



Risk of Cancers in Patients with Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Diseases: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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Objectives We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis to evaluate the risk of the development of cancers in patients with pediatric-onset inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

Study design A computerized literature search was performed. The primary outcome was the pooled incidence of cancer in studies reporting the risk as a standardized incidence ratio. The secondary outcomes were the pooled incidence rates of all cancers and site-specific cancers including colorectal cancer and hematologic cancers.

Results Sixty-six studies reporting outcomes in 38 092 patients were included. The pooled standardized incidence ratio for cancer was 2.39 ($P < .0001$, 95% CI 2.00-2.86) in IBD. The pooled incidence rates for cancer in patients with Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC) were 0.014 (95% CI 0.0087-0.021) and 0.031 (95% CI 0.018-0.052), respectively. The pooled incidence rate of colorectal cancer in CD and UC were 0.0075 (95% CI 0.0049-0.011) and 0.020 (95% CI 0.012-0.034), respectively. The pooled rates of hematologic cancers in CD and UC were 0.0061 (95% CI 0.0040-0.0090) and 0.0045 (95% CI 0.0026-0.0079), respectively. Cumulative meta-analyses showed a decreasing trend in the incidence of these cancers in both CD and UC.

Conclusions Patients with pediatric-onset IBD had an increased risk of cancer development compared with the general population, however, incidence appeared to be decreasing in recent years. (*J Pediatr* 2021;229:102-17).

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The incidence of childhood-onset inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is increasing,¹ therefore, understanding the risks of the disease complications, including cancer development, is essential in providing adequate care throughout the transition from pediatric to adult IBD.

Chronic inflammation is a known risk factor for the development of cancer in IBD. Beyond the recognized association between IBD and the increased risk of colorectal cancer (CRC),² recent data have expanded the concept to inflammation as a driver of tumor progression.³ In addition, the increasingly widespread use of immunosuppressive therapies in the management of Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC) raises concerns about the risk of cancer development secondary to such therapies. Immunosuppressive therapies increase the risk of lymphoma and skin cancer in transplant recipients as well as patients with rheumatoid arthritis and psoriasis.⁴

There have been some reports that cancers were more likely to occur in patients with pediatric-onset IBD.^{5,6} A previous meta-analysis provided an overview of patients with IBD diagnosed at pediatric age who developed cancer or suffered a fatal outcome at any point later in life.⁷ However, the risk of cancer development in patients with pediatric-onset IBD remains largely unknown, in spite of the risk of cancer development including CRC^{8,9} and lymphoma¹⁰ in patients with adult-onset IBD has been previously identified. In addition, we sought to find out the frequency of cancer and the relationship with background factors of cancer in childhood-onset IBD, which have not been studied in detail in the previous meta-analysis. In the present systematic review and meta-analysis, we aimed to assess the risk of cancer development in patients with IBDs diagnosed in their childhood.

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|------|--|
| CD | Crohn's disease |
| CRC | Colorectal cancer |
| IBD | Inflammatory bowel disease |
| RCT | Randomized controlled trial |
| SEER | Surveillance, epidemiology, and end result |
| SIR | Standardized incidence ratio |
| TNF | Tumor necrosis factor |
| UC | Ulcerative colitis |

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Methods

We performed this study according to a priori defined protocol and in accordance with the PRISMA guidelines and Meta-Analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology guidelines.^{11,12} The protocol of this meta-analysis has been registered to International prospective register of systematic reviews (PROSPERO¹³ CRD42017076264).

Data Sources

A computerized literature search was performed on PubMed/MEDLINE, Google Scholar, Scopus, EMBASE, and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (inception to June 30, 2018). An update literature search was undertaken on April 30, 2020 for PubMed/MEDLINE, Google Scholar, Scopus, and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials. For Google Scholar, only the first 1000 articles were reviewed in each search, as it does not provide results beyond it. We also searched abstracts from medical conferences (Digestive Disease Week, American College of Gastroenterology, United European Gastroenterology Week, European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation, North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, American Society of Hematology, European Hematology Association, American Society of Clinical Oncology, European Cancer Congress) and bibliographies of identified articles for additional references (inception to April 30, 2020).

Search Strategy and Study Selection

To be eligible for inclusion, we considered prospective and retrospective studies evaluating the risk of cancer development in patients with IBD diagnosed prior to age 18 years (further referred to as pediatric IBD).¹⁴ Studies were eligible if the included subjects were of a pediatric population (age <18 years) or an adolescent (age ≤25 years) as well as childhood population with the majority of the included subjects less than age 18 years. Studies were required to report outcomes specifically for IBD, CD, UC, or indeterminate colitis. There were no restrictions regarding date of study, sex of the subjects, or duration of the study. We imposed no geographic or language restrictions and articles in languages other than English were translated if necessary. Two authors independently screened each of the potential titles, abstracts, and/or full-manuscripts to determine whether they were eligible for inclusion. Studies were initially excluded based on their title. Next, the abstract or full text were reviewed to assess eligibility. Areas of disagreement or uncertainty were resolved by consensus among the authors. The corresponding authors of studies were contacted to provide additional information on studies if required. Studies were identified with the terms: "inflammatory bowel disease," "Crohn's disease," or "ulcerative colitis." These were combined by using the set operator AND with studies identified with the terms: "pediatric*," "childhood," "cancer*," "malignancy*," "colorectal cancer*," "hematologic cancer*," "Hodgkin's lymphoma," "non-Hodgkin's lymphoma," "lymphoma," and "leukemia" (both as medical subject headings and free text terms). Details of

PubMed/MEDLINE search is shown in [Table I](#) (available at www.jpeds.com), as one of the search strategies. PRISMA flow diagram, describing the number of studies identified from the search strategy and retained at each stage, is described in [Figure 1](#) (available at www.jpeds.com).

Data Extraction and Quality Assessment

All data were independently extracted in duplicate by 2 authors by using a data extraction form. The 2 authors' data extraction were found to be consistent. Data on the study characteristics, such as author name, year of publication, country, sample size, age of patients, comorbidity, outcome, and incidence of adverse effects, were collected. The Jadad score¹⁵ and Cochrane Risk of Bias Assessment Instrument,¹⁶ a scale that assesses the methodological quality of a clinical trial, were used to assess the quality of randomized controlled trials (RCTs). The Newcastle-Ottawa Scale was used to assess the quality of the observational studies.¹⁷ Star rating of 0-9 was allocated to each study based on 3 parameters (selection, 0-4; comparability, 0-2; and outcome, 0-3). Studies receiving 6 or more stars are considered high quality.^{18,19} The overall quality and the risk of bias level in this systematic review were assessed using the GRADE criteria (Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation)²⁰ using GRADEpro.²¹

Outcome Assessment

The primary outcome of interest was the pooled risk of cancer development among studies that reported the risk as a standardized incidence ratio (SIR). The secondary outcome of interest was the pooled incidence rates of all cancers and site-specific cancers including CRC and hematologic cancers (Hodgkin's lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and leukemia). We conducted subgroup meta-analyses for each assessment. In addition, we performed meta-regression analyses to evaluate whether incidences of cancer were influenced by medication type. We also assessed temporal trends in the risk of cancers by cumulative meta-analyses. The secondary outcomes except for the pooled incidence rates of all cancers and site-specific cancers deviated from the registered PROSPERO protocol: these outcomes were determined to be necessary for this study after registration to PROSPERO.

Statistical Analyses

Random-effects meta-analysis was performed to assess the risk of cancer development among patients with pediatric IBD. We evaluated the presence of heterogeneity across trials of each therapy by using the I^2 statistic. $I^2 < 25\%$ indicates low heterogeneity, 25%-75% moderate heterogeneity, and $> 75\%$ high heterogeneity.²² Statistic Q (Q) was also used with a probability (P) value of $< .10$ as evidence of statistically significant heterogeneity.²³ We conducted subgroup meta-analyses, which were performed for both CD and UC, or meta-regression to examine potential sources of heterogeneity, where indicated, with factors such as age, sex, disease duration, and concomitant anti-tumor necrosis factor

(TNF) agents or immunomodulator use. Accompanying each meta-regression, we also did the analyses of variance to find whether the amount of total variance was more than we would expect based on within-study error or not.²⁴ To assess the potential for small-study effect and publication bias, we performed Begg and Egger tests and constructed funnel plots to visualize possible asymmetry when 3 or more studies were available.^{25,26} In addition, we conducted cumulative meta-analysis ranked by year to explore the temporal trend of the summary estimate. The temporal change of the cumulative meta-analysis was assessed by univariate regression analyses to evaluate whether the change was significant. In addition, influence analyses, by removing individual studies from the meta-analyses to assess the influence of any particular study on the results, and meta-analyses excluding studies with less than 30 patients were performed to assess the robustness of our results. All statistical analyses were performed with Comprehensive Meta Analysis V2 (Biostat, Englewood, New Jersey). *P* values that were <.05 were considered statistically significant except for the *Q* statistic *P* value. All statistical tests were 2-sided.

Results

Study Characteristics

We identified 969 127 citations through literature search and excluded 968 806 citations after initial screening of titles and abstracts; 321 full-text studies were evaluated for eligibility. After final review, 66 full text articles, including 38 092 patients were included in our analysis (Figure 1). Among the 66 studies, 44 studies included patients with CD, 31 studies included patients with UC, and 5 studies reported data on patients with IBD with no distinction made between CD or UC. Fourteen studies included data on both CD and UC. Fifty (75.76%) of the studies included patients under 18 years at diagnosis of IBD, and the remainder of the studies included patients who were aged 18-24 years at diagnosis. Thirty studies specified that the cancer occurred in childhood. Among 62 observational studies, 14 studies received 6 or more stars in the assessment by the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale, but the rest of the studies received 2 to 5 stars. Among 4 RCTs, all RCTs received 3 or 2 points in the assessment by the Jadad score. The quality of RCTs was also assessed by Cochrane Risk of Bias Assessment Instrument (Table II; available at www.jpeds.com). There was no inter-rater disagreement for the extracted data between the two authors. The characteristics and outcomes of the included studies are summarized in Table III. A summary of findings table (Table IV; available at www.jpeds.com) was created and exported from GRADEpro.

Meta-Analysis of the Overall Risk of Cancer Reported as SIR among Patients with Pediatric IBD

Six retrospective observational studies including more than 17 450 patients reported the overall risk of cancer as an SIR. Four studies reported outcome in both CD and UC. Two studies

did not differentiate between CD and UC and one of these reported outcomes separately for patients exposed to biologic therapy (anti-TNF α agents) or not. Among 17 450 patients from 6 retrospective observational studies where SIR was reported, at least 125 patients developed malignancy, though 1 paper did not report the specific number of patients with malignancies. As shown in Figure 2, A, 4 studies included patients with CD and demonstrated a 2.4-fold increased risk of cancers (pooled SIR 2.42, *P* < .0001, 95% CI 1.90-3.06) with low heterogeneity (*I*² = 0%). Five studies included patients with UC and also demonstrated a 2.1-fold increased risk of cancers (pooled SIR 2.10, *P* < .0001, 95% CI 1.51-2.90) with moderate heterogeneity (*I*² = 41.54%).

The pooled SIR including all patients with pediatric IBD was 2.39 (*P* < .0001, 95% CI 2.00-2.86) with low heterogeneity (*I*² = 0%) (Figure 2, A). Visual inspection of the funnel plot demonstrated no asymmetry and there were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests (*P* = .35, .30, respectively; Figure 2, B).

Meta-Analysis of Incidence Rates of Overall Cancer Development among Patients with Pediatric IBD

The pooled incidence rate of cancer occurrence was analyzed from 9 prospective and 44 retrospective studies (1 study included both study designs) with a total of 32 417 patients with pediatric IBD.

As shown in Figure 3, A, the pooled incidence rate of overall cancers in CD was 0.014 (95% CI 0.0087-0.021) with high heterogeneity (*I*² = 78.90%). The pooled incidence rate of cancers in patients with UC was 0.031 (95% CI 0.018-0.052) with high heterogeneity (*I*² = 91.59%) (Figure 3, A). The pooled incidence rate of overall cancers among all included studies was 0.018 (95% CI 0.013-0.025) with high heterogeneity (*I*² = 89.10%) (Figure 3, A). Meta-regression showed that there was a positive correlation between the follow-up duration of the studies and the risk of overall malignancy (regression coefficient 0.014, 95% CI 0.0011-0.017, *P* < .0001) (Figure 3, B). Analyses of variance showed that *Q_e* was not statistically significant (*Q_e* = 46.01, *P* = .050), indicating that heterogeneity was largely explained by this factor, and that there remained no statistically significant heterogeneity once follow-up duration has been taken into consideration. According to meta-regression analyses, the risk of overall cancer development was not particularly affected by the history of concomitant medications such as steroid, immunomodulator and anti-TNF agents (Tables V-VII; available at www.jpeds.com). There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests (*P* = .00072, .00060, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry (Figure 3, C). Funnel plots of the studies reporting the risk of overall cancers among patients with CD and UC were also shown in Figure 4, B, D, respectively (available at www.jpeds.com).

Table III. Characteristics of studies for cancer development in pediatric IBD

| Diseases | Author | Year (reference ^a) | Study design | Patient numbers (n) | Age at diagnosis (y) | Age at diagnosis or onset (y, mean) | Age at study (y, mean) | Age at diagnosis of cancers (y, median) [†] | Follow-up duration (mean, mo) | Concomitant medications (%) | | | Numbers of patients with overall cancers (n) | SIR of overall cancers (95% CI) | Numbers of patients with CRC | Numbers of patients with hematologic cancer (n) | | | | Newcastle-Ottawa scale [‡] | Jadad score |
|----------|--|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|----|-----|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | Steroids | AZA, 6 MP | Anti-TNF α | | | | Overall | HL | NHL | Leukemia | | |
| CD | Weedon et al ¹ | 1973 | Retrospective | 449 | 1-21 [§] | 14.9 | NA | NA (34 at diagnosis of CRC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | 12 | NA | 8 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2 (S:1, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | Postuma et al ² | 1985 | Retrospective | 33 | 6-16 | 13.0 | NA | 12 | 28.2 | 48 | NA | NA | 1 | NA | 0 | 1 | NA | NA | 0 | 5 (S:2, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | Verhave et al ³ | 1990 | Retrospective | 12 | 11-16 [§] | NA | 14.0 | - | 24 | NA | 100 | NA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | Gold et al ⁴ | 1993 | Retrospective | 15 | 5.5-22.5 [§] | NA | 15.5 [†] | - | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | Gillen et al ⁵ | 1994 | Retrospective | 113 | 15-25 | NA | NA | 40 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 4 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1 (S:1, C:0, O:0) | NA |
| | Gryboski et al ⁶ | 1994 | Retrospective | 40 | ≤ 10 | 7.5 | NA | NA | 78 | 95 | NA | NA | 1 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 (S:0, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Langholz et al ⁷ | 1997 | Retrospective | 23 | < 15 | 11.0 | NA | - | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 (S:3, C:0, O:0) | NA |
| | Markowitz et al ⁸ | 2008 | Prospective (RCT) | 55 | < 18 [§] | NA | 13.0 | - | 18** | 100 | 49 | NA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | 3 |
| | Stephens et al ⁹ | 2003 | Retrospective | 82 | 5-23 [§] | NA | 15.3 | - | NA | 49 | 95 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 (S:3, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | de Ridder et al ¹⁰ | 2004 | Retrospective | 30 | 2.7-16.8 | 11.4 | NA | - | 25.3 | 60 | 90 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 (S:3, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | Hyams et al ¹¹ | 2007 | Prospective (RCT) | 112 | 6-17 [§] | NA | 13.3 | - | 11.0 | 35 | 89 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | 2 |
| | de Ridder et al ¹² | 2008 | Retrospective | 66 | < 19 [§] | 12.2 | NA | - | 41.3 | 12 | 64 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 (S:2, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Vernier-Massouille et al ¹³ | 2008 | Retrospective | 404 | < 17 | 14.0 | NA | - | 84.0 | 85 | 61 | 24 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 (S:3, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | Duricova et al ¹⁴ | 2009 | Retrospective | 82 | 8-18 | NA | 14.5 | - | 33.0 | NA | 91 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 (S:2, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | Hyams et al ¹⁵ | 2009 | Prospective | 128 | NA | NA | 12.7 ^{††} | 14 | 42.0 | 52 | 90 | 100 | 1 | NA | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 (S:3, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Jakobsen et al ¹⁶ | 2009 | Retrospective | 9 | < 15 | 12.0 | NA | - | NA | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 (S:2, C:2, O:2) | NA |
| | Ruemmele et al ¹⁷ | 2009 | Prospective (RCT) | 40 | 7-17 | NA | 13.9 | - | 14.0 | 100 | 93 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | 2 |
| | Viola et al ¹⁸ | 2009 | Prospective | 23 | 9-20 | 12.0 | 16.1 | - | 12.0 | 78 | 48 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 (S:0, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Pigneur et al ¹⁹ | 2010 | Retrospective | 206 | < 16 | 13.0 | NA | NA | NA | 96 | 72 | 26 | 5 | NA | 3 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 4 (S:3, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | Sinitzky et al ²⁰ | 2010 | Retrospective | 16 | 1.8-17.5 [§] | NA | 13.0 ^{††} | - | 28.0 | 44 | 94 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 (S:1, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | Crombé et al ²¹ | 2011 | Retrospective | 120 | < 17 | 14.5 | NA | 30 | 32.0 | 82 | 38 | 100 | 1 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 (S:2, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | Hyams et al ²² | 2011 | Prospective | 60 | 6-17 | NA | 13.2 | - | 23.0 | 37 | 90 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 (S:1, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Kelsen et al ²³ | 2011 | Retrospective | 20 | ≤ 7 | NA | 6.2 ^{††} | - | NA | NA | NA | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 (S:1, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | Ashworth et al ²⁴ | 2012 | Retrospective | 791 | ≤ 21 ^{††} | 12.4 | NA | 12 | NA | NA | 73 | 30 | NA | NA | NA | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 (S:3, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | De Greef et al ²⁵ | 2012 | Prospective ^{§§} , retrospective | 104 | ≤ 17 | 13.2 | NA | - | 45.0 | NA | 75 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 (S:2, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Hyams et al ²⁶ | 2012 | Prospective (RCT) | 188 | 6-17 | NA | 13.6 | - | 12.0 ^{§§} | 38 | 62 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | 3 |
| | Kierkus et al ²⁷ | 2012 | Prospective | 66 | NA | 8.4 | 14.1 | - | 2.5 | NA | NA | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | Assa et al ²⁸ | 2013 | Retrospective | 102 | < 18 | 11.3 | NA | - | NA | NA | NA | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 (S:0, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Jess et al ²⁹ | 2013 | Retrospective | 115 | ≤ 19 | NA | NA | NA | 195.0 | NA | NA | NA | 13 | 2.17 (1.21-3.90) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 7 (S:2, C:2, O:3) | NA |
| | Navas-López et al ³⁰ | 2013 | Retrospective | 16 | NA | 10.6 | NA | 17 | NA | 6 | 88 | 100 | 1 | NA | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 (S:0, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Peneau et al ³¹ | 2013 | Retrospective | 538 | < 17 | 14.6 | NA | 15 [§] | 134.0 | 36 | NA | NA | 6 | 2.50 (0.80-5.80) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 7 (S:3, C:2, O:2) | NA |
| | Kappelman et al ³² | 2014 | Retrospective | NA | ≤ 19 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2.30 (1.53-3.46) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 6 (S:2, C:2, O:2) | NA |
| | Nuti et al ³³ | 2014 | Retrospective | 78 | 8-23 | NA | 15.0 | - | 36 | NA | 54 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 (S:1, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Rosh et al ³⁴ | 2014 | Retrospective | 192 | NA*** | NA | NA | - | NA | NA | NA | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 (S:1, C:0, O:1) | NA |
| | Vahabnezhad et al ³⁵ | 2014 | Retrospective | 157 | ≤ 21 | 11.0 | NA | NA | 60 | 36 | 21 | 100 | 1 | NA | 0 | 1 | NA | NA | NA | 3 (S:1, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Fumery et al ³⁶ | 2015 | Retrospective | 27 | < 17 | 11.0 | 15.0 | - | 16.0 | 19 | 7 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 (S:2, C:0, O:3) | NA |
| | Hyams et al ³⁷ | 2017 | Retrospective | 4047 | < 17 | 9.9 ^{†††} | 12.3 ^{†††} | NA | 19.2 ^{†††} | NA ^{†††} | 67 ^{†††} | 67 ^{†††} | 12 | 2.43 (1.29-4.15) ^{†††} | 0 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 (S: 4, C:1, O:2) | NA |
| | Mallet et al ³⁸ | 2017 | Retrospective | 4 | 11-20 | 15.5 | NA | - | 3.8 | 75 | 100 | NA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 (S:2, C:0, O:2) | NA |
| | Olen et al ³⁹ | 2017 | Retrospective | 3768 | < 18 | 14.0 | 30.0 | NA | NA | NA | 28 | 8.4 | 153 | NA | 17 | 12 | NA | NA | NA | 8 (S:4, C:2, O:2) | NA |
| | Choi et al ⁴⁰ | 2018 | Retrospective | 33 | 9.1-15.6 | 13.6 | NA | - | NA | NA | 100 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, O:1) | NA |

(continued)

