

Rapid review on the effects of
vaccination in the
immunocompromised and
those on dialysis

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Population

- Immunocompromised
 - HIV infection
 - Primary immune or complement deficiency
 - On immunosuppressive therapy
 - Malignancy
 - Transplant
- Dialysis
 - Hemodialysis
 - Peritoneal dialysis

Intervention

- COVID-19 vaccine approved in Canada
 - BNT162b2 (Pfizer-BioNTech)
 - mRNA-1273 (Moderna)
 - AZD1222 (ChAdOx1) (AstraZeneca-Oxford)
 - Ad26.COV2.S (Johnson & Johnson)

Comparator

- Healthy control
- Disease control (for immunosuppression e.g. inflammatory bowel disease – outcome of vaccines in those with and without immunosuppressive therapy)

Outcome

- Protection against developing symptomatic COVID-19
- Immunogenicity in disease subgroups
- Harms of COVID vaccines in immunocompromised or dialysis patients

Overview

216
titles
screened

96
excluded

- 35 too small
- 29 duplicate
- 17 wrong population
- 15 other reason

120
eligible

Efficacy in preventing COVID-19 infections

Author	Country	Overall population	Immunocompromised	Infections over follow up	Vaccine effectiveness well popn (95% CI)	Vaccine effectiveness immunocomp (95% CI)
Dagan 2021	Israel	3,159,136	32,003	10,561	91% (83-96%)	90% (49-100%)
Young-Xu 2021	US (VA system)	6,710,750	99,107	15,404	94% (92-95%)	88% (82-92%)

Both studies compared vaccinated with unvaccinated and defined protection period as ≥ 7 days after 2nd vaccine

Pooled population vaccine effectiveness = 94% (95% CI = 92-95%)

Pooled immunocompromised vaccine effectiveness = 88% (95% CI = 83-93%)

Dagan N et al. NEJM 2021; 384:1412-23 and Young-Xu Y et al. doi2021.06.14.21258906 (not peer reviewed)

Efficacy in preventing COVID-19 infections: IBD

- Another study provided contributing evidence but could not be pooled with the previous two studies.
- Evaluated 5,562 inflammatory bowel disease (53% on biologics) versus 864,575 controls after vaccination (both first and second).
- During follow up 19 (0.36%) IBD patients were diagnosed with COVID-19 compared with 2227 (0.28%) controls (RR = 1.3; 95% CI = 0.83-2.05)
- After adjustment RR = 0.95; 95% CI = 0.51- 1.78)
- Did not give data for biologic therapies separately but noted that there was less than 50% of the COVID-19 IBD infections in this group.

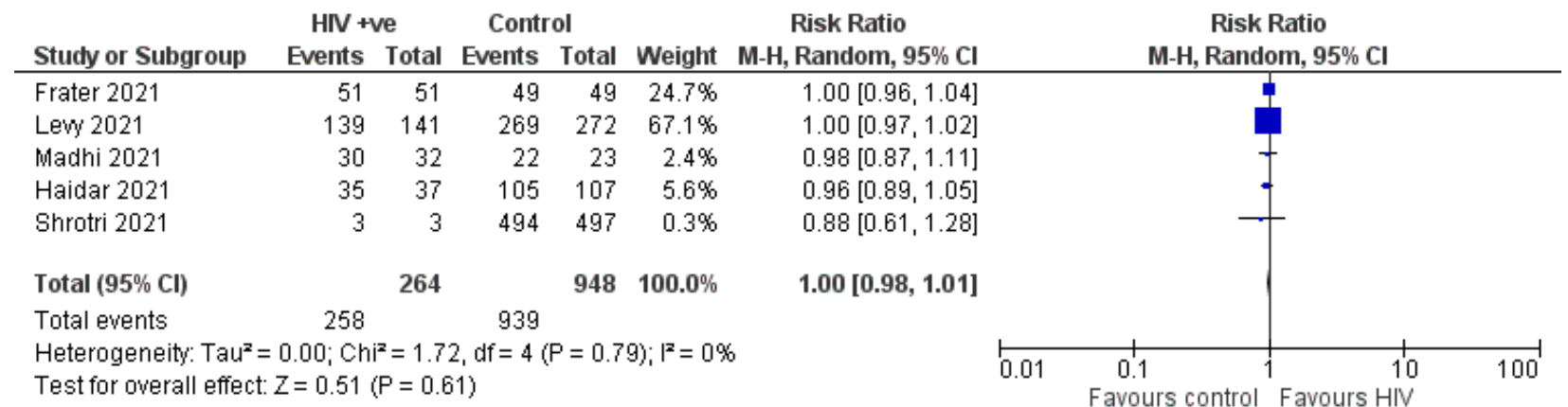
Efficacy summary

- Only a modest reduction in vaccine efficacy for COVID-19 vaccination in the immunocompromised in population studies
- These studies have only a small number of certain groups such as primary immune deficiencies and transplant patients
- These data are largely reassuring but need more granular immunogenicity data for immunocompromised subgroups

