

# **Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB) (Review)**

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Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB) (Review)  
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[Intervention Review]

# Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

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## ABSTRACT

### Background

Advantages to combining childhood vaccines include reducing the number of visits, injections and patient discomfort, increasing compliance, and optimizing prevention. The World Health Organization recommends that routine infant immunization programs include a vaccination against *Haemophilus influenzae* type B (HIB) in the combined diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTP)-hepatitis B (HBV) vaccination. The effectiveness and safety of the combined vaccine should be carefully and systematically assessed to ensure their acceptability by the community.

### Objectives

To compare the effectiveness of combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine with DTP-HBV and HIB vaccinations.

### Search strategy

We searched the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (*The Cochrane Library* 2009, issue 1) which contains the Acute Respiratory Infection Group's Specialized Register; MEDLINE (January 1966 to March 2009) and EMBASE (January 1990 to March 2009).

### Selection criteria

Randomized or quasi-randomized controlled trials comparing vaccination with any combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine, with or without three types of inactivated poliovirus (IPV) or concomitant oral polio vaccine (OPV) in any dose, preparation or time schedule, compared with separate vaccines or placebo, administered to infants aged up to two years.

### Data collection and analysis

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**Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB) (Review)**

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Two review authors independently inspected references identified by the searches and evaluated them against the inclusion criteria, extracted data and assessed the methodological quality of included trials.

### **Main results**

Meta-analysis was performed to pool the results of 18 studies. There were no data on clinical outcomes for the primary outcome and all studies used immunogenicity and reactogenicity (adverse events). In two immunological responses the combined vaccine achieved lower responses than the separate vaccines for HIB and HBV. Comparison found little heterogeneity. No significant differences in immunogenicity were found for pertussis, diphtheria, polio and tetanus. Serious adverse events were comparable. Minor adverse events were more common in children given the combined vaccine.

### **Authors' conclusions**

We could not conclude that the immune responses elicited by the combined vaccine were different from, or equivalent to, the separate vaccines. Data for the primary outcome (prevention of disease) were lacking. There was significantly less immunological response for HIB and HBV, and more local reactions in the combined injections. However, these differences rely mostly on one study each. Studies did not use an intention-to-treat analysis and we were uncertain about the risk of bias in many of the studies. These results are therefore inconclusive. Studies addressing clinical end-points whenever possible, using correct methodology and a large enough sample size should be conducted.

## **PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY**

### **Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and *Haemophilus influenzae* B in healthy infants up to two years of age**

Childhood vaccinations provide an effective method of protection against many diseases. There are multiple advantages to combining vaccines: reducing the number of visits, injections and patient discomfort, increasing compliance, and optimizing prevention. The World Health Organization recommends that routine infant immunization programs include a vaccination against *Haemophilus influenzae* (*H. influenzae*) type B (HIB) in the combined diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTP)-hepatitis B (HBV) vaccination. The effect of adding a conjugate HIB vaccination to the DTP-HBV vaccine, compared to a separate injection for preventing these diseases, has yet to be assessed.

The objective of this review was to compare the effectiveness of the combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine with the separate DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines. No data on clinical outcomes for the primary outcome was found. All included studies reported only on immunogenicity, defined as antibody concentration responses to tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, hepatitis B and *H. influenzae* type B and reactogenicity, defined as systematic and local adverse events to vaccination.

Eighteen published randomized or quasi-randomized clinical trials, comparing vaccination with any combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine with or without three types of inactivated poliovirus (IPV) or concomitant oral polio vaccine (OPV) given in any dose, preparation or time schedule, compared with separate vaccines or placebo, administered to infants aged up to two years, were included. In two immunological responses the combined vaccine achieved lower responses than the separate vaccines for HIB and HBV. No significant differences in immunogenicity were found for pertussis, diphtheria, polio and tetanus. Serious adverse events were comparable. Minor adverse events were more common in children given the combined vaccine.

Overall, the level of evidence provided by the studies was low, and we could not conclude that the immune responses elicited by the combined vaccine are equivalent to the separate injections. The combined vaccine did not result in a significant increase in the incidence of serious adverse events, but caused more minor reactions.

## **Description of the intervention**

Childhood vaccinations provide a clinically-effective and cost-ef-

## **BACKGROUND**

**Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and *Haemophilus influenzae* B (HIB) (Review)**

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fective method of protecting against many diseases. Combination vaccines have been in widespread use since the 1940s. Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP) is one such vaccine and it is estimated that the DTP infant vaccine coverage exceeds 80% worldwide (Faingezicht 2002). There are multiple advantages to combining vaccines, for example, reducing the number of visits and injections, increasing compliance, reducing patient discomfort, optimizing prevention and reducing operational costs. This might not be the case in some countries like in the United States where combination vaccines are often more expensive than the separate components. Assessment of the immune responses to combination vaccines has generally been based on randomized controlled comparative trials. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends that clinical trials compare the immune responses elicited by the combination vaccine versus separate injections or other appropriate controls. End points commonly used for evaluating combination vaccines include the percentage of people responding to an antigen with a predefined antibody level and the geometric mean concentration (GMC) or geometric mean titer (GMT) of antibodies elicited by the component (Ball 2001).

### How the intervention might work

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that routine infant immunization programs include a vaccination against *Haemophilus influenzae* (*H. influenzae*) type B (HIB) in the combined DTP-HBV injection (WHO 1998). HIB is an important pathogen in both high and low income countries. The DTP-HBV combination vaccine would make an ideal partner for combining with HIB vaccines, because DTP is mandatory in most immunization programs, whereas the HB vaccine (HBV) is already in widespread use (Santos 2002).

### Why it is important to do this review

The strategy of combining hepatitis B vaccination (HBV) with the DTP vaccine has already been adopted into immunization programs (Riedemann 2002). The effectiveness and safety of adding a conjugate HIB vaccination to the DTP-HBV vaccine, compared with separate administrations, for preventing these diseases has yet to be systematically assessed. The immunogenicity and reactogenicity (adverse events) results of five published clinical trials involving Trinarix-HB/HIB in a variety of immunization schedules and countries were reviewed for its suitability for use in national immunization programs (Aristegui 2003). Despite its use in accordance with the WHO recommendation in several countries, no systematic review of the effectiveness and safety of the combined vaccine is available.

The objective of the review is to assess the clinical protection, immunogenicity and reactogenicity (adverse events) of a combined DTP, applied to both DTPw (whole cell pertussis) and DTPa (acellular pertussis) vaccines, HBV and conjugate HIB vaccine, with or without three types of inactivated poliovirus (IPV) or concomitant oral polio vaccine (OPV), in comparison with separate vaccinations of DTP, HBV conjugate HIB, IPV and OPV, in infants up to two years of age.

## METHODS

### Criteria for considering studies for this review

#### Types of studies

Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) or quasi-RCTs.

#### Types of participants

Healthy male and female infants aged up to two years.

#### Types of interventions

The interventions were vaccination with any combined DTP (applied to both DTPw and DTPa vaccines) -HBV-conjugate HIB vaccine with or without three types of inactivated poliovirus (IPV) or concomitant oral polio vaccine (OPV) given in any dose, preparation or time schedule, compared with separate vaccines or placebo, administered to infants aged up to two years. All studies identified tested the effectiveness of combined DTP-HBV-conjugate HIB vaccine.

#### Types of outcome measures

##### Primary outcomes

Incidence of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and *H. influenzae* type B post-vaccination.

##### Secondary outcomes

Immunogenicity, (defined as antibody responses to tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, hepatitis B and *H. influenzae* type B). Systemic and local adverse events, including fever, pain, redness, swelling, irritability, drowsiness, loss of appetite, vomiting and more generalized and severe signs, including potential adverse events which have been hypothesized related to the vaccination.

## OBJECTIVES

### Search methods for identification of studies

## Electronic searches

We searched the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (*The Cochrane Library* 2009, issue 1) which contains the Acute Respiratory Infection Group's Specialized Register; MEDLINE (January 1966 to March 2009) and EMBASE (January 1990 to March 2009).

The following terms were used to search CENTRAL and MEDLINE. The search strategy was combined with the Cochrane Highly Sensitive Search Strategy for identifying randomized trials in MEDLINE: sensitivity-maximizing version (2008 revision); Ovid format (Lefebvre 2008). There were no language or publication restrictions.

### MEDLINE (OVID)

- 1 Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis Vaccine/
- 2 Diphtheria-Tetanus-acellular Pertussis Vaccines/
- 3 (diphtheria and tetanus and pertussis).mp.
- 4 (dtp\* or dtap\*).tw.
- 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4
- 6 exp Haemophilus Vaccines/
- 7 exp Haemophilus influenzae type b/
- 8 exp HAEMOPHILUS/
- 9 (haemophilus or hemophilus).mp.
- 10 Hib.mp.
- 11 or/6-10
- 12 exp Hepatitis B Vaccines/
- 13 exp Hepatitis B/
- 14 (hepatitis b or HBV).mp.
- 15 or/12-14
- 16 5 and 11 and 15

## Searching other resources

We modified the above terms and filter developed by Wong (Wong 2006) to fit with the Embase.com interface (see Appendix 1). In addition, we scrutinized clinical practice guideline reference lists to identify further trials. We also checked relevant RCT references for additional studies. We looked for eligible titles and abstracts in electronic search results and obtained the full text of articles we identified as potentially eligible. The bibliographies of all included studies and pertinent reviews were scanned for additional references.

We searched the following conference proceedings for unpublished trials: Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC) 1995 to 2006 (available at <http://www.icaac.org/icaacarch.asp>); European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases 2001 to 2006 (available at <http://www.akm.ch>); and the Annual Meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) 2001 to 2006 (available at <http://www.idsociety.org/>).

## Data collection and analysis

## Selection of studies

Two review authors (ESB, EG) independently inspected references identified by the searches and evaluated them against the inclusion criteria. Disagreements in the selection of relevant studies were resolved by consensus. For possible relevant articles, or in cases of disagreement between the two review authors, the full article was obtained and inspected independently by the two review authors. A third review author (LL) was consulted in cases of continued disagreement. The reasons for excluding studies are detailed.

## Data extraction and management

Two review authors (EB, EG) independently performed the data extraction and assessed the methodological quality of each included trial. Per each treatment group, the data collected was as follows:

- Intervention characteristics (vaccination type, manufacturer, number of doses, schedule);
- Characteristics of trial (publication year, start date, end date, study design, country where trial was performed, data collection method, location of trial, date evaluated);
- Quality assessment (blinding, unit of allocation, allocation generation, allocation concealment);
- Case definitions - characteristics of participants (exclusion, inclusion, age, number randomized);
- Outcomes:

Immunogenicity - antibody concentrations by serological analysis  
Number participated, exclusion (post-random = evaluated for serology), number with antibody concentrations above the assay cut-offs (PRP-polyribitylribitolphosphate, PRP-T (vaccine conjugated to tetanus toxoid), FHA -filamentous hemagglutinin, PRN - pertactin, BPT - Pertussis (PTox pertussis toxin, *Bordetella pertussis* (*B. pertussis*), HBs - Hepatitis B, D-Diphtheria, T-Tetanus, Polio type 1, Polio type 2, Polio type 3).

Reactogenicity - adverse events

Number of vaccines, number of participants and number of events (serious adverse events; pain; redness; swelling; fever (temperature); fussiness or restlessness; poor appetite; vomiting; irritability or tenderness; diarrhea; unusual crying; sleeping more than usual).

## Assessment of risk of bias in included studies

We used an individual component approach to quality assessment (Chalmers 1990) with the following variables: generation of the allocation sequence, allocation concealment and blinding and intention-to-treat analysis. Allocation concealment and generation have been graded as

A - adequate measures to conceal allocation (central randomization; numbered or coded bottles or containers; drugs prepared by the pharmacy; serially numbered sealed opaque envelopes; other convincing),

B - no report of allocation concealment or not A/C,

C - Inadequate concealment of allocation (non-concealed table, non-opaque envelopes),

A/B - sealed envelopes, opaque not mentioned.

Assessment of bias was performed through sensitivity analyses for allocation concealment, based on previous evidence showing overestimation of effects with inadequate allocation concealment (Schulz 1955). Studies with a dropout rate above 30% were excluded unless an intention-to-treat analysis was possible for any outcome. Information was recorded in a pre-designed data extraction form.

### Unit of analysis issues

No studies were found reporting on the main outcome, i.e. incidence of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and *H. influenzae* type post-vaccination. All studies reported on immunogenicity, defined as antibody concentration responses to tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, hepatitis B and *H. influenzae* type B. Meta-analysis was performed to pool the results of 17 studies. Vaccine immunogenicity was analyzed in sub-categories, according to two types of pertussis vaccination: acellular pertussis (DTPa) and whole cell pertussis (DTPw).

Infants with no seroprotective antibody titers (with titers below the assay cutoff or without seroconversion) were defined as events. Studies reported combined inactivated polio virus (IPV) in the DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine and oral poliovirus vaccine (OPV) administered concurrently, and therefore we included results of anti-polio type 1, 2 and 3. Reactogenicity (adverse events) were analyzed by events of total symptom scores (incidence of any solicited local and systemic adverse events). Serious adverse events reported by investigators included pain, redness, swelling, fever (temperature), fussiness or restlessness, poor appetite, vomiting, irritability or tenderness, diarrhea, unusual crying, or sleeping more than usual.

### Data synthesis

Dichotomous data were analyzed by calculating the relative risk (RR) for each trial with the uncertainty in each result expressed using 95% confidence intervals (CI). Heterogeneity in the results of the trials was initially assessed by inspection of graphical presentations and by calculating an estimate of heterogeneity (chi square, I-square ( $I^2$ ) statistic). A random-effects model was used throughout the review. Data were pooled, stratifying for number of doses received. Sensitivity analysis was performed in order to assess the impact of possible sources of heterogeneity in the main results. A funnel plot estimating the precision of trials (the inverse of the standard error plotted against relative risk) was examined in order to estimate potential selection bias (publication or other). Asymmetry of the funnel plot has been formally expressed using the method described by Egger (Egger 1997).

## RESULTS

### Description of studies

See: [Characteristics of included studies](#); [Characteristics of excluded studies](#).

### Results of the search

We identified 199 studies and 52 of these were considered potentially eligible.

### Included studies

Eighteen studies were included. Two different types of pertussis vaccination were used in the studies. Nine studies used acellular pertussis (DTPa) and nine studies used whole cell pertussis (DTPw). In five studies IPV was combined with DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine (Aristegui 2003; Avdicova 2002; Gabutti 2004; Mallet 2000; Schmitt 2000), while three studies reported oral poliovirus vaccine administered to all vaccinees in both groups concurrently (Nolan 2001; Omenaca 2001; Pichichero 1997).

### Excluded studies

Thirty-four studies were excluded. Four studies were not true RCTs: one (Kalies 2004) was an observational study; one trial was a single group design (Lopez 2002), one was a presentation of data from investigations on the nature and function of anti-Hib antibodies (Poolman 2001) and one was a report of four primary and booster-based pediatric clinical trials (Denoel 2007).

Six trials compared two different types of combined vaccines (Aristegui 2001; Gatchalian 2005; Gylca 2001; Scheifele 2006; Tichmann 2005; Tichmann-Schumann 2005).

Three trials compared combined DTP/HIB and separate DTP + HIB vaccination without HBV (Botet-Asensi 2003; Calbo 2002; Huang 1998).

One trial compared combined DTPa-HBV-IPV with separate DTPa-HBV and IPV vaccines (Meriste 2006).

Two trials compared combined DTPw-HepB-Hib vaccine with separately administered DTPw-Hib and hepatitis B vaccines (Kanra 2006, Lim 2007).

One trial compared between primary and booster combined vaccines (Hla 2006).

One trial compared the fourth dose of combined DTPa-IPV/PRP-T with the third dose of combined vaccine (Scheifele 2005).

One trial compared combined DTPa-HBV-IPV-Hib vaccine and PCV7 vaccine with DTPa-HBV-IPV-Hib (Knuf 2006).

One trial compared three lots of *H. influenzae* type B conjugate vaccines (Aristegui 1998).

One study compared Lot-to-Lot consistency of combined vaccines and not with separate vaccines (Lagos 2005).

One trial compared a new combined DTPw-HBV/HIB vaccine of HIB Lot 001A44 to HIB Lot 002A41 (Usonis 1999b).



One trial was a comparison between a five-component pertussis combination vaccine CPDT-IPV/PRP-T to that of whole cell pertussis combination vaccine DPT-IPV/PRP-T (Mills 1998).

One trial compared five-component vaccine DTPa-HepB-IPV-PCV-7 and Hib with separate vaccines concurrently or staggered (delayed) administration of PCV-7 (Pichichero 2007).

We excluded another two trials that compared novel and local licensed DTPw/HIB vaccines (Clemens 2003) and the reactogenicity (adverse events) and immunogenicity of four commercial HIB vaccines (Usonis 1999a). Another five trials that had no comparison between vaccines were excluded (Bavdekar 2007; Hogg 2003; Pichichero 1999; Trollfors 2005; Zepp 1997). Three additional trials were excluded: in the first trial only data of safety and reactogenicity (adverse events) were provided (Zepp 2004) and the second trial included the same trials reported elsewhere while only safety data was provided (Saenger 2005). In the third excluded study, only data on antibody persistence (immunogenicity) of plain PRP and conjugate PRP-T was provided (Nolan 2004).

## Risk of bias in included studies

### Allocation

#### Allocation concealment

Only two of the studies reported adequate allocation concealment (Mallet 2000; Nolan 2001). One study reported inadequate allocation concealment (Bravo 1998).

#### Allocation generation

Only three studies reported adequate generation allocation (Faingezicht 2002; Nolan 2001; Omenaca 2001). One study reported randomization “in the order in which they enrolled between two groups”, which was considered to be inadequate allocation generation (Bravo 1998).

#### Unit of allocation

All of the studies used infants or neonates as units of allocation.

### Blinding

In one study where the term “double blind” was used, it is not clear who was blinded (Nolan 2001). One study reported that three different production lots of the combined vaccine were used in a double blind manner but not for the control group (Tregnaghi 2006). In six studies blinding of assessors and/or laboratory personnel was reported (Faingezicht 2002; Greenberg 2000; Mallet 2000; Nolan 2001; Pichichero 1997; Win 1997). Blinding of parents may not be relevant in the case of the infant’s vaccination. Measurement of outcomes may not be influenced by the lack of blinding.

