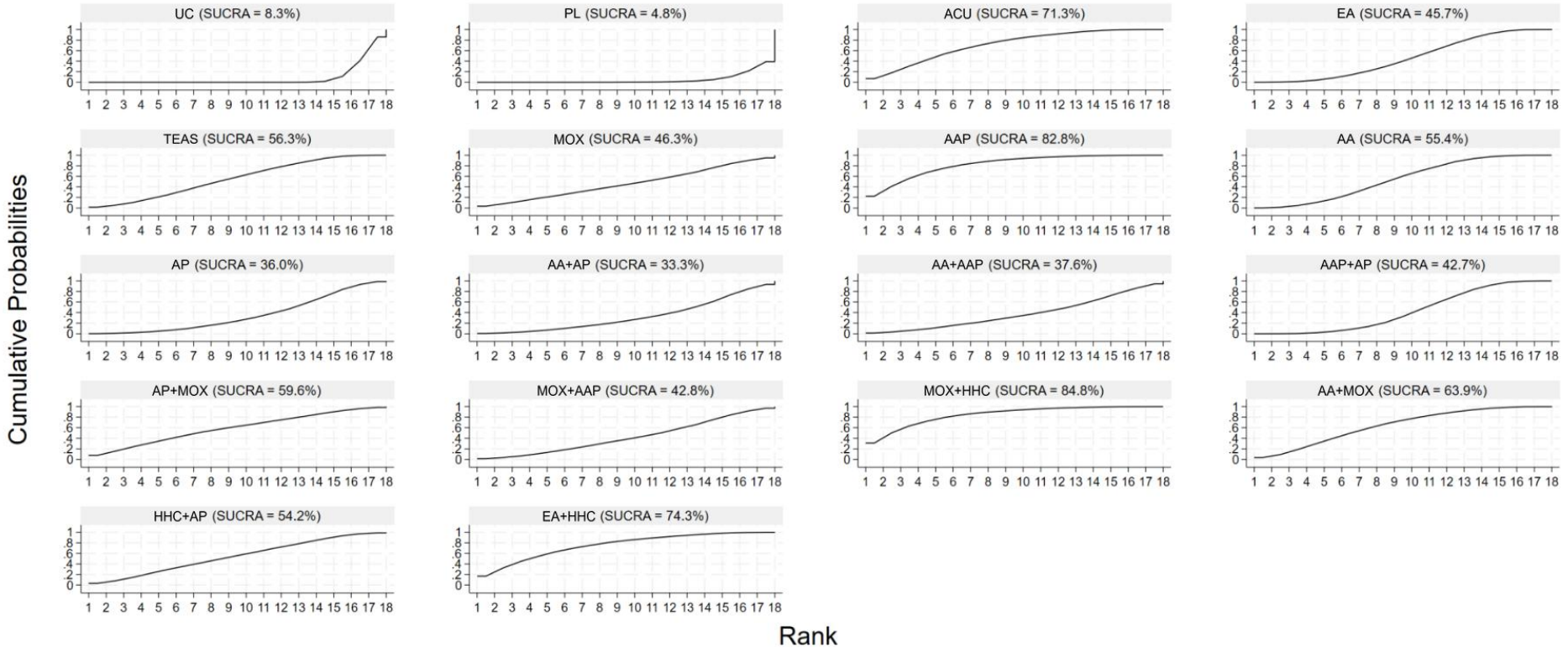
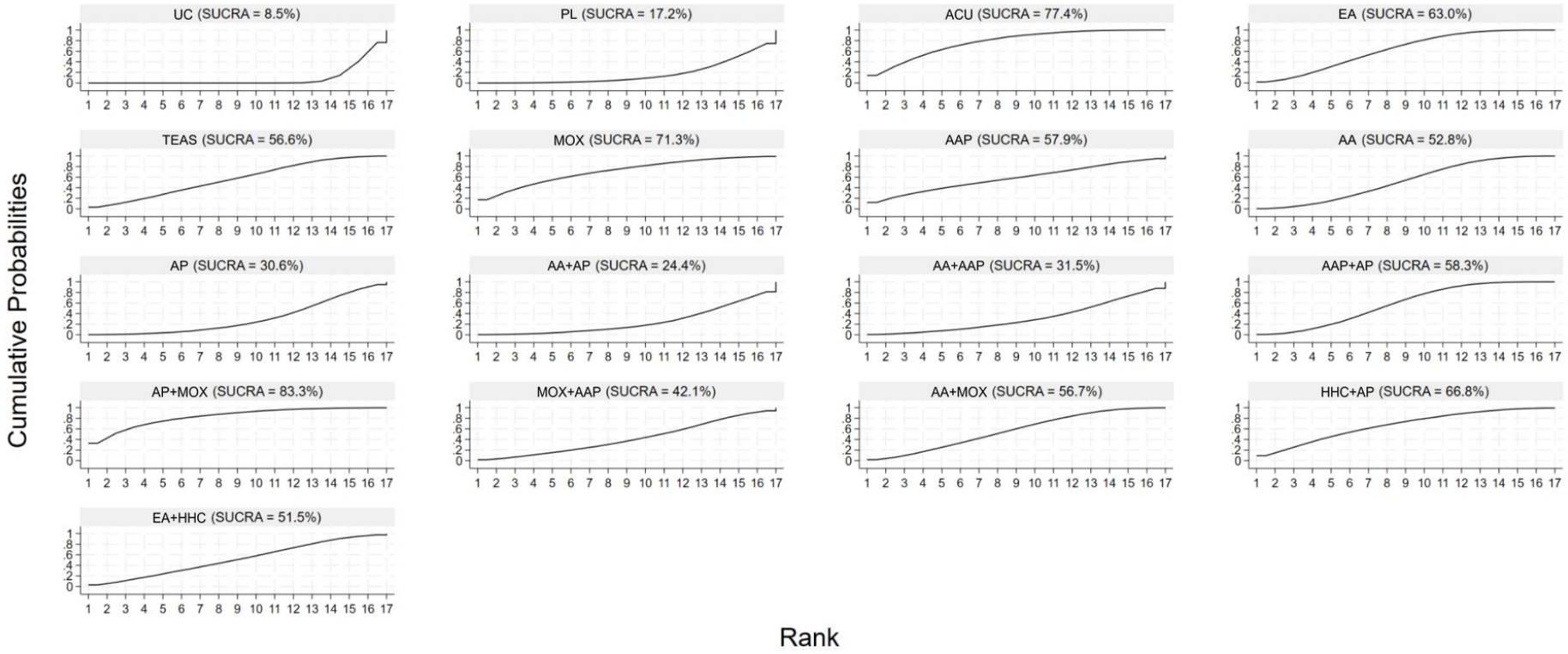
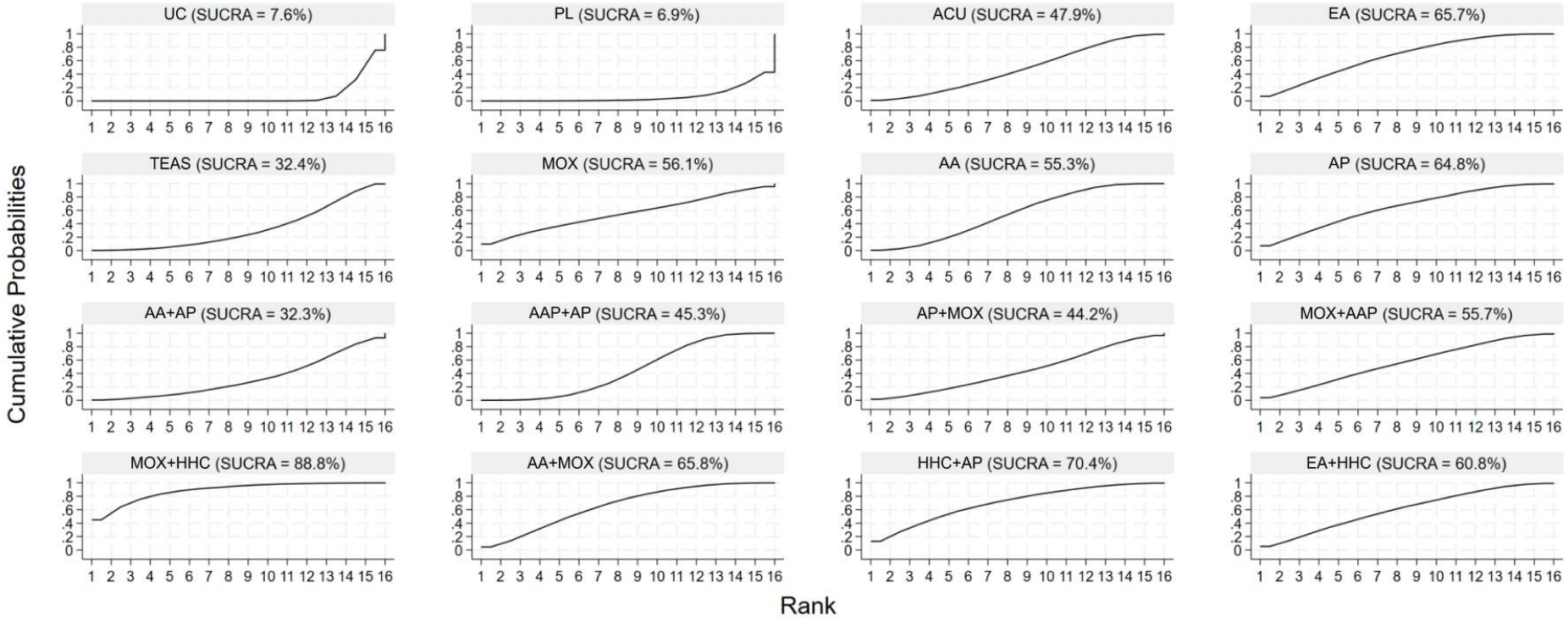
A