Immunogenicity of vaccines in HIV

Evaluation of seroconversion after 2nd vaccine

- 5 studies
- 258 HIV – 97% converted (titres similar to controls)
- 948 controls – 99% converted
- RR = 1.00 (95% CI = 0.98-1.01)
- I² = 0%



Seroconversion in malignancy

- 30 studies
- 17 cohort studies and 13 case series
- 3459 cancer patients
- 1969 healthy controls
- All studies that reported stated IgG titres lower in malignancy cases than controls

Overall seroconversion in patients with malignancy

Group	Number of studies	Number of patients	Proportion converted (95% CI)
Solid malignancy 1 st vaccine	8	635	54% (38-69%)
Solid malignancy 2 nd vaccine	9	850	91% (86-95%)
Hematological 1 st vaccine	8	606	48% (32-63%)
Hematological 2 nd vaccine	14	2197	64% (56-73%)

Comparison of malignancy with healthy controls after second vaccine

Malignancy	No. studies	Total participants	RR seroconversion (95% CI)
Solid	6	792	0.91 (0.86 to 0.97)
Hematological	9	2600	0.65 (0.55 to 0.77)

Solid malignancy slightly worse seroconversion than healthy controls

Risk factors for poor outcome are age and having active treatment at time of vaccine

Hematological malignancy significantly worse than healthy controls and worse than solid malignancy (p=0.00001)

Immunogenicity after 2nd vaccine in immunosuppressive therapy patients

- 16 studies
- 1320 patients
- 1250 healthy or disease (not in immunosuppressive therapy) controls
- No difference between control groups so these controls combined

Immunogenicity after 2nd vaccine in immunosuppressive therapy patients

Group	Number of studies	Number of patients	Proportion converted (95% CI)
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	3	59	95% (82-100%)
Rheumatological diseases	3	538	88% (79-95%)
Multiple Sclerosis	3	145	42% (33-52%)
Various autoimmune disease	7	578	64% (56-73%)

Comparison of response to 2nd vaccine in those on immunosuppressive therapy compared to controls

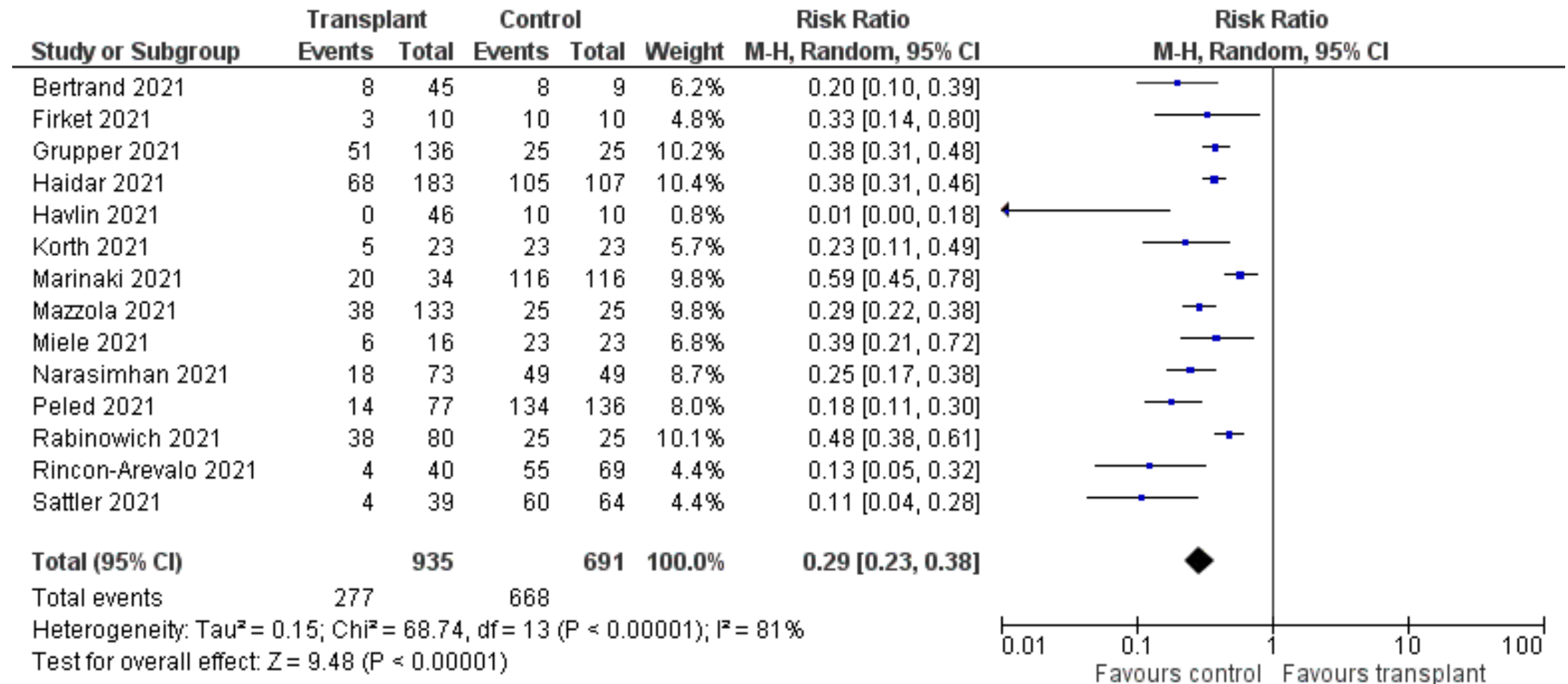
Group	No. studies	Total participants	RR seroconversion (95% CI)
Inflammatory bowel disease	3	110	1.00 (0.89 to 1.12)
Various autoimmune diseases	8	1571	0.92 (0.87 to 0.97)
Unclear indication	1	175	0.34 (0.11 to 1.06)
Multiple Sclerosis	2	202	0.42 (0.30 to 0.59)

