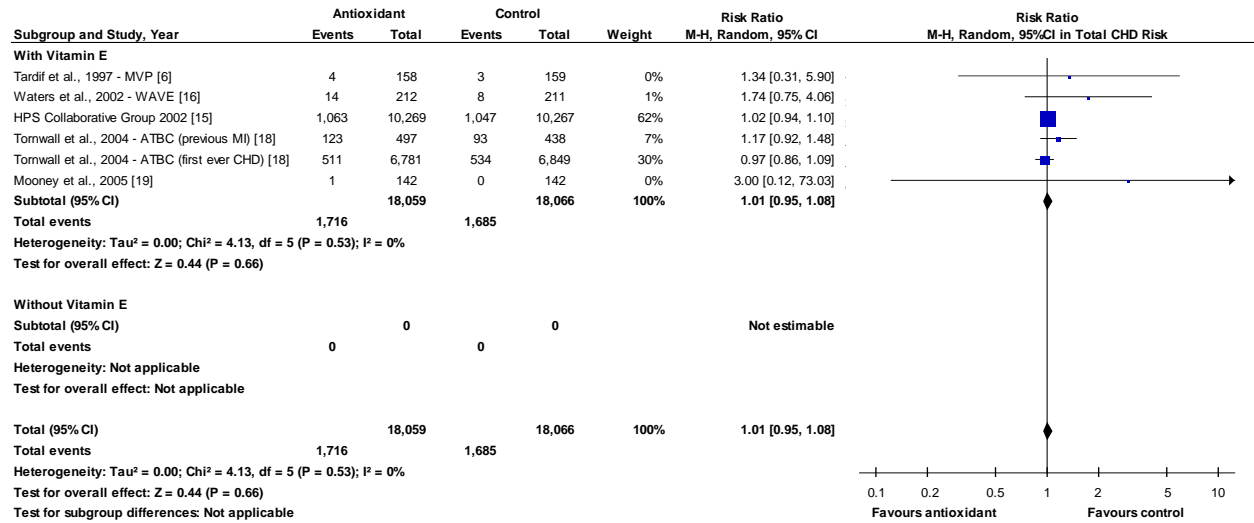
*Jacobson et al., 2000 – data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random.

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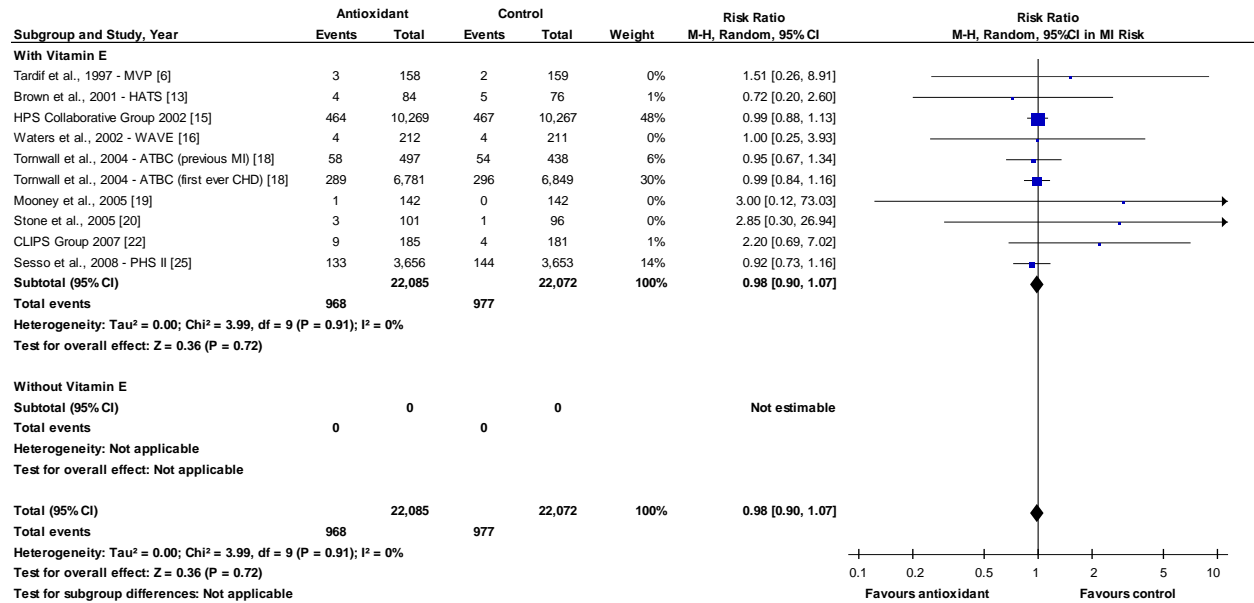
Supplementary Figure 68. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 69. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (χ^2) at a significance level of $P < 0.10$, and quantified by the I^2 statistic. An I^2 value $\geq 50\%$ is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

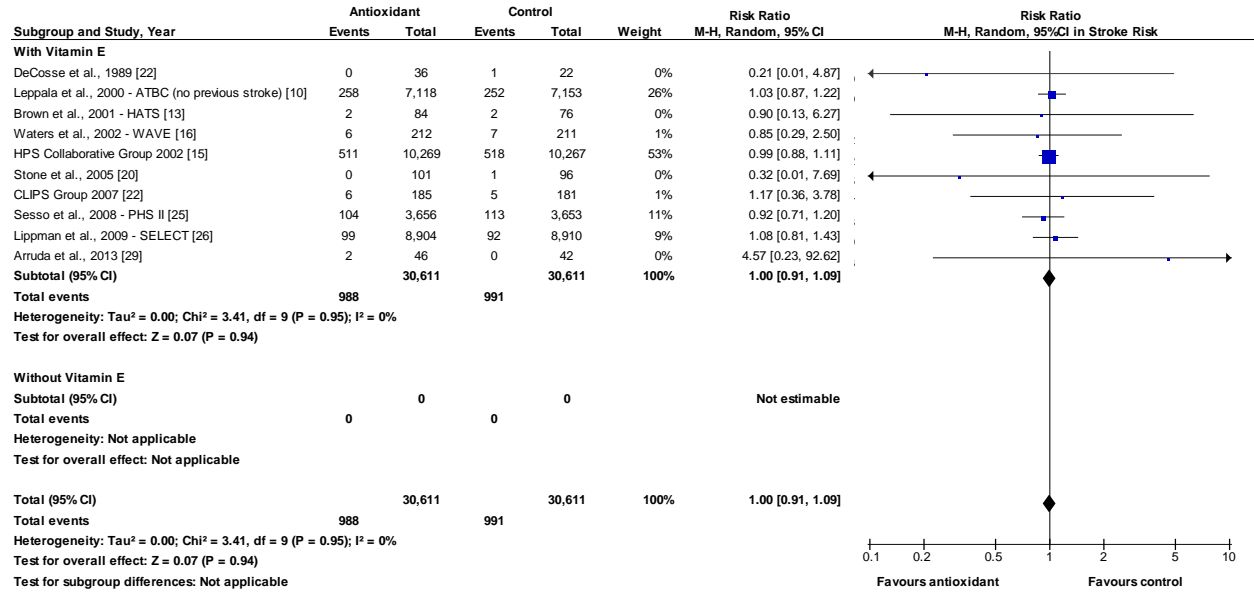
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Supplementary Figure 70. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction.

