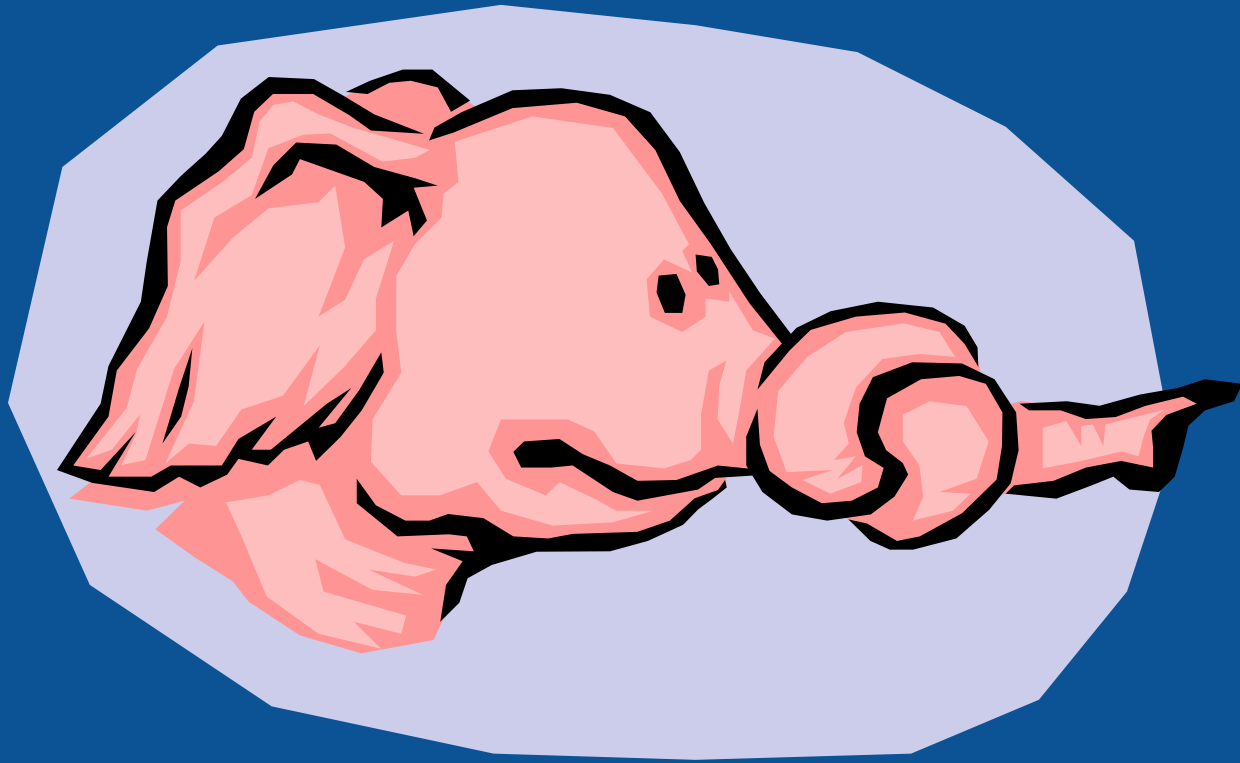


# 'Tis the Season



Connie Basch, MD  
Family Medicine of Southwest Washington

# FAMILY MEDICINE RESPIRATORY JEOPARDY

Better than a  
Pound of Cure

This too Shall  
Pass

It's  
Complicated

Cold Comfort

The Nose  
Knows

100

100

100

100

100

200

200

200

200

200

300

300

300

300

300

400

400

400

400

400

500

500

500

500

500

HOME

# Upper Respiratory Infections

- Common Cold

- 2<sup>nd</sup> most common diagnosis during FP visits in US: 1995-1998 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey *Ann Fam Med* 2004 Sep-Oct;2(5):411
- Average adult has 2-4 colds/year
- Average schoolchild has 6-10 colds/year
  - *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 1995 May;95(5 Pt 2):1133

- Virology

- >50% Rhinovirus – fall and spring
- 10-20% Coronaviruses – winter, early spring
- 10 – 15% Influenza
- 5% Adenoviruses

# Risk Factors

- Exposure
- Susceptibility – only 70 – 80% exposed develop symptoms

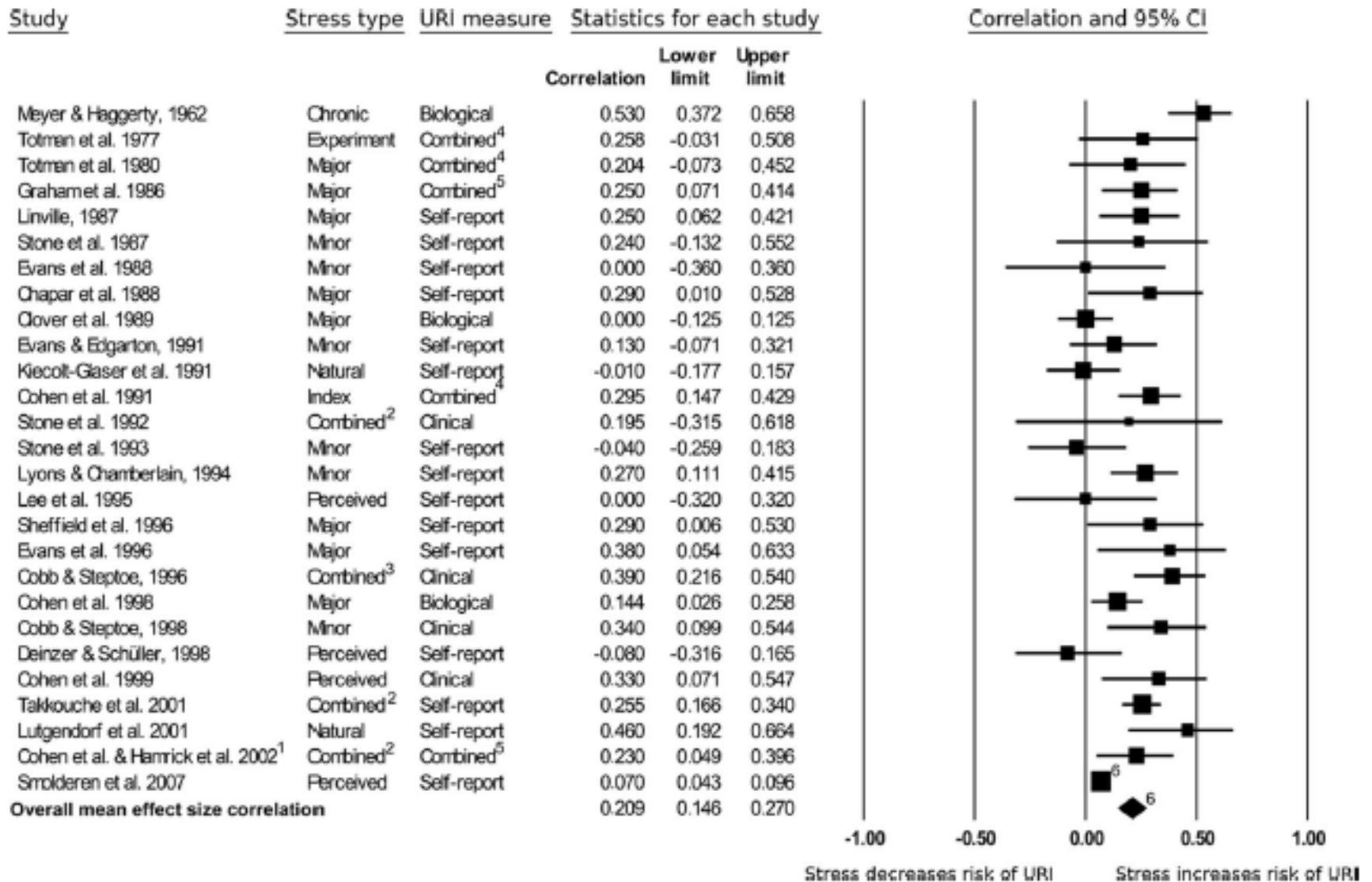
# Risk Factors

- Exposure
  - Droplets
  - Surface
    - Rhinovirus can survive 2 hours to 7 days BMC Infect Dis 2006 6:130
  - Recent airplane travel JAMA 2002 Jul 24/31;288(4):483,
- Susceptibility - only 70 – 80% exposed develop symptoms

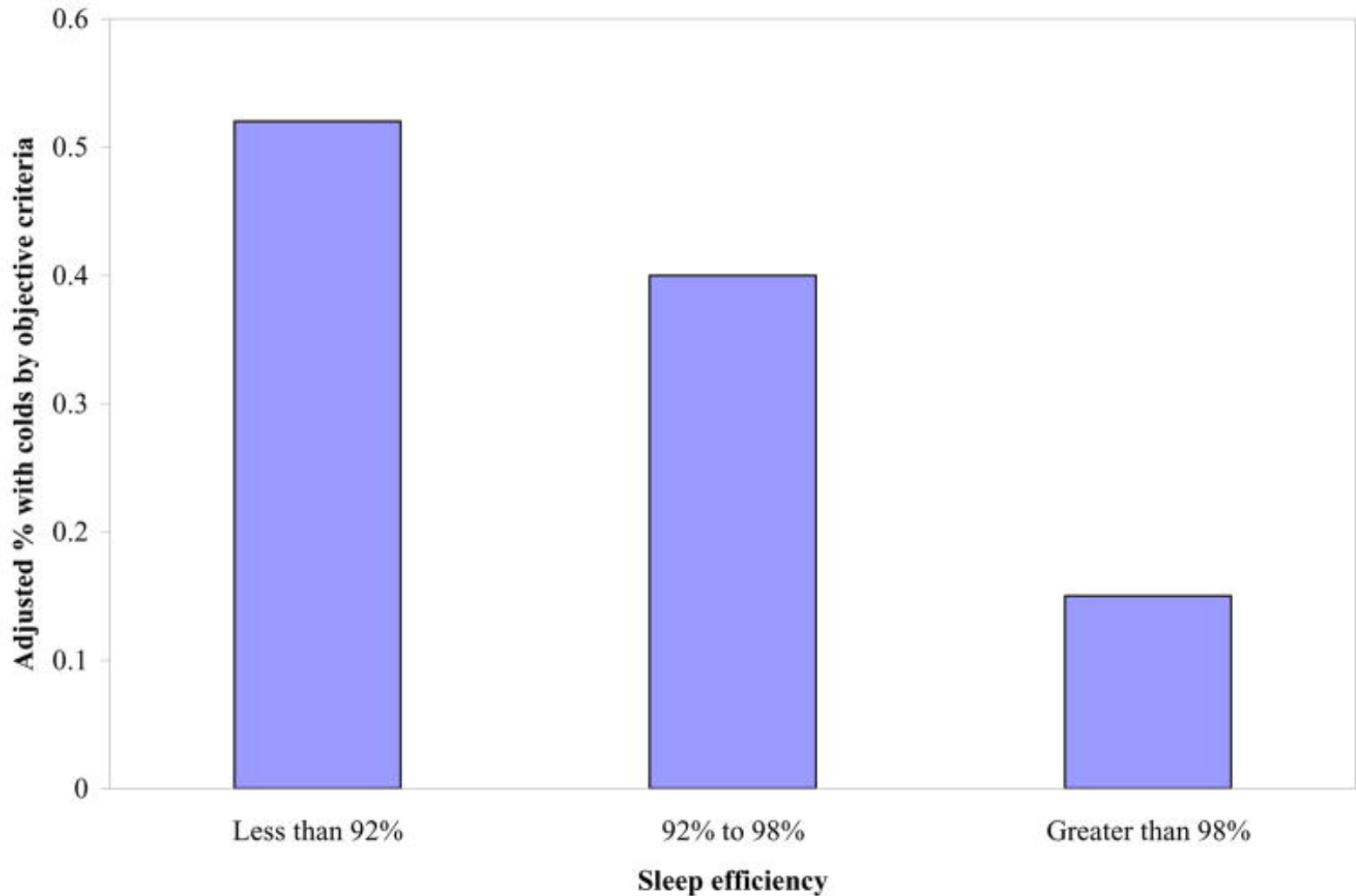
# Risk Factors

- Exposure
- Susceptibility
  - Tobacco – contradictory, data on incidence, but duration definitely increased Arch Intern Med 2004 Nov 8;164(20):2206, Ann Epidemiol 2001 May;11(4):225
  - Allergies
  - Stress
  - Sleep
  - Nutrition

# Stress and URI



# Sleep



Poorer sleep efficiency and shorter sleep duration are associated with increased susceptibility Arch Intern Med. 2009 January 12; 169(1): 62–67.



# Nutrition

- Fruits and vegetables

Three-month risk of upper respiratory infection by fruit and vegetable intake in pregnant women (N = 1034), 1996-2002

| Food Group               | Crude HR | 95% CI    | Adjusted HR <sup>*</sup> | 95% CI <sup>*</sup> | Test for trend <i>P</i> |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Fruits and vegetables    |          |           |                          |                     |                         |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Quartile | 1.00     |           | 1.00                     |                     | 0.03                    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quartile | 0.77     | 0.52-1.12 | 0.76                     | 0.52-1.13           |                         |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quartile | 0.68     | 0.46-1.01 | 0.68                     | 0.44-1.03           |                         |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Quartile | 0.62     | 0.41-0.93 | 0.61                     | 0.39-0.97           |                         |

Public Health Nutr. 2010 February; 13(2): 276-282

- IRR 0.66 (0.48-0.90) for vitamin C from food > 150 mg vs < 50 mg
  - *J Am Coll Nutr* August 2011 vol. 30 no. 4 248-258

# URI- once you have one

- Sore throat, malaise, low-grade fever
- Nasal congestion, rhinorrhea, cough within 24-48 hours
- Median duration 11 days

# Antibiotics are indicated for/I



Text a **CODE** to **37607**



Submit a **CODE**

A. URI **559572**

B. URI with history of  
recurrent sinusitis **559575**

C. Sinusitis **559576**

# Antibiotics are indicated for /I prescribe for:

- URI
- URI with history of recurrent sinusitis
  - Not indicated J Fam Pract 2001 Jan;50(1):26)
- Sinusitis
- Bronchitis
- Both C and D

# What Was Happening

- 1992
  - 12 million antibiotic prescriptions for URTI in adults
    - Antibiotics were given to:
      - 51 % of patients with colds
      - 52% of patients with URTI
      - 66% of patients with bronchitis *JAMA. 1997;278(11):901-904.*
  - 6.5 million in kids <18 yo
    - Abx for:
      - 44% of kids with colds
      - 46% with URI's
      - 75% with bronchitis *JAMA. 1998;279(11):875-877*

# What Is Happening

- National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (1995-2006)
  - Antibiotics for 58% of ARTI *JAMA*. 2009;302:758-766.
- Mayo Clinic Family Medicine offices
  - 69% of ARTI received antibiotics
  - Macrolides most commonly prescribed  
*J Fam Pract* 2012 Jun;61(6):330-5
- Sinusitis
  - 76% in 2005 (83% in 1999) *J Fam Pract*. 2008 July; 57(7): 464-468



Q: Are antibiotics effective in URI?

A: How do you define effective?