Modest impact of immunosuppressive therapy on seroconversion rates although titres lower than healthy controls
No impact for biologics used in IBD although number studies are small. We have more data after the first vaccine and one study (1) suggested a slightly lower seroconversion rate for anti-TNF in 1293 participants (RR = 0.88; 95% 0.80 to 0.97)
Immunosuppressive drugs used in MS seem to have a greater impact on seroconversion rates – particularly for Fingolimod and Ocerlizumab (Cladribine seems to have little impact on seroconversion).

Seroconversion in transplant patients after their second vaccine

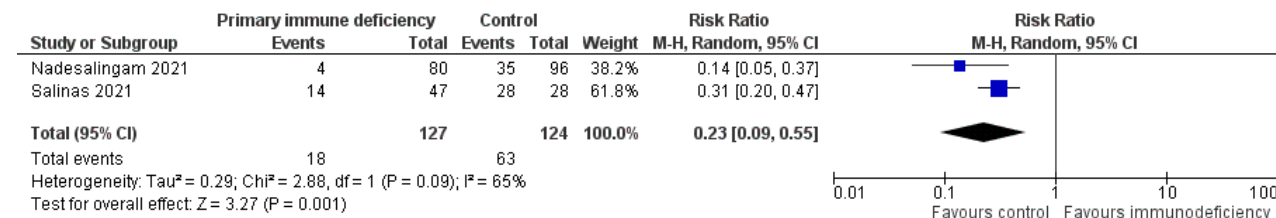
- 22 studies
 - 14 cohort studies
 - 8 case series
- 2729 participants
 - 2038 transplant patients
 - 691 healthy controls
- Various solid organ transplants – predominantly kidney, liver, heart, lung
- Overall seroconversion rate = 27% (95%CI = 22 to 33%)

Comparison of seroconversion in transplant patients compared to healthy controls after second vaccine



Seroconversion after 2nd vaccination in patients with primary immune deficiencies

- These are all rare disorders
- Three studies
 - Two cohort studies, one case series
- 277 participants
 - 153 cases
 - 124 healthy controls
- 31% (95% CI 4 to 70%) converted
- RR = 0.23 (95% CI 0.09 to 0.55) compared to healthy



Primary immunodeficiencies

- A number of different disorders with varying ability to mount a response to vaccination
- For example, none of the 10 X-linked Aglobulinemia (XLA) seroconverted. This is entirely expected as these individuals cannot produce immunoglobulin (which is what is measured when evaluating response to vaccines).
- However, XLA had a more pronounced T-cell response to vaccination than other immunodeficiencies or healthy controls. This suggests the immune system of XLA is trying to compensate to provide some protection against COVID-19.