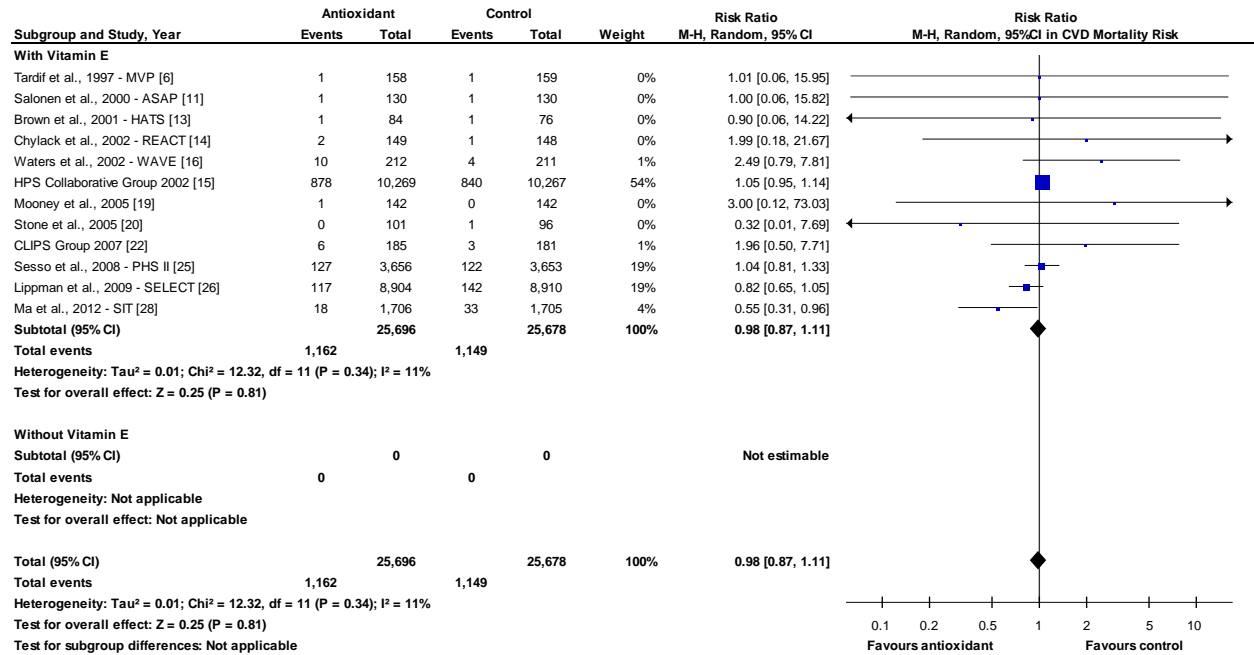
The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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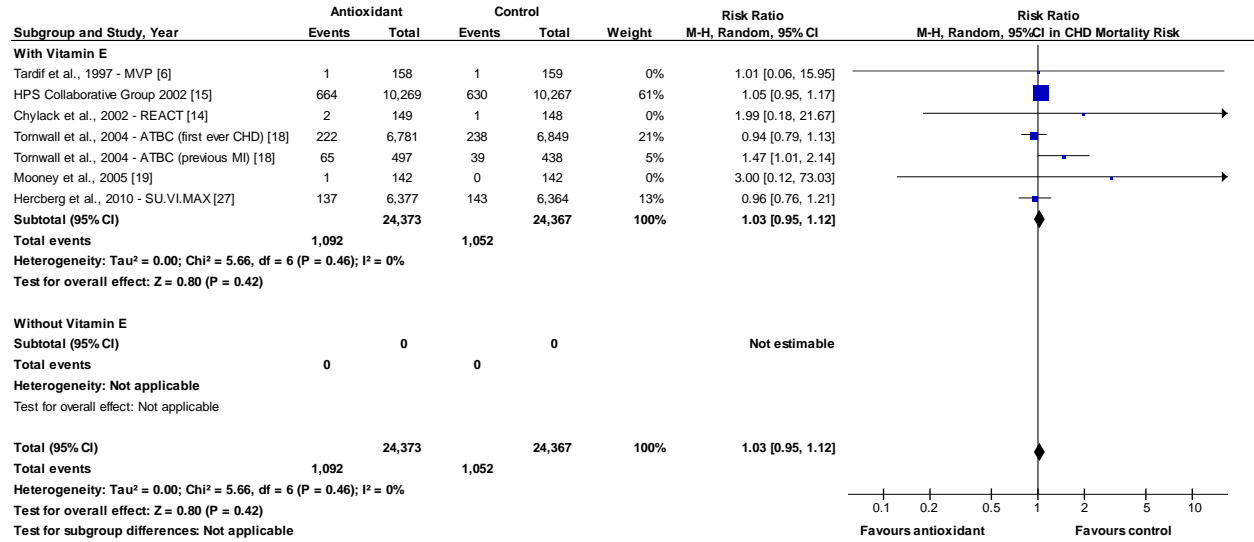
Supplementary Figure 71. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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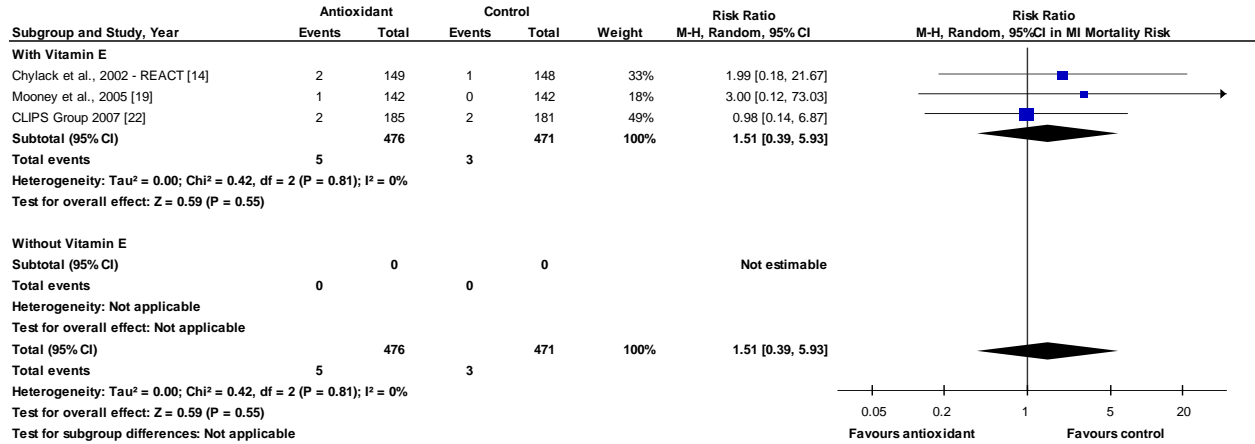
Supplementary Figure 72. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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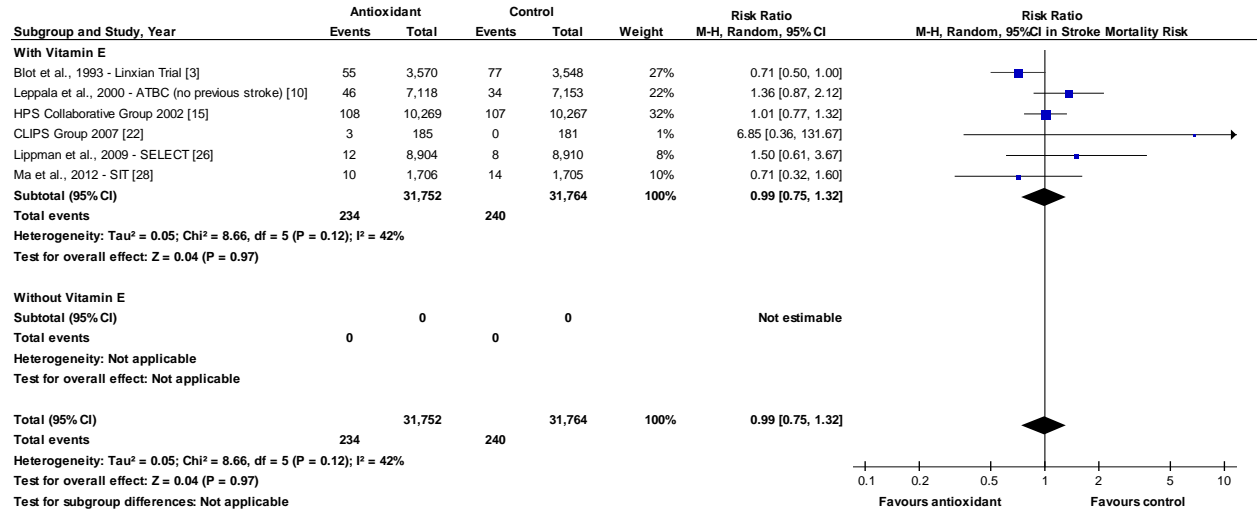
Supplementary Figure 73. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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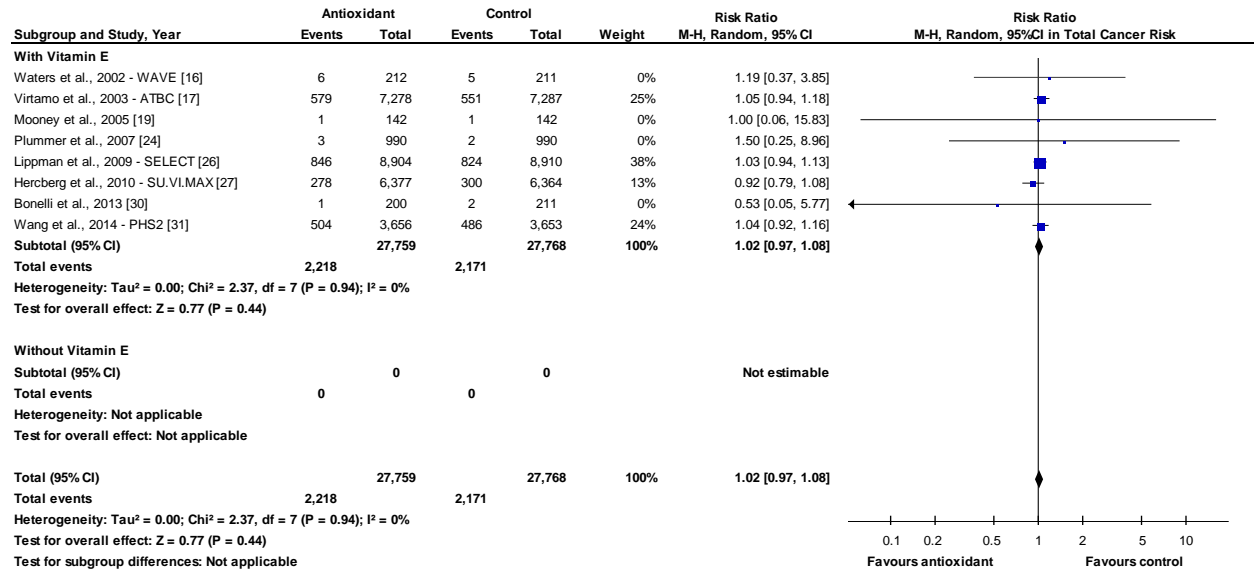
Supplementary Figure 74. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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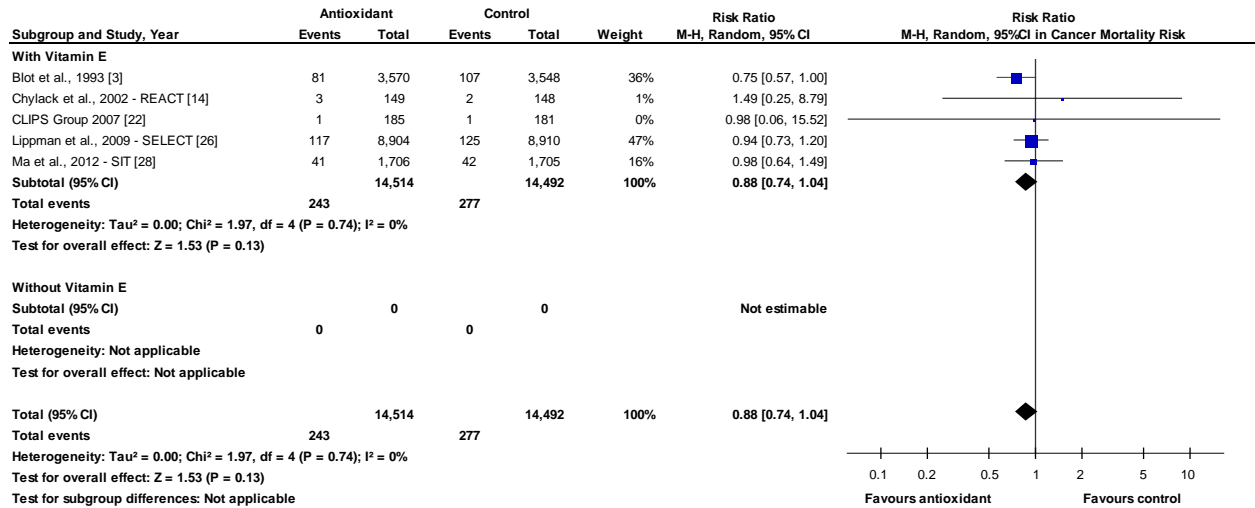
Supplementary Figure 75. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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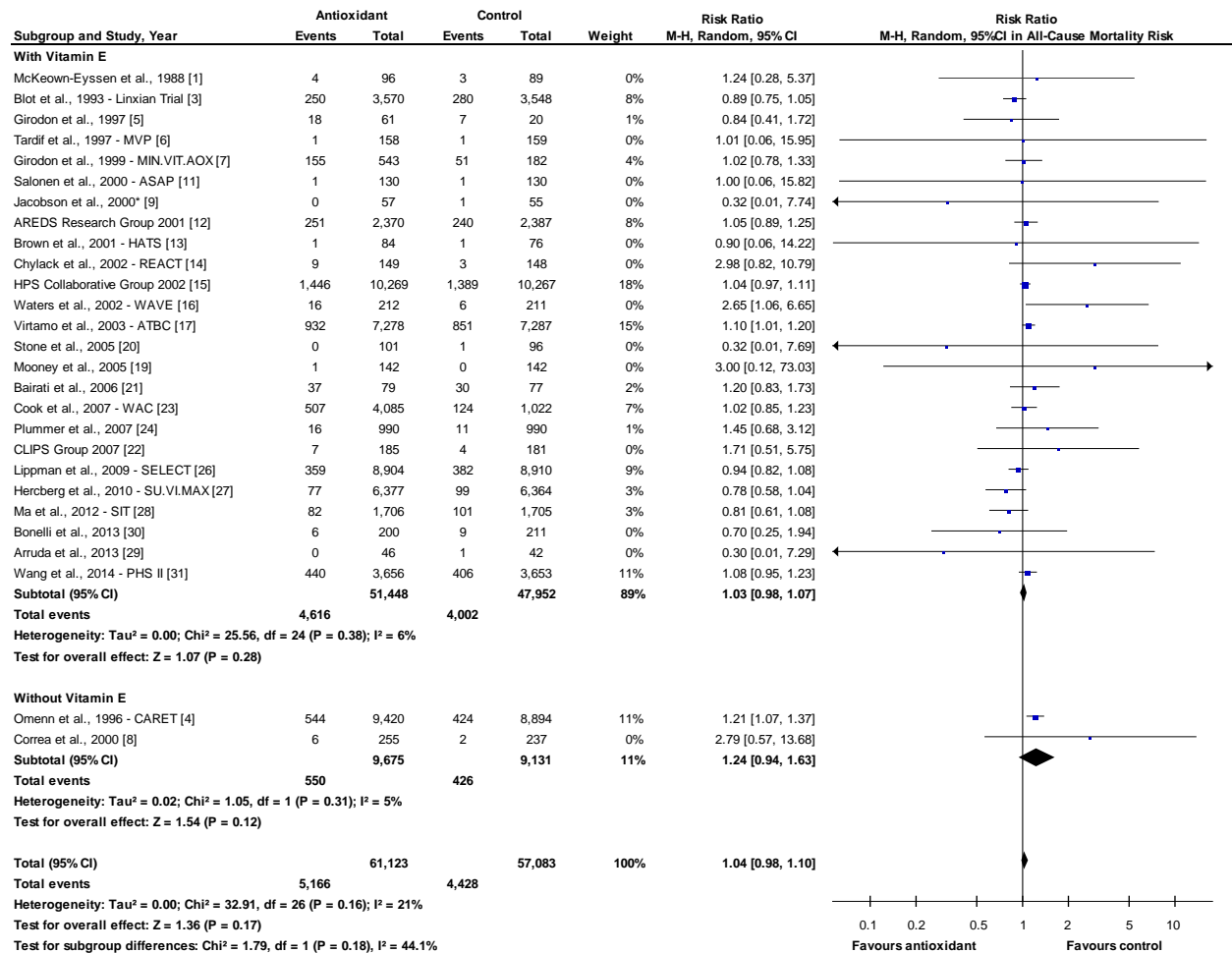
Supplementary Figure 76. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 77. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

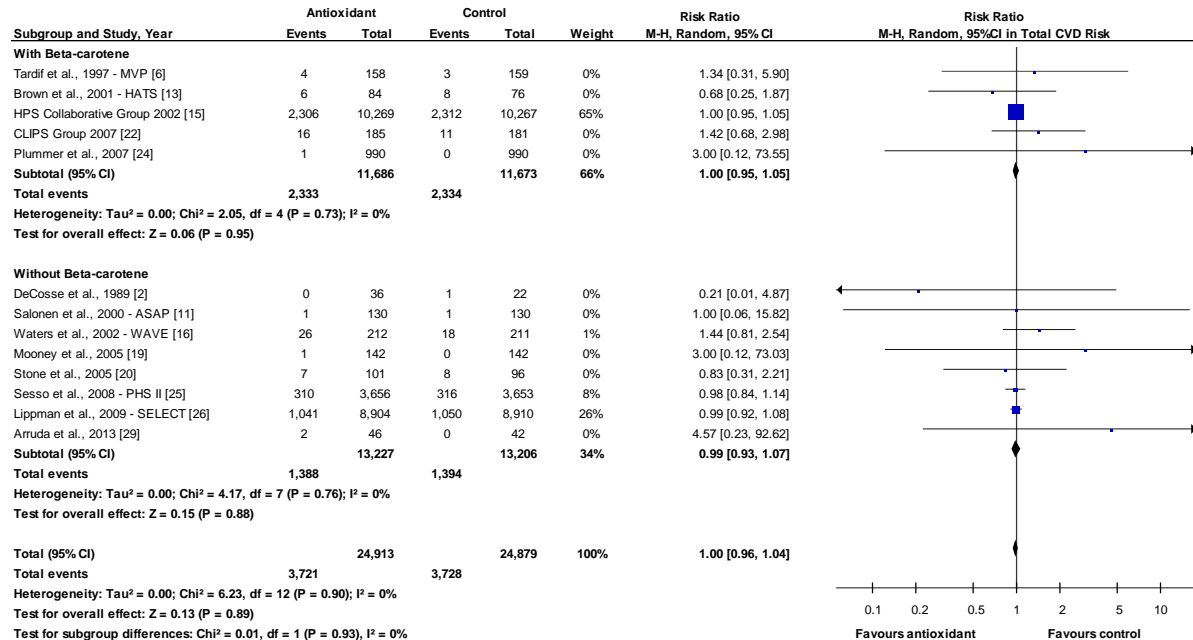
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Supplementary Figure 78. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without vitamin E. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel.

* Jacobson et al., 2000 – Data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects.

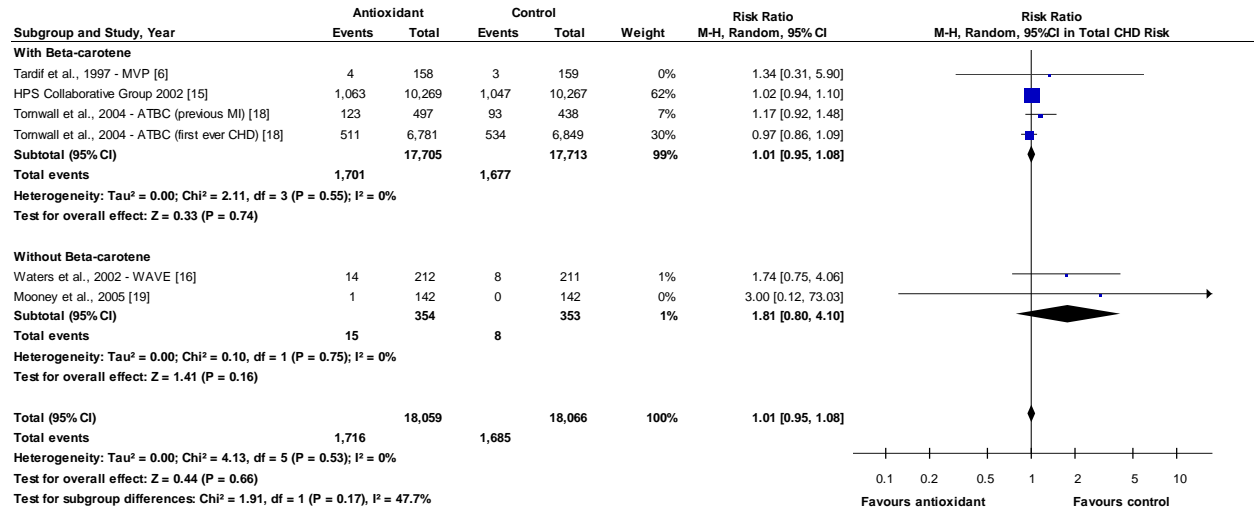
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Supplementary Figure 79. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk for studies with and without beta-carotene.

