

**Supplementary Materials for:**

Linde K, Kriston L, Rücker G, Jamil S, Schumann I, Meissner K, Sigterman K, Schneider A. Efficacy and acceptability of pharmacological treatments for depressive disorders in primary care: systematic review and network meta-analysis. *Ann Fam Med.* 2015;13(1):69-79.

## **Supplemental material**

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## 1. Example electronic literature search

Main search Medline (Ovid) 8.6.2011

# ▲	Searches	Results
1	exp Depressive Disorder/dh, dt, pc, px, su, th [Diet Therapy, Drug Therapy, Prevention & Control, Psychology, Surgery, Therapy]	49739
2	exp Depression/dh, dt, pc, px, su, th [Diet Therapy, Drug Therapy, Prevention & Control, Psychology, Surgery, Therapy]	31599
3	(depress* or antidepress*).tw.	271636
4	1 or 2 or 3	288675
5	exp general practitioners/ or exp physicians, family/ or exp physicians, primary care/	14380
6	exp Primary Health Care/	63530
7	general practice/ or family practice/	58042
8	(primary adj2 care).mp.	79930
9	(general practitioner* or family physician*).mp.	38994
10	(general practice* or family practice* or family medicine).mp.	77213
11	(outpatient* or out-patient*).mp.	106092
12	5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11	280006
13	(randomised controlled trial or randomized controlled trial).pt.	306533
14	controlled clinical trial.pt.	82376
15	random*.ab.	503544
16	placebo.ab.	124298
17	clinical trials as topic.sh.	154193
18	trial.ti.	91920
19	13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18	828465
20	exp animals/ not humans.sh.	3598584
21	19 not 20	754266
22	4 and 12 and 21	4268

## 2. References of included primary studies

(only the 65 main publications; Boyer et al. reports two trials)

Barge-Schaapveld 1995

Barge-Schaapveld DQCM, Nicolson NA, van der Hoop RG, DrVries MW. Changes in daily life experience associated with clinical improvement in depression. *J Affect Dis.* 1995;34:139-54.

Barge-Schaapveld 2000

Barge-Schaapveld DQCM, Nicolson NA. Effects of antidepressant treatment on the quality of daily life: an experience sampling study. *J Clin Psychiatry.* 2002;63:477-85.

Barrett 2001

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Blacker R, Shanks NJ, Chapman N, Davey A. The drug treatment of depression in general practice: a comparison of nocte administration of trazodone with mianserin, dothiepin and amitriptyline. *Psychopharmacol.* 1988;95 Suppl:S18-24.

Blashki 1971

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Boyer 1996 (substudies 1 and 2)

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Doogan DP, Langdon CJ. A double-blind, placebo-controlled comparison of sertraline and dothiepin in the treatment of major depression in general practice. *Int Clin Psychopharmacol.* 1994;9(2):95-100.

Fairweather 1999

Fairweather DB, Stanley N, Yoon JS, Hindmarch I. The effects of fluoxetine and dothiepin on cognitive function in depressed patients in general practice. *Hum Psychopharmacol.* 1999;14:325-32.

Freed 1999

Freed E, Goldney R, Lambert T, Tiller J, Johnston R. A double-blind, multicentre study to assess the tolerability and efficacy of paroxetine compared with amitriptyline in the treatment of depressed patients in Australian general practice. *Austr NZ J Psychiatry.* 1999;33:416-21.

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Gachoud JP, Dick P, Kohler M. Comparison of the efficacy and tolerability of moclobemide and maprotiline in depressed patients treated by general practitioners. *Clin Neuropharmacol.* 1994;17 Suppl 1:S29-37.

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Witte B, Harrer G, Kaptan T, Podzuweit H, Schmidt U. [Treatment of depressive symptoms with a high concentration hypericum preparation. A multicenter placebo-controlled double-blind study]. Fortschritte der Medizin. 1995;113:404-8.

### 3. Characteristics of included studies and assessment of risk of bias

sTable 1

General characteristics of included studies

First author	Year	n	Diagnosis	%	Mean	Weeks	Intervention 1	Intervention 2	Intervention 3
				Female	Age	treatm.			
Barge-Schaapveld	2002	63	Major depression	73	43	6	Imipramine 100-200 mg	Placebo	
Barge-Schaapveld	1995	21	Major depression		39	6	Amitriptyline 150 mg	Fluvoxamine 100 mg	
Barrett	2001	241	Mixed/unclear	64	44	11	Paroxetine 20-40 mg	Problem-solving**	Placebo
Beaumont	1993	345	Major depression	71	44	6	Dothiepin 75-150 mg	Moclobemide 450 mg	
Beaumont	1984	125	Mixed/unclear	78	42	6	Trazodone 100-200 mg***	Mianserin 60-120 mg	
Bjerkenstedt	2005	170	Major depression	75	50	4	Fluoxetine 20 mg	Hypericum 900 mg	Placebo
Blacker	1988	227	Major depression		44	6	Amitriptyline 100-150 mg*	Trazodone 150 mg***	Mianserin 60 mg
							Dothiepin 100-150 mg*		
Blashki	1971	58	Mixed/unclear	100	37	4	Amitriptyline 75 mg*, ***	Placebo	
							Amitriptyline 150 mg*		
Boyer Teil 1	1996	323	Dysthymia	75	48	12	Amineptine 200 mg	Placebo	Amisulprid**
Boyer Teil 2	1996	219	Dysthymia	55	43	24	Imipramine 100 mg	Placebo	Amisulprid**
Brink	1984	52	Mixed/unclear	54		4	Mianserin 60 mg	Placebo	
Christiansen	1996	144	Mixed/unclear			8	Amitriptyline 75-150 mg	Paroxetine 20-40 mg	
Corne	1989	100	Major depression	70	42	6	Dothiepin 75-100 mg	Fluoxetine 40-60 mg	
Doogan	1994	308	Major depression	70	47	6	Dothiepin 75-150 mg	Sertraline 50-100 mg	Placebo
Fairweather	1999	84	Major depression	64	44	6	Dothiepin 150 mg	Fluoxetine 20 mg	
Freed	1999	375	Mixed/unclear	75	48	9	Amitriptyline 100 mg	Paroxetine 20 mg	
Gachoud	1994	130	Major depression	67	48	4	Maprotiline 75-100 mg	Moclobemide 300-400 mg	
Gastpar	2005	241	Major depression	74	49	12	Sertraline 50 mg	Hypericum STW3 612 mg	
Gastpar	2006	388	Major depression	68	50	6	Citalopram 20 mg	Hypericum STW3-VI 900 mg	Placebo
GSK-2906	1991	134	Major depression	73	76	6	Dothiepin 75 mg	Paroxetine 20 mg	

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GSK-PAR2906	1985	162	Major depression	76	39	6 Amitriptyline 75-150 mg	Paroxetine 30 mg
GSK-PARMDUK	1986	59	Major depression	73	42	6 Amitriptyline 100-150 mg	Paroxetine 30 mg
Guelfi	1999	237	Major depression	83	78	12 Tianeptine 25-37.5 mg	Fluoxetine 20 mg
Harrer	1991	120	Mixed/unclear	61	48	6 Hypericum Psychotonin M	Placebo
Harrer	1999	161	Major depression	87	69	6 Fluoxetine 20 mg	Hypericum Lo-Hyp 57 800 mg
Hollyman	1988	178	Mixed/unclear	83		6 Amitriptyline 125-175 mg	Placebo
Huebner	1993	40	Minor depression	56	51	4 Hypericum LI 160 900 mg	Placebo
Hutchinson	1992	90	Major depression	77	72	6 Amitriptyline 100 mg	Paroxetine 30 mg
König	1993	112	Mixed/unclear	75	45	6 Hypericum Z-90017 500-1000 mg	Placebo
Kragh-Sorensen	1995	142	Major depression	70	48	6 Clompiramine 150 mg	Moclobemide 400 mg
Kyle	1998	365	Major depression	73	74	8 Amitriptyline 50-100 mg***	Citalopram 20-40 mg
Laakmann	1998	98	Major depression	80	49	6 Hypericum WS 5572 900 mg*	Placebo
						Hypericum WS 5573 900 mg*	
Lecrubier	1997	229	Major depression	67	40	13 Imipramine 150 mg	Venlafaxine 150 mg
Lepola	2003	468	Major depression	72	43	8 Citalopram 20-40 mg*	Placebo
						Escitalopram 10-20 mg*	
Lingyesrde	1995	53	Mixed/unclear	66	43	6 Doxepine 150-250 mg	Moclobemide 400-600 mg
Malt	1999	372	Mixed/unclear	72	48	24 Sertraline 100-200 mg	Mianserin 60-120 mg
McPartlin	1998	361	Major depression	68	45	12 Paroxetine 20 mg	Venlafaxine 75 mg
Montgomery	2004	293	Major depression	72	48	8 Escitalopram 10-20 mg	Venlafaxine 75-150 mg
Moon	1994	106	Depression+anxiety	52	44	6 Clomipramine 50 mg***	Sertraline 50 mg
Moon	1996	138	Major depression	71	44	6 Lofepramine 140 mg	Paroxetine 20 mg
Moon	1990	228	Depression+anxiety	79	42	6 Dothiepin 75 mg	Trazodone 150 mg***
Moon	1988	40	Major depression	51	52	6 Trazodone 150 mg***	Mianserin 30-60 mg***
Moon	1991	62	Major depression	68	42	6 Fluvoxamine 100-300 mg	Mianserin 60-180 mg
Murphy	1976	105	Mixed/unclear			6 Imipramine 100 mg	Mianserin 40 mg***
Mynor-Wallis	1995	91	Major depression	77	37	12 Amitriptyline 150 mg	Problem-solving**
Peveler	2005	327	Mixed/unclear	67		52 Individualized TCA	Individualized SSRI