From: **Amoxicillin for Acute Rhinosinusitis:  
A Randomized Controlled Trial**

JAMA. 2012;307(7):685-692

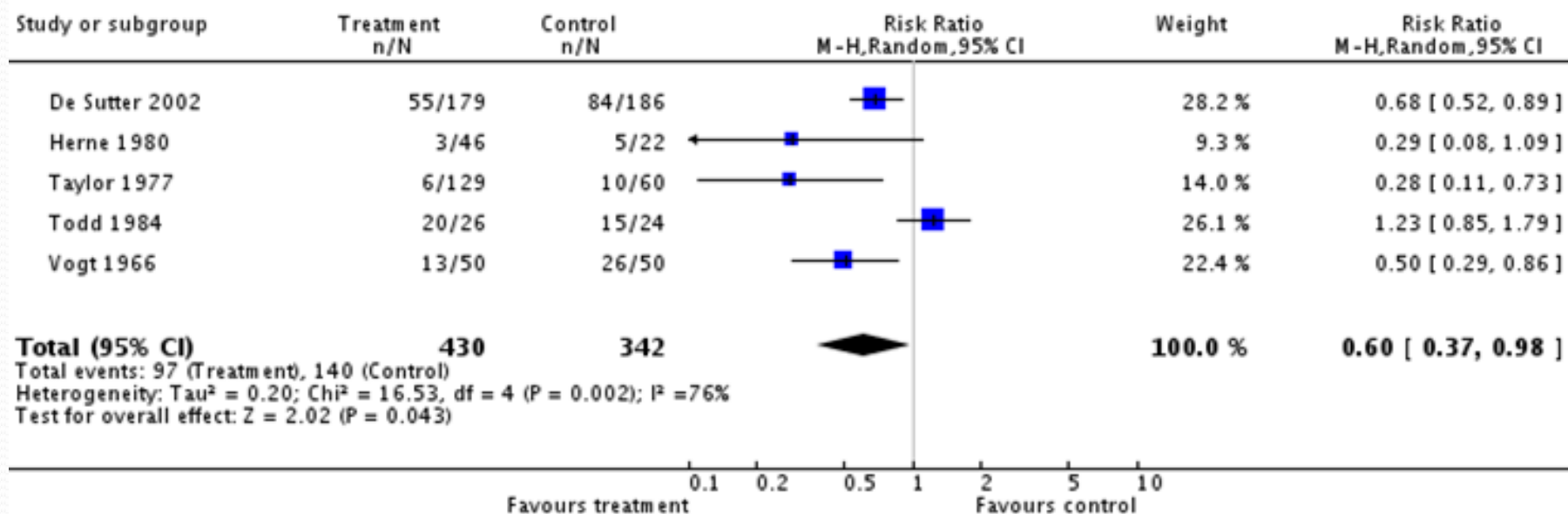
**Table 4.** Treatment Use, Outcomes, and Adverse Effects

|   | Amoxicillin Group<br>(n = 85) | Control Group<br>(n = 81) | P<br>Value <sup>a</sup> |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Treatment Use</b>  |                               |                           |                         |
| Treatment duration, d   |                               |                           |                         |
| Mean (SD)   | 6.89 (4.55)                   | 6.47 (4.75)               | .56                     |
| Median (IQR)  | 10 (0-10)                     | 10 (0-10)                 |                         |
| Adherent with 10-d treatment<br>dosing regimen (self-report),<br>No./total (%)  | 55/81 (68)                    | 51/71 (72)                | .58                     |
| <b>Treatment Outcomes</b>   |                               |                           |                         |
| Change in SNOT-16 scores from day 0,<br>mean (95% CI) <sup>b</sup>              |                               |                           |                         |
| Day 3   | 0.59 (0.47-0.71)              | 0.54 (0.41-0.67)          | .69                     |
| Day 7   | 1.06 (0.93-1.20)              | 0.86 (0.71-1.02)          | .02                     |
| Day 10  | 1.23 (1.08-1.37)              | 1.20 (1.07-1.32)          | .85                     |
| Self-reported significant improvement<br>in symptoms since day 0,<br>% (95% CI) |                               |                           |                         |
| Day 3   | 37 (27-48)                    | 34 (23-45)                | .67                     |
| Day 7   | 74 (64-83)                    | 56 (45-67)                | .02                     |
| Day 10  | 78 (69-87)                    | 80 (71-90)                | .71                     |
| Period missed from work,<br>mean (95% CI), d                                    | 0.55 (0.28-0.82)              | 0.55 (0.22-0.87)          | .99                     |

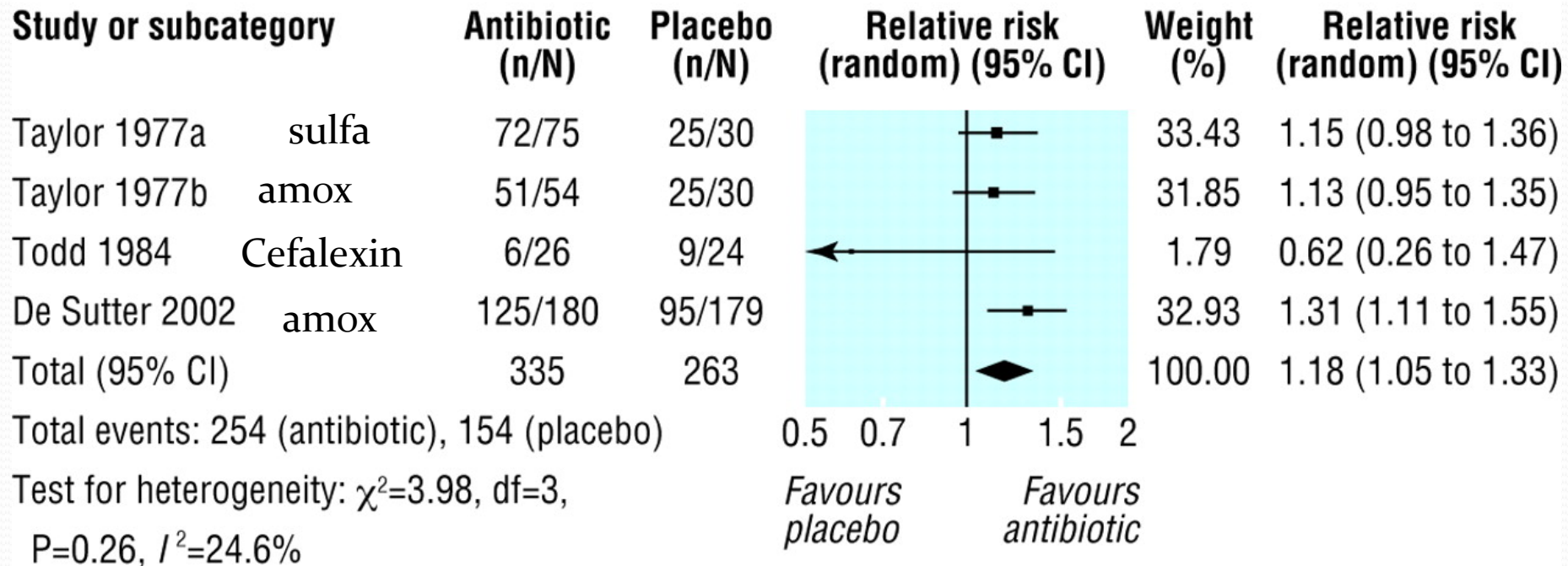


# Persistent Purulent Rhinitis Day 8

Review: Antibiotics for the common cold and acute purulent rhinitis  
 Comparison: 3 Antibiotic versus placebo  
 Outcome: 2 Persistent purulent rhinitis with Herne added as purulent



# Meta-analysis of studies of outcomes of purulent rhinitis at five to eight days, antibiotic versus placebo



NNT 7-15 for improvement at 5-8 days

NNH 12-78 for side effects

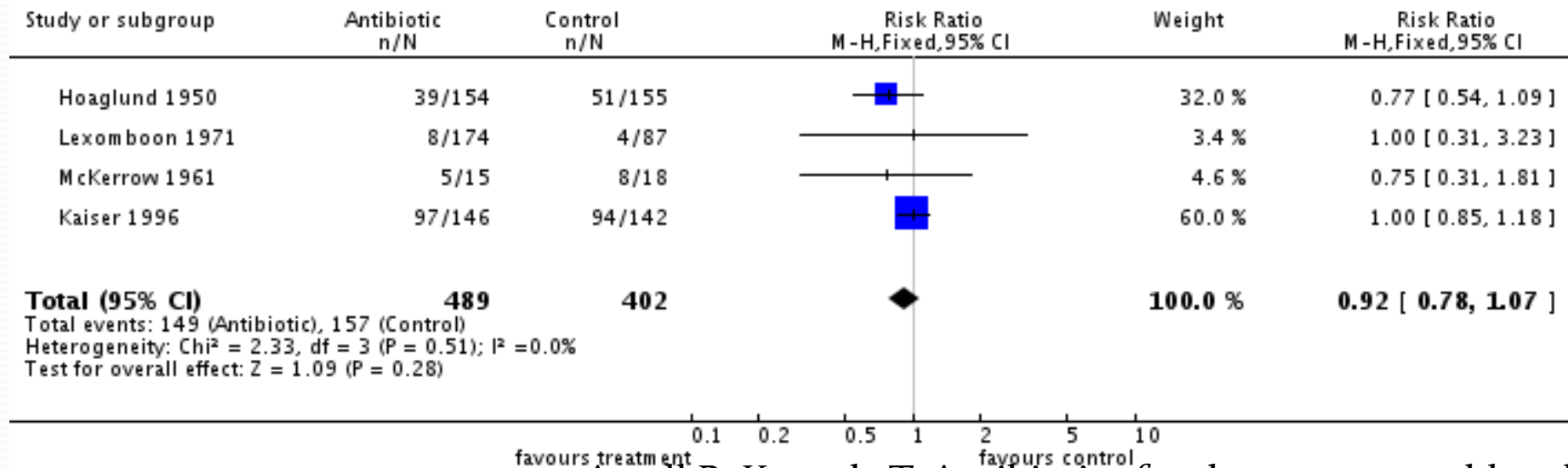
No serious events occurred in placebo groups

Arroll B , Kenealy T BMJ 2006;333:279

BMJ

# Abx vs. Placebo in Cold/Purulent Rhinitis

- RR for lack of cure or persistence of symptoms is 0.95, 95% CI 0.59 to 1.51
- RR adverse effects for antibiotics given to participants with the common cold is 1.8



Arroll B, Kenealy T. Antibiotics for the common cold and acute purulent rhinitis. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2005, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD000247.

Persisting symptoms days 1-7

# Azithromycin in Acute Rhinosinusitis

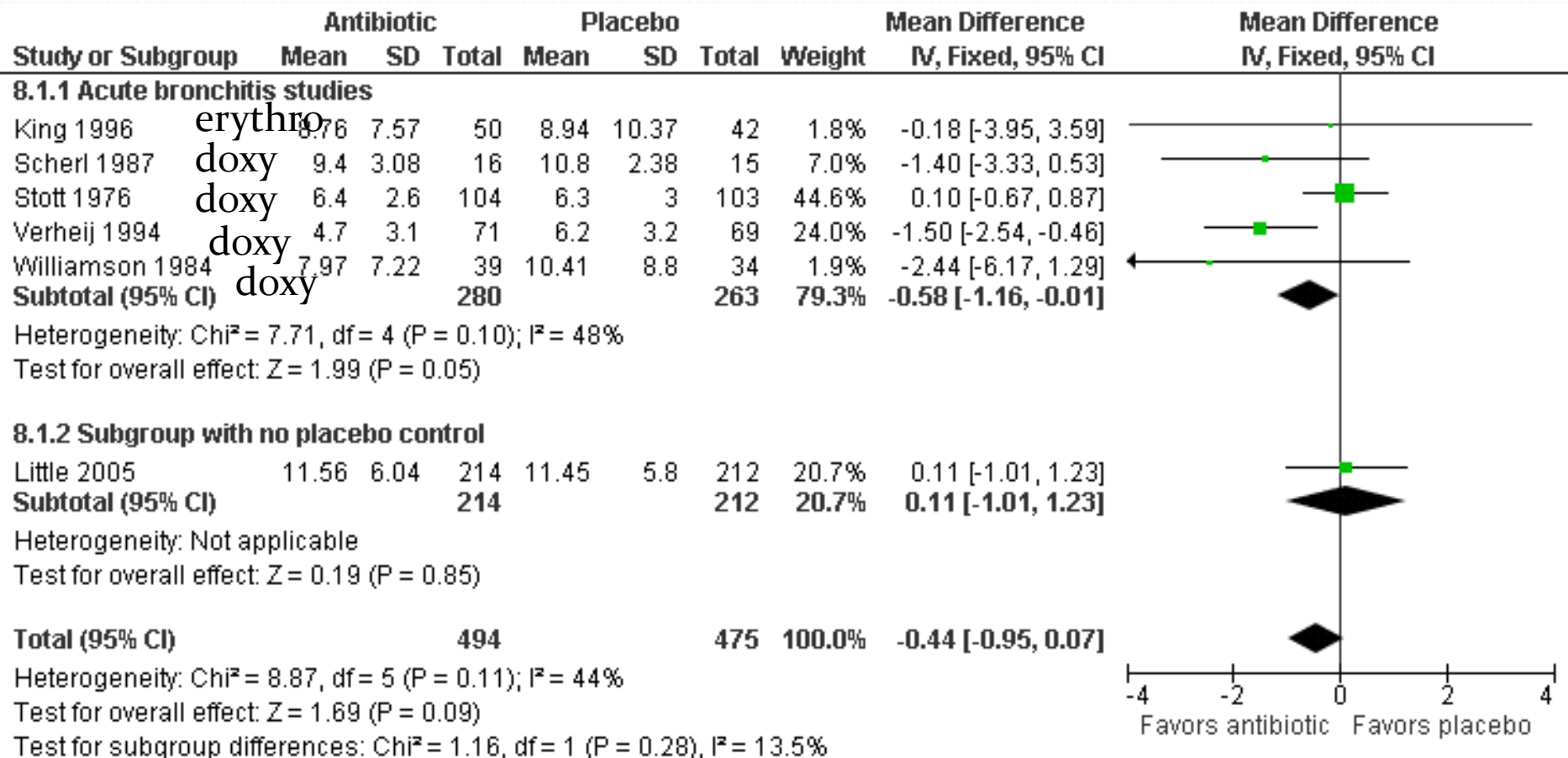
| Duration/Outcome              | Percent of Patients |         |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------|
|                               | Azithromycin        | Placebo |
| 3-5 days Cure                 | 14.3                | 8.6     |
| 3-5 days Improvement          | 79.7                | 79.0    |
| 10-12 days Cure               | 58.1*               | 31.7    |
| 10-12 days Improvement        | 34.9                | 56.1    |
| 23-27 days Cure               | 79.3                | 67.1    |
| 23-27 days Improvement + Cure | 90                  | 88      |