Cumulative Probabilities
UC (SUCRA = 8.3%)
PL (SUCRA = 4.8%)
ACU (SUCRA = 71.3%)
EA (SUCRA = 45.7%)
TEAS (SUCRA = 56.3%)
MOX (SUCRA = 46.3%)
AAP (SUCRA = 82.8%)
AA (SUCRA = 55.4%)
AP (SUCRA = 36.0%)
AA+AP (SUCRA = 33.3%)
AA+AAP (SUCRA = 37.6%)
AAP+AP (SUCRA = 42.7%)
AP+MOX (SUCRA = 59.6%)
MOX+AAP (SUCRA = 42.8%)
MOX+HHC (SUCRA = 84.8%)
AA+MOX (SUCRA = 63.9%)
HHC+AP (SUCRA = 54.2%)
EA+HHC (SUCRA = 74.3%)
Rank

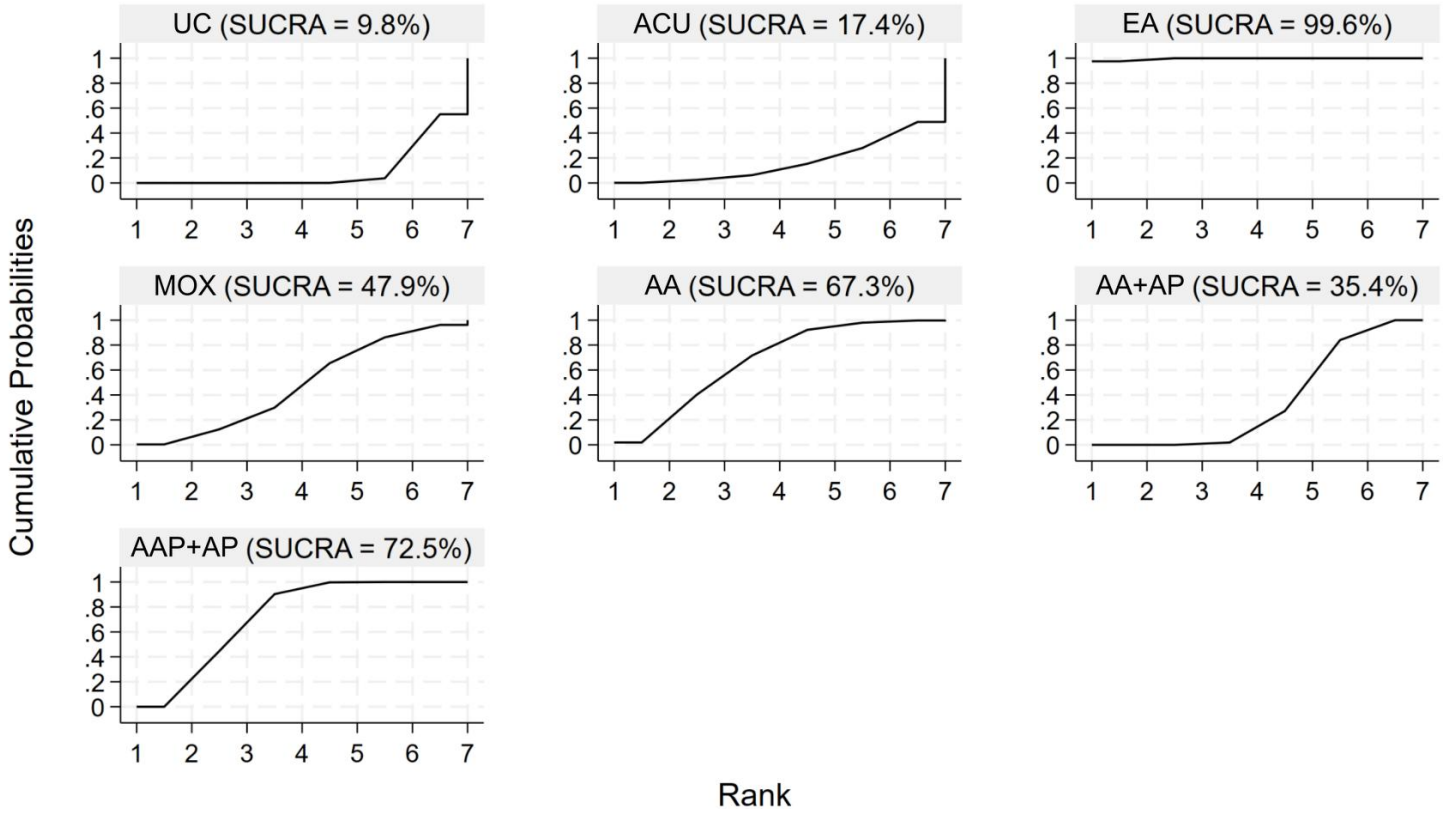
B


UC (SUCRA = 8.5%)
PL (SUCRA = 17.2%)
ACU (SUCRA = 77.4%)
EA (SUCRA = 63.0%)
TEAS (SUCRA = 56.6%)
MOX (SUCRA = 71.3%)
AAP (SUCRA = 57.9%)
AA (SUCRA = 52.8%)
AP (SUCRA = 30.6%)
AA+AP (SUCRA = 24.4%)
AA+AAP (SUCRA = 31.5%)
AAP+AP (SUCRA = 58.3%)
AP+MOX (SUCRA = 83.3%)
MOX+AAP (SUCRA = 42.1%)
AA+MOX (SUCRA = 56.7%)
HHC+AP (SUCRA = 66.8%)
EA+HHC (SUCRA = 51.5%)
Cumulative Probabilities
Rank

