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Appendix S1: Outcome Definitions.

| Outcome | Definition |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Confirmed herpes zoster infection | Subjects who underwent clinical diagnosis of herpes zoster infection through laboratory testing (e.g. polymerase-chain-reaction assay, virus culture) and/or examination by a physician were classified as having confirmed cases of herpes zoster infection. |
| Post-herpetic neuralgia | Subjects with pain continuing 90 days or longer after the onset of the shingles rash. All efficacy and effectiveness data are based on this definition and also known as PHN-901. |
| Herpes zoster ophthalmicus | Subjects with herpes zoster infection in the ocular region. |
| Injection site adverse events | Local reactions such as pain, redness, swelling, induration, pruritus, etc. at the injection site. |
| Systematic adverse events | Generalized reactions such as headache, myalgia, fatigue, etc. |
| Serious adverse events | Any events requiring hospitalization (initial or prolonged) or medical intervention to prevent permanent damage/impairment; resulting in birth defect, disability/permanent damage, death or life-threatening condition ² . |
| Death | The number of subjects reported for death regardless of causality. |

1 .Yawn BP. Post-Shingles Neuralgia by Any Definition Is Painful, but Is It PHN? Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2011;86(12):1141- 1142. doi:10.4065/mcp.2011.0724.

2. US Food and Drug Administration. What is a Serious Adverse Event? [updated February 1, 2016]. Available from <https://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/HowToReport/ucm053087.htm> [accessed January 10, 2018].

Appendix S2: Literature Search Strategy for PubMed.

| Search number | Query | Search Details | Results |
|---------------|---|--|-----------|
| 1 | randomized controlled trial [pt] | "randomized controlled trial"[Publication Type] | 564,201 |
| 2 | controlled clinical trial [pt] | "controlled clinical trial"[Publication Type] | 654,086 |
| 3 | randomized [tiab] | "randomized"[Title/Abstract] | 605,081 |
| 4 | placebo [tiab] | "placebo"[Title/Abstract] | 233,312 |
| 5 | trial [tiab] | "trial"[Title/Abstract] | 699,406 |
| 6 | randomly [tiab] | "randomly"[Title/Abstract] | 379,944 |
| 7 | groups [tiab] | "groups"[Title/Abstract] | 2,362,600 |
| 8 | # 1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 | | 3,442,937 |
| 9 | animals [mh] NOT humans [mh] | "animals"[MeSH Terms] NOT "humans"[MeSH Terms] | 4,979,947 |
| 10 | #8 NOT #9 | | 2,956,001 |
| 11 | herpes zoster | "herpes zoster"[MeSH Terms] OR ("herpes"[All Fields] AND "zoster"[All Fields]) OR "herpes zoster"[All Fields] | 18,695 |
| 12 | shingles | "herpes zoster"[MeSH Terms] OR ("herpes"[All Fields] AND "zoster"[All Fields]) OR "herpes zoster"[All Fields] OR "shingles"[All Fields] OR "shingle"[All Fields] | 19,184 |
| 13 | varicella zoster virus | "herpesvirus 3, human"[MeSH Terms] OR "human herpesvirus 3"[All Fields] OR ("varicella"[All Fields] AND "zoster"[All Fields] AND "virus"[All Fields]) OR "varicella zoster virus"[All Fields] | 12,306 |
| 14 | zoster | "herpes zoster"[MeSH Terms] OR ("herpes"[All Fields] AND "zoster"[All Fields]) OR "herpes zoster"[All Fields] OR "zoster"[All Fields] | 22,871 |
| 15 | # 11 OR # 12 OR # 13 OR # 14 | | 24,321 |
| 16 | vaccine | "vaccin"[Supplementary Concept] OR "vaccin"[All Fields] OR "vaccination"[MeSH Terms] OR "vaccination"[All Fields] OR "vaccinable"[All Fields] OR "vaccinal"[All Fields] OR "vaccinate"[All Fields] OR "vaccinated"[All Fields] OR "vaccinates"[All Fields] OR "vaccinating"[All Fields] OR "vaccinations"[All Fields] OR "vaccination s"[All Fields] OR "vaccinator"[All Fields] OR "vaccinators"[All Fields] OR "vaccine s"[All Fields] OR "vaccined"[All Fields] OR "vaccines"[MeSH Terms] OR "vaccines"[All Fields] OR "vaccine"[All Fields] OR | 449,444 |

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| | | "vaccins"[All Fields] | |
| 17 | vaccination | "vaccin"[Supplementary Concept] OR "vaccin"[All Fields] OR "vaccination"[MeSH Terms] OR "vaccination"[All Fields] OR "vaccinable"[All Fields] OR "vaccinal"[All Fields] OR "vaccinate"[All Fields] OR "vaccinated"[All Fields] OR "vaccinates"[All Fields] OR "vaccinating"[All Fields] OR "vaccinations"[All Fields] OR "vaccination s"[All Fields] OR "vaccinator"[All Fields] OR "vaccinators"[All Fields] OR "vaccine s"[All Fields] OR "vaccined"[All Fields] OR "vaccines"[MeSH Terms] OR "vaccines"[All Fields] OR "vaccine"[All Fields] OR "vaccins"[All Fields] | 449,444 |
| 18 | immunization | "immune"[All Fields] OR "immuned"[All Fields] OR "immunes"[All Fields] OR "immunisation"[All Fields] OR "vaccination"[MeSH Terms] OR "vaccination"[All Fields] OR "immunization"[All Fields] OR "immunization"[MeSH Terms] OR "immunisations"[All Fields] OR "immunizations"[All Fields] OR "immunise"[All Fields] OR "immunised"[All Fields] OR "immuniser"[All Fields] OR "immunisers"[All Fields] OR "immunising"[All Fields] OR "immunities"[All Fields] OR "immunity"[MeSH Terms] OR "immunity"[All Fields] OR "immunization s"[All Fields] OR "immunize"[All Fields] OR "immunized"[All Fields] OR "immunizer"[All Fields] OR "immunizers"[All Fields] OR "immunizes"[All Fields] OR "immunizing"[All Fields] | 1,424,649 |
| 19 | # 16 OR # 17 OR # 18 | | 1,567,762 |
| 20 | herpes zoster vaccine | "herpes zoster vaccine"[MeSH Terms] OR ("herpes"[All Fields] AND "zoster"[All Fields] AND "vaccine"[All Fields]) OR "herpes zoster vaccine"[All Fields] | 2,381 |
| 21 | zoster vaccine | "herpes zoster vaccine"[MeSH Terms] OR ("herpes"[All Fields] AND "zoster"[All Fields] AND "vaccine"[All Fields]) OR "herpes zoster vaccine"[All Fields] OR ("zoster"[All Fields] AND "vaccine"[All Fields]) OR "zoster vaccine"[All Fields] | 3,277 |
| 22 | shingrix | "glycoprotein e varicella zoster virus"[Supplementary Concept] OR "glycoprotein e varicella zoster virus"[All Fields] OR "varicella zoster virus glycoprotein e"[All Fields] OR "shingrix"[All Fields] | 274 |
| 23 | zostavax | "herpes zoster vaccine"[MeSH Terms] OR ("herpes"[All Fields] AND "zoster"[All Fields] AND "vaccine"[All Fields]) OR "herpes zoster vaccine"[All Fields] OR | 2,396 |

| | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|--|------------|
| | | "zostavax"[All Fields] | |
| 24 | #20 OR #21 OR #22 OR #23 | | 3,415 |
| 25 | # 15 AND # 19 | | 6,834 |
| 26 | #24 OR #25 | | 6,947 |
| 27 | cohort analysis | "cohort studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("cohort"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "cohort studies"[All Fields] OR ("cohort"[All Fields] AND "analysis"[All Fields]) OR "cohort analysis"[All Fields] | 2,488,563 |
| 28 | longitudinal study | "longitudinal studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("longitudinal"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "longitudinal studies"[All Fields] OR ("longitudinal"[All Fields] AND "study"[All Fields]) OR "longitudinal study"[All Fields] | 305,607 |
| 29 | retrospective cohort | ("retrospective studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("retrospective"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "retrospective studies"[All Fields] OR "retrospective"[All Fields] OR "retrospectively"[All Fields] OR "retrospectives"[All Fields]) AND ("cohort studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("cohort"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "cohort studies"[All Fields] OR "cohort"[All Fields] OR "cohort s"[All Fields] OR "cohorte"[All Fields] OR "cohorts"[All Fields]) | 1,071,163 |
| 30 | prospective cohort | ("longitudinal studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("longitudinal"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "longitudinal studies"[All Fields] OR "prospective"[All Fields] OR "prospectively"[All Fields]) AND ("cohort studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("cohort"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "cohort studies"[All Fields] OR "cohort"[All Fields] OR "cohort s"[All Fields] OR "cohorte"[All Fields] OR "cohorts"[All Fields]) | 890,209 |
| 31 | cohort study | "cohort studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("cohort"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "cohort studies"[All Fields] OR ("cohort"[All Fields] AND "study"[All Fields]) OR "cohort study"[All Fields] | 2,545,673 |
| 32 | #27 OR #28 OR #29 OR #30 OR #31 | | 2,672,873 |
| 33 | #26 AND #32 | | 1,004 |
| 34 | effectiveness | "effect"[All Fields] OR "effecting"[All Fields] OR "effective"[All Fields] OR "effectively"[All Fields] OR "effectiveness"[All Fields] OR "effectivenesses"[All Fields] OR "effectives"[All Fields] OR "effectivities"[All Fields] OR "effectivity"[All Fields] OR "effects"[All Fields] | 10,378,764 |
| 35 | #33 AND #34 | | 416 |

| | | | |
|----|---|---|------------|
| 36 | ("1960/01/01"[Date - Publication] : "2022/01/31"[Date - Publication]) | 1960/01/01:2022/01/31[Date - Publication] | 32,033,207 |
| 37 | #35 AND #36 | | 413 |
| 38 | # 10 AND #26 | | 1,014 |
| 39 | #38 AND #36 | | 997 |
| 40 | #37 OR #39 | | 1282 |

Appendix S3: Grey Literature Sources.

