

Supplemental figures and legends

	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
Bracken 1990/92	?	+	+	+	?	+	+
Matsumoto 2001	?	+	+	+	+	+	+
Pointillart 2000	+	?	?	+	?	+	+

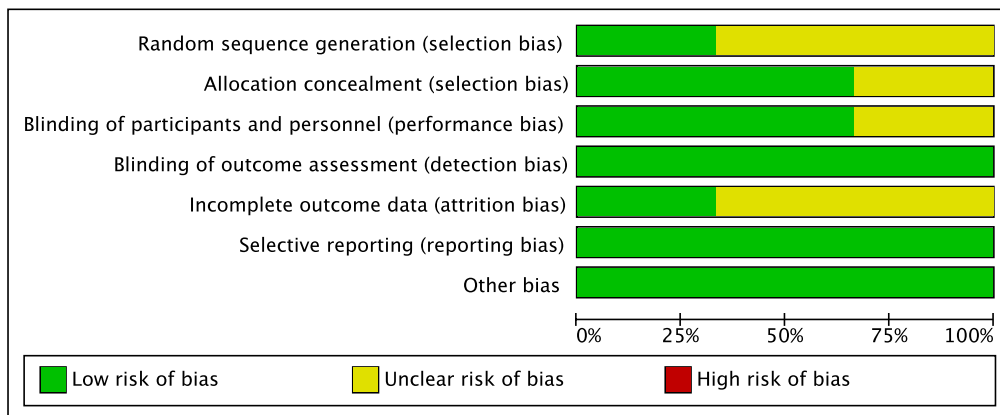
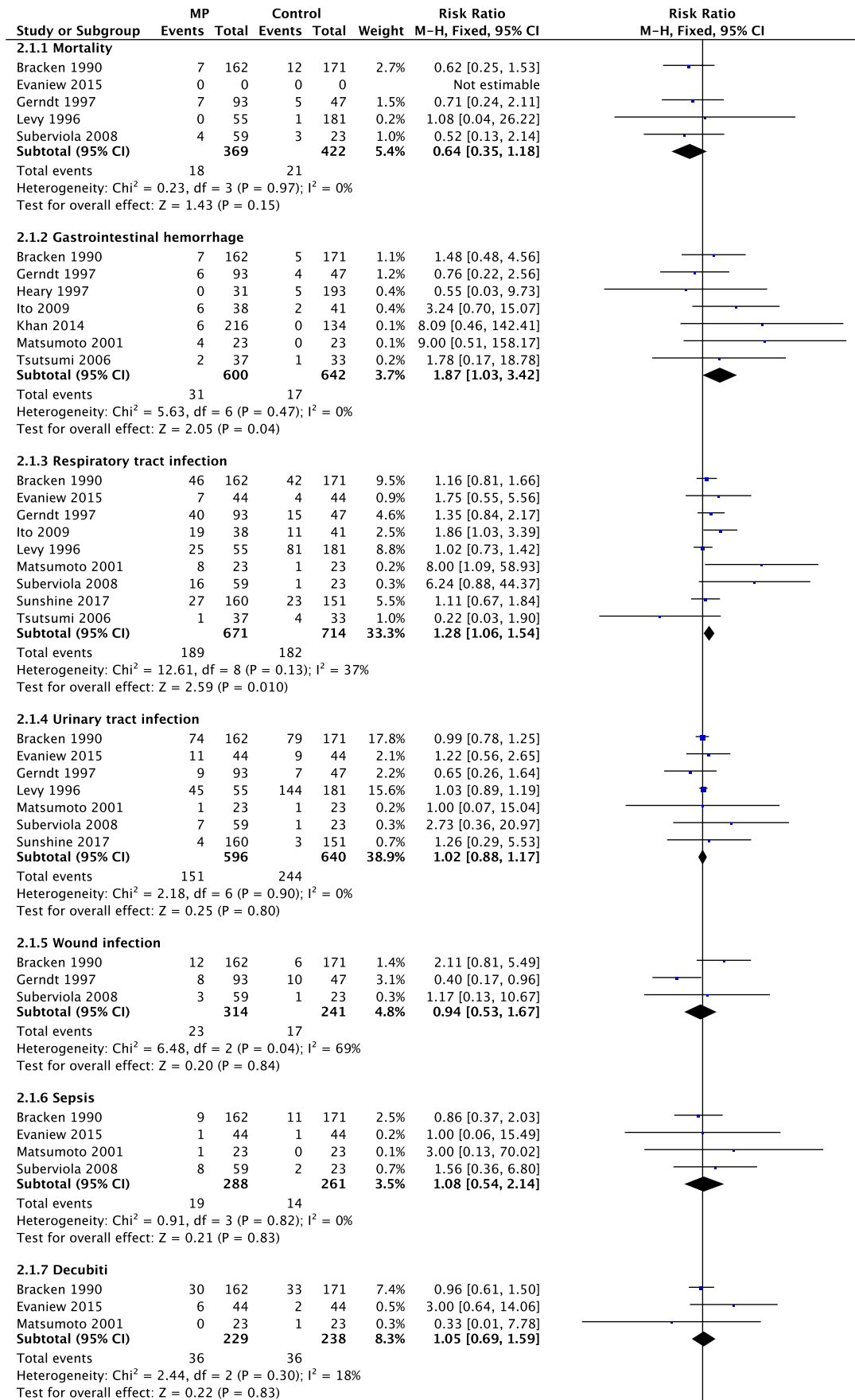