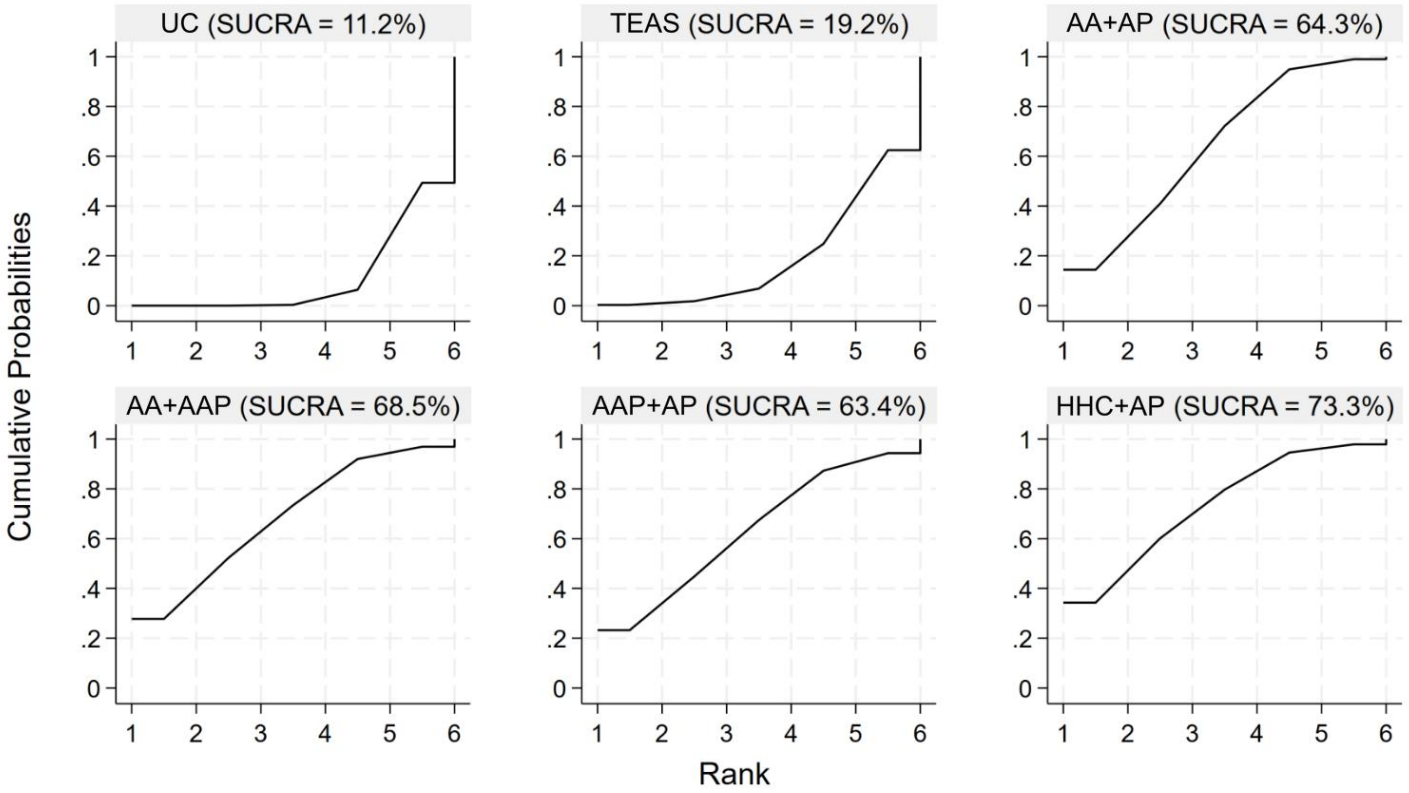
C


UC (SUCRA = 7.6%)
PL (SUCRA = 6.9%)
ACU (SUCRA = 47.9%)
EA (SUCRA = 65.7%)
TEAS (SUCRA = 32.4%)
MOX (SUCRA = 56.1%)
AA (SUCRA = 55.3%)
AP (SUCRA = 64.8%)
AA+AP (SUCRA = 32.3%)
AAP+AP (SUCRA = 45.3%)
AP+MOX (SUCRA = 44.2%)
MOX+AAP (SUCRA = 55.7%)
MOX+HHC (SUCRA = 88.8%)
AA+MOX (SUCRA = 65.8%)
HHC+AP (SUCRA = 70.4%)
EA+HHC (SUCRA = 60.8%)
Cumulative Probabilities
0 .2 .4 .6 .8 1
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
Rank

D


UC (SUCRA = 9.8%)
ACU (SUCRA = 17.4%)
EA (SUCRA = 99.6%)
MOX (SUCRA = 47.9%)
AA (SUCRA = 67.3%)
AA+AP (SUCRA = 35.4%)
AAP+AP (SUCRA = 72.5%)
Cumulative Probabilities
0
.2
.4
.6
.8
1
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Rank

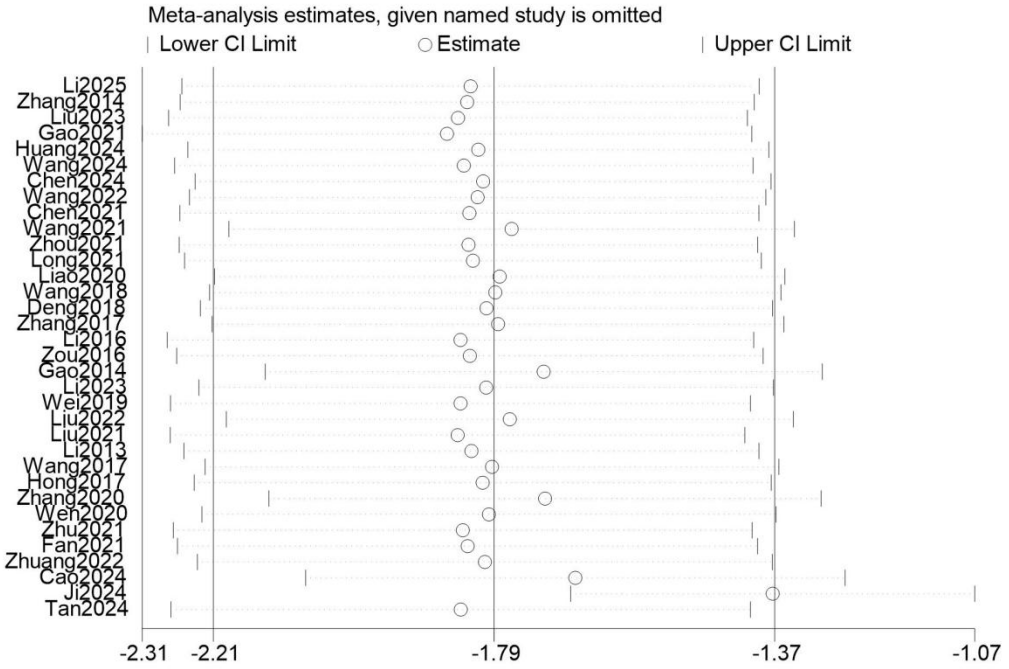
E



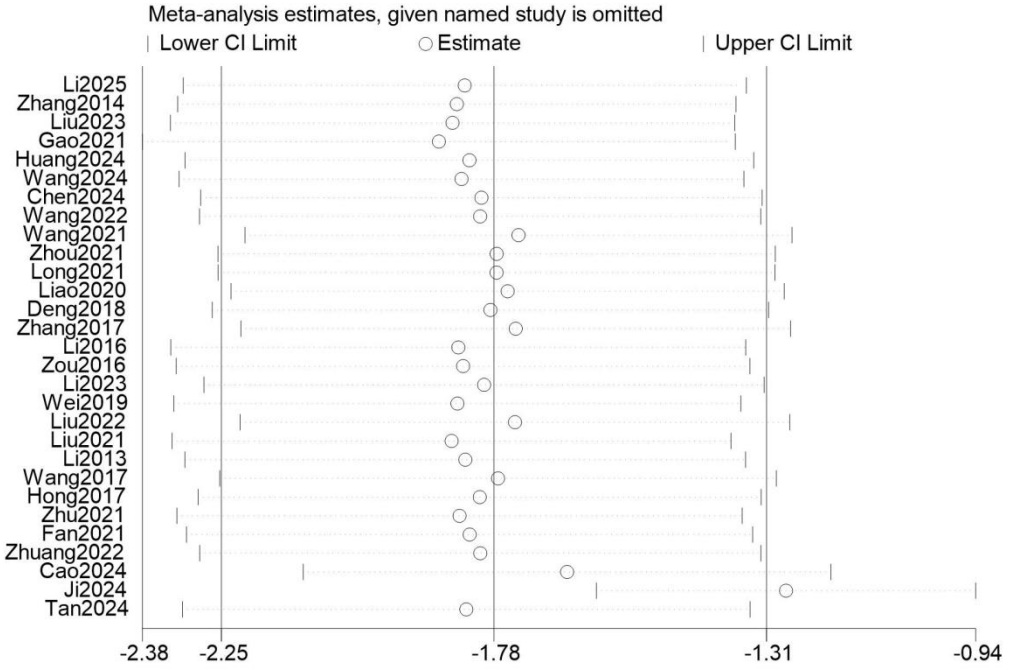
Supplementary Figure 1 Surface under the cumulative ranking curve for each outcome. Note: **A:** Time to first postoperative flatus; **B:** Time to first postoperative defecation; **C:** Time to first bowel sounds; **D:** Time to first oral feeding; **E:** Incidence of postoperative complications. UC=Usual care; PL=Placebo; ACU=Acupuncture; EA=Electroacupuncture; TEAS=Transcutaneous