## Other potential sources of bias

### Intention-to-treat analysis

No study clearly mentioned that the intention-to-treat principle was used in the analysis. Most studies excluded participants from analysis if they were leaving the study area, were lost to follow up, had an unsatisfactory compliance or protocol violation, parental request or consent was withdrawn, or experienced unrelated medical problems or death.

## Effects of interventions

### Immunogenicity: antibody concentrations by serological analysis

Data were not stratified for number of doses received. Last dose of the vaccines was extracted, excluding a booster dose.

#### Anti-PRP (HIB) titers below the assay cutoff 0.15 µg/ml

Three studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines and three studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. Four studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB and four studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB reported no events. No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.35, 95% CI 0.55 to 3.32). No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.42, 95% CI 0.10 to 1.70). Significant difference was found (RR 2.73, 95% CI 1.19 to 6.22) between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines.

#### Anti-PRP (HIB) titers below the assay cutoff 1.0 µg/ml

Eight studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines and five studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines reported on this outcome. No significant difference was found between combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.26, 95% CI 0.79 to 2.01). No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.77, 95% CI 0.39 to 1.52). A significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 2.09, 95% CI 1.20 to 3.64). For the DTPa-HBV-HIB comparison we found little heterogeneity,  $I^2 = 33\%$ . Exclusion of Pichichero 1997, which donated most of the outcomes, resulted in a point estimate still in favor of the separate vaccines, but no longer significant in a random-effects model, RR 1.67, 95% CI 0.85 to 3.28 for the DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines. However there is no significant heterogeneity for this comparison, ( $\chi^2 = 6.3$ , d.f.=5,  $P = 0.3$ ; and  $I^2 = 21\%$  for the DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines; and  $\chi^2 = 16.4$ , d.f.=10,  $P = 0.09$ ; and  $I^2 = 39\%$  for all studies). Using a fixed-effect model, the difference is significant even with the exclusion of Pichichero 1997, RR 1.83, 95% CI

1.17 to 2.86 for the DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines; and RR 1.34, 95% CI 1.04 to 1.73 for all studies.

#### **Anti-FHA (filamentous hemagglutinin) - no seroprotective titers**

No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.66, 95% CI 0.11 to 3.75). Three studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with total of four events. Four studies had no events (Avidicova 2002; Gabutti 2005; Gabutti 2004; Omenaca 2001).

#### **Anti-PRN - no seroprotective titers**

No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.70, 95% CI 0.15 to 3.23). Three studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with total of seven events. Four studies had no events (Gabutti 2004; Gabutti 2005; Omenaca 2001; Pichichero 1997).

#### **Anti-BPT (Pertussis) - no seroprotective titers**

No significant difference (RR 1.12, 95% CI 0.42 to 3.00) between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.47, 95% CI 0.04 to 5.12) and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.34, 95% CI 0.45 to 3.95). One study of DTPa-HBV-HIB was included with a total of three events. Five studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with a total of three events in the separate vaccines and eleven events in the combined vaccine. Three studies had no events (Win 1997; Ramkissoon 2001; Santos 2002).

#### **Anti-D (Diphtheria): titers below the assay cutoff**

No significant difference (RR 0.96, 95% CI 0.42 to 2.20) between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 3.05, 95% CI 0.13 to 74.15) and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 0.89, 95% CI 0.37 to 2.16). Seven studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with a total of 61 events (Ortega-Barria 2007, Avidicova 2002; Aristegui 2003; Gabutti 2004; Ramkissoon 2001; Omenaca 2001; Pichichero 1997; Schmitt 2000). No events in eight studies (Aristegui 2003; Avidicova 2002; Gabutti 2004; Gabutti 2005; Omenaca 2001; Pichichero 1997; Ramkissoon 2001; Schmitt 2000).

#### **Anti-T (Tetanus) titers below the assay cutoff**

No events below the assay cutoff 0.1 IU/ml were found except in one study with five events in the separate vaccines (Ortega-Barria 2007).

#### **Anti-HBV (Hepatitis B) titers concentrations below the assay cutoff**

No significant difference was found (RR 1.27, 95% CI 0.72 to 2.25) between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.83, 95% CI 0.75 to 4.46) and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 0.92, 95% CI 0.36 to 2.38). Seven studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with a total of 31 events. Seven studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with a total of 163 events. Three studies had no events (Omenaca 2001, Ramkissoon 2001, Faingezicht 2002).

Results excluding one study (Nolan 2001) with a total of 26 events show no significant difference was found (RR 0.99, 95% CI 0.52 to 1.88) between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.83, 95% CI 0.75 to 4.46) and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 0.54, 95% CI 0.24 to 1.22).

#### **Anti-polio type 1, 2 and 3 titers below the assay cutoff**

No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines of anti polio type 1 (RR 1.22, 95% CI 0.20 to 7.56), of anti-polio type 2 (RR 1.84, 95% CI 0.66 to 5.12) and of anti-polio type 3 (RR 1.87, 95% CI 0.59 to 5.94). Four studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated. Three studies (Avidicova 2002; Gabutti 2004; Schmitt 2000) combined IPV vaccine with DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine and one study (Pichichero 1997) combined OPV vaccine with DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine.

#### **Reactogenicity (adverse events - number of reported events by number of vaccines given)**

##### **Serious adverse events - number of reported events by number of participants**

Nine studies with a total of 4932 participants were estimated. No significant difference between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 0.91, 95% CI 0.56 to 1.48). Three studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 18 events in the combined group and 24 events in the separate group. No significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.75, 95% CI 0.41 to 1.37). Five studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 22 events in the combined group and eight events in the separate group. No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.32, 95% CI 0.58 to 3.00).

See Table 1 and Table 2 for details.

**Table 1. Serious Adverse Events (DTPw): details**

Combined group	Separate group	Not given
A few hours after the first vaccine dose, one child experienced seizures, which resolved spontaneously. Two weeks after the first vaccine dose, another child was diagnosed with acute bronchiolitis and subsequently died due to respiratory distress (Faingezicht 2002).	One acute bronchiolitis case, due to respiratory syncytial virus infection, occurred three days after the first vaccination. The child recovered after treatment and hospitalization (Faingezicht 2002).	Five subjects were hospitalized or experienced a serious adverse event, including one subject who died as a secondary result of sudden infant death syndrome 52 days after the first dose vaccine (Greenberg 2000).
Three events: one hypotonic-hyporesponsiveness, two seizures (Nolan 2001).	Three events of seizures (Nolan 2001).	
In one case four booster doses were followed by unsolicited grade '3' symptoms (pharyngitis and severe asthma) (Santos 2002).		
Twelve serious adverse events were reported by 10 subjects (Tregnaghi 2006).	Two serious adverse events after the primary vaccination course were reported by two subjects (Tregnaghi 2006).	
Four serious adverse events occurred in subjects receiving DTPw-HBV/Hib 2.5 vaccine. Two hypotonic-hyporesponsive episodes (HHE) in Hib-078 and two cases of convulsions in Hib-079. All four subjects recovered (Ortega-Barria 2007).	Two events occurred following the administration of Tritanrix™-Hep B and Hibrix™ vaccines in Hib-078. One case of HHE and one case of viral meningoen- cephalitis (Ortega-Barria 2007).	

**Table 2. Serious Adverse Events (DTPa): details**

Combined group	Separate group	Not given
Seven SAEs were hospitalizations due to vaccination-related common childhood infections (Avdicova 2002). Ten SAEs including one drop-out following a serious adverse event and another following a non-serious adverse event ( Gabutti 2004). One case of large, local reactions after the second and third injections (Mallet 2000).	Eleven SAEs were hospitalizations due to vaccination-related common childhood infections (one erythematous rash) (Avdicova 2002) Ten SAEs including one drop-out following a serious adverse event (Gabutti 2004). Three infants presented symptoms that were considered as a contradiction for further vaccination: inconsolable crying i.e. more than three hours after first dose (n =	Two episodes of "inconsolable crying" were reported within the context of multiple severe local reactions without further sequelae (Mallet 2000). Four serious adverse events were reported (Aristegui 2003). Eight serious adverse events occurred ( Schmitt 2000).

**Pain**

A total of 17,841 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vac-

cines were estimated. A significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-

HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.09, 95% CI 1.02 to 1.17). Seven studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 788 events in the combined group and 449 events in the separate group. A significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines was found (RR 1.20, 95% CI 1.06 to 1.37). Nine studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 2691 events in the combined group and 1597 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.05, 95% CI 0.98 to 1.12).

#### **Redness**

A total of 17,841 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. A significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.09, 95% CI 1.00 to 1.19). Seven studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1289 events in the combined group and 824 events in the separate group. A significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines was shown (RR 1.12, 95% CI 0.96 to 1.30). Nine studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1646 events in the combined group and 975 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.06, 95% CI 0.95 to 1.18).

#### **Swelling**

No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.05, 95% CI 0.98 to 1.13). Seven studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1015 events in the combined group and 711 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.06, 95% CI 0.94 to 1.21). Nine studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1587 events in the combined group and 962 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.04, 95% CI 0.95 to 1.14).

#### **Fever**

A total of 15,901 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.02, 95% CI 0.95 to 1.08). Six studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 814 events in the combined group and 561 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.09, 95% CI 0.98 to 1.22). Six studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1528 events in the combined group and 1009 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and

separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.98, 95% CI 0.92 to 1.05).

#### **Fussiness or restlessness**

A total of 11,112 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.03, 95% CI 0.95 to 1.12). Six studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1255 events in the combined group and 844 events in the separate group. No significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines was found (RR 1.03, 95% CI 0.91 to 1.15). Two studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB was estimated with 498 events in the combined group and 477 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.05, 95% CI 0.90 to 1.23).

#### **Drowsiness**

A total of 11,178 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 0.99, 95% CI 0.89 to 1.09). Six studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 756 events in the combined group and 717 events in the separate group. No significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines was shown (RR 1.02, 95% CI 0.88 to 1.19). Four studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 880 events in the combined group and 354 events in the separate group. No significant difference was found between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.91, 95% CI 0.82 to 1.00).

#### **Poor appetite**

A total of 12,851 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.01, 95% CI 0.94 to 1.09). Five studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 681 events in the combined group and 450 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.07, 95% CI 0.94 to 1.22). Five studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1118 events in the combined group and 425 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.97, 95% CI 0.89 to 1.06).

#### **Vomiting**

A total of 7210 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between

DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.05, 95% CI 0.87 to 1.26). Three studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 267 events in the combined group and 148 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.05, 95% CI 0.85 to 1.29). Three studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 28 events in the combined group and 26 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.08, 95% CI 0.64 to 1.81).

#### **Irritability or tenderness**

A total of 7440 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 0.97, 95% CI 0.90 to 1.04). Two studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 255 events in the combined group and 242 events in the separate group. No significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines was shown (RR 1.03, 95% CI 0.74 to 1.44). Six studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 1874 events in the combined group and 925 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.95, 95% CI 0.90 to 1.01).

#### **Diarrhea**

A total of 4690 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 1.16, 95% CI 0.93 to 1.44). Two studies of DTPa-HBV-HIB were estimated with 217 events in the combined group and 79 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.17, 95% CI 0.91 to 1.51). Three studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with

34 events in the combined group and 30 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 1.11, 95% CI 0.69 to 1.77).

#### **Unusual crying**

A total of 3986 DTPa-HBV-HIB and DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. No significant difference was found between DTPa-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines and DTPw-HBV-HIB combined and separate vaccines (RR 0.88, 95% CI 0.71 to 1.09). One study of DTPa-HBV-HIB was estimated with three events in the combined group and no events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 6.99, 95% CI 0.36 to 135.16). Three studies of DTPw-HBV-HIB were estimated with 174 events in the combined group and 200 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPw-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.87, 95% CI 0.72 to 1.04).

#### **Sleeping more than usual**

A total of 5492 DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines were estimated. Three studies were estimated with 530 events in the combined group and 243 events in the separate group. There was no significant difference between combined and separate DTPa-HBV-HIB vaccines (RR 0.99, 95% CI 0.86 to 1.14).

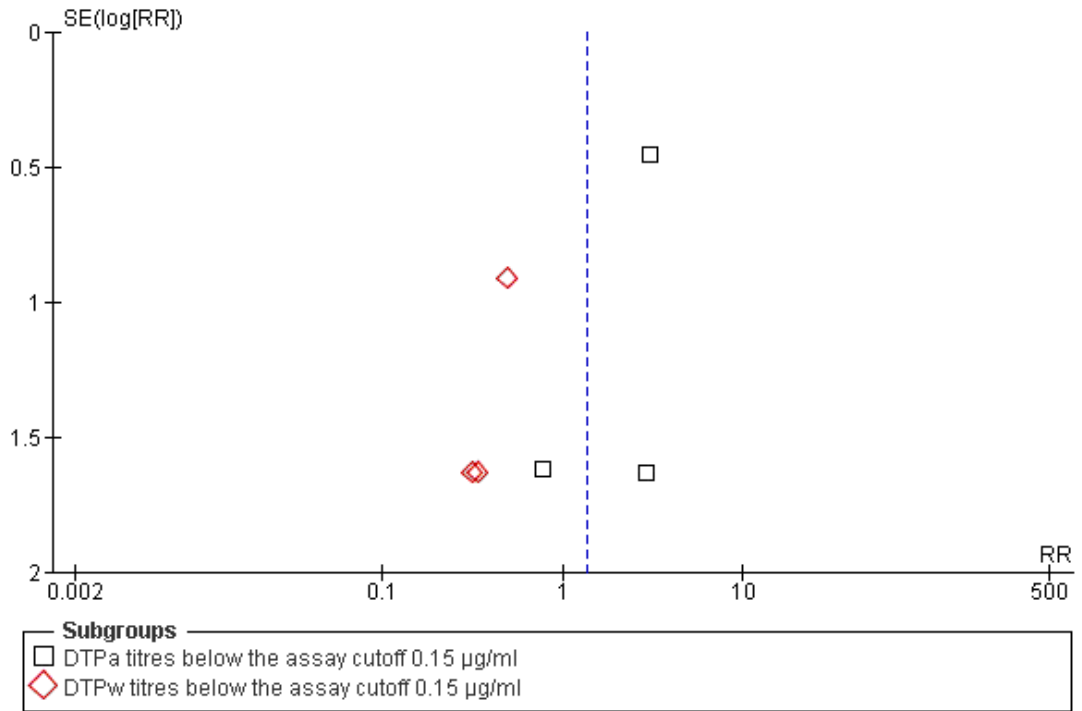
#### **Sensitivity analysis**

We could not perform sensitivity analysis to assess the impact of methods on the main results because only three studies had adequate allocation generation. We looked at the sub-groups according to the antibody concentrations above the assay cut-offs and found no difference between the sub-groups.

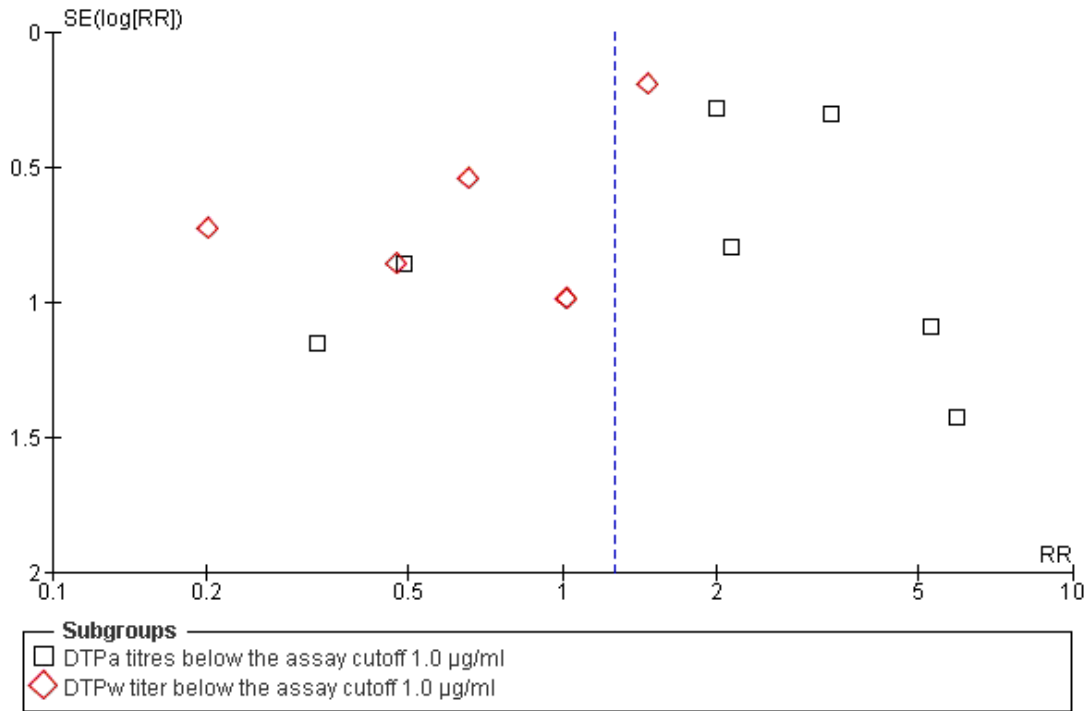
#### **Selection bias**

Two funnel plot graphs of studies for anti-PRP were examined and showed no significant selection bias (Figure 1; Figure 2).

**Figure 1. Funnel plot of comparison: I DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, outcome: I.I Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 0.15 µg/ml.**



**Figure 2. Funnel plot of comparison: I DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, outcome: I.2 Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 1.0 µg/ml.**



## DISCUSSION

We found no studies that addressed clinical outcomes, i.e. incidence of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and *H. influenzae* type B. For some of these diseases, past eradication programs were effective in almost-total eradication of the disease, and thus trials addressing clinical outcomes demand an unrealistic sample size and follow up. However, for some of them, for example, hepatitis B and *H. influenzae* type B clinical outcomes could be expected. The lack of such outcomes weakens conclusions that can be drawn from published studies.

### Immunogenicity

The number of vaccine doses differed significantly between the studies. We decided to extract data following the last dose of the vaccines, excluding a booster dose, because the sample size of booster groups differed significantly from the original groups. In two immunological responses the combined vaccine achieved lower responses than the separate vaccines: anti-PRP (*H. influenzae* type B), both for the threshold of 0.15 mg/ml, and for the threshold of 1.0 µg/ml; and anti-hepatitis B. For the other responses no significant differences could be shown, but the num-

ber of events (response below the threshold) was so low that the confidence intervals are very large.