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Philipp	1999	263	Mixed/unclear	75	47	8 Imipramine 100 mg	Hypericum 1050 mg	Placebo
Ravindran	1997	1019	Depression+anxiety	73	43	12 Clomipramine 75-150 mg	Paroxetine 30-40 mg	
Richards	1982	83	Mixed/unclear	73		6 Trazodone 100-200 mg***	Mianserin 60-120 mg	Diazepam**
Rosenberg	1994	472	Mixed/unclear	69	48	6 Imipramine 50-150 mg	Citalopram 10-60 mg	
Schmidt	1989	40	Mixed/unclear	50	46	4 Hypericum Psychotonin M	Placebo	
Schrader	2000	240	Major depression	65	46	6 Fluoxetine 20 mg	Hypericum Ze 117 500 mg	
Serrano-Blanco	2006	103	Mixed/unclear	73	43	12 Imipramine mean 58 mg***	Fluoxetine mean 21 mg	
Simon	1996	536	Mixed/unclear	72	41	26 Imipramine flexible*	Fluoxetine flexible	
						Desipramine flexible*		
Thase	2011	1385	Major depression	78	42	26 SSRIs	Venlafaxine 75-225 mg	
Trick	2004	88	Major depression	70	71	26 Dothiepin 75 mg	Venlafaxine 75 mg	
Tylee	1997	341	Major depression	71	44	12 Fluoxetine 20 mg	Venlafaxine 75 mg	
van Gurp	2002	90	Major depression	60	39	12 Setraline 50-100 mg	Hypericum 900-1800 mg	
Wade	2002	380	Major depression	76	41	8 Escitalopram 10 mg	Placebo	
Wade	2003	197	Major depression	73	40	24 Paroxetine 20-30 mg	Mirtazapine 30-45 mg	
Wheatley	1992	144	Major depression	66	47	6 Amitriptyline 150 mg	Minaprine 100 mg*	
						Minaprine 200 mg*		
Wheatley	1989	117	Mixed/unclear	80	55	6 Mianserin 60 mg	Minaprine 200 mg*	
						Minaprine 300 mg*		
Wheatley	1997	165	Major depression	81	40	6 Amitriptyline 75 mg	Hypericum 900 mg	
Wiles	2012	601	Mixed/unclear	68	39	12 Citalopram 20 mg	Reboxetine 8 mg	
Williams	2000	415	Mixed/unclear	41	71	11 Paroxetine 10-40 mg	Problem-solving**	Placebo
Witte	1995	97	Major depression	66	43	6 Hypericum Psychotonin forte 240 mg	Placebo	

\*Groups pooled for meta-analysis; \*\*treatment excluded from our review; \*\*\*dosage below recommended standard dosages (assessment of adequacy of dosages according to recommendations in the German National guideline DGPPN, BÄK, KBV, AWMF, AkdÄ, PPtK, et al. S3-Leitlinie/Nationale Versorgungsleitlinie Unipolare Depression - Langfassung. Berlin, Düsseldorf: DGPPN, ÄZQ, AWMF; 2009; <http://www.depression.versorgungsleitlinien.de/>) – studies were not excluded from analysis

sTable 2

Data used for meta-analyses for the outcomes response (RS) and remission (RE)

First author	Year	RS after treatment	Outcome data used			
			RS ≤ 13 w	RS > 13 w	RE after treatment	RE ≤ 13 w
<b>Included in drug network</b>						
Barge-Schaapveld	2002	7	7		15	15
Barge-Schaapveld	1995					
Barrett	2001				12	12
Beaumont	1993	1	1		18	18
Beaumont	1984	8	8		18	18
Bjerkstedt	2005	1	1		12	12
Blacker	1988	7	7		15	15
Blashki	1971	7	7		15	15
Boyer Teil 1	1996	5	5		19	19
Boyer Teil 2	1996	8		8	19	19
Brink	1984	7	7		15	15
Christiansen	1996	5	5		11	11
Corne	1989	8	8		18	18
Doogan	1994	3	3			
Fairwheather	1999	1	1			
Freed	1999	5	5		11	11
Gachoud	1994	7	7		15	15
Gastpar	2005	2	2	2	15	15
Gastpar	2006	2	2		15	15
GSK-2906	1991	2	2		11	11
GSK-PAR2906	1985	1	1		18	18
GSK-PARMDUK	1986	8	8		15	15
Guelfi	1999	3	3		16	16
Harrer	1991	2	2		18	18
Harrer	1999	2	2		21	21
Hollyman	1988	6	6		15	15
Huebner	1993	2	2		15	15
Hutchinson	1992	1	1		149	149
König	1993	6	6			
Kragh-Sorensen	1995				12	12
Kyle	1998	5	5		19	19
Laakmann	1998	1	1		15	15
Lecrubier	1997	4	4			
Lepola	2003	3	3		13	13
Lingyesrde	1995	3	3		19	19
Malt	1999	6	6	6		
McPartlin	1998	1	1		12	12
Montgomery	2004	3	3		19	19

Moon	1994	1				
Moon	1996	3	3		19	19
Moon	1990	9	9		21	21
Moon	1988	9	9		21	21
Moon	1991	5	5		149	149
Murphy	1976					
Mynor-Wallis	1995	7	7		12	12
Peveler	2005	9	9	9	21	21
Philipp	1999	1	1		15	15
Ravindran	1997	3	3		16	16
Richards	1982	1	1			
Rosenberg	1994	1	1			
Schmidt	1989	1	1		12	12
Schrader	2000	2	2		18	18
Serrano-Blanco	2006	7	7	7	17	17
Simon	1996	8	8	8	12	12
Thase	2011	7		7	12	12
Trick	2004	7	7	7	15	15
Tylee	1997	6	6		19	19
van Gurp	2002	2	2		15	15
Wade	2002	3	3		16	16
Wade	2003	1	1	1	12	12
Wheatley	1992				12	12
Wheatley	1989	8	8		12	12
Wheatley	1997	2	2		11	11
Wiles	2012	6	6		6	6
Williams	2000	8	8		12	12
Witte	1995	2	2		15	15

Preference strategy for extraction/imputation of response data

- 1 HAMD (Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression) Response
- 2 HAMD Response or Remission
- 3 MADRS (Montgomery-Asberg Depression Rating Scale) Response
- 4 MADRS Response or Remission
- 5 CGI (Clinical Global Impression) at least much improved
- 6 other response measures based on validated scales/instruments
- 7 imputation based on complete score data (following preference 1 to 4 and 6)
- 8 imputation based on imputation (mostly missing SD) score data (following preference 1 to 4 and 6)
- 9 other response measure

Preference strategy for extraction/imputation of remission data

- 11 CGI-S = 1 (normal, not ill)/CIDI and other validated diagnostic instrument = no depression
- 12 HAMD  $\leq$  7 (cut-offs  $\pm$  1 point accepted)
- 13 MADRS  $\leq$  10 (cut-offs  $\pm$  1 point accepted)
- 14 BDI (Beck Depression Index)  $\leq$  8 (cut-offs  $\pm$  1 point accepted)
- 149 CGI-S = 1 or 2 and HAMD cut-off > 9
- 15-17 if 12 to 14 imputable without problems from score data (as 7) imputation if remission cut-offs clearly higher as stated in 12 to 14
- 18-20 HAMD, MADRS, BDI with other cut-offs but 15 to 17 not applicable
- 21 other remission criteria

sTable 3

Assessment of risk of bias: + indicates low risk of bias, ? unclear risk of bias and – high risk of bias