\*P=0.001

Patients with clinical signs of sinusitis but no radiological signs

Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis (1998) 17 :309–312

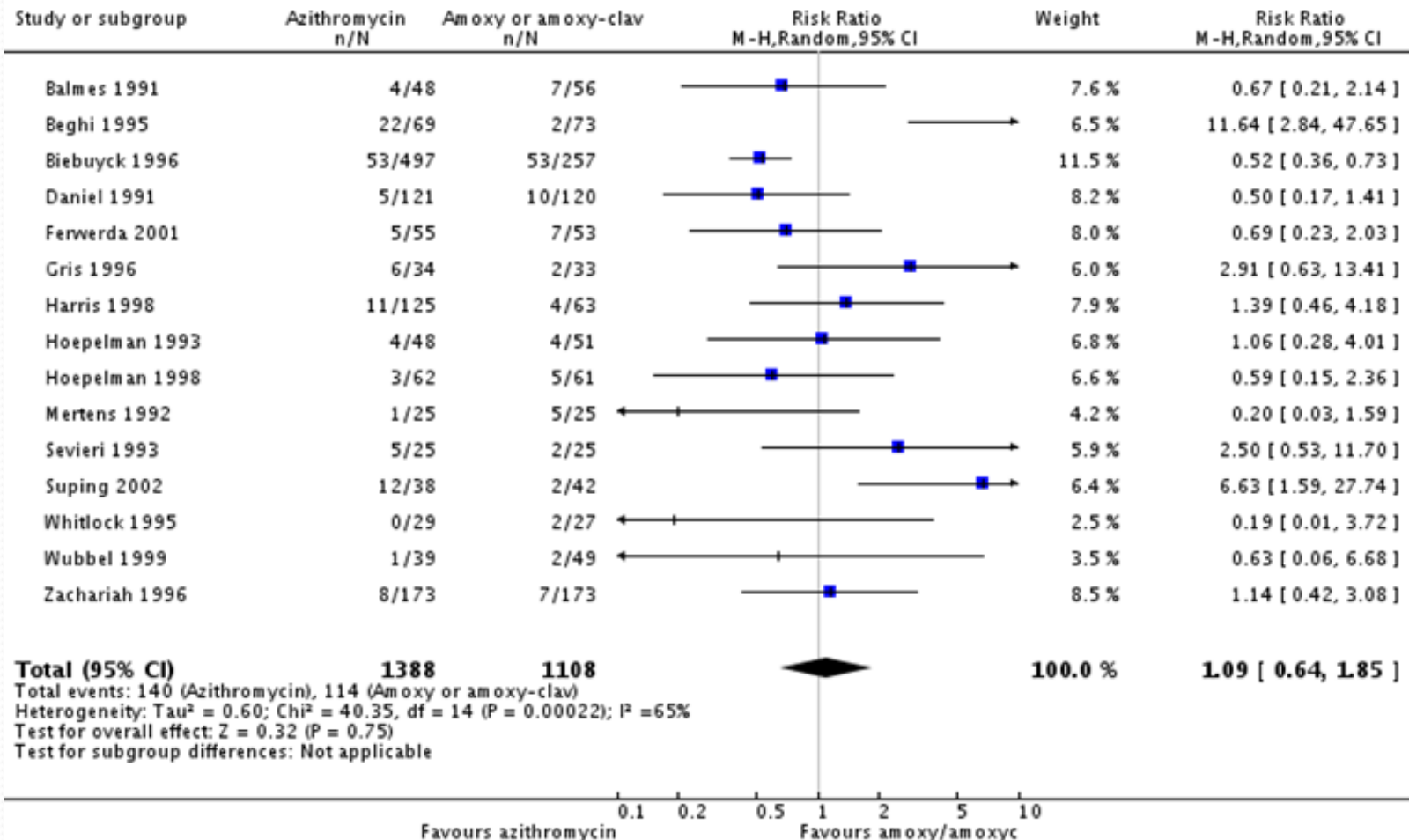
# Acute Bronchitis



-0.64 days of feeling ill (95% CI -1.16 to -0.13)

# Azithromycin vs Amox or Amox/Clav in Acute LRTI

Review: Azithromycin for acute lower respiratory tract infections  
Comparison: 1 Azithromycin versus amoxycillin or amoxycillin-clavulanate  
Outcome: 1 Clinical failure



Laopaiboon M, Panpanich R, Lertrakarnnon P. Azithromycin for acute lower respiratory tract infections. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD001954

# Why not give antibiotics?





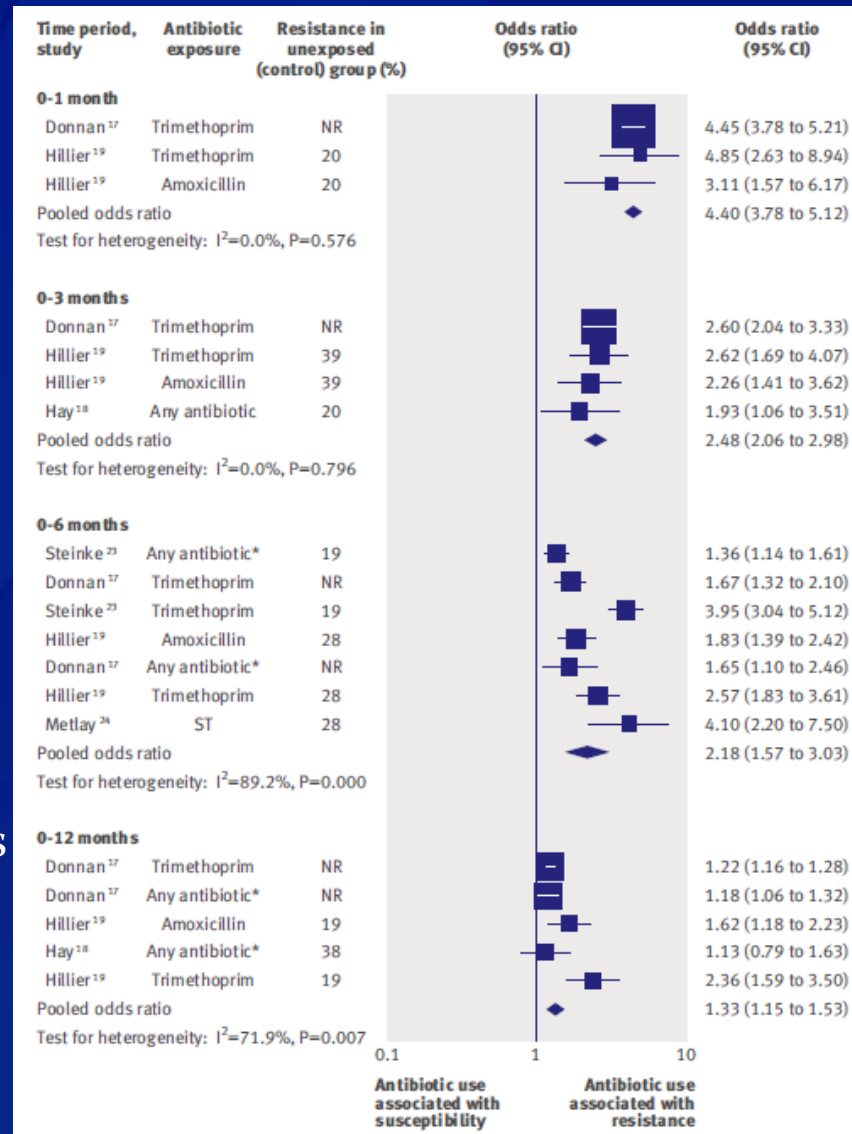
# Effect of antibiotic prescribing in primary care on antimicrobial resistance in individual patients: systematic review and meta-analysis

0-1 month

0-3 months

0-6 months

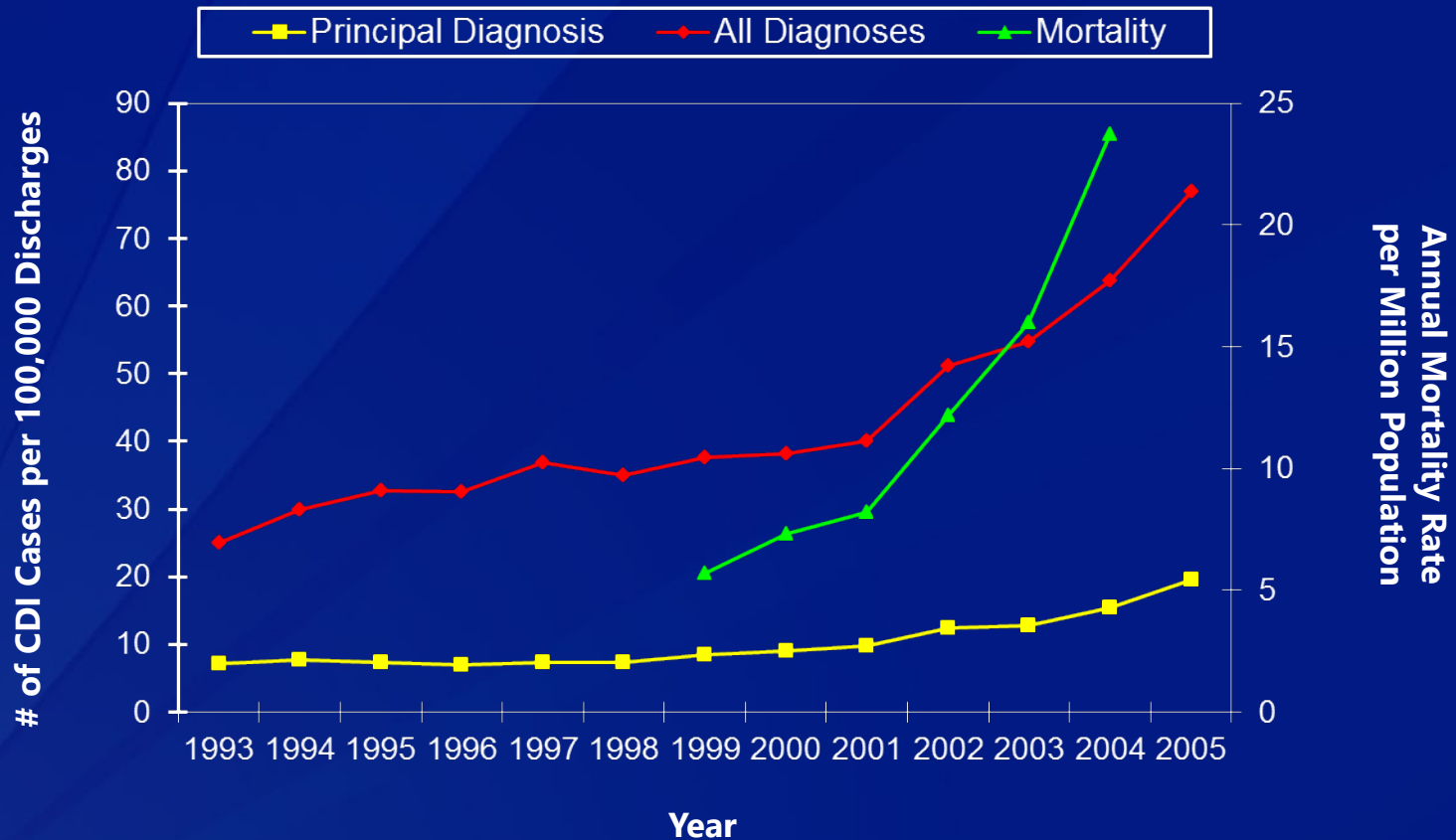
0-12 months



Longer duration and multiple courses were associated with higher rates of resistance.



# C. diff Incidence and mortality are increasing in US



Elixhauser A, et al. Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project: Statistical Brief #50. April 2008. Available at: <http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/sb50.pdf>. Accessed March 10, 2010.  
Redelings MD, et al. Emerg Infect Dis. 2007;13:1417-1419.



# Impact of fluoroquinolone restriction on rates of *C. difficile* infection



Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2009 Mar;30(3):264-72.



# Current Guidelines

- Common cold is caused by viral pathogens
- Symptoms may last up to 14 days, average is 7-11 days
  - (J Clin Micro 1997;35:2864; JAMA 1967;202:158)
- Purulent secretions neither predict bacterial infection nor benefit from antibiotic treatment
- <http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/campaign-materials/adult-treatment.html>

# Current Guidelines

- Dx/Tx for bacterial rhinosinusitis should be reserved for sx > 7 days and maxillary tenderness/purulent secretions
  - Even then, treat with antibiotics only if moderate to severe, use narrow-spectrum agent for *S. pneumoniae* and *H. flu*
- Bronchitis should not be treated with antibiotics unless pertussis is suspected (and then confirmatory testing should be ordered)
- <http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/campaign-materials/adult-treatment.html>

# How can we prescribe fewer antibiotics?



# What about the delayed antibiotic prescription?

- 44.4% consumed the antibiotic course
- 29.6% started their “delayed” course on the day of prescription
  - Br J Gen Pract. 2012 Sep;62(602):639-46
- Postdating this is no better Can Fam Physician. 2010 Oct;56(10):1032-6
- With patient handout:
  - use of antibiotics within 2 weeks in 46.2% vs. 59.4%
    - BMJ 2002 Jan 12;324(7329):91
    - Handout available at <http://www.bmj.com/content/324/7329/91.1?variant=full-text>

# Access to Rapid PCR for Respiratory Viruses Can Reduce Antibiotic Prescriptions

- 4.5% antibiotics at initial visit vs. 12.3% controls (P=0.005)
- Later: 13.9% rapid result group vs. 17.2% delayed
  - BMC Med. 2011 Apr 26;9:44
- Cost in our lab: \$783

# Monitoring of Prescribing

- May not be helpful
  - Hedis quality measure for avoiding antibiotics in 466.o Acute Bronchitis
  - Increase in use of dx code 490 (Bronchitis NOS) Am J Manag Care. 2012 Jun 1;18(6):e217-24.



# Educate Patients to Decrease Demand

- Only multifaceted interventions aimed at
  - Providers
  - Patients
  - General public

have sufficient effect size to impact antibiotic resistance

Decrease in macrolide resistance : 16.5% (1992) to 8.6% (1996)



But until they stop asking. . . .

What about offering something  
else that does work?