Seroconversion from 2nd vaccination in dialysis patients

- Twenty one studies

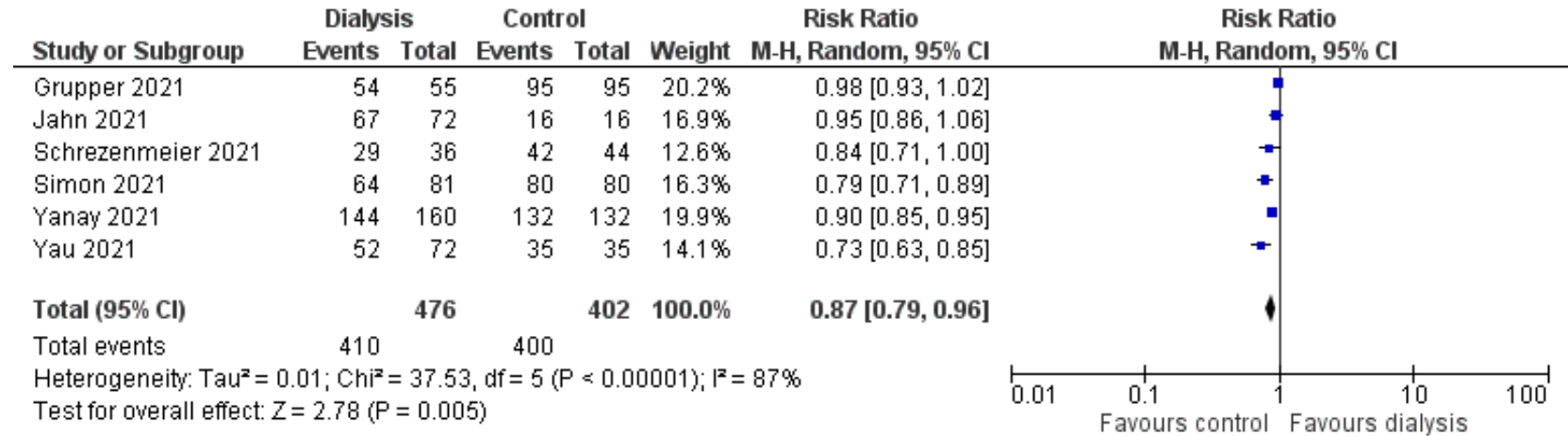
- 6 cohort
- 15 case series

- 2588 participants

- 2186 cases
- 402 controls

- 89% (95% CI = 85 to 93%) converted

- RR = 0.87 (95%CI = 0.79 to 0.96)



Summary

Impact on seroconversion	Diseases
None	HIV infection
Minor	Most immunosuppressive medication Solid malignancy patients Dialysis patients
Moderate	Hematologic malignancy
Severe	MS patients on Fingolimod or Ocerlizumab Some patients with primary immunodeficiencies Transplant patients

Additional data

- Three studies have reported on response to a third vaccination in high risk groups. All report an increase in seroconversion and also a rise in antibody titres towards that seen in healthy controls.
- For example Ducloux reported an increase in seroconversion from 40/45 to 42/45 with titres rising from a median of 672 to 6435 with the third vaccination.