First author	Year	Seq. gener	Conceal- ment	Double blinding	Attrition ≤ 16 w	Attrition > 16 w	Selective report.	Overall*
<b>Included in drug network</b>								
Barge-Schaapveld	2002	?	?	?	?	?	-	-
Barge-Schaapveld	1995	?	?	-	-		+	-
Barrett	2001	+	?	?	?		?	?
Beaumont	1993	?	?	+	+		?	?
Beaumont	1984	?	?	+	-		+	-
Bjerkstedt	2005	+	+	+	?		+	+
Blacker	1988	?	?	+	-		+	-
Blashki	1971	?	+	+	?		+	?
Boyer Teil 1	1996	?	?	+	+		+	?
Boyer Teil 2	1996	?	?	+	+	+	+	?
Brink	1984	?	?	+	-		+	-
Christiansen	1996	?	?	+	+		+	?
Corne	1989	?	?	+	-		?	-
Doogan	1994	+	?	+	+		+	+
Fairwheather	1999	?	?	+	-		-	-
Freed	1999	+	?	+	-		+	-
Gachoud	1994	?	?	+	+		+	?
Gastpar	2005	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gastpar	2006	+	?	+	+		+	+
GSK-2906	1991	?	?	+	?		+	?
GSK-PAR2906	1985	?	?	+	-		+	-
GSK-PARMEDUK	1986	?	?	+	?		+	?
Guelfi	1999	?	?	?	+		+	?
Harrer	1991	?	?	+	-		?	-
Harrer	1999	?	?	+	?		+	?
Hollyman	1988	?	?	+	-		+	-
Huebner	1993	+	+	+	+		?	+
Hutchinson	1992	?	?	+	-		?	-
König	1993	?	+	+	-		+	-
Kragh-Sorensen	1995	?	?	+	-		-	-
Kyle	1998	?	?	+	?		+	?
Laakmann	1998	+	+	+	+		+	+
Lecrubier	1997	?	?	+	?		-	-
Lepola	2003	?	?	+	+		-	-
Lingyesrde	1995	?	?	+	?		-	-
Malt	1999	?	?	+	-	-	-	-
McPartlin	1998	?	?	+	?		+	?
Montgomery	2004	?	?	+	+		+	?
Moon	1994	?	?	+	+		+	?

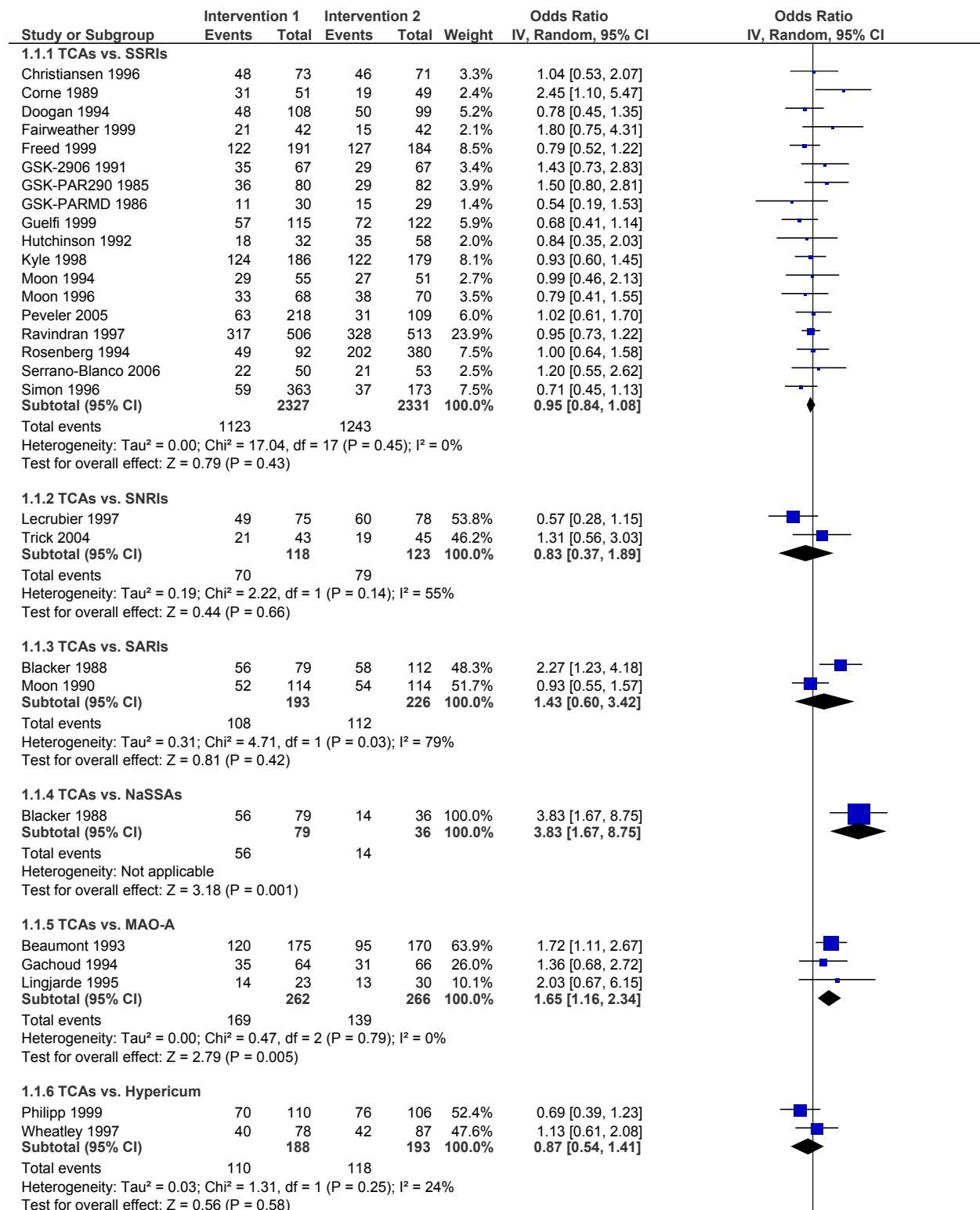
Moon	1996	?	?	+	?		+	?
Moon	1990	?	?	+	-		+	-
Moon	1988	?	?	?	+		+	?
Moon	1991	?	?	+	?		-	-
Murphy	1976	?	?	+	?		+	?
Mynor-Wallis	1995	?	?	?	-		+	-
Peveler	2005	?	+	-	-		+	-
Philipp	1999	+	+	+	+		+	+
Ravindran	1997	+	?	+	?		+	?
Richards	1982	?	?	+	-		+	-
Rosenberg	1994	?	?	+	?		+	?
Schmidt	1989	?	?	+	-		+	-
Schrader	2000	?	?	+	+		+	?
Serrano-Blanco	2006	+	+	-	?	?	+	+
Simon	1996	+	?	-	?	?	-	-
Thase	2011	?	?	-	-	-	+	-
Trick	2004	?	?	+	-	-	+	-
Tylee	1997	+	?	+	+		+	+
van Gurp	2002	+	+	+	?		+	+
Wade	2003	?	?	+	-	-	+	-
Wheatley	1992	?	?	+	?		+	?
Wheatley	1989	?	?	+	-		?	-
Wheatley	1997	+	+	+	-		+	-
Wiles	2012	+	+	-	+		+	+
Witte	1995	?	+	+	-		+	-
Williams	2000	+	+	-	+		-	-

\*For assessing the overall risk of bias the following four items were used: sequence generation, concealment, attrition  $\leq$  16 weeks, selective reporting (blinding was not included to keep assessment identical with the parallel review on psychological treatment <sup>16</sup>). Overall risk of bias was considered high if one or more items were rated 'high'; low if at least three items were considered 'low', and unclear in the remaining trials.

#### 4. Forest plots for direct comparisons

sFigure 1

Response (part 1)



sFigure 1

Response (part 2)

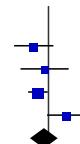
1.1.7 SSRI vs. SNRIs

Mc Partlin 1998	113	178	130	183	23.0%	0.71 [0.46, 1.10]
Montgomery 2004	113	148	113	145	18.7%	0.91 [0.53, 1.58]
Thase 2011	336	697	374	688	34.6%	0.78 [0.63, 0.97]
Tylee 1997	98	170	81	171	23.7%	1.51 [0.99, 2.32]
Subtotal (95% CI)		1193		1187	100.0%	0.92 [0.67, 1.27]

Total events

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.07$ ;  $\chi^2 = 8.27$ , df = 3 ( $P = 0.04$ );  $I^2 = 64\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 0.51$  ( $P = 0.61$ )

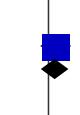


1.1.8 SSRI vs. NRIs

Wiles 2012	117	298	107	303	100.0%	1.18 [0.85, 1.65]
Subtotal (95% CI)		298		303	100.0%	1.18 [0.85, 1.65]
Total events	117		107			

Heterogeneity: Not applicable

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 1.00$  ( $P = 0.32$ )

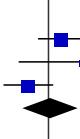


1.1.9 SSRI vs. NaSSAs

Malt 1999	74	122	65	121	43.9%	1.33 [0.80, 2.21]
Moon 1991	28	31	25	31	14.7%	2.24 [0.51, 9.91]
Wade 2002	47	98	59	99	41.4%	0.62 [0.36, 1.10]
Subtotal (95% CI)		251		251	100.0%	1.05 [0.54, 2.03]
Total events	149		149			