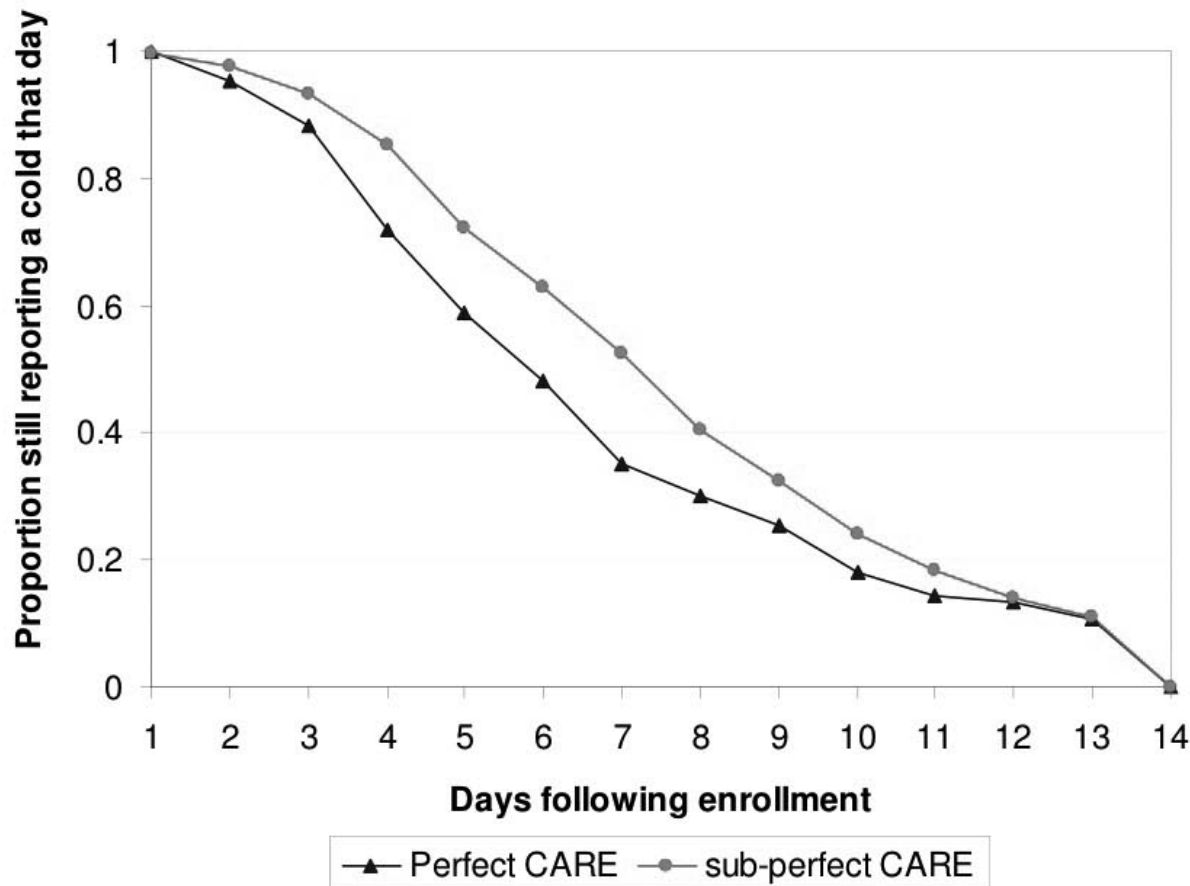
# Effective Alternatives

- Shorten Course
- Treat Symptoms

# Effective Alternatives

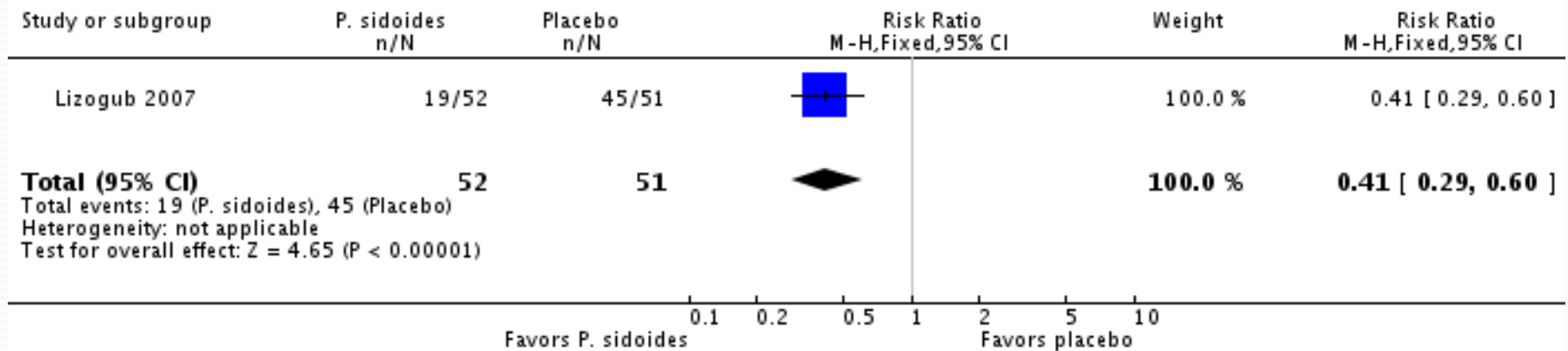
- Shorten Course
  - Display Empathy
  - Pelargonium Sidoides
  - Andrographis paniculata
  - +/- Echinacea – contradictory trials, inc rashes in kids
  - Zinc
- Treat Symptoms

# Practitioner empathy (perceived) and the course of the common cold



# Pelargonium Sidoides - Common Cold

Review: Pelargonium sidoides extract for acute respiratory tract infections  
Comparison: 4 P. sidoides versus placebo, the common cold in adults  
Outcome: 6 Failure to recover by day 10 (complete resolution of all symptoms)



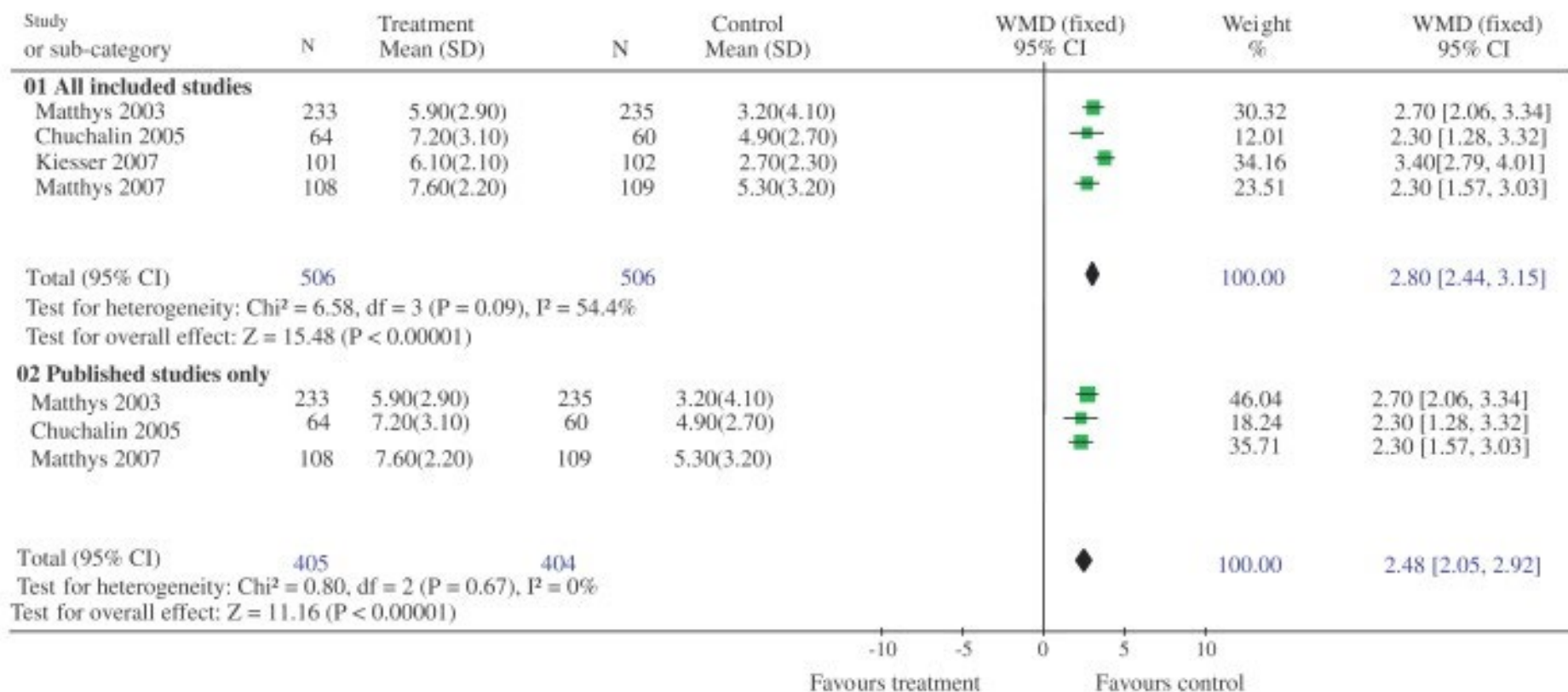
- Symptom resolution by 10 days
  - Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD006323.

# Pelargonium Sidoides in Bronchitis

Review: Pelargonium sidoides for the treatment of acute bronchitis

Comparison: 01 EPs7630 vs. placebo

Outcome: 01 BSS score

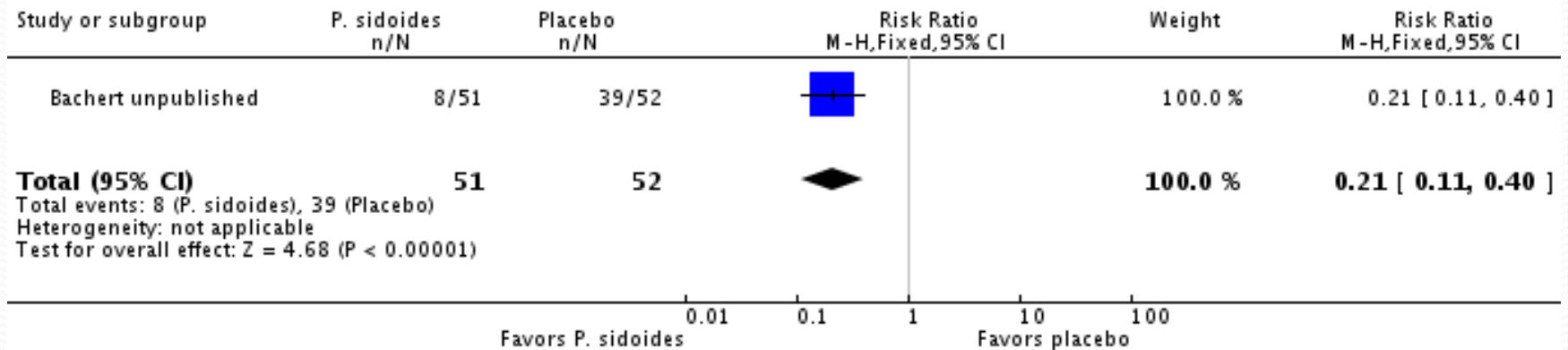


# Pelargonium Sidoides Acute Sinusitis

Review: Pelargonium sidoides extract for acute respiratory tract infections

Comparison: 3 P. sidoides versus placebo, acute sinusitis in adults

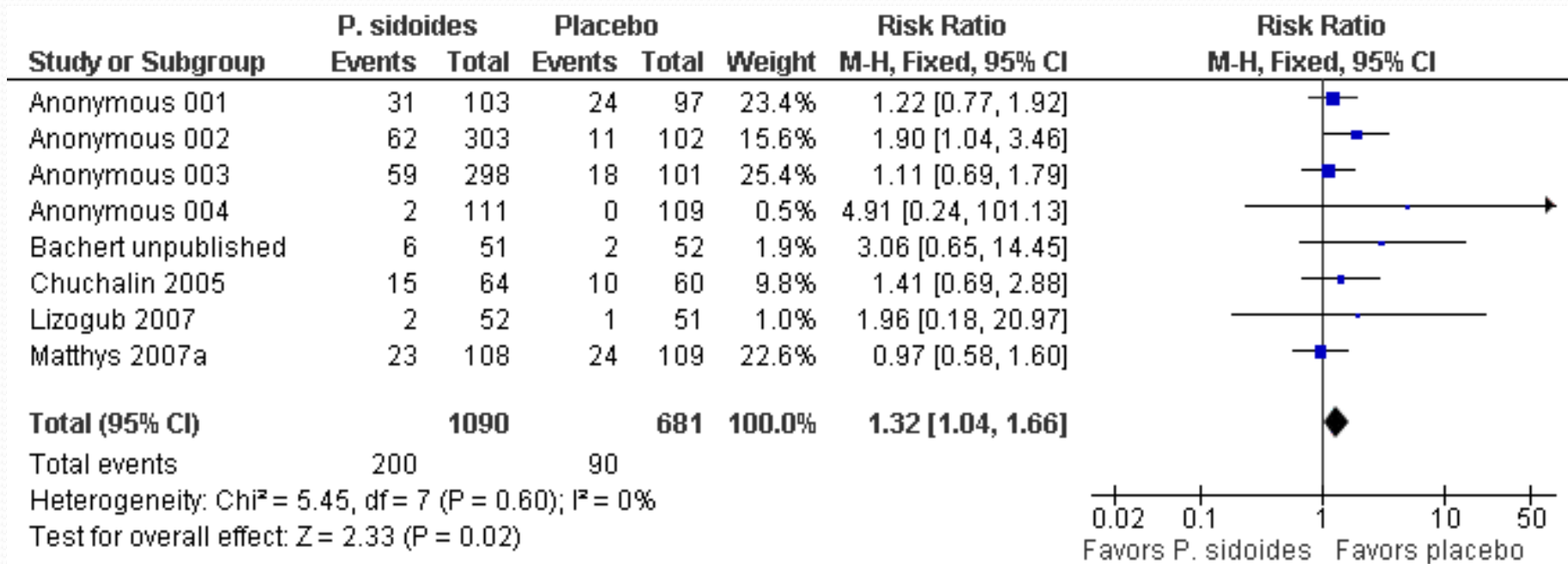
Outcome: 3 Failure to resolve key symptom by day 21: nasal discharge



Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD006323.



# Pelargonium Sidoides Adverse Events



Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews  
2008, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD006323.

# Pelargonium Mechanism

- Cytoprotective effect against virus-induced cell destruction
- Increases release of antimicrobial peptides (also known as defensins) from neutrophilic granulocytes
- Increase release of tumor-necrosis factor (TNF- $\alpha$ )
- Stimulate synthesis of nitric oxide and interferon- $\gamma$
- Increase NK Cell activity
- Increase phagocytosis
  - Natural Medicine Journal 1(4), December 2009

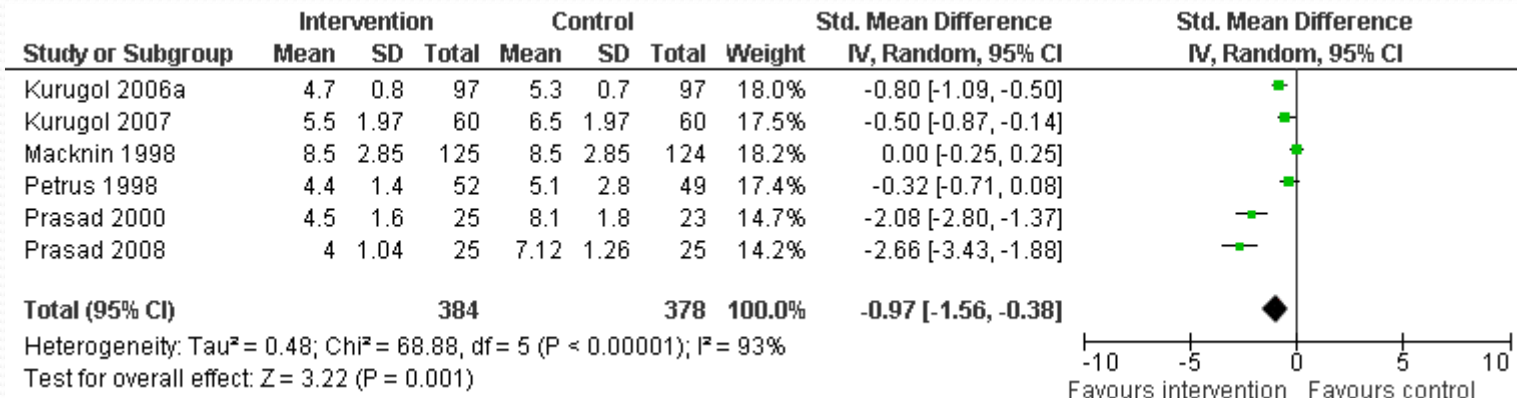
# Andrographis paniculata

| Symptoms        | Treatments | Day 1 | Day 3 | Day 5 | Effect (Day 1-5) |
|-----------------|------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|
| Cough           | Placebo    | 55.1  | 36.6  | 35.9  | 19.2             |
|                 | KalmCold   | 57.9  | 39.2  | 23.3  | 34.6*            |
| Nasal discharge | Placebo    | 44.9  | 29.5  | 26.7  | 19.0             |
|                 | KalmCold   | 42.8  | 25.7  | 11.5  | 32.5*            |
| Malaise/Fatigue | Placebo    | 39.5  | 28.0  | 24.3  | 18.9             |
|                 | KalmCold   | 44.8  | 23.9  | 10.3  | 34.4*            |