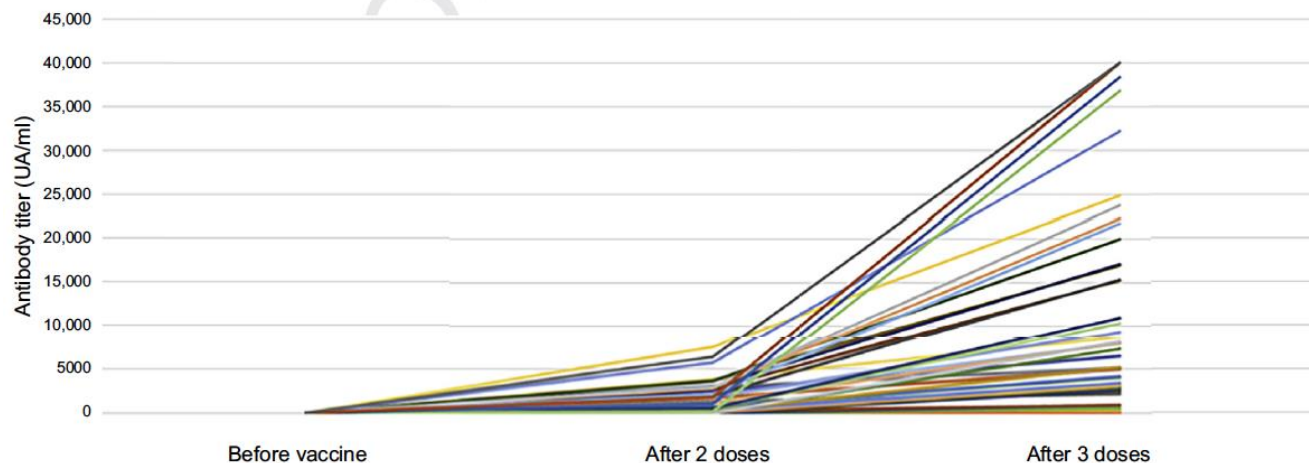


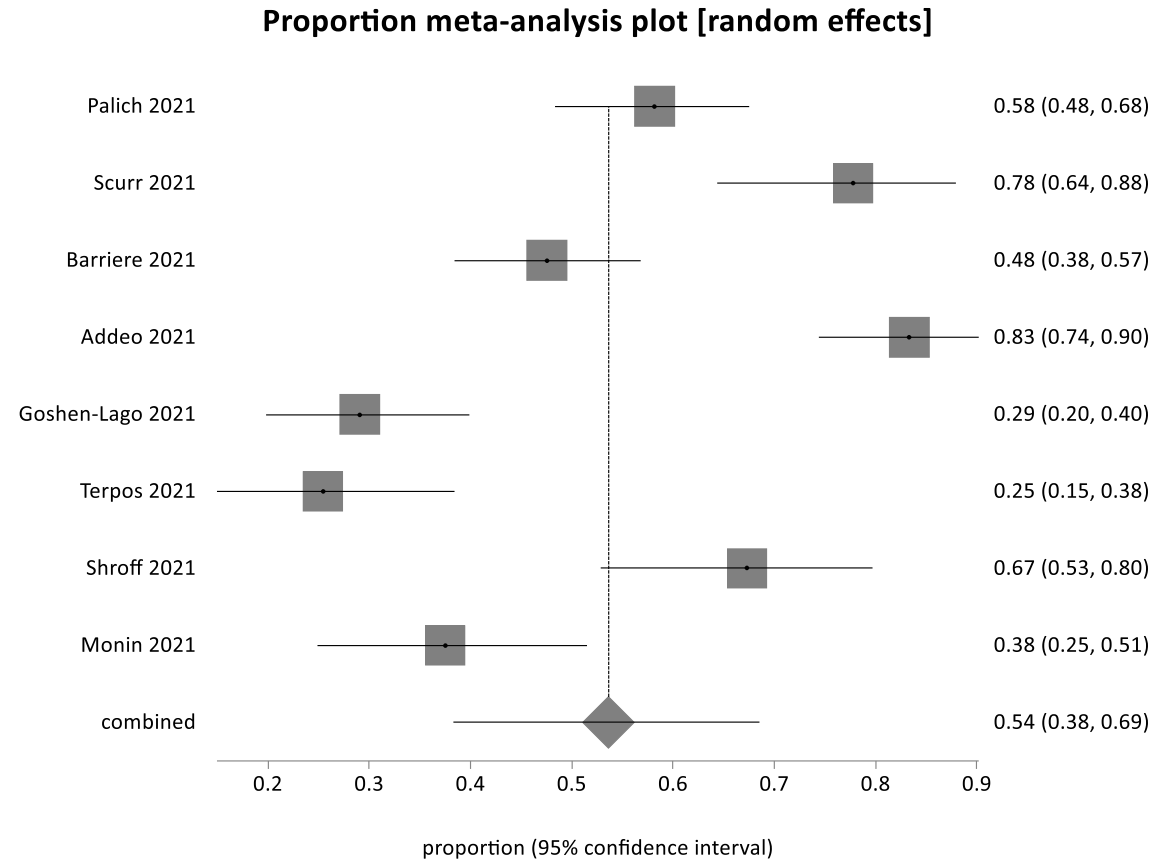
Figure 3 | Individual variations in antibody titers (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 [SARS-Cov-2] immunoassay, which Abbott designed to detect IgG antibodies to the receptor-binding domain of the S1 subunit of the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2) during the vaccine scheme. UA, xxx.

Safety of vaccination in the immunocompromised

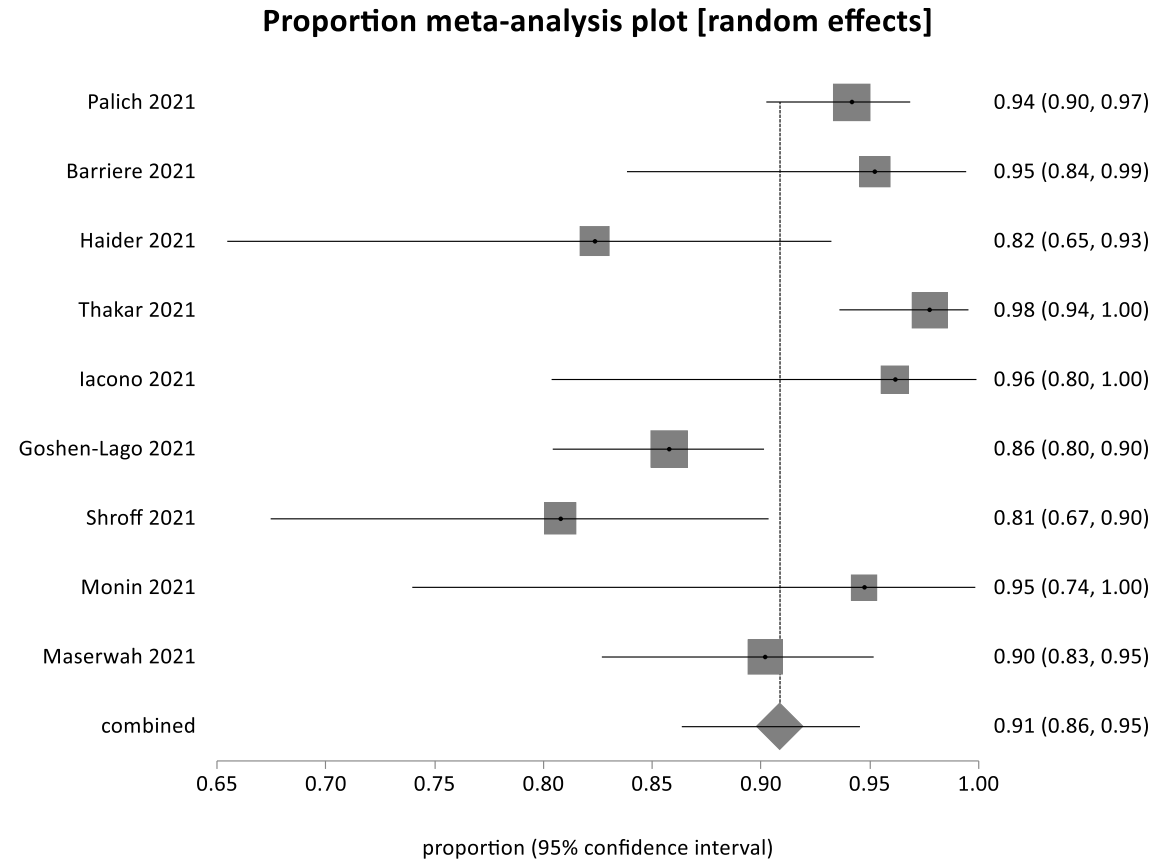
- Less data
- Combined all diseases
- Evaluated overall adverse events
- 9 studies, 1023 participants
- Less adverse events in immunocompromised
- No reports of worsening disease after immunization
- No serious adverse event signal