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.19$ ;  $\chi^2 = 4.99$ , df = 2 ( $P = 0.08$ );  $I^2 = 60\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 0.14$  ( $P = 0.88$ )

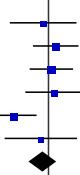


1.1.10 SSRI vs. Hypericum

Bjerkenedt 2005	20	56	22	57	12.8%	0.88 [0.41, 1.90]
Gastpar 2005	72	118	70	123	19.9%	1.19 [0.71, 1.98]
Gastpar 2006	71	127	71	131	20.7%	1.07 [0.66, 1.75]
Harrer 1999	57	84	50	77	15.4%	1.14 [0.59, 2.19]
Schrader 2000	45	114	75	126	19.8%	0.44 [0.26, 0.74]
Van Gurp 2002	23	45	25	45	11.4%	0.84 [0.37, 1.92]
Subtotal (95% CI)		544		559	100.0%	0.88 [0.63, 1.23]
Total events	288		313			

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.08$ ;  $\chi^2 = 9.26$ , df = 5 ( $P = 0.10$ );  $I^2 = 46\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 0.75$  ( $P = 0.45$ )

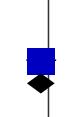


1.1.11 NRIs vs. SSRIs

Wiles 2012	107	303	117	298	100.0%	0.84 [0.61, 1.18]
Subtotal (95% CI)		303		298	100.0%	0.84 [0.61, 1.18]
Total events	107		117			

Heterogeneity: Not applicable

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 1.00$  ( $P = 0.32$ )



1.1.12 SARIs vs. NaSSAs

Beaumont 1984	38	61	25	64	35.7%	2.58 [1.25, 5.30]
Blacker 1988	58	112	14	36	31.7%	1.69 [0.78, 3.63]
Moon 1988	15	20	15	20	9.1%	1.00 [0.24, 4.18]
Richards 1982	27	43	15	40	23.5%	2.81 [1.15, 6.85]
Subtotal (95% CI)		236		160	100.0%	2.11 [1.37, 3.25]
Total events	138		69			

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.00$ ;  $\chi^2 = 2.07$ , df = 3 ( $P = 0.56$ );  $I^2 = 0\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 3.40$  ( $P = 0.0007$ )



1.1.13 NaSSAs vs. MAO-A

Wheatley 1989	17	38	34	79	100.0%	1.07 [0.49, 2.34]
Subtotal (95% CI)		38		79	100.0%	1.07 [0.49, 2.34]
Total events	17		34			

Heterogeneity: Not applicable

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 0.17$  ( $P = 0.86$ )



sFigure 1

Response (part 3)

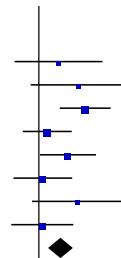
1.1.14 TCAs vs. placebo

Barge-Schaapveld 2002	16	32	12	31	7.5%	1.58 [0.58, 4.31]
Blashki 1971	20	35	8	23	6.5%	2.50 [0.84, 7.42]
Boyer substudy 1 1996	55	111	27	108	17.6%	2.95 [1.66, 5.22]
Doogan 1994	48	108	40	101	18.6%	1.22 [0.70, 2.12]
Hollyman 1988	37	90	23	88	15.4%	1.97 [1.05, 3.72]
Lecrubier 1997	49	75	48	76	14.3%	1.10 [0.56, 2.14]
Mynor-Wallis 1995	16	31	9	30	6.9%	2.49 [0.87, 7.12]
Philipp 1999	70	110	29	47	13.2%	1.09 [0.54, 2.20]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>592</b>			<b>504</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.67 [1.24, 2.25]</b>

Total events 311 196

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.05$ ;  $\text{Chi}^2 = 9.32$ , df = 7 ( $P = 0.23$ );  $I^2 = 25\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 3.39$  ( $P = 0.0007$ )



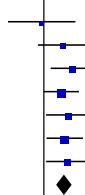
1.1.15 SSRI vs. placebo

Bjerkenedt 2005	20	56	21	57	5.7%	0.95 [0.44, 2.05]
Doogan 1994	50	99	40	101	10.7%	1.56 [0.89, 2.73]
Gastpar 2006	71	127	51	130	13.6%	1.96 [1.20, 3.23]
Lepola 2003	183	314	74	154	22.4%	1.51 [1.02, 2.23]
Malt 1999	74	122	60	129	13.4%	1.77 [1.07, 2.93]
Wade 2002	103	191	79	189	20.4%	1.63 [1.09, 2.44]
Williams 2000	60	137	43	140	13.8%	1.76 [1.07, 2.88]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>1046</b>			<b>900</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.62 [1.35, 1.95]</b>

Total events 561 368

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.00$ ;  $\text{Chi}^2 = 2.80$ , df = 6 ( $P = 0.83$ );  $I^2 = 0\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 5.16$  ( $P < 0.00001$ )



1.1.16 SNRIs vs. Placebo

Lecrubier 1997	60	78	48	76	100.0%	1.94 [0.96, 3.93]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>78</b>			<b>76</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.94 [0.96, 3.93]</b>

Total events 60 48

Heterogeneity: Not applicable

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 1.85$  ( $P = 0.06$ )



1.1.17 NaSSAs vs. placebo

Brink 1984	15	27	12	25	17.2%	1.35 [0.45, 4.03]
Malt 1999	65	121	60	129	82.8%	1.33 [0.81, 2.20]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>148</b>			<b>154</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.34 [0.85, 2.10]</b>

Total events 80 72

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.00$ ;  $\text{Chi}^2 = 0.00$ , df = 1 ( $P = 0.98$ );  $I^2 = 0\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 1.26$  ( $P = 0.21$ )



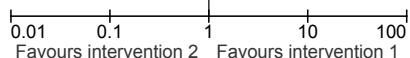
1.1.18 Hypericum vs. placebo

Bjerkenedt 2005	22	57	21	57	12.1%	1.08 [0.51, 2.30]
Gastpar 2006	71	131	51	130	17.7%	1.83 [1.12, 3.00]
Harrer 1991	35	60	10	60	10.6%	7.00 [2.99, 16.40]
Huebner 1993	14	20	9	20	5.8%	2.85 [0.78, 10.47]
König 1993	32	55	29	57	12.3%	1.34 [0.64, 2.83]
Laakmann 1998	43	98	16	49	12.8%	1.61 [0.79, 3.31]
Philipp 1999	76	106	29	47	12.7%	1.57 [0.76, 3.24]
Schmidt 1989	10	20	4	20	5.2%	4.00 [0.98, 16.27]
Witte 1995	34	48	25	49	10.8%	2.33 [1.01, 5.39]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>595</b>			<b>489</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2.02 [1.41, 2.88]</b>

