

Additional file 2 — Power for the Begg and Mazumdar test for publication bias, employing a somewhat more realistic variance distribution: Small meta-analyses*

| Selection strength | Power | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | [% selected for inclusion, bias] | | | |
| | Strong** | | Moderate*** | |
| Range of variances | Large† | Small‡ | Large† | Small‡ |
| Treatment effect (δ) | | | | |
| .0 | 40% [37%, .47] | 17% [37%, .86] | 25% [57%, .34] | 11% [57%, .63] |
| .5 | 39% [48%, .28] | 16% [50%, .67] | 22% [69%, .17] | 10% [71%, .43] |
| 1.0 | 35% [56%, .18] | 14% [63%, .48] | 17% [76%, .11] | 9% [82%, .28] |
| 1.5 | 33% [64%, .13] | 12% [75%, .33] | 12% [82%, .07] | 7% [90%, .16] |
| 2.0 | 26% [70%, .10] | 9% [85%, .22] | 8% [85%, .05] | 5% [95%, .09] |
| 2.5 | 20% [74%, .07] | 6% [91%, .14] | 6% [89%, .03] | 4% [97%, .05] |
| 3.0 | 15% [79%, .06] | 5% [95%, .08] | 5% [91%, .03] | 5% [99%, .02] |

* $k = 25$ studies; nominal significance level 0.05

** $a = 1.5$, *** $a = 3.0$

† $v = 0.1, 1.0, 10.0$, ‡ $v = 0.5, 1.0, 2.0$

For each range of variances, 13 studies have the largest variance, 9 studies have variance 1.0 and 3 studies have the smallest variance