We should take note that the anti-PRP comparison was influenced by one study with a large number of events (Pichichero 1997), which used pure (and not conjugated) PRP vaccines (polyribosyl-ribitolphosphate). The anti-hepatitis B comparison is influenced by one large study, with a high number of serological failures (Nolan 2001).

### Reactogenicity (adverse events)

We were unable to find data of serious adverse events for some of the included trials, (although trial authors were contacted for additional information). No difference was found between combined and separate vaccines. However, eight studies of a total of 4932 participants is a relatively small number upon which to base conclusions. A significant increase in pain and redness was observed in the patients given the combination vaccine.

### Limitations of the review

The quality of many of the studies included in the analysis is uncertain. The interventions are heterogeneous. While most of the studies were supported by the manufacturers Hiberix, Glaxo-Smith\Kline Biologicals, Rixensart, Belgium and by Aventis Pasteur, Lyon, France, combined vaccines were prepared as investi-



gational formulations and reconstituted with different diluents. Therefore, the findings may not generalize to all DTP-HBV-HIB vaccines. Though studies included in the meta-analysis had similar vaccination schedules, immunogenicity was measured at different points of vaccination: after the first, second or third vaccination, and in some studies, after the booster vaccination. The meta-analysis included immunogenicity data after the third vaccinations, while the immunogenicity profile might differ after the booster vaccination. The study location, the healthcare environment, and combining research across disparate geographical locations, may lead to bias. The studies did not use an intention-to-treat analysis.

## AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS

### Implications for practice

Overall the level of evidence provided by the studies was low, and we could not conclude that the immune responses elicited by the combined vaccine are equivalent to the separate injections. The data showed significantly less immunological response for *H. influenzae* and hepatitis B, and more local reactions to the injections.

However, the differences rely mostly on one study each. It is not clear whether the results can be generalized to all vaccines. The results of this review should be viewed with caution, mostly as an indication that high quality data are lacking.

### Implications for research

Studies addressing clinical end-points whenever possible, using correct methodology and a large enough sample size (and probably including DTPa components) should be conducted.

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**Denoe 2007** {published data only}

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\* Indicates the major publication for the study

## CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDIES

### Characteristics of included studies [ordered by study ID]

#### Aristegui 2003

Methods	Open randomized, comparative phase IIIb multicenter trial	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 8.7 ( $\pm$ 0.8) weeks	
Interventions	Combined DTPa-HBV-IPV-Hib compared to separate DTPa-IPV/Hib + HBV in 3 doses at 2, 4 and 6 months of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b><i>Risk of bias</i></b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

#### Avdicova 2002

Methods	Open randomized trial	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 13.2 weeks, range 8 to 12 weeks	
Interventions	DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib compared to DTPa-IPV/Hib and HBV in separate injections 3 doses between 11 and 17 weeks of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b><i>Risk of bias</i></b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Bravo 1998**

Methods	Open randomized clinical trial
Participants	Healthy male and female infants. No age reported
Interventions	DTPw-HBV-Hib and separate DTP-HBV and Hib when received hepatitis B at birth. 3 doses given at 6, 10 and 14 weeks of age
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity
Notes	

***Risk of bias***

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	No	C - Inadequate

**Faingezicht 2002**

Methods	Phase III observed-blind prospective randomized controlled trial
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 8.8 (SD = 0.9) weeks
Interventions	DTPw-HB/Hib pentavalent combination after extemporaneous mixing of the liquid DTPw-HB with the lyophilised Hib compared to DTPw-HB vaccine and Hib vaccine reconstituted with its own diluent. 3 doses given to 2, 4, and 6 months old and booster at 15 to 18 months old
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity
Notes	

***Risk of bias***

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Gabutti 2004**

Methods	Open, phase III, randomized, multicenter study
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 13.3 weeks, range 9 to 17 weeks

**Gabutti 2004** (Continued)

Interventions	DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib compared to separate DTPa - HBV - IPV + Hib. 3 doses given to 3, 5 and 11 months old	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b><i>Risk of bias</i></b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Gabutti 2005**

Methods	Open, randomized multicenter trial	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 13 and 13.1 weeks	
Interventions	DTaP-HBV-Hib compared with two separate or mixed injection. 3 doses given to 3, 5 and 11 months old	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b><i>Risk of bias</i></b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Greenberg 2000**

Methods	Randomization equally to three groups	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 6 to 12 weeks at the time of the first vaccination	
Interventions	DTaP, Hepatitis B (HepB) and PRP-T (Hib). Oral polio vaccine. was given concurrently. 3 doses given to 2, 4, 6 months old and booster combined vaccine to ages 11 to 15 months	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	

**Greenberg 2000** (Continued)

Notes		
<b>Risk of bias</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Mallet 2000**

Methods	Open label, multicenter prospective, comparative trial	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 63 days $\pm$ 7 days	
Interventions	DTPa-IPV-HBV-Hib compared to separate DTPa-IPV-Hib and HB vaccine. 3 doses given to 2, 4 and 6 months of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b>Risk of bias</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Yes	A - Adequate

**Nolan 2001**

Methods	Randomized double-blind series of three studies	
Participants	Good health male and female infants. No age reported	
Interventions	DTP-Hib (PRP-OMPC)-HB in three studies + OPV DTP-liqHib-HB + placebo (group A). DTP-HB + liqHib (group B). HB-liqHib + DTP (group C). DTP+lyoHib+hepB (group D). Monovalent HB at birth and DTP-liqHib-HB (group E). 3 and 4 dozes (including booster) given to 2, 4, 6 and 18 months of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b>Risk of bias</b>		



Nolan 2001 (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	Yes	A - Adequate

**Omenaca 2001**

Methods	Open, randomized, multicenter, comparative phase III clinical trial	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 9.3 ± 1.4 weeks (range 5 to 16)	
Interventions	DTPa-HBV-Hib and separate DTPa-HBV and Hib with OPV vaccine simultaneously. 3 doses given to 2, 4, 6 months of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		

*Risk of bias*

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Ortega-Barria 2007**

Methods	Four separate phase III trials which assessed the immunogenicity and reactogenicity of DTPw-HBV/Hiv 2.5 in comparison with DTPw-HBV + Hiberix™ (10µg PRP) given as separate or mixed injections (3 trials) or with or without hepatitis B vaccine at birth (1 trial)	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 2 to 14 weeks	
Interventions	DTPw-HBV mixed with Hib 2.5 (lot A, lot B, lot C) compared with DTPw-HBV and Hiberix™ either given as separate injections (Hib-078) or as mixed injections (Hib-079, Hib-080) administered at either 2, 4 and 6 months of age (Hib-078, Hib-079); at 3, 4 and 5 months of age (Hib-080); or at 6, 10 and 14 weeks of age (Hib-081).	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		

*Risk of bias*

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
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Ortega-Barria 2007 (Continued)

Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear
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**Pichichero 1997**

Methods	Prospective randomized multicenter trial. Three to one to group 1 and 2 respectively comparing combined injections with three separate simultaneous injections	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 6 to 12 weeks	
Interventions	DTaP-HBV-PRP-T and booster of Hib. Oral poliovirus vaccine was administered to all vaccinees in both groups concurrently at 2, 4, and 6 months of age. 3 doses given to 2, 4, 6 months of age and booster of PRP conjugate vaccine to group 1 (combined) with low levels of antibody at 9 to 13 months of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		

*Risk of bias*

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Ramkissoon 2001**

Methods	Open, randomized comparative study	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age of 6 weeks (not reported)	
Interventions	DTPw-HBV mixed with Hib compared with DTPw-HBV and Hib separate. 3 doses given to 6, 10, 14 weeks of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		

*Risk of bias*

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Riedemann 2002**

Methods	Open randomized parallel-group design randomized study
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 9.9 weeks
Interventions	DTPw-HB/Hib compared with DTPw-HB and Hib separate in opposite deltoids. 3 doses given to 2, 4, 6 months old and booster at 18 months of age
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity
Notes	

***Risk of bias***

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Santos 2002**

Methods	Open, multicenter randomized (1:1), parallel-group design
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 8 to 15 weeks
Interventions	DTPw-HB mixed with Hib compared with DTPw-HB and Hib separate in opposite thighs. 3 doses given to 2, 4, 6 months and booster at 18 months of age
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity
Notes	

***Risk of bias***

Item	Authors' judgement	Description
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Schmitt 2000**

Methods	Open, multicenter, randomized trial
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 8 to 16 weeks
Interventions	DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib compared to separate DTPa - HBV - IPV + Hib. 3 doses given to 2, 4 and 6 months of age

**Schmitt 2000** (Continued)

Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b><i>Risk of bias</i></b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Tregnaghi 2006**

Methods	Double blind design of three different production lots in the studies	
Participants	Healthy infants age 8 ± 1.8 weeks with a male:female ratio of 1:1	
Interventions	DTPw-HB/Hib compared with separate vaccines	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b><i>Risk of bias</i></b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear

**Win 1997**

Methods	Open, randomized and controlled with two groups of healthy neonates	
Participants	Healthy male and female infants age 5 to 8 weeks	
Interventions	DTPw-HBV-Hib and separate DTPw-HBV and Hib. 3 doses given to 1.5, 3 and 5 months of age	
Outcomes	Immunogenicity (antibody concentrations by serological analysis) and adverse events - reactogenicity	
Notes		
<b><i>Risk of bias</i></b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Authors' judgement</b>	<b>Description</b>

Win 1997 (Continued)

Allocation concealment?	Unclear	B - Unclear
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SD: standard deviation

**Characteristics of excluded studies [ordered by study ID]**

Aristegui 1998	Comparison of three lots of Haemophilus influenzae type B conjugate (Hib): DTPa-HBV (lot no. 16707B2) + Hib (002A44), DTPa-HBV (16708B2) + Hib (001A41) and DTPa-HBV (16710A2) + Hib (003A41)
Aristegui 2001	Compares DTPa/Hib with DTPw + Hib as booster. No HBV. Reactogenicity and safety only
Bavdekar 2007	Evaluates the immunogenicity of the Hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae type b components and the overall safety and reactogenicity of the DTPw-HBV/Hib vaccine. No comparison of combined and separate vaccines
Botet-Asensi 2003	DTwP/Hib vaccine compared to separate injections of DTwP+ Hib. No HBV
Calbo 2002	Comparative trial to assess the reactogenicity of the DTPa vaccine + Hib and DTPw + Hib administered in single injection as a booster dose. No HBV
Clemens 2003	Immunogenicity and safety of a novel DTPw/Hib Brazilian combination compared to a licensed DTPw/Hib European combination
Denoel 2007	Not an RCT: Report of primary and booster-based pediatric clinical trials
Gatchalian 2005	Compares two combined vaccines: DTPw-HBV/Hib containing 2.5 micro PRP compared to GSK Biologicals' licensed Tritanrix HepB/Hiberix containing 10 micro PRP
Gylca 2001	DTPa-HBV-IPV + Hib vaccine compared to DTPw-IPV/Hib + HBV vaccine (diphtheria, tetanus, polioviruses, HBsAg, PRP antigens)
Hla 2006	A randomized, dose-ranging trial to assess the combined vaccine content (no comparison to separate vaccines)
Hogg 2003	Assesses the immunogenicity of oral poliomyelitis vaccine under current and possible new conditions (different objective)
Huang 1998	Combined DTP/Hib and separate DTP + Hib vaccination without HBV
Kalies 2004	No RCT: follow up of case surveillance and vaccine uptake

(Continued)

Kanra 2006	Combined DTPw-Hepb-Hib compared with separately administered DTPw-Hib and hepatitis B vaccines
Knuf 2006	Hexavalent diphtheria-tetanus-acellular pertussis-hepatitis B-inactivated polio virus-H. influenzae type b vaccine concomitantly with PCV7 (DTPa-HBV-IPV-Hib and PCV7) compared with DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib
Lagos 2005	Comparison of Lot-to-Lot consistency of combined vaccine and not comparison of combined and separate vaccines
Lim 2007	Comparison of combined DTPa-IPV/Hib + HBV vaccines with DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib vaccine
Lopez 2002	Not an RCT: no control group
Meriste 2006	Comparison of combined DTPa-HBV-IPV with DTPa-HBV and IPV separate vaccines
Mills 1998	Comparison between a five-component pertussis combination vaccine (CPDT-IPV/PRP-T) to that of whole cell pertussis combination vaccine (DPT-IPV/PRP-T)
Nolan 2004	Only data on antibody persistence (immunogenicity) of plain PRP and conjugate PRP-T was provided
Pichichero 1999	Avidity maturation of antibody to Hib after immunization with DTPa/Hib/HBV
Pichichero 2007	Compares the DTaP-Hepb-IPV vaccine co-administered with pneumococcal 7-valent conjugate vaccine (PCV-7) and Hib vaccine to separate vaccines concurrently or staggered (delayed) administration of PCV-7 vaccine
Poolman 2001	Not RCT: Two studies in Germany and USA reported to show that the nature and function of the antibody are the same in combined and separate DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib vaccination
Saenger 2005	Two studies reported elsewhere while only data of safety is provided
Scheifele 2005	Evaluation of a fourth dose of DTPa-IPV/PRP-T and not compared with separate vaccines
Scheifele 2006	Concurrently administered PCV7, DTaP-IPV/PRP-T and HB compared with separate injections
Tichmann 2005	Comparison of two combined vaccines
Tichmann-Schumann 2005	DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib vaccine and 7vPn conjugate vaccine compared with the administration of the hexavalent DTPa-HBV-IPV/Hib vaccine given alone
Trollfors 2005	Study of the effect of pertussis toxoid on the immunogenicity of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids (DT) during a trial of an acellular pertussis vaccine

(Continued)

Usonis 1999a	The target is to ensure that separate, concomitant vaccination does not interfere with the PRP response nor negatively influence the reactogenicity profiles of the vaccines when used with an acellular pertussis based combination. In the trial Hib immunization performed concomitantly with a candidate DTPa-HBV-IPV in order to compare the local reactogenicity and immunogenicity of four commercial Hib vaccines
Usonis 1999b	Evaluation of the immunogenicity and reactogenicity of a new combined DTPw-HBV/Hib. Comparison of Hib Lot 001A44 to Hib Lot 002A41
Zepp 1997	A study of memory B-cell induction and the immune response to the combined DTPa-HBV-Hib vaccine (no comparison)
Zepp 2004	Two studies report of safety and reactogenicity of infant primary immunization with the simultaneous administration of six vaccines in a single injection (DTPa-IPV/HIB) to the administration of the same vaccine-antigens given as two separate injections with widely used licensed products

## DATA AND ANALYSES

### Comparison 1. DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 0.15 µg/ml	14	3944	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.35 [0.55, 3.32]
1.1 DTPa titres below the assay cutoff 0.15 µg/ml	7	1740	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	2.73 [1.19, 6.22]
1.2 DTPw titres below the assay cutoff 0.15 µg/ml	7	2204	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.42 [0.10, 1.70]
2 Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 1.0 µg/ml	13	4670	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.26 [0.79, 2.01]
2.1 DTPa titres below the assay cutoff 1.0 µg/ml	7	1732	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	2.09 [1.20, 3.64]
2.2 DTPw titer below the assay cutoff 1.0 µg/ml	6	2938	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.77 [0.39, 1.52]
3 Anti-FHA (Filamentous haemagglutinin)	7	1706	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.66 [0.11, 3.75]
3.1 DTPa - immunogenicity failure	7	1706	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.66 [0.11, 3.75]
4 Anti-PRN (Pertactin)	7	1713	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.70 [0.15, 3.23]
4.1 DTPa - immunogenicity failure	7	1713	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.70 [0.15, 3.23]
5 Anti-HBV (Hepatitis B)	17	5275	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.27 [0.72, 2.25]
5.1 DTPa - immunogenicity failure	8	1972	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.83 [0.75, 4.46]
5.2 DTPw - immunogenicity failure	9	3303	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.92 [0.36, 2.38]
6 Anti-BPT (Pertussis)	9	2440	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.12 [0.42, 3.00]
6.1 DTPa - immunogenicity failure	1	262	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.47 [0.04, 5.12]
6.2 DTPw - immunogenicity failure	8	2178	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.34 [0.45, 3.95]
7 Anti-D (Diphtheria)	15	4073	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.96 [0.42, 2.20]
7.1 DTPa - immunogenicity failure	8	1956	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	3.05 [0.13, 74.15]
7.2 DTPw - immunogenicity failure	7	2117	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.89 [0.37, 2.16]
8 Anti-T (Tetanus)	16	4156	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.03 [0.00, 0.54]
8.1 DTPa - immunogenicity failure	8	1956	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	Not estimable
8.2 DTPw - immunogenicity failure	8	2200	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.03 [0.00, 0.54]
9 DTPa Anti-polio type 1 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL	5	1236	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.22 [0.20, 7.56]