Total events 337 194

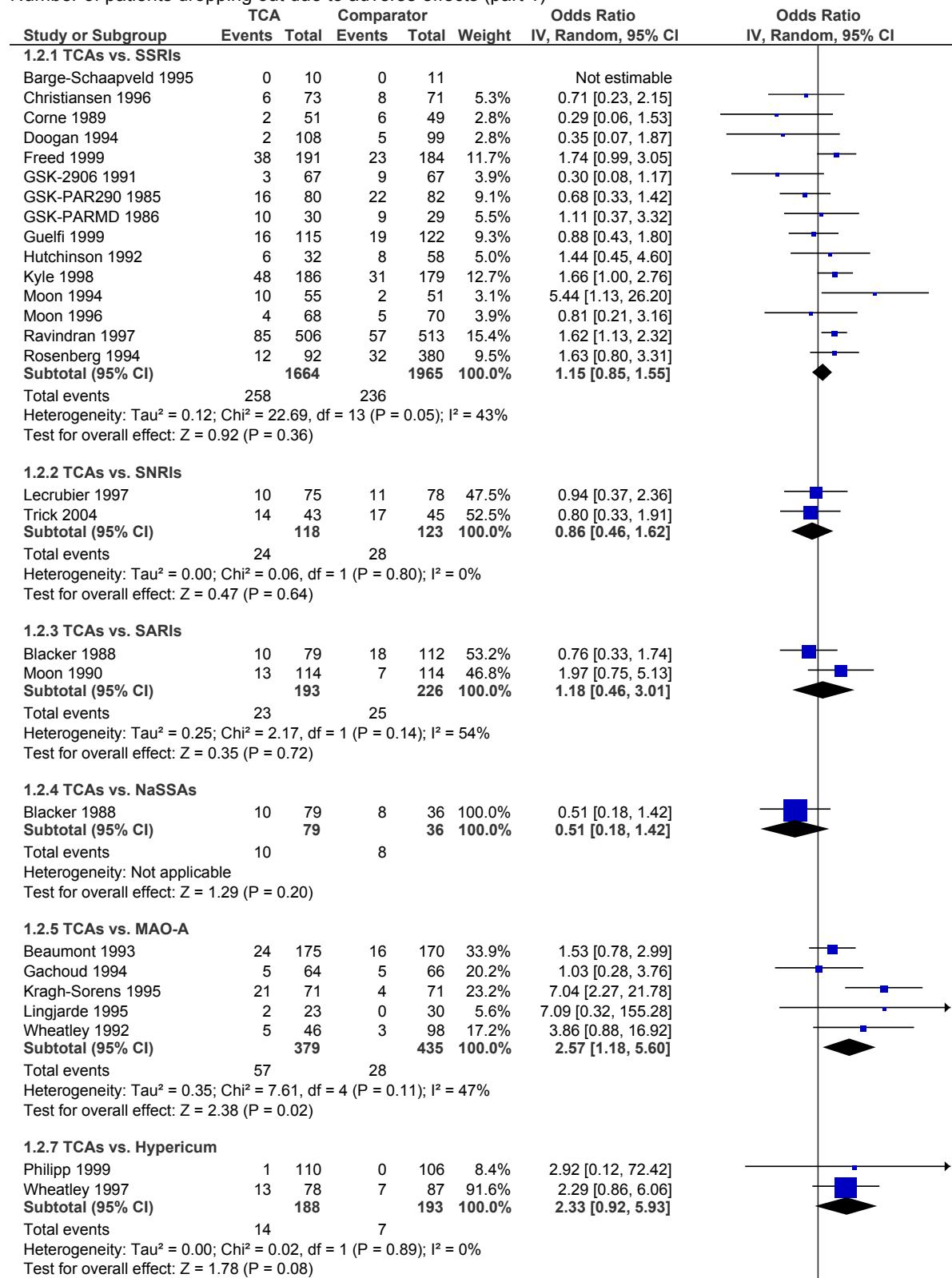
Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.12$ ;  $\text{Chi}^2 = 14.15$ , df = 8 ( $P = 0.08$ );  $I^2 = 43\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 3.87$  ( $P = 0.0001$ )



sFigure 2

Number of patients dropping out due to adverse effects (part 1)



sFigure 2

Number of patients dropping out due to adverse effects (part 2)

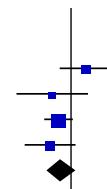
**1.2.8 SSRI vs. SNRI**

Mc Partlin 1998	29	178	22	183	21.3%	1.42 [0.78, 2.59]
Montgomery 2004	11	148	16	145	13.8%	0.65 [0.29, 1.45]
Thase 2011	82	697	104	688	42.1%	0.75 [0.55, 1.02]
Tylee 1997	24	170	36	171	22.9%	0.62 [0.35, 1.09]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>1193</b>		<b>1187</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>0.81 [0.58, 1.13]</b>

Total events 146 178

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.04$ ;  $\chi^2 = 4.83$ , df = 3 ( $P = 0.18$ );  $I^2 = 38\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 1.27$  ( $P = 0.21$ )



**1.2.9 SSRI vs. NRIs**

Wiles 2012	93	298	162	303	100.0%	0.39 [0.28, 0.55]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>298</b>		<b>303</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>0.39 [0.28, 0.55]</b>

Total events 93 162

Heterogeneity: Not applicable

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 5.47$  ( $P < 0.00001$ )



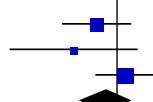
**1.2.10 SSRI vs. NaSSAs**

Malt 1999	12	122	18	121	38.6%	0.62 [0.29, 1.36]
Moon 1991	3	31	7	31	15.0%	0.37 [0.09, 1.58]
Wade 2002	24	98	21	99	46.4%	1.20 [0.62, 2.35]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>251</b>		<b>251</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>0.78 [0.42, 1.44]</b>

Total events 39 46

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.09$ ;  $\chi^2 = 2.91$ , df = 2 ( $P = 0.23$ );  $I^2 = 31\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 0.79$  ( $P = 0.43$ )



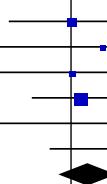
**1.2.11 SSRI vs. Hypericum**

Bjerkenedt 2005	4	56	4	57	20.9%	1.02 [0.24, 4.29]
Gastpar 2005	2	118	1	123	7.4%	2.10 [0.19, 23.51]
Gastpar 2006	2	127	2	131	11.0%	1.03 [0.14, 7.44]
Harrer 1999	8	84	6	77	35.2%	1.25 [0.41, 3.77]
Schrader 2000	1	114	0	126	4.2%	3.34 [0.13, 82.90]
Van Gurp 2002	7	45	3	45	21.3%	2.58 [0.62, 10.69]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>544</b>		<b>559</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>1.48 [0.77, 2.85]</b>

Total events 24 16

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.00$ ;  $\chi^2 = 1.39$ , df = 5 ( $P = 0.92$ );  $I^2 = 0\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 1.17$  ( $P = 0.24$ )



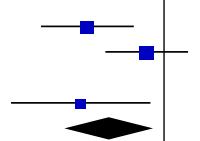
**1.2.12 SARIs vs. NaSSAs**

Beaumont 1984	5	61	22	64	36.3%	0.17 [0.06, 0.49]
Blacker 1988	18	112	8	36	39.4%	0.67 [0.26, 1.70]
Moon 1988	0	20	0	20		Not estimable
Richards 1982	2	43	10	40	24.3%	0.15 [0.03, 0.72]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>236</b>		<b>160</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>0.28 [0.10, 0.79]</b>

Total events 25 40

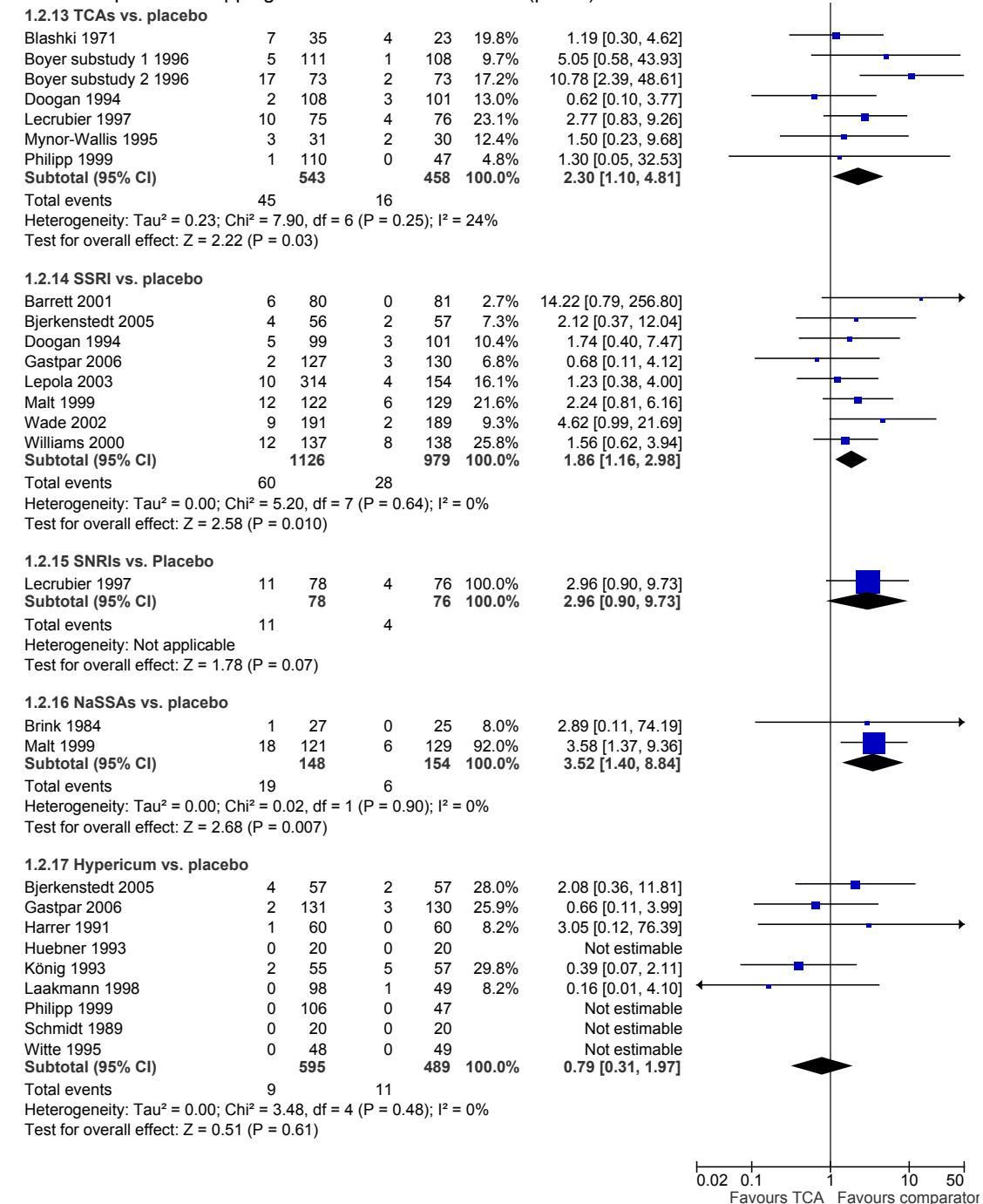
Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.47$ ;  $\chi^2 = 4.72$ , df = 2 ( $P = 0.09$ );  $I^2 = 58\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 2.42$  ( $P = 0.02$ )