Table III. Continued

| Diseases | Author | Year (reference*) | Study design | Patient numbers (n) | Age at diagnosis (y) | Age at diagnosis or onset (y, mean) | Age at study (y, mean) | Age at diagnosis of cancers (y, median) † | Follow-up duration (mean, mo) | Concomitant medications (%) | | | Numbers of patients with overall cancers (n) | SIR of overall cancers (95% CI) | Numbers of patients with CRC | Numbers of patients with hematologic cancer (n) | | | | | Newcastle-Ottawa scale‡ | Jadad score |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | Steroids | AZA, 6 MP | Anti-TNFα | | | | Overall | HL | NHL | Leukemia | | | |
| UC | Fang et al ⁴¹ | 2018 | Retrospective | 39 | 0-6 | 1.2 [†] | NA | - | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | 0 | NA | 5 (S:2, C:0, 0:3) | NA | |
| | Turner et al ⁴² | 2018 | Retrospective | 881 | 6-17 | NA | 15.0 | - | 33.6 | NA | 43 | 57 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, 0:1) | NA | | |
| | Malham et al ⁴³ | 2019 | Retrospective | 2921 | <18 | 14.0 | NA | NA | 114.0 | NA | NA | NA | 33 | 2.6 (1.8-3.7) | 4 | 6 | 4 | 1 | NA | 8 (S:4, C:2, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Olén et al ⁴⁴ ‡‡ | 2020 | Retrospective | 1385 | <18 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 4 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 8 (S:4, C:2, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Ladd et al ⁴⁵ | 1935 | Retrospective | 26 | ≤12 | NA | NA | 13 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 (S:0, C:0, 0:0) | NA | |
| | Lagercrantz et al ⁴⁶ | 1955 | Retrospective | 137 | ≤15 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 6 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2 (S:0, C:0, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Holowach et al ⁴⁷ | 1956 | Retrospective | 18 | <15 | 8.9 ^{§§§} | NA | 21 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 214 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 (S:0, C:0, 0:0) | NA | |
| | Michener et al ⁴⁸ | 1961 | Retrospective | 427 | ≤13 | 11.1 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 46 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1 (S:0, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Hijmans et al ⁴⁹ | 1962 | Retrospective | 43 | ≤16 | 9.1 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 (S:0, C:0, 0:0) | NA | |
| | Korelitz et al ⁵⁰ | 1962 | Retrospective | 134 | ≤15 | 11.0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 9 | NA | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Skyring et al ⁵¹ | 1965 | Retrospective | 80 | ≤15 | 7.2 ^{§§} | NA | NA (17 at diagnosis of CRC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | 3 | NA | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:1, C:0, 0:0) | NA | |
| | Devroede et al ⁵² | 1971 | Retrospective | 396 | <15 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 52 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 (S:0, C:0, 0:0) | NA | |
| | Patterson et al ⁵³ | 1971 | Retrospective | 43 | <20 [§] | 14.0 | NA | 28 | NA | NA | 72 | NA | 2 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Binder et al ⁵⁴ | 1972 | Retrospective | 44 | <16 [§] | 10.0 | NA | NA | 60.8 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2 (S:1, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Michener et al ⁵⁵ | 1979 | Retrospective | 336 | ≤20 | 15.0 ^{§§} | NA | NA | 142.0 ^{¶¶¶} | NA | NA | NA | 10 | NA | 9 | 1 | NA | NA | NA | 3 (S:1, C:0, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Verhave et al ³ | 1990 | Retrospective | 9 | 3.5-17 [§] | NA | 14.0 | - | 24.0 | NA | 100 | NA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Ahsgren et al ⁵⁶ | 1993 | Retrospective | 32 | ≤19 | 14.0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2 (S:1, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Gold et al ⁴ | 1993 | Retrospective | 4 | 5.5-22.5 [§] | NA | 15.5 [¶] | - | NA | NA | 100 | NA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (S:0, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Hyams et al ⁵⁷ | 1996 | Retrospective | 171 | <18 | 11.1 | NA | 25 | 61.2 | 33 | 2 | NA | 2 | NA | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 (S:1, C:0, 0:4) | NA | |
| | Langholz et al ⁷ | 1997 | Retrospective | 80 | <15 | 10.0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 (S:3, C:0, 0:0) | NA | |
| Falcone et al ⁵⁸ | 2000 | Retrospective | 73 | <18 | 11.3 | NA | NA | 48.4 | NA | 5 | NA | NA | NA | 0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 4 (S:1, C:0, 0:2) | NA | | |
| Gower-Rousseau et al ⁵⁹ | 2009 | Retrospective | 113 | <17 | 14.0 | NA | 28 | 77.0 | 82 | 25 | 1 | NA | NA | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 6 (S:3, C:0, 0:3) | NA | | |
| IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | Jakobsen et al ¹⁶ | 2009 | Retrospective | 60 | <15 | 11.0 | NA | NA | NA | 38 | 0 | 0 | 2 | NA | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 (S:2, C:2, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Hyams et al ⁶⁰ | 2010 | Retrospective | 52 | <16 | 12.2 | NA | - | 30.0 | 90 | 42 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 (S:3, C:0, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Kelsen et al ²³ | 2011 | Retrospective | 4 | ≤7 | NA | 6.2 ^{¶,††} | - | NA | NA | NA | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 (S:1, C:0, 0:1) | NA | |
| | Ashworth et al ²⁴ | 2012 | Retrospective | 535 | ≤21 ^{††} | 12.7 | NA | 18 | NA | NA | 45 | 12 | NA | NA | NA | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 (S:3, C:0, 0:3) | NA | |
| | Jess et al ²⁹ | 2013 | Retrospective | 153 | ≤19 | NA | NA | NA | 225.0 | NA | NA | NA | 9 | 1.16 (0.57-2.37) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 7 (S:2, C:2, 0:3) | NA | |
| | Peneau et al ³¹ | 2013 | Retrospective | 160 | <17 | 14.5 | NA | 15 [¶] | 139.0 | 27 | NA | NA | 3 | 4.60 (0.90-13.50) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 (S:3, C:2, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Kappelman et al ³² | 2014 | Retrospective | NA | ≤19 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2.00 (1.44-2.78) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 6 (S:2, C:2, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Vahabnezhad et al ³⁵ | 2014 | Retrospective | 31 | ≤21 | 12.0 | NA | NA | 47.0 | 65 | 29 | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 (S:1, C:0, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Hyams et al ³⁷ | 2017 | Retrospective | 1432 | <17 | 9.9 ^{†††} | 12.3 ^{†††} | NA | 19.2 ^{†††} | NA ^{†††} | 67 ^{†††} | 67 ^{†††} | 3 | 2.43 (1.29-4.15) ^{†††} | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 7 (S: 4, C:1, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Olén et al ³⁹ | 2017 | Retrospective | 4648 | <18 | 14.0 | 30.0 | - | NA | NA | 13 | 2 | 299 | NA | 96 | 13 | NA | 0 | NA | NA | 8 (S:4, C:2, 0:2) | NA |
| | Fang et al ⁴¹ | 2018 | Retrospective | 4 | 0-6 | 1.2 [¶] | NA | - | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | 5 (S:2, C:0, 0:3) | NA |
| | Malham et al ⁴³ | 2019 | Retrospective | 3741 | <18 | 14.0 | NA | NA | 117.6 | NA | NA | NA | 39 | 2.50 (1.80-3.40) | 12 | 6 | 3 | 2 | NA | 8 (S:4, C:2, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Olén et al ^{61,†††} | 2020 | Retrospective | 1918 | <18 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 16 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 8 (S:4, C:2, 0:2) | NA |
| | Markowitz et al ⁶² | 1993 | Retrospective | 165 | NA | 11.4 | 15.0 ^{****} | - | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 ^{††††} | NA | 0 ^{††††} | 0 ^{††††} | 0 ^{††††} | 0 ^{††††} | 0 ^{††††} | 1 (S:1, C:0, 0:0) | NA | |
| | Lee et al ⁶³ | 2005 | Retrospective | 112 | 5-21 [§] | NA | NA | - | 35.0 | NA | NA | 100 | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 (S:1, C:0, 0:2) | NA | |
| | Chouliaras et al ⁶⁴ | 2010 | Retrospective | 31 | NA | 8.7 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1 | NA | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 (S:1, C:0, 0:2) | NA | |

(continued)

Table III. Continued

| Diseases | Author | Year (reference ^a) | Study design | Patient numbers (n) | Age at diagnosis (y) | Age at diagnosis or onset (y, mean) | Age at study (y, mean) | Age at diagnosis of cancers (y, median) [†] | Follow-up duration (mean, mo) | Concomitant medications (%) | | | Numbers of patients with overall cancers (n) | SIR of overall cancers (95% CI) | Numbers of patients with CRC | Numbers of patients with hematologic cancer (n) | | | | Newcastle- Ottawa scale [‡] | Jadad score |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|--|----|-----|----------|---|----------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | Steroids | AZA, 6 MP | Anti- TNF α | | | | Overall | HL | NHL | Leukemia | | |
| | Colletti et al ⁶⁵ | 2013 | Retrospective | 4343 | ≤18 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 7 | Anti-TNF α exposed: 4.77 (1.56-14.61); Non biologic therapies: 5.09 (1.35-19.15) | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 (S:2, C:2, O:1) | NA |
| | El-Matary et al ⁶⁶ | 2020 | Retrospective | 947 | <18 | 14.0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 17 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 6 (S:4, C:0, O:2) | NA |

AZA, azathioprine; C, comparability; HL, Hodgkin's lymphoma; NA, not available; NHL, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; O, outcome; S, selection.

^aSee supplementary reference list.

[†]NA indicates data regarding age of cancer diagnosis is not available and "-" indicates no reported case of cancer.

[‡]Newcastle-Ottawa scale, total score (S, selection (0-4); C, Comparability (0-2); O, Outcome (0-3)).

[§]Data as the definition of age at study.

[¶]Mean or median ages of patients with CD and UC (Gold 1993, Kelsen 2011, Peneau 2013, Fang 2018).

^{**}Follow-up duration from the patients who completed the trial (Markowitz 2000).

^{††}Mean ages at start of IFX (Hyams 2009, Sinitsky 2010, Kelsen 2011).

^{‡‡}Two patients who were over 21 years old were included (Ashworth 2012).

^{§§}Mean age was calculated from each medium data of step-wise age (Skyring 1965, Michener 1979).

^{¶¶}Mean follow-up duration of 124 patients (Hyams 2012).

^{***}Patients were defined as "children".

^{†††}Data as IBDs (Hyams 2017).

^{‡‡‡}Data were from cohort of Denmark. The cohort of Sweden in this study were duplicate with that of Olén 2017.

^{§§§}Mean ages at admission (Holowach 1956).

^{¶¶¶}Mean follow-up duration of 333 patients (Michener 1979).

^{****}Mean ages at start of immunosuppressive (Markowitz 1993).

^{††††}Data were quoted from the study by Kirschner et al (Markowitz 1993).

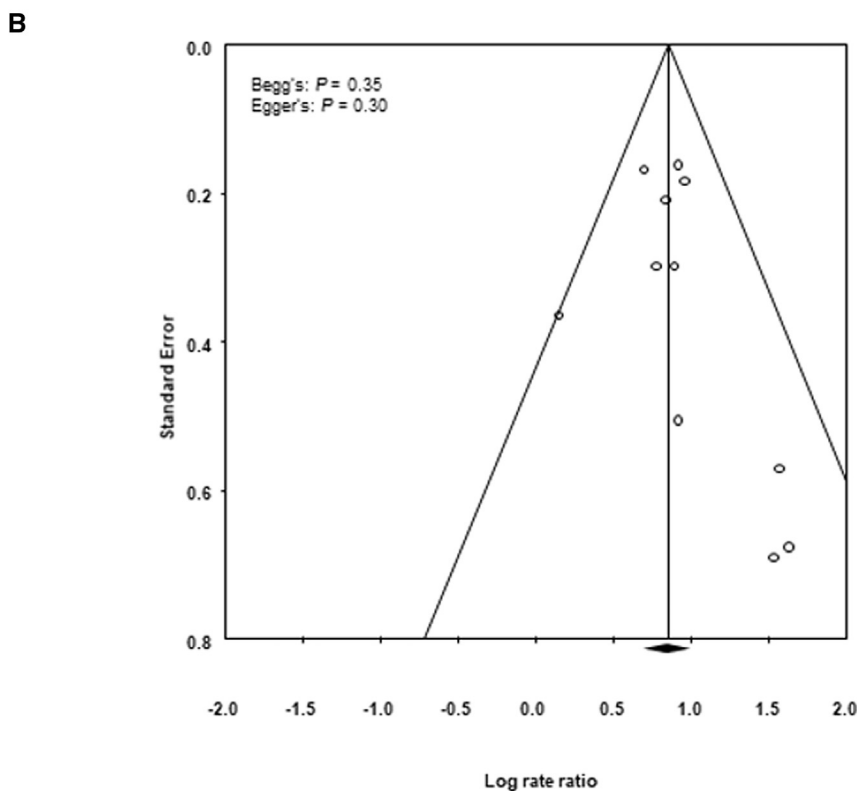
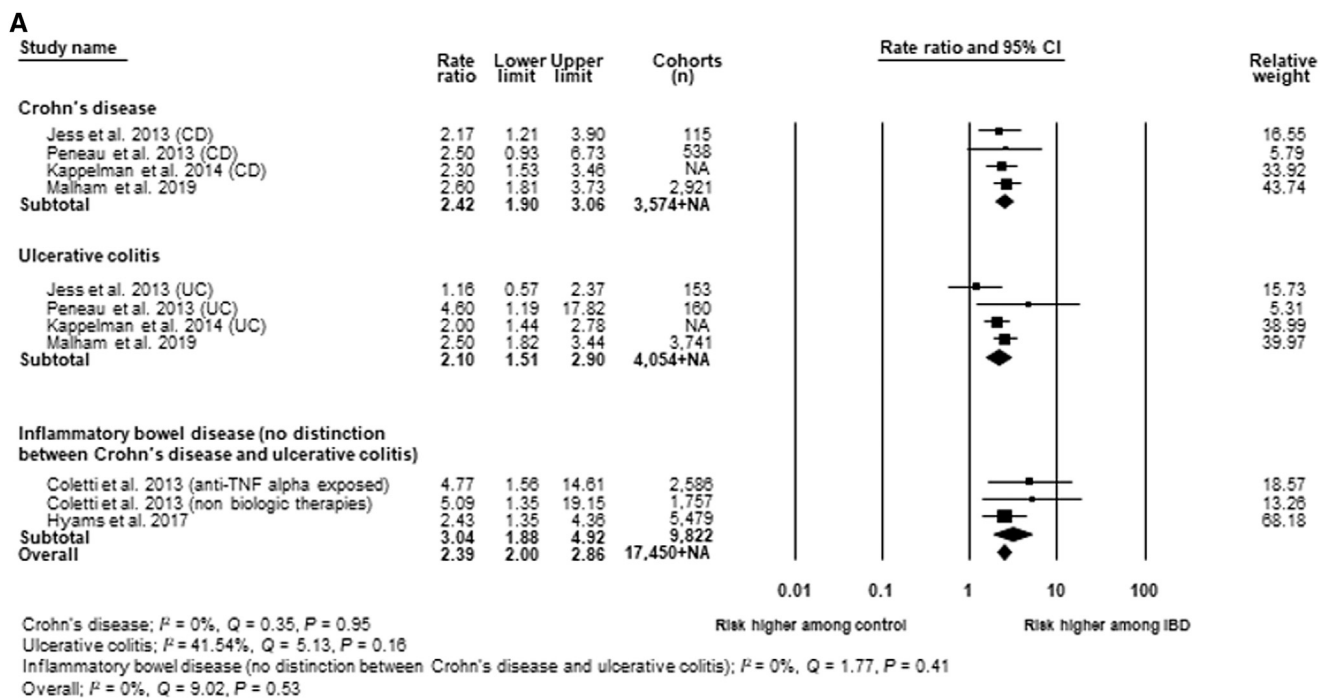


Figure 2. Meta-analysis of the risk of overall cancers reported as SIR among patients with pediatric IBD. **A**, Forest plot of the risk of overall cancers reported as SIR among patients with pediatric IBD. **B**, Funnel plot of the studies included in Figure 2, A.

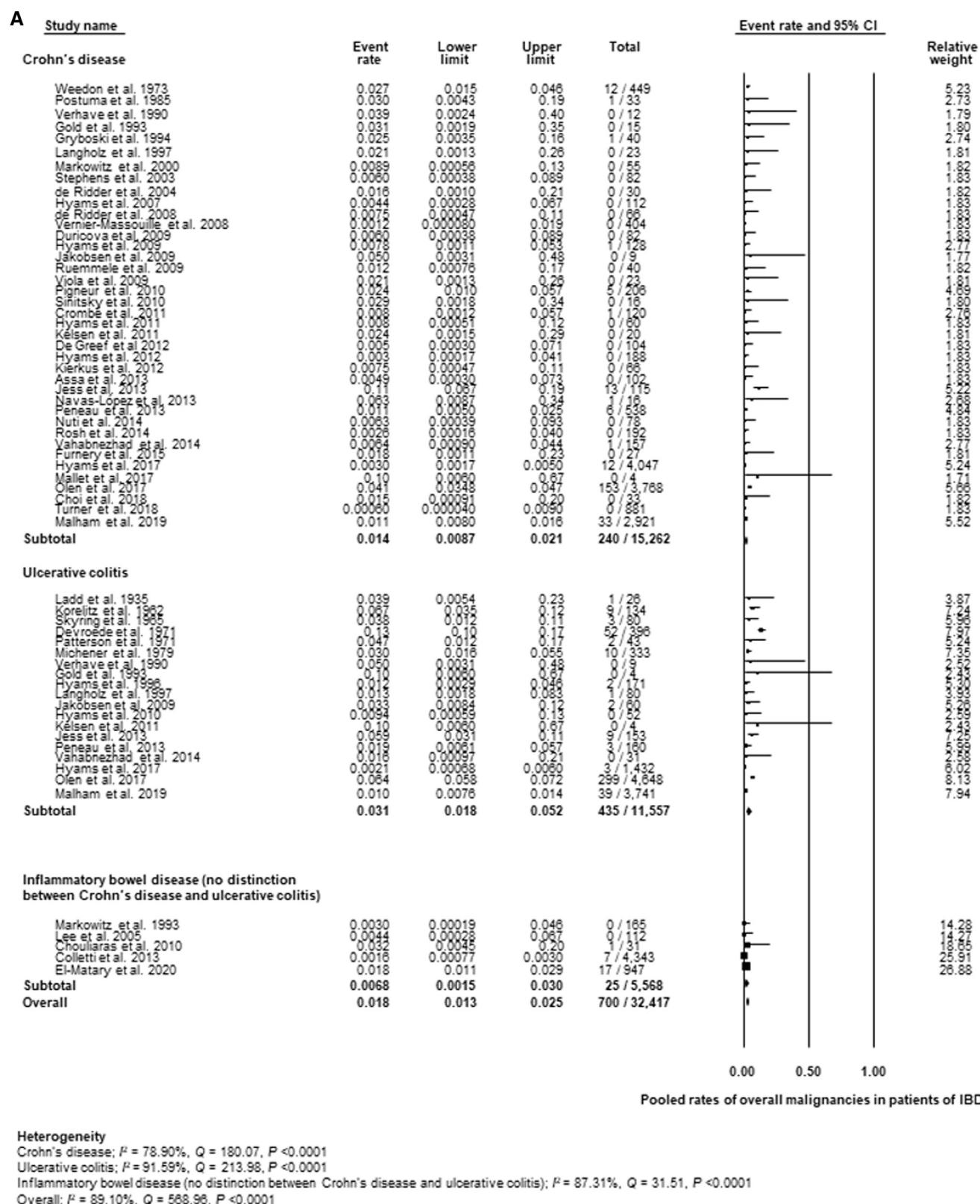


Figure 3. Meta-analysis of incidence rates of overall cancers among pediatric IBD. **A**, Forest plot of incidence rates of overall cancers among pediatric IBD. **B**, Meta-regression of the follow-up duration (*months*) and the risk of overall cancers. **C**, Funnel plot of the studies included in Figure 3, A.

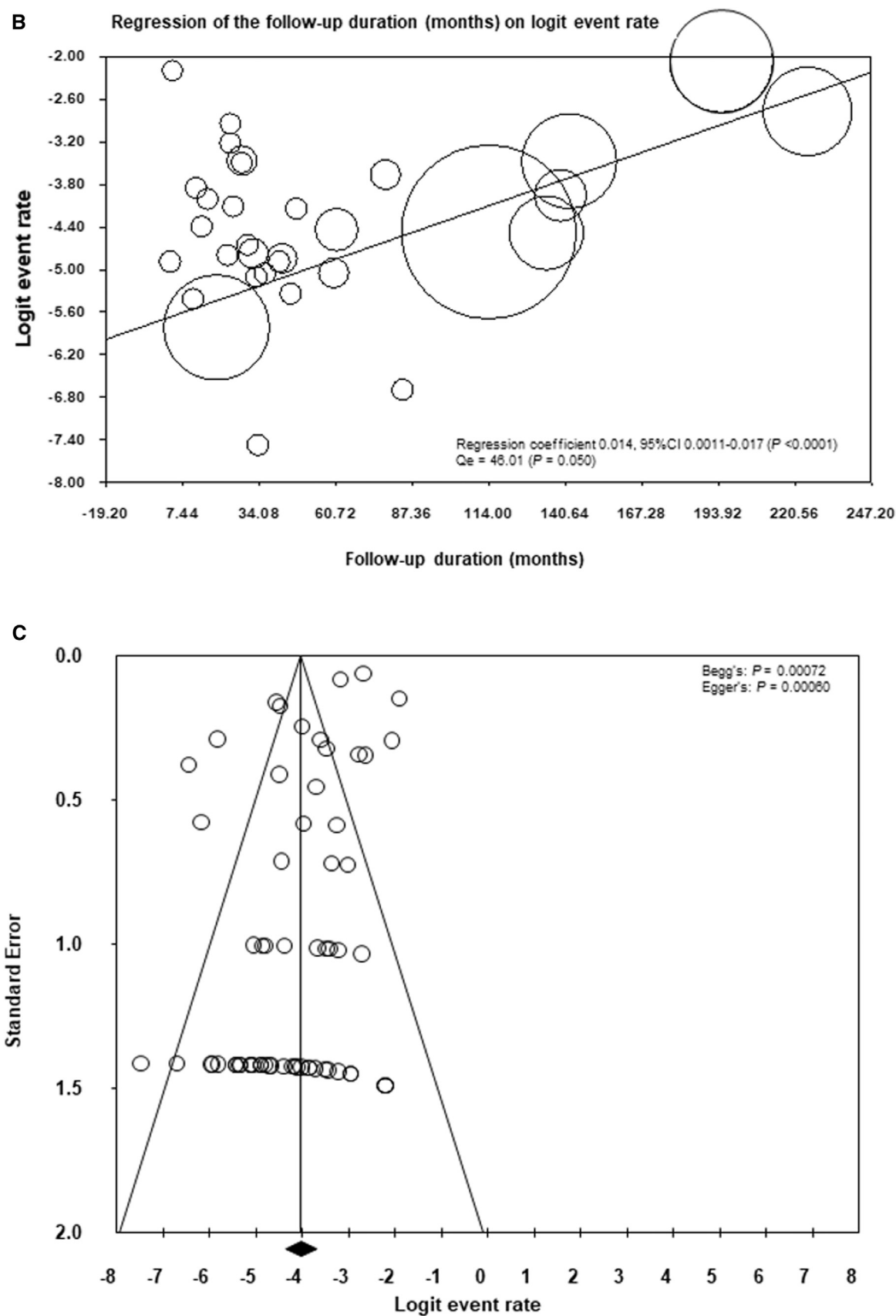


Figure 3. (continued)

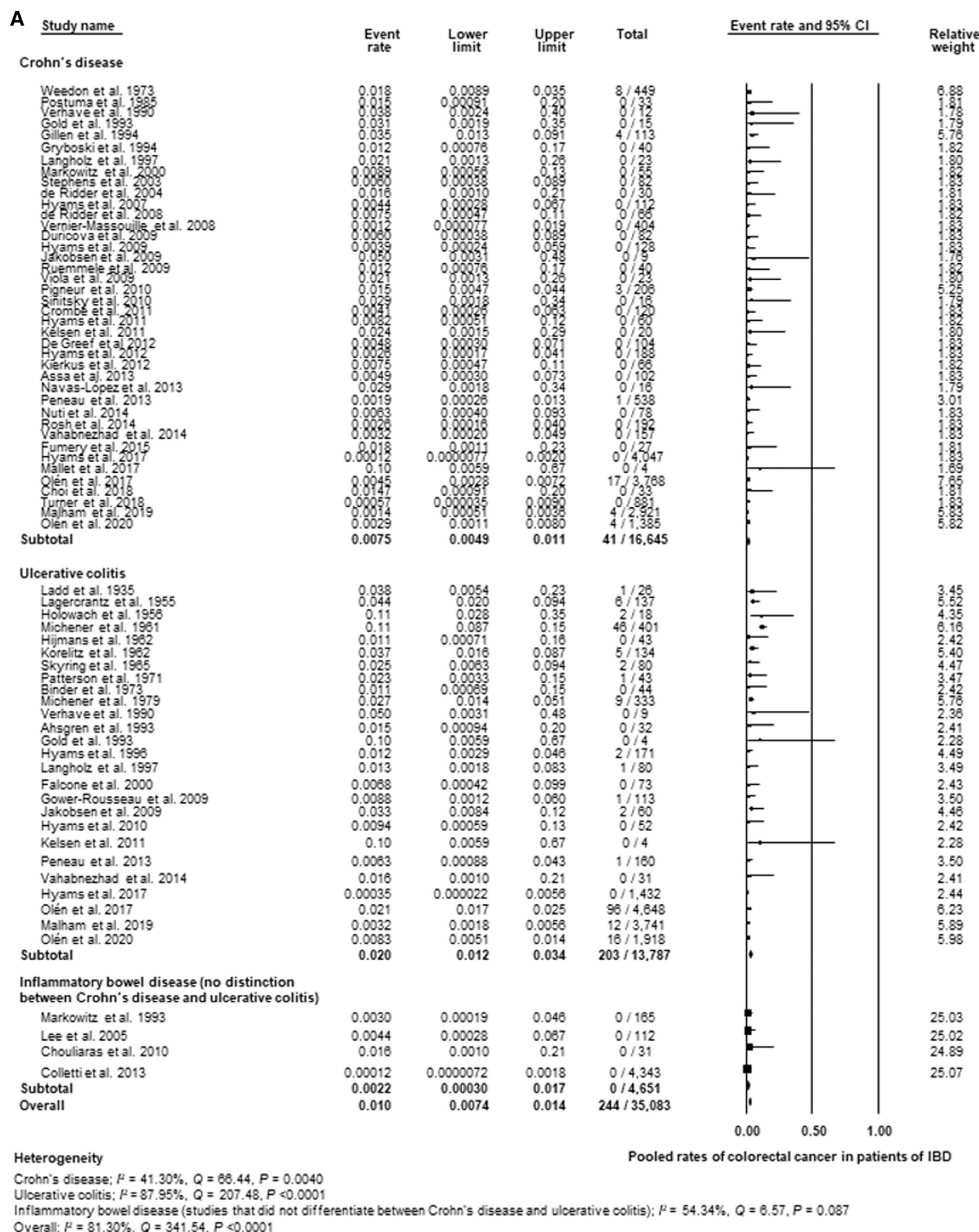


Figure 5. Meta-analysis of incidence rates of CRC among pediatric IBD. **A**, Forest plot of incidence rates of CRC among pediatric IBD. **B**, Meta-regression of the proportion of male (%) and the risk of CRC. **C**, Meta-regression of the age at diagnosis (year) and the risk of CRC. **D**, Funnel plot of the studies included in Figure 5, A.