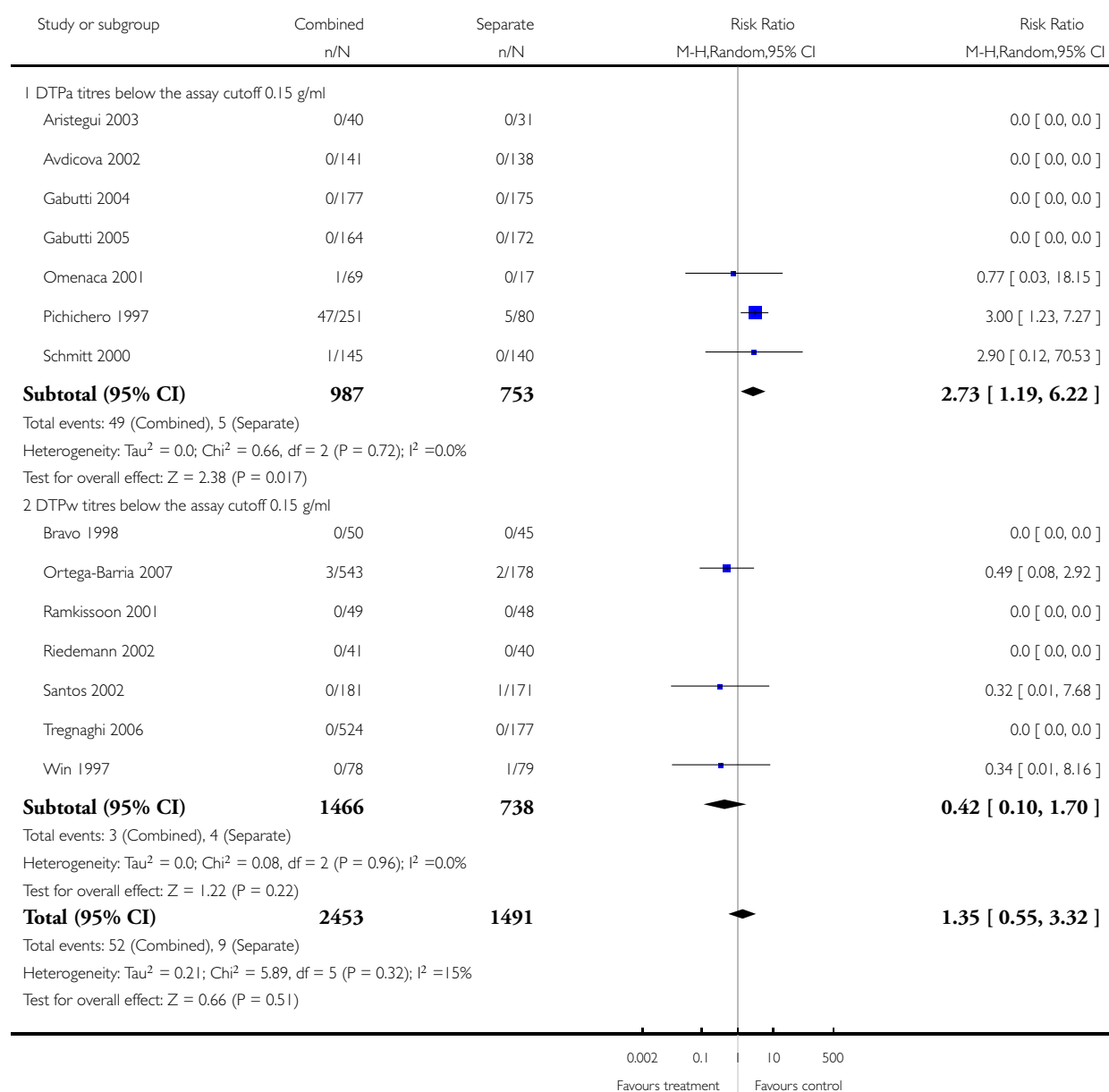
10 DTPa Anti-polio type 2 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL	5	1228	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.84 [0.66, 5.12]
11 DTPa Anti-polio type 3 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL	5	1233	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.87 [0.59, 5.94]
12 Serious adverse events	8	4932	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.56, 1.48]
12.1 DTPa	3	1298	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.75 [0.41, 1.37]
12.2 DTPw	5	3634	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.32 [0.58, 3.00]
13 Pain	16	17841	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.09 [1.02, 1.17]
13.1 DTPa	7	9445	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.20 [1.06, 1.37]
13.2 DTPw	9	8396	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.98, 1.12]
14 Redness	16	17841	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.09 [1.00, 1.19]
14.1 DTPa	7	9445	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.12 [0.96, 1.30]
14.2 DTPw	9	8396	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.06 [0.95, 1.18]
15 Swelling	16	17841	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.98, 1.13]
15.1 DTPa	7	9445	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.06 [0.94, 1.21]
15.2 DTPw	9	8396	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.04 [0.95, 1.14]
16 Fever	12	15901	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.95, 1.08]
16.1 DTPa	6	8740	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.09 [0.98, 1.22]
16.2 DTPw	6	7161	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.98 [0.92, 1.05]
17 Fussiness or restlessness	8	11112	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.95, 1.12]
17.1 DTPa	6	8740	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.91, 1.15]
17.2 DTPw	2	2372	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.90, 1.23]
18 Drowsiness	10	11178	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.89, 1.09]
18.1 DTPa	6	6830	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.88, 1.19]
18.2 DTPw	4	4348	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.91 [0.82, 1.00]
19 Irritability or tenderness	8	7440	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.90, 1.04]
19.1 DTPa	2	1761	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.03 [0.74, 1.44]
19.2 DTPw	6	5679	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.95 [0.90, 1.01]
20 Poor appetite	10	12851	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.01 [0.94, 1.09]
20.1 DTPa	5	8158	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.07 [0.94, 1.22]
20.2 DTPw	5	4693	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.97 [0.89, 1.06]
21 Vomiting	6	7210	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.87, 1.26]
21.1 DTPa	3	6191	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.05 [0.85, 1.29]
21.2 DTPw	3	1019	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.08 [0.64, 1.81]
22 Diarrhea	5	4690	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.16 [0.93, 1.44]
22.1 DTPa	2	3671	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.17 [0.91, 1.51]
22.2 DTPw	3	1019	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.11 [0.69, 1.77]
23 Unusual crying	4	3986	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.88 [0.71, 1.09]
23.1 DTPa	1	2520	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	6.99 [0.36, 135.16]
23.2 DTPw	3	1466	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.87 [0.72, 1.04]
24 Sleeping more than usual	3	5492	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.86, 1.14]
24.1 DTPa	3	5492	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	0.99 [0.86, 1.14]

### Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 1 Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 0.15 µg/ml.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 1 Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 0.15 g/ml

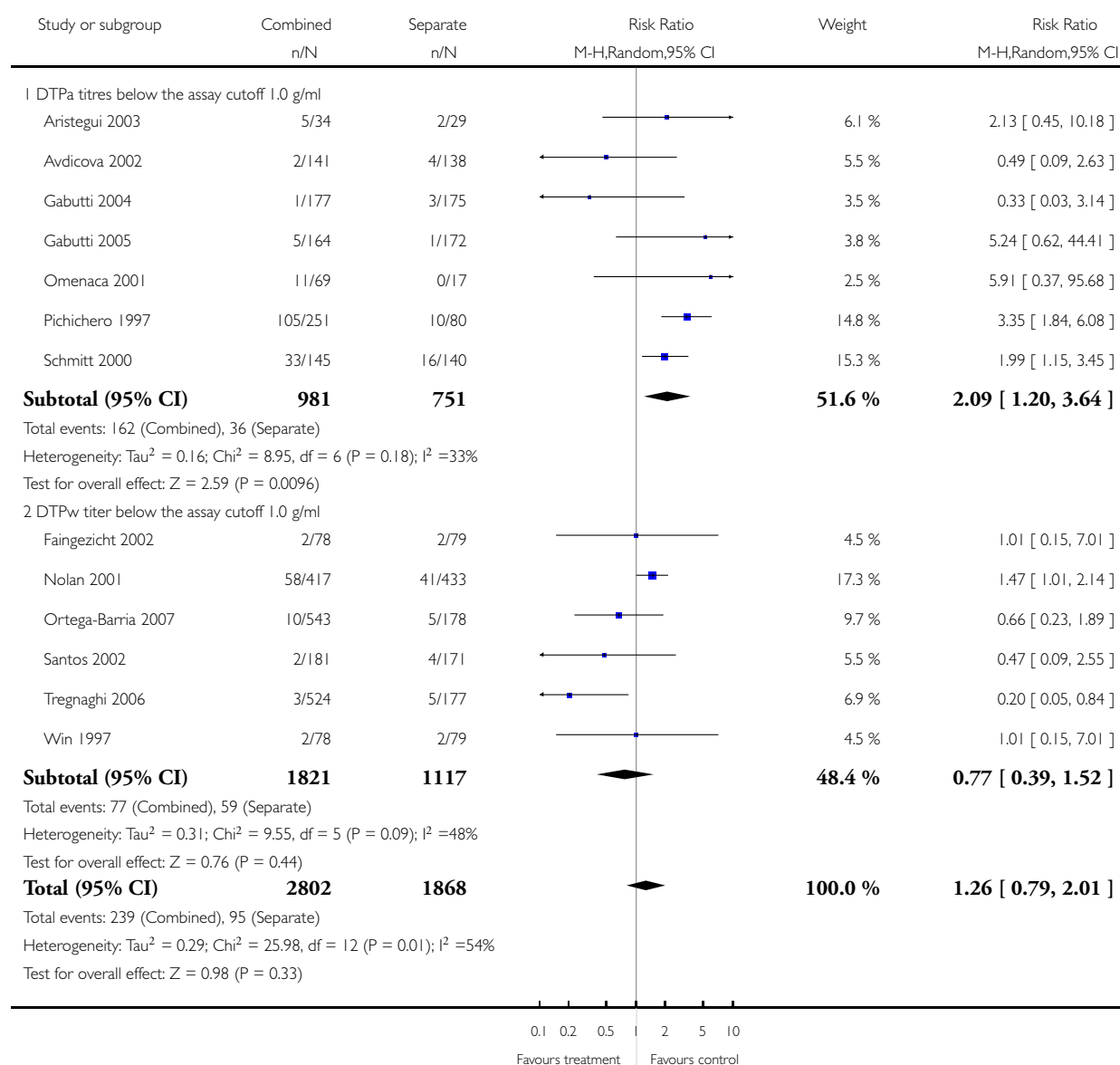


## Analysis 1.2. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 2 Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 1.0 µg/ml.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 2 Anti PRP titres below the assay cutoff 1.0 g/ml

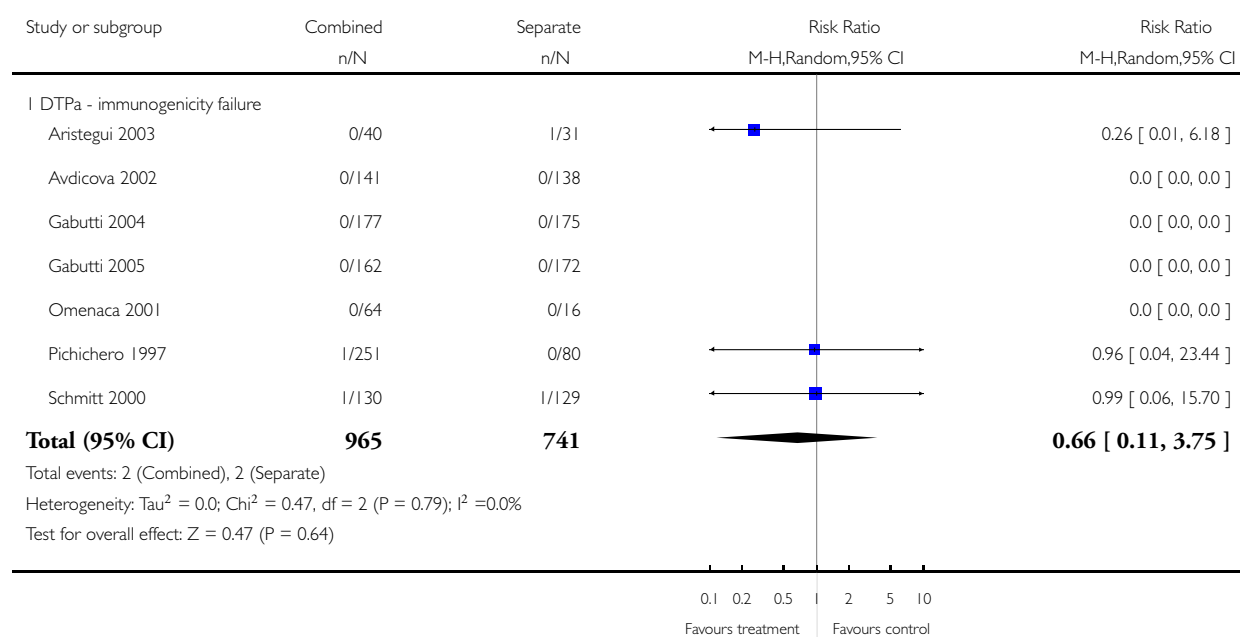


### Analysis 1.3. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 3 Anti-FHA (Filamentous haemagglutinin).

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 3 Anti-FHA (Filamentous haemagglutinin)

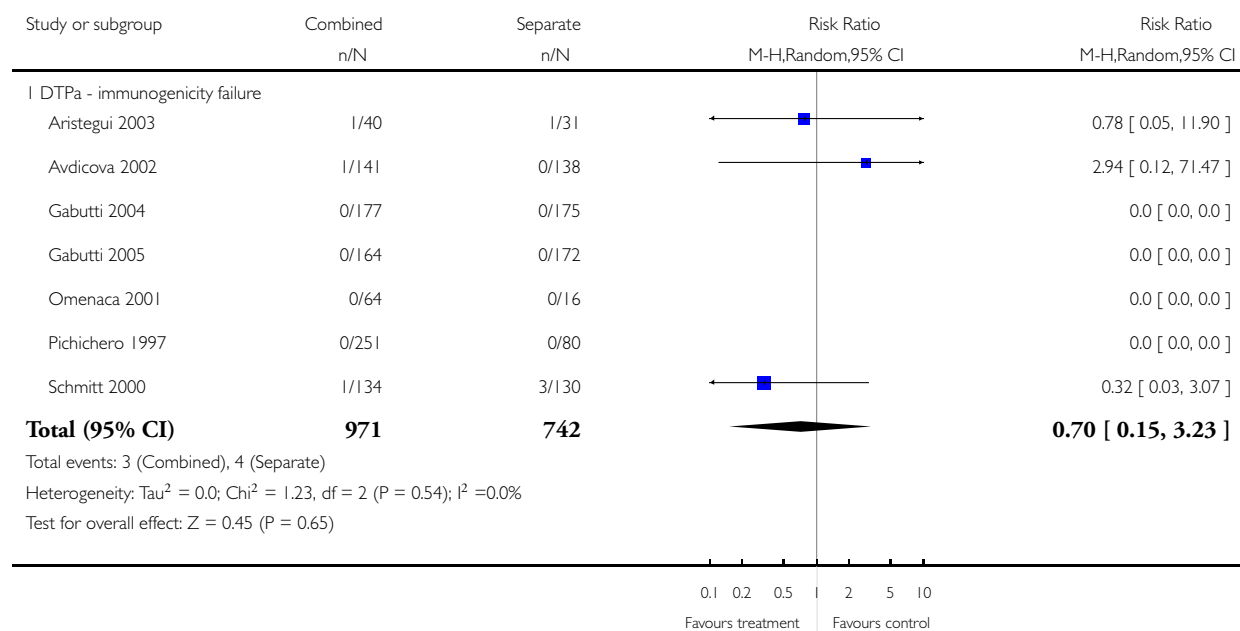


### Analysis 1.4. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 4 Anti-PRN (Pertactin).

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 4 Anti-PRN (Pertactin)

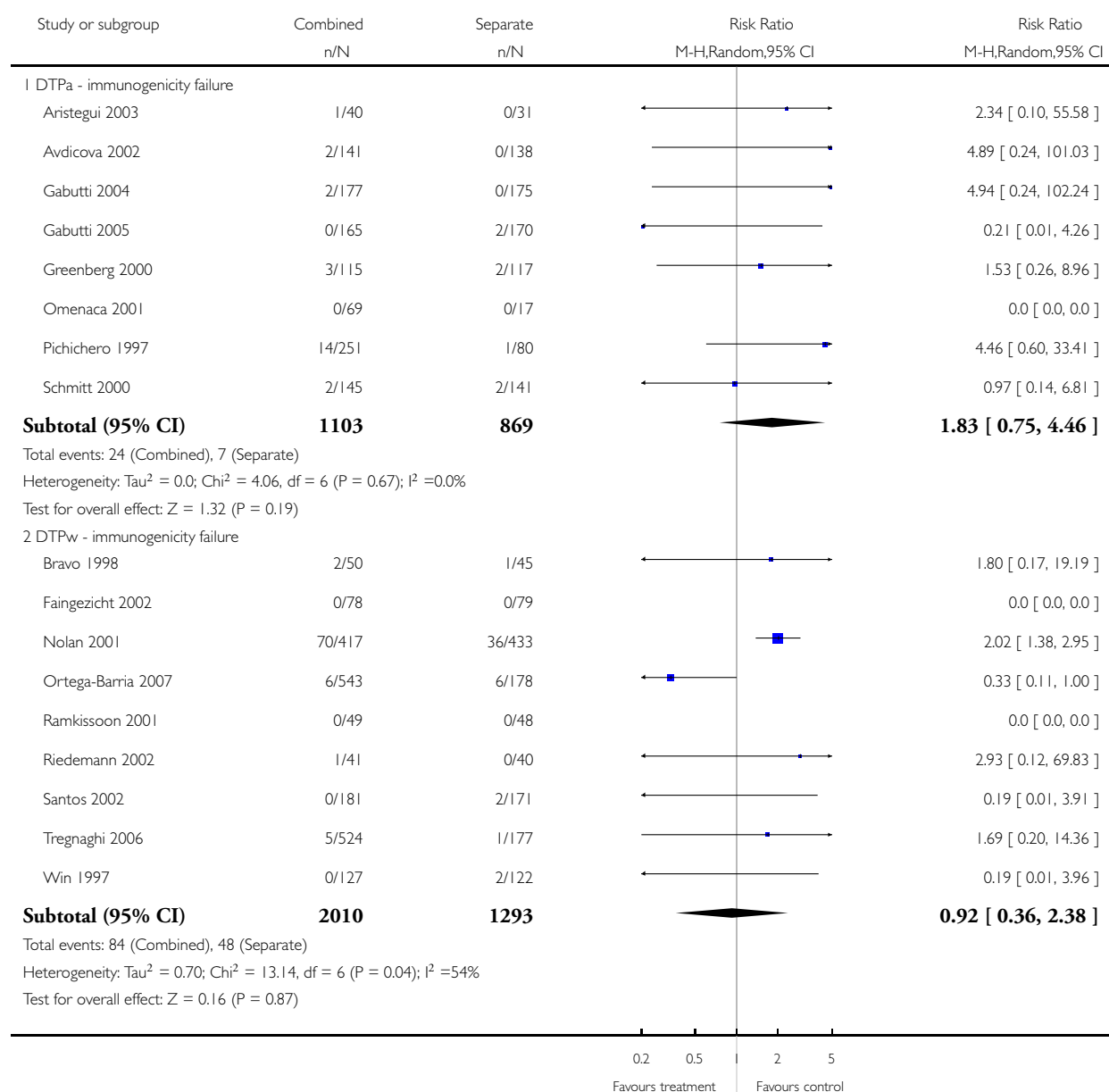


### Analysis 1.5. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 5 Anti-HBV (Hepatitis B).

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

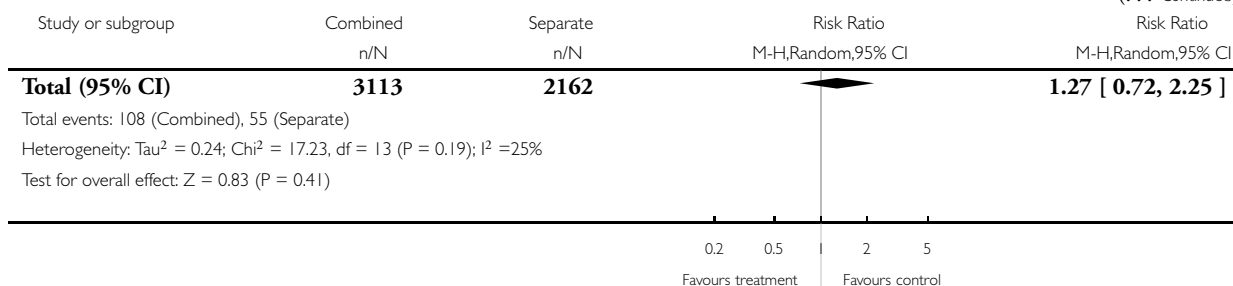
Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 5 Anti-HBV (Hepatitis B)