Appendix figures

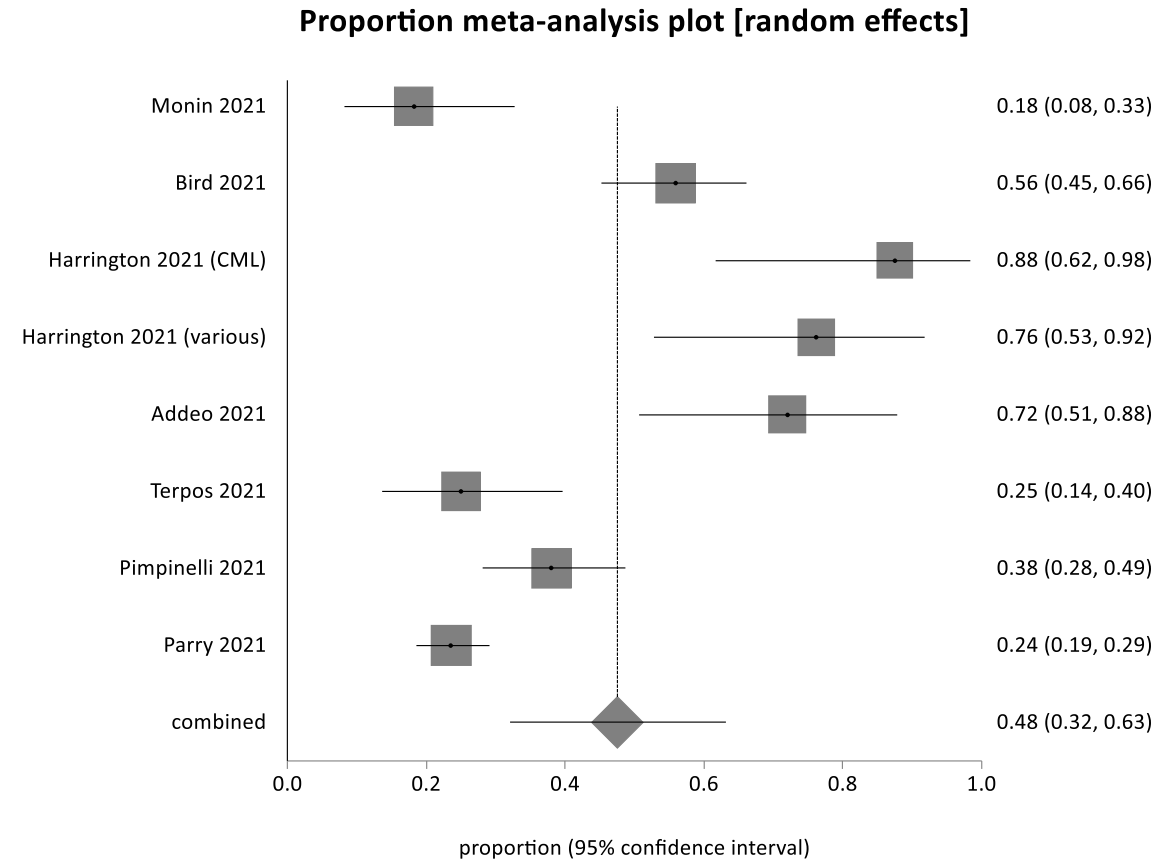
Solid malignancy: proportion seroconverting after 1st vaccine