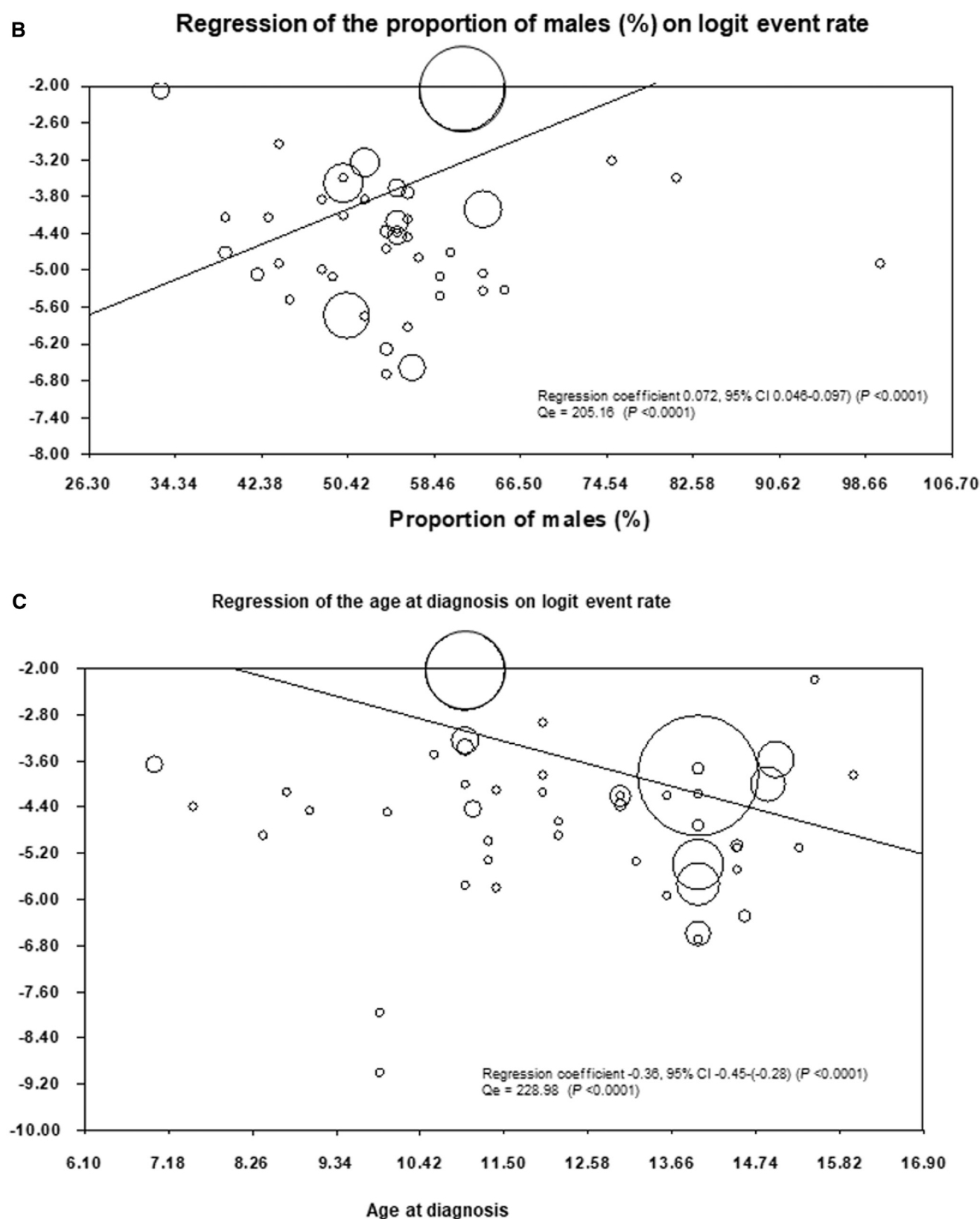


Figure 5. (continued)

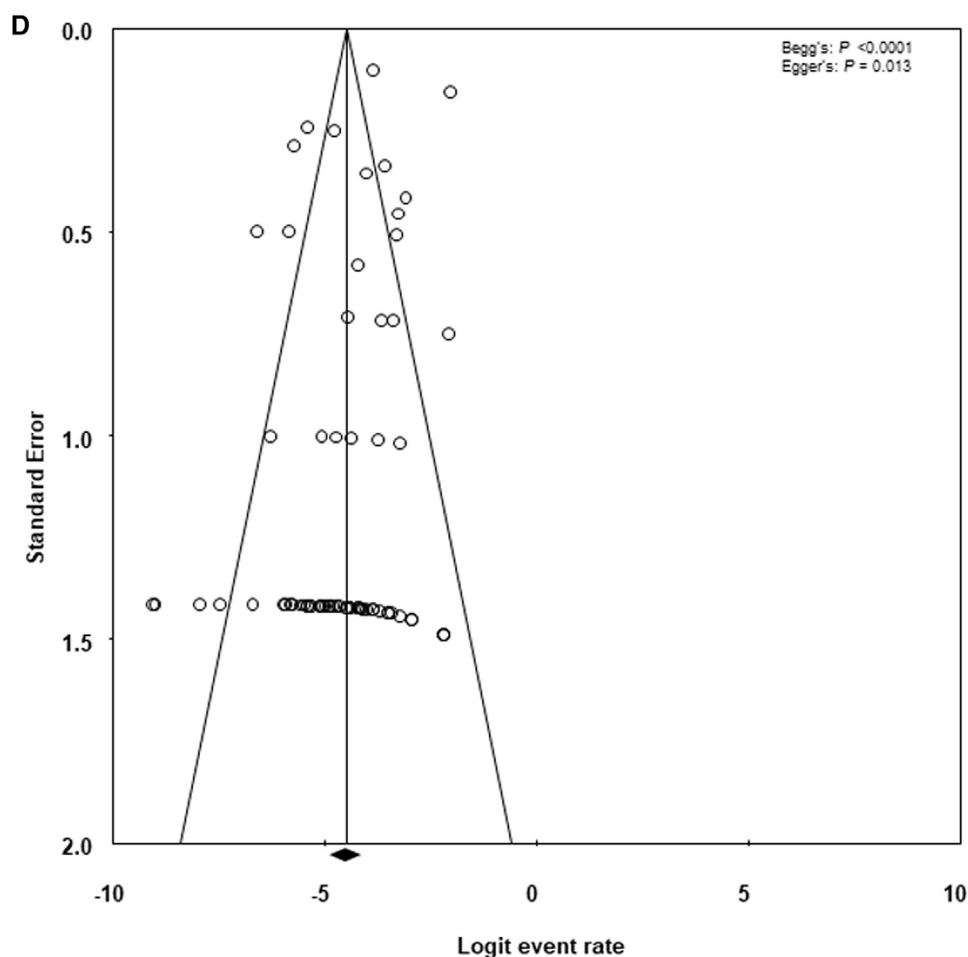


Figure 5. (continued)

Meta-Analysis of Incidence Rates of Colorectal Cancer in Pediatric IBD

There were only 2 pediatric IBD (no distinction between CD and UC) studies and 1 pediatric UC study reporting the SIR of CRC, therefore, meta-analysis by SIR was not possible. The pooled incidence rate of CRC was performed from 9 prospective and 52 retrospective studies (1 study included both study designs) with a total of 35 083 patients with pediatric IBD.

As shown in **Figure 5, A**, the pooled incidence rate of CRC in CD was 0.0075 (95% CI 0.0049-0.011) with moderate heterogeneity ($I^2 = 41.30\%$). The pooled incidence rate of CRC in UC was 0.020 (95% CI 0.012-0.034) with high heterogeneity ($I^2 = 87.95\%$). When including all patients with pediatric IBD, the pooled incidence rate was 0.010 (95% CI 0.0074-0.014) with high heterogeneity ($I^2 = 81.30\%$) (**Figure 5, A**). Meta-regression showed that there was a positive correlation between the proportion of male patients and the risk of CRC (regression coefficient 0.072, 95% CI 0.046-0.097, $P < .0001$) (**Figure 5, B**), suggestive of higher risk in male patients, and a negative correlation between the age at diagnosis or onset and the risk of CRC (regression coefficient -0.36 , 95% CI -0.45 to

-0.28 , $P < .0001$) (**Figure 5, C**), suggestive of higher risk in patients with early onset disease. Analyses of variance showed that both Q_e were statistically significant ($Q_e = 205.16$, 228.98 , $P < .0001$, $< .0001$, respectively), indicating that heterogeneity could not be explained only by each factor. According to meta-regression analyses, the risk of CRC development was not particularly affected by the history of concomitant medications such as steroid, immunomodulator and anti-TNF agents (**Tables V-VII**). Visual inspection of the funnel plot did not show asymmetry, but there were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $= 0.013$, respectively; **Figure 5, D**). Funnel plots of the studies reporting the risk of CRC among patients with CD and UC were also shown in **Figure 6, A, D**, respectively (available at www.jpeds.com).

Meta-Analysis of Incidence Rates of Hematologic Cancers in Pediatric IBD

There was only 1 study that reported the SIR of hematologic cancers in patients with pediatric IBD, therefore, meta-analysis by SIR was not possible. The pooled incidence rates

of hematologic cancers were assessed from 9 prospective and 40 retrospective studies (1 study included both study designs) with a total of 31 477 patients with pediatric IBD.

As shown in **Figure 7**, A (available at www.jpeds.com), the pooled incidence rate of hematologic cancers in patients with CD and patients with UC were 0.0061 (95% CI 0.0040-0.0090) and 0.0045 (95% CI 0.0026-0.0079), respectively with low heterogeneities ($I^2 = 27.14\%$, 31.66% , respectively). When all patients with pediatric IBD were included, the pooled incidence rate was 0.0054 (95% CI 0.0039-0.0075) with moderate heterogeneity ($I^2 = 34.25\%$). Visual inspection of the funnel plot did not show asymmetry, but there were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $< .0001$, respectively; **Figure 7**, B).

When individual hematologic cancers were analyzed separately, the pooled incidence rates of Hodgkin's lymphoma in all patients with pediatric IBD was 0.0061 (95% CI 0.0040-0.0093) with low heterogeneity ($I^2 = 36.77\%$) (**Figure 8**, A; available at www.jpeds.com). The pooled incidence rates of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in all patients with IBD was 0.0065 (95% CI 0.0041-0.010) with moderate heterogeneity ($I^2 = 41.90\%$) (**Figure 9**, A; available at www.jpeds.com). The pooled rates of leukemia in all patients with IBD was 0.0056 (95% CI 0.0028-0.011) with low heterogeneity ($I^2 = 24.20\%$) (**Figure 10**, A; available at www.jpeds.com). According to meta-regression analyses, the risk of hematologic cancers development including Hodgkin's lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and leukemia was not particularly affected by the history of concomitant medications such as steroid, immunomodulatory, and anti-TNF agents (**Tables V-VII**).

Temporal Trend of Cancer Incidence Assessed by Cumulative Meta-Analysis

Cumulative meta-analyses of each outcomes ranked by year were performed and shown in **Figure 9**, A-G. The number of studies included for overall risk of cancers reported as SIR were small and were all published after 2013, so no temporal trend could be assessed (**Figure 11**, A; available at www.jpeds.com). For the incidence of colorectal and hematologic cancers, we investigated the temporal change of the risk of each type of cancer by assessing the correlation coefficient of each cumulative meta-analysis. We found that as the reporting years became more recent, the incidence of cancer were significantly reduced in all cumulative meta-analyses (overall cancer, CRC, hematologic cancer, Hodgkin's lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and leukemia) for CD and UC (**Figure 11**, B-G). Regression coefficients for cumulative meta-analyses among patients with IBD about overall cancer, CRC, and hematologic cancer were 0.019, 0.0049, and 0.0018, respectively (95% CI 0.018-0.021 [$P < .0001$], 0.0043-0.0054 [$P < .0001$], and 0.0017-0.0019 [$P < .0001$], respectively).

Sensitivity Analyses

We performed influence analyses by removing individual studies from the meta-analyses to assess the influence of any particular study on the results (**Figure 12**, A-G; available at www.jpeds.com). This demonstrated that the random effects estimate was not greatly influenced by any particular study.

We also undertook meta-analyses excluding studies with less than 30 patients when possible. Each analysis showed similar results compared with the aforementioned results (data not shown).

Discussion

We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis and demonstrated that patients with IBD diagnosed in childhood have a significantly increased risk of cancer when compared with the general population. In addition, we comprehensively analyzed incidence rates of CRC and hematologic cancers, and demonstrated that the incidence of these cancers appeared to be down-trending, which have not been referred in the previous systematic review.⁷

Nearly 10% of newly diagnosed patients with CD or UC are below 15 years of age^{27,28}; therefore, understanding the risk of cancer development in the pediatric population is essential in the accurate evaluation and management of patients with pediatric IBD. Our meta-analysis demonstrated that patients with pediatric CD have a 2.42-fold increased risk of cancers and patients with UC have a 2.10-fold increased risk when compared with a general pediatric population. Interpreting the SIR, however, is strengthened when evaluated with a corresponding incidence rate. Thus, we also assessed the pooled incidence rates of the risk of overall cancer and cancer subtypes among patients with pediatric IBD. The incidence rate of overall cancer in CD and UC was 0.014 and 0.031, respectively. For comparative purposes, within the surveillance, epidemiology, and end result (SEER) database, the incidence rate of cancer among children and adolescents were 0.00014 (ages 10-14 years), 0.00022 (ages 15-19 years), and 0.00036 (ages 20-24 years), respectively.²⁹

In a population-based study, Ekblom et al reported that children who develop UC before 14 years of age had a cumulative CRC incidence rate of 5% at 20 years and 40% at 35 years.³⁰ In our analysis, the incidence rate of CRC among pediatric patients with UC was 0.020. When compared with UC, pediatric patients with CD had a numerically lower incidence of CRC (0.0075). Meta-regression in UC demonstrated an increased risk of CRC development in male patients and with younger disease onset. The annual incidence of CRC within the SEER database (age-adjusted rate, 2007-2011) is 0.000010 for adolescents (ages 20-24 years) and 0.0022 for adults over age 65 years.²⁹

Over the past decade, immunosuppressive agents as well as biologic agents, are increasingly used to treat pediatric IBD.^{31,32} However, the risks of therapies need to be considered as evidence suggests that in particular, thiopurines,

when used alone or in combination with anti-TNF α therapies, increase the risk of lymphoma.³³ In our analysis, the incidence rates of Hodgkin's lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and leukemia in pediatric CD and UC were greater than any age group of the general population within the SEER database (age-adjusted rate, 2007-2011).²⁹ The risk of cancers in patients exposed to thiopurines and anti-TNF agents remain controversial.^{34,35} In our study, we did not find a correlation between thiopurine or anti-TNF α agent use and the risk of any cancers (**Tables V-VII**); this may have been due to the inclusion of several research articles with short follow-up periods. Indeed, there have been reports of lymphoma and non-melanoma skin cancer risk associated with thiopurine use which referred that patients using thiopurines seem to have an increased risk of lymphoma or non-melanoma skin cancer that is proportional to therapy duration.^{34,36} Although not statistically significant, there was a trend of correlation between thiopurine use and the risk of lymphoma (**Table VI**). Recently, it has also been reported that hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma is a rare but concerning issue in young adult male patients with IBD who have been exposed to thiopurines, however, there was not enough data to analyze this risk in our meta-analysis.

The results of cumulative analyses showed that the incidence of cancers appear to be down-trending in patients with pediatric IBD. This is in concordance with studies reporting a decreased risk of CRC incidence in adult IBD population.³⁷ The decrease in the risk of CRC over time may be owing to the changes in treatment of IBD.³⁸ However, our study found a down-trending risk of overall and hematologic cancers. This phenomenon may not be obvious in other autoimmune diseases treated with similar medications: the average lymphoma risk in recently diagnosed patients with rheumatoid arthritis is similar in magnitude to that reported in historical cohorts.³⁹ In addition, we could not investigate whether patients with very early onset IBD carry a higher risk of cancer because there was only one study which referred to this patient population.⁴⁰

Our study has some limitations. At first, after we identified 969 127 records through database, 968 806 of records were excluded after initial screening of titles and abstracts. Papers not related to the outcome of our study, or duplicate papers in the databases were deleted at this stage. However, the number of duplicate papers cannot be accurately assessed: as mentioned in our study, only the first 1000 articles were technically available for review in each search for Google Scholar. Second, our analyses with patients with pediatric IBD mainly included retrospective observational studies. In addition, 16 studies (24.24%) included adolescent-onset patients with IBD with childhood-onset patients, though each average age of 12 years studies was below 15 years old. The remaining 4 studies did not mention the average age of onset of disease but have exclusively included patients with childhood-onset IBD. Moreover, the qualities of the observational studies were modest based on the Newcastle-Ottawa scale. Though overall quality of each assessment among this systematic re-

view was low, it seems to be due to the fact that the quality of the observational studies included was modest, as we referred above. Most of the studies, which were included in our analyses, described the occurrence of cancers among patients with IBD diagnosed in childhood, but all cancers might not occur during the childhood period. Therefore, we were not able to simply compare the event rates of our analyses with the existing age-adjusted rates of SEER database. Besides, the incidence rate findings of our meta-analyses were compared with the SEER database, but a formal statistical analysis could not be undertaken. Skin cancer and other solid cancers could not be analyzed because there were no reports among patients with pediatric IBD. Our review could not assess the influence of various treatment on the risk of cancers. Aardoom et al reported cancer risk in patients with childhood-onset IBD separately as fatal and nonfatal, however, it was unclear whether treatments were significantly involved in the onset of cancer.⁷ We conducted meta-regressions with factors such as concomitant steroids, anti-TNF agents, or immunomodulator use, and found that none of these drugs was significantly associated with the occurrence of cancer. These findings are in concordance with a previous study that reported that disease activity of rheumatologic diseases among adults are involved in the subsequent development of cancer.⁴¹ In particular, there was no evidence of an association between anti-TNF agent use and cancer risk among patients with rheumatological diseases. It may be conceivable that improved disease control with newer, more effective therapeutic agents will help mitigate the increased risk of cancer associated with pediatric rheumatologic diseases. The duration of immunomodulators use may influence the incidence of malignancy, however, because of the lack of papers describing the duration of anti-TNF agents and immunomodulators use, we could not account for duration of treatment with these medications in our analyses. In addition, we could not investigate the correlation of the development of malignancy between races: in a recent report, it was referred that there may be differences in the risk of lymphoma due to immunomodulators use between races.⁴² There was some baseline variability in patient population among the different studies: for instance, some of the papers included in our analyses were on treatment-biased patients with IBD. This variability may also contribute to the heterogeneity that was seen in a small number of our analyses. Indeed, we undertook meta-regression with factors such as age of diagnosis, duration of follow-up period, and proportion of males for each analysis and found that there were correlations with some of our results. Our study presented the decrease in incidence of malignancies over time with analyzing cumulative meta-analyses. However, without detailed individual patient data, it may be difficult to confirm that the incidence of newly developed cancers is actually decreasing. We found small study effects (publication biases) among some of our meta-analyses, though visual inspection of the funnel plots showed no asymmetry. Some smaller studies may be more likely to be published when they have significant results, which in turn biases the results of a meta-analysis.⁴³ We performed meta-

analyses including or excluding studies with less than 30 patients when possible, but results were similar. We were unable to perform sensitivity analyses limited to population-based studies to avoid referral biases. Only 11 out of 66 papers were population-based studies in our analyses, and the numbers were even smaller for individual cancers. Instead, we conducted influence analyses as one of the sensitivity analyses to identify the influential papers. We demonstrated that the random effects estimate was not greatly influenced by any particular study.

In conclusion, this systematic review and meta-analysis showed that patients with IBD diagnosed in childhood have an increased risk of cancers when compared with the general population. This risk appeared to be attributed mostly to the development of CRC and hematologic cancers with risk factors that included patient sex (male) as well as younger onset and longer duration of disease, but not thiopurine or anti-TNF agent use. We also observed that the risk of these cancers appeared to be down-trending over time. ■

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50 Years Ago in *THE JOURNAL OF PEDIATRICS*

Diagnosis of Coagulation Defects in Reye Syndrome

Schwartz A. The coagulation defect in Reye's syndrome. *J Pediatr* 1971;78:326-8.

Fifty years ago in *The Journal*, Schwartz described a child with Reye syndrome, likely from a myxovirus, admitted to Yale-New Haven Hospital with sudden hemorrhagic diathesis. This child had prolonged prothrombin time and partial thromboplastin time and generally low levels of coagulation factors. Although the low levels of coagulation factors was suggestive of disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), the normal levels of factor VIII, normal platelet count, and absence of fibrin split products clinched the correct diagnosis of hepatic failure, allowing for appropriate therapy. Schwartz cautioned about the potentially deleterious effect of an incorrect diagnosis of DIC, which was heparin therapy in a bleeding child.

The world is currently in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) is thought to be a manifestation of COVID-19, which is caused by a coronavirus. In contrast to Reye syndrome, thrombosis is a major concern in MIS-C. Bleeding is not common with MIS-C, but these children tend to have prolonged prothrombin time, low platelet count, and elevated levels of D-dimer, a fibrin split product.¹ A large proportion of these children receive heparin therapy to prevent thrombosis. At Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital and other children's hospital in the US, viscoelastic testing of coagulation with thromboelastography or thromboelastometry is now available. Reports in adults with COVID-19 suggest a prothrombotic profile using these tests. Studies to characterize the coagulation profile using viscoelastic testing in children with MIS-C are ongoing.

For the past 50 years, prothrombin time, partial thromboplastin time and platelet count have been the first-line workup for children with probable defects in hemostasis. Novel tests, such as viscoelastic testing, are now able to assess the combined effect of coagulation factors and platelets. Increasing experience with the use of these test may provide further insight into defects in hemostasis in other virus-related syndromes. Although heparin has been abandoned as a therapy for DIC, viscoelastic testing also may be used to titrate heparin to avoid its deleterious effect of bleeding.

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Reference

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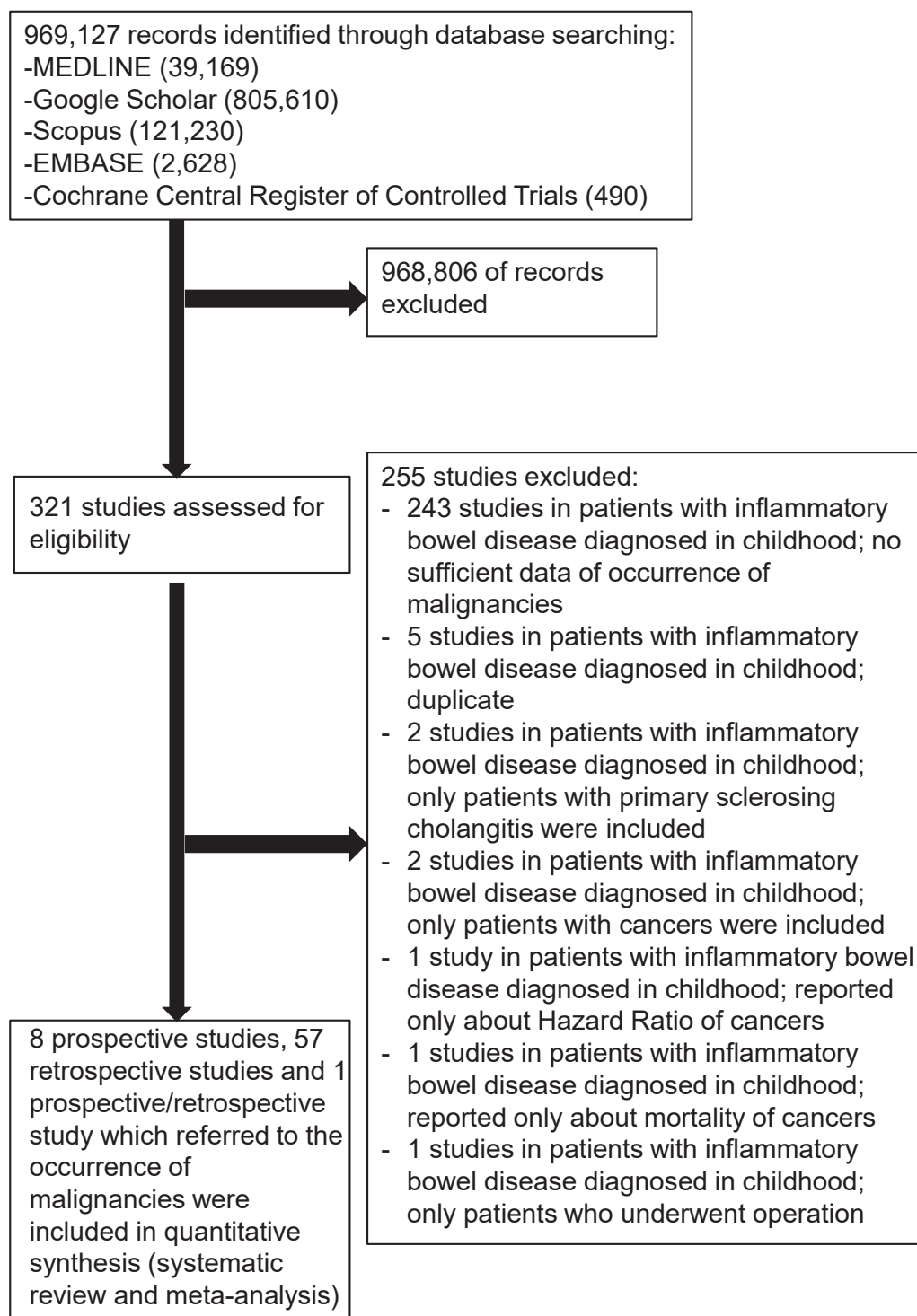


Figure 1. Flow chart of the assessment of the studies identified in the meta-analysis.