1) Trial registries:

Biomed Central. ISRCTN Registry: <http://www.isrctn.com/>

National Institute of Medical Statistics, Indian Council of Medical Research. Clinical Trials Registry - India (CTRI): <http://ctri.nic.in/Clinicaltrials/advancesearchmain.php>

US National Institutes of Health. ClinicalTrials.gov:
<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct/screen/AdvancedSearch>

Thomson CenterWatch. CenterWatch Clinical Trials Listing Service:
<http://www.centerwatch.com/clinical-trials/listings/>

2) General grey databases:

GreyNet International: <http://www.greylit.org>

SIGLE (System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe): <http://www.opengrey.eu>

3) International databases:

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality:
<http://www.ahrq.gov/research/index.html>

LILACS - Latin-American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information:
<http://lilacs.bvsalud.org/en/>

WHO (WHOLIS):
<http://disei.who.int/uhtbin/cgiirsi/Tue+Apr++5+17:45:43+MEST+2016/0/49>

4) Theses and dissertations:

DART-Europe E-theses Portal: <http://www.dart-europe.eu/basic-search.php>

Electronic Theses Online Service (ETHOS) | British Library:
<http://ethos.bl.uk/Home.do;jsessionid=D96E9CF245B0FE0199DDDB94FF4BD2A7>

Open access dissertations: <https://oatd.org>

Thesis Canada Portal: <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/services/theses/Pages/theses-canada.aspx>

Appendix S5: Summary Results of the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale Assessment (n=19 Cohort Studies).

| Study | | SELECTION | | | | COMPARABILITY | OUTCOME | | | Total scores |
|---|---------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|--------------|
| | | Representativeness of the Exposed Cohort | Selection of the Non-Exposed Cohort | Ascertainment of Exposure | Demonstration That Outcome of Interest Was Not Present at Start of Study | Comparability of Cohorts on the Basis of the Design or Analysis | Assessment of Outcome | Was Follow-Up Long Enough for Outcomes to Occur | Adequacy of Follow Up of Cohorts | |
| Recombinant Zoster Vaccine (Shingrix): Real-World Effectiveness in the First 2 Years Post-Licensure | Izurieta, H. S.2021 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Effectiveness of the Recombinant Zoster Vaccine for Herpes Zoster Ophthalmicus in the United States | Lu, A.2021 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Effectiveness of the recombinant zoster vaccine among Kaiser Permanente Hawaii enrollees aged 50 and older: A retrospective | Sun, Y.2021 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |

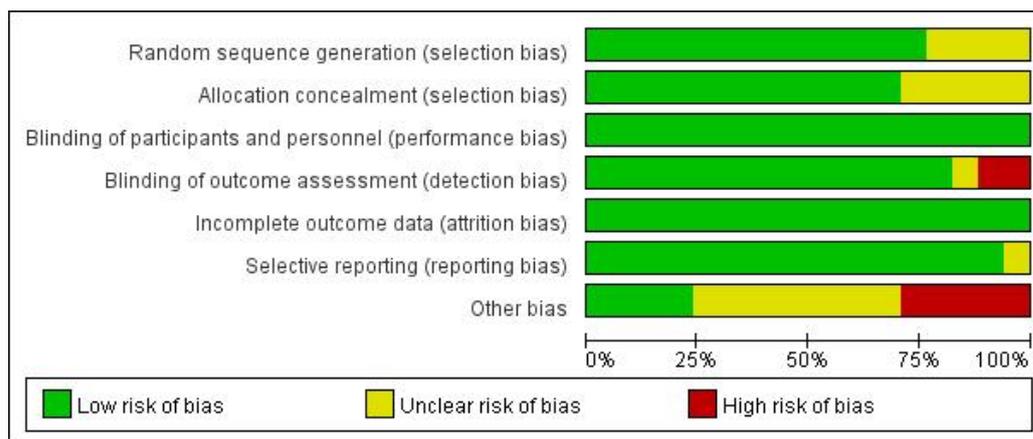
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| cohort study | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Effectiveness of the Recombinant Zoster Vaccine in Adults Aged 50 and Older in the United States: A Claims-Based Cohort Study | Sun, Y.2021 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Herpes Zoster Vaccine in Older Adults and the Risk of Subsequent Herpes Zoster Disease | Tseng, H. F.2011 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| The use, safety, and effectiveness of herpes zoster vaccination in individuals with inflammatory and autoimmune diseases: a longitudinal observational study | Zhang, J.2011 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| Herpes Zoster Vaccine Effectiveness against Incident Herpes Zoster and Post-herpetic Neuralgia in an Older US Population: A Cohort Study | Langan, S. M.2013 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Vaccination Against Zoster | Tseng, H. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| Remains Effective in Older Adults Who Later Undergo Chemotherapy | F.2014 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Declining Effectiveness of Herpes Zoster Vaccine in Adults Aged ≥ 60 Years | Tseng, H. F.2016 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | |
| Effectiveness of Herpes Zoster Vaccine in Patients 60 Years and Older With End-stage Renal Disease | Tseng, H. F.2016 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | |
| Effectiveness and Duration of Protection Provided by the Live-attenuated Herpes Zoster Vaccine in the Medicare Population Ages 65 Years and Older | Izurieta, H. S.2017 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | |
| Assessing the effectiveness of zoster vaccine live: A retrospective cohort study using primary care data in the United Kingdom | Matthews, I.2018 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | |
| Effectiveness of herpes zoster vaccination in an older United Kingdom population | Walker, J. L.2018 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | |
| Effectiveness of the herpes | Blom, | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| zoster vaccine Zostavax® in Stockholm County, Sweden | K.2019 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Long-term effectiveness of zoster vaccine live for postherpetic neuralgia prevention | Klein, N. P.2019 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | |
| Effectiveness of the live-attenuated herpes zoster vaccine 2 years after its introduction in Australia | Lin, J.2021 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | |
| Longterm Effectiveness of Herpes Zoster Vaccine among Patients with Autoimmune and Inflammatory Diseases | Yun, H.2017 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | |
| Risk factors for modified vaccine effectiveness of the live attenuated zoster vaccine among the elderly in England | Bollaerts, K.2019 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | |
| Association between vaccination for herpes zoster and risk of herpes zoster infection among older patients with selected | Zhang, J.2012 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | |

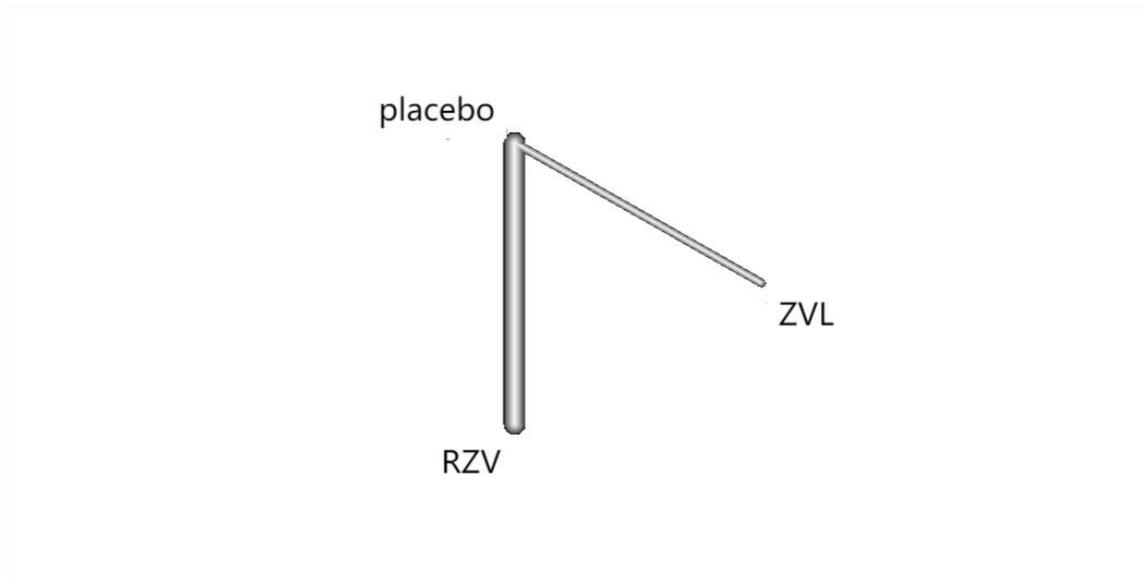
Appendix S6: Risk of bias results.