electrical acupoint stimulation; MOX=Moxibustion; AAP=Acupoint application; AA=Auricular acupressure; AP=Acupressure; AA+AP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupressure; AA+AAP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupoint application; AAP+AP=Acupoint application combine with acupressure; AP+MOX=Acupressure combine with moxibustion; MOX+AAP=Moxibustion combine with acupoint application; MOX+HHC=Moxibustion combine with herbal hot compress; AA+MOX=Auricular acupressure combine with moxibustion; HHC+AP=Herbal hot compress combine with acupressure; EA+HHC=Electroacupuncture combine with herbal hot compress.

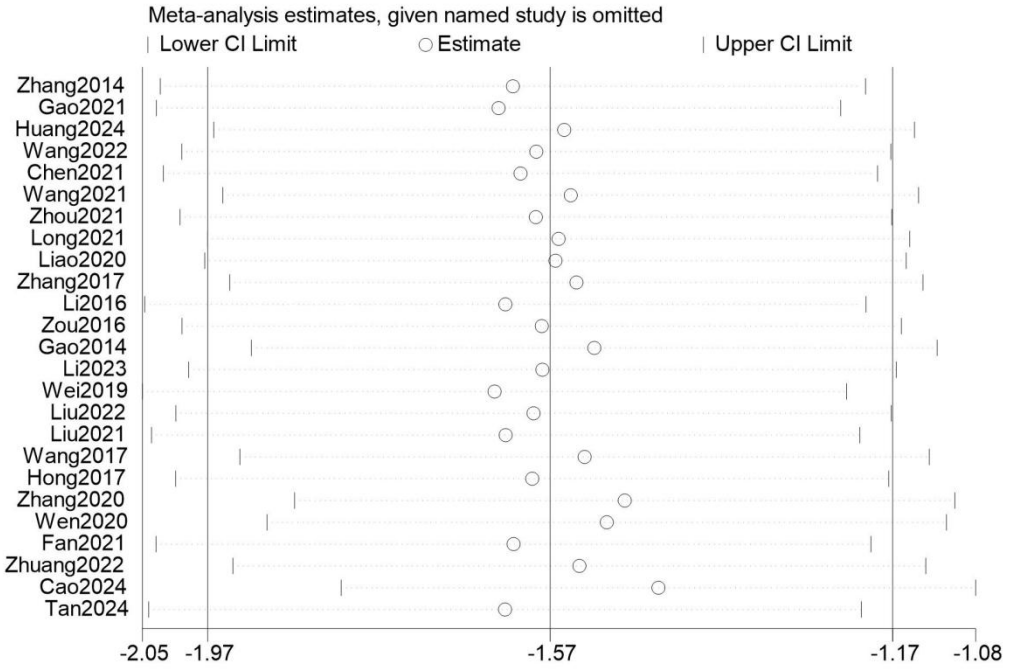
A


Meta-analysis estimates, given named study is omitted
Lower CI Limit
Estimate
Upper CI Limit
Li2025
Zhang2014
Liu2023
Gao2021
Huang2024
Wang2024
Chen2024
Wang2022
Chen2021
Wang2021
Zhou2021
Long2021
Liao2020
Wang2018
Deng2018
Zhang2017
Li2016
Zou2016
Gao2014
Li2023
Wei2019
Liu2022
Liu2021
Li2013
Wang2017
Hong2017
Zhang2020
Wen2020
Zhu2021
Fan2021
Zhuang2022
Cao2024
Ji2024
Tan2024
-2.31
-2.21
-1.79
-1.37
-1.07

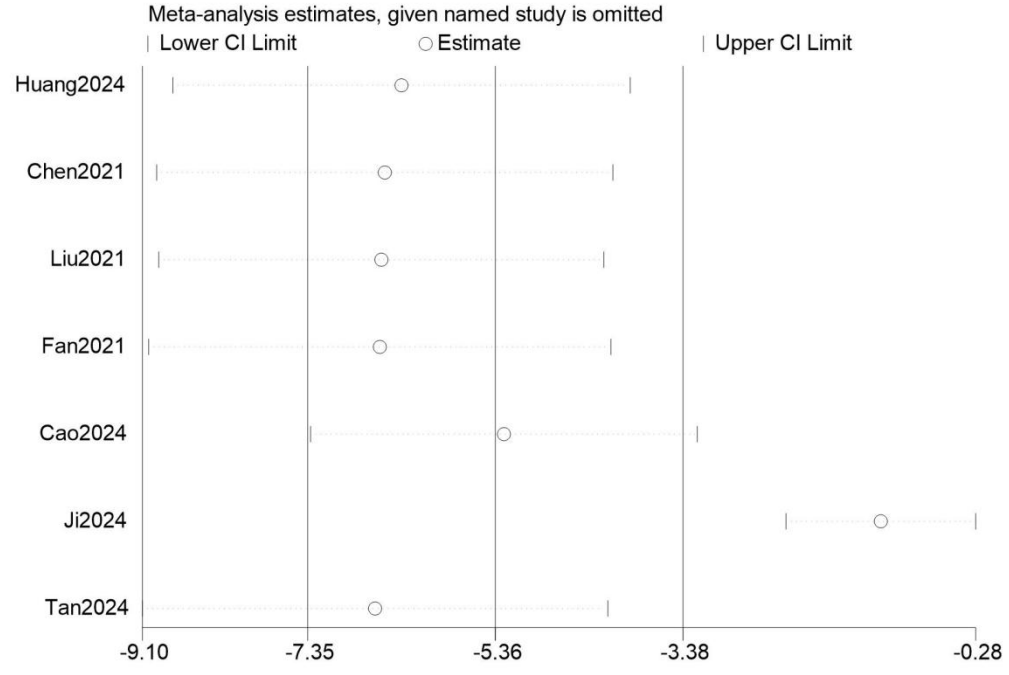
B


Meta-analysis estimates, given named study is omitted
Lower CI Limit
Estimate
Upper CI Limit
Li2025
Zhang2014
Liu2023
Gao2021
Huang2024
Wang2024
Chen2024
Wang2022
Wang2021
Zhou2021
Long2021
Liao2020
Deng2018
Zhang2017
Li2016
Zou2016
Li2023
Wei2019
Liu2022
Liu2021
Li2013
Wang2017
Hong2017
Zhu2021
Fan2021
Zhuang2022
Cao2024
Ji2024
Tan2024
-2.38
-2.25
-1.78
-1.31
-0.94