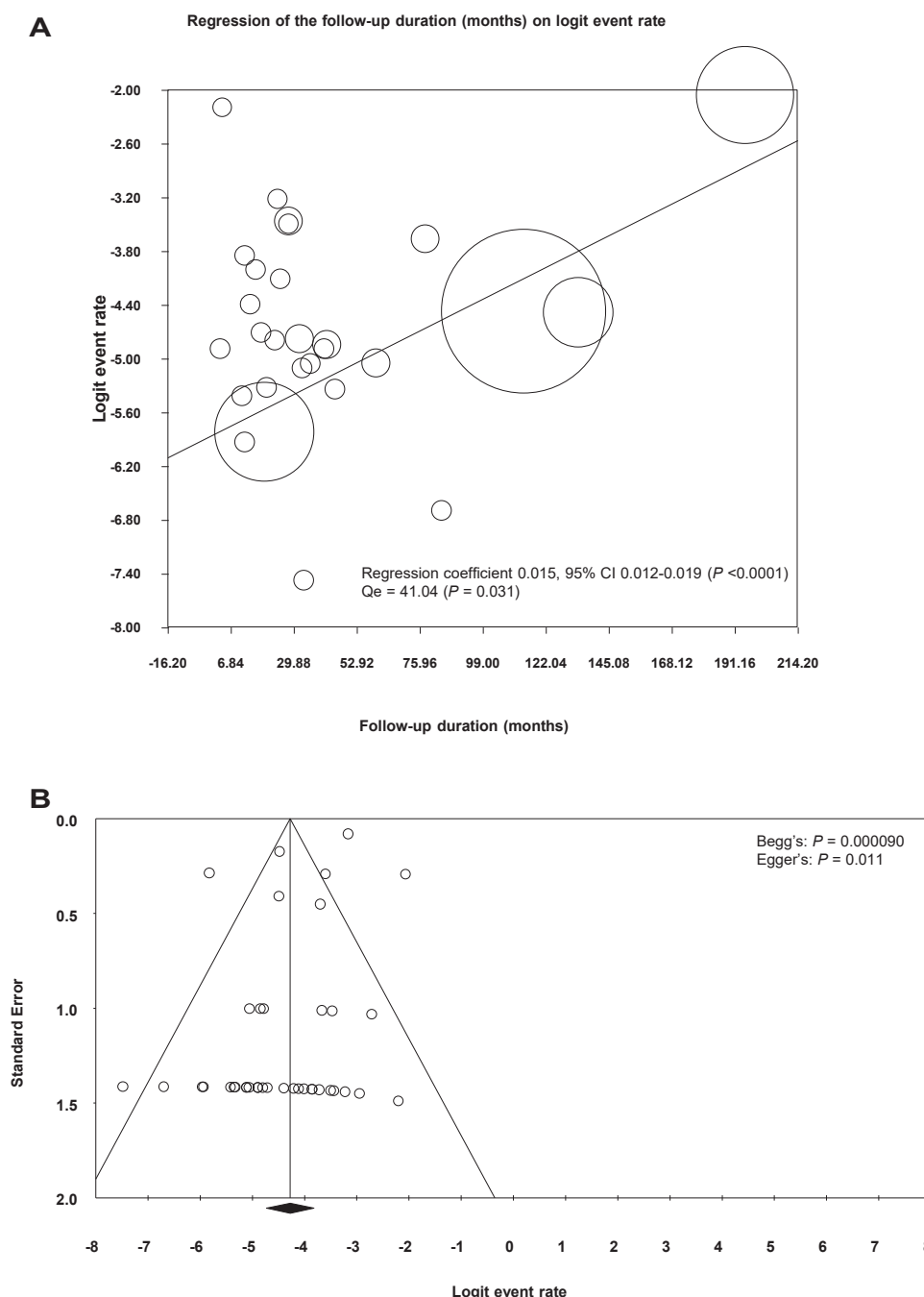


Figure 4. A, Meta-regression of the follow-up duration (*months*) and the risk of overall cancers among patients with CD. Meta-regression showed that there was a positive correlation between the follow-up duration of the studies and the risk of overall cancers (regression coefficient 0.015, 95% CI 0.012-0.019, $P < .0001$). ANOVA showed that Q_e was statistically significant ($Q_e = 41.04$, $P = .031$), indicating that heterogeneity could not be explained only by this factor. **B,** Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of overall cancers among patients with CD included in [Figure 3, A](#). There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P = .000090$, $.011$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **C,** Meta-regression of the follow-up duration (months) and the risk of overall cancers among patients with UC. Meta-regression showed that there was a positive correlation between the follow-up duration of the studies and the risk of overall cancers (regression coefficient 0.014, 95% CI 0.0091-0.019, $P < .0001$). ANOVA showed that Q_e was not statistically significant ($Q_e = 10.59$, $P = .16$), indicating that heterogeneity was largely explained by this factor and that there remains no statistically significant heterogeneity once follow-up duration has been taken into consideration. **D,** Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of overall cancers among patients with UC included in [Figure 3, A](#). There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger test ($P = .51$, $.16$, respectively). **E,** Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of overall cancers among patients with IBD (studies that did not differentiate between CD and UC) included in [Figure 3, A](#). There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P = .81$, $.71$, respectively).

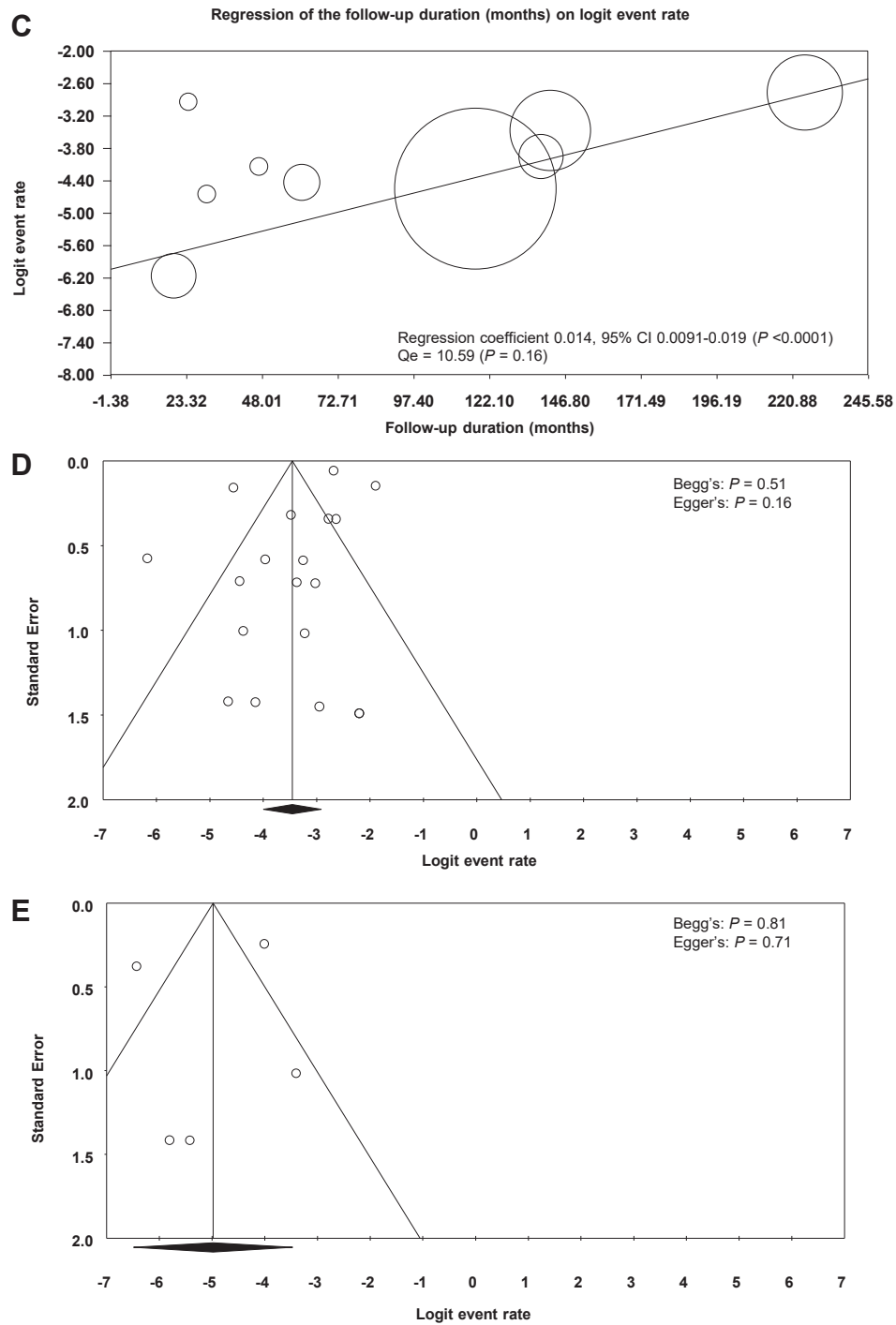


Figure 4. (continued)

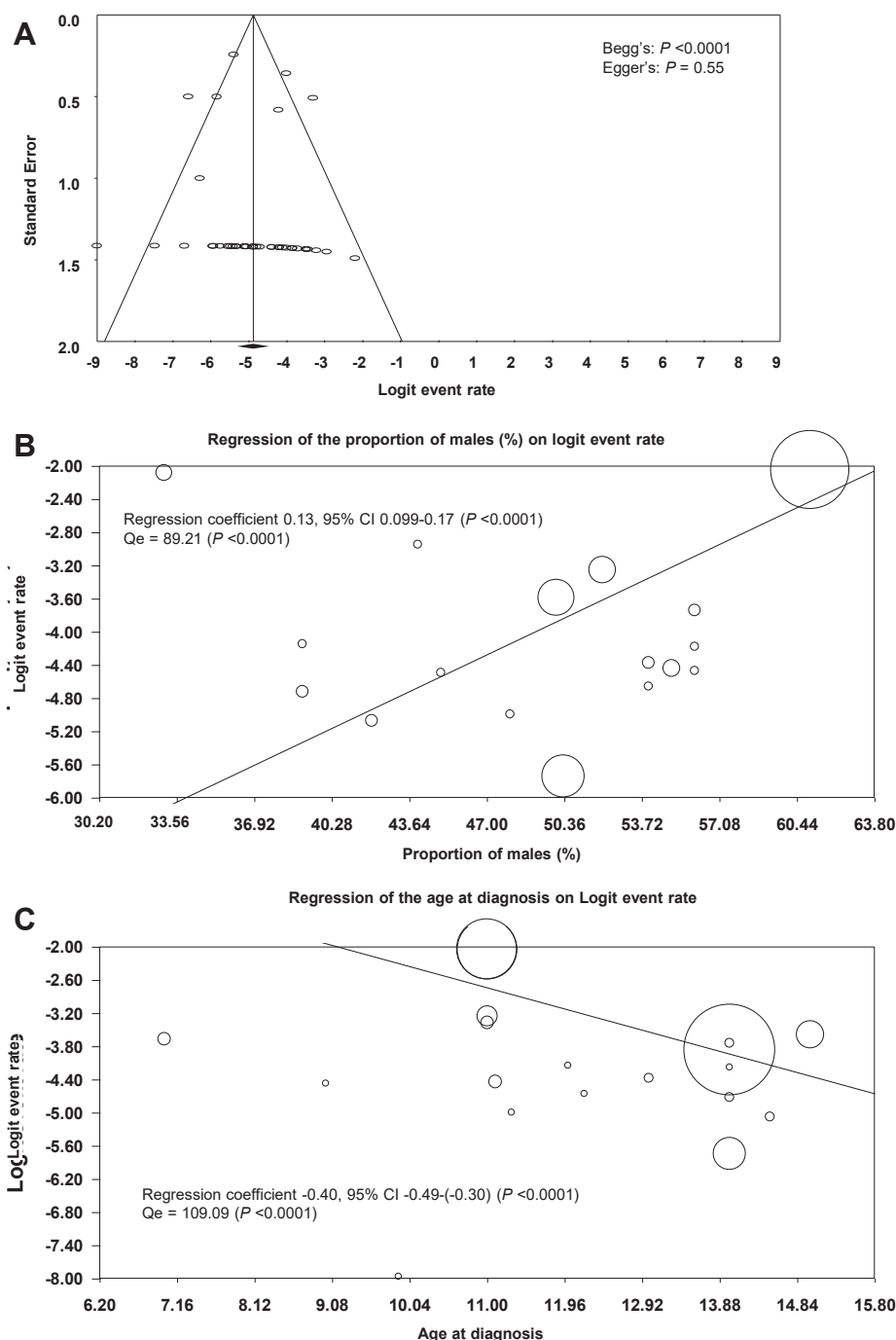


Figure 6. **A**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of CRC among patients with CD included in [Figure 5, A](#). There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg test but not by the Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $= .55$, respectively). Visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **B**, Meta-regression of the proportion of male patients (%) and the risk of CRC among patients with UC. Meta-regression showed that there was a positive correlation between the proportion of male patients and the risk of CRC (regression coefficient 0.13, 95% CI 0.099-0.17, $P < .0001$). ANOVA showed that Q_e was statistically significant ($Q_e = 89.21$, $P < .0001$), indicating that heterogeneity could not be explained only by this factor. **C**, Meta-regression of age at diagnosis or onset (year), and the risk of CRC among patients with UC. Meta-regression showed that there was a negative correlation between age at diagnosis or onset, and the risk of CRC (regression coefficient -0.40 , 95% CI -0.49 to -0.30 , $P < .0001$). ANOVA showed that Q_e was statistically significant ($Q_e = 109.09$, $P < .0001$), indicating that heterogeneity could not be explained only by this factor. **D**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of CRC among patients with UC included in [Figure 5, A](#). There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P = .19$, $.48$, respectively). **E**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of CRC among patients with IBD (studies that did not differentiate between CD and UC) included in [Figure 5, A](#). There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P = .089$, $.20$, respectively).

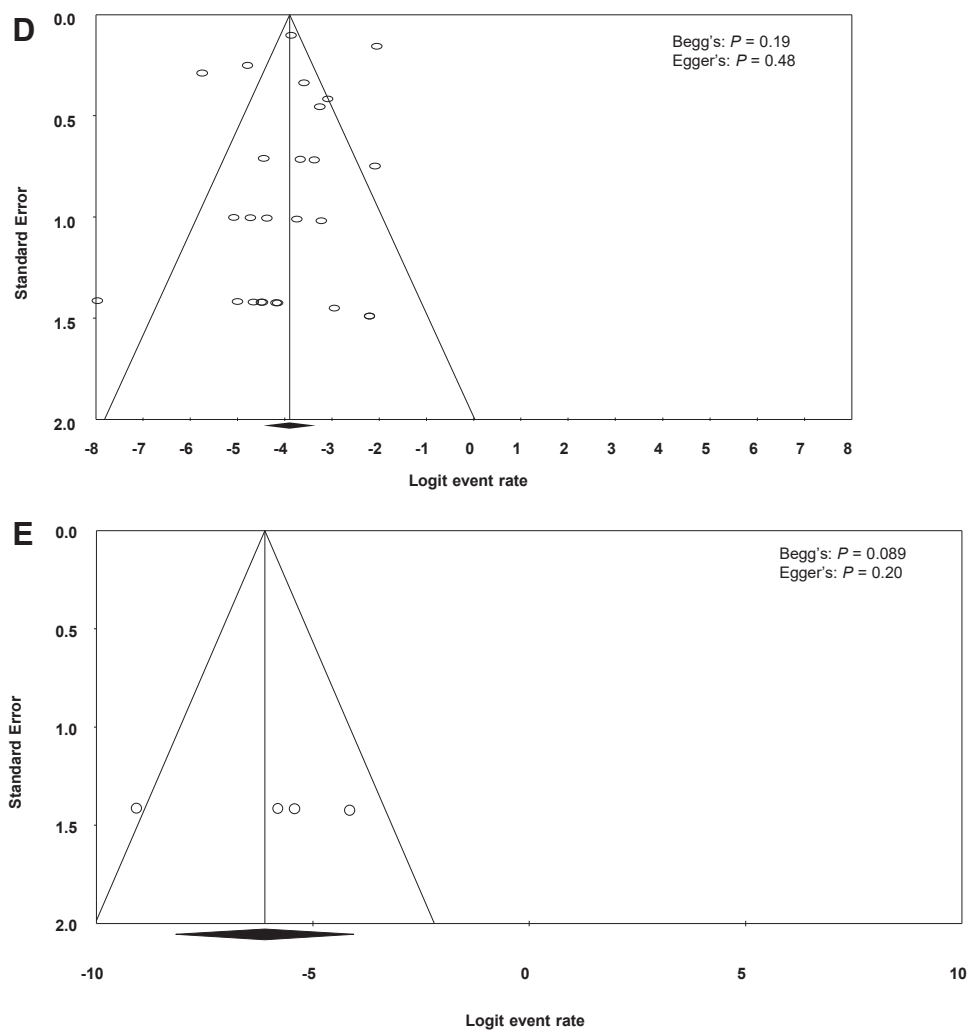
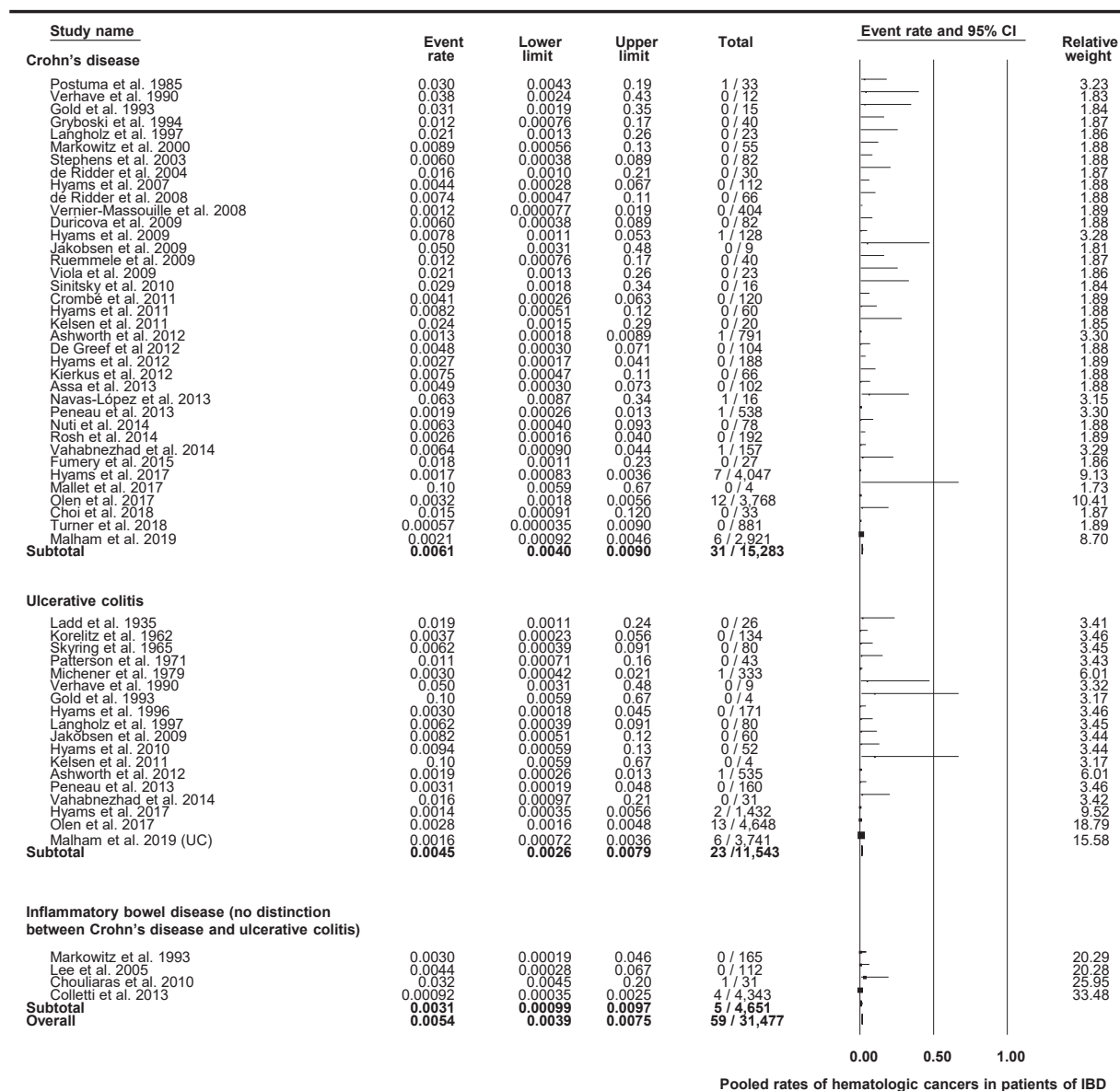


Figure 6. (Continued)

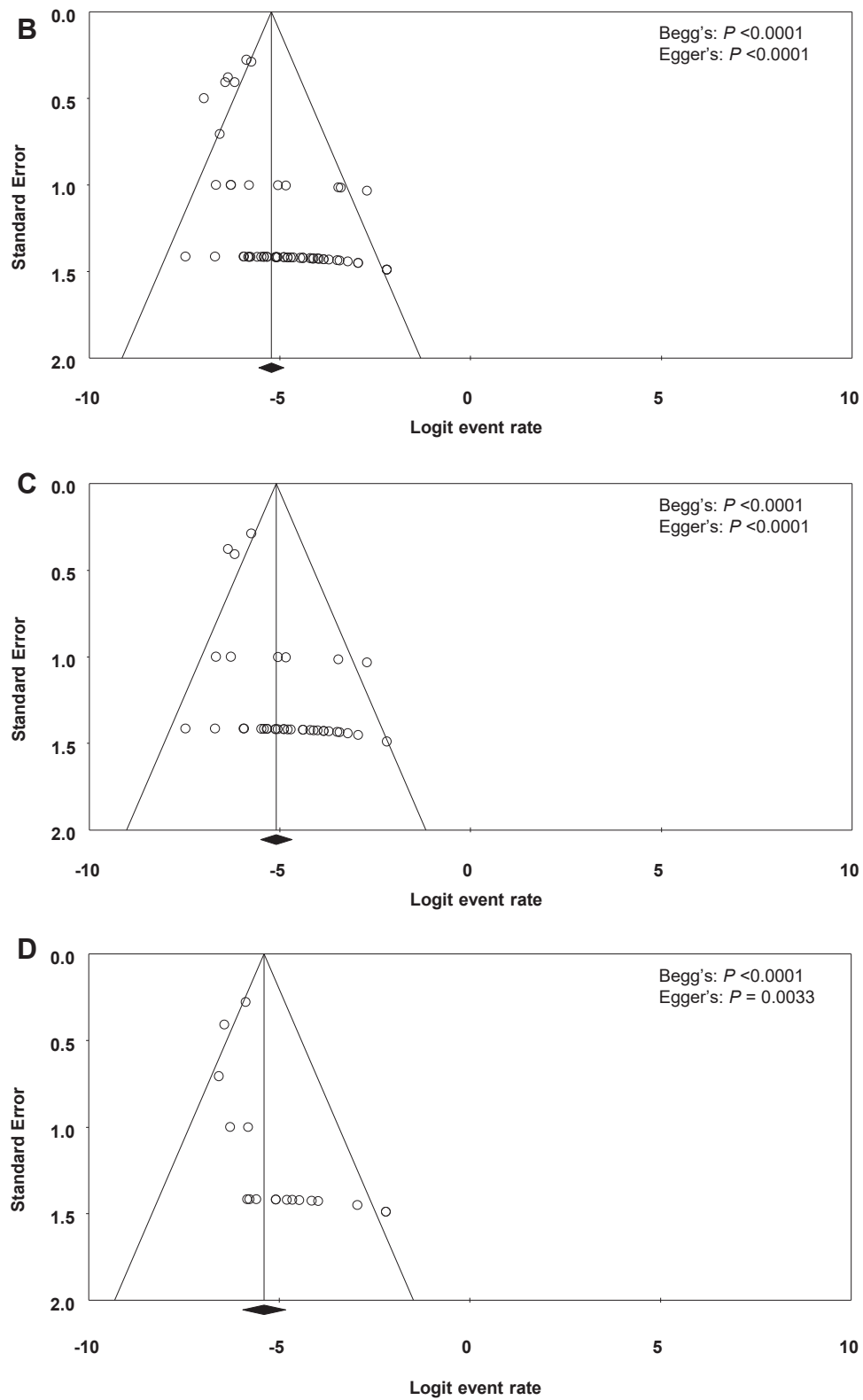
A



Heterogeneity

Crohn's disease; $I^2 = 27.14\%$, $Q = 49.41$, $P = 0.068$ Ulcerative colitis; $I^2 = 31.66\%$, $Q = 24.88$, $P = 0.098$ Inflammatory bowel disease (no distinction between Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis); $I^2 = 71.29\%$, $Q = 10.45$, $P = 0.015$ Overall; $I^2 = 34.25\%$, $Q = 88.21$, $P = 0.0064$

Figure 7. Meta-analysis of incidence rates of hematologic cancers among pediatric IBD. **A**, Forest plot of incidence rates of hematologic cancers among pediatric IBD. **B**, Funnel plot of the studies included in **Figure 7, A**. The Begg and Egger tests; $P < .0001$, $< .0001$, respectively. **C**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of hematologic cancers among patients with CD included in **Figure 7, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $< .0001$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **D**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of hematologic cancers among patients with UC included in **Figure 7, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $= .0033$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **E**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting of the risk of hematologic cancers among patients with IBD (studies that did not differentiate between CD and UC) included in **Figure 7, A**. There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P = .73$, $.32$, respectively).