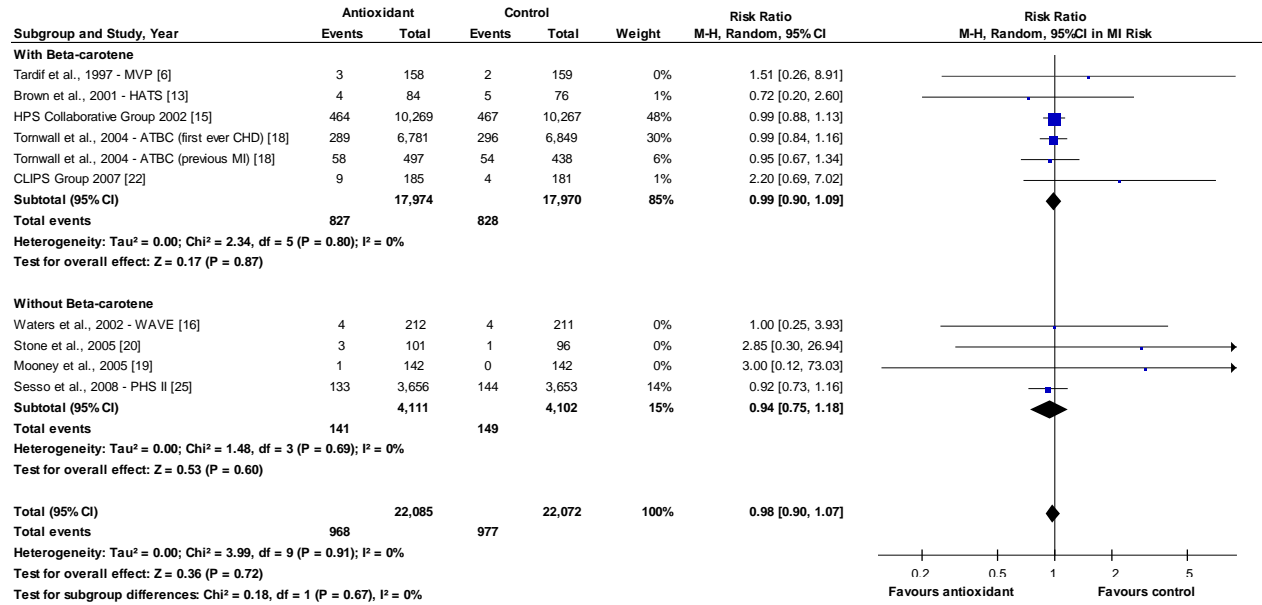
M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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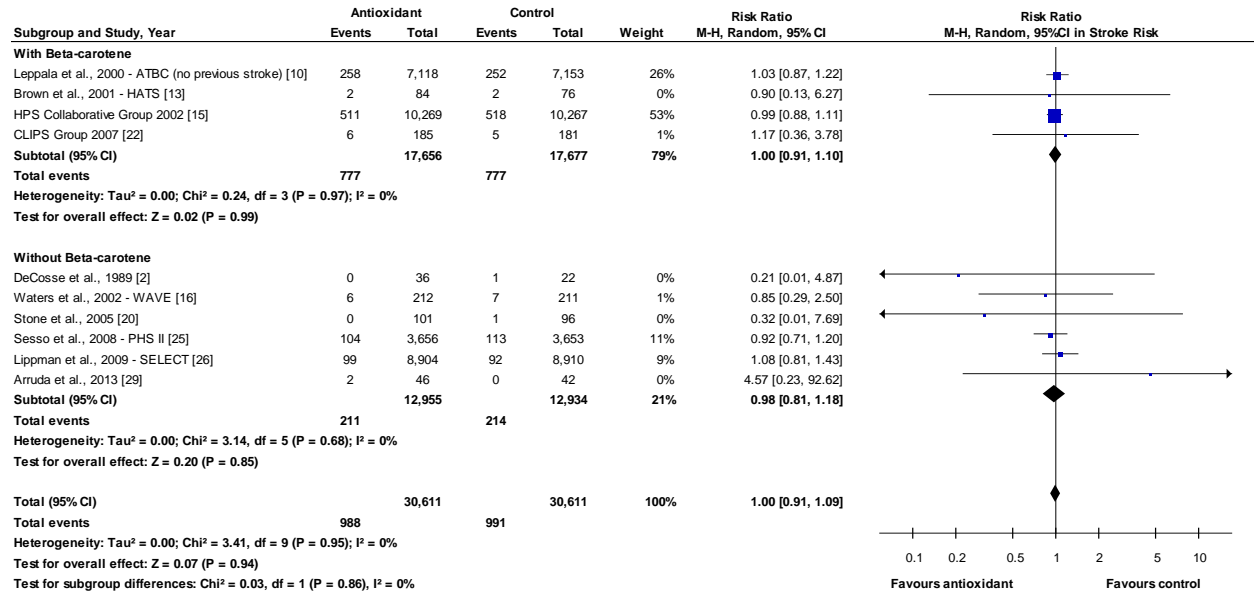
Supplementary Figure 80. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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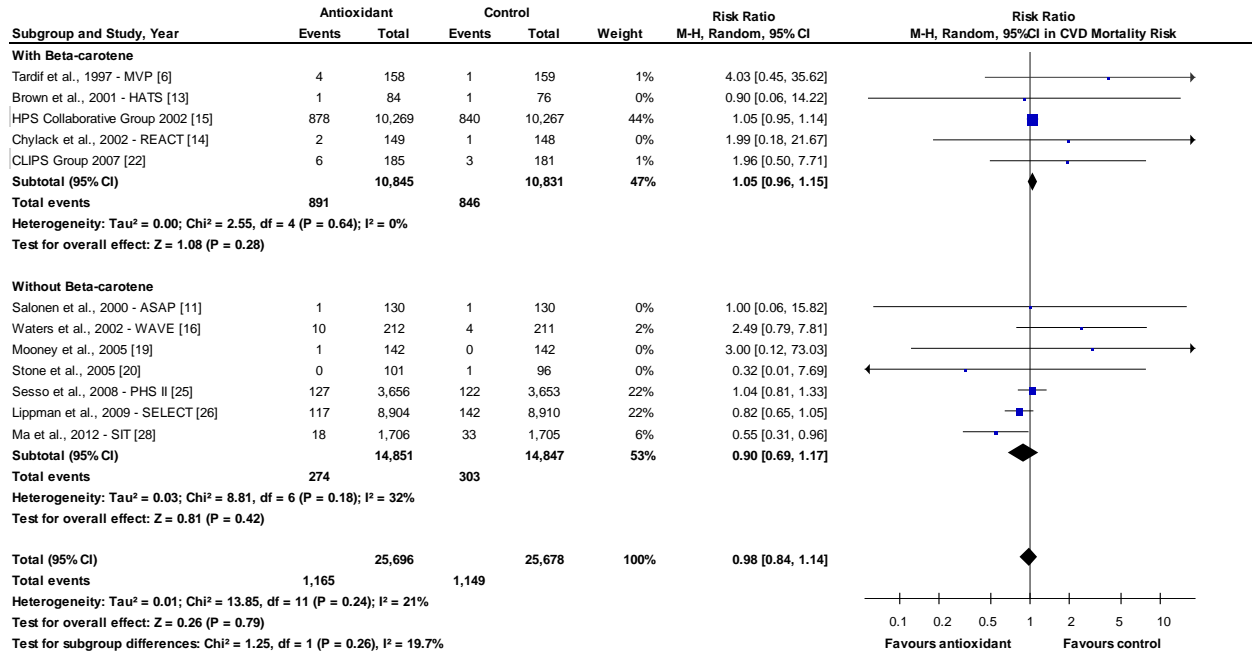
Supplementary Figure 81. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 82. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

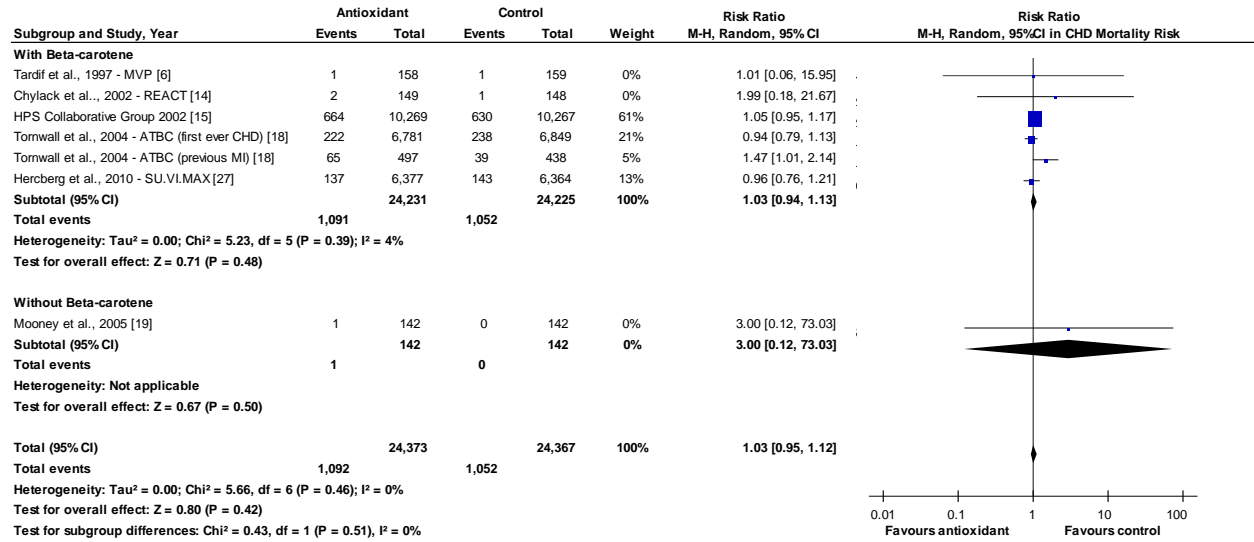
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Supplementary Figure 83. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk for studies with and without beta-carotene.

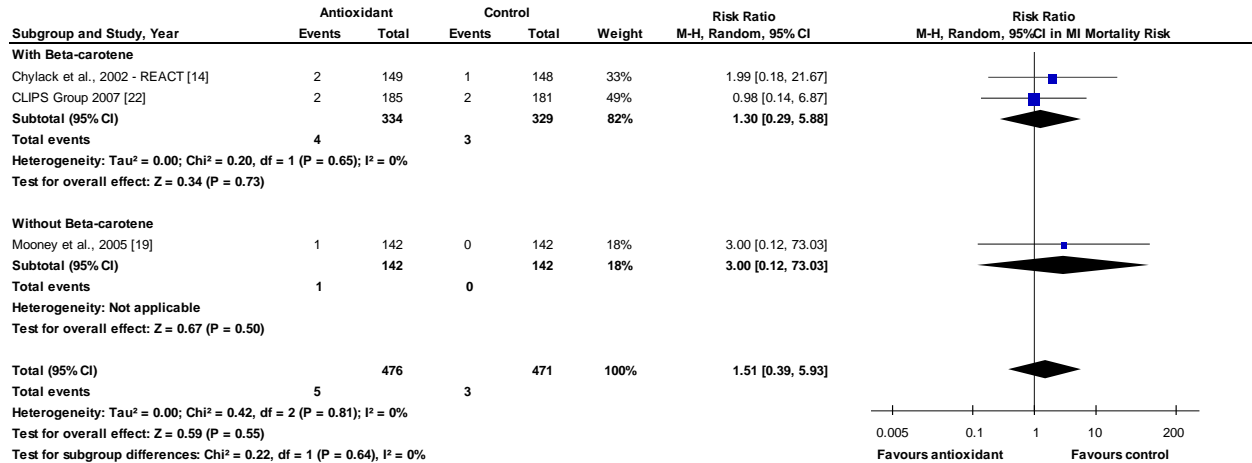
M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 84. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

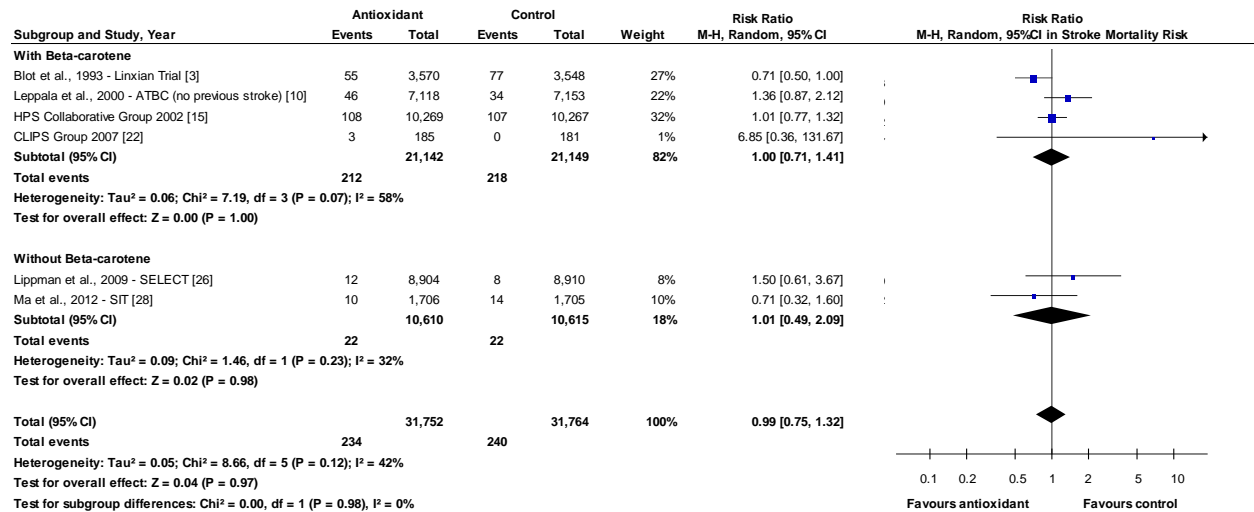
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Supplementary Figure 85. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI

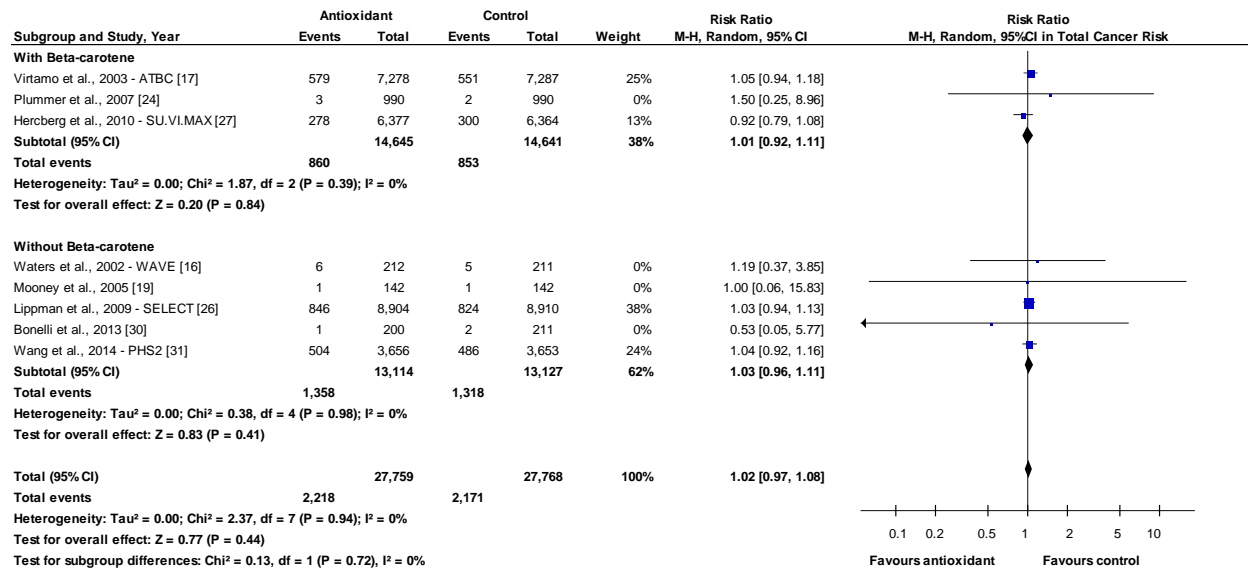
mortality risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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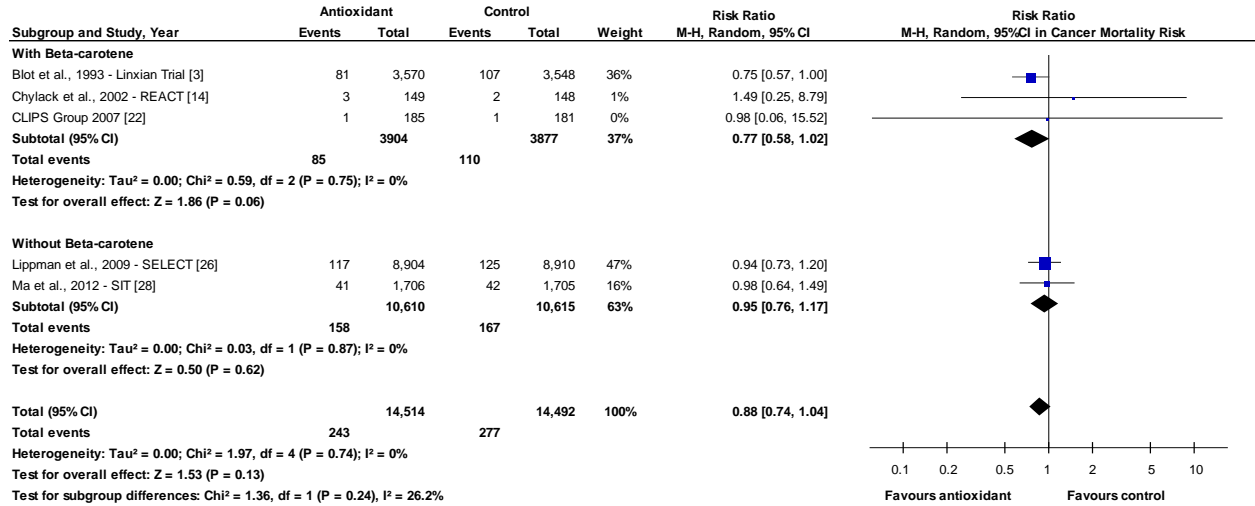
Supplementary Figure 86. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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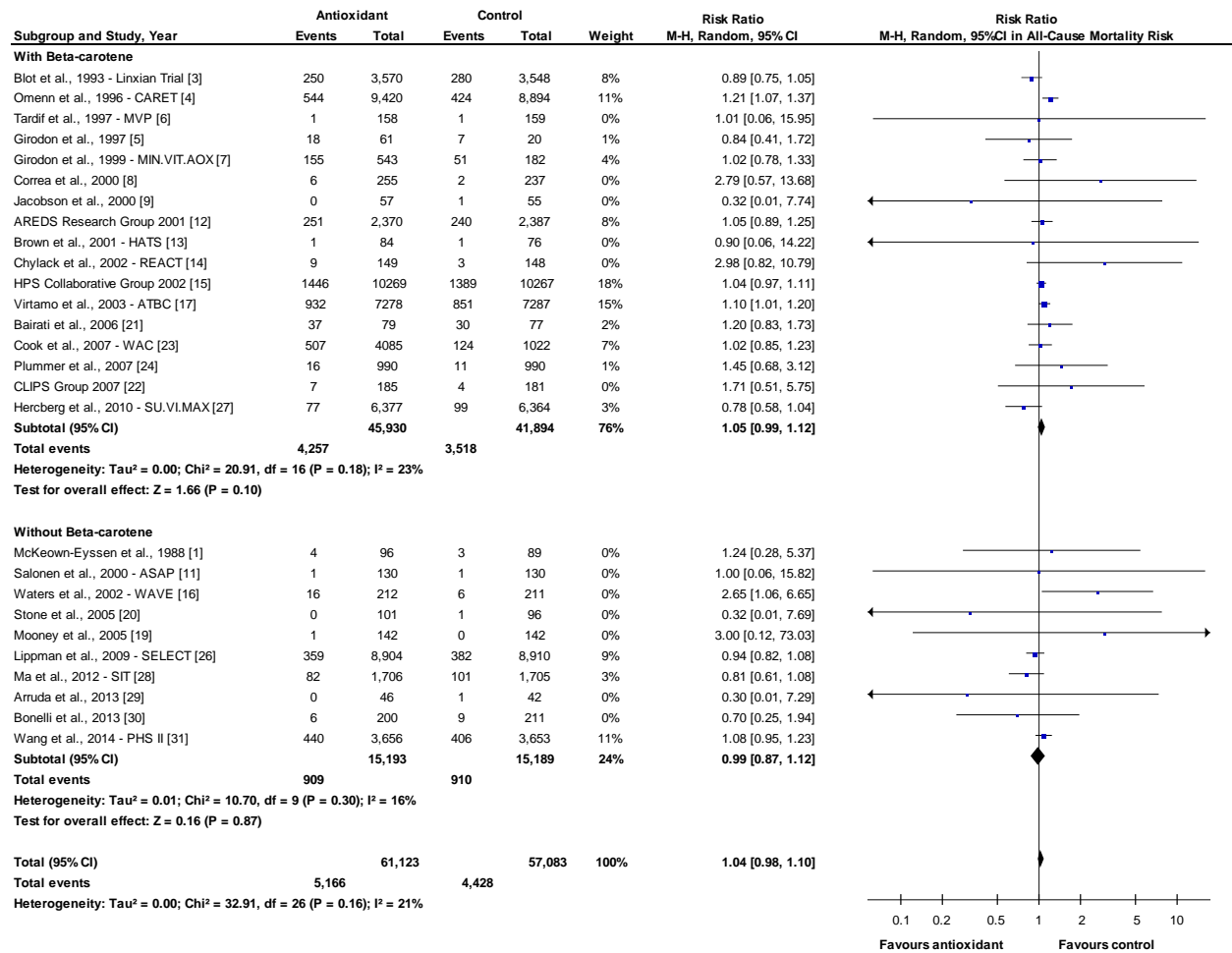
Supplementary Figure 87. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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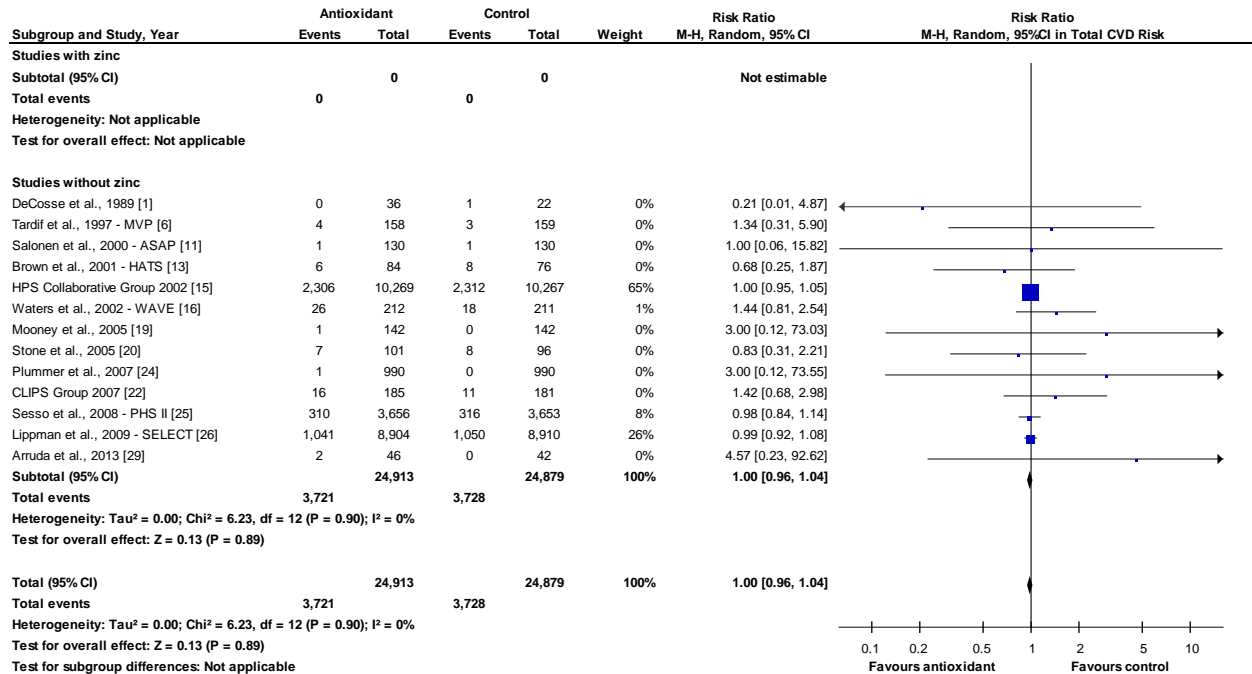
Supplementary Figure 88. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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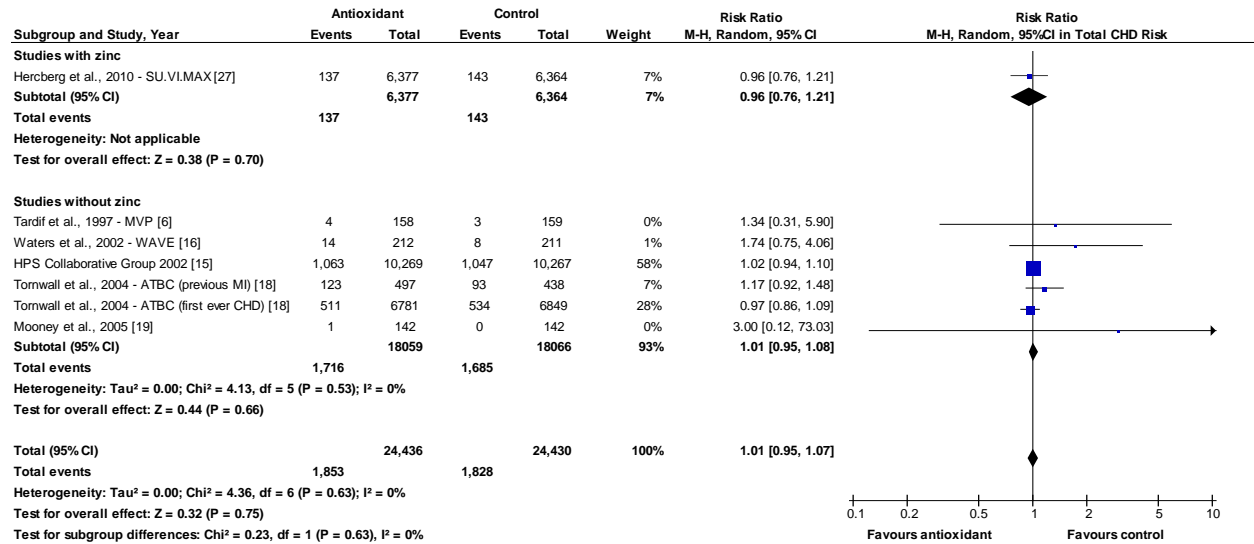
Supplementary Figure 89. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without beta-carotene. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. *Jacobson et al., 2000 – Data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random.