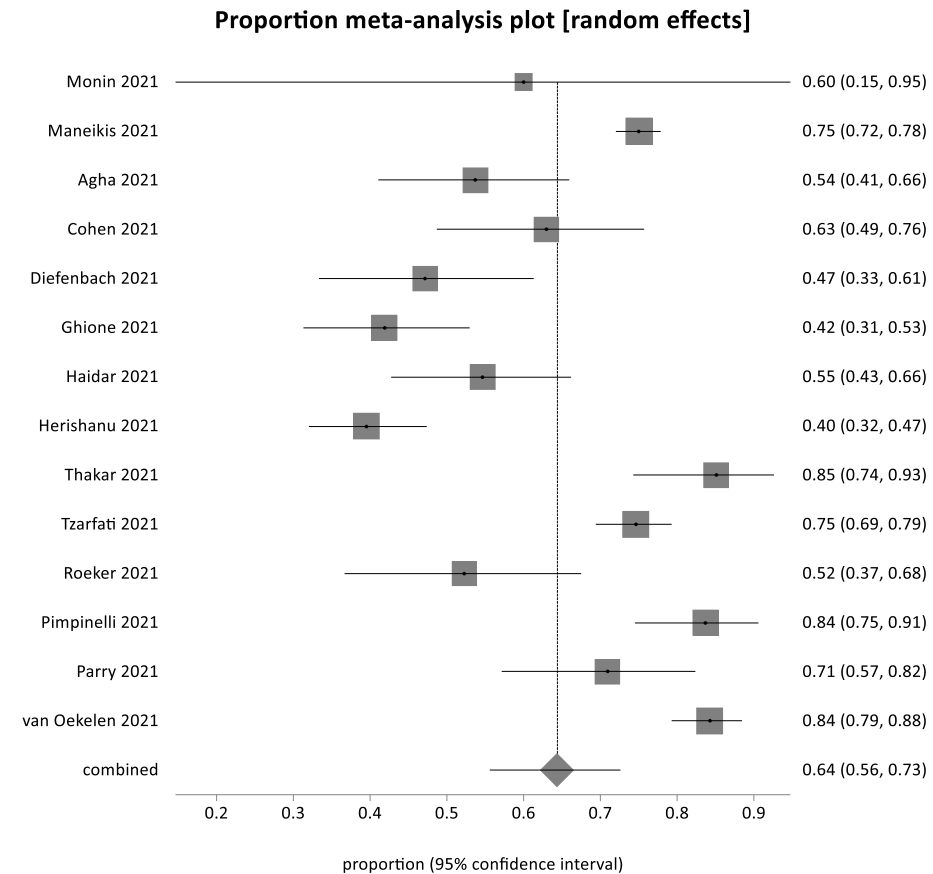
Solid malignancy: proportion seroconverting after 2nd vaccine



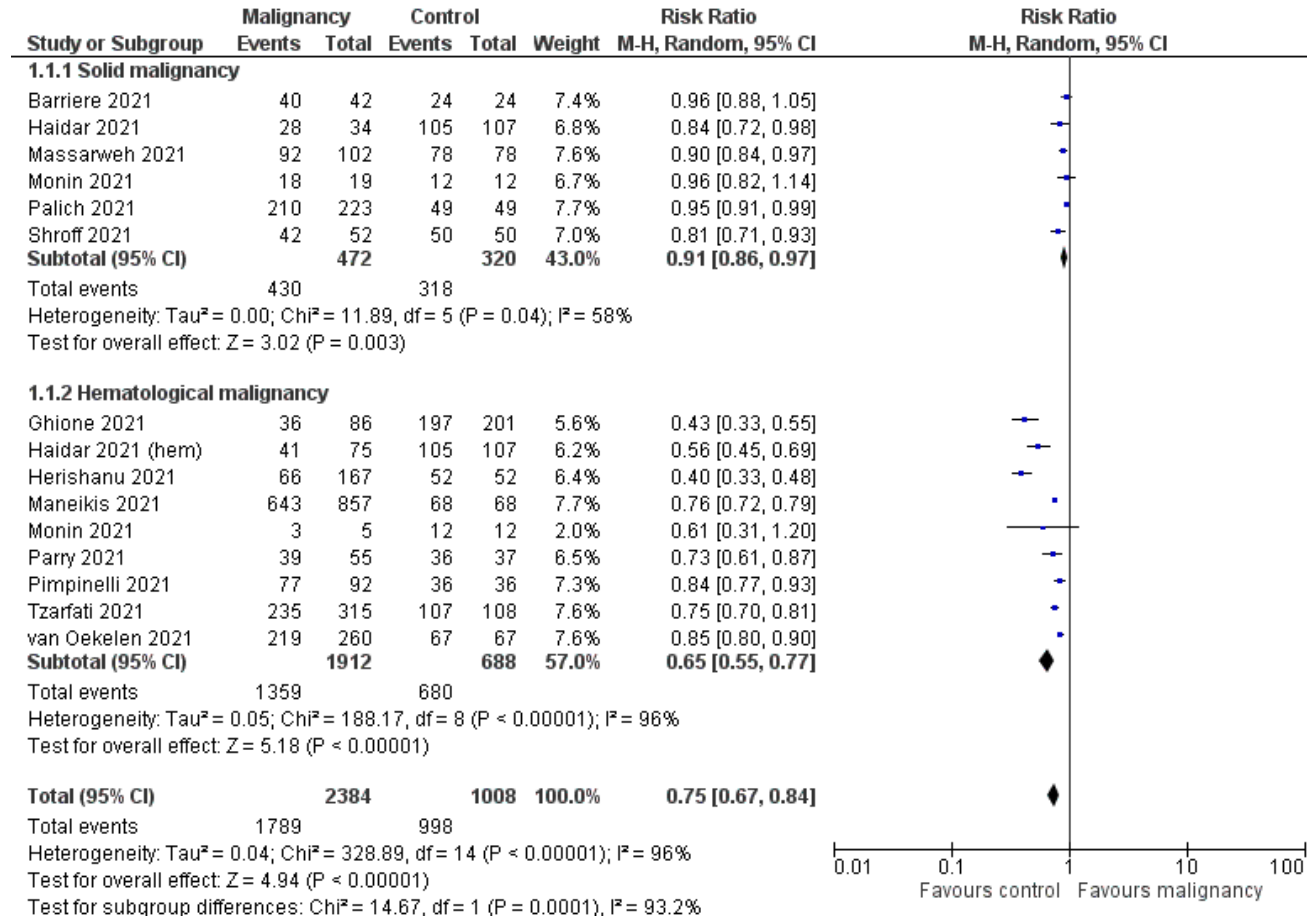
Hematological malignancy: proportion seroconverting after 1st vaccine