**Figure 7.** (Continued)

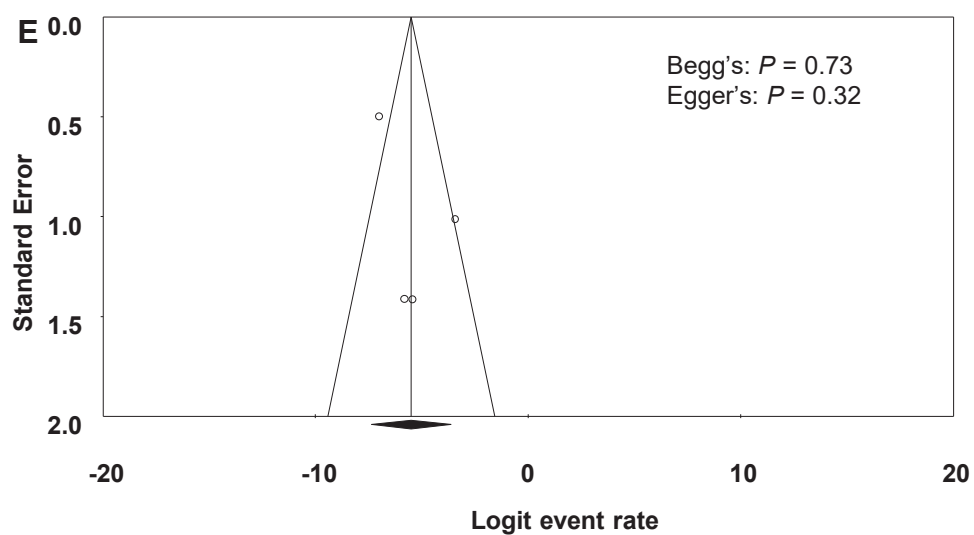


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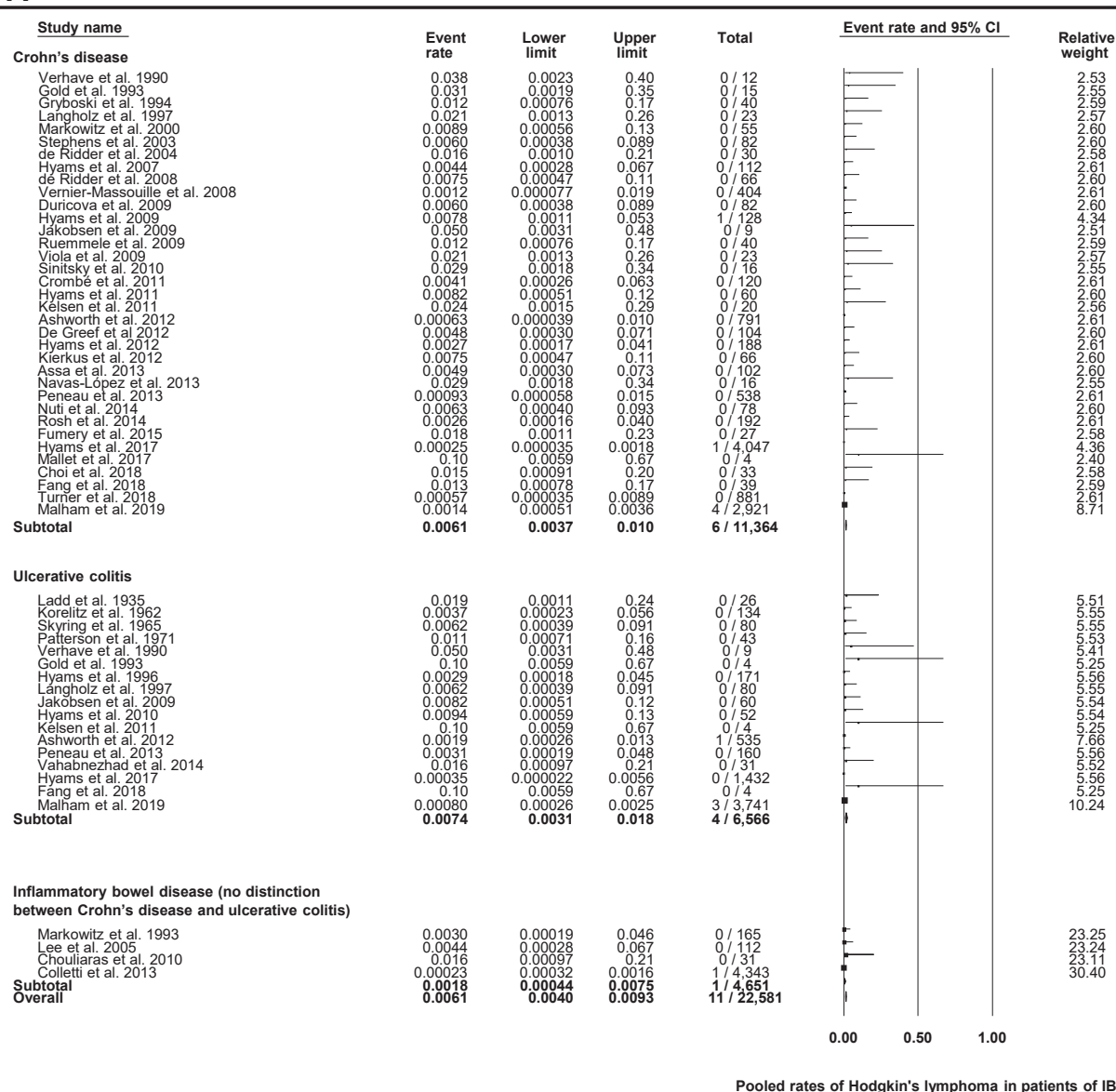
A**Heterogeneity**Crohn's disease; $I^2 = 23.20\%$, $Q = 44.27$, $P = 0.34$ Ulcerative colitis; $I^2 = 50.99\%$, $Q = 32.65$, $P = 0.18$ Inflammatory bowel disease (no distinction between Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis); $I^2 = 57.56\%$, $Q = 7.07$, $P = 0.070$ Overall; $I^2 = 36.77\%$, $Q = 86.98$, $P = 0.075$

Figure 8. Meta-analysis of incidence rates of Hodgkin lymphoma among pediatric IBD. **A**, Forest plot of incidence rates of Hodgkin lymphoma among pediatric IBD. **B**, Funnel plot of the studies included in **Figure 8, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $P < .0001$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **C**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with CD included in **Figure 8, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $P = .0058$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **D**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with UC included in **Figure 8, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $P = .0011$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **E**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with IBD (studies that did not differentiate between CD and UC) included in **Figure 8, A**. There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg test ($P = .089$), but were present by the Egger tests ($P = .049$). Visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry.

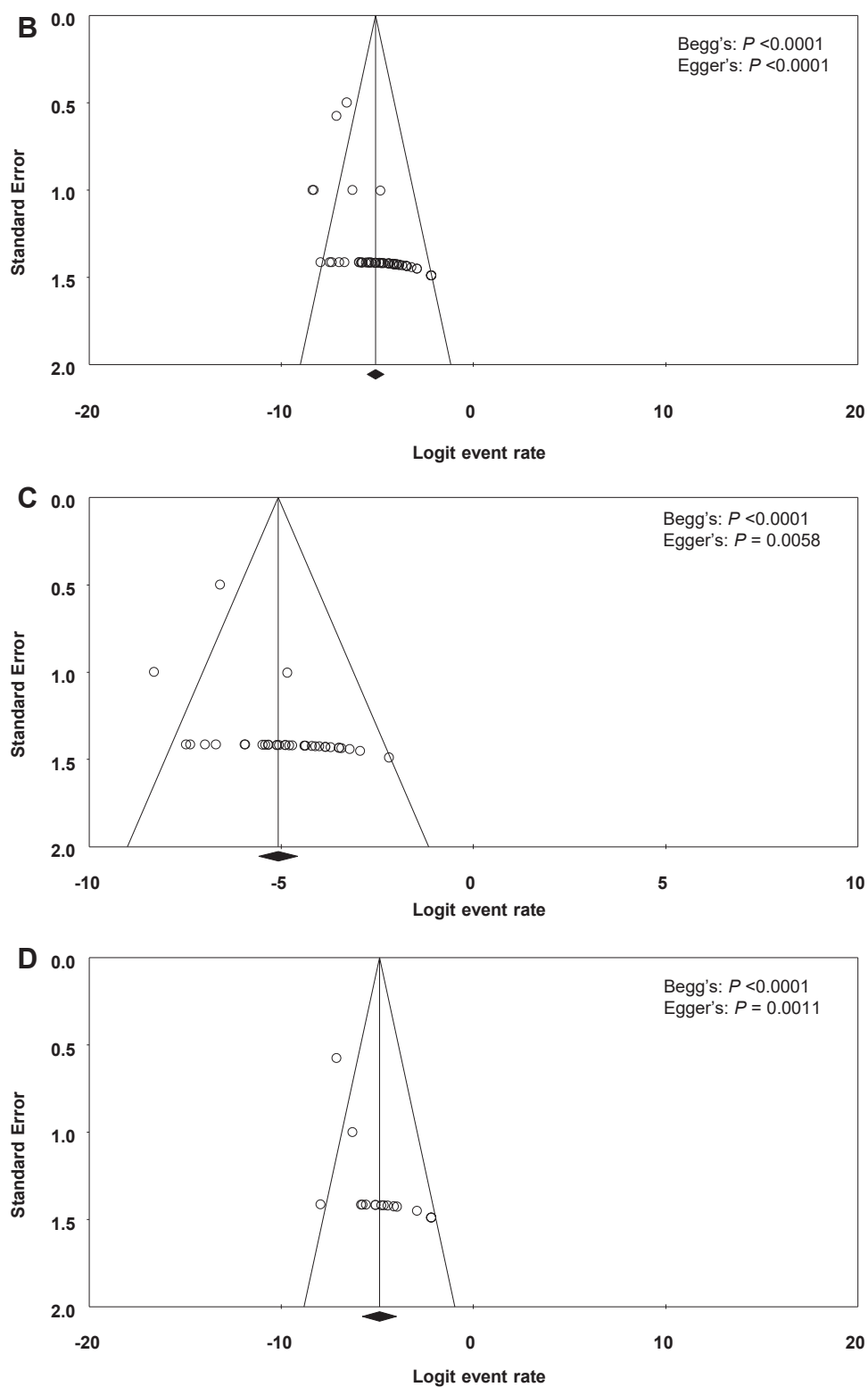


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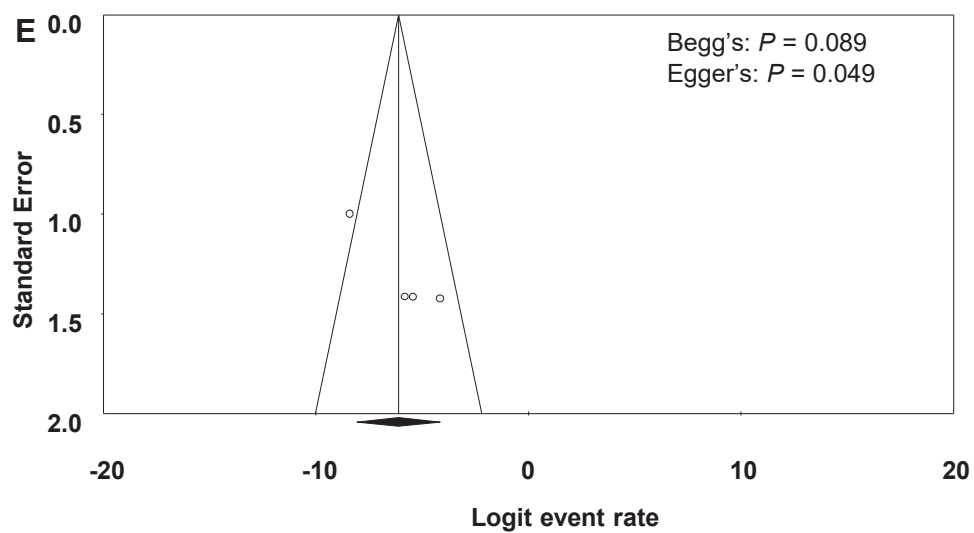
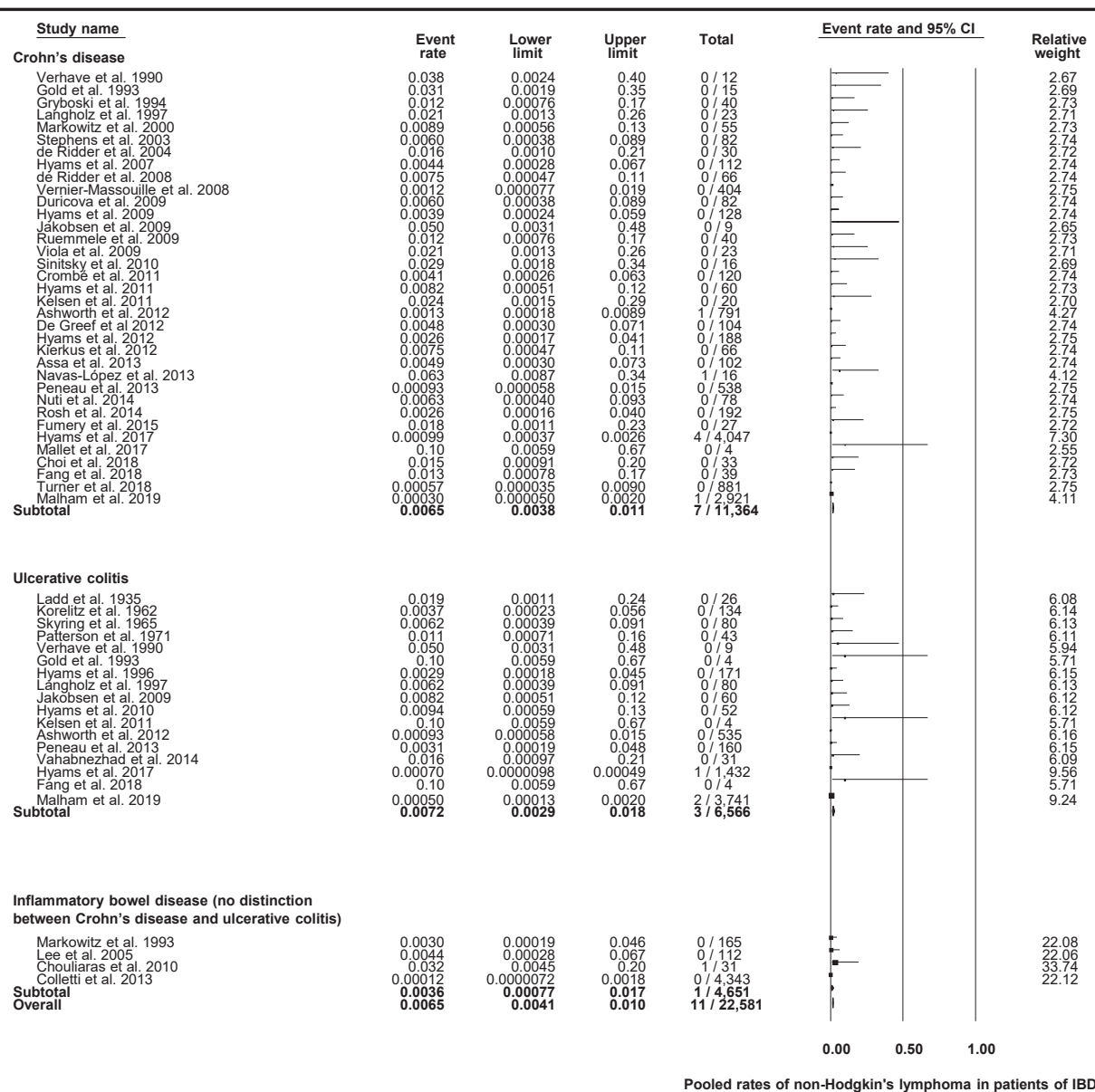


Figure 8. (continued)

A



Heterogeneity

Crohn's disease; $I^2 = 32.70\%$, $Q = 50.52$, $P = 0.034$ Ulcerative colitis; $I^2 = 52.12\%$, $Q = 33.42$, $P = 0.0065$ Inflammatory bowel disease (no distinction between Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis); $I^2 = 71.90\%$, $Q = 10.67$, $P = 0.014$ Overall; $I^2 = 41.90\%$, $Q = 94.66$, $P = 0.00071$

Figure 9. Meta-analysis of incidence rates of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among pediatric IBD. **A**, Forest plot of incidence rates of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among pediatric IBD. **B**, Funnel plot of the studies included in **Figure 9, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $<.0001$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **C**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with CD included in **Figure 9, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $= .00023$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **D**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with UC included in **Figure 9, A**. There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $= .00019$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **E**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with IBD (studies that did not differentiate between CD and UC) included in **Figure 9, A**. There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P = 1.00$, $.21$, respectively).

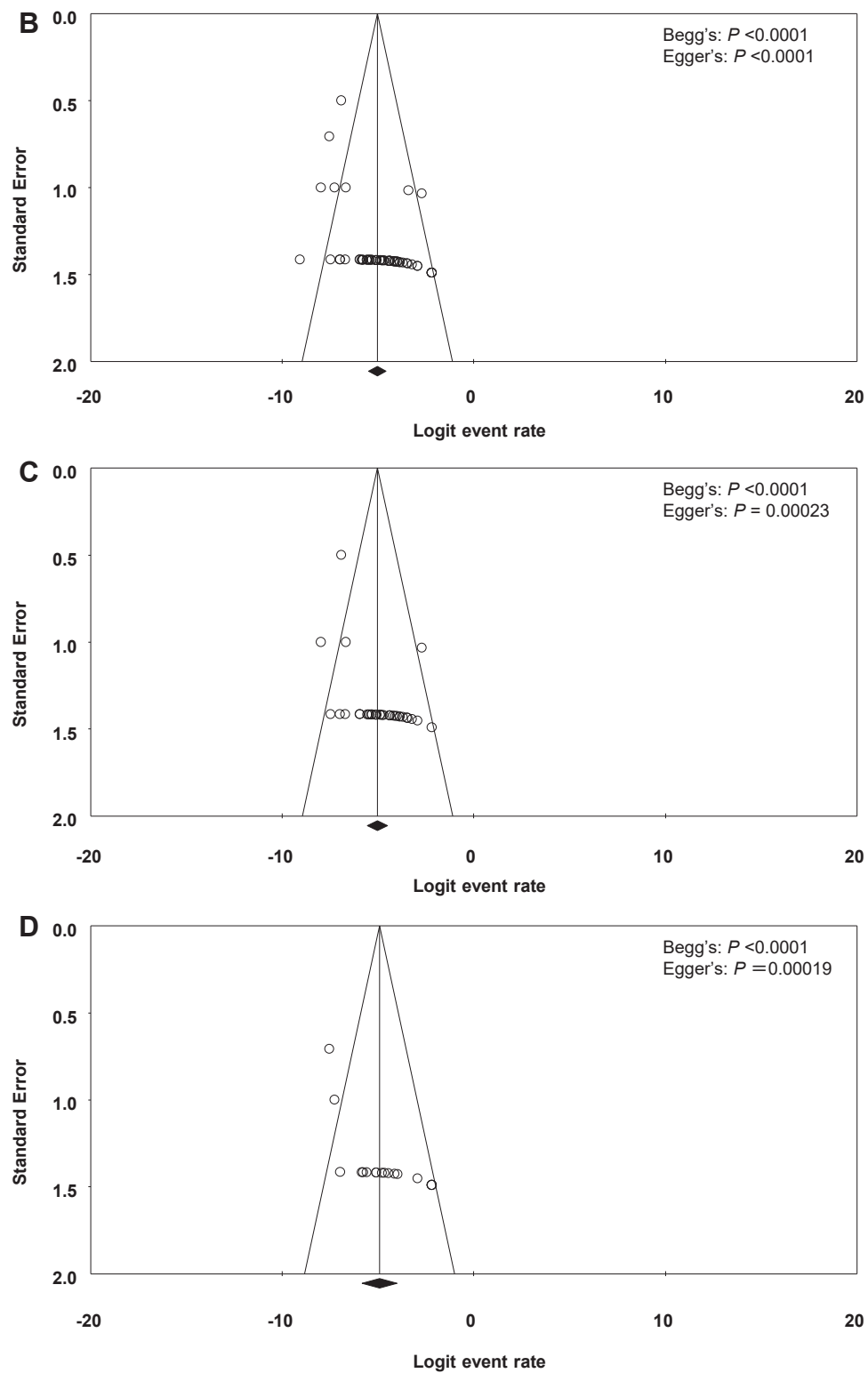


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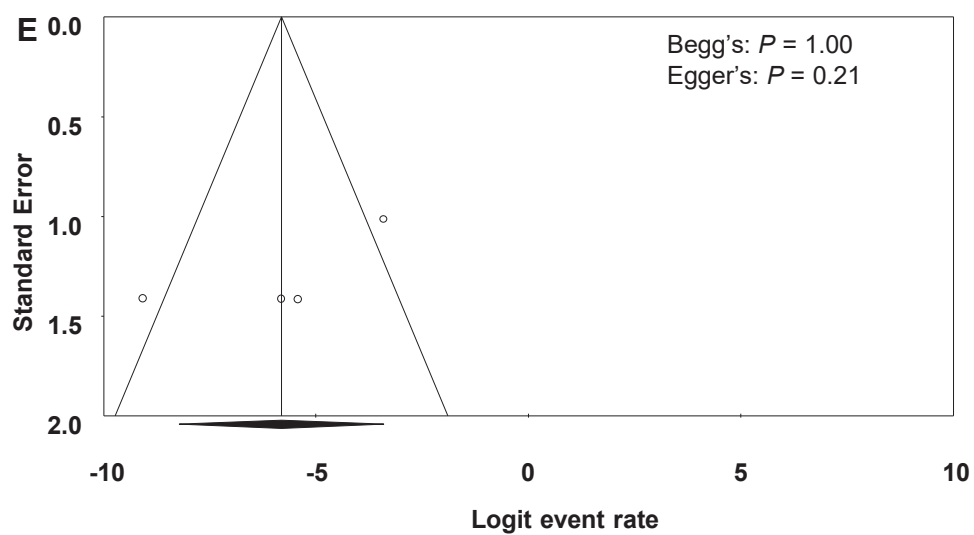
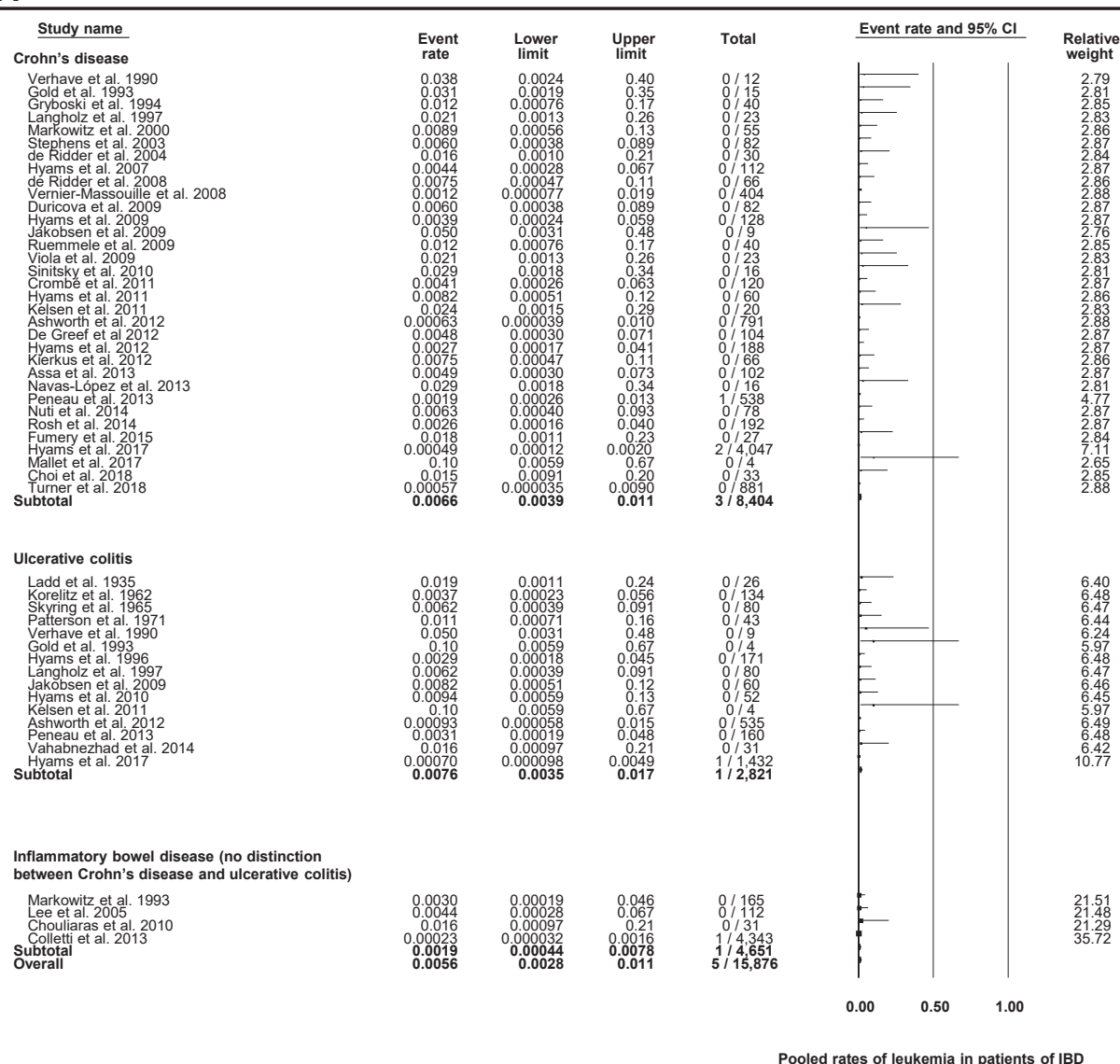


Figure 9. (Continued)

A



Heterogeneity

Crohn's disease; $I^2 = 15.26\%$, $Q = 37.76$, $P = 0.22$ Ulcerative colitis; $I^2 = 22.46\%$, $Q = 18.06$, $P = 0.20$ Inflammatory bowel disease (no distinction between Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis); $I^2 = 57.56\%$, $Q = 7.07$, $P = 0.070$ Overall; $I^2 = 24.20\%$, $Q = 67.28$, $P = 0.063$

Figure 10. Meta-analysis of incidence rates of leukemia among pediatric IBD. **A**, Forest plot of incidence rates of leukemia among patients with pediatric IBD. **B**, Funnel plot of the studies included in [Figure 10, A](#). There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $< .0001$, respectively), but visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **C**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of leukemia among patients with CD included in [Figure 10, A](#). There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $< .0001$, respectively). Visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **D**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of leukemia among patients with UC included in [Figure 10, A](#). There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001$, $= .0043$, respectively). Visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry. **E**, Funnel plot of the studies reporting the risk of leukemia among patients with IBD (studies that did not differentiate between CD and UC) included in [Figure 10, A](#). There were no small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg test ($P = .089$), but were present by the Egger tests ($P = .049$). Visual inspection of the funnel plot appeared to show no asymmetry.