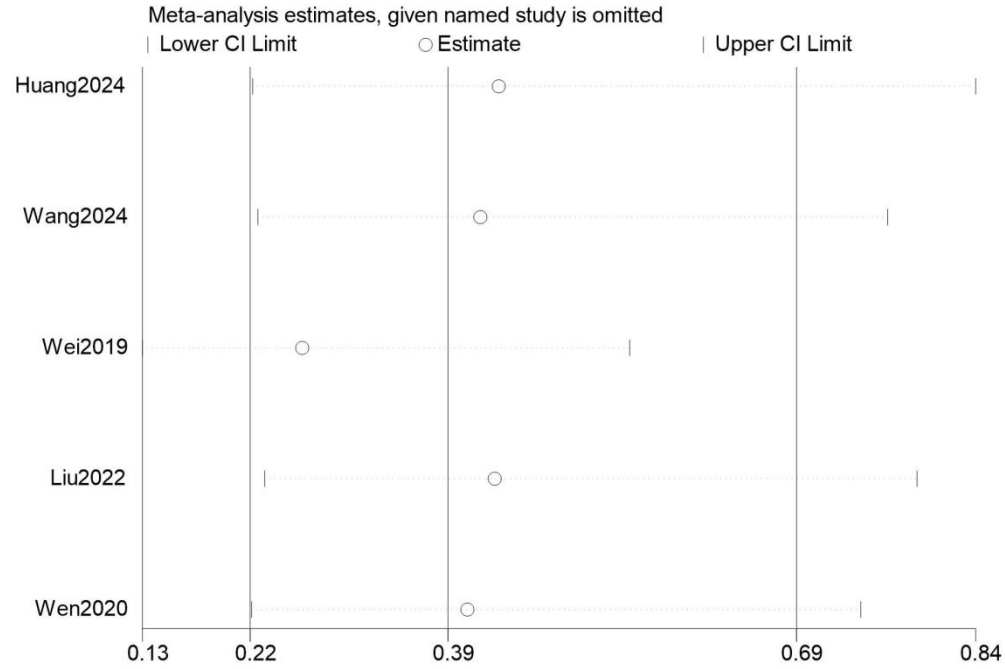
C


Meta-analysis estimates, given named study is omitted
Lower CI Limit
Estimate
Upper CI Limit
Zhang2014
Gao2021
Huang2024
Wang2022
Chen2021
Wang2021
Zhou2021
Long2021
Liao2020
Zhang2017
Li2016
Zou2016
Gao2014
Li2023
Wei2019
Liu2022
Liu2021
Wang2017
Hong2017
Zhang2020
Wen2020
Fan2021
Zhuang2022
Cao2024
Tan2024
-2.05
-1.97
-1.57
-1.17
-1.08

D

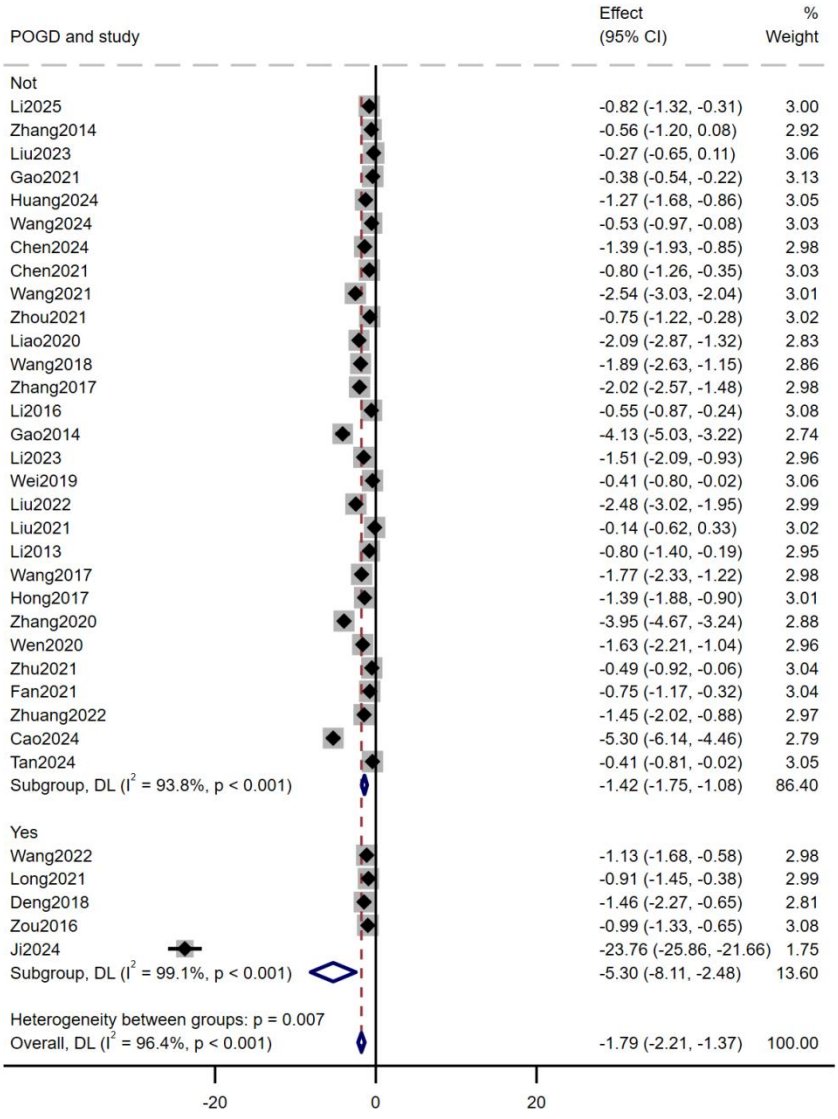

Meta-analysis estimates, given named study is omitted
Lower CI Limit
Estimate
Upper CI Limit
Huang2024
Chen2021
Liu2021
Fan2021
Cao2024
Ji2024
Tan2024
-9.10
-7.35
-5.36
-3.38
-0.28

E



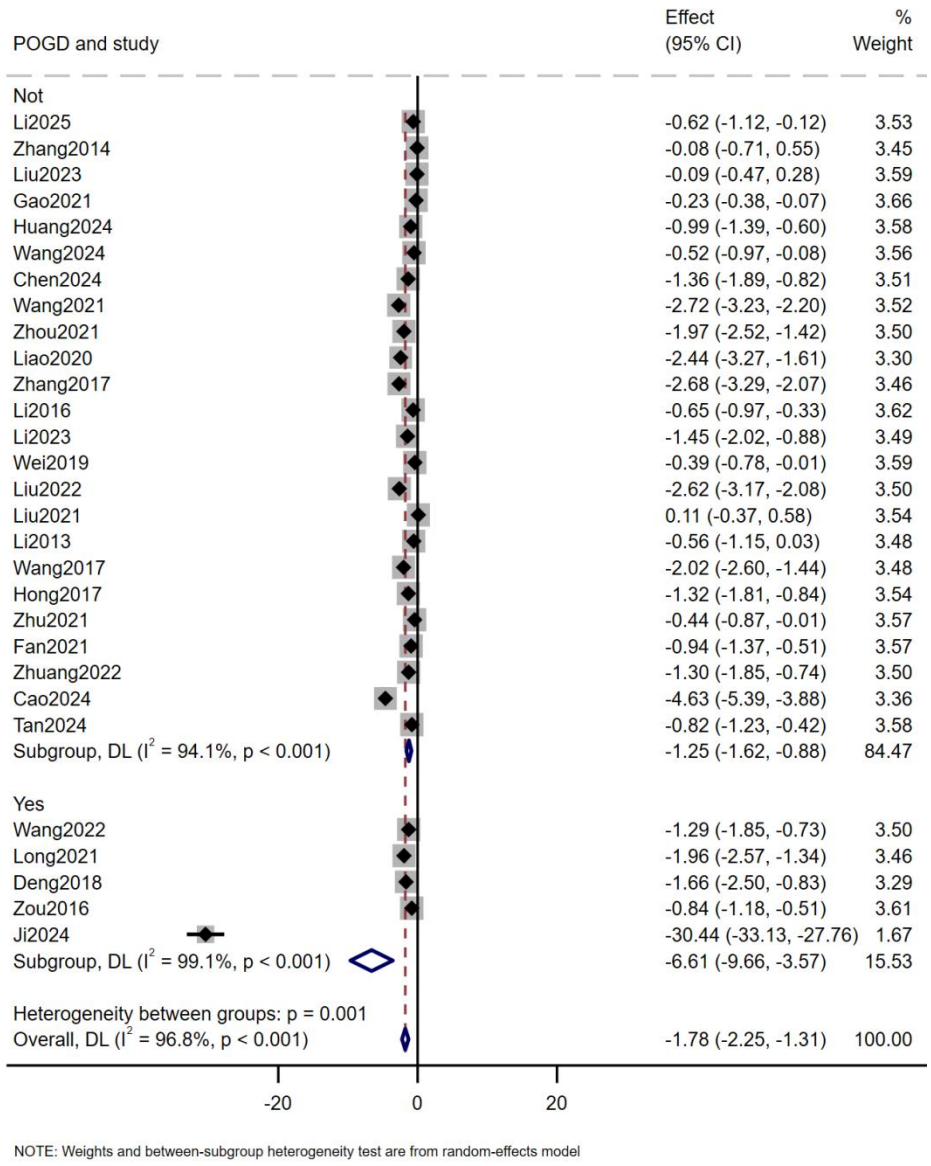
Supplementary Figure 2 Sensitivity analysis. Note: **A:** Time to first postoperative flatus; **B:** Time to first postoperative defecation; **C:** Time to first bowel sounds; **D:** Time to first oral feeding; **E:** Incidence of postoperative complications.