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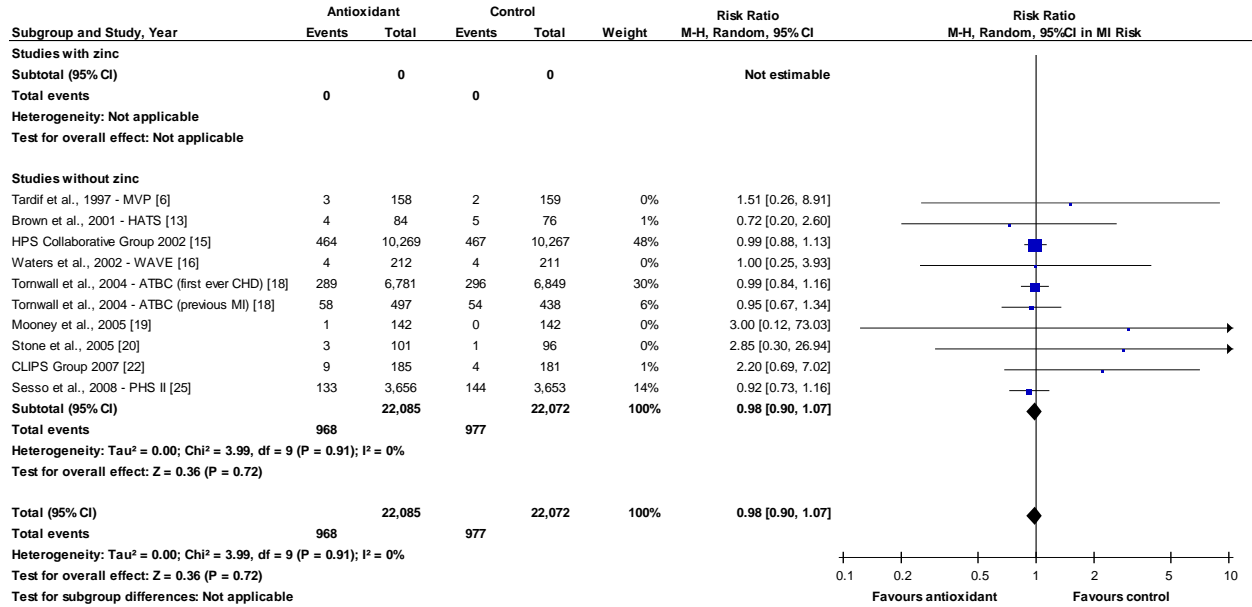
Supplementary Figure 90. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk for studies with and without zinc. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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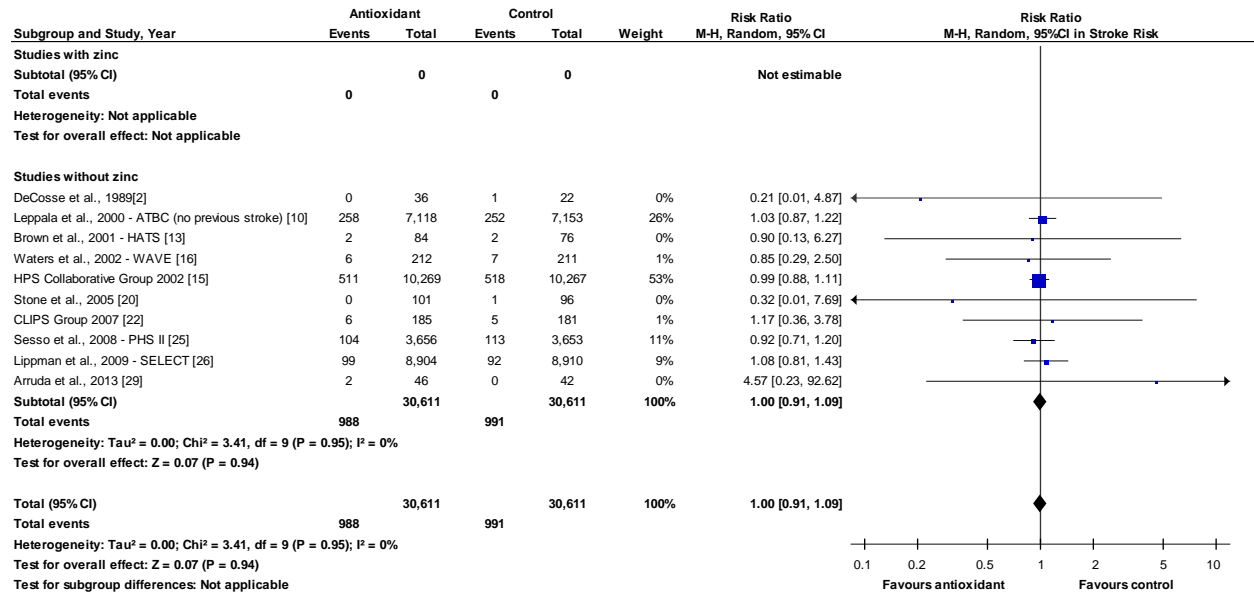
Supplementary Figure 91. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk for studies with and without zinc. Manthel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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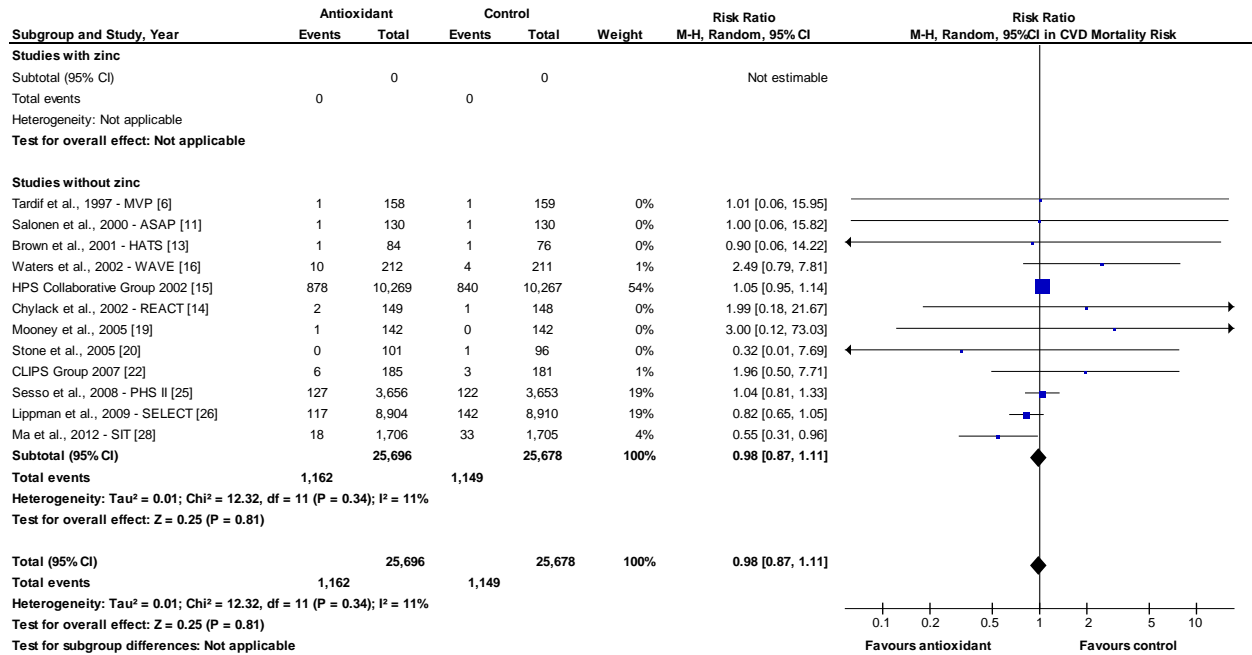
Supplementary Figure 92. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk for studies with and without zinc. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 93. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk for studies with and without zinc. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

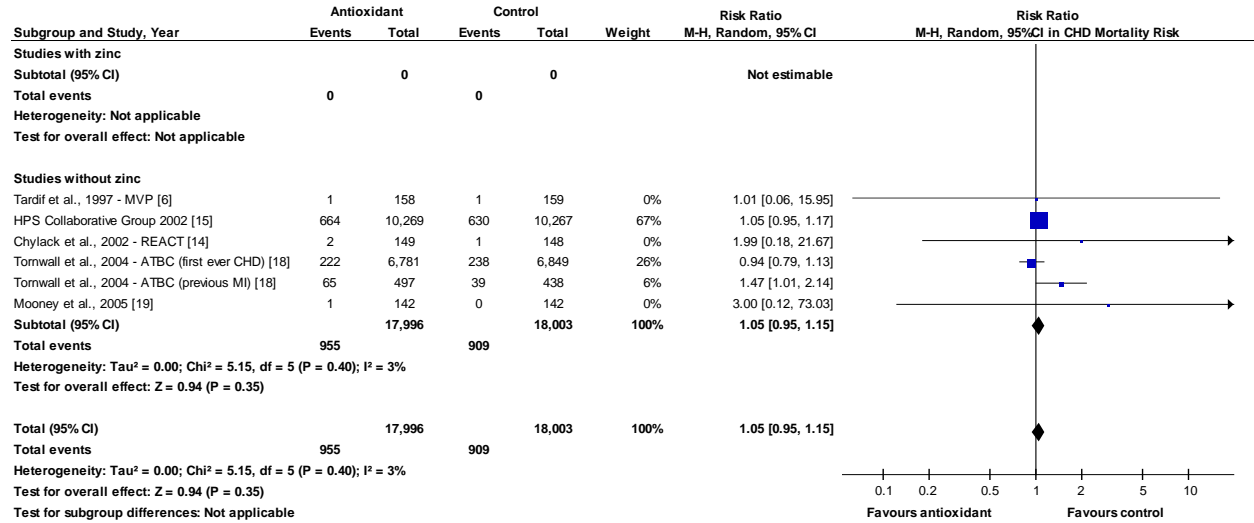
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Supplementary Figure 94. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk for studies with and without zinc.