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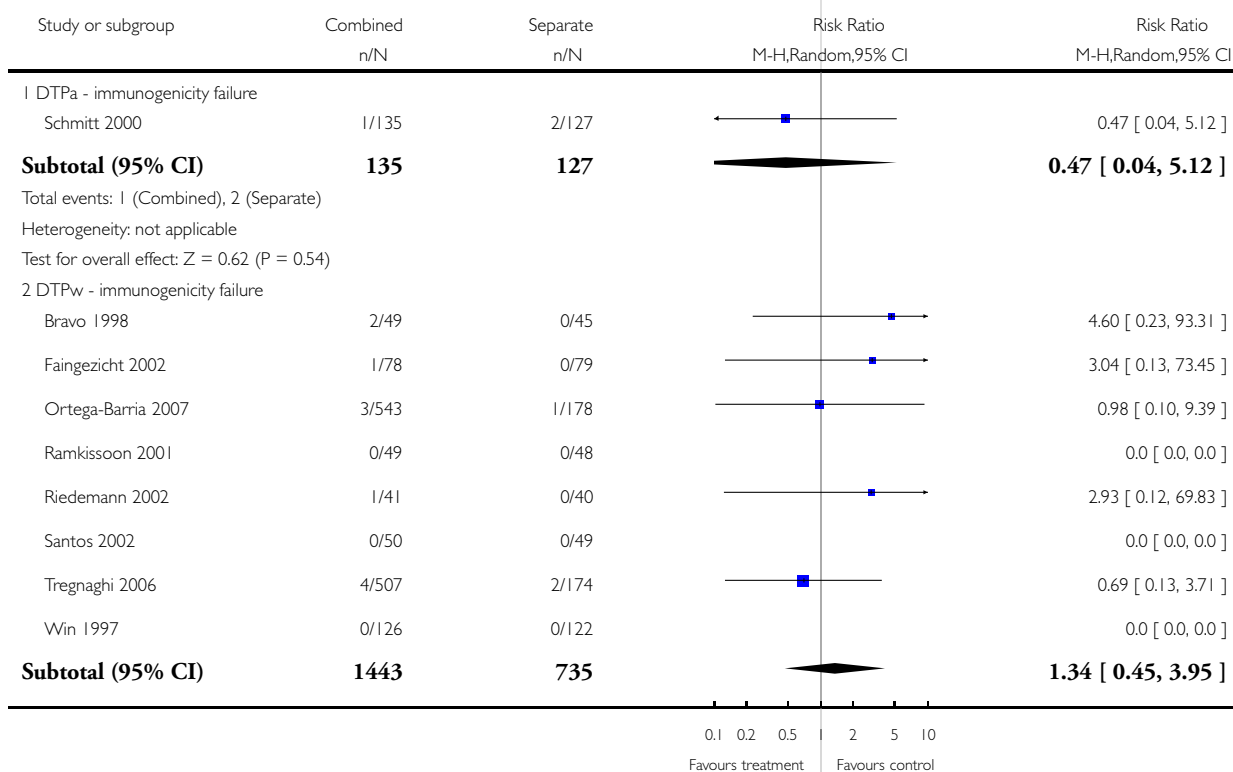


### Analysis 1.6. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 6 Anti-BPT (Pertussis).

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

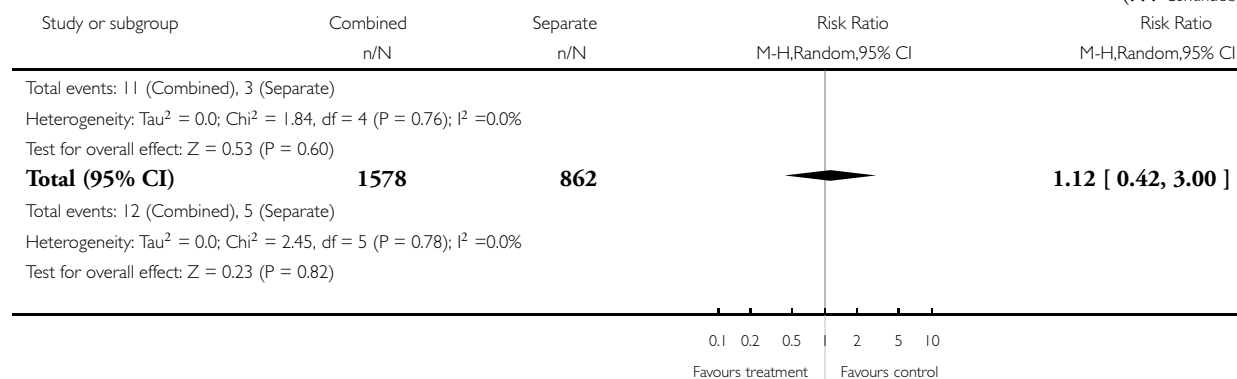
Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 6 Anti-BPT (Pertussis)



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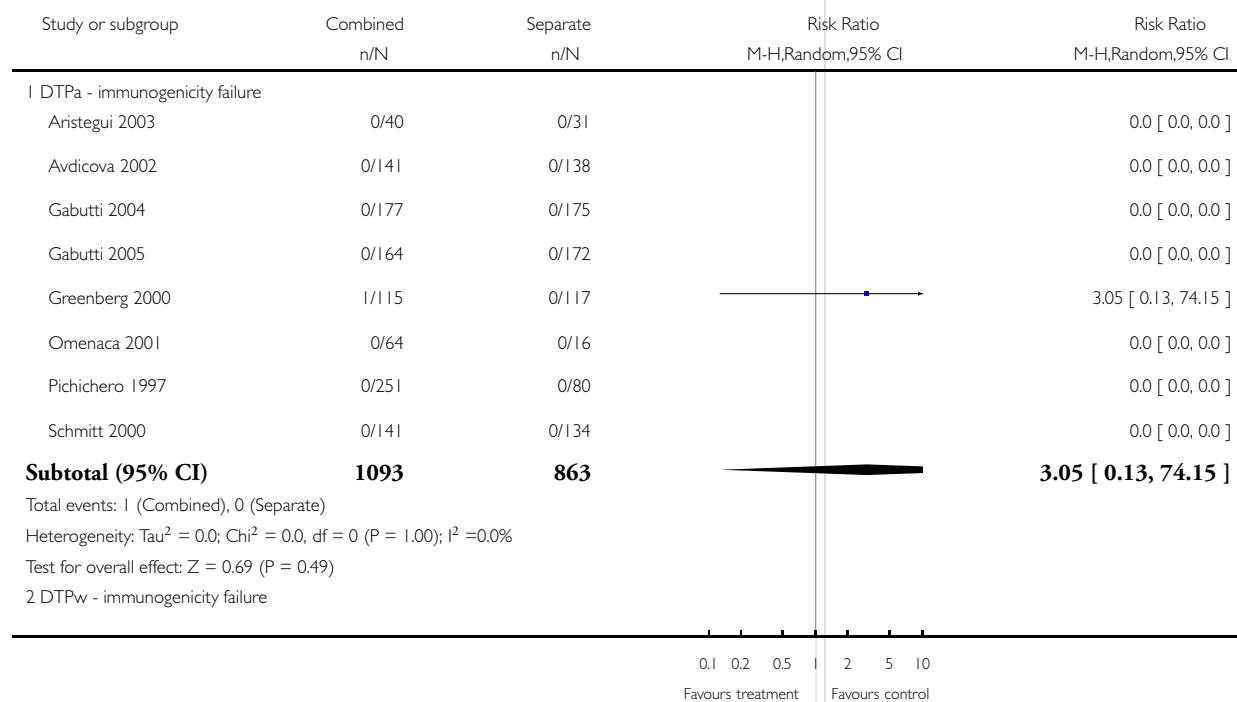


### Analysis 1.7. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 7 Anti-D (Diphtheria).

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

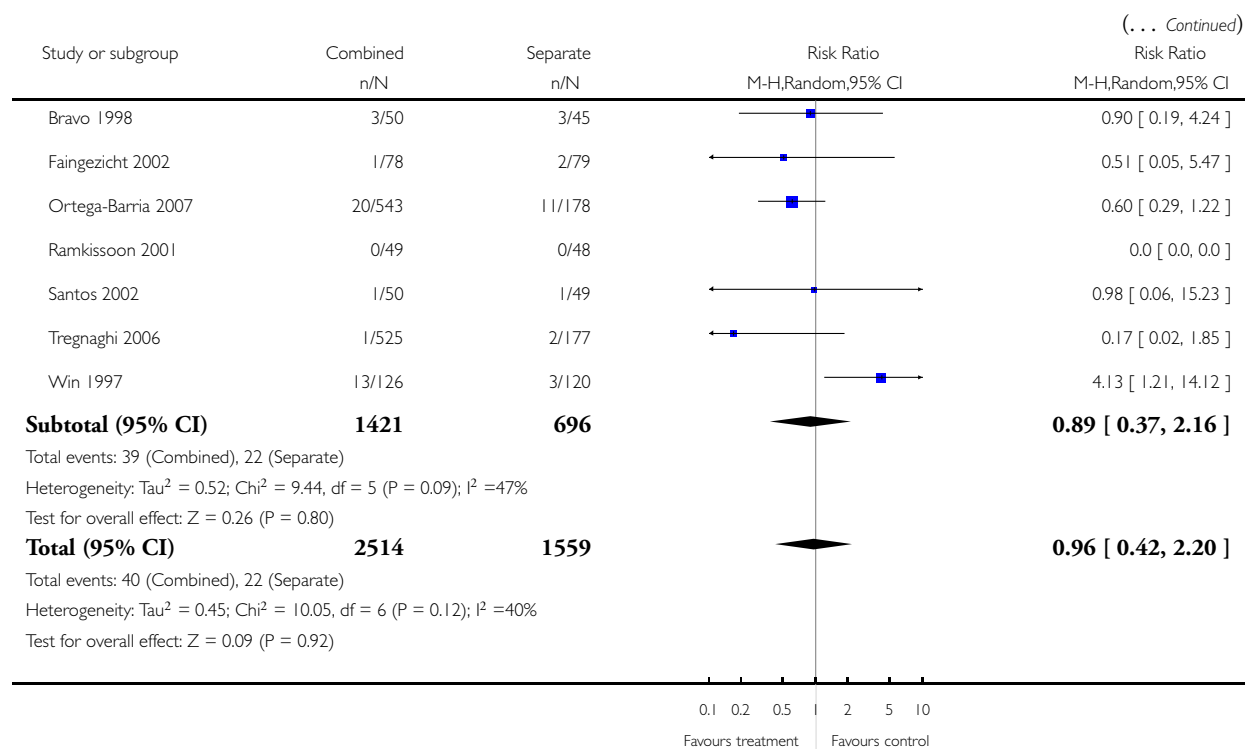
Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 7 Anti-D (Diphtheria)



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### Analysis 1.8. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 8 Anti-T (Tetanus).

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 8 Anti-T (Tetanus)

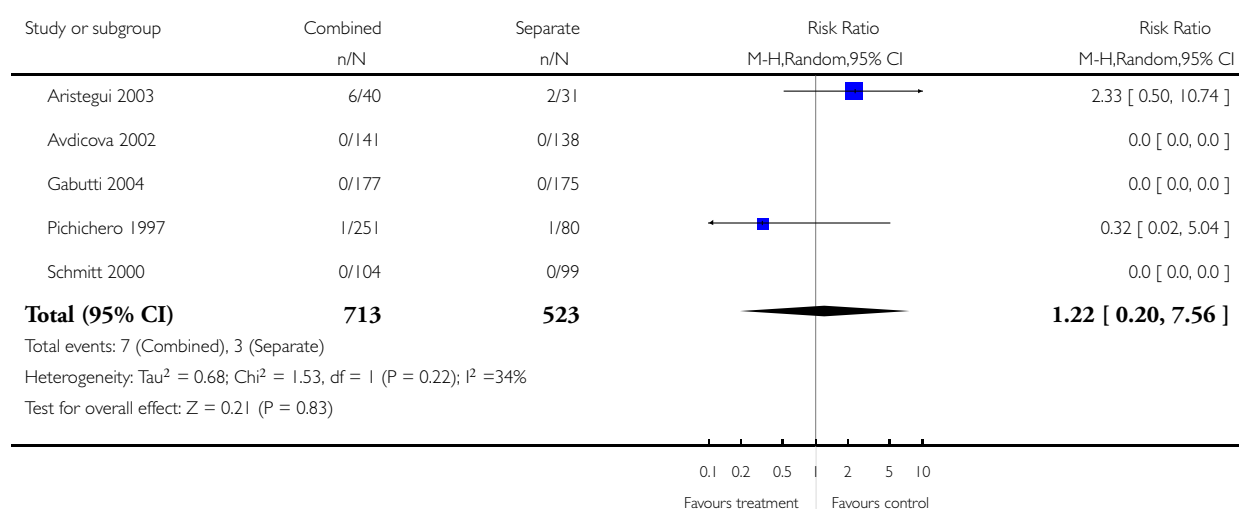
Study or subgroup	Combined n/N	Separate n/N	Risk Ratio M-H,Random,95% CI	Risk Ratio M-H,Random,95% CI
<b>1 DTPa - immunogenicity failure</b>				
Aristegui 2003	0/40	0/31		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Avdicova 2002	0/141	0/138		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Gabutti 2004	0/177	0/175		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Gabutti 2005	0/164	0/172		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Greenberg 2000	0/115	0/117		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Omenaca 2001	0/64	0/16		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Pichichero 1997	0/251	0/80		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Schmitt 2000	0/141	0/134		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>1093</b>	<b>863</b>		<b>0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]</b>
Total events: 0 (Combined), 0 (Separate)				
Heterogeneity: Tau <sup>2</sup> = 0.0; Chi <sup>2</sup> = 0.0, df = 0 (P < 0.00001); I <sup>2</sup> = 0.0%				
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.0 (P < 0.00001)				
<b>2 DTPw - immunogenicity failure</b>				
Bravo 1998	0/50	0/45		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Faingezicht 2002	0/78	0/79		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Ortega-Barria 2007	0/543	5/178	←	0.03 [ 0.00, 0.54 ]
Ramkissoon 2001	0/49	0/48		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Riedemann 2002	0/41	0/40		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Santos 2002	0/50	0/49		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Tregnaghi 2006	0/525	0/176		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
Win 1997	0/127	0/122		0.0 [ 0.0, 0.0 ]
<b>Subtotal (95% CI)</b>	<b>1463</b>	<b>737</b>	▬	<b>0.03 [ 0.00, 0.54 ]</b>
Total events: 0 (Combined), 5 (Separate)				
Heterogeneity: Tau <sup>2</sup> = 0.0; Chi <sup>2</sup> = 0.0, df = 0 (P = 1.00); I <sup>2</sup> = 0.0%				
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.38 (P = 0.017)				
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>	<b>2556</b>	<b>1600</b>	▬	<b>0.03 [ 0.00, 0.54 ]</b>
Total events: 0 (Combined), 5 (Separate)				
Heterogeneity: Tau <sup>2</sup> = 0.0; Chi <sup>2</sup> = 0.0, df = 0 (P = 1.00); I <sup>2</sup> = 0.0%				
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.38 (P = 0.017)				

### Analysis 1.9. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 9 DTPa Anti-polio type 1 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 9 DTPa Anti-polio type 1 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL

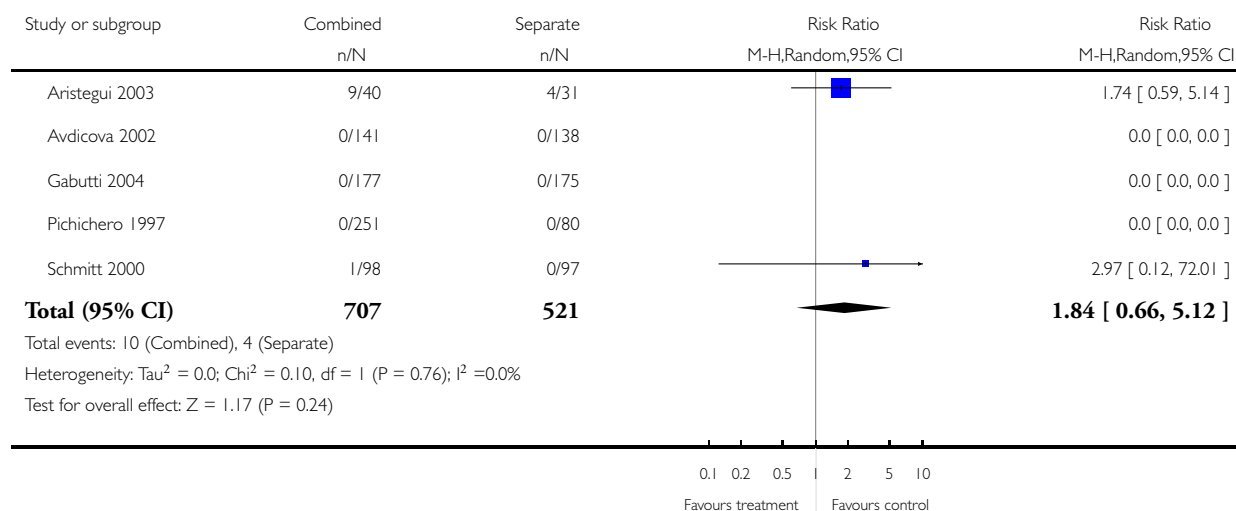


**Analysis 1.10. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 10 DTPa Anti-polio type 2 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL.**