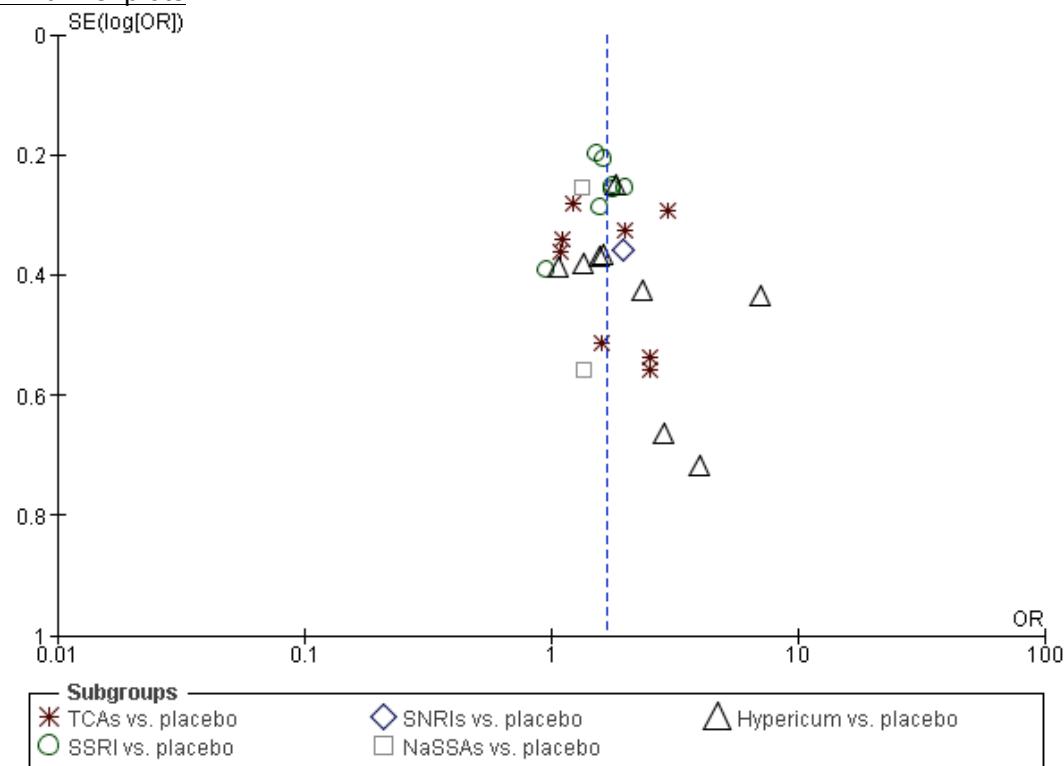


sFigure 2

Number of patients dropping out due to adverse effects (part 3)

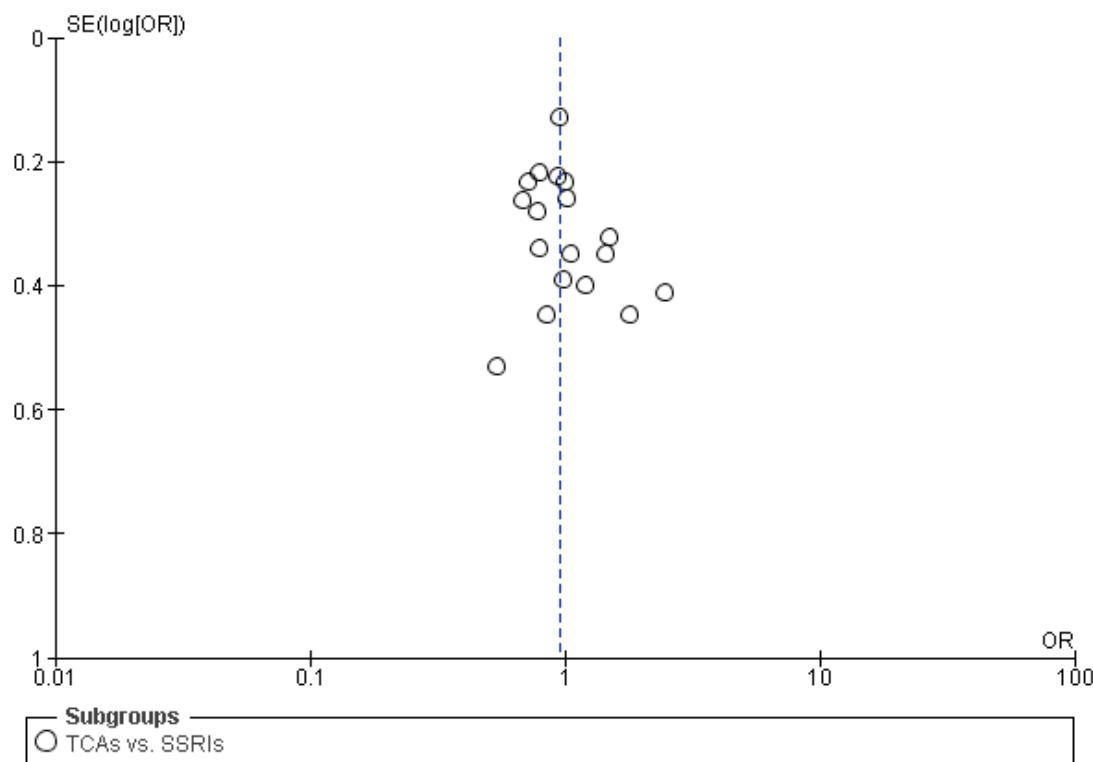


5. Funnel plots



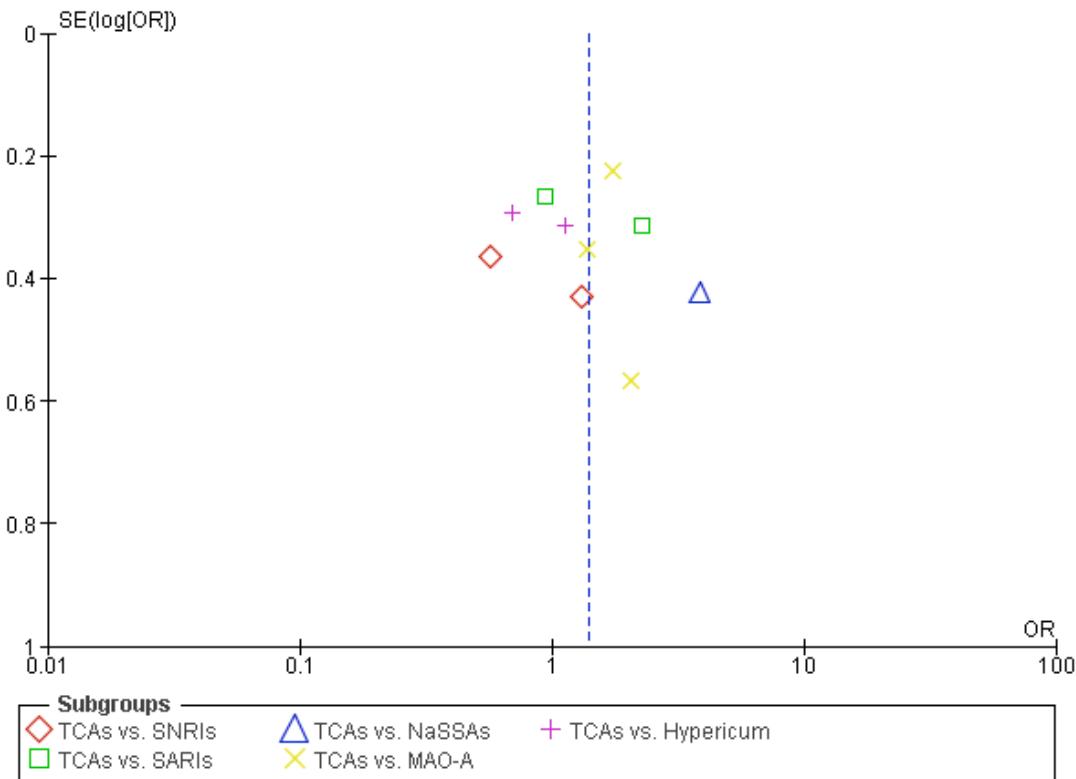
sFigure 3

Funnel plot of trials comparing antidepressants with placebo (outcome response)