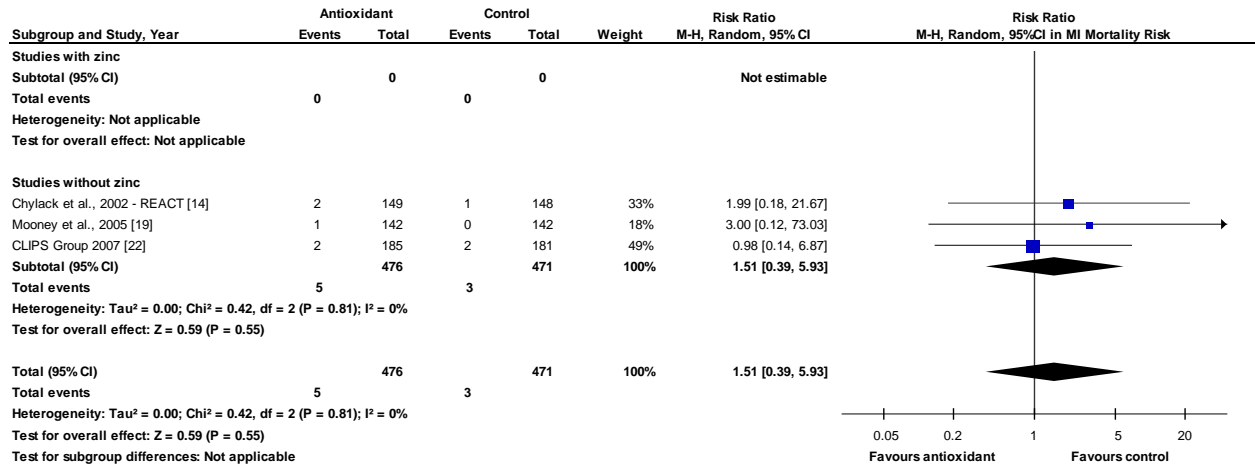
M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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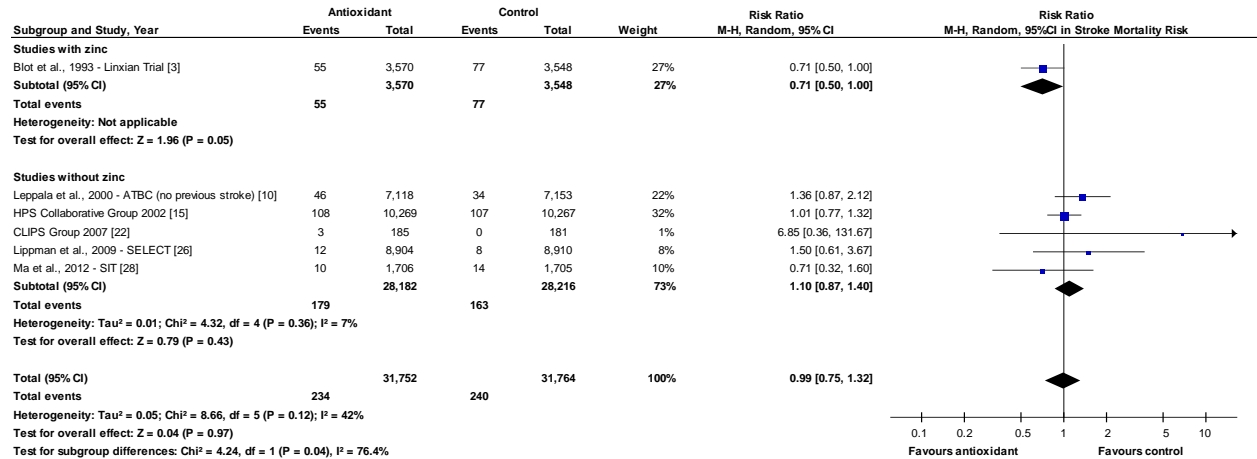
Supplementary Figure 95. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk for studies with and without zinc. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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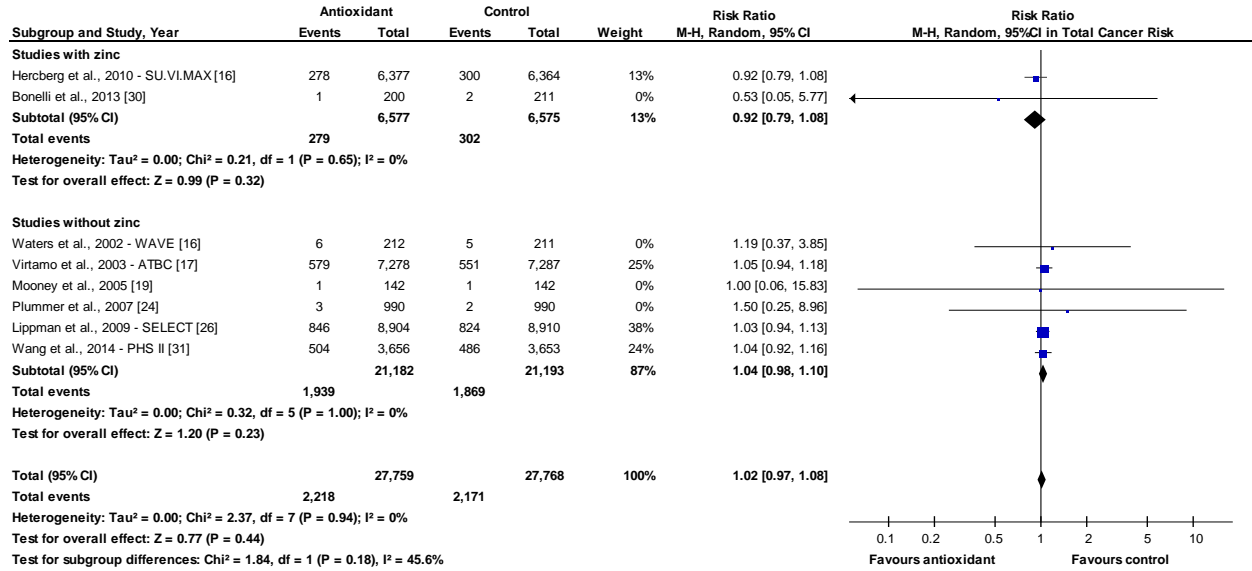
Supplementary Figure 96. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk for studies with and without zinc. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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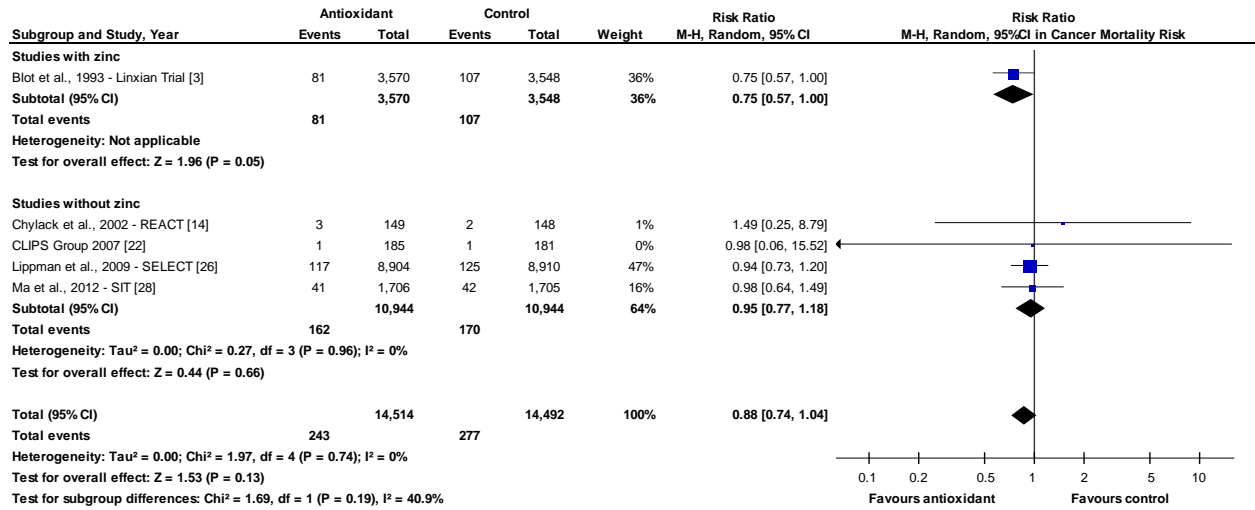
Supplementary Figure 97. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with and without zinc. NNT for antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with zinc is 159. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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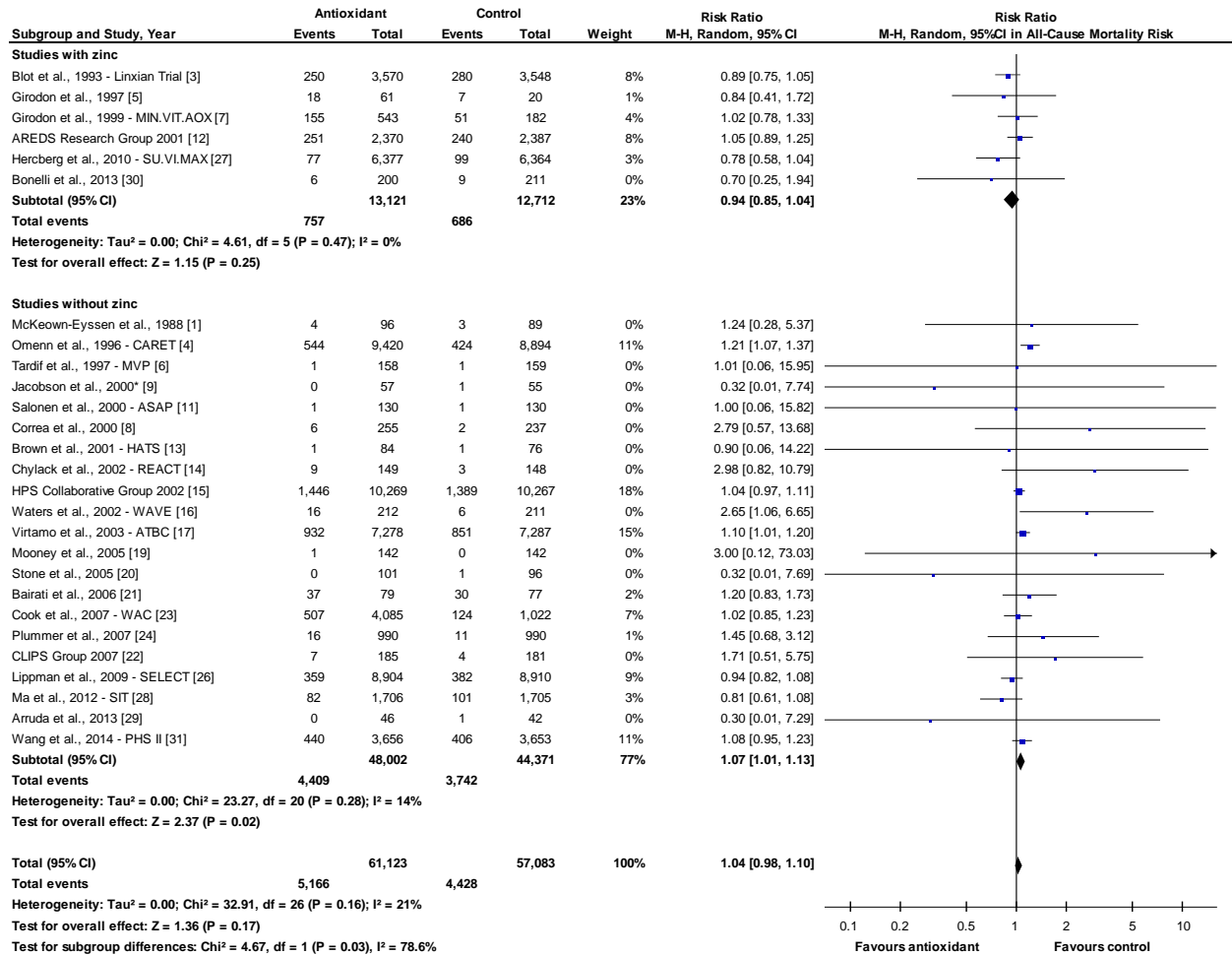
Supplementary Figure 98. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk for studies with and without zinc. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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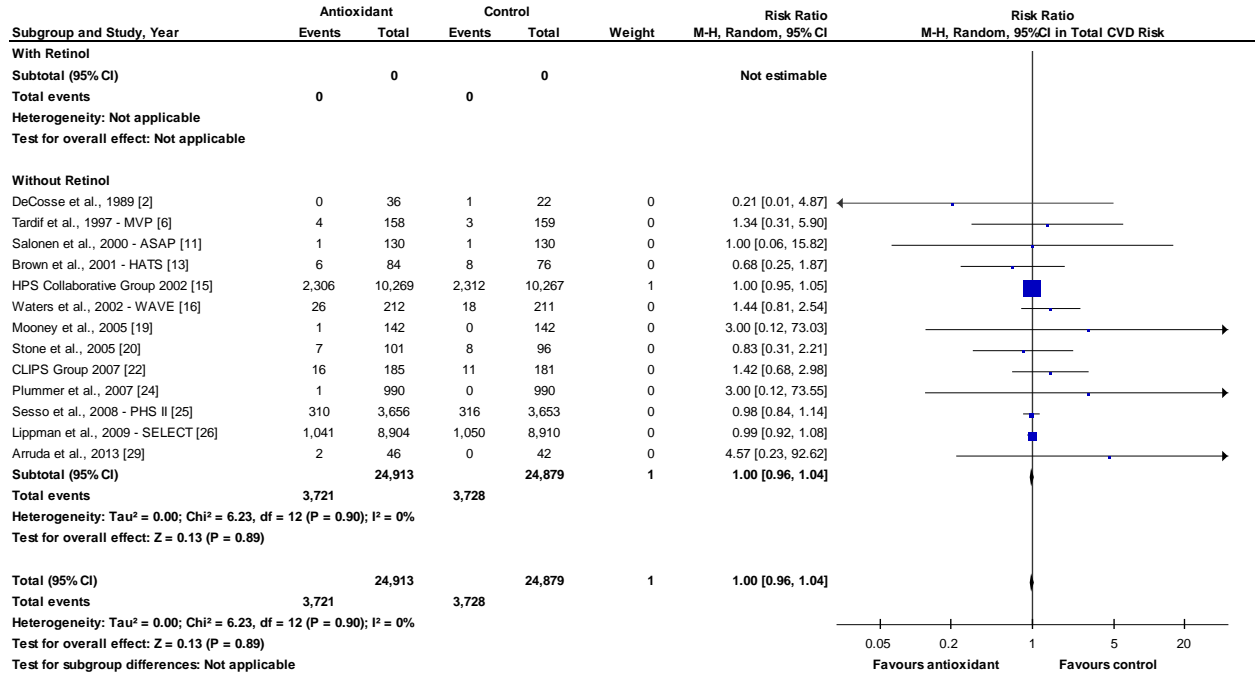
Supplementary Figure 99. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with and without zinc. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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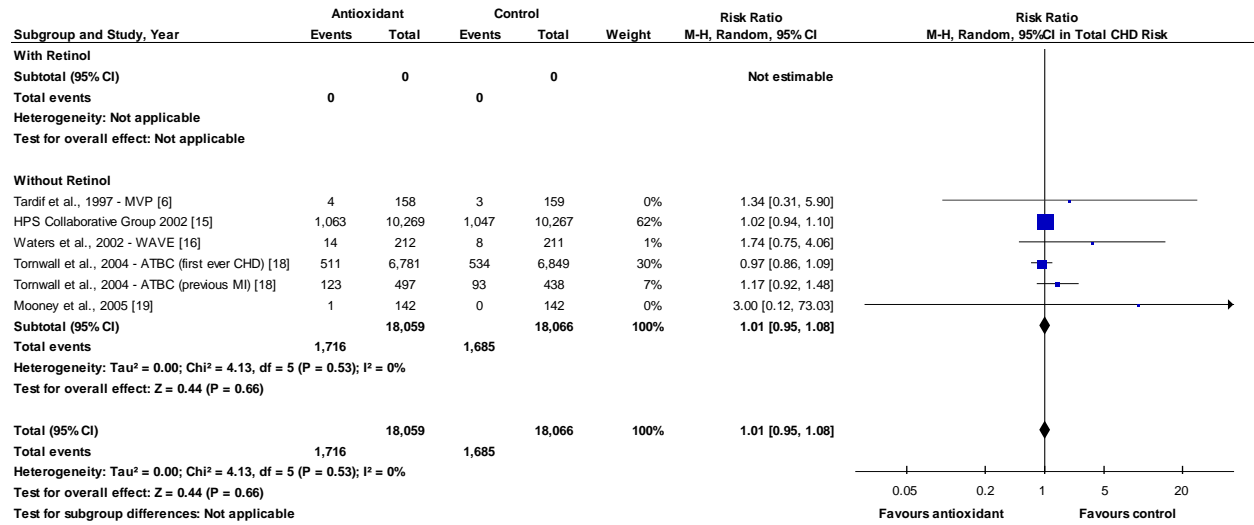
Supplementary Figure 100. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without zinc. NNH for antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies without zinc is 169. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. ***Jacobson et al., 2000 – Data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44).** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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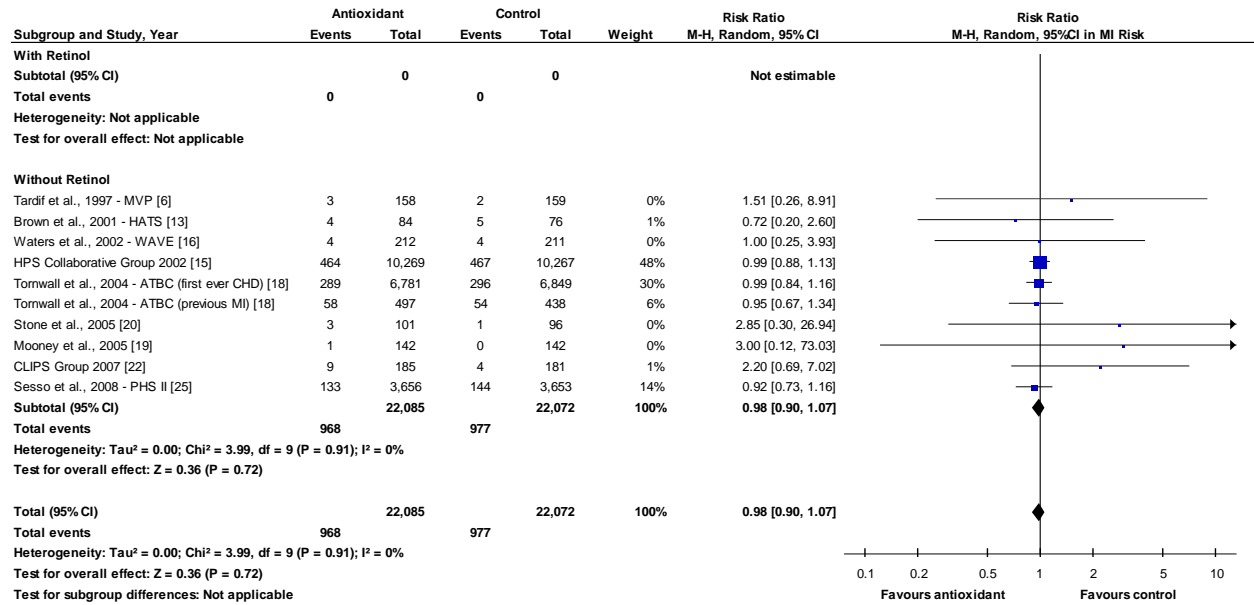
Supplementary Figure 101. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CVD risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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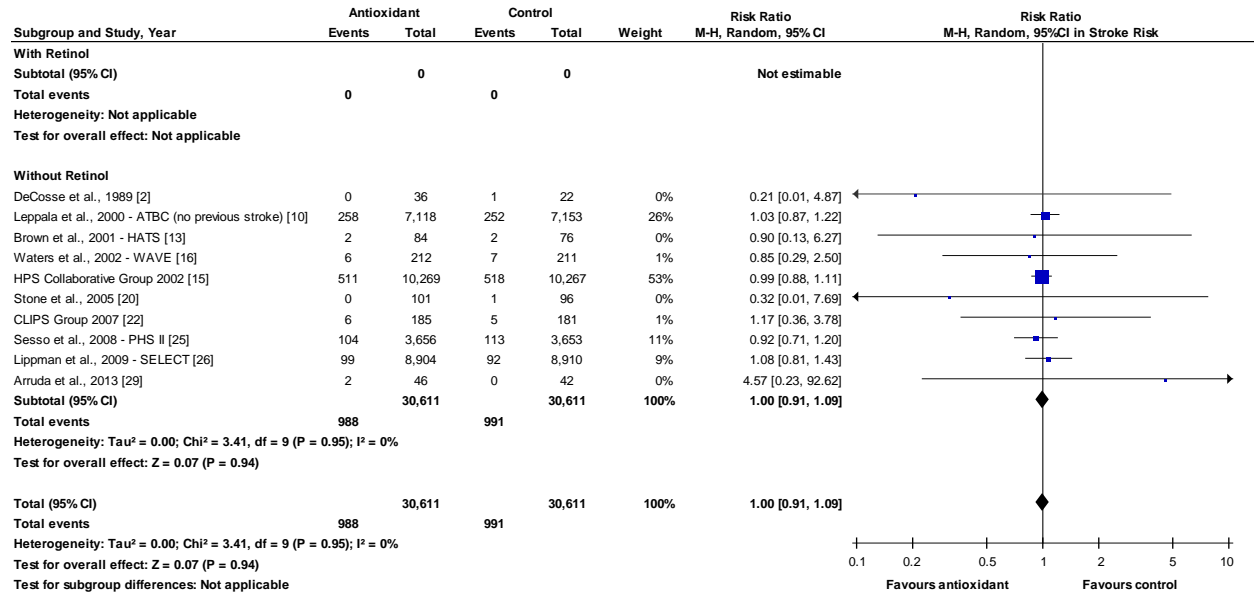