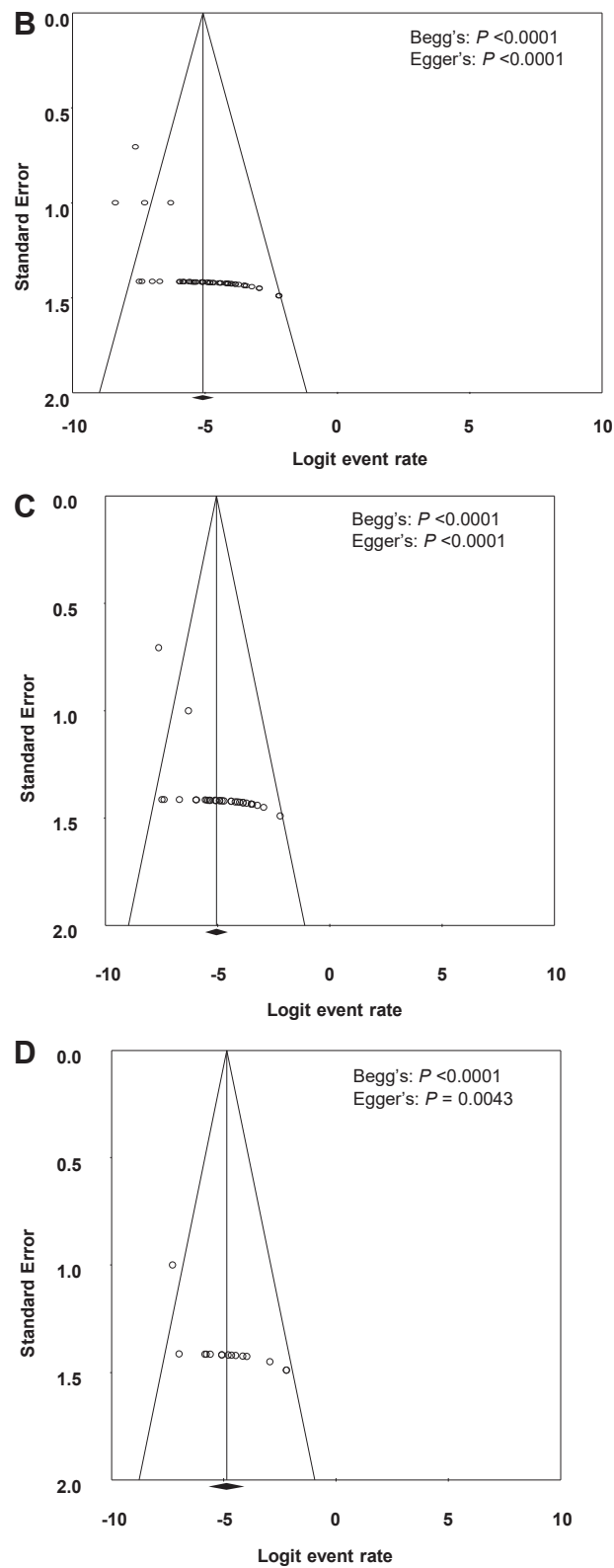


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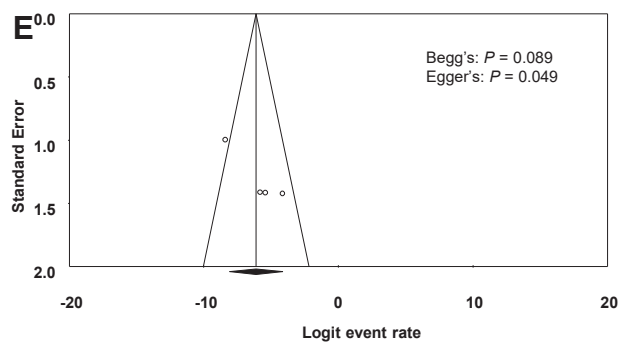


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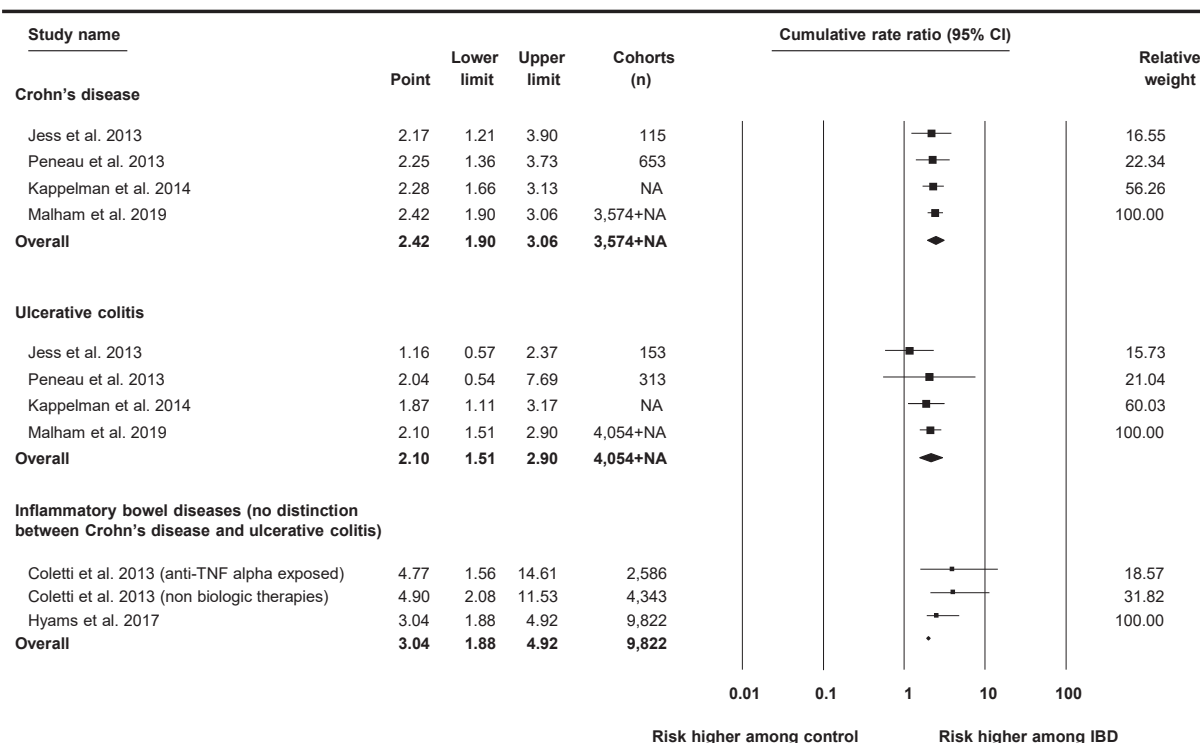
A

Figure 11. A, Cumulative meta-analysis of the overall risk of cancers reported as SIR among patients with pediatric IBD. **B,** Cumulative meta-analysis of incident rates of overall risk of cancers among patients with pediatric IBD. As the reporting years became more recent, the incidence of cancer was significantly reduced in the cumulative meta-analyses among CD, UC, and IBDs (regression coefficient 0.015, 0.039, 0.019, respectively. 95% CI 0.014-0.017 ($P < .0001$), 0.034-0.043 ($P < .0001$), 0.018-0.021 ($P < .0001$), respectively). **C,** Cumulative meta-analysis of the risk of CRC among patients with pediatric IBD. As the reporting years became more recent, the incidence of CRC was significantly reduced in the cumulative meta-analyses among CD, UC, and IBDs (regression coefficient 0.0018, 0.015, 0.0049, respectively. 95% CI 0.0016-0.0020 ($P < .0001$), 0.012-0.018 ($P < .0001$), 0.0043-0.0054 ($P < .0001$), respectively). **D,** Cumulative meta-analysis of the risk of hematologic cancers among patients with pediatric IBD. As the reporting years became more recent, the incidence of hematologic cancers was significantly reduced in the cumulative meta-analyses among CD, UC, and IBDs (regression coefficient 0.0020, 0.0021, 0.0018, respectively. 95% CI 0.0019-0.0021 ($P < .0001$), 0.0020-0.0022 ($P < .0001$), 0.0017-0.0019 ($P < .0001$), respectively). **E,** Cumulative analysis of the risk of Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with pediatric IBD. As the reporting years became more recent, the incidence of Hodgkin lymphoma was significantly reduced in the cumulative meta-analyses among CD, UC, and IBDs (regression coefficient 0.00033, 0.00060, 0.00034, respectively. 95% CI 0.00027-0.00040 ($P < .0001$), 0.00050-0.00069 ($P < .0001$), 0.00031-0.00038 ($P < .0001$), respectively). **F,** Cumulative meta-analysis of the risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with pediatric IBD. As the reporting years became more recent, the incidence of non-Hodgkin lymphoma was significantly reduced in the cumulative meta-analyses among CD, UC, and IBDs (regression coefficient 0.00077, 0.00046, 0.00050, respectively. 95% CI 0.00072-0.00083 ($P < .0001$), 0.00040-0.00053 ($P < .0001$), 0.00047-0.00054 ($P < .0001$), respectively). **G,** Cumulative meta-analysis of the risk of leukemia among patients with pediatric IBD. As the reporting years became more recent, the incidence of leukemia was significantly reduced in the cumulative meta-analyses among CD, UC and IBDs (regression coefficient 0.00040, 0.00029, 0.00031, respectively. 95% CI 0.00035-0.00045 ($P < .0001$), 0.00016-0.00042 ($P < .0001$), 0.00028-0.00034 ($P < .0001$), respectively).

B

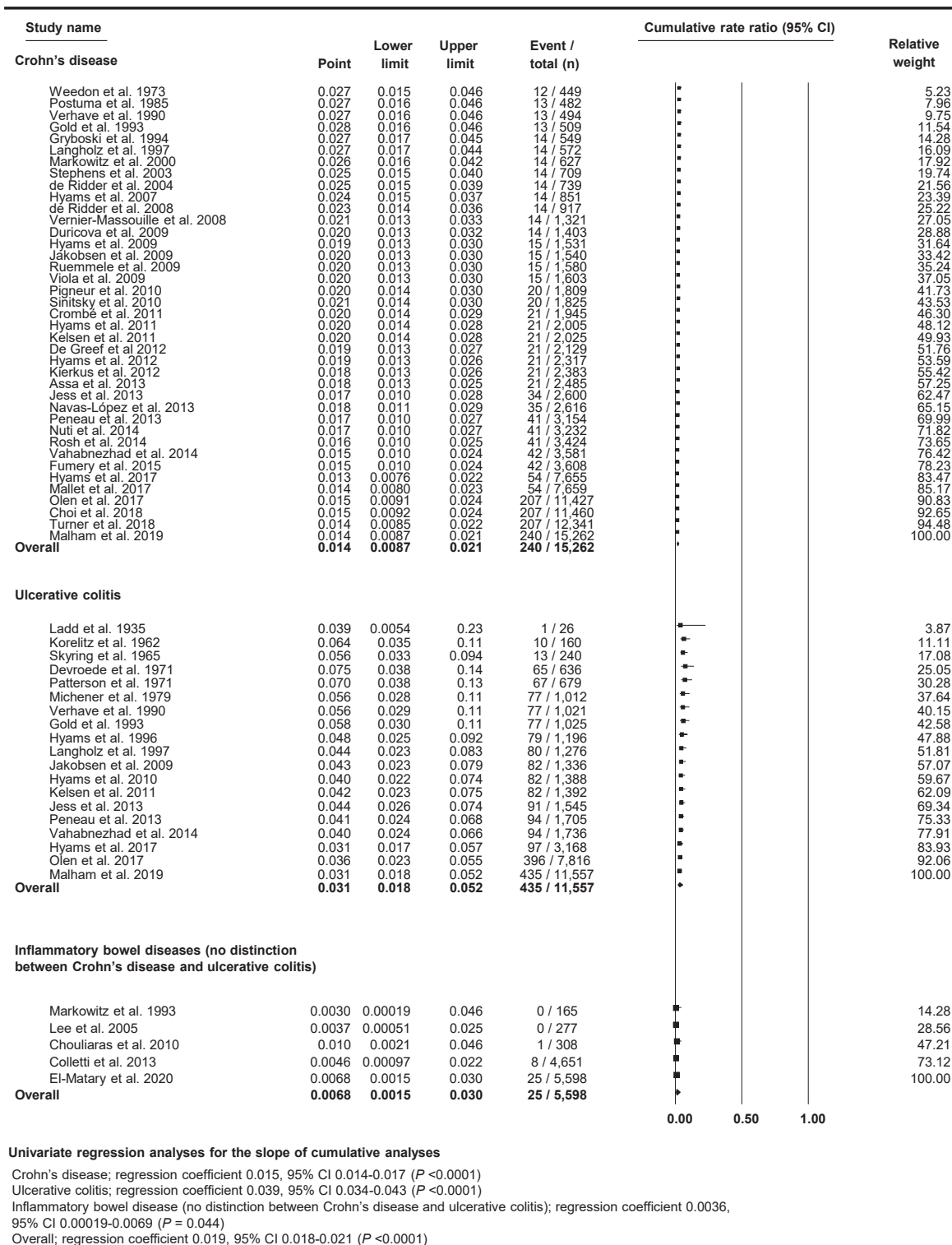


Figure 11. (continued)

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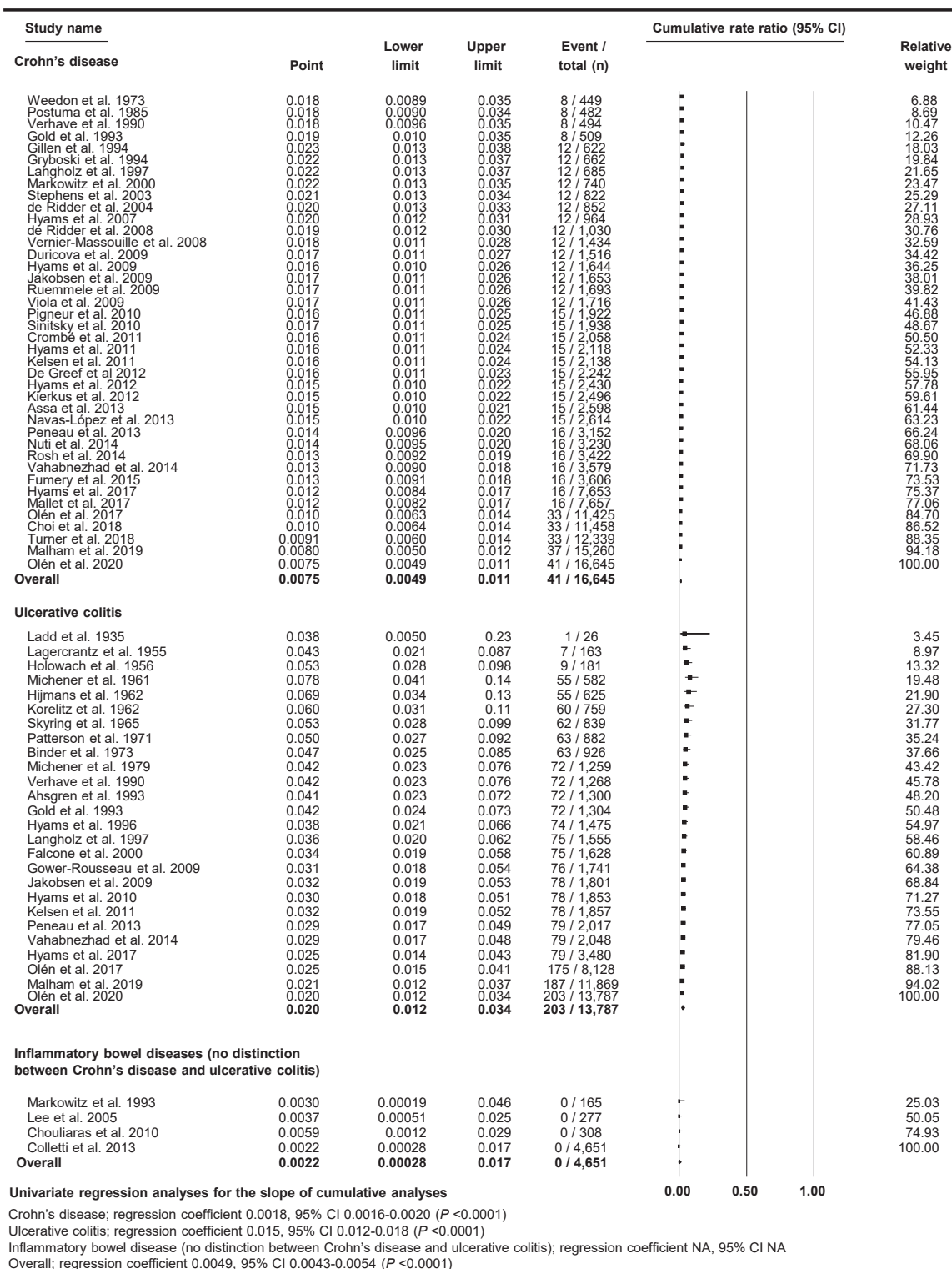
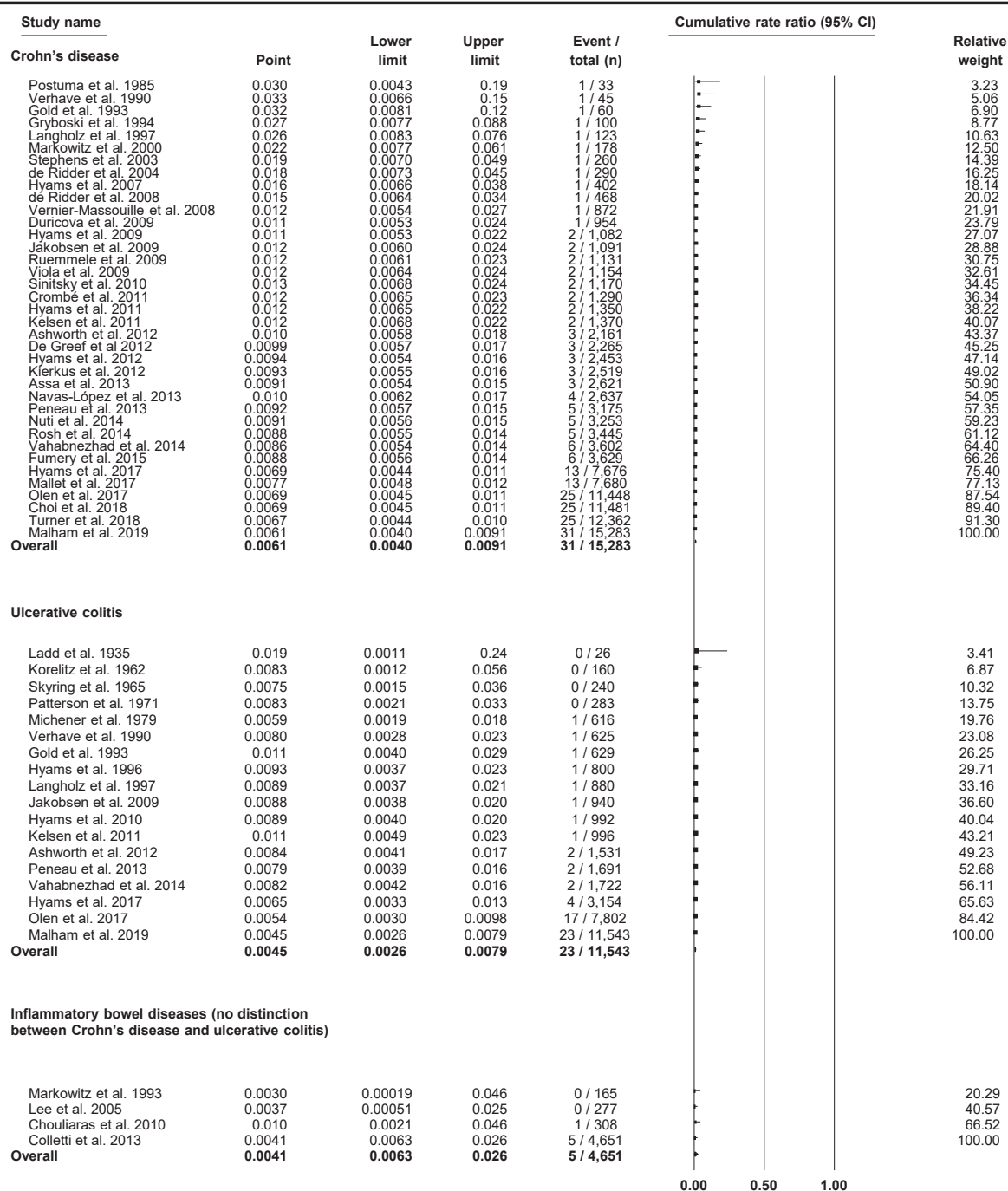


Figure 11. (continued)

D



Univariate regression analyses for the slope of cumulative analyses

Crohn's disease; regression coefficient 0.0020, 95% CI 0.0019-0.0021 ($P < 0.0001$)Ulcerative colitis; regression coefficient 0.0021, 95% CI 0.0020-0.0022 ($P < 0.0001$)Inflammatory bowel disease (no distinction between Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis); regression coefficient 0.0011, 95% CI 0.00047-0.0017 ($P = 0.016$)Overall; regression coefficient 0.0018, 95% CI 0.0017-0.0019 ($P < 0.0001$)

Figure 11. (continued)