Four of the 17 included randomized controlled trials had unclear risk of bias from inadequate reporting of random sequence generation (23%) and 5 from inadequate reporting of allocation concealment (29%). In addition, 8 studies had a high risk of “other” biases (47%).



| Study | Random sequence generation (selection bias) | Allocation concealment (selection bias) | Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) | Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) | Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) | Selective reporting (reporting bias) | Other bias |
|---------|---|---|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|------------|
| RC 2013 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| PV 2020 | + | ? | + | + | + | + | ? |
| PV 2019 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| MO 2005 | ? | ? | + | + | + | + | + |
| MG 2018 | ? | ? | + | + | + | + | ? |
| KS 2012 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| JV 2012 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| HL 2015 | + | ? | + | + | + | + | + |
| ES 2014 | + | + | + | + | + | + | ? |
| EB 2015 | ? | + | + | + | + | + | ? |
| CM 2019 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| CB 2018 | + | ? | + | + | + | + | ? |
| AR 2015 | + | ? | + | + | + | + | + |
| AM 2011 | ? | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| AD 2019 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| AC 2016 | + | + | + | + | + | + | ? |
| AB 2019 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |

Appendix S7 :Three comparators were included: live attenuated vaccine, adjuvant recombinant subunit vaccine, and placebo.

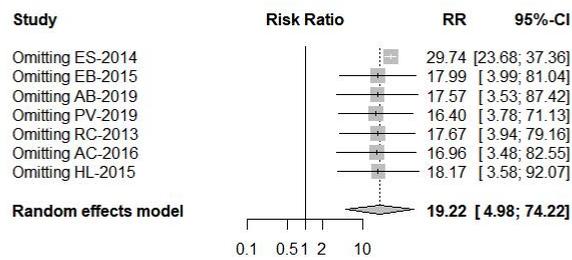
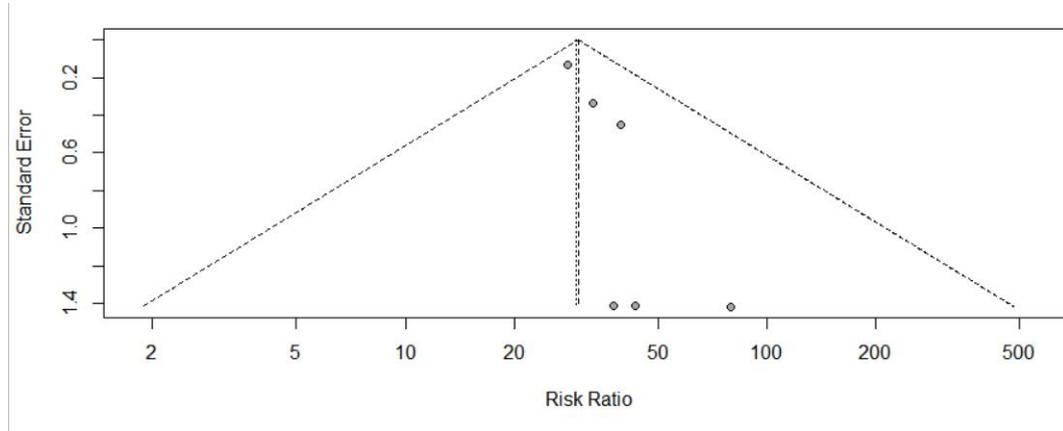


Appendix S8: The funnel plots and publication bias plots.

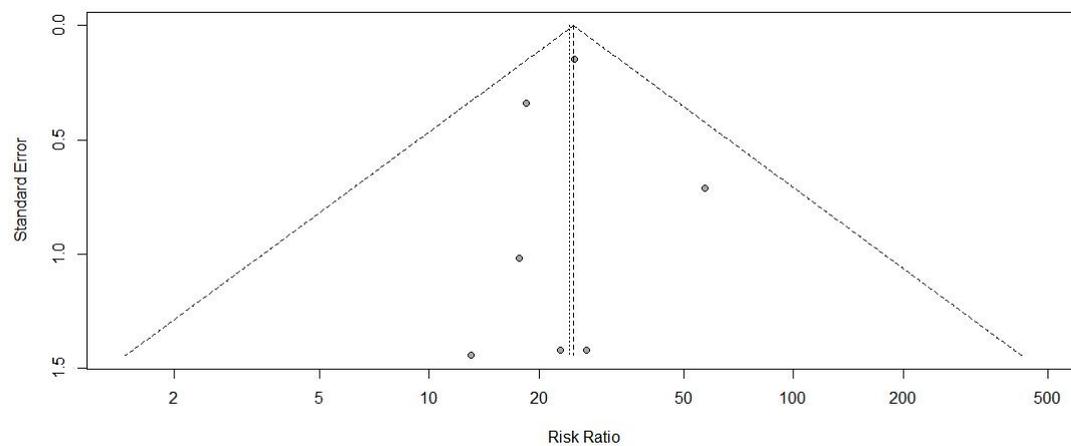
RZV

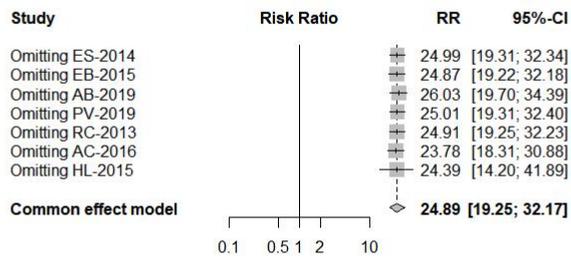
Injection sites

Redness:

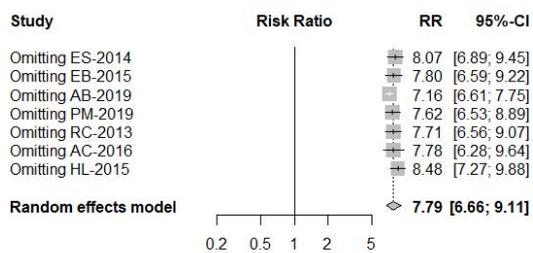
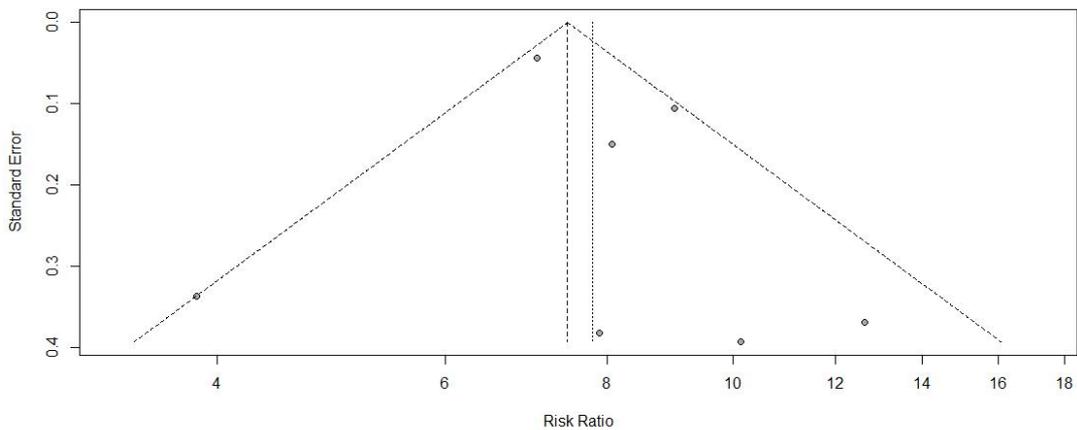


Swelling:



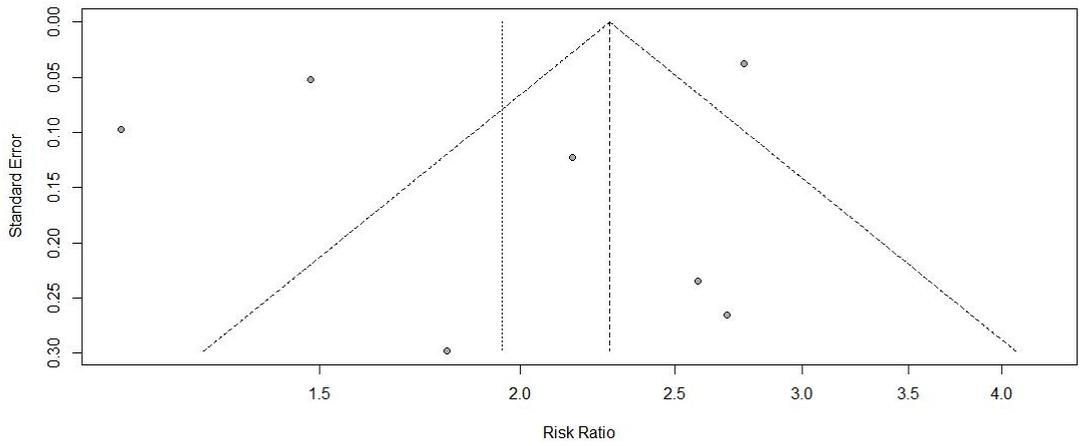


Pain:



Systemic adverse events

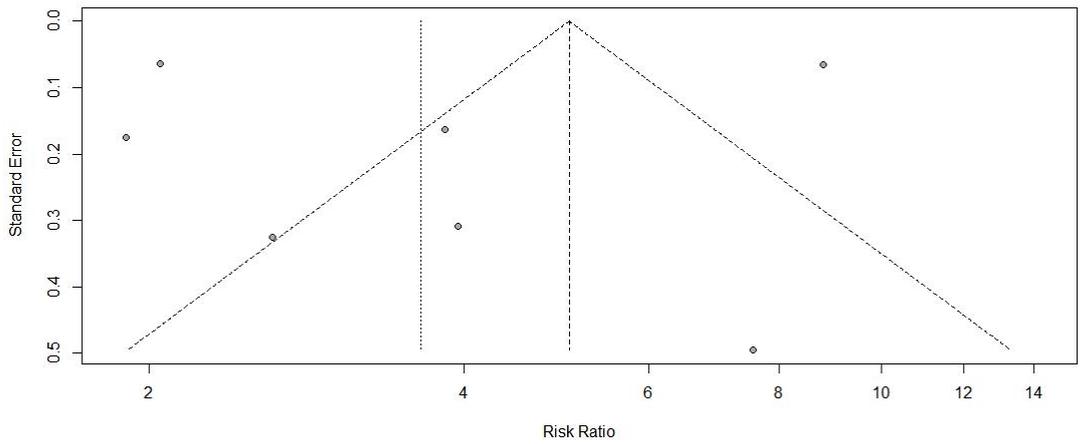
Fatigue:

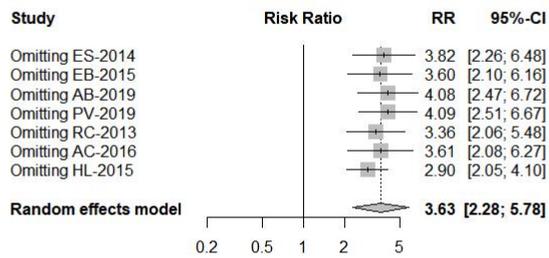


| Study | Risk Ratio | RR | 95%-CI |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Omitting ES-2014 | 8.07 | 8.07 | [6.89; 9.45] |
| Omitting EB-2015 | 7.80 | 7.80 | [6.59; 9.22] |
| Omitting AB-2019 | 7.16 | 7.16 | [6.61; 7.75] |
| Omitting PM-2019 | 7.62 | 7.62 | [6.53; 8.89] |
| Omitting RC-2013 | 7.71 | 7.71 | [6.56; 9.07] |
| Omitting AC-2016 | 7.78 | 7.78 | [6.28; 9.64] |
| Omitting HL-2015 | 8.48 | 8.48 | [7.27; 9.88] |
| Random effects model | 7.79 | 7.79 | [6.66; 9.11] |

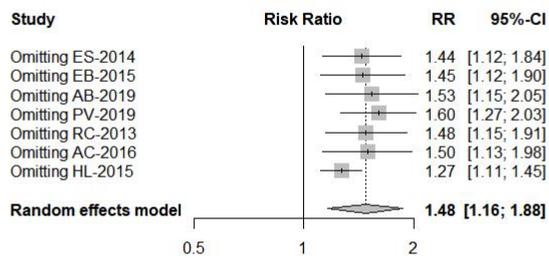
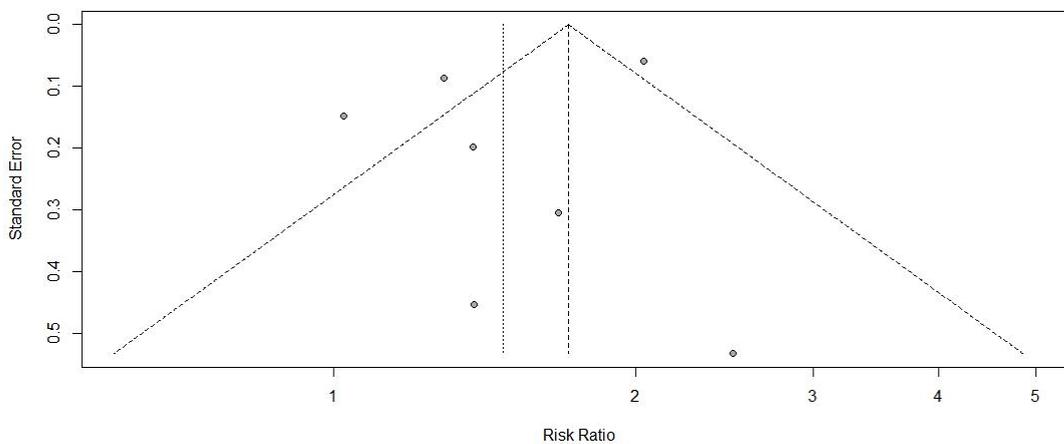
0.2 0.5 1 2 5

Myalgia:

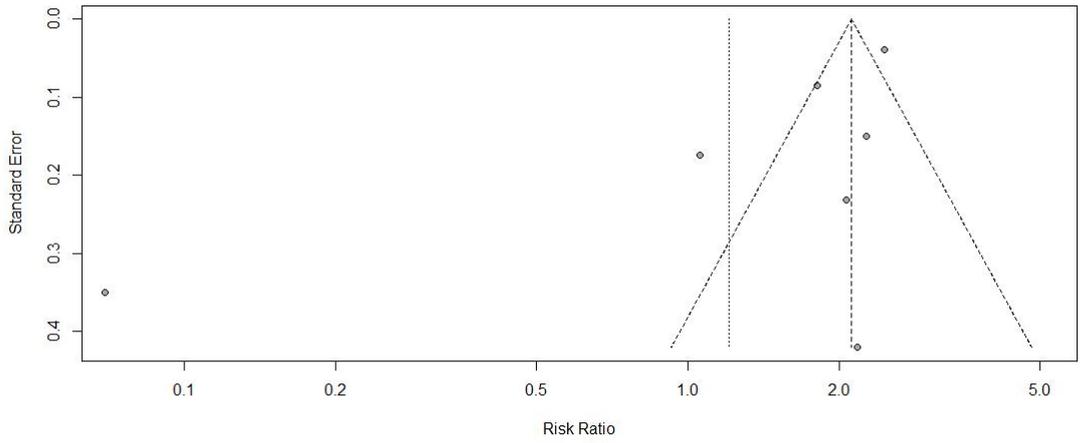




Gastrointestinal symptoms:

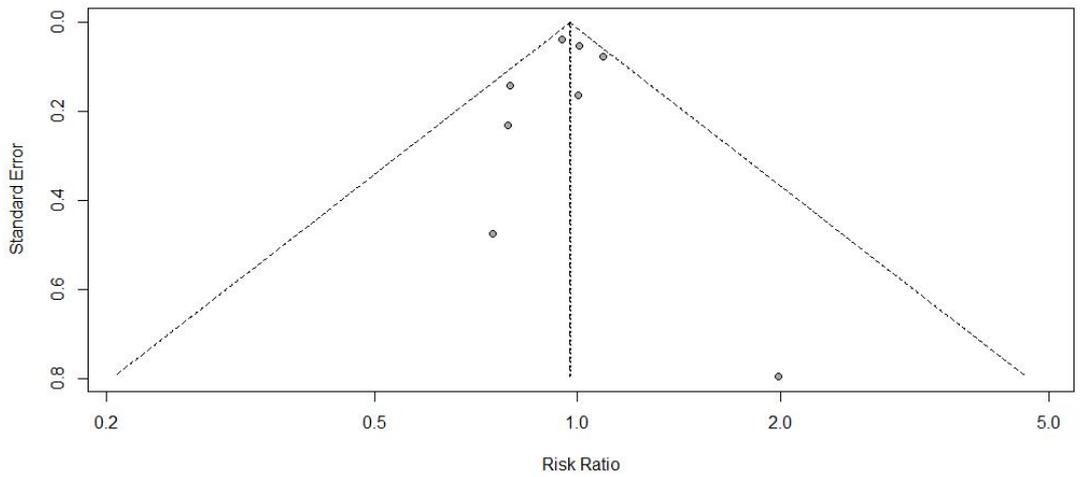


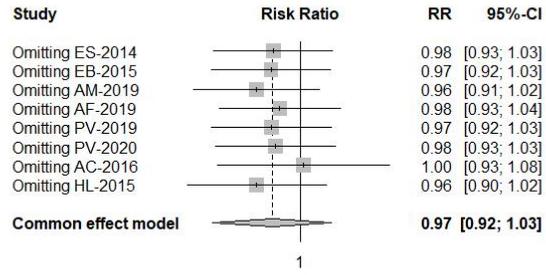
Headache:



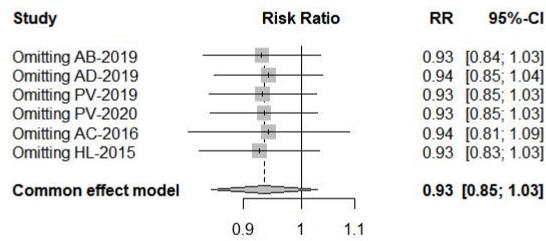
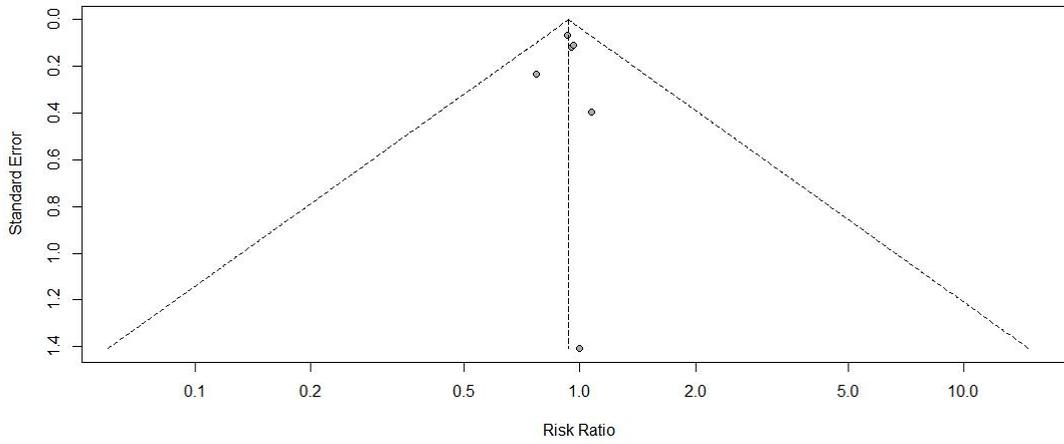
| Study | Risk Ratio | RR | 95%-CI |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Omitting ES-2014 | | 1.10 | [0.38; 3.17] |
| Omitting EB-2015 | | 1.10 | [0.38; 3.21] |
| Omitting AB-2019 | | 1.12 | [0.38; 3.32] |
| Omitting PV-2019 | | 1.23 | [0.41; 3.67] |
| Omitting RC-2013 | | 1.90 | [1.46; 2.47] |
| Omitting AC-2016 | | 1.08 | [0.37; 3.14] |
| Omitting HL-2015 | | 1.06 | [0.37; 3.07] |
| Random effects model | | 1.21 | [0.48; 3.02] |

Serious adverse events

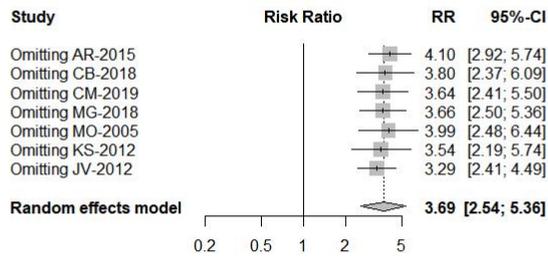
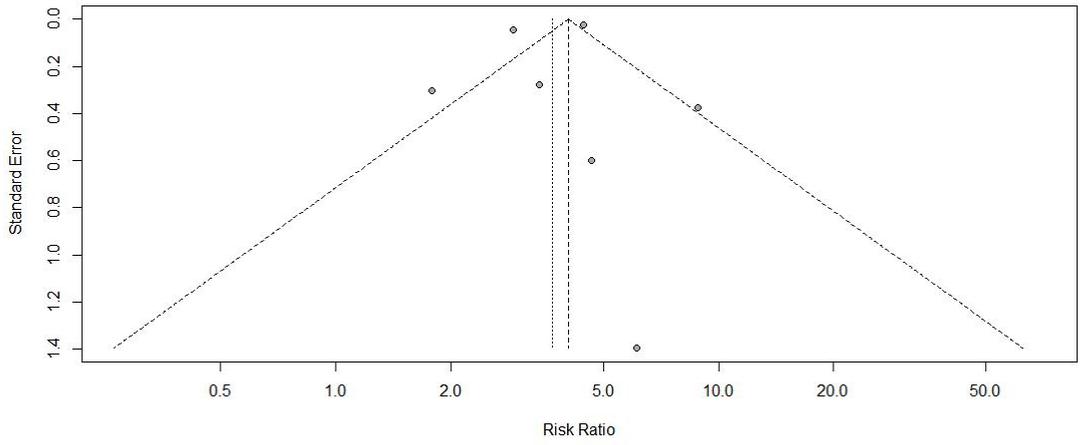




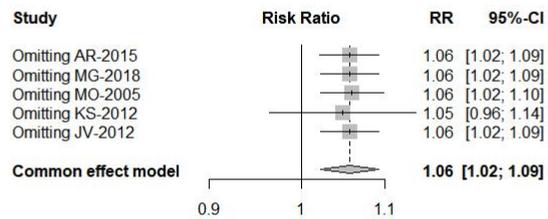
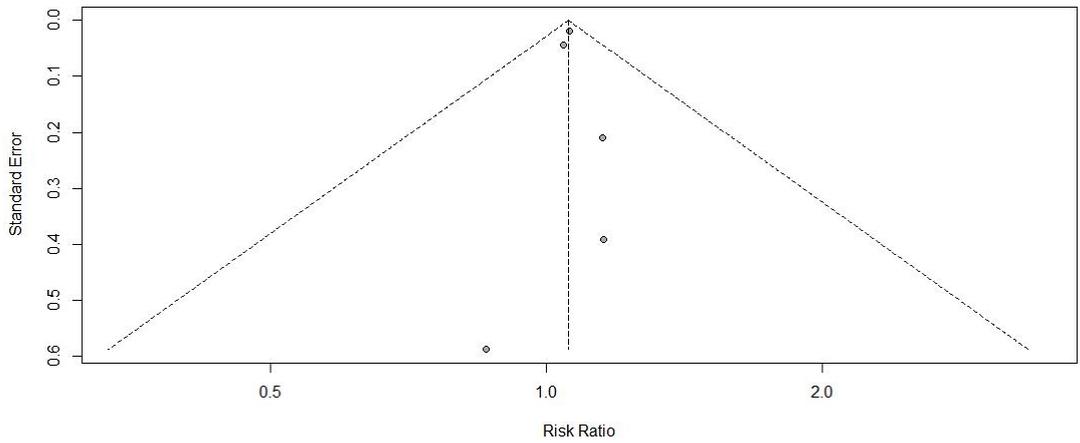
Death



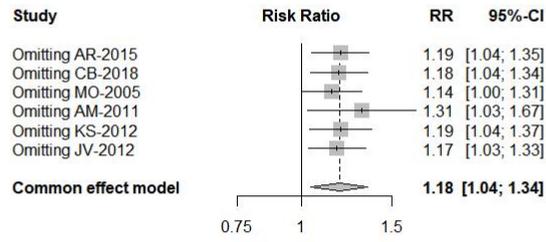
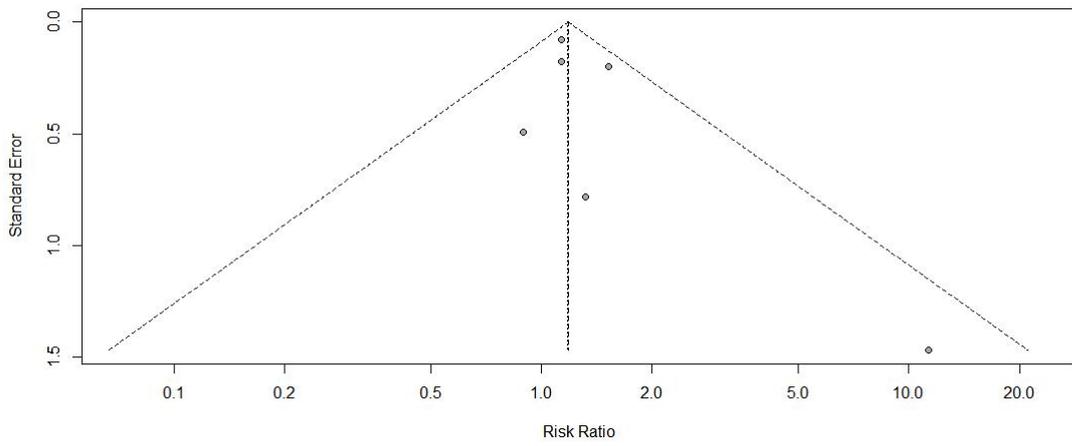
ZVL Injection sites