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 10 DTPa Anti-polio type 2 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL

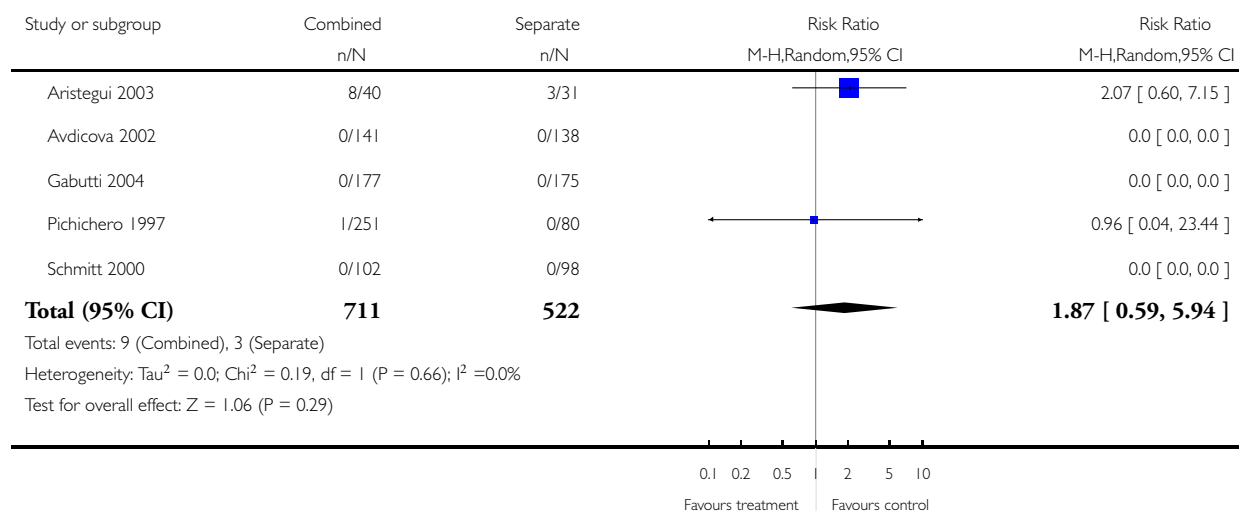


**Analysis 1.11. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 11 DTPa Anti-polio type 3 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL.**

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 11 DTPa Anti-polio type 3 below the assay cutoff 1:8 IU/mL

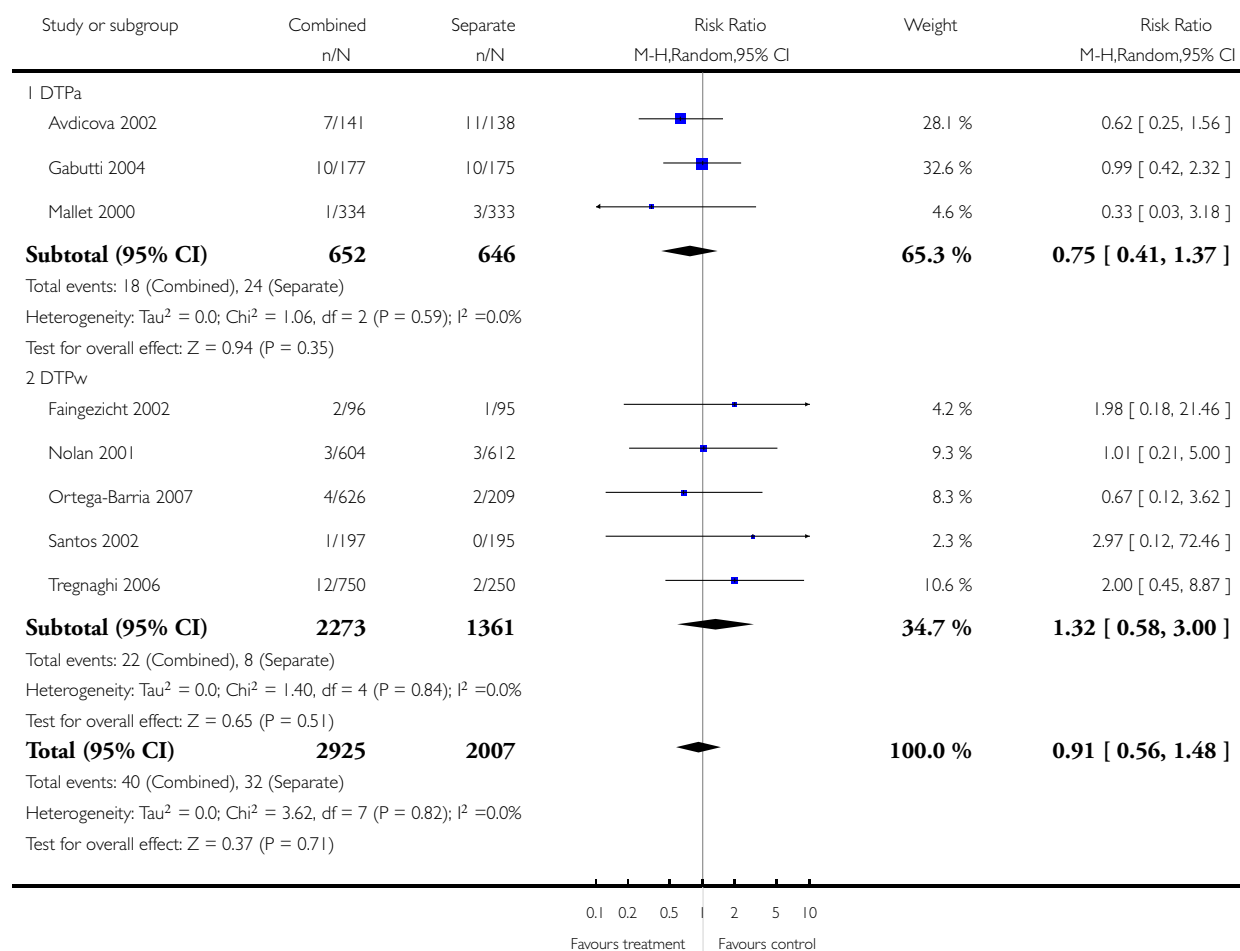


### Analysis 1.12. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 12 Serious adverse events.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 12 Serious adverse events

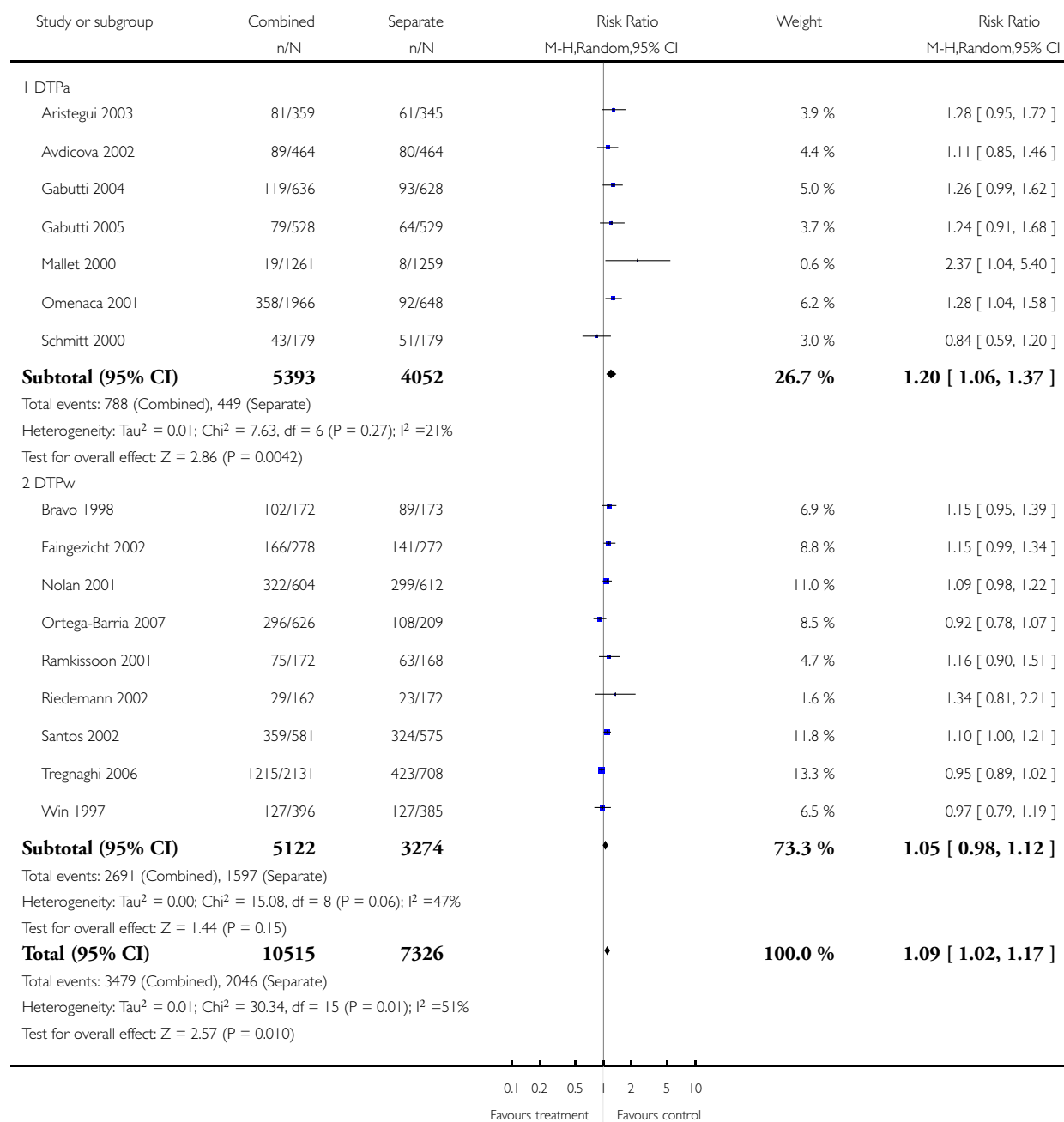


### Analysis 1.13. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines, Outcome 13 Pain.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (Hib)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines

Outcome: 13 Pain

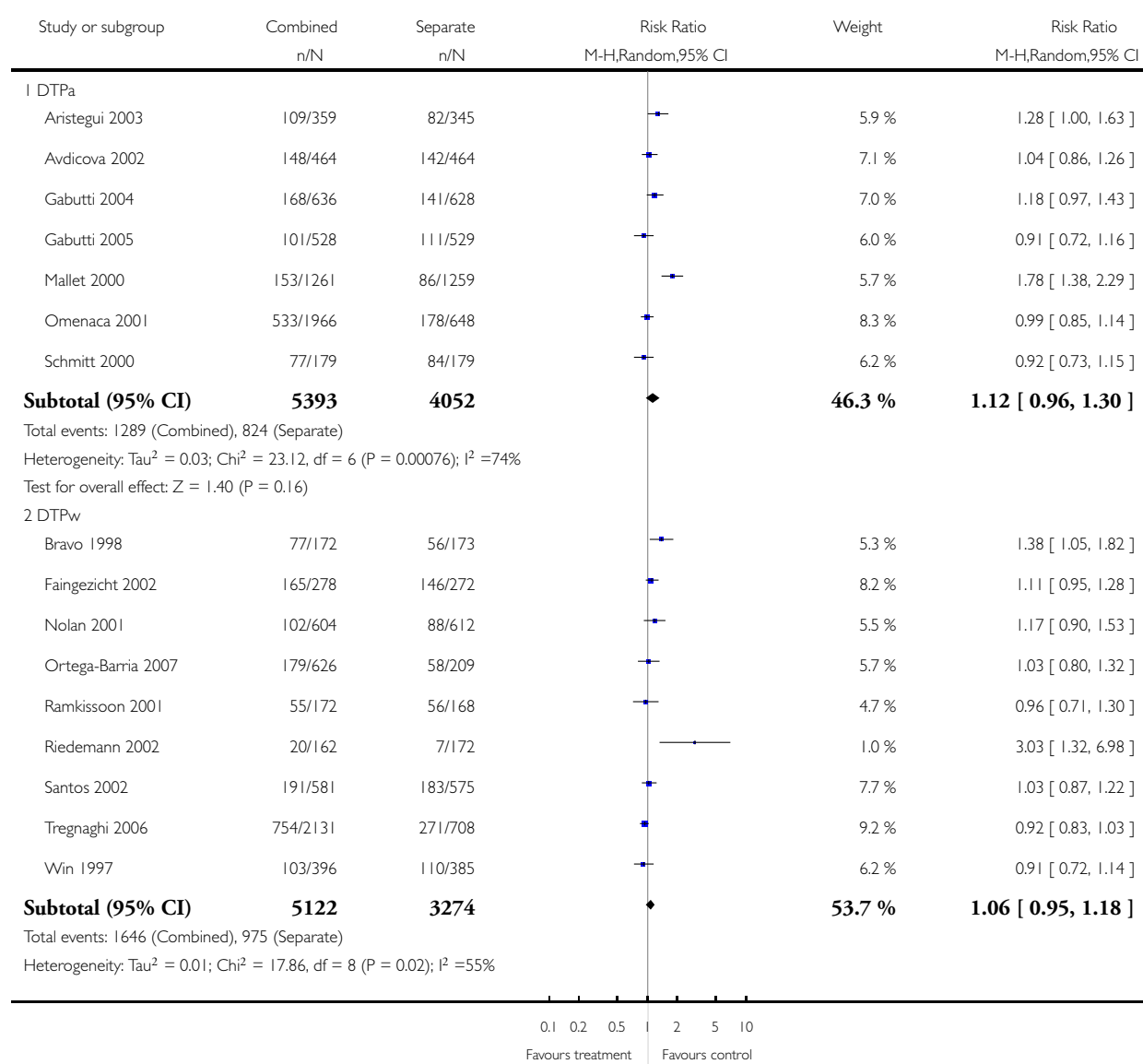


### Analysis 1.14. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines, Outcome 14 Redness.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (Hib)

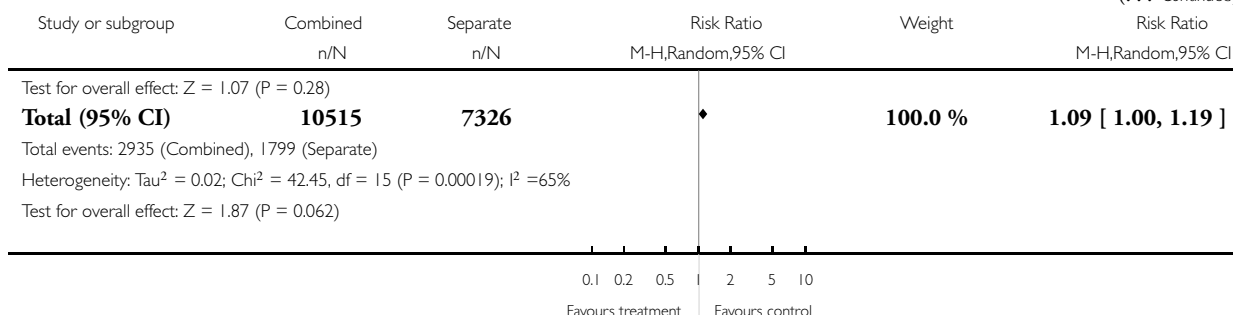
Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines

Outcome: 14 Redness





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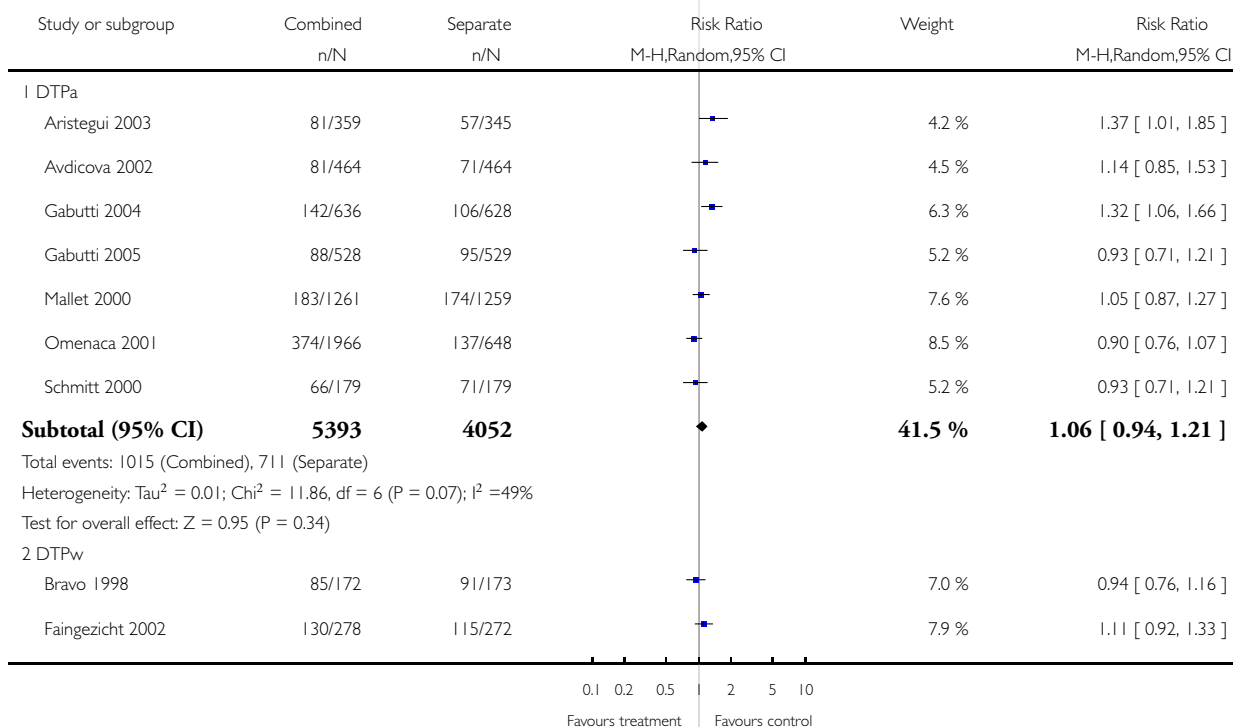