A



NOTE: Weights and between-subgroup heterogeneity test are from random-effects model

B



Supplementary Figure 3 Subgroup analysis. A: Time to first postoperative flatus; B: Time to first postoperative defecation. POGD: Postoperative Gastrointestinal Dysfunction.

Supplementary Table 1 Search Strategy

PubMed
#1=gastrointestinal neoplasms[MeSH]
#2="gastrointestinal neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal neoplasms"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm gastrointestinal"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasms gastrointestinal"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer of gastrointestinal tract"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tract cancer"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tract cancers"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal cancer"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer gastrointestinal"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancers gastrointestinal"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal cancers"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer of the gastrointestinal tract"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastro intestinal tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastro intestinal tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastroenteric tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal neoplasia"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tract neoplasia"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tract neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tract tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tract tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tumorigenesis"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "gi neoplasia"[Title/Abstract] OR "gi neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "gi tract tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "gi tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm of gastrointestinal tract"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplastic gastro-intestinal"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplastic gastrointestinal"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplastic gastrointestinal tract"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal tumor"[Title/Abstract]
#3=#1 OR #2
#4=colonic neoplasms[Mesh]
#5="colonic neoplasms"[Title/Abstract] OR "colonic neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm colonic"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon neoplasms"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasms colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasms colonic"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer of colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon cancers"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer of the

colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "colonic cancer"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer colonic"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancers colonic"[Title/Abstract] OR "colonic cancers"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon cancer"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancers colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon adenocarcinoma"[Title/Abstract] OR "adenocarcinoma colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "adenocarcinomas colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon adenocarcinomas"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon neoplasia"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon tumorigenesis"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "colonic neoplasia"[Title/Abstract] OR "colonic tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "colonic tumorigenesis"[Title/Abstract] OR "colonic tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplastic colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplastic colonic"[Title/Abstract] OR "tumor of the colon"[Title/Abstract] OR "colon tumor"[Title/Abstract]

#6=#4 OR #5

#7=rectal neoplasms[Mesh]

#8="rectal neoplasms"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm rectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectal neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasms rectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectum neoplasms"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm rectum"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectum neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectal tumors"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectal tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "tumor rectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer of rectum"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectum cancers"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer of the rectum"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectal cancer"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer rectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectal cancers"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectum cancer"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer rectum"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm of the rectum"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectal neoplasia"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectal tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectum tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "tumor of the rectum"[Title/Abstract] OR "tumour of the rectum"[Title/Abstract] OR "rectum tumor"[Title/Abstract]

#9=#7 OR #8

#10=colorectal neoplasms[Mesh]

#11="colorectal neoplasms"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal neoplasm"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasm colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal tumors"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal tumor"[Title/Abstract] OR "tumor colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "tumors colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplasms colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal cancer"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancer colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "cancers colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal cancers"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal carcinoma"[Title/Abstract] OR "carcinoma colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "carcinomas colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal carcinomas"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal neoplasia"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal tumorigenesis"[Title/Abstract] OR "colorectal tumour"[Title/Abstract] OR "neoplastic colorectal"[Title/Abstract] OR "tumor colorectal"[Title/Abstract]

#12=#10 OR #11

#13=#3 OR #6 OR #9 OR #12

#14="gastrointestinal dysfunction"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal failure"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastroparesis"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastropareses"[Title/Abstract] OR "intestinal obstruction"[Title/Abstract] OR "intestinal paralysis"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastric paralysis"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal motility"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal function"[Title/Abstract] OR "intestinal function"[Title/Abstract] OR "digestion disorder"[Title/Abstract] OR "digestive disorder"[Title/Abstract] OR "digestive disturbance"[Title/Abstract] OR "functional gastrointestinal disorder"[Title/Abstract] OR "gastrointestinal function disorder"[Title/Abstract]

#15="non-drug intervention"[Title/Abstract] OR "non-pharmacological intervention"[Title/Abstract] OR "nonpharmacological intervention"[Title/Abstract] OR "management"[Title/Abstract] OR "nursing"[Title/Abstract] OR "acupuncture"[Title/Abstract] OR "electroacupuncture"[Title/Abstract] OR "transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation"[Title/Abstract] OR "massage"[Title/Abstract] OR "physical therapy"[Title/Abstract] OR "physiotherapy"[Title/Abstract]

#16=#13 AND #14 AND #15 (359 results)

Embase

#1='gastrointestinal tumor'/exp OR 'gastrointestinal tumor'

#2='gastrointestinal neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal neoplasms':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm gastrointestinal':ab,ti OR 'neoplasms gastrointestinal':ab,ti OR 'cancer of gastrointestinal tract':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tract cancer':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tract cancers':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal cancer':ab,ti OR 'cancer gastrointestinal':ab,ti OR 'cancers gastrointestinal':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal cancers':ab,ti OR 'cancer of the gastrointestinal tract':ab,ti OR 'gastro intestinal tumor':ab,ti OR 'gastro intestinal tumour':ab,ti OR 'gastroenteric tumor':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal neoplasia':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tract neoplasia':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tract neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tract tumor':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tract tumour':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tumorigenesis':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tumour':ab,ti OR 'gi neoplasia':ab,ti OR 'gi neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'gi tract tumor':ab,ti OR 'gi tumor':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm of gastrointestinal tract':ab,ti OR 'neoplastic gastro-intestinal':ab,ti OR 'neoplastic gastrointestinal':ab,ti OR 'neoplastic gastrointestinal tract':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tumor':ab,ti

#3=#1 OR #2

#4='colon tumor'/exp OR 'colon tumor'

#5='colonic neoplasms':ab,ti OR 'colonic neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm colonic':ab,ti OR 'colon neoplasms':ab,ti OR 'colon neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm colon':ab,ti OR 'neoplasms colon':ab,ti OR 'neoplasms colonic':ab,ti OR 'cancer of colon':ab,ti OR 'colon cancers':ab,ti OR 'cancer of the colon':ab,ti OR 'colonic cancer':ab,ti OR 'cancer colonic':ab,ti OR 'cancers colonic':ab,ti OR 'colonic cancers':ab,ti OR 'colon cancer':ab,ti OR 'cancer colon':ab,ti OR 'cancers colon':ab,ti OR 'colon adenocarcinoma':ab,ti OR 'adenocarcinoma colon':ab,ti OR 'adenocarcinomas colon':ab,ti OR 'colon adenocarcinomas':ab,ti OR 'colon neoplasia':ab,ti OR 'colon tumorigenesis':ab,ti OR 'colon tumour':ab,ti OR 'colonic neoplasia':ab,ti OR 'colonic tumor':ab,ti OR 'colonic tumorigenesis':ab,ti OR 'colonic

tumour':ab,ti OR 'neoplastic colon':ab,ti OR 'neoplastic colonic':ab,ti OR 'tumor of the colon':ab,ti OR 'colon tumor':ab,ti