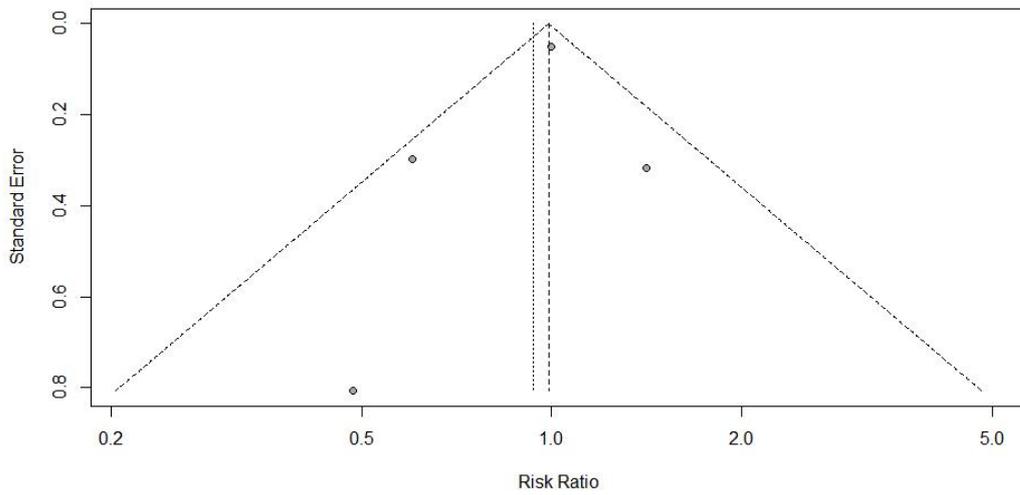
Systemic adverse events

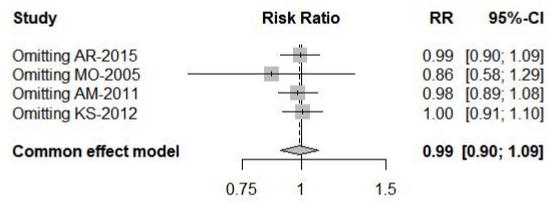


Serious adverse events

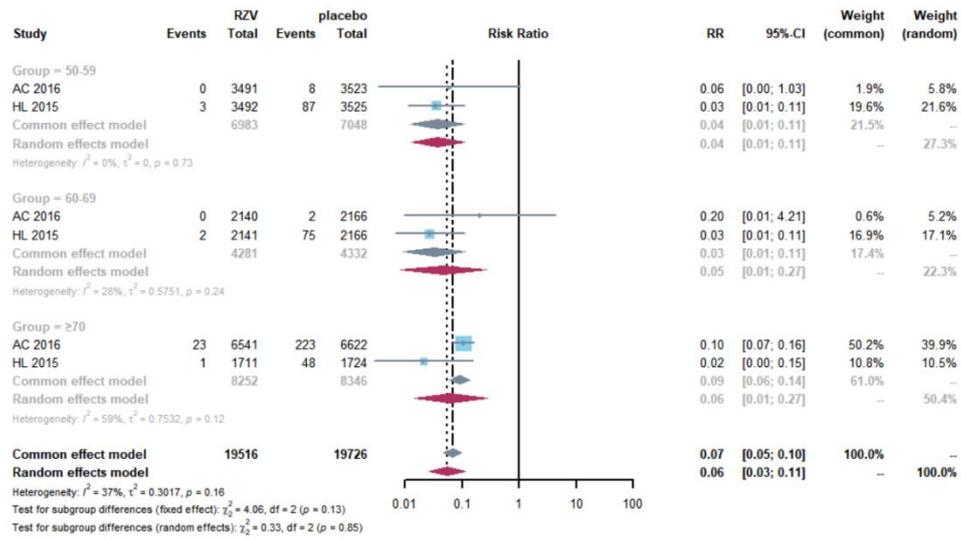


Death

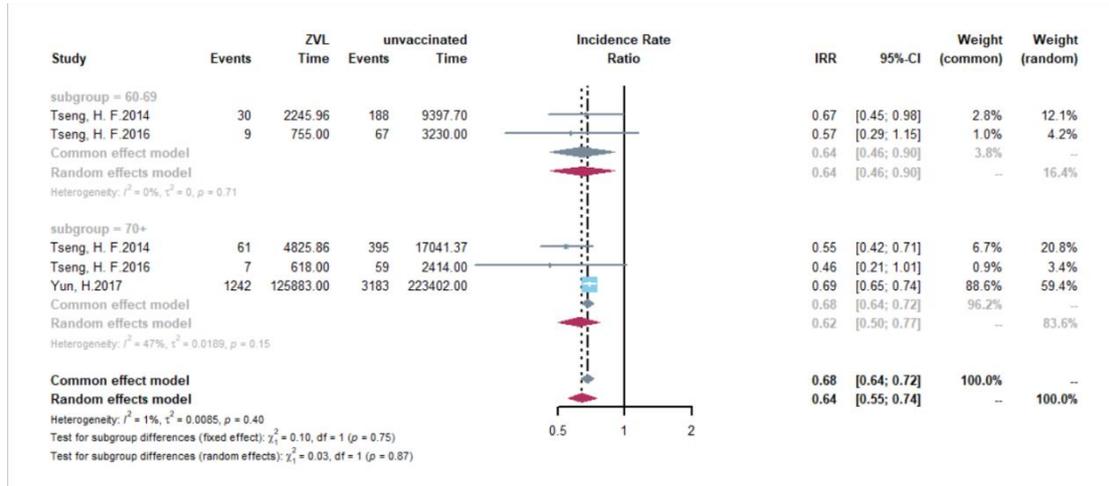




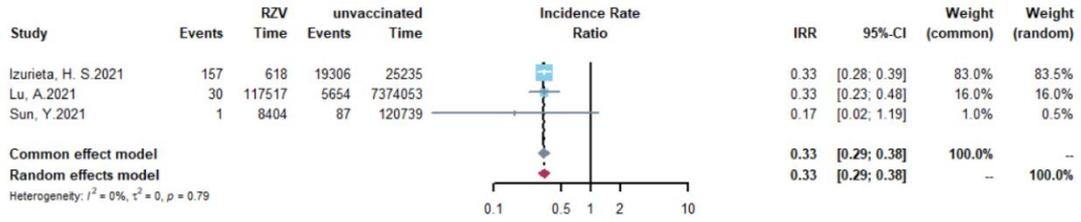
Appendix S9: Forest plot of RZV vaccine efficacy by age subgroup.



Appendix S10: Forest plot of ZVL vaccine effectiveness by age subgroup.



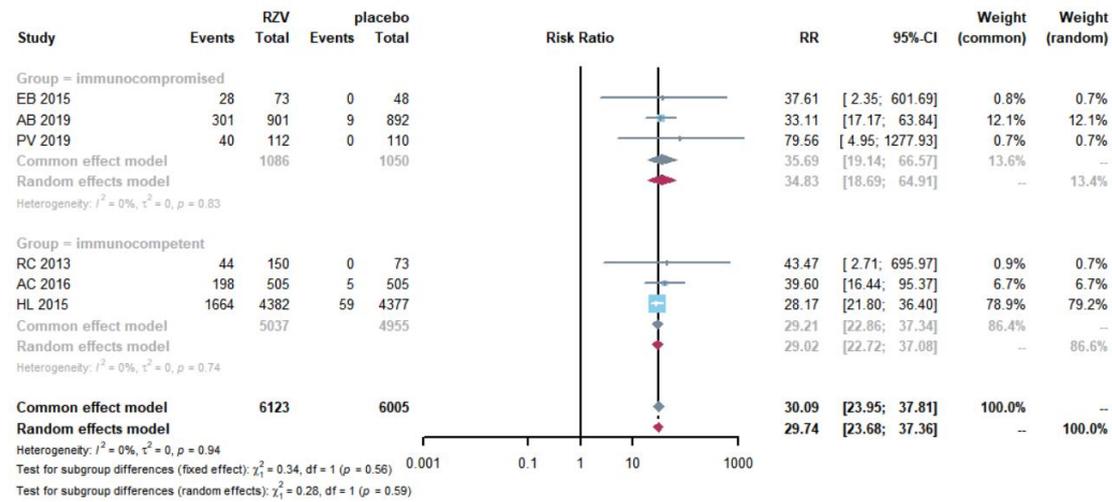
Appendix S11: Forest plot of RZV vaccine effectiveness for prevention of HZO.



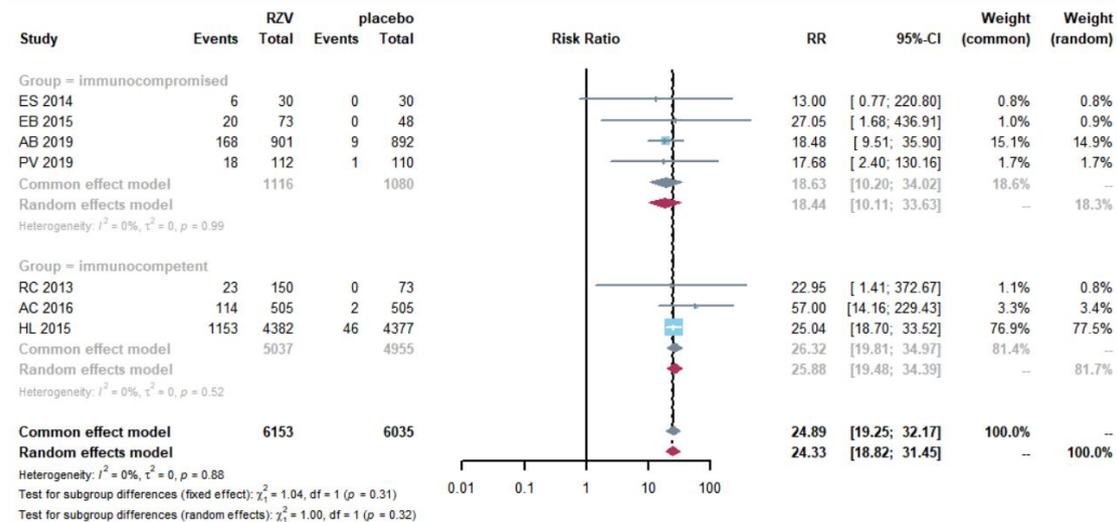
Appendix S12: Safety outcomes of RZV.