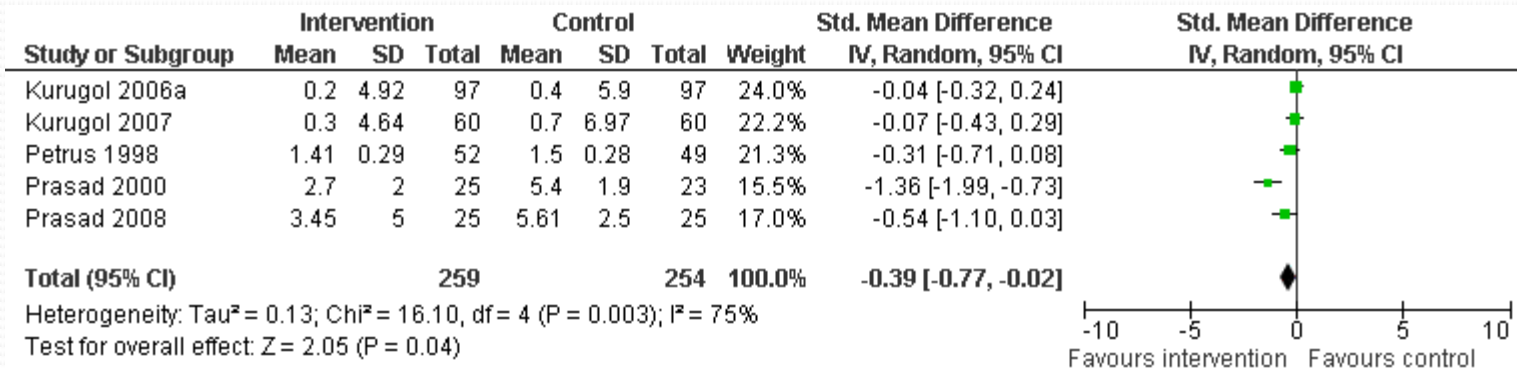
P < 0.05

- Anti-inflammatory, immunostimulant and anti-pyretic properties Phytomedicine 17(3/4)March 2010, Pages 178–185
- Systematic review found 3 previous studies of high quality design with similar results Explore(NY)2006 Jan;2(1):25-9.

# Zinc for treatment – lozenges or syrup



## Duration

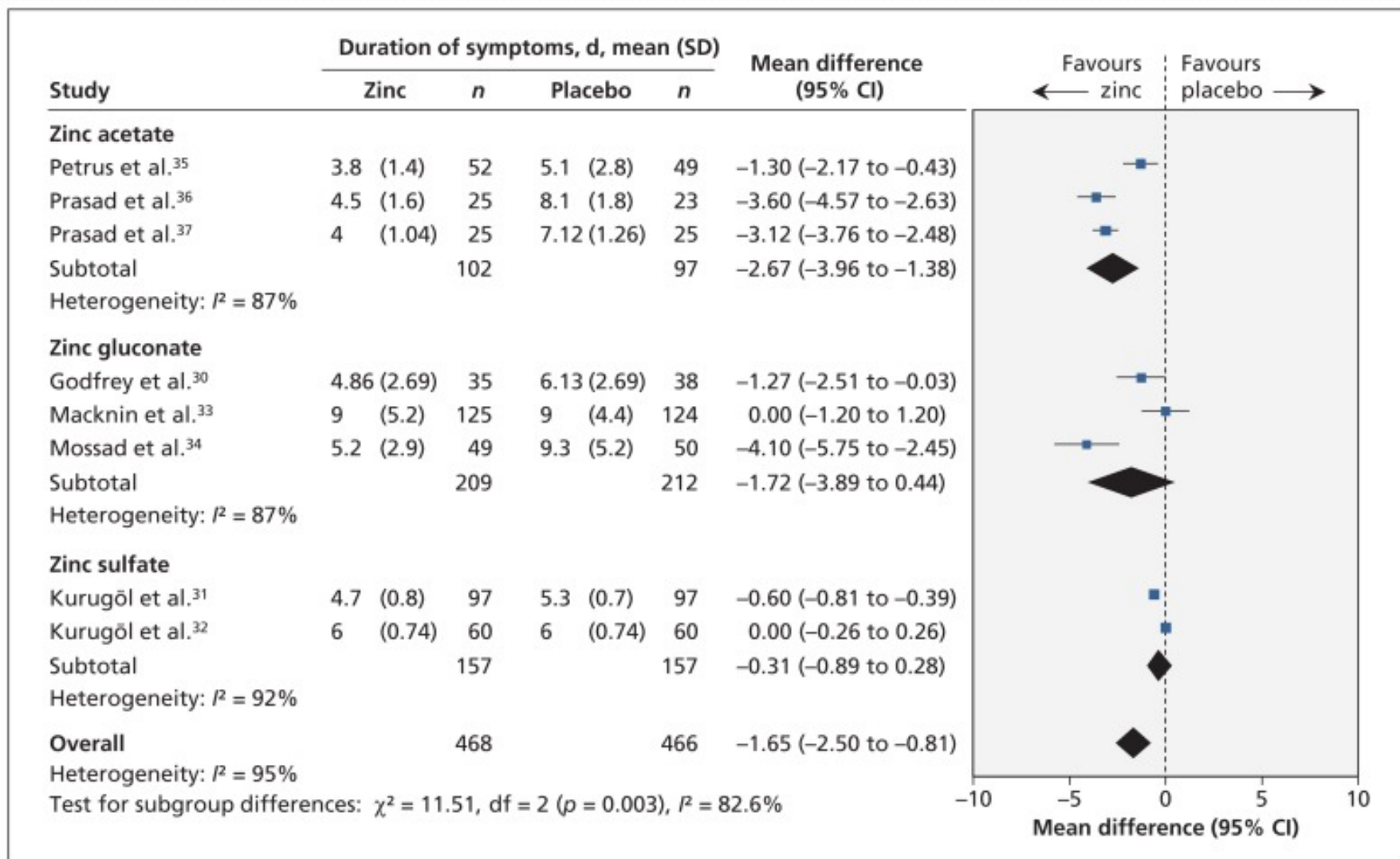


## Severity

Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2011 Feb 16;2:CD001364

Note significant bad taste, nausea

# Form of Zinc - Acetate



# Effective Alternatives

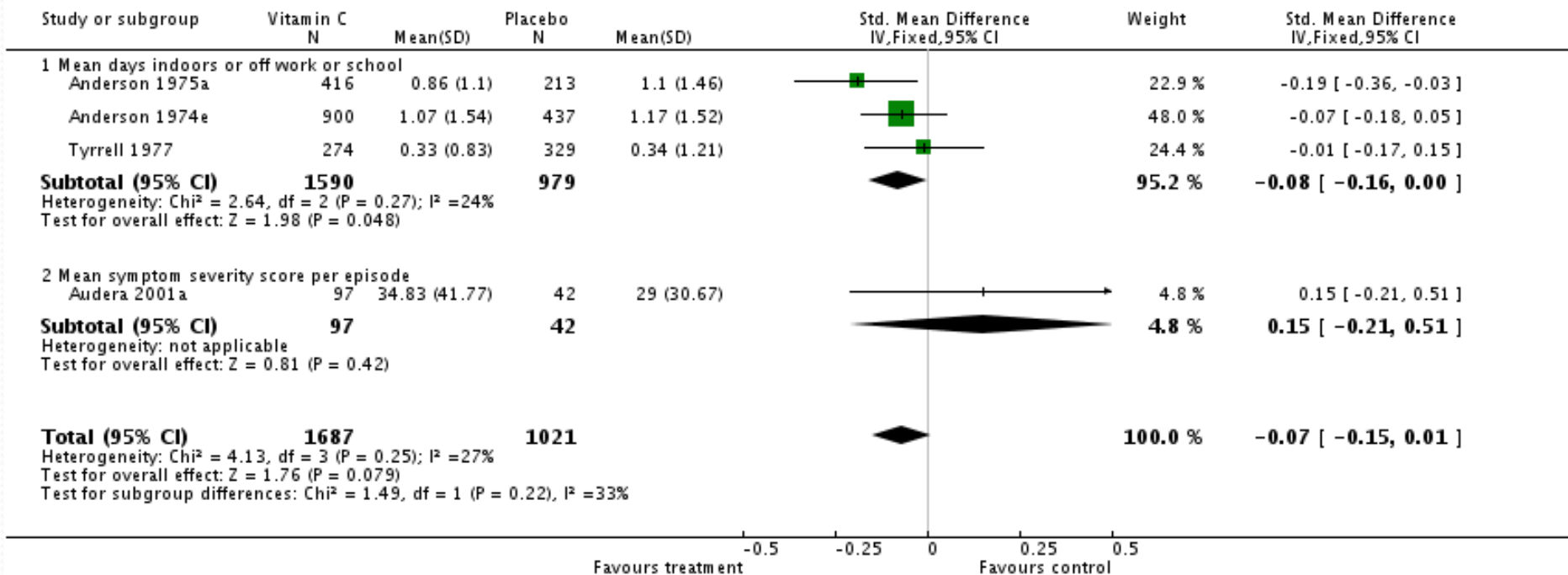
- Shorten Course
- Treat Symptoms
  - Vitamin C
    - Decrease severity, Cochrane 2007, 3: CD000980
    - 9% - 37 % reduction in symptom days in multiple clinical trials with  $\geq 1$  gram per day *Cochrane Dbase Syst Rev* 2000; 2:CD000980
  - Pain
  - Cough
  - Nasal Symptoms

# Vitamin C and Symptom Severity

Review: Vitamin C for preventing and treating the common cold

Comparison: 5 Severity of colds treated with vitamin C

Outcome: 1 Indicators of severity of episodes for which vitamin C was used as therapy



- Audera used only 1 g x 3 days

- Cochrane 2007, Issue 3. Art. No.: CD000980

# Effective Alternatives

- Shorten Course
- Treat Symptoms
  - Vitamin C
  - Pain
    - Analgesics – acetaminophen, NSAIDs
    - But some possible reasons for caution?
      - ASA, acetaminophen: ↑nasal symptoms, ↓Ab response (P<0.05) J Infect Dis. 1990 Dec;162(6):1277-82.
      - ASA: increased viral shedding JAMA 231:1248-1251, 1975
      - And mortality? 34% increase in animal RCTs w/aspirin, paracetamol and diclofenac J R Soc Med. 2010 103(10): 403-411
  - Cough
  - Nasal Symptoms



# Treat Symptoms

- Vitamin C
- Pain
- Cough
  - Dextromethorphan - decrease cough scores 19-36% <sup>1</sup>
  - Guaifenesin <sup>2</sup> –
    - decrease cough frequency /intensity in 75% vs 31% controls
  - Honey <sup>3</sup> (in kids) – more effective than DM
- Nasal Symptoms

1, 2: Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD001831.

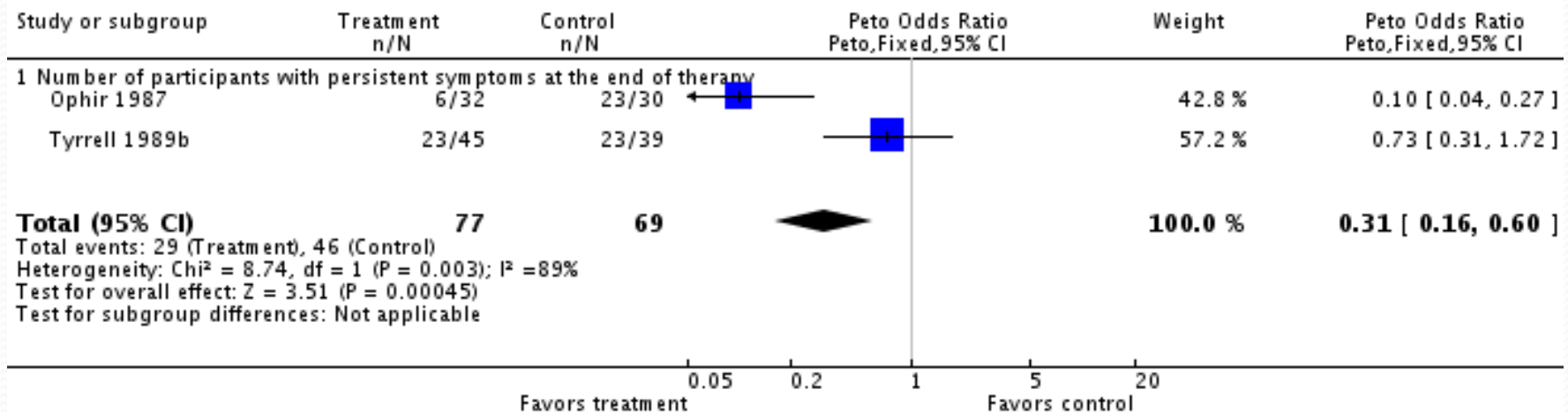
3: Pediatrics. 2012 Sep;130(3):465-71.

# Treat Symptoms

- Pain
- Cough
- **Nasal Symptoms** – data to follow
  - Steam Cochrane 2011, Issue 5. Art. No.: CD001728
  - Essential oils – vapor rub or steam inhalation Pediatrics 2010;126(6):1092
  - Decongestants – nasal or oral JAMA 1993 May 5;269(17):2258-63
  - Ipratropium nasal – imp rhinorrhea but not congestion “
  - Isotonic saline nasal wash Am Fam Physician. 2009 80(10): 1117–1119
  - Bromelain in Sinusitis Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery 135(4):496, 2006
  - Hot drink Rhinology. 2008 Dec;46(4):271-5
  - Chicken Soup – increased nasal mucus velocity Chest. 1978 Oct;74(4):408-10.
  - Decongestants – topical or oral Cochrane 2007;(1):CD001953.

