

EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE RPC

Mission: to increase the number of health sector decisions that are based on reliable evidence

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION

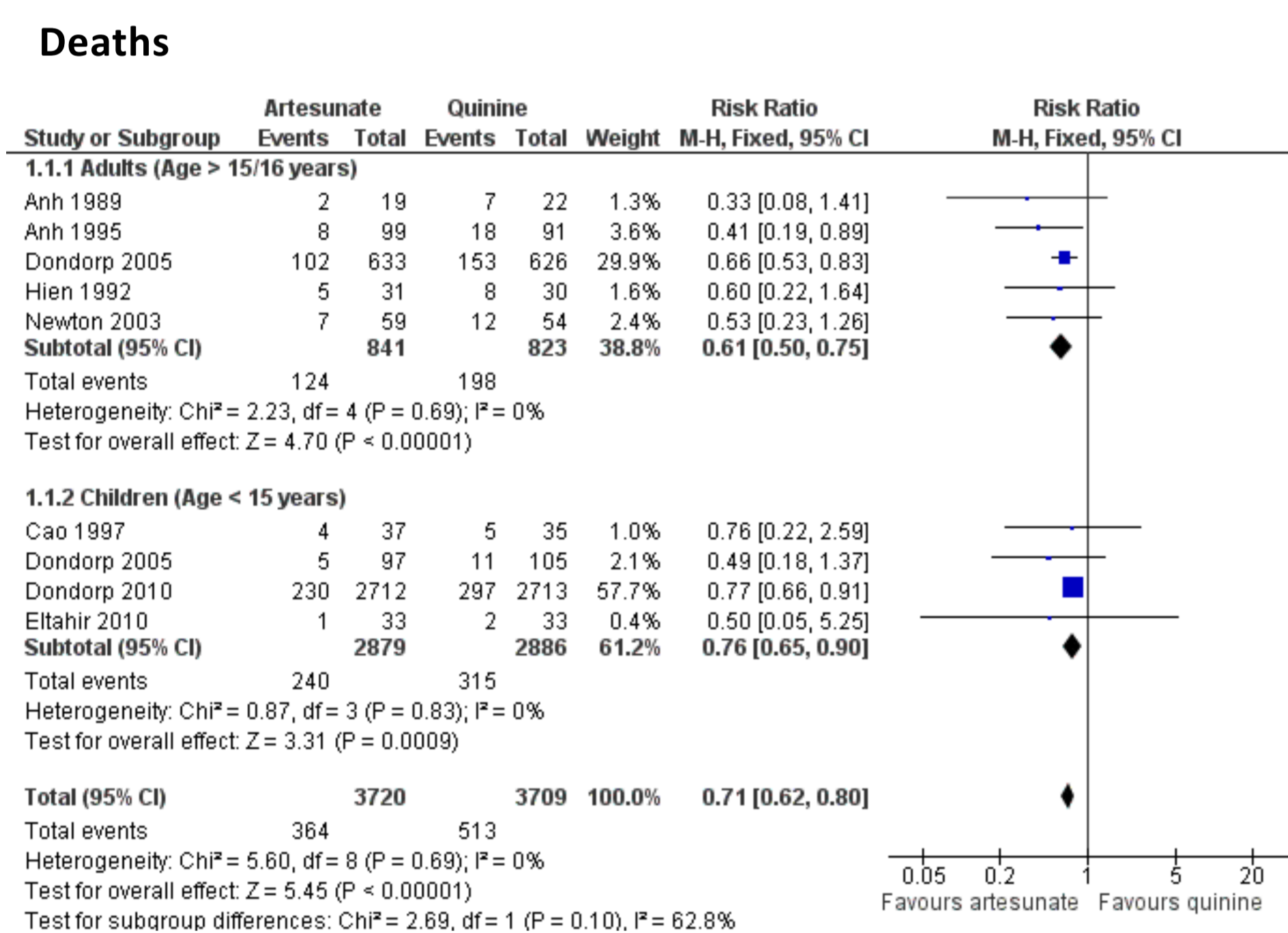
The Cochrane Collaboration aims to help people make well-informed decisions about health care by preparing, maintaining and promoting the accessibility of systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions. Established in 1993, it is an international network of more than 28,000 dedicated people from over 100 countries.

What is a Cochrane Review?

Cochrane Reviews are systematic summaries of evidence of the effects of healthcare interventions. They are intended to help people make practical decisions. They are published in the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*.

Example of a Cochrane Review

Artesunate compared with quinine for severe malaria:



Meta-analysis showing 29% reduction in death if artesunate used.



Lead Partners: South Africa, India, China

THE CONSORTIUM

- Is four substantive groups in developing countries with scientific leaders who co-ordinate networks that carry out reliable reviews in HIV, reproductive health, child health, nutrition, and non-communicable diseases.
- Also includes The Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group that prepares reviews on malaria, tuberculosis, diarrhoea and neglected tropical diseases, with over 400 contributors.
- Actively disseminates the results of systematic reviews and engages with policy makers globally, nationally and locally.
- Promotes an evidence-based culture in health care in developing countries, with a particular emphasis on policies relevant to the poor, particularly women.

Partners

University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (Volmink)
 Christian Medical College Vellore, India (Tharyan)
 Chongqing Medical University, China (Wang Yang)
 Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK (Garner)
 Norwegian Knowledge Centre, Norway (Oxman)

Collaborators

World Health Organization
 University of California Global Health Group



Taryn Young (Africa lead) & Habiba Garga (Cameroon partner)

Current reviews

Around 100 published reviews with over 30 in process. Critical Cochrane reviews due to be published in 2012:

Ways to kill mosquito larvae.

Eradicating malaria with primaquine: does it work?

Is it worthwhile giving the private sector subsidies to promote anti-malarial drug access?

Should occupying forces invest in health to promote host government stability?

OUR IMPACT

Policy

The Effective Health Care RPC has a global track record of impact on policy and decision making.

Finding	Year
Diarrhoea	
Zinc makes illness shorter in children with diarrhoea	2008
Worms	
Deworming drugs do not improve nutrition or cognition in community programmes	2008
Malaria	
Cure increased by 70% with artemisinin combination treatment	2005
Dihydroartemisinin - piperazine is highly effective	2009
Artesunate reduces deaths in severe malaria by 39% compared to quinine in adults	2011
Malaria illnesses in children halved by taking antimalarial drugs regularly	2011
Iron supplements in children is safe in malarial areas	2011

People

Over 450 authors and 16 editors make up the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group. Fifty six new authors from low- and middle-income countries have been trained and supported to complete reviews since 2005.

Institutions

The South Asian Cochrane Centre & Network, Vellore, was established in 2005. The network currently has sites in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, and supports and mentors the work of over 448 Cochrane authors and nine Editors.

The Centre for Evidence-based Health Care was established in 2011 at Stellenbosch University and is set to become a Centre of Excellence for evidence-based healthcare in the African region.

The public

Our Cochrane Reviews have had 19 press releases in the last three years, with over 400 media hits.

The Telegraph



Probiotics cut stomach upsets by one day: research
 Probiotics reduce the length of time people are ill with stomach upsets, a comprehensive review of research has found.



It is thought the probiotics, often called 'friendly bacteria' and come in yogurt drinks or capsules.

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