Injection sites

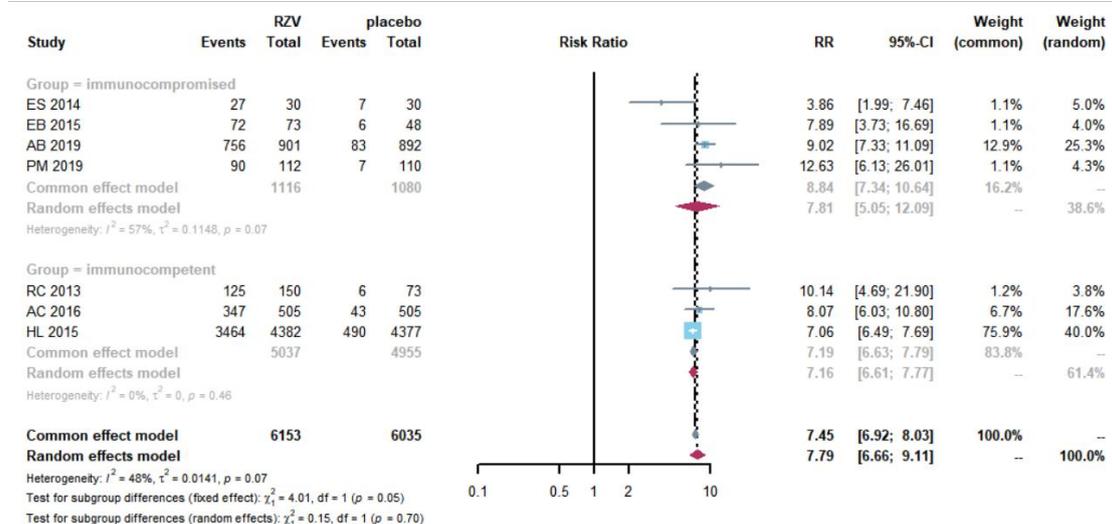
Redness:



Swelling:

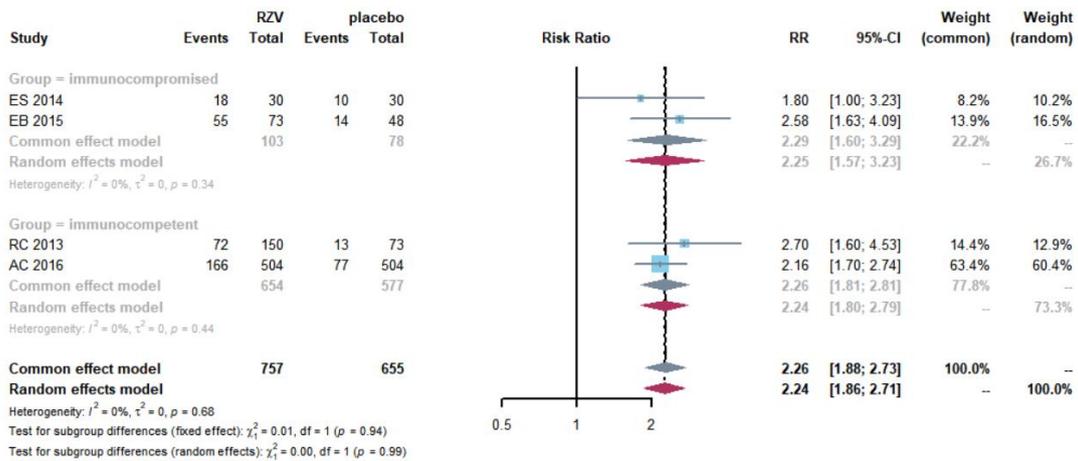


Pain:

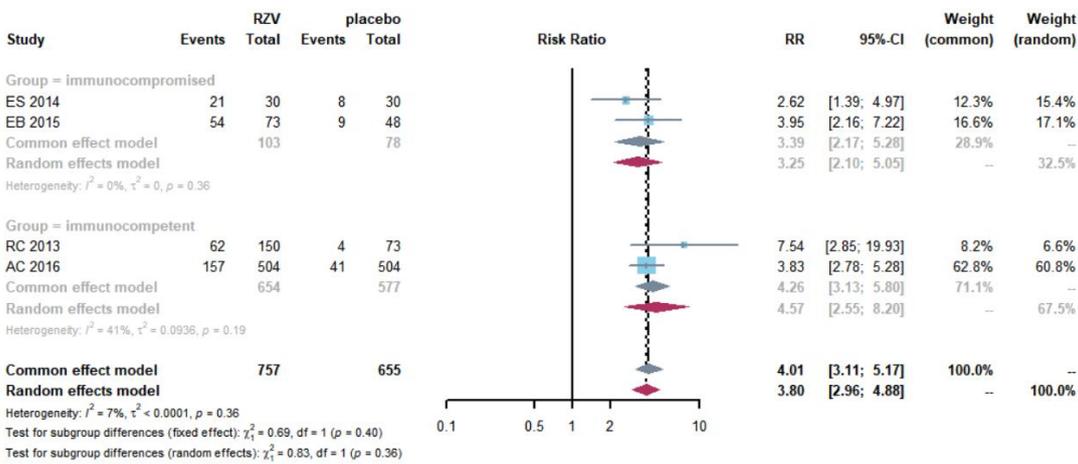


Systemic adverse events

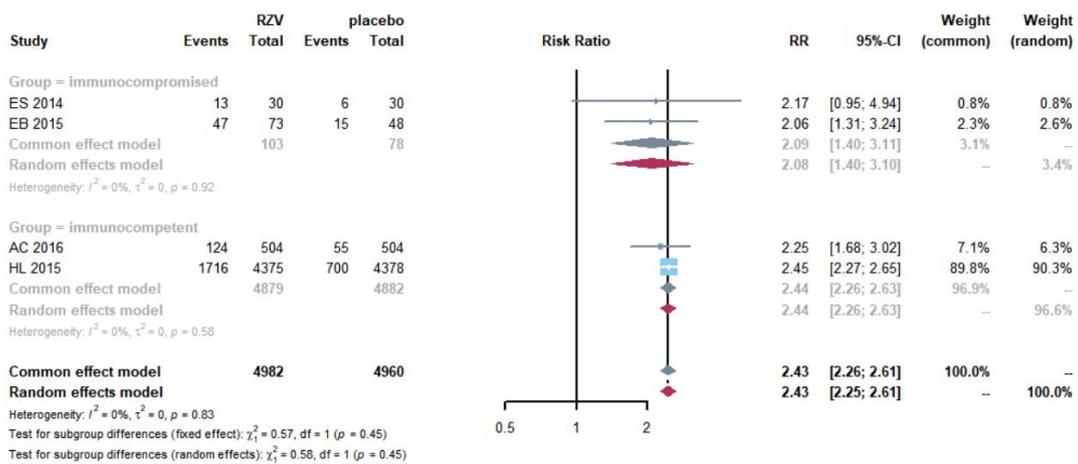
Fatigue:



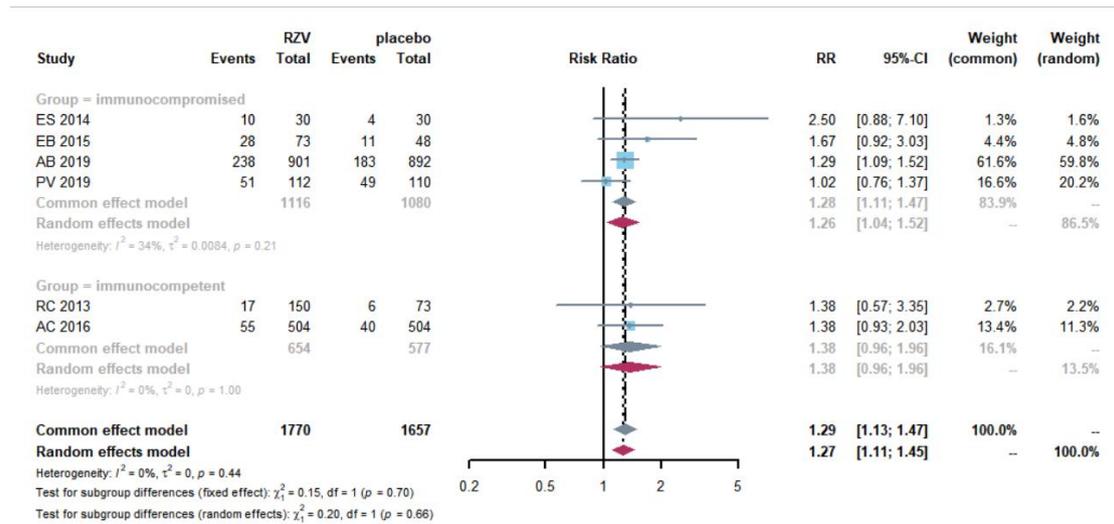
Myalgia:



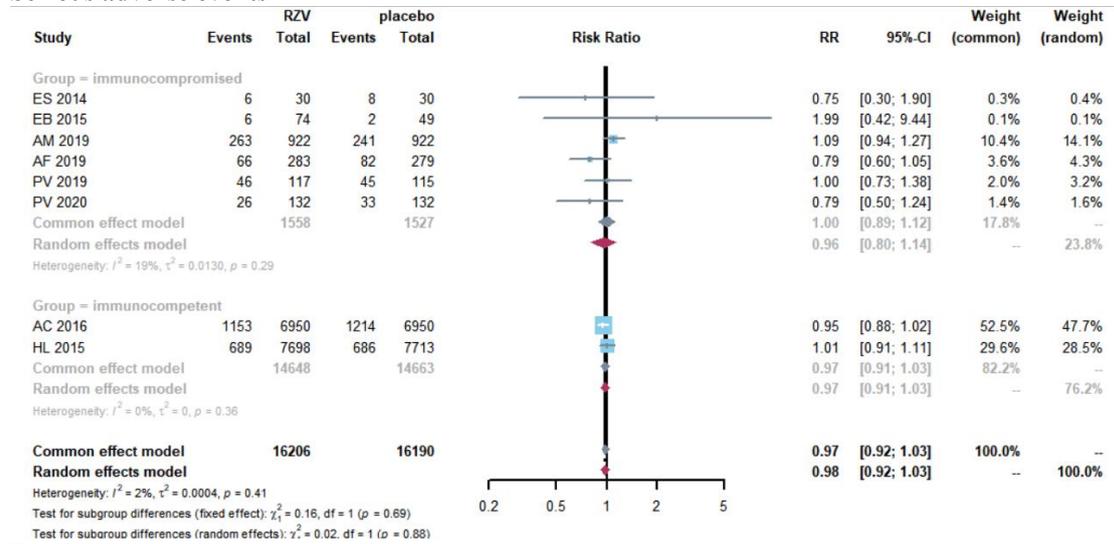
Headache:



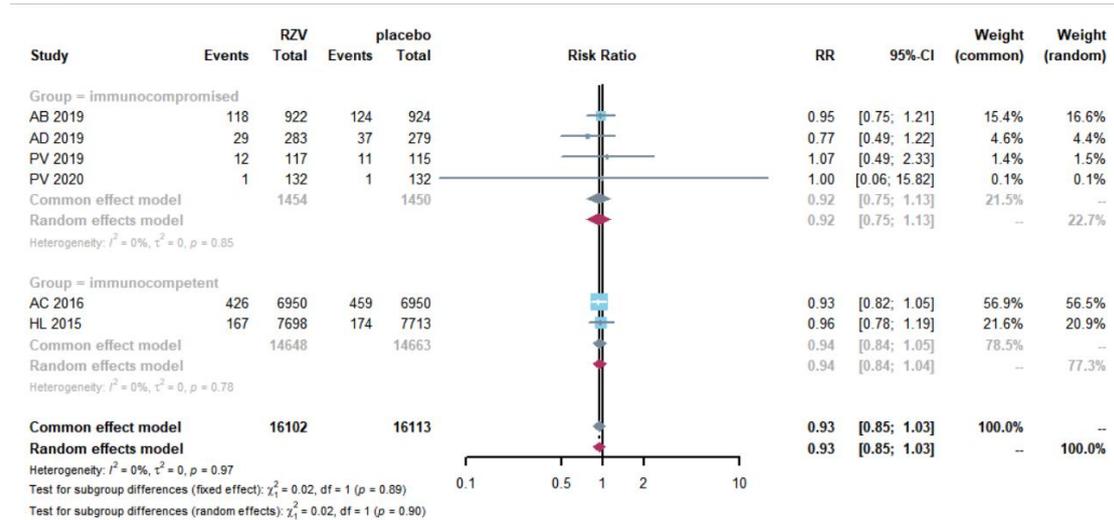
Gastrointestinal symptoms:



Serious adverse events

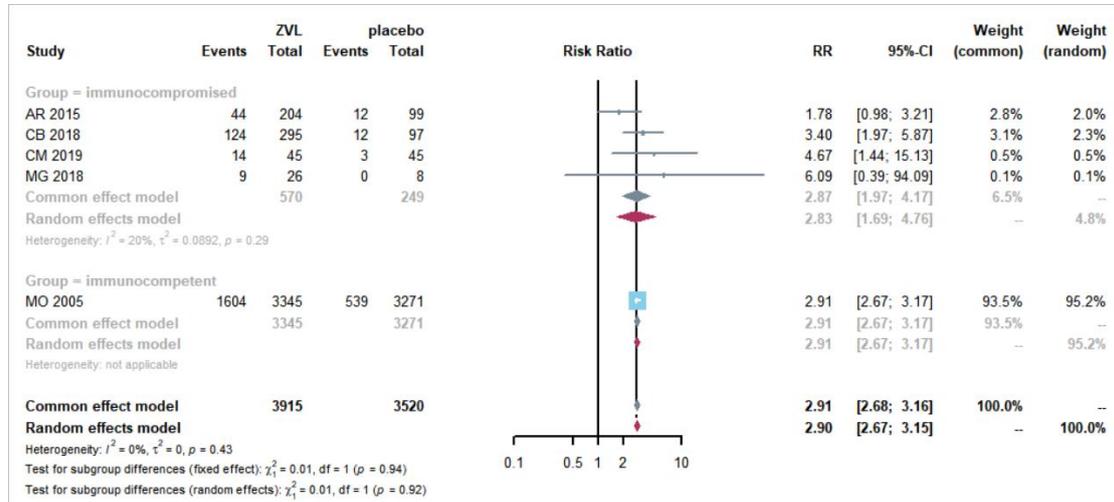


Death

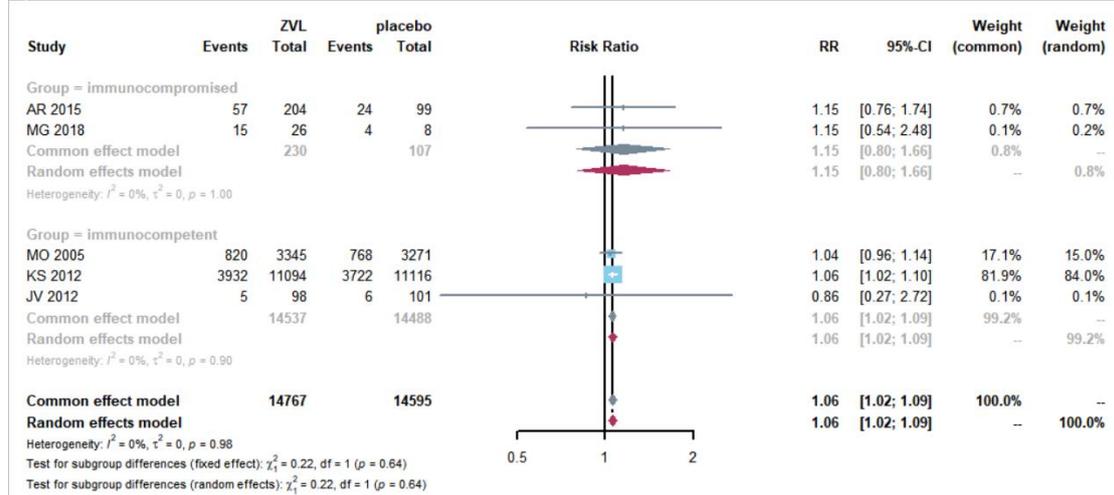


Appendix S13: Safety outcomes of ZVL.

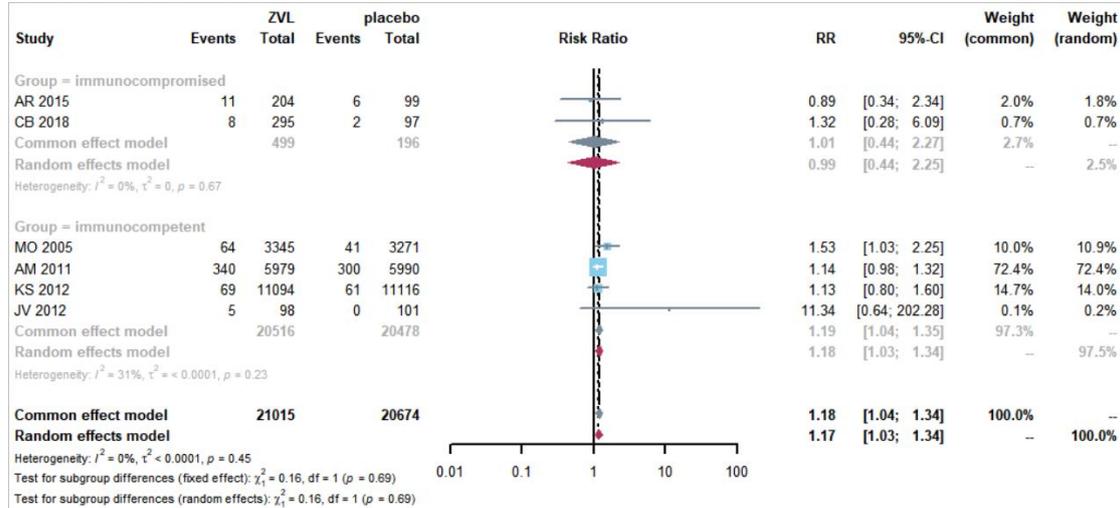
Injection sites



Systemic adverse events



Serious adverse events



Death