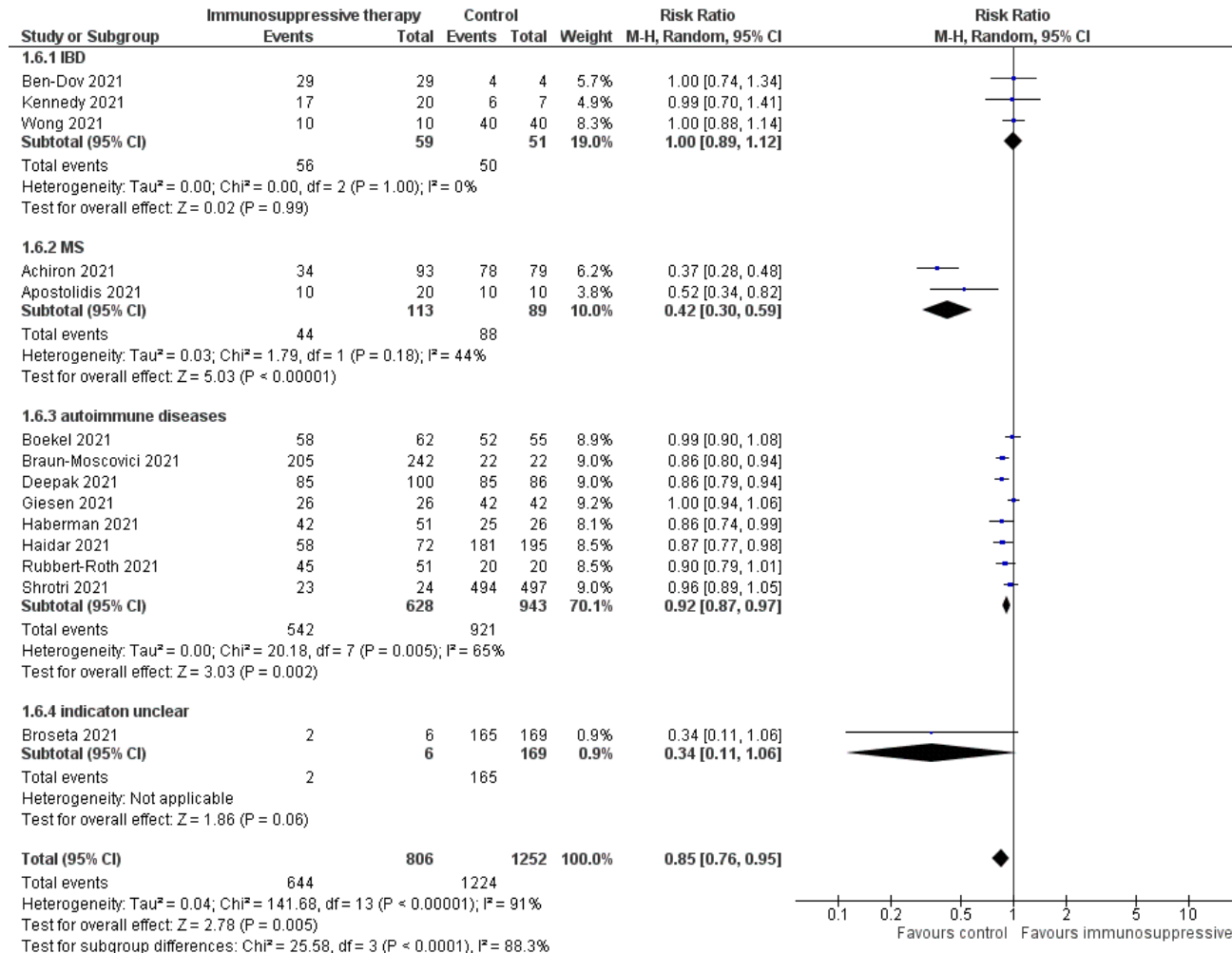
Hematological malignancy: proportion seroconverting after 2nd vaccine



Comparison of malignancy with healthy controls after second vaccine



Immunogenicity after 2nd vaccine in those on immunosuppressive therapy compared to controls



Adverse events in immunocompromised compared to healthy controls