# Steam

Review: Heated, humidified air for the common cold  
 Comparison: 1 Rhinotherapy versus control  
 Outcome: 1 Number of participants with persistent symptoms



- #patients with persistent symptoms
  - Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2011, Issue 5. Art. No.: CD001728

# +/- Essential Oils

- Vapor rub studied in kids Pediatrics 2010 Dec;126(6):1092
- In vitro broad-spectrum antimicrobial activity
- Also anti-inflammatory, mucolytic
- Improve mucus clearance in COPD J Altern Complement Med. 2003 Apr;9(2):243-9
- Case report in O<sub>2</sub>-dependent RSV EXPLORE July/Aug 2008, 4(4)
- Interventional trial in acute sinusitis - more effective than placebo Laryngorhinootologie 1997 Jan;76(1):23-7
- Articles in German and Russian

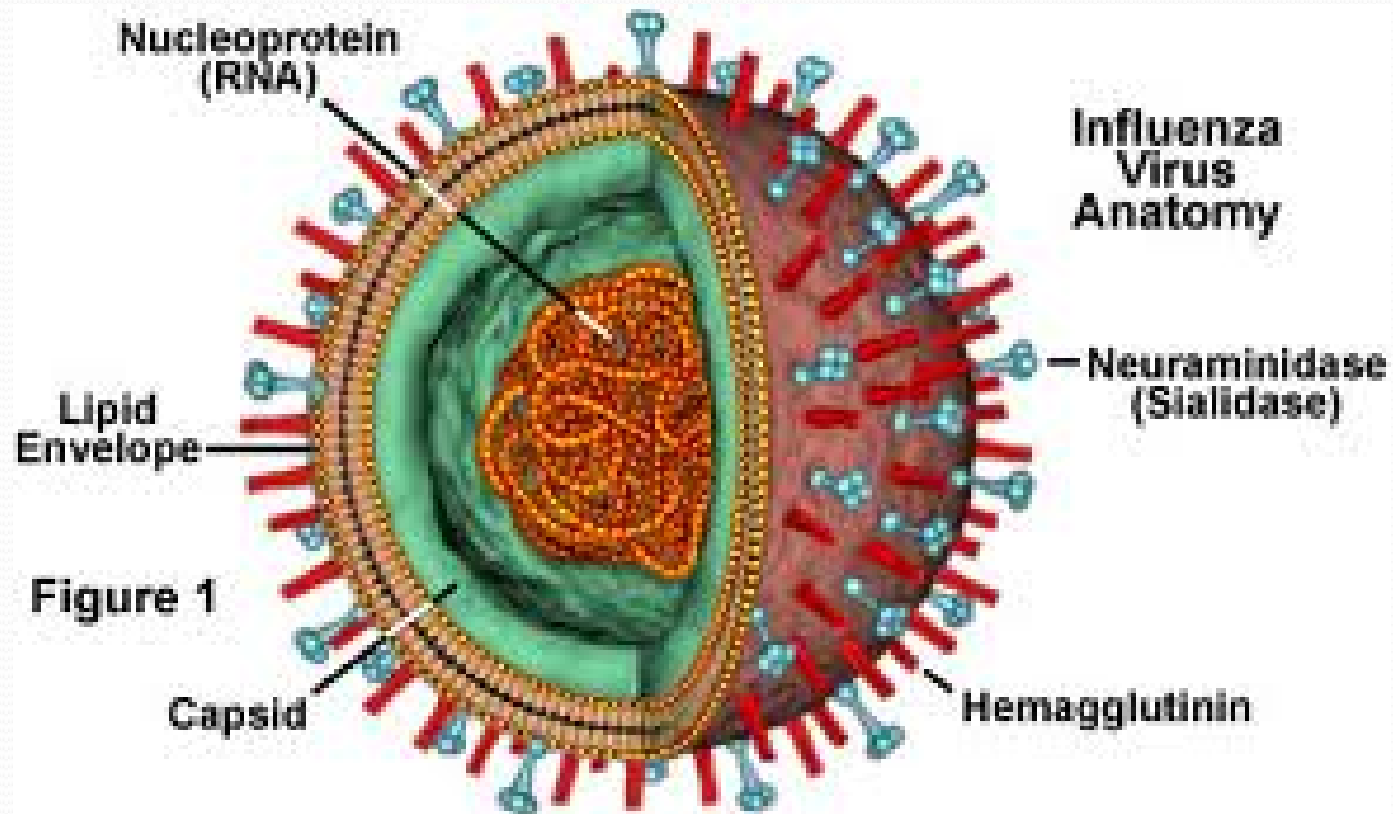
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  - Chicken Soup – increased nasal mucus velocity Chest. 1978 Oct;74(4):408-10.
  - Decongestants – topical or oral Cochrane 2007;(1):CD001953.

# Not Recommended

- Airborne – not studied
- Nasal Zinc –may be associated with anosmia
- Cough
  - Beta-2 agonists Cochrane Database of Syst Reviews 2011, Issue 7. Art. No.: CD001726
  - Codeine Cochrane Database of Syst Reviews 2008, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD001831.
  - Antihistamine/decongestants – minimal decrease in one study, no change in another, with significant side effects  
Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD001831.
- Nasal Symptoms
  - Nasal steroids not effective J Allergy Clin Immunol 2000 Sep;106(3):467

# Influenza



| Common Cold                                  | Influenza                                 |
|--|---|
| Gradual onset of symptoms                    | Abrupt onset                              |
| Low-grade fever                              | Significant fever, usually >100 degrees F |
|  | Chills sweats, fatigue                    |
| Less achiness                                | Muscle aches                              |
| Sore, itchy throat, stuffy and/or runny nose | Sore, itchy throat, runny nose            |
| Sneezing                                     | Photophobia (pain with bright light)      |
| Very Annoying                                | Potentially Life-threatening              |



# Influenza

- Average 23,600 deaths per year
- Mortality higher in
  - Pregnancy
  - Adults > 65 yo
  - Patients with comorbid conditions
- MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2010 Aug 27;59(33):1057

# Diagnosis

- Clinical
  - fever, cough, acute onset sufficient during an outbreak
- Laboratory testing indicated if:
  - No recent cases locally
  - Hospitalized patient with suspected influenza
  - Results would change management

# Laboratory Testing

- Point-of-care testing only indicated when virus is prevalent in community
- Rapid tests
  - Sensitivity 62.3% (95% CI 57.9%–66.6%)
    - Worse for influenza B
  - Specificity 98.2% (95% CI 97.5%–98.7%)
    - Ann Intern Med 2012 Apr 3;156(7):500

# Treatment - Pharmaceutical

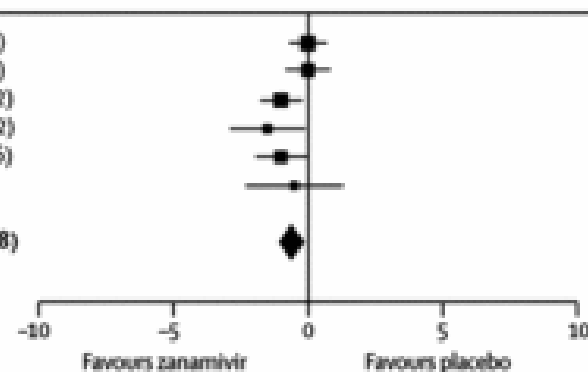
- Adamantines – amantadine, rimantadine
  - Only effective against influenza A
  - Not recommended in recent outbreaks based on antiviral resistance patterns
- Neuraminidase inhibitors
  - Oseltamivir 75 mg po bid (qd for Ccr 10 – 30 mL/min)x5d
  - Zanamivir 10 mg (2 inhalations) bid x 5 d
    - Not recommended in patients with airways disease
  - Resistance relatively low
    - 0.3 – 3% of Pandemic H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub> in 2009
    - 0.2% in seasonal A(H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)

# Efficacy - Duration

- Effective if started within 48 hours
  - Reduce symptom duration by 0.55 days
  - In higher-risk patients, reduce symptom duration by 0.74 days (oseltamivir) or 0.98 days (zanamivir)

| Study or subgroup                     | Zanamivir |       | Total       | Placebo |      | Total       | Weight (%)    | Median difference (95% CI)    |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------|-------------|---------|------|-------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
|                                       | Median    | SD    |             | Median  | SD   |             |               |                               |
| Bolin 2000 <sup>B</sup>               | 5         | 3.67  | 363         | 5       | 5.14 | 305         | 24.3          | 0.00 (-0.69 to 0.69)          |
| GlaxoSmithKline NA130011 <sup>B</sup> | 4.5       | 5.21  | 229         | 4.5     | 3.88 | 237         | 20.0          | 0.00 (-0.84 to 0.84)          |
| Hayden 1997 <sup>11</sup>             | 3.5       | 3.22  | 132         | 4.5     | 3.36 | 144         | 21.6          | -1.00 (-1.78 to -0.22)        |
| Makela 2000 <sup>12</sup>             | 5         | 4.44  | 161         | 6.5     | 7.79 | 163         | 10.2          | -1.50 (-2.88 to -0.12)        |
| MIST 1998 <sup>14</sup>               | 5         | 4.82  | 190         | 6       | 4.54 | 189         | 17.3          | -1.00 (-1.94 to -0.06)        |
| Puhakka 2003 <sup>20</sup>            | 2.2       | 15.23 | 293         | 2.7     | 4.02 | 295         | 6.5           | -0.50 (-2.30 to 1.30)         |
| <b>Total (95% CI)</b>                 |           |       | <b>1368</b> |         |      | <b>1333</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>-0.57 (-1.07 to -0.08)</b> |

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2=0.14$ ;  $\chi^2=8.08$ ,  $df=5$  ( $p=0.15$ );  $I^2=38\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z=2.26$  ( $p=0.02$ )