### Analysis 1.15. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 15 Swelling.

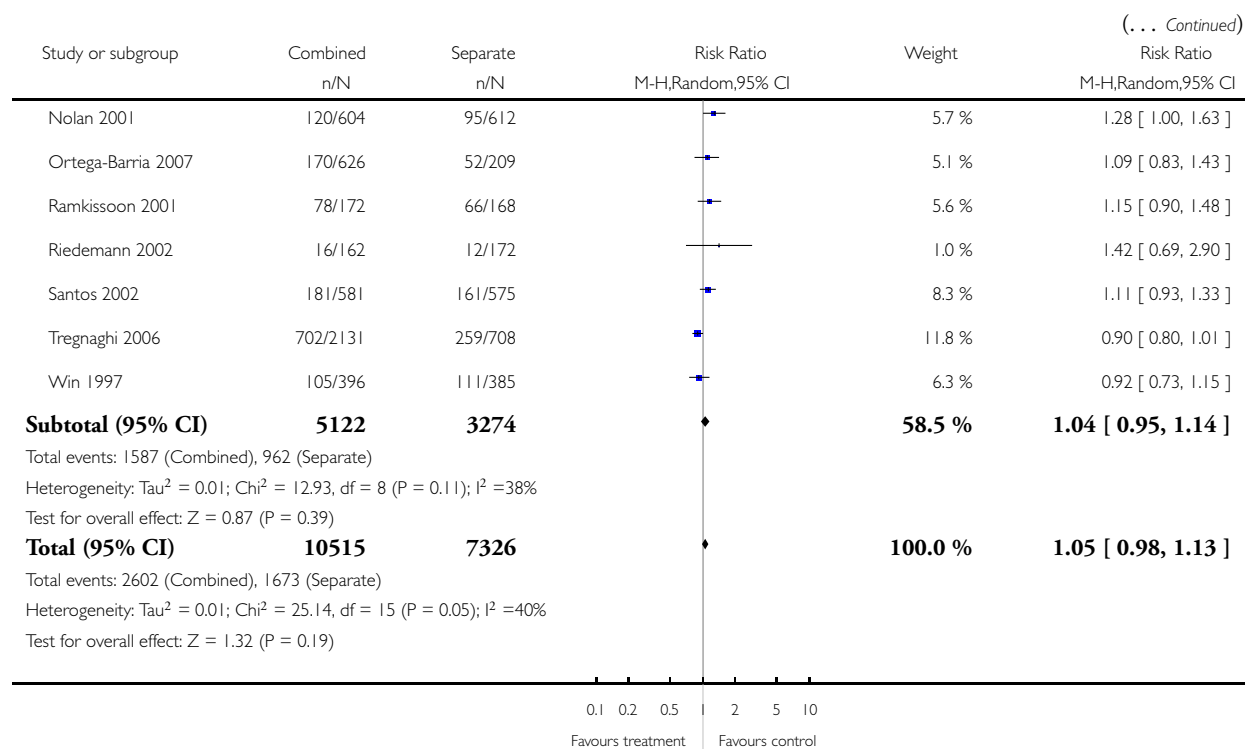
Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 15 Swelling



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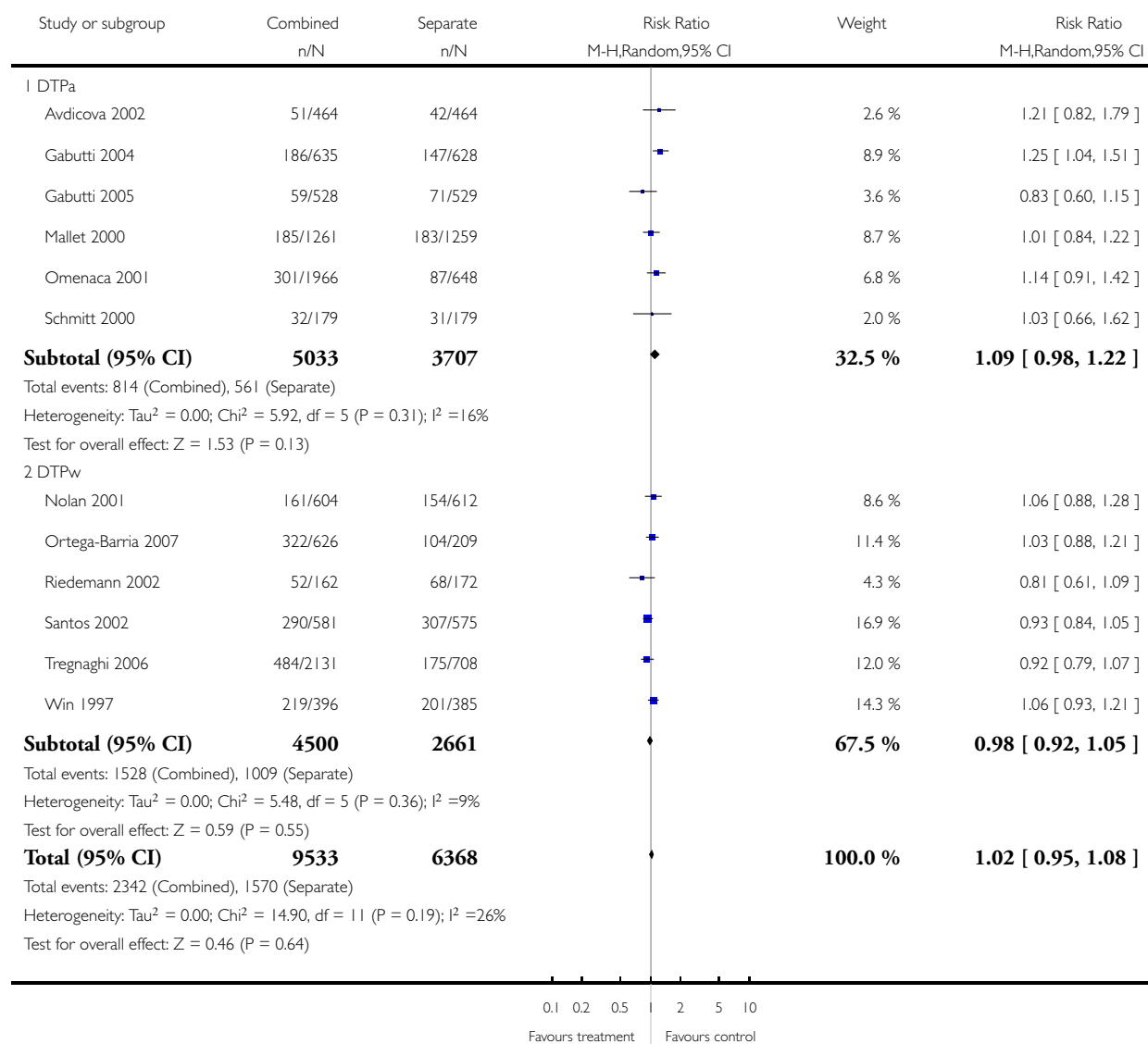


### Analysis 1.16. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 16 Fever.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 16 Fever

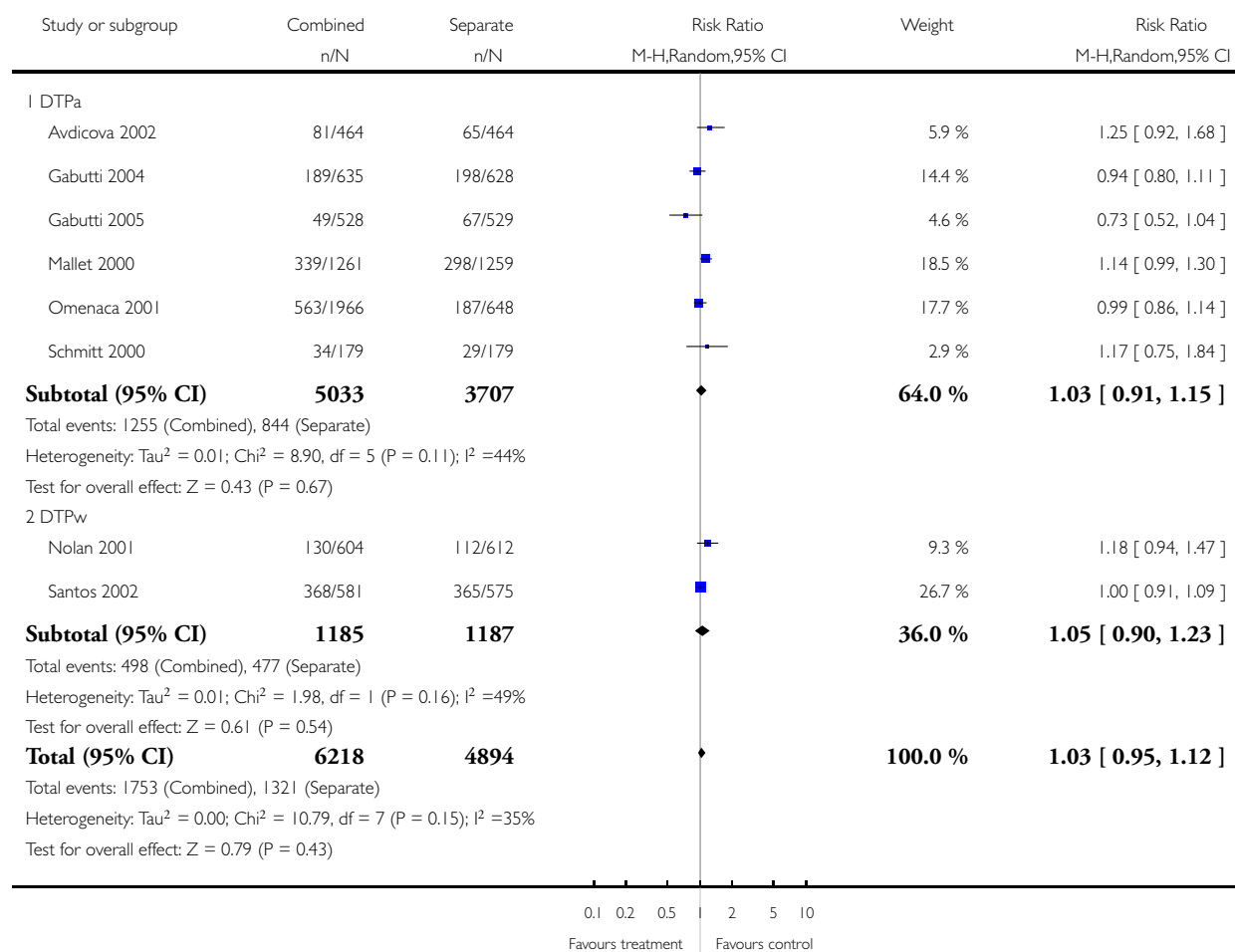


### Analysis 1.17. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines, Outcome 17 Fussiness or restlessness.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (Hib)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines

Outcome: 17 Fussiness or restlessness

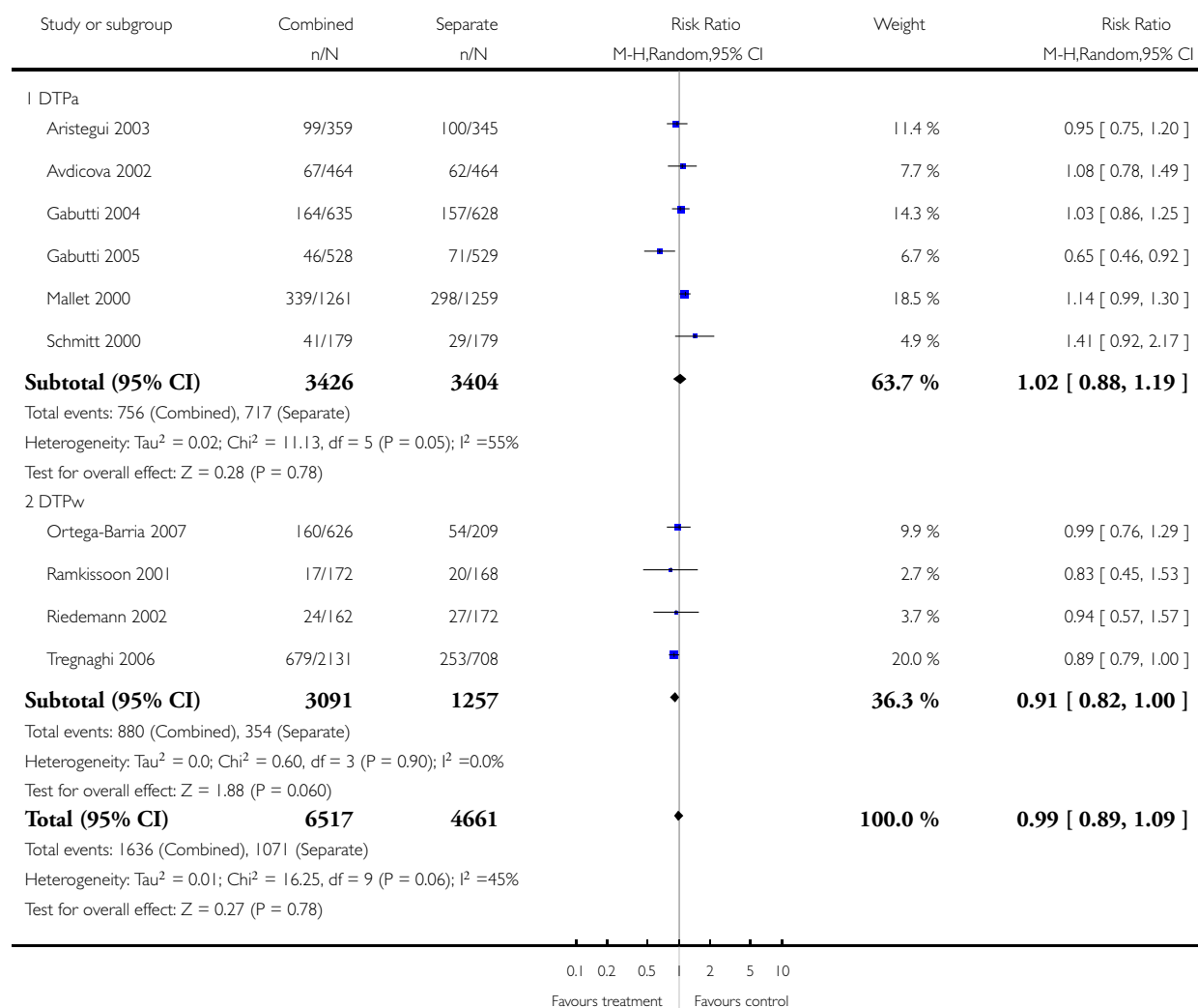


### Analysis 1.18. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines, Outcome 18 Drowsiness.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and Hib vaccines

Outcome: 18 Drowsiness

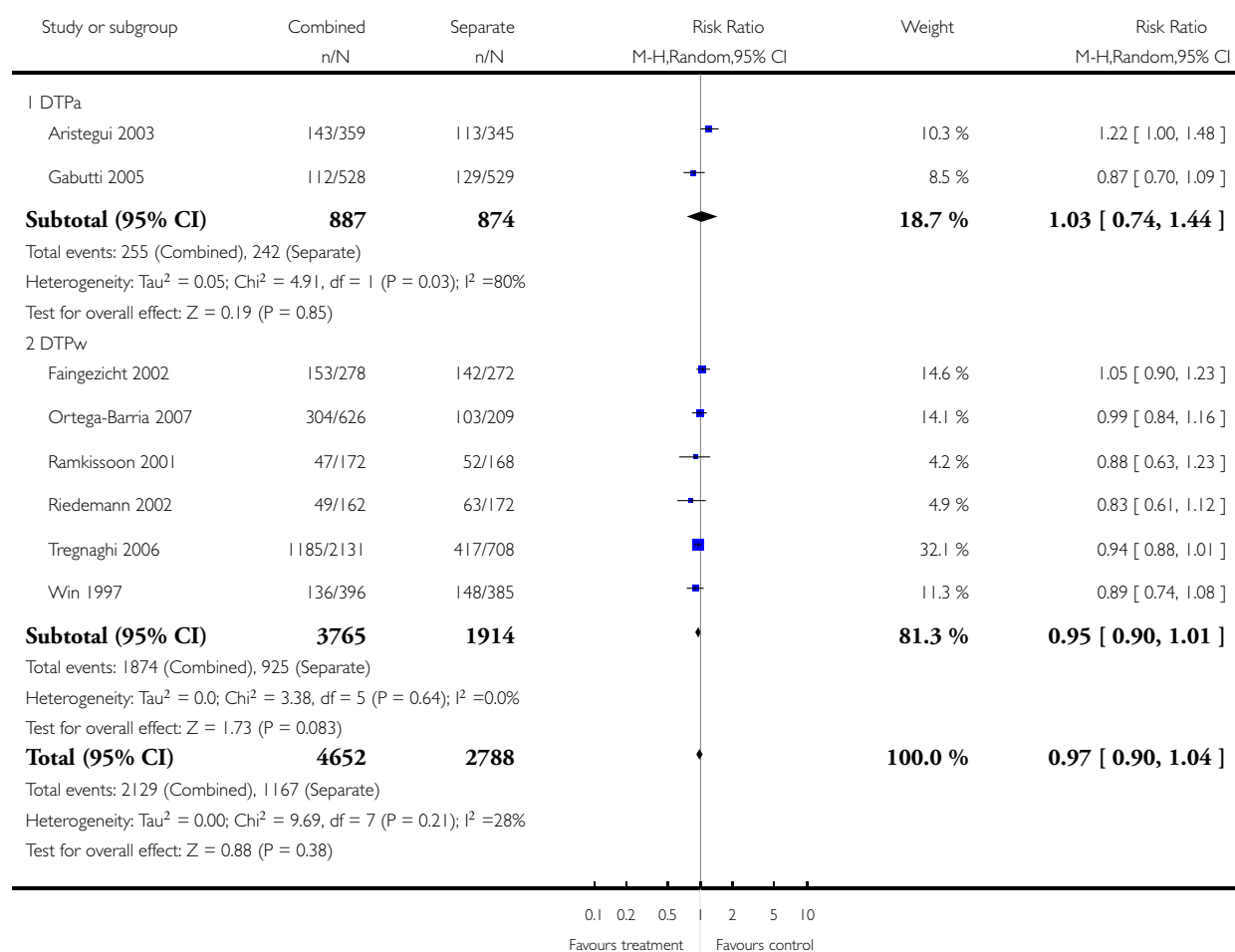


### Analysis 1.19. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 19 Irritability or tenderness.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 19 Irritability or tenderness