Supplementary Figure 102. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total CHD risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Manthel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Manthel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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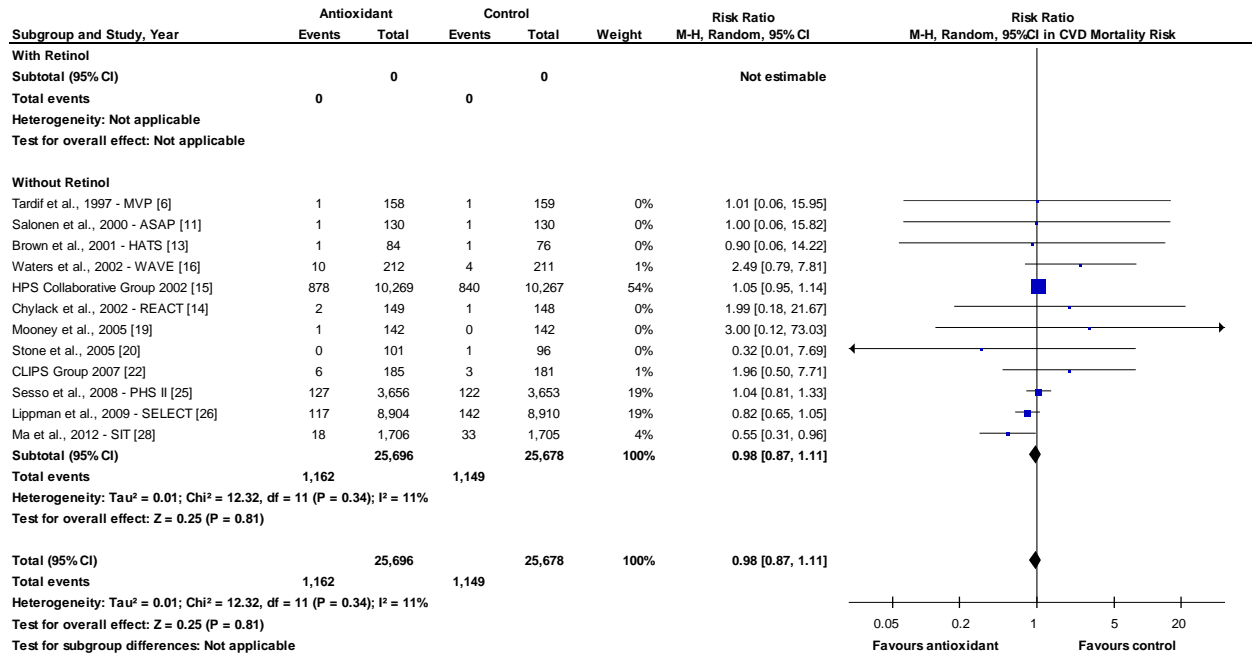
Supplementary Figure 103. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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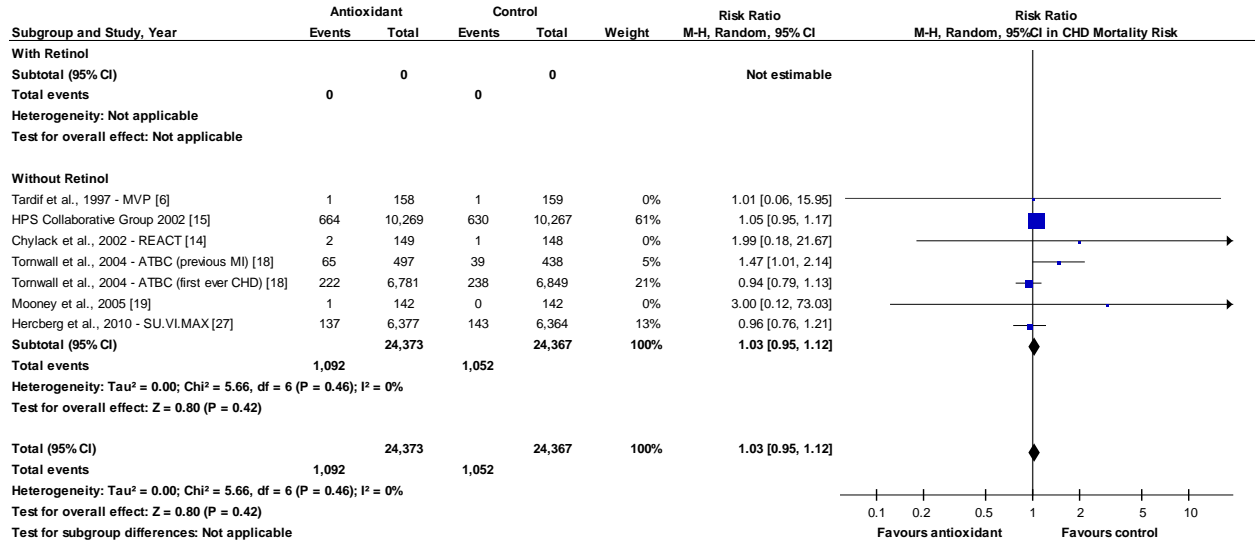
Supplementary Figure 104. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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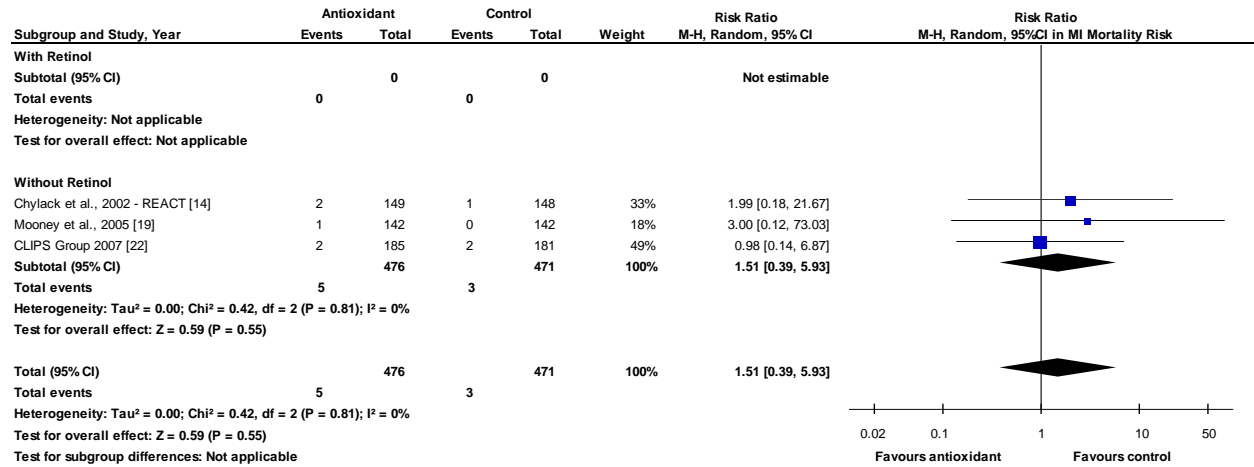
Supplementary Figure 105. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CVD mortality risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CVD, cardiovascular disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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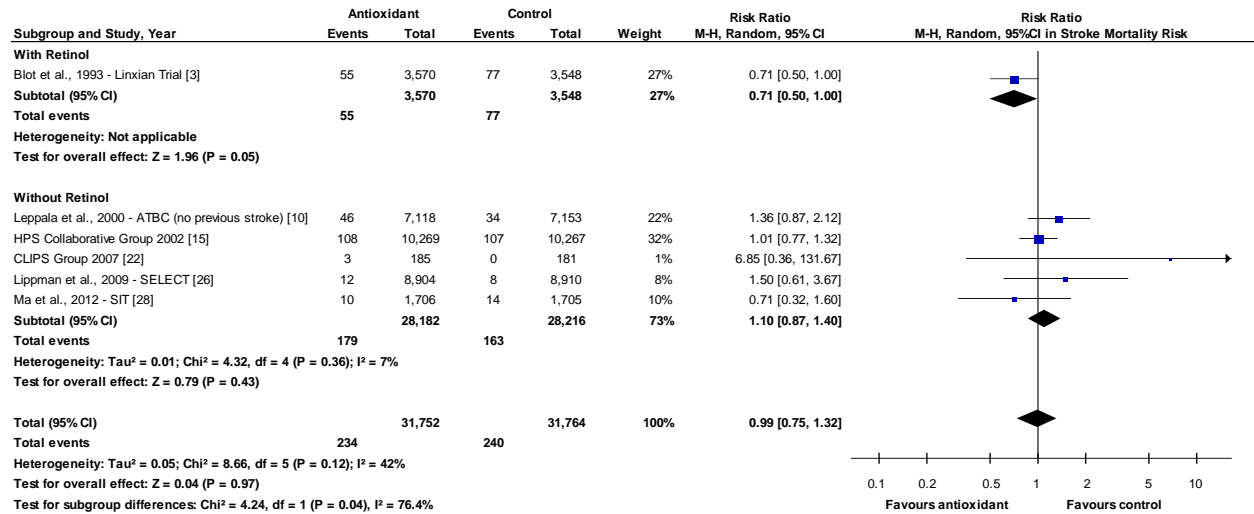
Supplementary Figure 106. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and CHD mortality risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, CHD, coronary heart disease. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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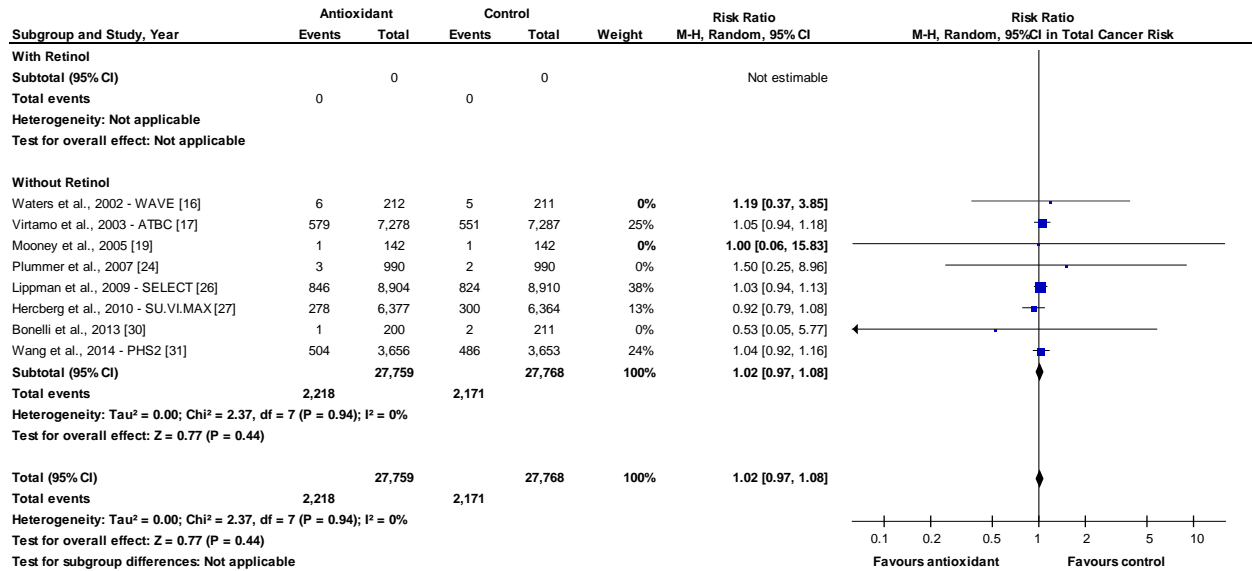
Supplementary Figure 107. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and MI mortality risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel, MI, myocardial infarction. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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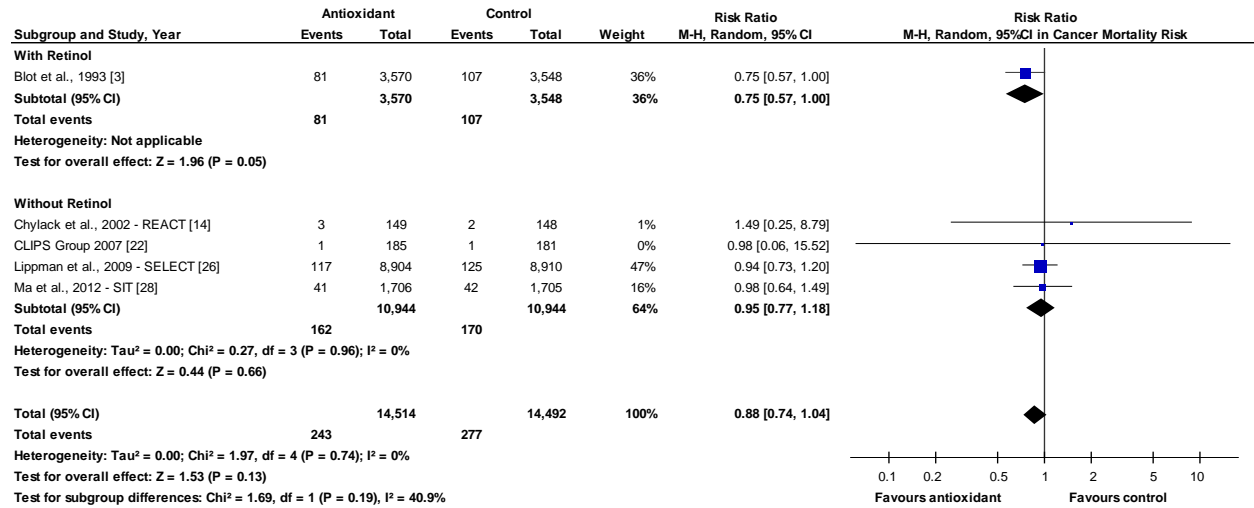
Supplementary Figure 108. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with and without retinol. NNT for antioxidant supplementation and stroke mortality risk for studies with retinol is 159. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi^2) at a significance level of $P < 0.10$, and quantified by the I^2 statistic. An I^2 value $\geq 50\%$ is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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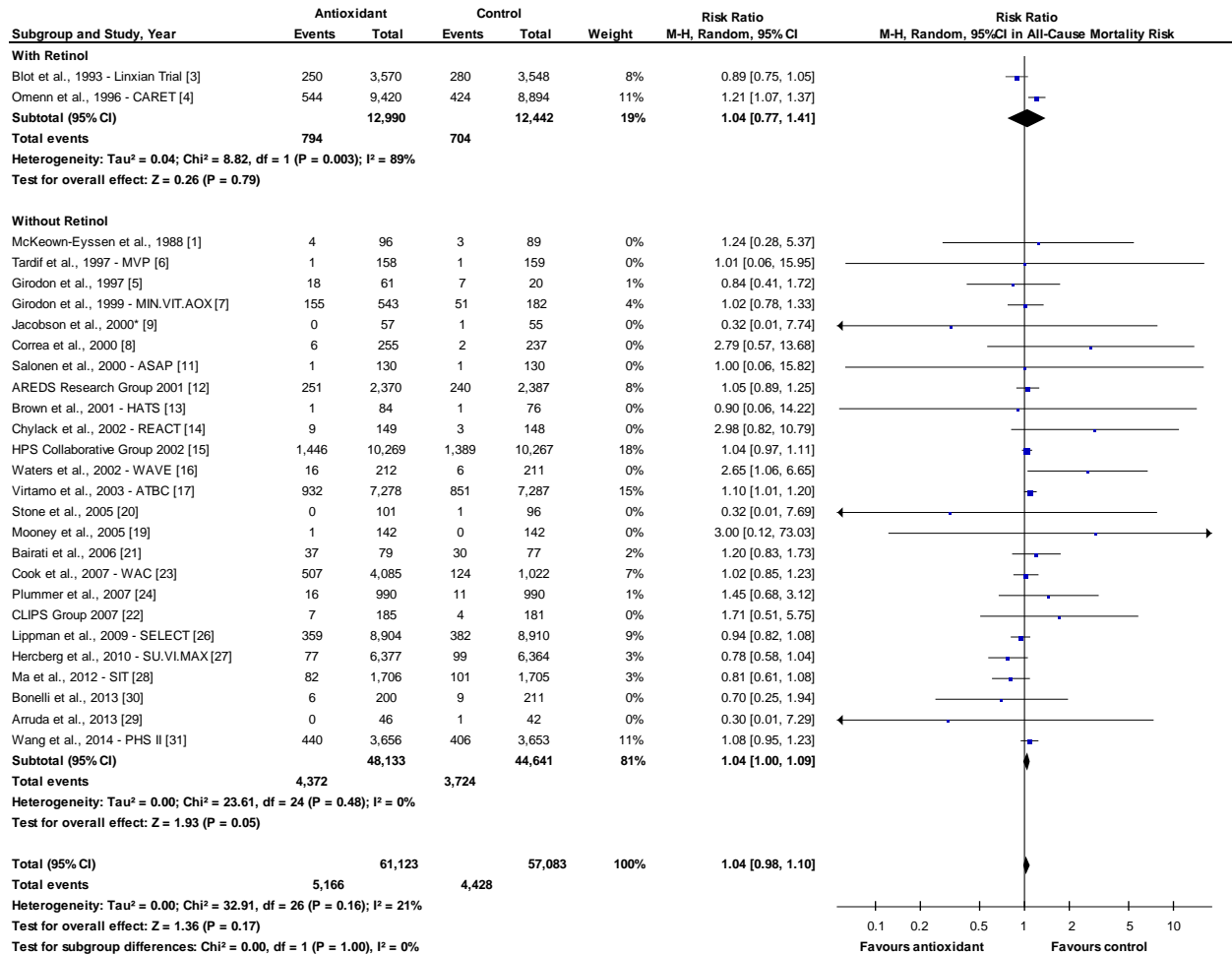
Supplementary Figure 109. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and total cancer risk for studies with and without retinol. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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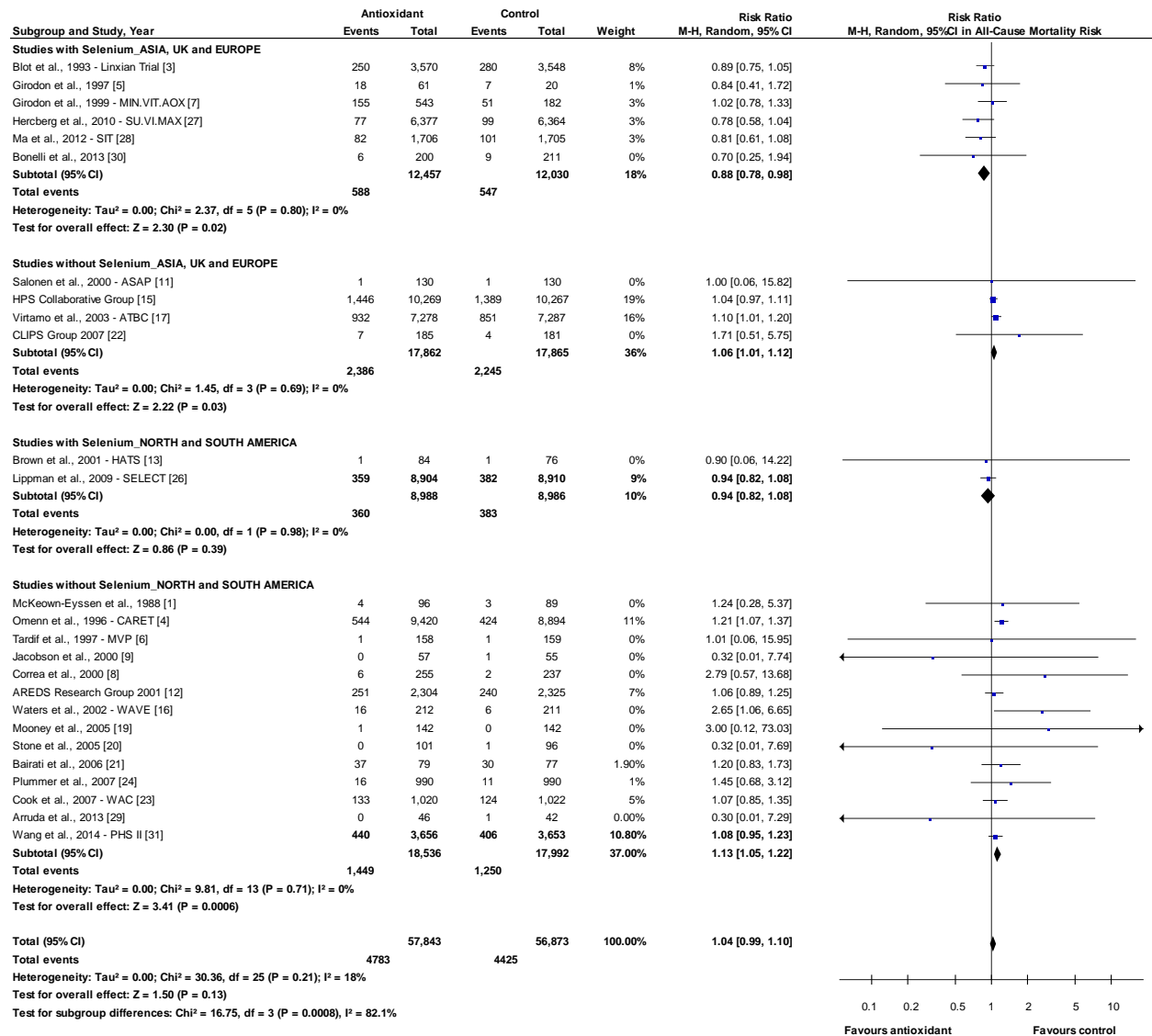