E

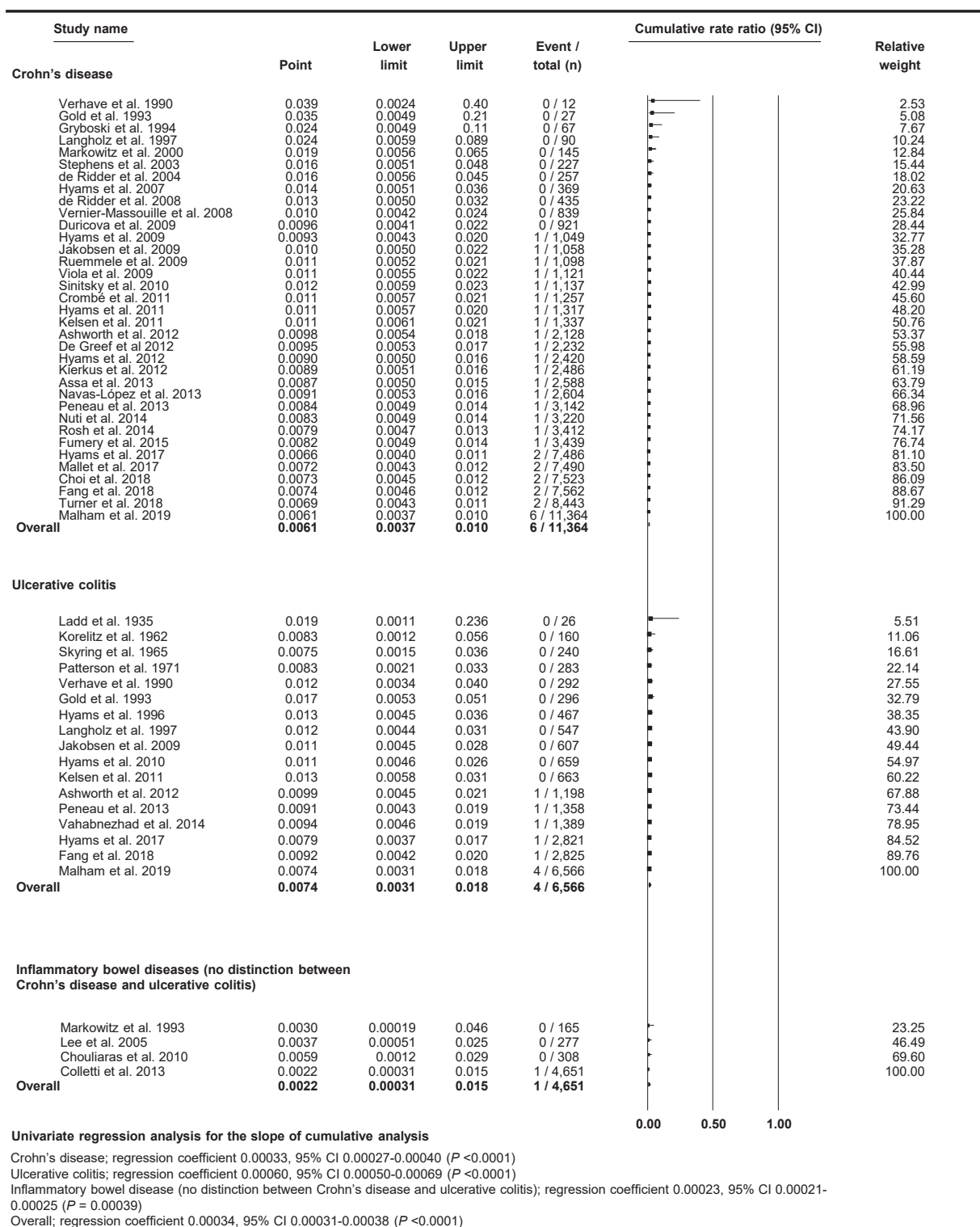


Figure 11. (continued)

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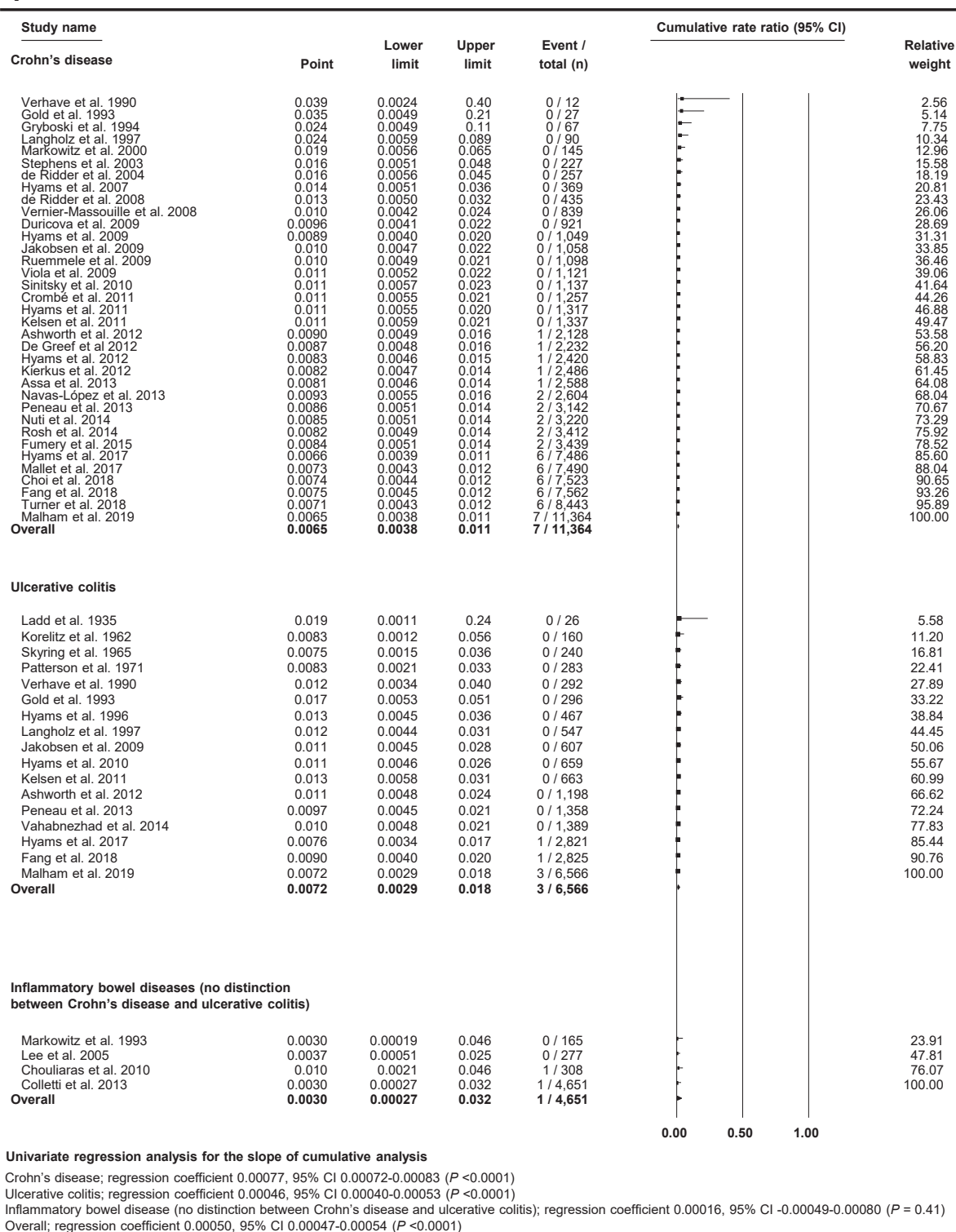


Figure 11. (continued)

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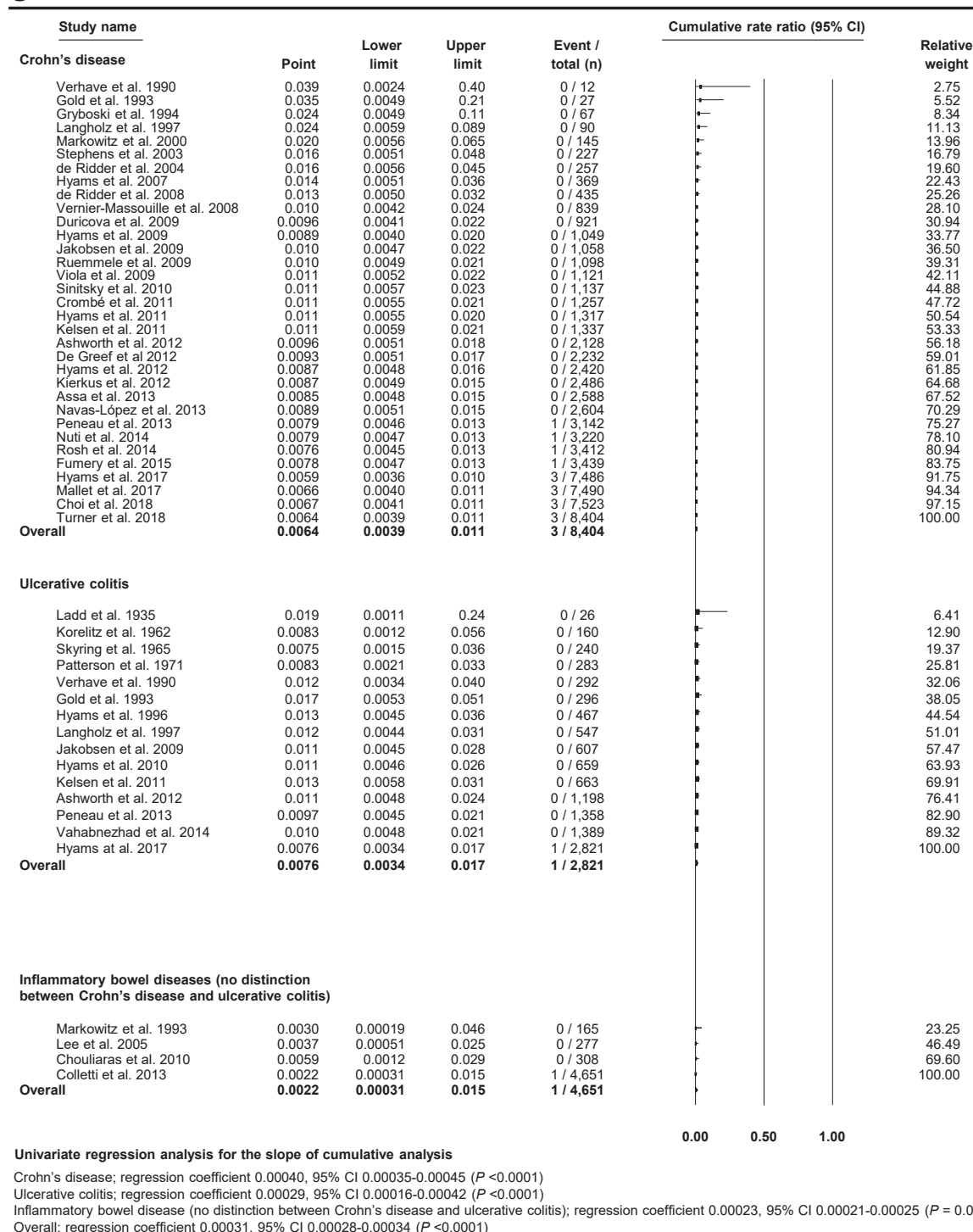


Figure 11. (Continued)

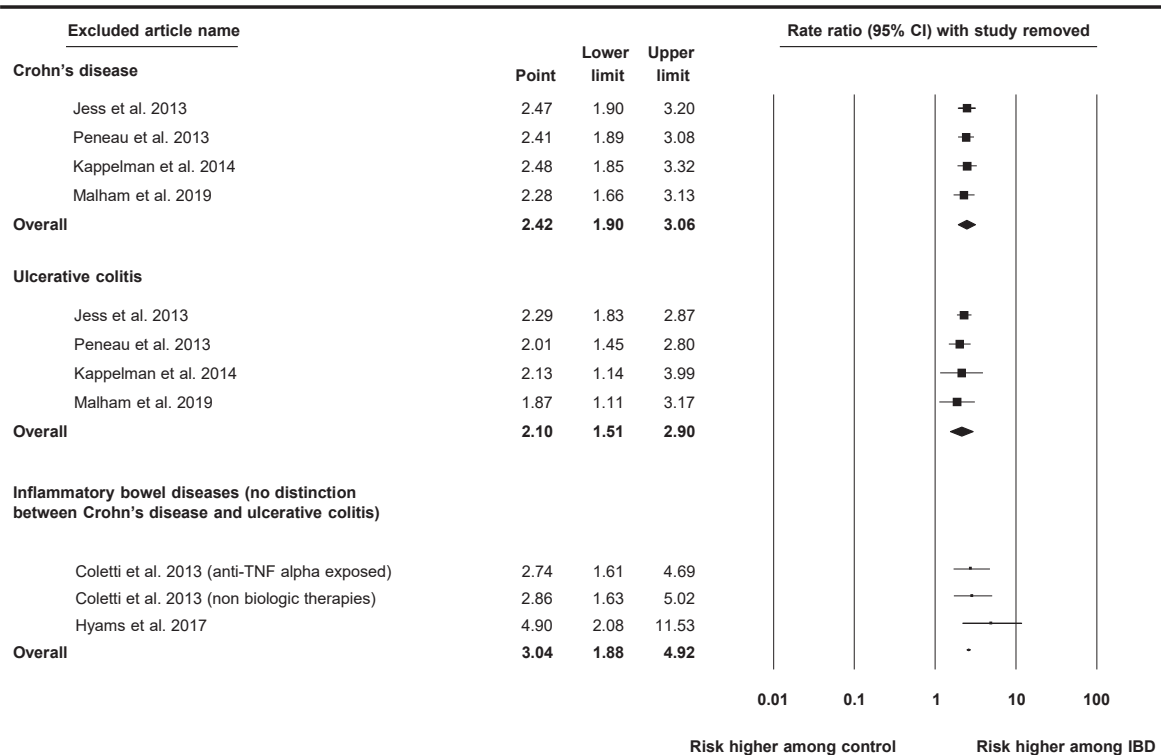
A

Figure 12. A, Influence analysis of the overall risk of cancers reported as SIR among patients with pediatric IBD. **B,** Influence analysis of incident rates of overall risk of cancers among patients with pediatric IBD. **C,** Influence analysis of the risk of CRC among patients with pediatric IBD. **D,** Influence analysis of the risk of hematologic cancers among patients with pediatric IBD. **E,** Influence analysis of the risk of Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with pediatric IBD. **F,** Influence analysis of the risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among patients with pediatric IBD. **G,** Influence analysis of the risk of leukemia among patients with pediatric IBD.

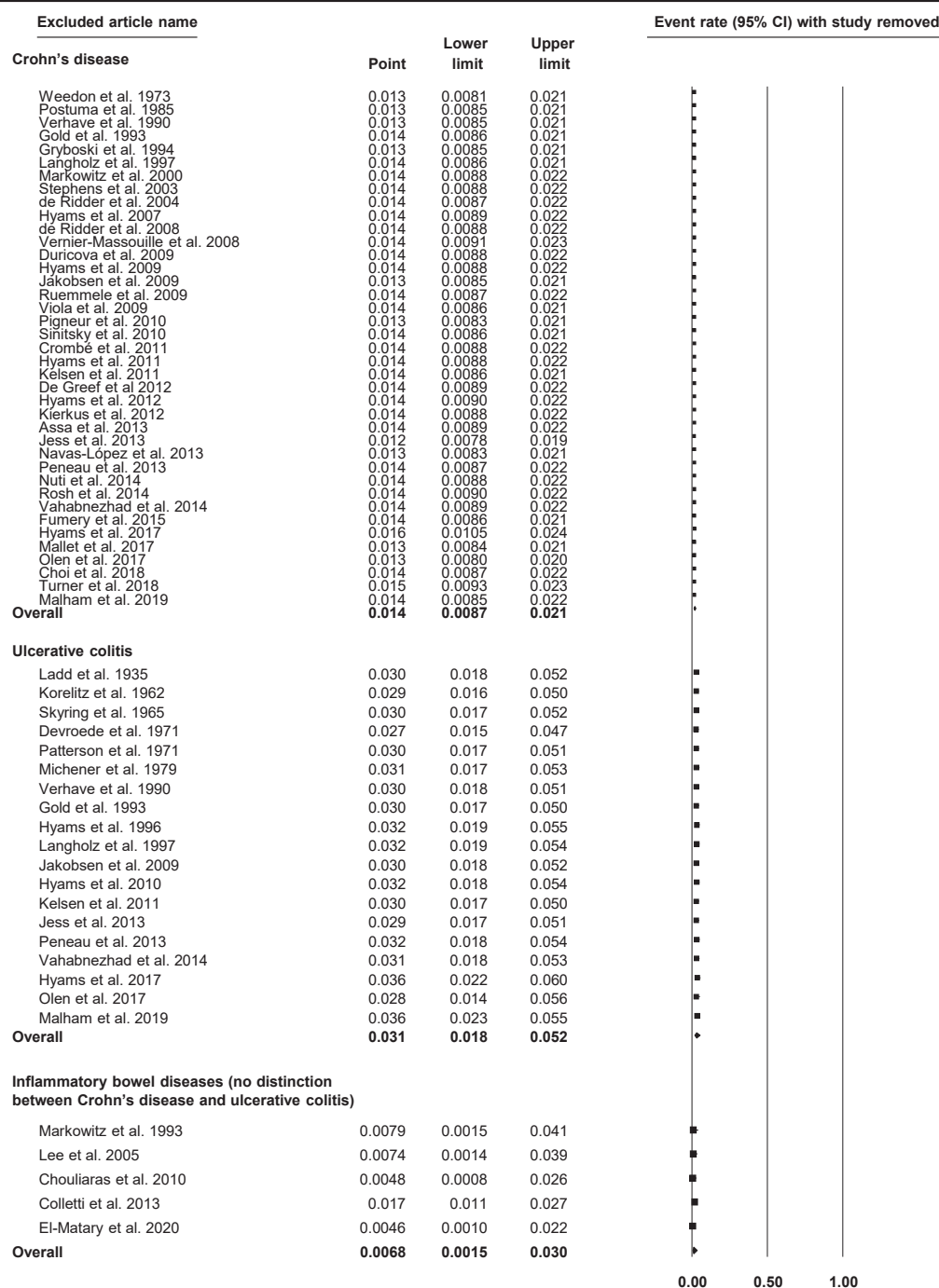
B

Figure 12. (continued)

C

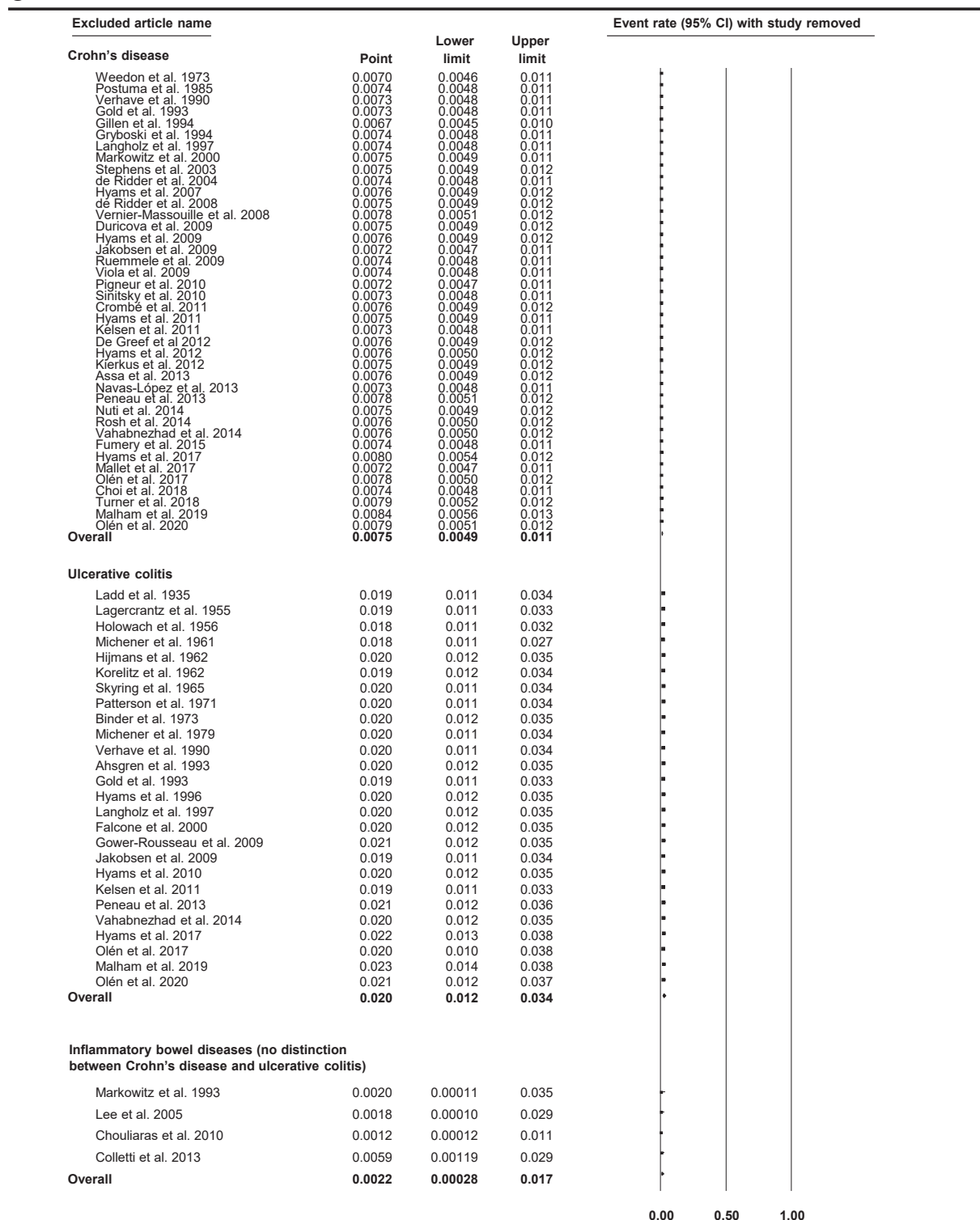


Figure 12. (continued)