Figure e-1. Risk of bias assessment of the included RCTs



2.1.8 Deep vein thrombosis/Pulmonary embolism

Bracken 1990	6	162	2	171	0.5%	3.17 [0.65, 15.46]
Evaniew 2015	2	44	0	44	0.1%	5.00 [0.25, 101.25]
Levy 1996	3	55	14	181	1.5%	0.71 [0.21, 2.36]
Subtotal (95% CI)		261		396	2.1%	1.48 [0.63, 3.45]

Total events 11 16
Heterogeneity: $\text{Chi}^2 = 2.95$, $\text{df} = 2$ ($P = 0.23$); $I^2 = 32\%$
Test for overall effect: $Z = 0.90$ ($P = 0.37$)

2.1.9 Acute corticosteroid myopathy

Qian 2005	4	5	0	3	0.1%	6.00 [0.43, 83.54]
Subtotal (95% CI)		5		3	0.1%	6.00 [0.43, 83.54]

Total events 4 0
Heterogeneity: Not applicable
Test for overall effect: $Z = 1.33$ ($P = 0.18$)

Total (95% CI) 3333 3557 100.0% 1.13 [1.02, 1.26]

Total events 482 547
Heterogeneity: $\text{Chi}^2 = 43.77$, $\text{df} = 40$ ($P = 0.31$); $I^2 = 9\%$
Test for overall effect: $Z = 2.31$ ($P = 0.02$)
Test for subgroup differences: $\text{Chi}^2 = 12.06$, $\text{df} = 8$ ($P = 0.15$), $I^2 = 33.6\%$

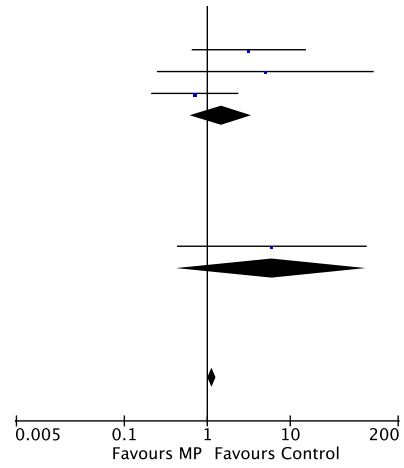


Figure e-2. Incidence of adverse events in MP versus control groups

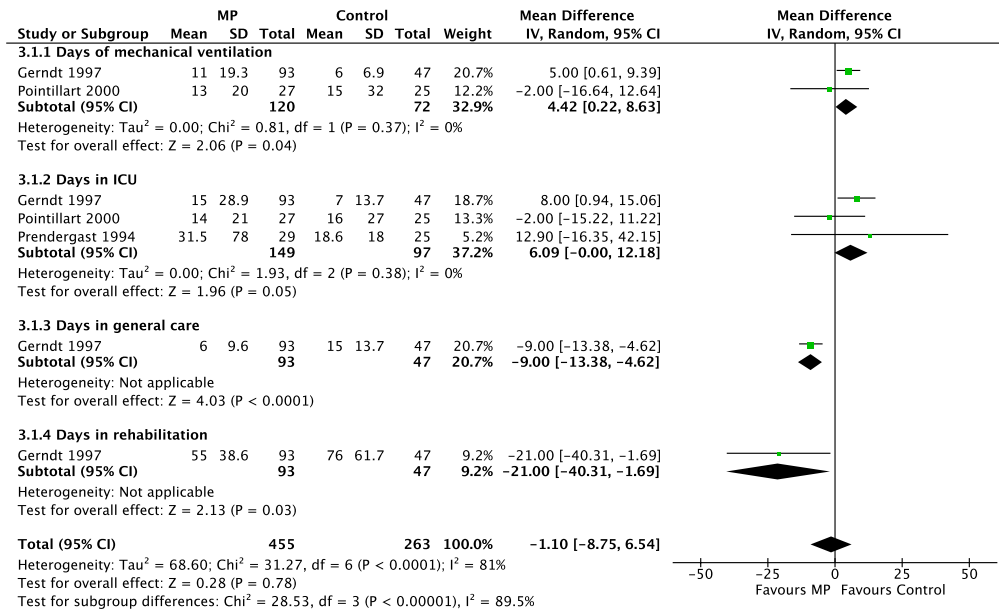


Figure e-3. In-hospital costs in MP versus control groups