#6=#4 OR #5

#7='rectum tumor'/exp OR 'rectum tumor'

#8='rectal neoplasms':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm rectal':ab,ti OR 'rectal neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'neoplasms rectal':ab,ti OR 'rectum neoplasms':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm rectum':ab,ti OR 'rectum neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'rectal tumors':ab,ti OR 'rectal tumor':ab,ti OR 'tumor rectal':ab,ti OR 'cancer of rectum':ab,ti OR 'rectum cancers':ab,ti OR 'cancer of the rectum':ab,ti OR 'rectal cancer':ab,ti OR 'cancer rectal':ab,ti OR 'rectal cancers':ab,ti OR 'rectum cancer':ab,ti OR 'cancer rectum':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm of the rectum':ab,ti OR 'rectal neoplasia':ab,ti OR 'rectal tumour':ab,ti OR 'rectum tumour':ab,ti OR 'tumor of the rectum':ab,ti OR 'tumour of the rectum':ab,ti OR 'rectum tumor':ab,ti

#9=#7 OR #8

#10='colorectal tumor'/exp OR 'colorectal tumor'

#11='colorectal neoplasms':ab,ti OR 'colorectal neoplasm':ab,ti OR 'neoplasm colorectal':ab,ti OR 'colorectal tumors':ab,ti OR 'colorectal tumor':ab,ti OR 'tumors colorectal':ab,ti OR 'neoplasms colorectal':ab,ti OR 'colorectal cancer':ab,ti OR 'cancer colorectal':ab,ti OR 'cancers colorectal':ab,ti OR 'colorectal cancers':ab,ti OR 'colorectal carcinoma':ab,ti OR 'carcinoma colorectal':ab,ti OR 'carcinomas colorectal':ab,ti OR 'colorectal carcinomas':ab,ti OR 'colorectal neoplasia':ab,ti OR 'colorectal tumorigenesis':ab,ti OR 'colorectal tumour':ab,ti OR 'neoplastic colorectal':ab,ti OR 'tumor colorectal':ab,ti

#12=#10 OR #11

#13=#3 OR #6 OR #9 OR #12

#14='gastrointestinal dysfunction':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal failure':ab,ti OR 'gastroparesis':ab,ti OR 'gastropareses':ab,ti OR 'intestinal obstruction':ab,ti OR 'intestinal paralysis':ab,ti OR 'gastric paralysis':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal motility':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal function':ab,ti OR 'intestinal function':ab,ti OR 'digestion disorder':ab,ti OR 'digestive disorder':ab,ti OR 'digestive disturbance':ab,ti OR 'functional

gastrointestinal disorder':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal function disorder':ab,ti OR 'gastrointestinal tract function disorder':ab,ti OR 'digestive system function disorder':ab,ti

#15='non-drug intervention':ab,ti OR 'non-pharmacological intervention':ab,ti OR 'non pharmacological intervention':ab,ti OR 'management':ab,ti OR 'nursing':ab,ti OR 'acupuncture':ab,ti OR 'electroacupuncture':ab,ti OR 'transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation':ab,ti OR 'massage':ab,ti OR 'enhanced recovery after surgery':ab,ti OR 'eras':ab,ti OR 'early mobilization':ab,ti OR 'early ambulation':ab,ti OR 'chewing gum':ab,ti OR 'physical therapy':ab,ti OR 'physiotherapy':ab,ti

#16=#13 AND #14 AND #15 (649 results)

Web of Science

#1=TI(gastrointestinal neoplasm OR gastrointestinal neoplasms OR "cancer of gastrointestinal tract" OR gastrointestinal tract cancer OR gastrointestinal tract cancers OR gastrointestinal cancer OR gastrointestinal cancers OR "cancer of the gastrointestinal tract" OR gastro intestinal tumor OR gastro intestinal tumour OR gastroenteric tumor OR gastrointestinal neoplasia OR gastrointestinal tract neoplasia OR gastrointestinal tract neoplasm OR gastrointestinal tract tumor OR gastrointestinal tract tumour OR gastrointestinal tumorigenesis OR gastrointestinal tumour OR gi neoplasia OR gi neoplasm OR gi tract tumor OR gi tumor OR "neoplasm of gastrointestinal tract" OR neoplastic gastro-intestinal OR neoplastic gastrointestinal OR neoplastic gastrointestinal tract OR gastrointestinal tumor)

#2=TI(colonic neoplasms OR colonic neoplasm OR colon neoplasm OR colon neoplasms OR "cancer of colon" OR colon cancers OR "cancer of the colon" OR colonic cancer OR colonic cancers OR colon cancer OR colon neoplasia OR colon tumorigenesis OR colon tumour OR colonic neoplasia OR colonic tumor OR colonic tumorigenesis OR colonic tumour OR neoplastic colon OR neoplastic colonic OR "tumor of the colon" OR colon tumor)

#3=TI(rectal neoplasms OR rectal neoplasm OR ectum neoplasms OR rectum neoplasm

OR rectal tumors OR rectal tumor OR "cancer of rectum" OR rectum cancers OR "cancer of the rectum" OR rectal cancer OR rectal cancers OR rectum cancer OR "neoplasm of the rectum" OR rectal neoplasia OR rectal tumour OR rectum tumour OR "tumor of the rectum" OR "tumour of the rectum" OR rectum tumor)

#4=TI(colorectal neoplasms OR colorectal neoplasm OR colorectal tumors OR colorectal tumor OR colorectal cancer OR colorectal cancers OR colorectal carcinoma OR colorectal carcinomas OR colorectal neoplasia OR colorectal tumorigenesis OR colorectal tumour OR neoplastic colorectal)

#5=#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4

#6=TI(gastrointestinal dysfunction OR gastrointestinal failure OR gastroparesis OR gastropareses OR intestinal obstruction OR intestinal paralysis OR gastric paralysis OR gastrointestinal motility OR gastrointestinal function OR intestinal function OR digestion disorder OR digestive disorder OR digestive disturbance OR functional gastrointestinal disorder OR gastrointestinal function disorder OR gastrointestinal tract function disorder OR digestive system function disorder)

#7=TS(non-drug intervention OR non-pharmacological intervention OR non pharmacological intervention OR management OR nursing OR acupuncture OR electroacupuncture OR transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation OR massage OR physical therapy OR physiotherapy)

#8=#5 AND #6 AND #7 (57 results)

Cochrane Library

#1=(gastrointestinal neoplasm OR gastrointestinal neoplasms OR "cancer of gastrointestinal tract" OR gastrointestinal tract cancer OR gastrointestinal tract cancers OR gastrointestinal cancer OR gastrointestinal cancers OR "cancer of the gastrointestinal tract" OR gastro intestinal tumor OR gastro intestinal tumour OR gastroenteric tumor OR gastrointestinal neoplasia OR gastrointestinal tract neoplasia OR gastrointestinal tract neoplasm OR gastrointestinal tract tumor OR gastrointestinal tract tumour OR gastrointestinal tumorigenesis OR gastrointestinal tumour OR gi neoplasia OR gi

neoplasm OR gi tract tumor OR gi tumor OR "neoplasm of gastrointestinal tract" OR neoplastic gastro-intestinal OR neoplastic gastrointestinal OR neoplastic gastrointestinal tract OR gastrointestinal tumor):ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched) in Trials

#2= MeSH descriptor: [gastrointestinal neoplasms] this term only

#3=#1 OR #2 in Trials

#4=(colonic neoplasms OR colonic neoplasm OR colon neoplasm OR colon neoplasms OR "cancer of colon" OR colon cancers OR "cancer of the colon" OR colonic cancer OR colonic cancers OR colon cancer OR colon neoplasia OR colon tumorigenesis OR colon tumour OR colonic neoplasia OR colonic tumor OR colonic tumorigenesis OR colonic tumour OR neoplastic colon OR neoplastic colonic OR "tumor of the colon" OR colon tumor):ti,ab,kw in Trials