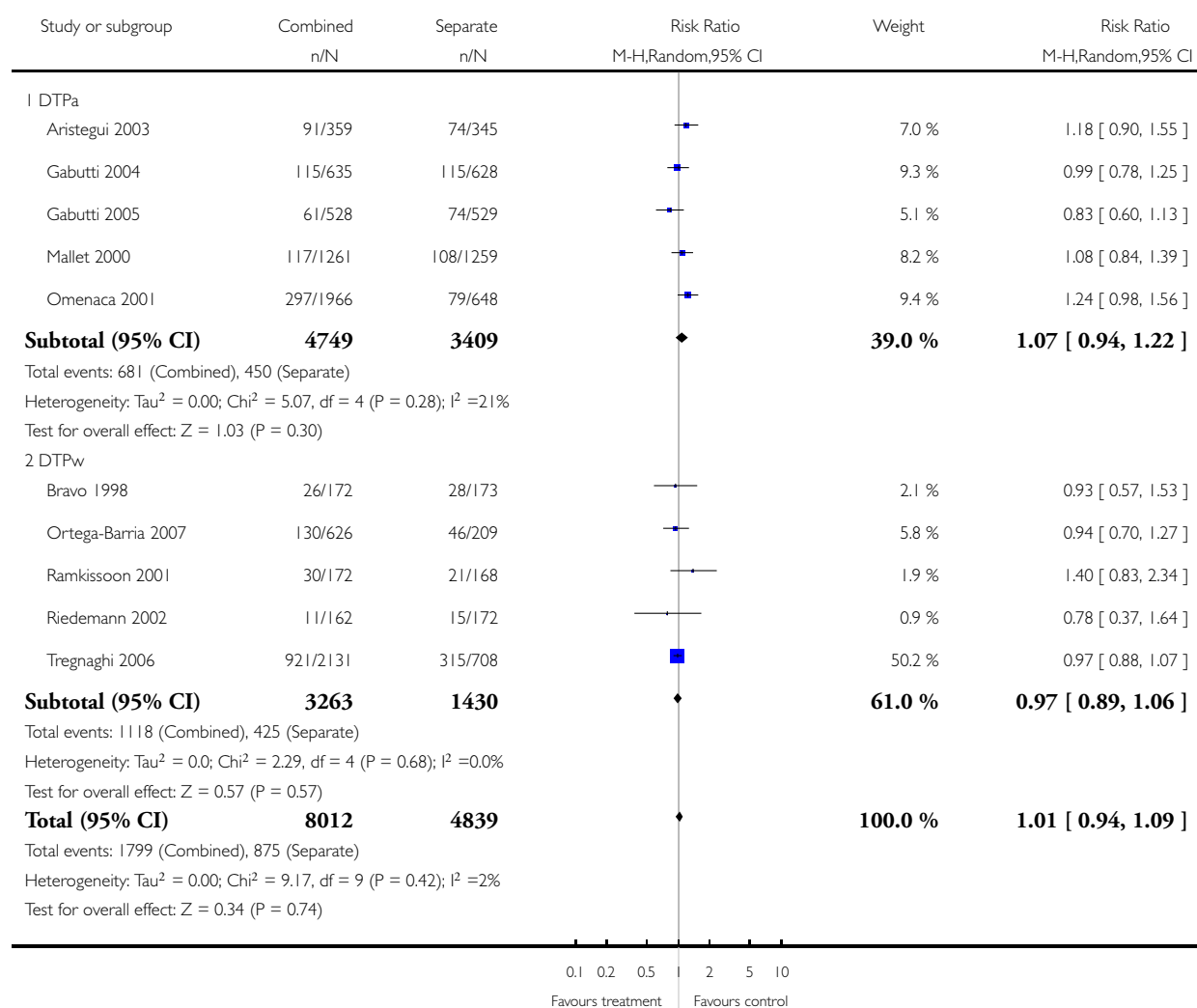


### Analysis 1.20. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 20 Poor appetite.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 20 Poor appetite

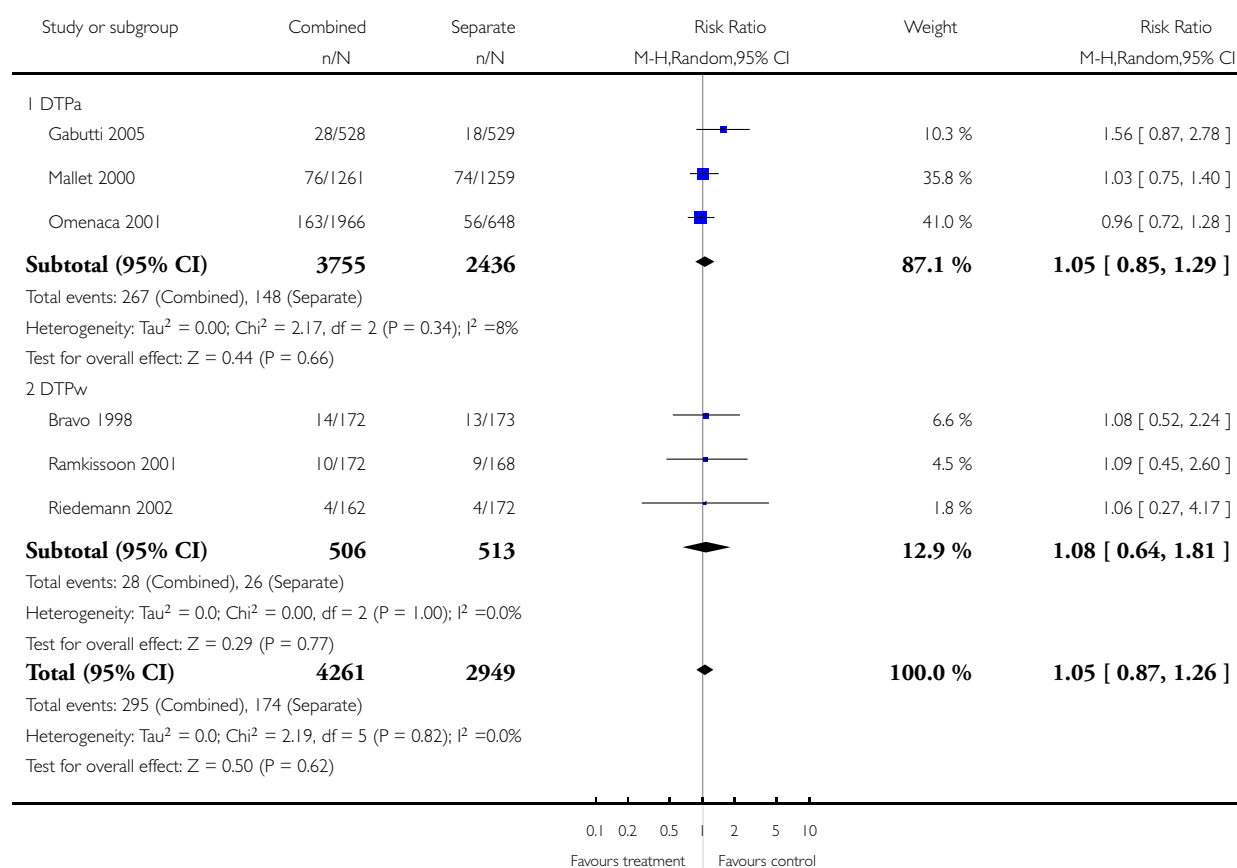


### Analysis 1.21. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 21 Vomiting.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 21 Vomiting



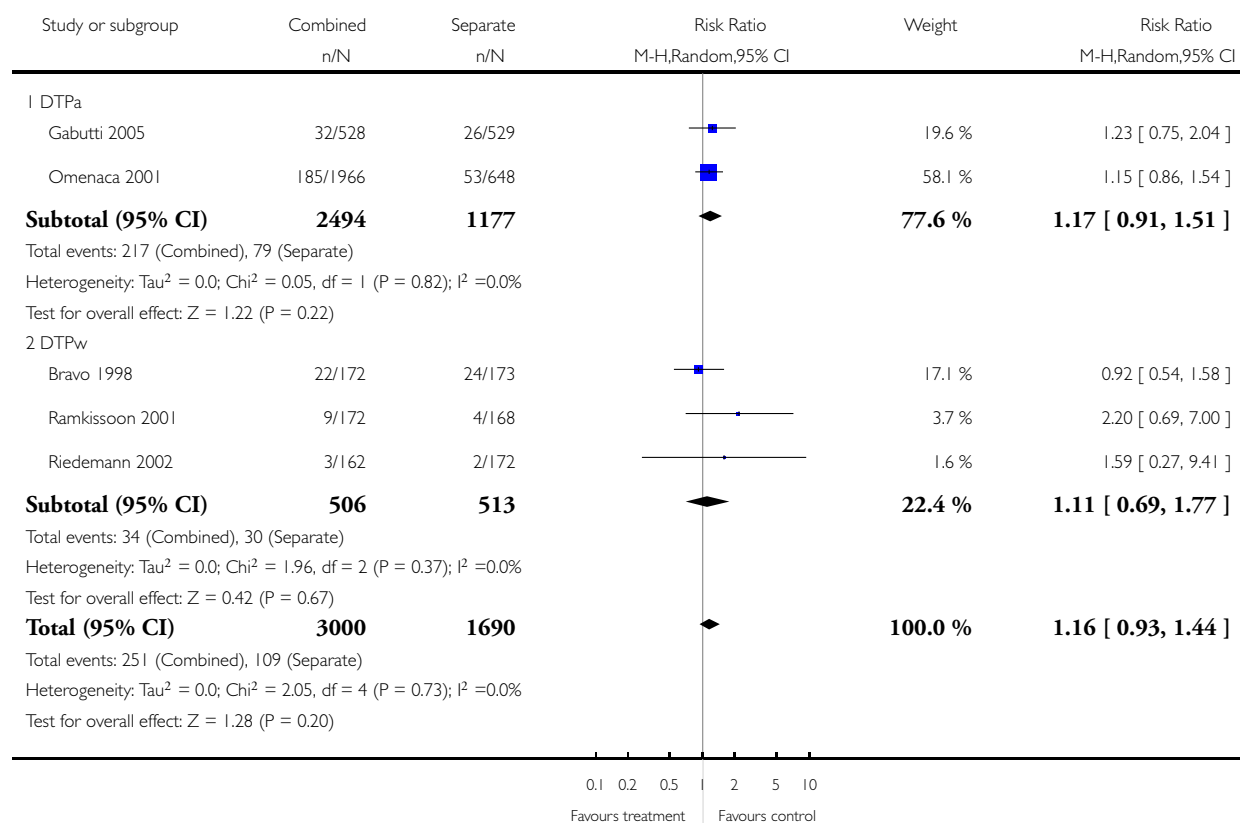


### Analysis 1.22. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 22 Diarrhea.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 22 Diarrhea

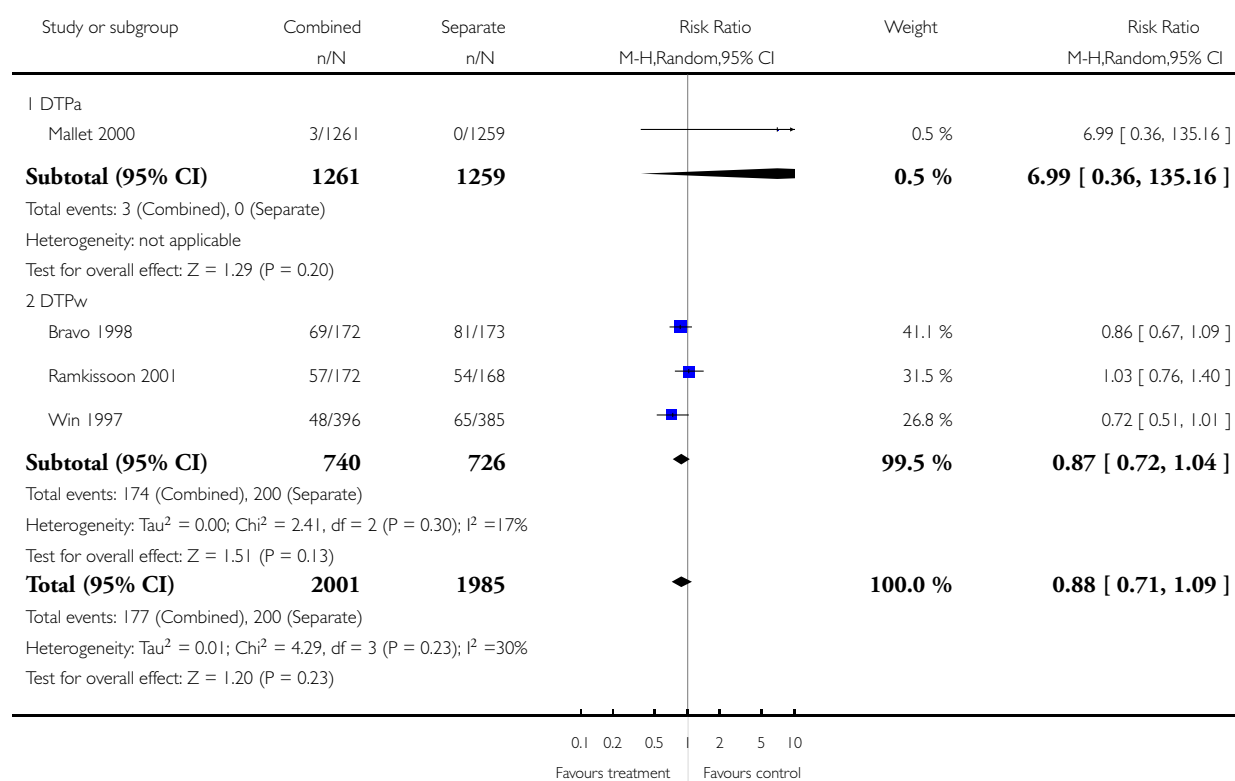


### Analysis 1.23. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 23 Unusual crying.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 23 Unusual crying

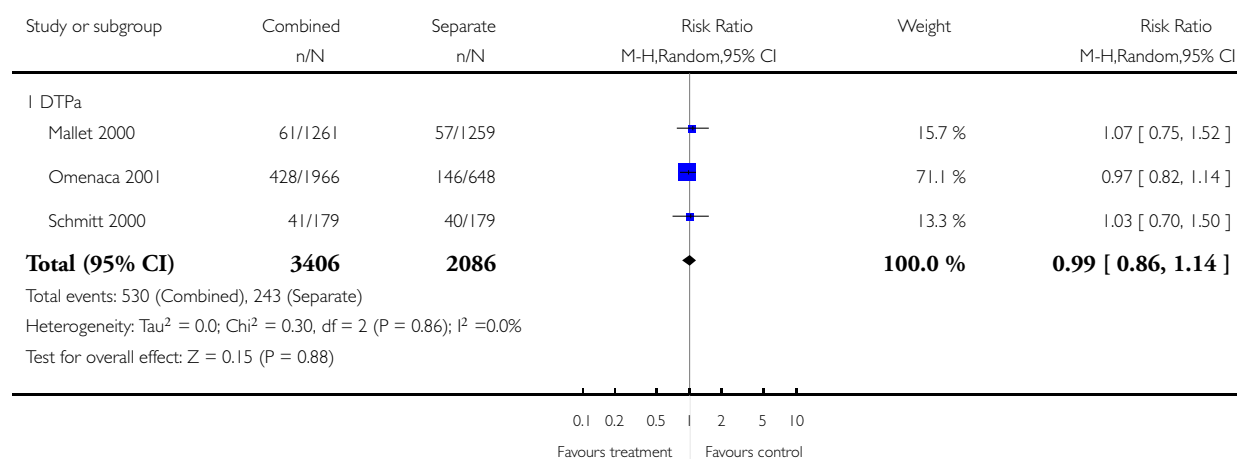


## Analysis 1.24. Comparison 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines, Outcome 24 Sleeping more than usual.

Review: Combined DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines for primary prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B (HIB)

Comparison: 1 DTP-HBV-HIB vaccine versus separately administered DTP-HBV and HIB vaccines

Outcome: 24 Sleeping more than usual



## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1. EMBASE.COM

1. 'diphtheria pertussis tetanus haemophilus influenzae type b hepatitis b vaccine'/exp AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
2. 'diphtheria pertussis tetanus vaccine'/exp AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
3. diphtheria:ti,ab AND pertussis:ti,ab AND tetanus:ti,ab AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
4. dtp:ti,ab OR dpt:ti,ab OR dtap:ti,ab AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
5. #2 OR #3 OR #4
6. 'haemophilus vaccine'/exp AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
7. 'haemophilus influenzae type b'/exp AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
8. 'haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine'/exp AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
9. haemophilus:ti,ab OR hemophilus:ti,ab OR hib:ti,ab AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
10. #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9
11. 'hepatitis b vaccine'/exp AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
12. 'hepatitis b'/exp AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
13. 'hepatitis b':ti,ab OR hbv:ti,ab AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
14. #11 OR #12 OR #13
15. #5 AND #10 AND #14
16. #1 OR #15
17. random\*:ti,ab OR placebo\*:ti,ab OR 'double blind':ti,ab OR 'double blinded':ti,ab OR 'double blinding':ti,ab AND [embase]/lim AND [2005-2009]/py
18. #16 AND #17
19. #18 AND [embase]/lim AND [01-02-2008]/sd NOT [05-0 16 05 Mar 2009 3-2009]/sd AND [2005-2009]/py

## HISTORY

Protocol first published: Issue 4, 2005

Review first published: Issue 3, 2009

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8 July 2008	Amended	Converted to new review format.
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## CONTRIBUTIONS OF AUTHORS

Edna Bar-On (EB): was responsible for the reference searches, article retrieval, study inclusion and exclusion, data extraction, analysis, interpretation of results and writing of the review.

Abigail Fraser (AF): assisted with writing the protocol.

Sarah Hellmann (SH): has assisted with writing the protocol.

Goldberg Elad (GE): was responsible for the reference searches, article retrieval, study inclusion and exclusion, data extraction, analysis and interpretation of results.

Liat Vidal (LV): assisted with the search terms for the protocol.

Leonard Leibovici (LL): was responsible for study inclusion and exclusion, analysis, interpretation of results and writing of the review.

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None to declare

## SOURCES OF SUPPORT

### Internal sources

- Rabin Medical Center, Beilinson Campus, Israel.

### External sources

- The National Institute for Health Policy and Health Services Research, Israel.

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROTOCOL AND REVIEW

The separate vaccine immunogenicity analysis of two types of pertussis vaccination: acellular pertussis (DTPa) and whole cell pertussis (DTPw) was added after the protocol was written.