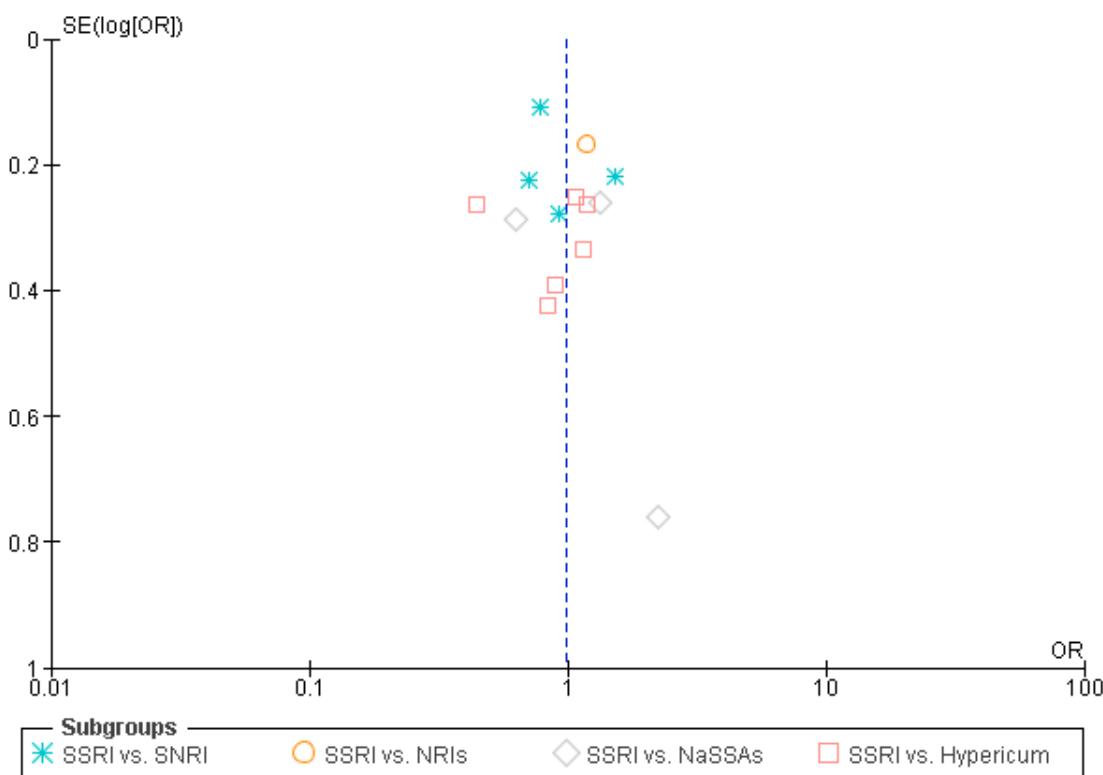
sFigure 4

Funnel plot of trials comparing TCA and SSRI (outcome response)



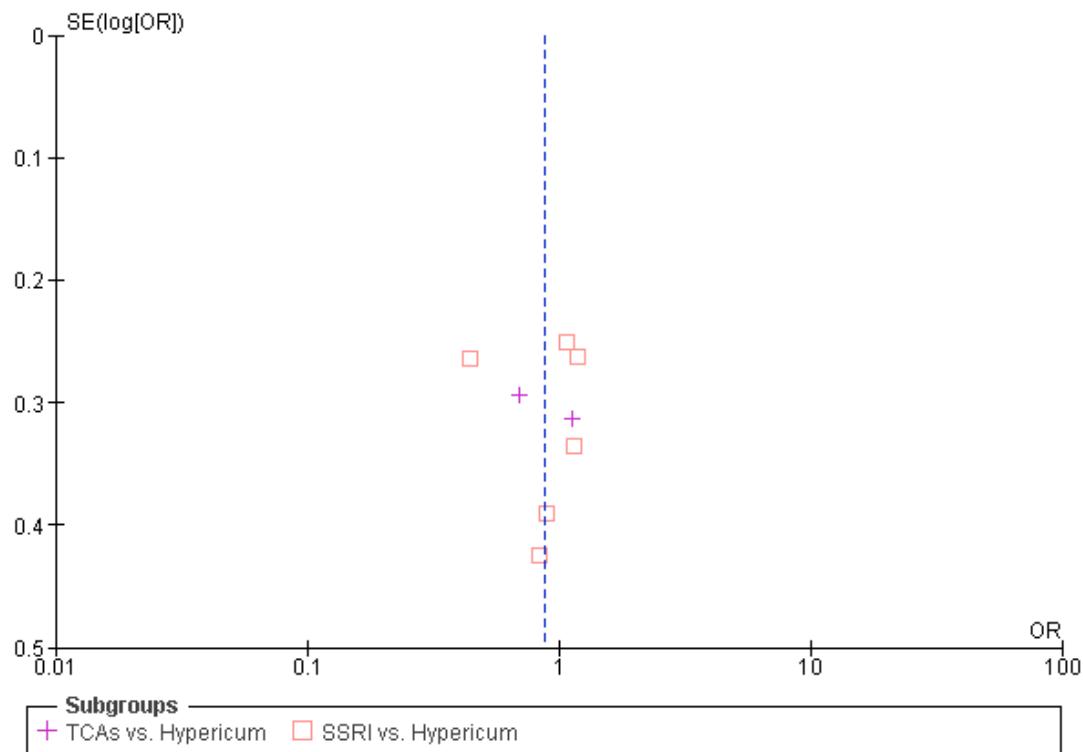
sFigure 5

Funnel plot of trials comparing TCA and other antidepressants (outcome response)



sFigure 6

Funnel plot of trials comparing SSRI and other antidepressants (outcome response)



sFigure 7

Funnel plot of trials comparing TCA and SSRI with Hypericum extracts (outcome response)

## 6. Summary tables for direct and network comparisons for secondary outcomes

sTable 4

Secondary analysis efficacy remission ≤ 13 weeks. Figures in black (dark) from direct comparisons, figures in red (bright) from network meta-analysis.

	TCA	SSRI	SNRI	NRI	SARI	NaSSa	MAO-A	Hypericum	Placebo
TCA		0.95 0.81, 1.12 n=13; 18%; 0.27  1.05 1.23, 0.91	1.19 0.47, 3.01 n=1  0.93 0.72, 1.26	-	1.36 0.73, 2.51 n=2; 54%; 0.14  1.04 0.59, 1.82	2.97 1.16, 7.60 n=1  1.00 0.65, 1.51	1.11 0.68, 1.80 n=5; 53%; 0.07  1.24 0.81, 1.84	1.17 0.68, 1.77 n=2; 0%; 0.38  1.22 0.89, 1.73	2.19 1.60, 3.01 n=6; 0%, 0.95  0.93 0.74, 1.22
SSRI	1.05 0.89, 1.23 n=13; 18%; 0.27  0.95 0.81, 1.10		0.84 0.71, 1.00 n=4; 0%; 0.53  0.88 0.70, 1.14	1.00 0.67, 1.49 n=1  0.99 0.58, 1.70	- 0.78 0.44, 1.39 n=2; 0%; 0.4  0.95 0.59, 1.45	0.78 0.44, 1.39 n=2; 0%; 0.4  1.17 0.78, 1.75	- 1.16 0.81, 1.63	1.54 0.73, 1.24 n=6; 0%; 0.85  0.89 0.70, 1.12	2.18 1.09, 2.18 n=5; 41%; 0.15  1.85 1.47, 2.32
SNRI	0.84 0.33, 2.12 n=1  1.08 0.79, 1.39	1.19 1.00, 1.42 n=4; 0%; 0.53  1.13 0.88, 1.43		- 1.12 0.61, 1.98	- 1.07 0.64, 1.79	- 1.33 0.83, 2.09	- 1.31 0.87, 1.93	- 1.01 0.71, 1.39	- 2.10 1.53, 2.88
NRI	- 0.96 0.55, 1.70	1.00 0.67, 1.49 n=1  1.01 0.59, 1.72	- 0.89 0.50, 1.65		- 0.96 0.47, 1.82	- 1.19 0.61, 2.30	- 0.86 0.43, 1.66	- 0.90 0.50, 1.55	- 1.87 1.05, 3.39
SARI	0.74 0.40, 1.37 n=2; 54%; 0.14  1.00 0.66, 1.55	- 1.06 0.69, 1.69	- 0.93 0.56, 1.54	- 1.05 0.55, 2.14		1.82 1.07, 3.12 n=3; 0%; 0.92  1.24 0.77, 2.02	- 1.22 0.74, 2.06	- 0.94 0.58, 1.53	- 1.95 1.24, 3.20
NaSSa	0.34 0.13, 0.86 n=1  0.81 0.54, 1.23	1.28 0.72, 2.29 n=2; 0%; 0.44  0.85 0.57, 1.29	- 0.75 0.48, 1.20	- 0.84 0.43, 1.63	0.65 0.36, 1.16 n=3; 11%; 0.33  0.81 0.49, 1.29		1.99 0.77, 5.15 n=1  0.99 0.61, 1.63	- 0.76 0.49, 1.19	1.51 0.47, 4.88 n=1  1.57 1.02, 2.48
MAO-A	0.90 0.55, 1.46 n=5, 53%; 0.07  0.82 0.58, 1.13	- 0.86 0.61, 1.23	- 0.76 0.52, 1.15	- 0.86 0.43, 1.66	- 0.82 0.49, 1.36	0.50 0.19, 1.29 n=1  1.02 0.61, 1.63		- 1.17 0.60, 2.31	- 1.87 1.05, 3.39
Hypericum	0.85 0.56, 1.29 n=2; 0%; 0.38  1.07 0.82, 1.35	1.05 0.80, 1.37 n=6; 0%; 0.85  1.13 0.89, 1.43	- 0.99 0.72, 1.40	- 1.12 0.64, 1.99	- 1.07 0.65, 1.73	- 1.32 0.84, 2.03	- 1.30 0.89, 1.95		2.37 1.74, 3.24 n=8; 0%; 0.47  1.08 1.64, 2.70