Supplementary Figure 110. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with and without retinol. NNT for antioxidant supplementation and cancer mortality risk for studies with retinol is 133. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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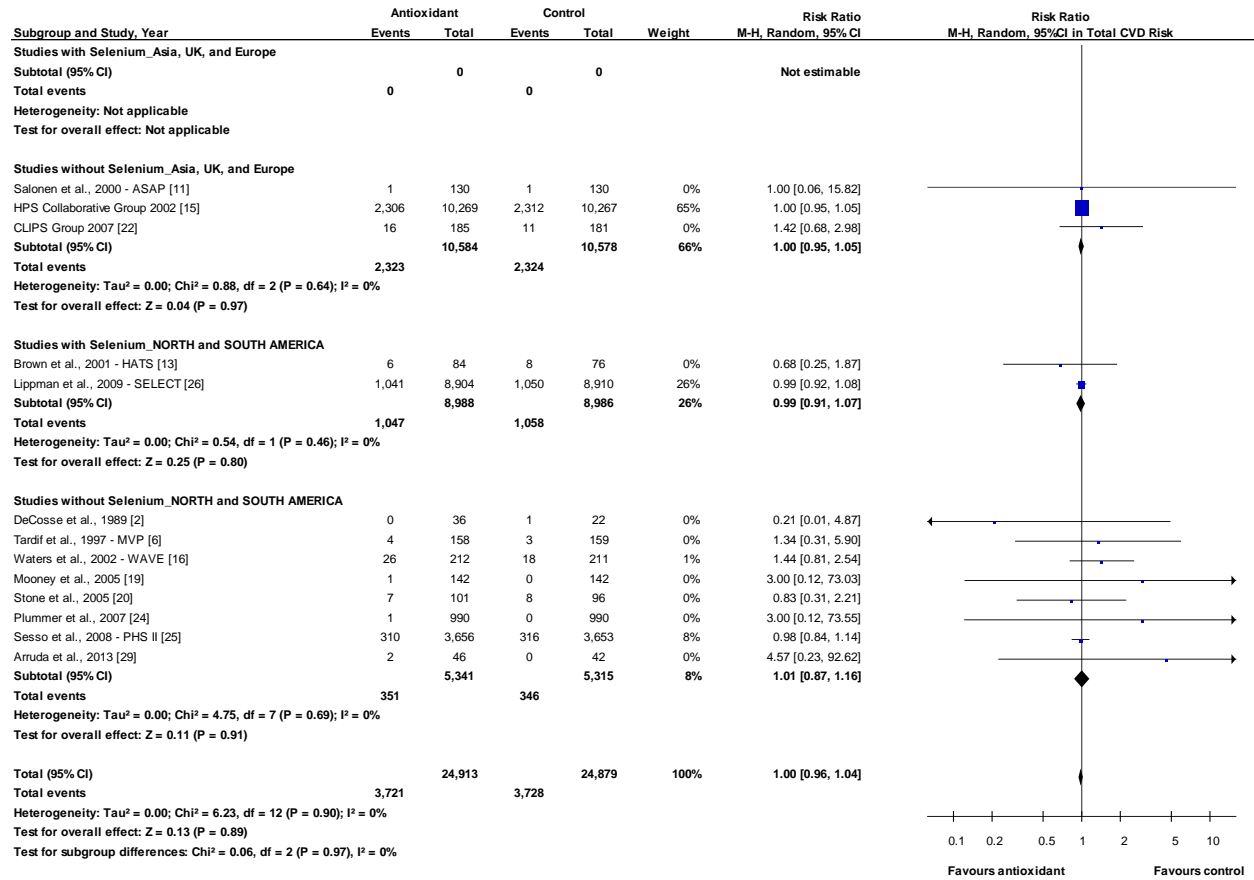
Supplementary Figure 111. Sensitivity analysis of antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies with and without Retinol. NNH for antioxidant supplementation and all-cause mortality risk for studies without retinol is 300. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. *Jacobson et al., 2000 – Data retrieved from meta-analysis Bjelakovic 2012 (44). The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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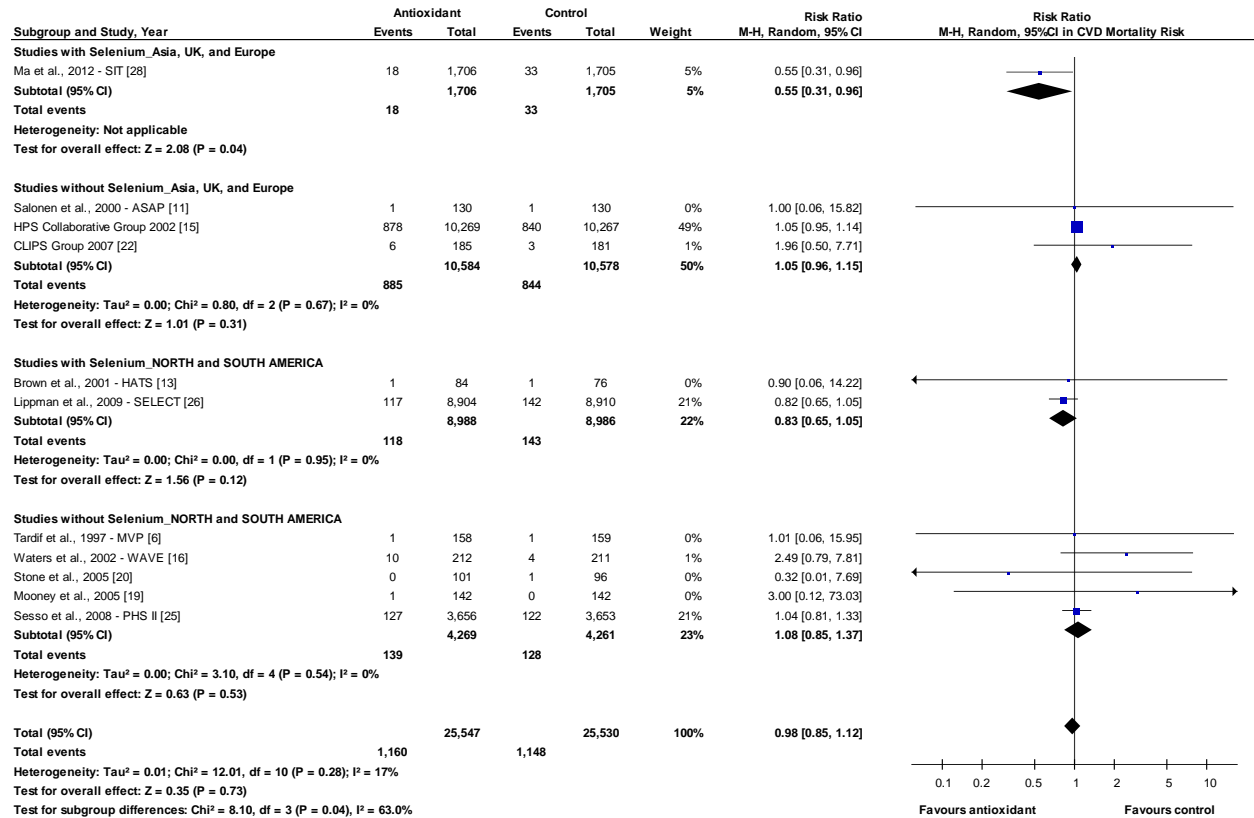
Supplementary Figure 112. Forest plot showing antioxidants (with and without selenium) by region and all-cause mortality. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. **Chylack et al., 2002 – REACT was excluded from the plot as the study was conducted in both the USA and UK.** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 113. Forest plot showing antioxidants (with and without selenium) by region and total CVD. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. Chylack et al., 2002 – REACT was excluded from the plot as the study was conducted in both the USA and UK. The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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Supplementary Figure 114. Forest plot showing antioxidants (with and without selenium) by region and CVD mortality. M-H, Mantel-Haenszel. **Chylack et al., 2002 – REACT was excluded from the plot as the study was conducted in both the USA and UK.** The diamond represents the pooled risk estimate. Inter-study heterogeneity was tested using the Cochran Q statistic (Chi²) at a significance level of P < 0.10, and quantified by the I² statistic. An I² value ≥ 50% is considered to indicate substantial heterogeneity. All results are presented as risk ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals, using the Mantel-Haenszel method with random effects model.

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