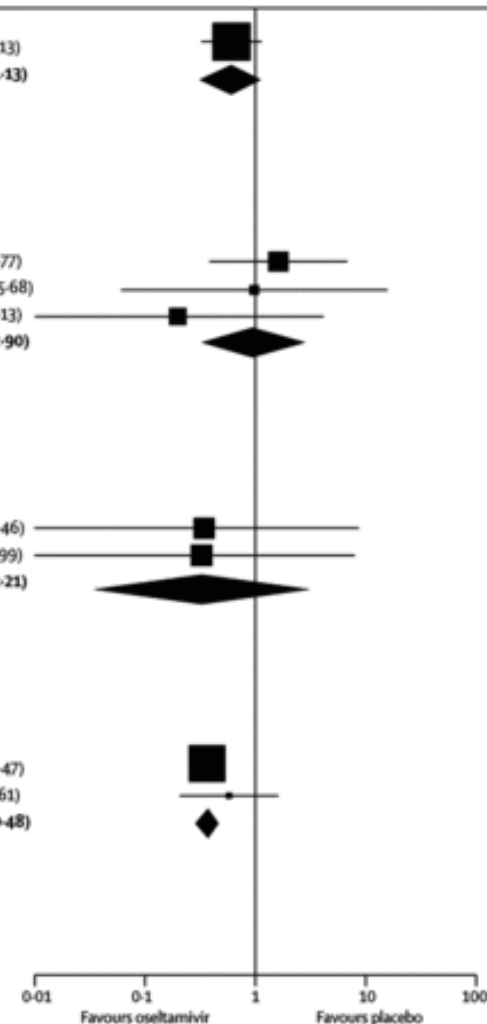
# Efficacy - Complications

Complications  
Requiring  
Hospitalization

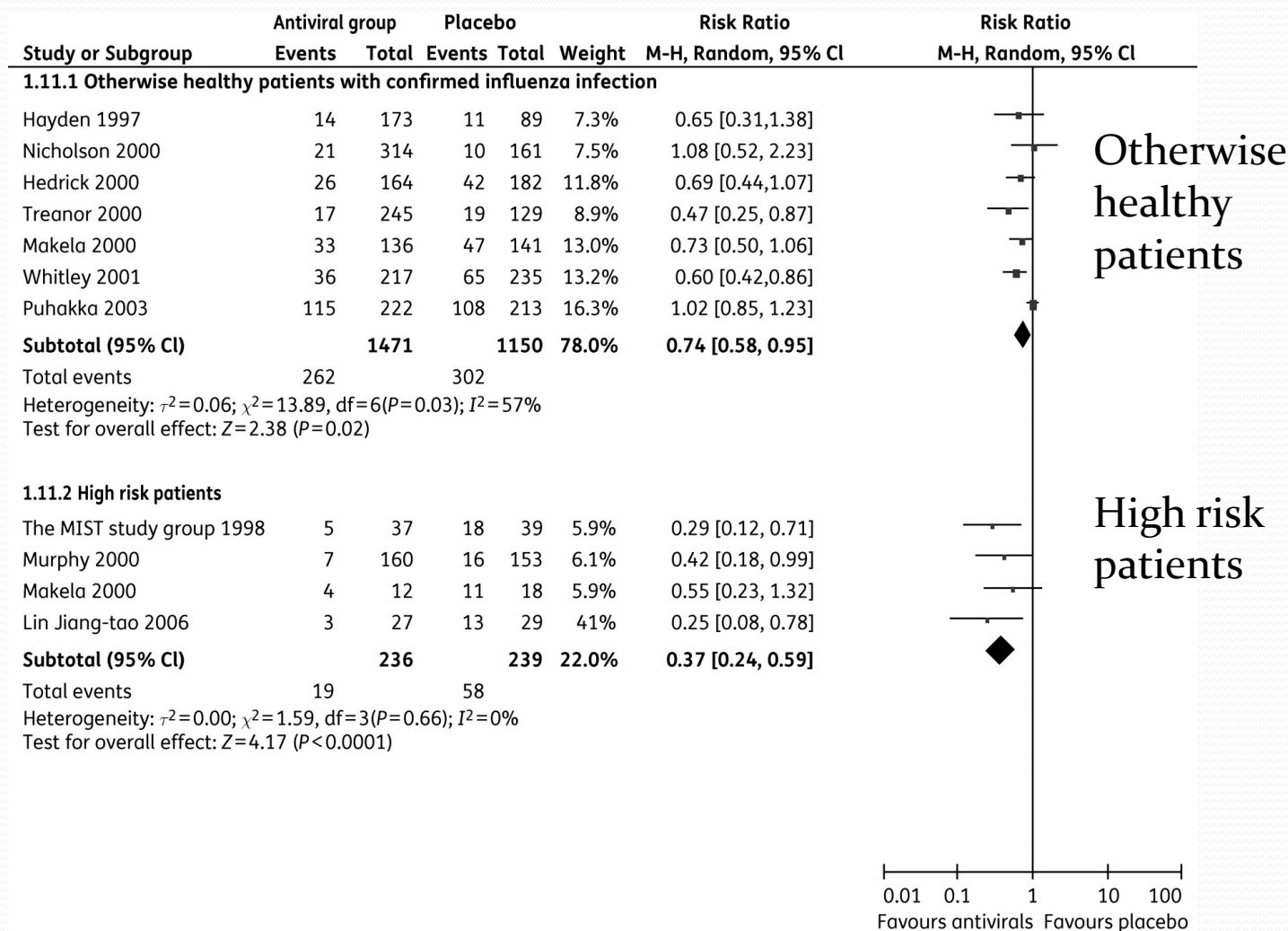
Pneumonia

Antibiotic use

| Study or subgroup  | Oseltamivir |             | Placebo    |             | Weight (%)   | Odds ratios (95% CI)       |
|--|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|  | Events      | Total       | Events     | Total       |              |                            |
| <b>Overall complications</b>                                     |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Treanor 2000 <sup>29</sup>                                       | 18          | 210         | 28         | 209         | 100.0        | 0.61 (0.32 to 1.13)        |
| <b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>   |             | <b>210</b>  |            | <b>209</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>0.61 (0.32 to 1.13)</b> |
| <b>Total events</b>  | <b>18</b>   |             | <b>28</b>  |             |              |                            |
| Heterogeneity: Not applicable                                    |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Test for overall effect: Z=1.57 (p=0.12)                         |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| <b>Complications requiring hospitalisation</b>                   |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Deng 2004 <sup>31</sup>  | 5           | 599         | 3          | 577         | 46.3         | 1.61 (0.38 to 6.77)        |
| Nicholson 2000 <sup>27</sup>                                     | 1           | 241         | 1          | 235         | 15.4         | 0.97 (0.06 to 15.68)       |
| Treanor 2000 <sup>29</sup>                                       | 0           | 210         | 2          | 209         | 38.2         | 0.20 (0.01 to 4.13)        |
| <b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>   |             | <b>1050</b> |            | <b>1021</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>0.97 (0.33 to 2.90)</b> |
| <b>Total events</b>  | <b>6</b>    |             | <b>6</b>   |             |              |                            |
| Heterogeneity: $\chi^2=1.53$ , df=2 (p=0.47); I <sup>2</sup> =0% |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Test for overall effect: Z=0.05 (p=0.96)                         |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| <b>Pneumonia</b>   |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Kashiwagi 2000 <sup>32</sup>                                     | 0           | 154         | 1          | 159         | 49.3         | 0.34 (0.01 to 8.46)        |
| Nicholson 2000 <sup>27</sup>                                     | 0           | 241         | 1          | 235         | 50.7         | 0.32 (0.01 to 7.99)        |
| <b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>   |             | <b>395</b>  |            | <b>394</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>0.33 (0.03 to 3.21)</b> |
| <b>Total events</b>  | <b>0</b>    |             | <b>2</b>   |             |              |                            |
| Heterogeneity: $\chi^2=0.00$ , df=1 (p=0.98); I <sup>2</sup> =0% |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Test for overall effect: Z=0.95 (p=0.34)                         |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| <b>Antibiotic use</b>  |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Deng 2004 <sup>31</sup>  | 129         | 599         | 248        | 577         | 95.3         | 0.36 (0.28 to 0.47)        |
| Nicholson 2000 <sup>27</sup>                                     | 6           | 241         | 10         | 235         | 4.7          | 0.57 (0.21 to 1.61)        |
| <b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>   |             | <b>840</b>  |            | <b>812</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>0.37 (0.29 to 0.48)</b> |
| <b>Total events</b>  | <b>135</b>  |             | <b>258</b> |             |              |                            |
| Heterogeneity: $\chi^2=0.71$ , df=1 (p=0.40); I <sup>2</sup> =0% |             |             |            |             |              |                            |
| Test for overall effect: Z=7.78 (p<0.00001)                      |             |             |            |             |              |                            |

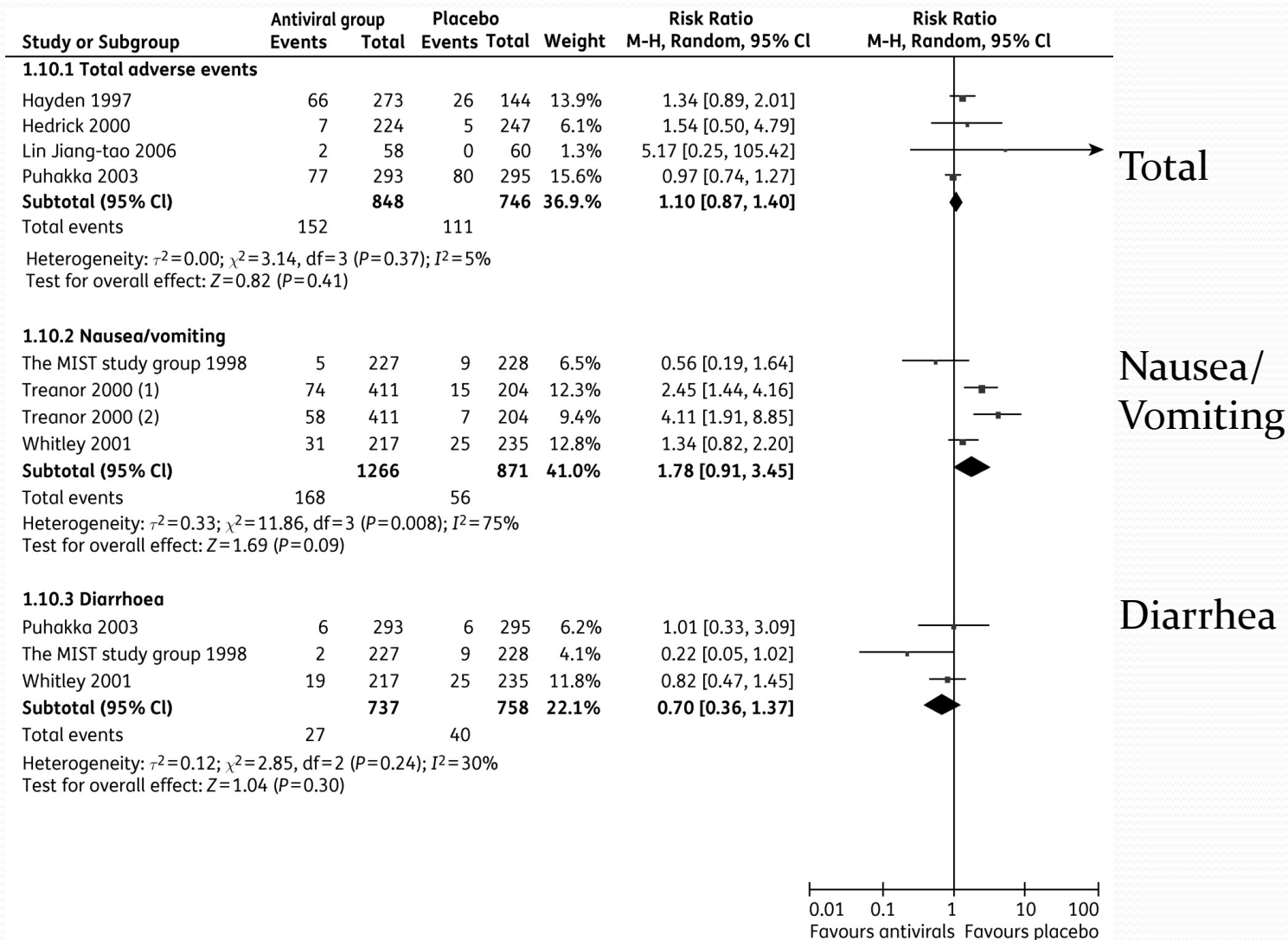


# Complications of Influenza after Treatment with Neuraminidase Inhibitors vs. Placebo



Falagas M E et al. J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 2010;65:1330-1346

# Adverse Events



Falagas M E et al. J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 2010;65:1330-1346



# Treatment – Who?

- Severe, complicated or progressive illness
- Hospitalization Required
- At high risk for complications
  - chronic respiratory disease (including asthma and COPD)
  - chronic heart disease
  - chronic renal disease
  - chronic liver disease
  - chronic neurological conditions
  - diabetes mellitus
  - patients  $\geq 65$  years old
  - patients who are immunosuppressed

# Elderberry

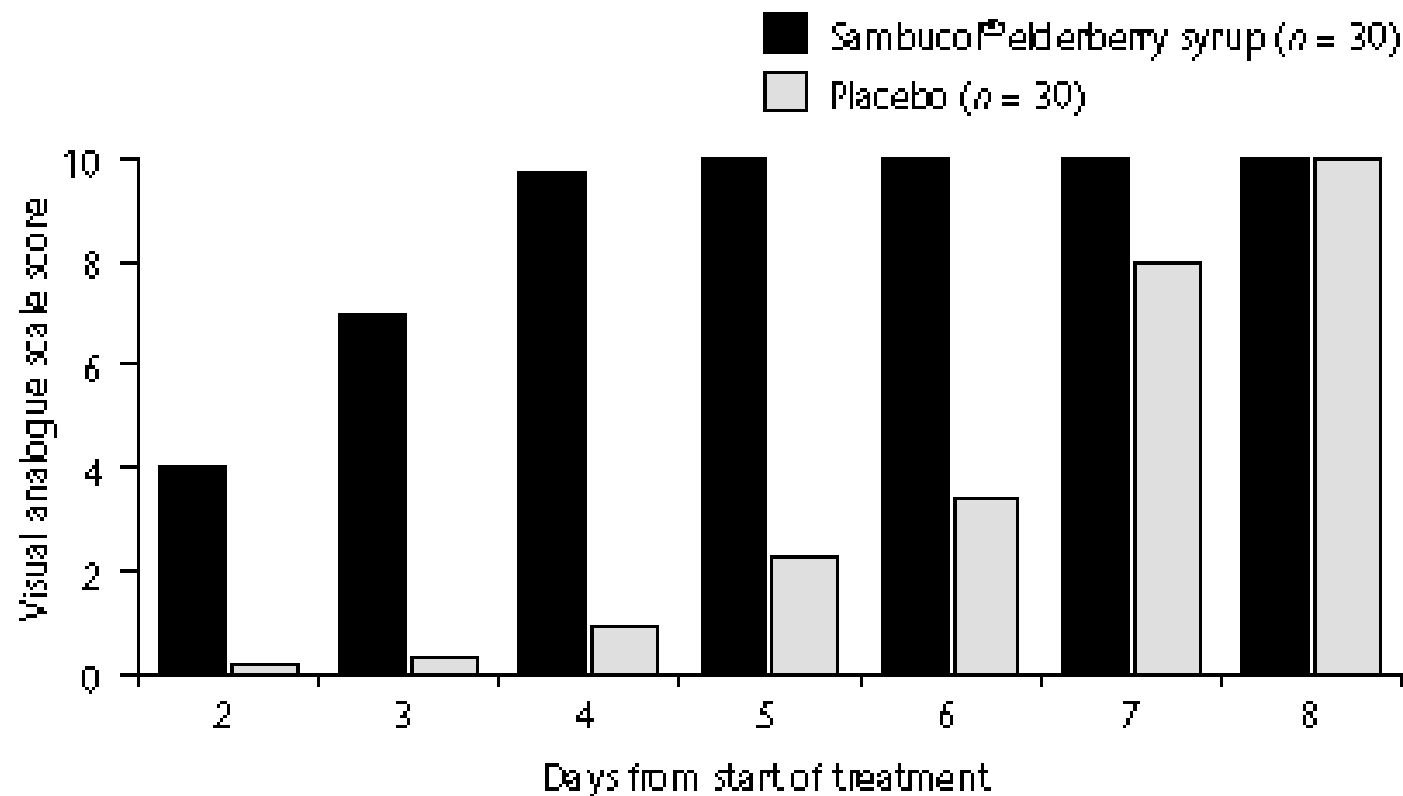


FIGURE 1: The development of self-evaluation scores in global well-being in the 60 patients with influenza who received either elderberry syrup or placebo (15 ml, four times daily with meals, for 5 days)

# Elderberry

|                                  | <b>Sambucus<br/>nigra</b> | <b>Placebo</b> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Day “Improvement” Noted<br>1 day | 20%                       | 8.3%           |
| 2 days                           | 73.3%                     | 16.7%          |
| 3 days                           | 6.7%                      | 33.3%          |
| Complete resolution<br>2 days    | 40%                       | 16.7%          |
| 3 days                           | 86.7                      | 33.4%          |

Improvement before the 5<sup>th</sup> day OR 22.7 (p<0.001)

Complete cure before the 5<sup>th</sup> day OR 31.1 (p<0.001)

# Oscillococcinum

- RR 1.5 for symptom resolution in 48 hours
- Shorten course by 0.3 days
  - The American Journal of Medicine – 120(11):923-929 (November 2007)



Better than a pound of cure. . . .

# Handwashing/Hand Sanitizer and Absenteeism in Students

|                            |         |                 | Intervention                          |                                       | Control                               |                                       |                                   |
|----------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Trials                     |         | No. of students | No. of absences (no. of student-days) | Absenteeism rate per 100 student-days | No. of absences (no. of student-days) | Absenteeism rate per 100 student-days | Percent Relative Effect (95% CI)* |
| White et al. <sup>41</sup> |         | 770             | 153<br>(9615)                         | 1.59                                  | 222<br>(9459)                         | 2.35                                  | 33<br>(17, 45)                    |
| Dyer et al. <sup>27</sup>  | Phase 1 | 420             | 70<br>(4136)                          | 1.69                                  | 105<br>(4120)                         | 2.55                                  | 34<br>(10, 50)                    |
|                            | Phase 2 | 420             | 28<br>(4156)                          | 0.674                                 | 63<br>(4140)                          | 1.52                                  | 56<br>(31, 72)                    |

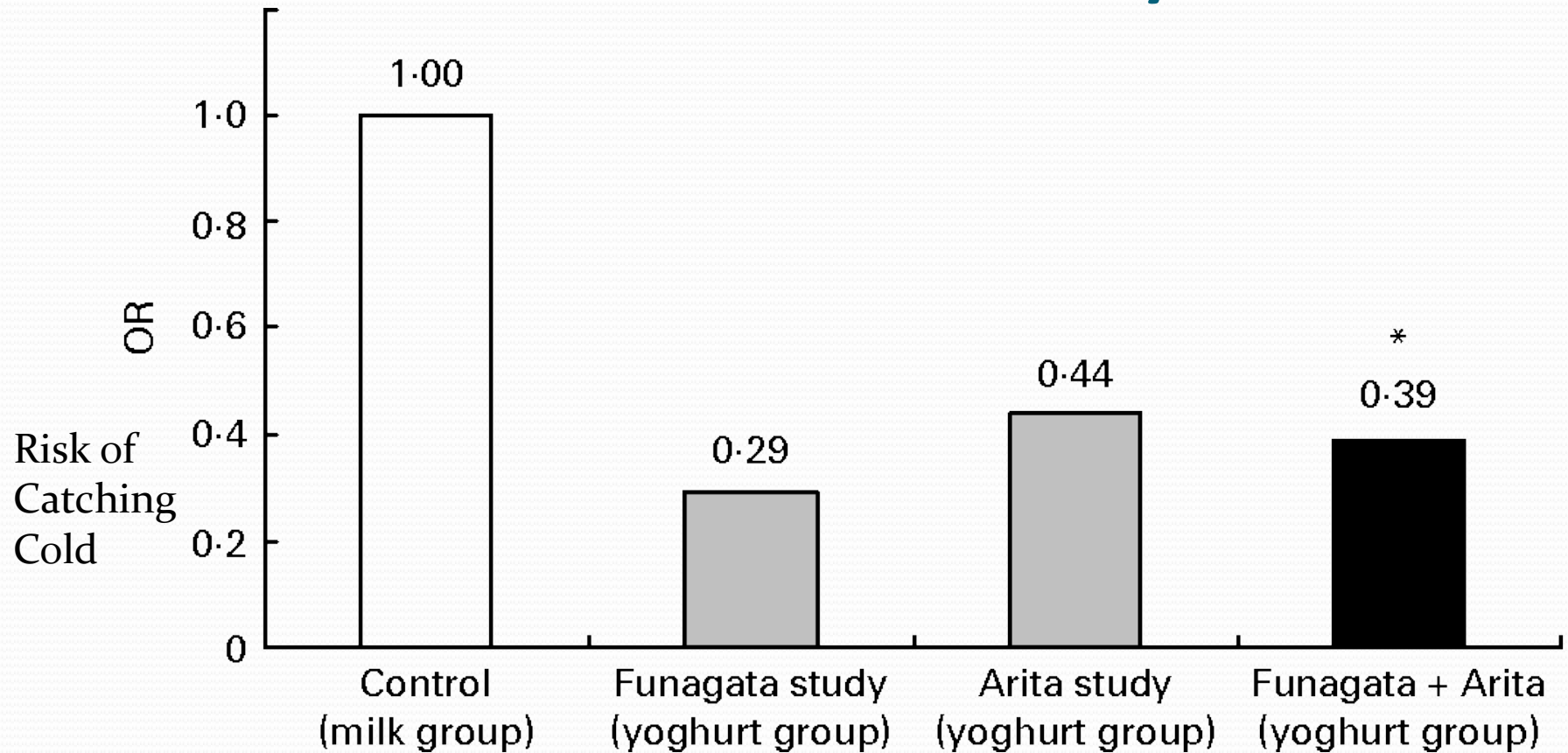
# Garlic

- Allicin-containing supplement vs. placebo
- Colds:
  - 24 vs 65,  $P < .001$
- Days of Sx:
  - 1.52 vs. 5.01,  $P < .001$

Josling, P. (2001). Preventing the common cold with a garlic supplement: a double-blind, placebo-controlled survey. *Advances in therapy*, 18(4).