1. line: pooled odds ratio (OR) from direct comparisons; 2. line: 95%-confidence interval for pooled OR from direct comparisons; 3. line: number of trials;  $I^2$  and p-value for  $\chi^2$ -est for heterogeneity in direct comparisons; 4. line: OR from network meta-analysis; 5. line: 95% credible intervals for pooled OR from network meta-analysis

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sTable 5

Secondary analysis acceptability total number of patients dropping out. Figures in black (dark) from direct comparisons, figures in red (bright) from network meta-analyses

	TCA	SSRI	SNRI	NRI	SARI	NaSSa	MAO-A	Hypericum	Placebo
TCA		1.08 0.86, 1.36 n=15; 43%; 0.04  1.00 0.81, 1.21	0.85 0.50, 1.46 n=2; 0%; 0.32  1.00 0.69, 1.40	-  0.57 0.27, 1.17	1.01 0.41, 2.52 n=2; 65%; 0.09  1.56 0.93, 2.71	1.01 0.37, 2.78 n=2; 42%; 0.19  0.92 0.59, 1.50	1.23 0.72; 2.11 n=5; 52%; 0.08  1.10 0.72, 1.71	1.12 0.65; 1.92 n=2; 2%; 0.31  1.36 0.94, 1.96	0.91 0.65, 1.28 n=10; 38%; 0.10  0.98 0.75, 1.26
SSRI	0.92 0.73, 1.16 n=15; 43%; 0.04  1.00 0.83, 1.23		1.10 0.92, 1.30 n=4; 0%; 0.95  1.01 0.73, 1.35	0.58 0.38, 0.87 n=1  0.57 0.27, 1.19	-  1.56 0.91, 2.72	1.11 0.63, 1.95 n=1  0.93 0.59, 1.55	-  1.10 0.70, 1.84	1.22 0.82, 1.81 n=6; 0%; 0.89  1.36 0.95, 1.93	1.16 0.83; 1.62 n=7; 24%; 0.24  0.98 0.75, 1.28
SNRI	1.18 0.68, 2.02 n=2; 0%; 0.32  1.00 0.71, 1.44	0.95 0.80, 1.13 n=4; 0%; 0.87  0.99 0.74, 1.37		-  0.57 0.25, 1.29	-  1.55 0.84, 2.97	-  0.92 0.53, 1.66	-  1.35 0.85, 2.19	-  1.10 0.62, 2.01	1.25 0.62, 2.56 n=1  0.97 0.66, 1.43
NRI	-  1.77 0.86, 3.74	1.73 1.14, 2.63 n=1  1.76 0.84, 3.70	-  1.77 0.77, 4.05		-  2.75 1.11, 7.06	-  1.63 0.69, 4.04	-  1.94 0.80, 4.52	-  2.39 1.12, 5.81	-  1.72 0.80, 3.71
SARI	0.99 0.40, 2.47 n=2; 65%; 0.09  0.64 0.37, 1.08	-  0.64 0.37, 1.10	-  0.64 0.34, 1.19	-  0.36 0.14, 0.90		0.48 0.23, 1.00 n=4; 45%; 0.14  0.59 0.35, 0.99	-  0.71 0.36, 1.37	-  0.87 0.46, 1.66	-  0.63 0.35, 1.13
NaSSa	0.99 0.36, 2.73 n=2; 42%; 0.19  1.09 0.59, 1.50	0.90 0.51, 1.58 n=1  1.08 0.65, 1.70	-  1.09 0.60, 1.88	-  0.61 0.25, 1.44	2.08 1.00, 4.29 n=4; 45%; 0.14  1.69 1.01, 2.82		0.55 0.17, 1.79 n=1  1.19 0.66, 2.26	-  1.47 0.80, 2.59	1.12 0.46, 2.71 n=2; 0%; 0.41  1.06 0.63, 1.74
MAO-A	0.81 0.47, 1.39 n=5; 52%; 0.08  0.91 0.58, 1.40	-  0.91 0.54, 1.42	-  0.91 0.50, 1.61	-  0.52 0.22, 1.25	-  1.42 0.73, 2.81	1.83 0.56, 5.99 n=1  0.84 0.44, 1.51		-  1.24 0.70, 2.13	-  1.12 0.70, 1.86
Hypericum	0.90 0.52, 1.54 n=2; 2%; 0.31  0.74 0.51, 1.06	0.82 0.55, 1.22 n=6; 0%; 0.89  0.73 0.52, 1.05	-  0.74 0.46, 1.17	-  0.42 0.17, 0.89	-  1.15 0.60, 2.18	-  0.68 0.39, 1.26	-  0.81 0.47, 1.43		0.65 0.43, 0.98 n=9; 3%; 0.41  0.72 0.51, 1.05

Legend see sTable 5

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sTable 6

Secondary analysis acceptability number of patients with adverse effects. Figures in black (dark) from direct comparisons, figures in red (bright) from network meta-analysis

	TCA	SSRI	SNRI	NRI	SARI	NaSSa	MAO-A	Hypericum	Placebo	
TCA		1.31 1.02, 1.69 n=13; 50%; 0.02 <b>1.47</b> 1.14, 1.87	-	-	-	-	1.67 1.15, 2.42 n=2; 0%; 0.72 <b>1.68</b> 0.88, 2.99	3.10 2.01, 4.78 n=2; 0%; 0.97 <b>2.27</b> 1.63, 3.28	1.89 1.20, 2.96 n=4; 47%; 0.13 <b>2.05</b> 1.48, 2.80	
SSRI	0.76 0.59, 0.98 n=13; 50%; 0.02 <b>0.68</b> 0.54, 0.88		0.87 0.63, 1.19 n=3; 46%; 0.16 <b>0.84</b> 0.55, 1.27	-	-	1.57 0.86, 2.87 n=2; 0%; 0.80 <b>1.59</b> 0.78, 3.36	-	1.34 0.88, 2.03 n=6; 57%; 0.04 <b>1.55</b> 1.14, 2.17	1.36 1.09, 1.69 n=5; 0%; 0.43 <b>1.40</b> 1.06, 1.88	
SNRI		1.15 0.84, 1.59 n=3; 46%; 0.16 <b>0.81</b> 0.50, 1.35		-	-	2.80 0.78, 10.17	1.89 0.85, 4.57	1.36 0.63, 3.04	1.84 1.45, 3.23	1.55 0.98, 2.90
NRI	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
SARI		-	-	-		0.79 0.16, 3.88 n=2; 76%; 0.04 <b>0.67</b> 0.29, 1.64	-	-	-	
NaSSa		0.64 0.35, 1.16 n=2; 0%; 0.80 <b>0.43</b> 0.19, 0.86		-	2.68 1.09, 6.62 n=1 <b>1.48</b> 0.61, 3.40		-	-	-	
MAO-A	0.60 0.41, 0.87 n=2; 0%; 0.72 <b>0.59</b> 0.33, 1.31	-	-	-	2.06 0.56, 8.25	1.39 0.52, 3.85		1.35 0.69, 2.83	1.22 0.63, 2.56	
Hypericum	0.32 0.21, 0.50 n=2; 0%; 0.97 <b>0.44</b> 0.31, 0.61	0.75 0.49, 1.14 n=6; 57%; 0.04 <b>0.65</b> 0.46, 0.88		-	-	1.52 0.45, 5.34	1.03 0.48, 2.30	0.74 0.35, 1.44	0.84 0.61, 1.14 n=7; 0%; 0.60 <b>0.90</b> 0.64, 1.26	

Legend see sTable 5