D

| Excluded article name | | | | Event rate (95% CI) with study removed | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|---------------|--|------|------|
| | Point | Lower limit | Upper limit | | | |
| Crohn's disease | | | | | | |
| Postuma et al. 1985 | 0.0056 | 0.0037 | 0.0083 | | | |
| Verhave et al. 1990 | 0.0058 | 0.0038 | 0.0087 | | | |
| Gold et al. 1993 | 0.0058 | 0.0039 | 0.0088 | | | |
| Gryboski et al. 1994 | 0.0060 | 0.0040 | 0.0091 | | | |
| Langholz et al. 1997 | 0.0059 | 0.0039 | 0.0089 | | | |
| Markowitz et al. 2000 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0092 | | | |
| Stephens et al. 2003 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0093 | | | |
| de Ridder et al. 2004 | 0.0060 | 0.0039 | 0.0090 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 2007 | 0.0062 | 0.0041 | 0.0094 | | | |
| de Ridder et al. 2008 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0093 | | | |
| Vernier-Massouille et al. 2008 | 0.0063 | 0.0041 | 0.0095 | | | |
| Duricova et al. 2009 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0093 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 2009 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0093 | | | |
| Jakobsen et al. 2009 | 0.0057 | 0.0038 | 0.0085 | | | |
| Ruemmele et al. 2009 | 0.0060 | 0.0040 | 0.0091 | | | |
| Viola et al. 2009 | 0.0059 | 0.0039 | 0.0089 | | | |
| Sinitsky et al. 2010 | 0.0058 | 0.0039 | 0.0088 | | | |
| Cromb  et al. 2011 | 0.0062 | 0.0041 | 0.0094 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 2011 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0093 | | | |
| Kelsen et al. 2011 | 0.0059 | 0.0039 | 0.0089 | | | |
| Ashworth et al. 2012 | 0.0064 | 0.0042 | 0.0097 | | | |
| De Greef et al. 2012 | 0.0062 | 0.0041 | 0.0094 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 2012 | 0.0062 | 0.0041 | 0.0095 | | | |
| Kierkus et al. 2012 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0093 | | | |
| Assa et al. 2013 | 0.0062 | 0.0041 | 0.0094 | | | |
| Navas-L pez et al. 2013 | 0.0051 | 0.0035 | 0.0075 | | | |
| Peneau et al. 2013 | 0.0064 | 0.0042 | 0.0097 | | | |
| Nuti et al. 2014 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0093 | | | |
| Rosh et al. 2014 | 0.0062 | 0.0041 | 0.0095 | | | |
| Vahabnezhad et al. 2014 | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0094 | | | |
| Fumery et al. 2015 | 0.0060 | 0.0039 | 0.0090 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 2017 | 0.0066 | 0.0044 | 0.0099 | | | |
| Mallet et al. 2017 | 0.0055 | 0.0037 | 0.0081 | | | |
| Olen et al. 2017 | 0.0068 | 0.0043 | 0.11 | | | |
| Choi et al. 2018 | 0.0060 | 0.0040 | 0.0091 | | | |
| Turner et al. 2018 | 0.0063 | 0.0042 | 0.0094 | | | |
| Malham et al. 2019 | 0.0067 | 0.0044 | 0.102 | | | |
| Overall | 0.0061 | 0.0040 | 0.0091 | | | |
| Ulcerative colitis | | | | | | |
| Ladd et al. 1935 | 0.0043 | 0.0024 | 0.0075 | | | |
| Korelitz et al. 1962 | 0.0047 | 0.0026 | 0.0084 | | | |
| Skyring et al. 1965 | 0.0046 | 0.0025 | 0.0082 | | | |
| Patterson et al. 1971 | 0.0044 | 0.0025 | 0.0078 | | | |
| Michener et al. 1979 | 0.0048 | 0.0026 | 0.0087 | | | |
| Verhave et al. 1990 | 0.0039 | 0.0023 | 0.0066 | | | |
| Gold et al. 1993 | 0.0036 | 0.0022 | 0.0058 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 1996 | 0.0047 | 0.0026 | 0.0085 | | | |
| Langholz et al. 1997 | 0.0046 | 0.0025 | 0.0082 | | | |
| Jakobsen et al. 2009 | 0.0045 | 0.0025 | 0.0080 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 2010 | 0.0045 | 0.0025 | 0.0079 | | | |
| Kelsen et al. 2011 | 0.0036 | 0.0022 | 0.0058 | | | |
| Ashworth et al. 2012 | 0.0049 | 0.0027 | 0.0089 | | | |
| Peneau et al. 2013 | 0.0047 | 0.0026 | 0.0084 | | | |
| Vahabnezhad et al. 2014 | 0.0043 | 0.0024 | 0.0076 | | | |
| Hyams et al. 2017 | 0.0051 | 0.0028 | 0.0093 | | | |
| Olen et al. 2017 | 0.0055 | 0.0028 | 0.11 | | | |
| Malham et al. 2019 | 0.0054 | 0.0030 | 0.0098 | | | |
| Overall | 0.0045 | 0.0026 | 0.0079 | | | |
| Inflammatory bowel diseases (no distinction between Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis) | | | | | | |
| Markowitz et al. 1993 | 0.0046 | 0.00041 | 0.050 | | | |
| Lee et al. 2005 | 0.0041 | 0.00038 | 0.044 | | | |
| Choularas et al. 2010 | 0.0012 | 0.00050 | 0.0029 | | | |
| Colletti et al. 2013 | 0.010 | 0.0021 | 0.046 | | | |
| Overall | 0.0041 | 0.00063 | 0.026 | | | |
| | | | | 0.00 | 0.50 | 1.00 |

Figure 12. (continued)

E

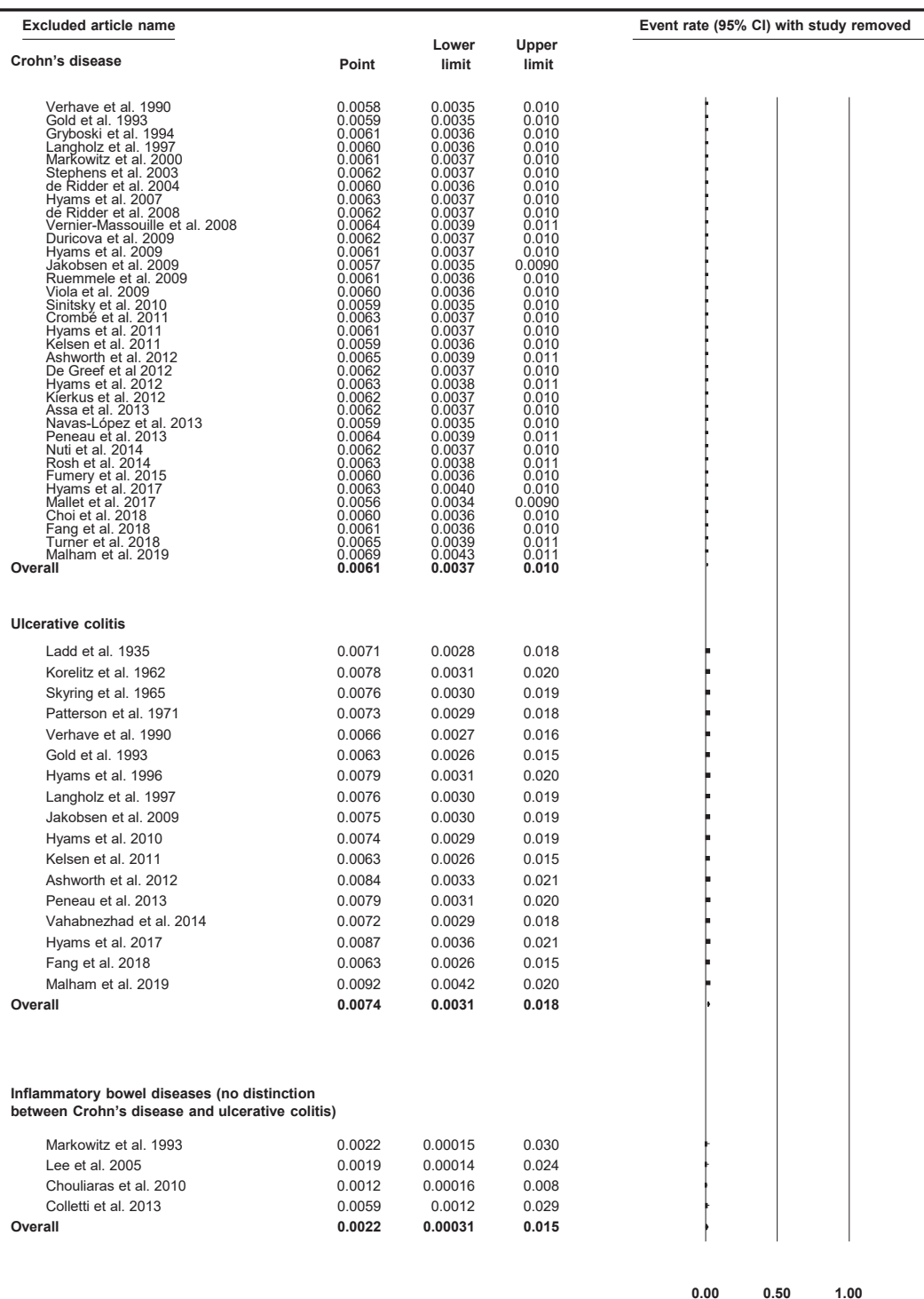


Figure 12. (continued)

F

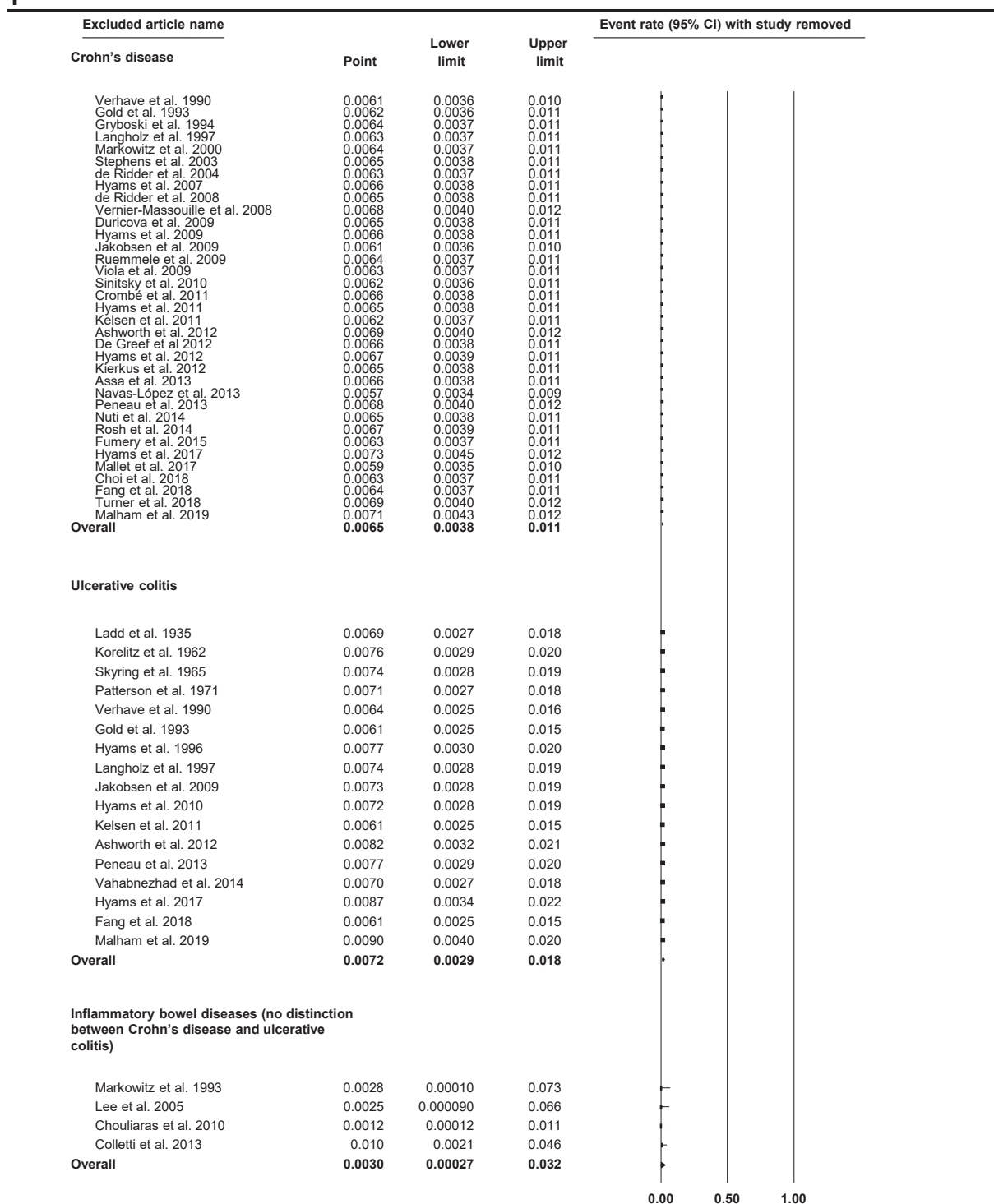


Figure 12. (continued)

G

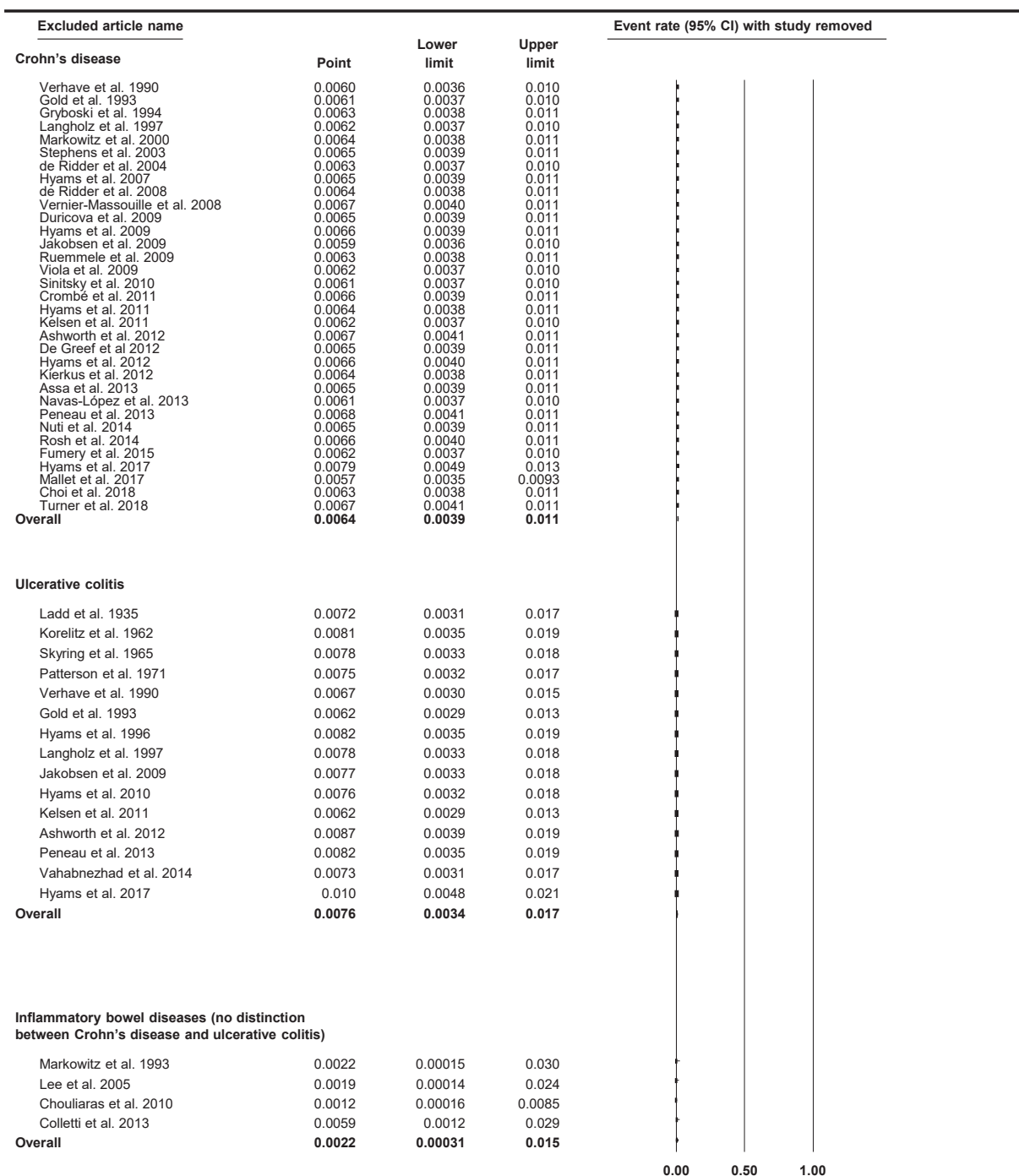


Figure 12. (Continued)

Table I. PubMed search strategy

| PubMed search strategy | | Number of studies |
|------------------------|---|-------------------|
| #1 | pediatric* [MeSH Terms] OR childhood [Text Word] | 332 986 |
| #2 | "inflammatory bowel diseases" [MeSH Terms] OR "Crohn's disease" [Text Word] OR "ulcerative colitis" [Text Word] | 95 536 |
| #3 | cancer* [Text Word] OR malignancy* [Text Word] OR "colorectal cancer*" [Text Word] OR "hematologic cancer*" [Text Word] OR "Hodgkin's lymphoma" [Text Word] OR "non Hodgkin's lymphoma" [Text Word] OR lymphoma [Text Word] OR leukemia [Text Word] | 2 260 522 |
| #4 | #1 OR #2 AND #3 | 39 169 |

Table II. Risk of bias in RCTs of pediatric IBDs reporting the risk of cancers

| Authors | Year | Random sequence generation (selection bias) | Allocation concealment (selection bias) | Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) | Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) | Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) | Selective reporting bias (reporting bias) | Other bias |
|------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|--|---|------------|
| Hyams et al ¹¹ | 2007 | ? | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Hyams et al ²⁶ | 2012 | + | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Markowitz et al ⁸ | 2000 | + | ? | ? | ? | + | - | - |
| Ruemmele et al ¹⁷ | 2009 | + | - | - | - | + | - | - |

A plus sign indicate low risk of bias. A question mark indicates unclear risk of bias. A minus sign indicate high risk of bias. Other bias includes the risk of bias due to conflict of interest (for example, authors employed by, held stock in, or received funds from manufacturer).

Table IV. Summary of findings with quality of the evidence (GRADE)

| Bibliographies | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| Outcomes | No of participants (studies) Follow-up | Quality of the evidence (GRADE) | Relative effect (95% CI) |
| The risk of overall cancers reported as SIR among patients with pediatric IBD rate ratio | 17 450(6 studies) | ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊖ Moderate* due to large effect | RR 2.39 (2-2.86) |
| Incidence rates of overall cancers among pediatric IBD.pooled event rate | 32 417(52 studies [†]) | ⊕ ⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Very low ^{†,§,¶} due to risk of bias, inconsistency, publication bias | pooled event rate 0.018 (0.013- 0.025) |
| Incidence rates of CRC among pediatric IBD.pooled event rate | 35 083 (60 studies ^{**}) | ⊕ ⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Very low ^{††,‡‡,§§} due to risk of bias, inconsistency, publication bias | pooled event rate 0.010 (0.0074- 0.014) |
| Incidence rates of hematologic cancers among pediatric IBDpooled event rate | 31 477 (48 studies ^{¶¶}) | ⊕ ⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Very low ^{††,***,†††} due to risk of bias, inconsistency, publication bias | pooled event rate 0.0054 (0.0039- 0.0075) |
| Incidence rates of Hodgkin lymphoma among pediatric IBDpooled event rate | 22 581 (44 studies ^{‡‡‡}) | ⊕ ⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Very low ^{†,†††} due to risk of bias, publication bias | pooled event rate 0.0061 (0.004- 0.093) |
| Incidence rates of non-Hodgkin lymphoma among pediatric IBDpooled event rate | 22581 (44 studies ^{‡‡‡}) | ⊕ ⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Very low ^{†,§§§,¶¶¶} due to risk of bias, inconsistency, publication bias | pooled event rate 0.0065 (0.0041-0.01) |
| Incidence rates of leukemia among pediatric IBDpooled event rate | 15876 (43 studies ^{‡‡‡}) | ⊕ ⊖ ⊖ ⊖ Very low ^{†,†††} due to risk of bias, publication bias | pooled event rate 0.0056 (0.0028- 0.011) |

RR, risk ratio.

*The pooled SIR is 2.39.

†Nine prospective and 44 retrospective studies (1 study included both study designs) were included. Four RCTs were counted as prospective studies.

‡There were only 8 high quality papers included in this analysis.

§The heterogeneity was high: $I^2 = 89.10\%$.

¶There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P = .00072, .00060$, respectively).

**Nine prospective and 52 retrospective studies (1 study included both study designs) were included. Four RCTs were counted as prospective studies.

††There were only 10 high quality papers included in this analysis.

‡‡The heterogeneity was high: $I^2 = 81.30\%$.

§§There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001, = .013$, respectively).

¶¶Nine prospective and 40 retrospective studies (1 study included both study designs) were included. Four RCTs were counted as prospective studies.

***The heterogeneity was moderate: $I^2 = 34.25\%$.

†††There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001, < .0001$, respectively).

‡‡‡Nine prospective and 36 retrospective studies (1 study included both study designs) were included. Four RCTs were counted as prospective studies.

§§§The heterogeneity was moderate: $I^2 = 41.90\%$.

¶¶¶There were small-study effects or publication biases as assessed by the Begg and Egger tests ($P < .0001, < .0001$, respectively).

Table V. Results of meta-regression analyses of steroid as the concomitant medication and the risk of cancers among patients with IBDs

| Subgroups | | Numbers of included studies | 95% CI of the regression coefficient | P value (for regression coefficient) | Residual error sums of squares (<i>Qe</i>) | P value (for <i>Qe</i>) |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Overall cancers | CD | 21 | −0.0095 to 0.019 | .26 | 12.05 | .80 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.037 to 0.018 | .24 | 8.47 | .13 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| CRC | Overall | 27 | −0.018 to 0.0048 | .13 | 30.98 | .15 |
| | CD | 21 | −0.011 to 0.026 | .79 | 8.90 | .94 |
| | UC | 7 | −0.040 to 0.014 | .17 | 4.77 | .69 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Hematologic cancers | Overall | 28 | −0.020 to 0.0078 | .19 | 20.17 | .78 |
| | CD | 20 | −0.029 to 0.014 | .24 | 12.01 | .68 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.024 to 0.067 | .82 | 0.53 | .99 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Hodgkin lymphoma | Overall | 26 | −0.022 to 0.017 | .41 | 14.17 | .90 |
| | CD | 18 | −0.024 to 0.023 | .48 | 7.66 | .91 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.024 to 0.067 | .82 | 0.53 | .99 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Non-Hodgkin lymphoma | Overall | 24 | −0.017 to 0.026 | .66 | 8.93 | 1.00 |
| | CD | 18 | −0.031 to 0.013 | .22 | 10.73 | .71 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.024 to 0.067 | .82 | 0.53 | .99 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Leukemia | Overall | 24 | −0.023 to 0.017 | .39 | 12.81 | .92 |
| | CD | 19 | −0.023 to 0.024 | .52 | 7.54 | .91 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.024 to 0.067 | .82 | 0.53 | .99 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | Overall | 25 | −0.016 to 0.026 | .69 | 8.71 | .99 |

NA, not available.

Table VI. Results of meta-regression analyses of immunomodulator (thiopurine) as the concomitant medication and the risk of cancers among patients with IBDs

| Subgroups | | Numbers of included studies | 95% CI of the regression coefficient | P value (for regression coefficient) | Residual error sums of squares (<i>Qe</i>) | P value (for <i>Qe</i>) |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Overall cancers | CD | 27 | −0.014 to 0.026 | .71 | 13.83 | .84 |
| | UC | 8 | −0.011 to 0.034 | .84 | 2.13 | .71 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| CRC | Overall | 35 | −0.011 to 0.013 | .58 | 18.38 | .86 |
| | CD | 27 | −0.018 to 0.027 | .66 | 10.35 | .96 |
| | UC | 10 | −0.010 to 0.034 | .15 | 3.27 | .77 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Hematologic cancers | Overall | 37 | −0.013 to 0.011 | .46 | 16.66 | .96 |
| | CD | 27 | −0.015 to 0.026 | .70 | 15.80 | .73 |
| | UC | 9 | −0.0014 to 0.055 | .31 | 4.10 | .54 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Hodgkin lymphoma | Overall | 36 | −0.0046 to 0.026 | .083 | 21.74 | .75 |
| | CD | 25 | −0.022 to 0.027 | .57 | 12.54 | .86 |
| | UC | 8 | −0.0014 to 0.055 | .31 | 4.10 | .54 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Non-Hodgkin lymphoma | Overall | 33 | −0.0068 to 0.027 | .12 | 18.81 | .84 |
| | CD | 25 | −0.024 to 0.027 | .54 | 15.13 | .65 |
| | UC | 8 | −0.0092 to 0.061 | .075 | 4.09 | .39 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Leukemia | Overall | 33 | −0.010 to 0.025 | .79 | 20.66 | .66 |
| | CD | 25 | −0.023 to 0.026 | .54 | 12.84 | .85 |
| | UC | 8 | −0.0013 to 0.055 | .31 | 4.11 | .53 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | Overall | 33 | −0.0079 to 0.026 | .15 | 19.52 | .81 |

Table VII. Results of meta-regression analyses of antitumor necrosis factor agents as the concomitant medication and the risk of cancers among patients with IBDs

| Subgroups | | Numbers of included studies | 95% CI of the regression coefficient | <i>P</i> value (for regression coefficient) | Residual error sums of squares (<i>Qe</i>) | <i>P</i> value (for <i>Qe</i>) |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Overall cancers | CD | 28 | −0.024 to 0.0022 | .0052 | 12.46 | .93 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.025 to 0.018 | .38 | 1.56 | .46 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| CRC | Overall | 35 | −0.021 to 0.00026 | .22 | 15.69 | .94 |
| | CD | 28 | −0.022 to 0.0076 | .17 | 9.31 | .99 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.019 to 0.021 | .54 | 2.76 | .43 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Hematologic cancers | Overall | 35 | −0.019 to 0.0026 | .069 | 14.25 | .98 |
| | CD | 28 | −0.0093 to 0.029 | .16 | 14.32 | .86 |
| | UC | 7 | −0.0033 to 0.046 | .45 | 2.58 | .46 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Hodgkin lymphoma | Overall | 36 | −0.0027 to 0.025 | .057 | 18.46 | .89 |
| | CD | 26 | −0.014 to 0.028 | .73 | 11.28 | .94 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.0033 to 0.046 | .45 | 2.58 | .46 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Non-Hodgkin lymphoma | Overall | 33 | −0.0049 to 0.024 | .098 | 15.64 | .94 |
| | CD | 26 | −0.0095 to 0.029 | .84 | 14.54 | .80 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.0053 to 0.049 | .058 | 3.06 | .38 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Leukemia | Overall | 33 | −0.0035 to 0.026 | .067 | 19.15 | .83 |
| | CD | 26 | −0.015 to 0.027 | .72 | 11.51 | .93 |
| | UC | 6 | −0.0053 to 0.049 | .058 | 3.06 | .38 |
| | IBD (no distinction made between CD or UC) | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | Overall | 33 | −0.0064 to 0.025 | .12 | 16.43 | .93 |