“Or maybe people just didn't get close enough to the garlic eaters to give them a virus.”

# Probiotics in the Elderly

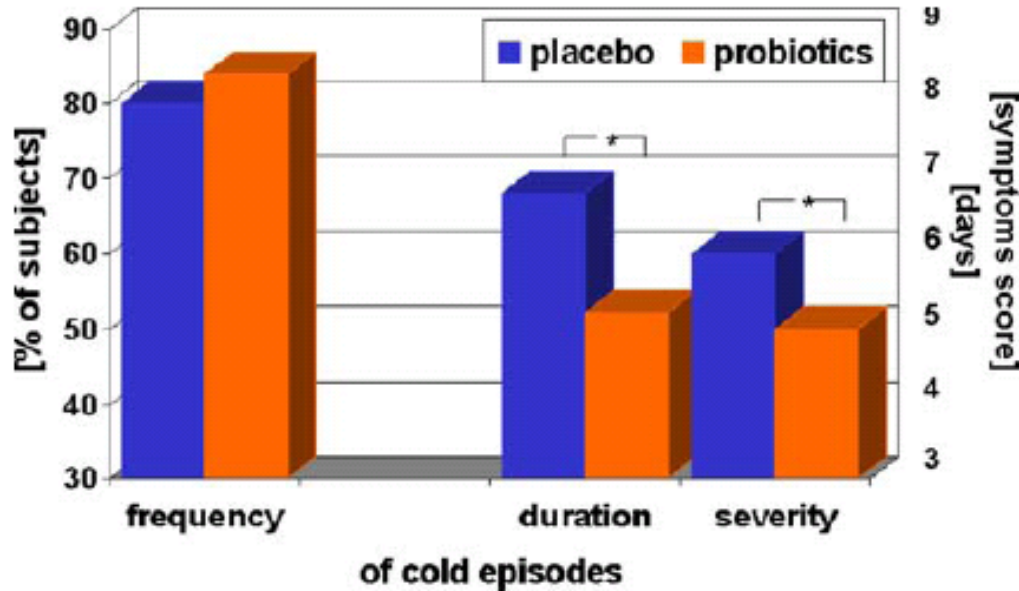


90 g yogurt vs. 100 mL milk in the elderly

British Journal of Nutrition / Volume 104 / Issue 07 / October 2010 , pp 998-1006



# Probiotics and URI Prevention



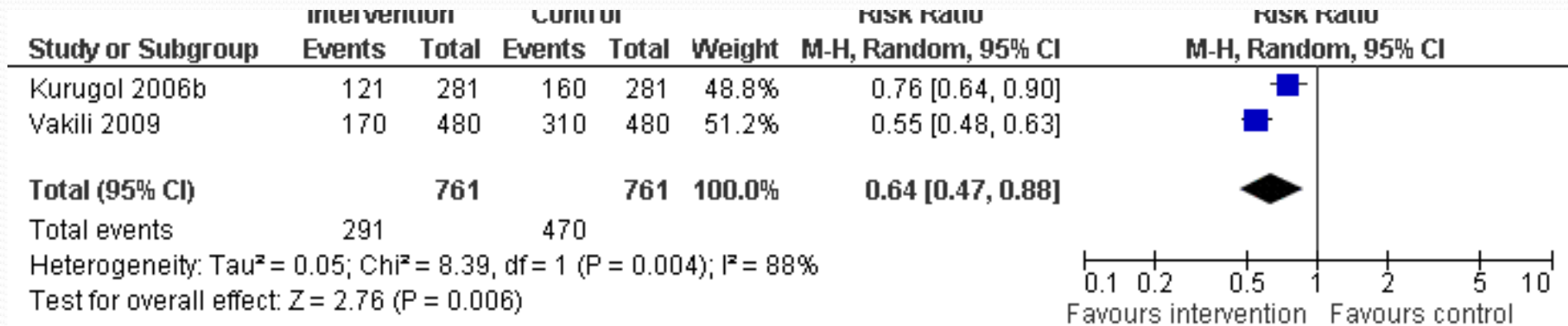
Ages 18-67 No decrease in incidence, but decreased severity and duration

Clin Nutr 24:481-491; Lactobacillus gasseri PA 16/8, Bifidobacterium longum SP 07/3, B. bifidum MF 20/5

Same conclusion Vaccine. 2006 Nov 10;24(44-46):6670-4. Epub 2006 Jun 6

Also produce decreases in fever, clinic visits, child care absences, and antibiotic prescriptions in infants in daycare Pediatrics.2005; 115:5 -9.

# Zinc for Prevention



15 mg daily in kids

*Cochrane Database Syst Rev.*  
 2011;(2):CD001364

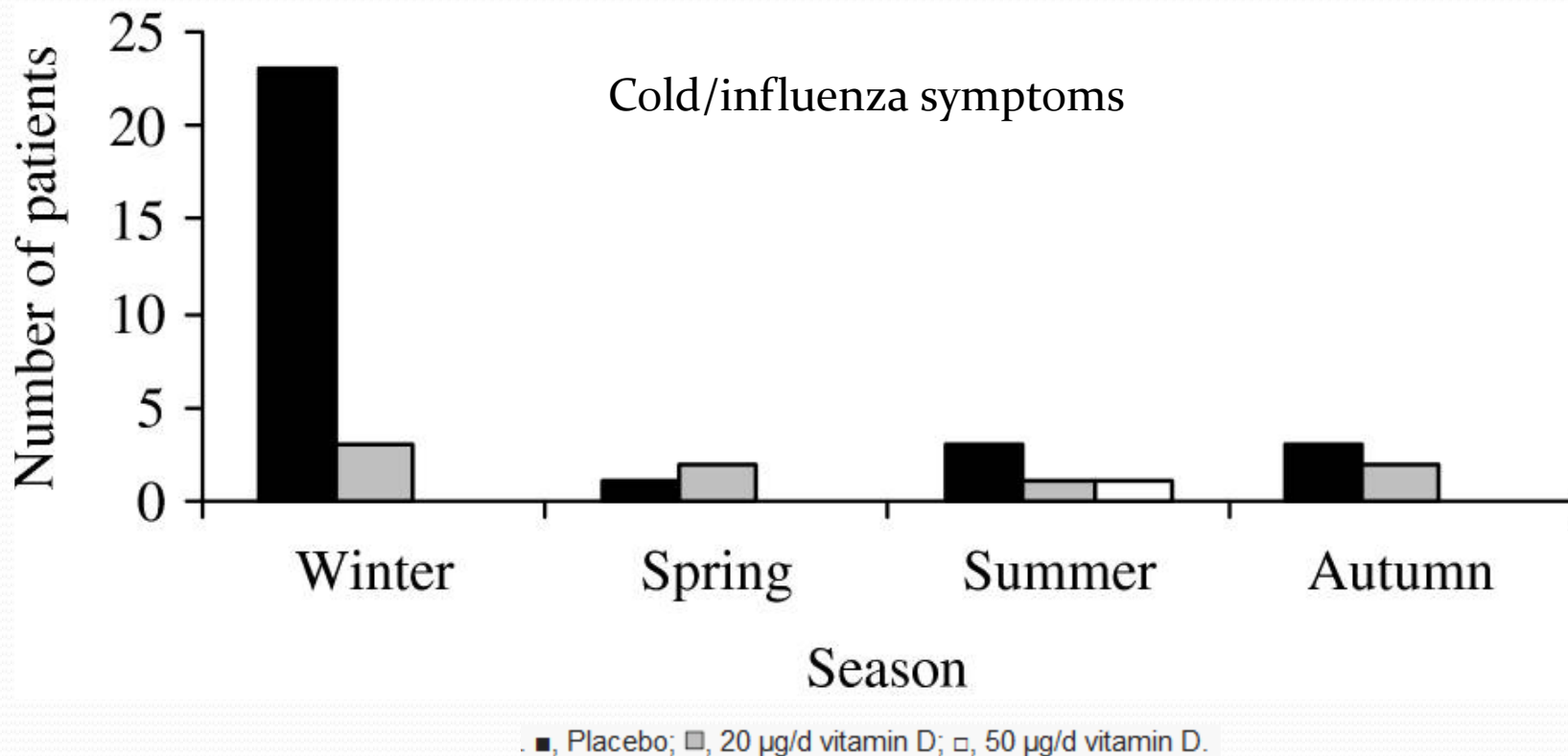
# Vitamin D

- Schoolchildren 6-15 yo, 1200 IU D<sub>3</sub>/d Dec thru March

| Subjects with influenza A |             |      |         |
|---------------------------|-------------|------|---------|
| D <sub>3</sub> (%)        | Placebo (%) | RR   | P value |
| 10.8                      | 18.6        | 0.58 | 0.04    |

*Am J Clin Nutr May 1, 2010 vol. 91 no. 5 1255-1260*

# Adults (African American postmenopausal women) treated with 800 IU vitamin D x 2 years then 2000 IU vitamin D x 1 year (vs. placebo)



Epidemiol Infect. 2007 October; 135(7): 1095–1098

Military recruits 400 IU vitamin D: 51.3% remained healthy vs. 35.7% placebo;  $p=0.045$   
*J Infect Dis.* (2010) 202 (5): 809-814.

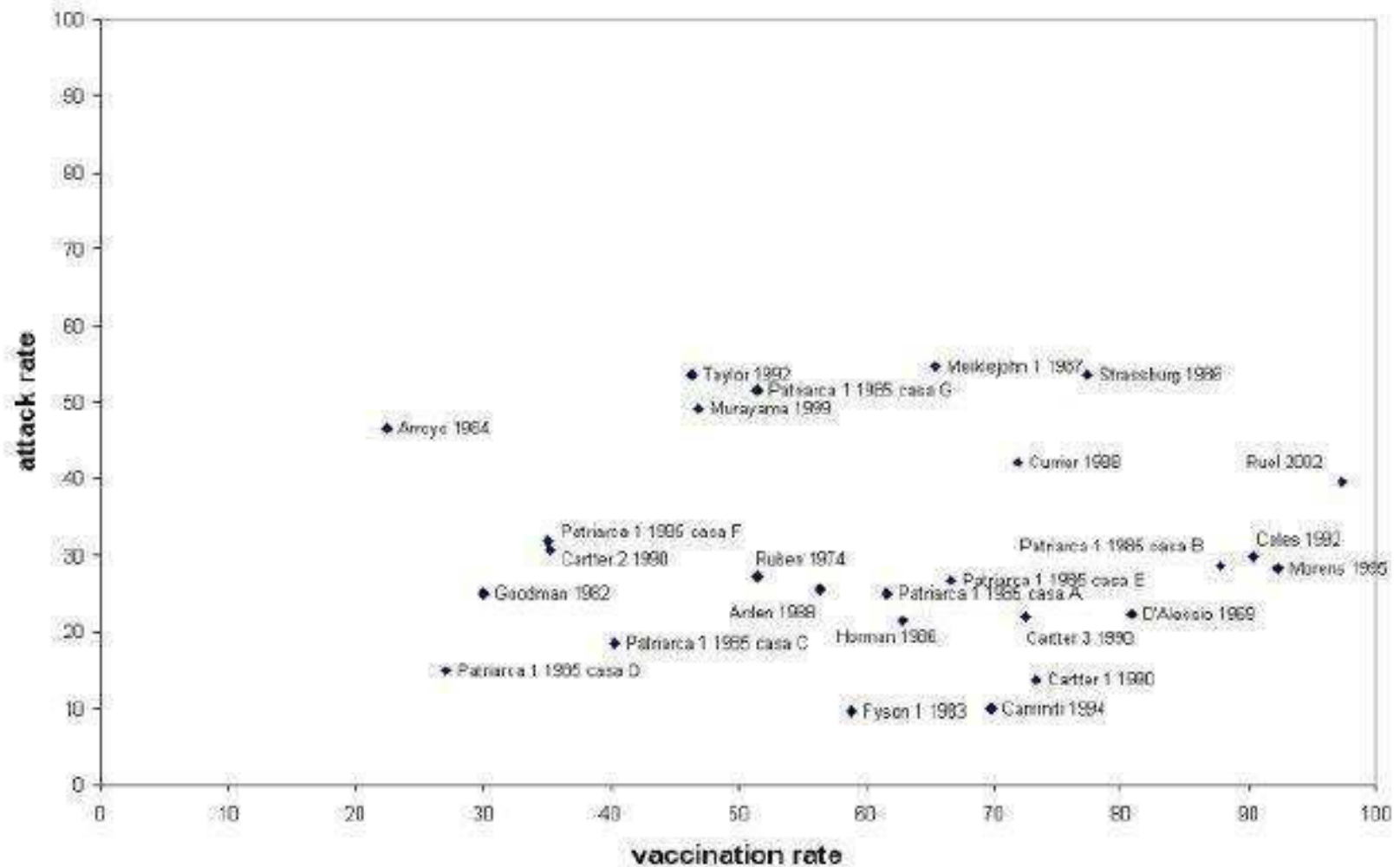
# And finally. . . .

- Flu vaccine
- Prophylactic treatment of flu exposed patients with neuraminidase inhibitors – not addressed

# Overall Vaccine Efficacy

- Better when vaccine is well-matched to circulating strains
- Adults: reduce infection and slightly reduce absence from work; no evidence they reduce transmission, hospitalization, pneumonia, or death.
- Medical staff and patients: decrease mortality of patients in long-term care
- Little good-quality evidence for the older population in general, however.      Clinical Evidence June 2008

## Relationship between vaccination rate and attack rate



- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2010 issue 2 Art No CD004876
- In the elderly

# Flu shots in the elderly. . .

- Vaccinated vs. unvaccinated patients
  - Mean hospitalization rates per season 0.6% vs. 0.7%
  - Mean mortality per season 1% vs. 1.6% (NNT 166)
  - This was statistically significant after adjusting for other variables
    - N Engl J Med 2007 Oct 4;357(14):1373



# Seasonal Flu Shot Increased Risk of H1N1 illness in 2009

- Based on cohort study and 3 case-control studies in Canada
- OR 1.4 – 2.5
  - PLoS Med 2010 Apr 6;7(4):e1000258
- Study in US suggested vaccine effectiveness -0.10%
  - MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2009 Nov 13;58(44):1241-5