#5=MeSH descriptor: [colonic neoplasms] this term only

#6=#4 OR #5 in Trials

#7=(rectal neoplasms OR rectal neoplasm OR ectum neoplasms OR rectum neoplasm OR rectal tumors OR rectal tumor OR "cancer of rectum" OR rectum cancers OR "cancer of the rectum" OR rectal cancer OR rectal cancers OR rectum cancer OR "neoplasm of the rectum" OR rectal neoplasia OR rectal tumour OR rectum tumour OR "tumor of the rectum" OR "tumour of the rectum" OR rectum tumor):ti,ab,kw in Trials

#8=MeSH descriptor: [rectal neoplasms] this term only

#9=#7 OR #8 in Trials

#10=(colorectal neoplasms OR colorectal neoplasm OR colorectal tumors OR colorectal tumor OR colorectal cancer OR colorectal cancers OR colorectal carcinoma OR colorectal carcinomas OR colorectal neoplasia OR colorectal tumorigenesis OR colorectal tumour OR neoplastic colorectal):ti,ab,kw in Trials

#11=MeSH descriptor: [colorectal neoplasms] this term only

#12=#10 OR #11

#13=#3 OR #6 OR #9 OR #12 in Trials

#14=(gastrointestinal dysfunction OR gastrointestinal failure OR gastroparesis OR gastropareses OR intestinal obstruction OR intestinal paralysis OR gastric paralysis OR

gastrointestinal motility OR gastrointestinal function OR intestinal function OR digestion disorder OR digestive disorder OR digestive disturbance OR functional gastrointestinal disorder OR gastrointestinal function disorder OR gastrointestinal tract function disorder OR digestive system function disorder):ti,ab,kw in Trials

#15=(non-drug intervention OR non-pharmacological intervention OR non pharmacological intervention OR management OR nursing OR acupuncture OR electroacupuncture OR transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation OR massage OR physical therapy OR physiotherapy):ti,ab,kw in Trials

#16=#13 AND #14 AND #15 in Trials (1385 results)

CNKI

#1=SU ("胃肠道肿瘤" + "结直肠癌" + "结肠癌" + "直肠癌")

#2=SU ("胃肠功能障碍" + "胃肠功能紊乱" + "胃肠功能衰竭" + "胃瘫" + "肠梗阻" + "肠麻痹" + "胃麻痹" + "胃肠动力" + "胃肠功能" + "肠功能")

#3=SU ("非药物干预" + "管理" + "护理" + "针灸" + "电针" + "经皮电刺激" + "按摩" + "物理疗法")

#4=#1 AND #2 AND #3 (744 results)

VIP

#1=Title/Keywords (胃肠道肿瘤 OR 结直肠癌 OR 结肠癌 OR 直肠癌)

#2=Title/Keywords (胃肠功能障碍 OR 胃肠功能紊乱 OR 胃肠功能衰竭 OR 胃瘫 OR 肠梗阻 OR 肠麻痹 OR 胃麻痹 OR 胃肠动力 OR 胃肠功能 OR 肠功能)

#3=Title/Keywords (非药物干预 OR 管理 OR 护理 OR 针灸 OR 电针 OR 经皮电刺激 OR 按摩 OR 物理疗法)

#4=#1 AND #2 AND #3 (530 results)

Wanfang

#1=Title/Keywords (胃肠道肿瘤 OR 结直肠癌 OR 结肠癌 OR 直肠癌)

#2=Title/Keywords (胃肠功能障碍 OR 胃肠功能紊乱 OR 胃肠功能衰竭 OR 胃瘫 OR

肠梗阻 OR 肠麻痹 OR 胃麻痹 OR 胃肠动力 OR 胃肠功能 OR 肠功能)

#3=Title/Keywords (非药物干预 OR 管理 OR 护理 OR 针灸 OR 电针 OR 经皮电刺激 OR 按摩 OR 物理疗法)

#4=#1 AND #2 AND #3 (2259 results)

CBM

#1=("胃肠道肿瘤"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "结直肠癌"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "结肠癌"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "直肠癌"[Common Fields: Intelligent])

#2=("胃肠功能障碍"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "胃肠功能紊乱"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "胃肠功能衰竭"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "胃瘫"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "肠梗阻"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "肠麻痹"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "胃麻痹"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "胃肠动力"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "胃肠功能"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "肠功能"[Common Fields: Intelligent])

#3=("非药物干预"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "管理"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "护理"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "针灸"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "电针"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "经皮电刺激"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "按摩"[Common Fields: Intelligent] OR "物理疗法"[Common Fields: Intelligent])

#4=#1 AND #2 AND #3 (1795 results)

Supplementary Table 2 Summary of findings

Outcomes	Control group	Non-pharmacological intervention	Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Quality of the evidence (GRADE)	Comments
Time to first postoperative flatus	The mean time to first postoperative flatus in the control groups ranged from 25.31 to 105.42	The MDs in time to first postoperative flatus between the intervention group and the control group was -15.89 (-19.27 to -12.51).	-	3391 (34 studies)	⊕⊕◯◯ LOW[1]	-
Time to first postoperative defecation	The mean time to first postoperative defecation in the control groups ranged from 31.12 to 136.33	The MDs in the time to first postoperative defecation between the intervention group and the control group was -18.76 (-23.05 to -14.47).	-	3060 (29 studies)	⊕⊕◯◯ LOW[2]	-

Time to first bowel sounds	The mean time to first bowel sounds in the control groups ranged from17.62 to 60.14	The MDs in the time to first bowel sounds between the intervention group and the control group was -10.38 (-12.84 to -7.92).	-	2618 (25 studies)	⊕⊕◯◯ LOW[1]	-
Time to first oral feeding	The mean time to first oral feeding in the control groups ranged from 38.06 to 101.30	The MDs in the time to first oral feeding between the intervention group and the control group was -16.42 (-23.18 to -9.66).	-	802 (7 studies)	⊕◯◯◯ VERY LOW[3]	-
Incidence of postoperative complications	The incidence of postoperative complications in the control groups ranged from 10.0 to 25.0	The ORs in the incidence of postoperative complications between the intervention group	-	452 (5 studies)	⊕⊕◯◯ LOW[4]	-

	and the control group was 0.32 (0.16 to 0.64).

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

Very low quality: We are very uncertain about the estimate.

Abbreviations: CI: Confidence interval; MDs: Standardized mean differences; ORs: Odds ratios.

[1] The reviewers downgraded the quality of evidence 2 points for the time to first postoperative flatus and bowel sounds because (i) difficulty in blinding of participants and personnel for non-pharmacological interventions as well as unclear selective reporting and other bias due to the lack of registered clinical trial or published protocol, (ii) substantial heterogeneity was observed, (iii)lacked direct comparisons, relying on indirect comparisons to derive effect sizes, with a sparse evidence network, and (iv) Egger's test revealed statistically significant publication bias.

[2] The reviewers downgraded the quality of evidence 2 points for the time to first postoperative defecation because (i) difficulty in blinding of participants and personnel for non-pharmacological interventions as well as unclear selective reporting and other bias

due to the lack of registered clinical trial or published protocol, (ii) substantial heterogeneity was observed, and (iii)lacked direct comparisons, relying on indirect comparisons to derive effect sizes, with a sparse evidence network.

[3] The reviewers downgraded the quality of evidence 3 points for the time to first oral feeding because (i) difficulty in blinding of participants and personnel for non-pharmacological interventions as well as unclear selective reporting and other bias due to the lack of registered clinical trial or published protocol, (ii) substantial heterogeneity was observed, (iii)lacked direct comparisons, relying on indirect comparisons to derive effect sizes, with a sparse evidence network, and (iv) the total sample size (802 participants) is relatively small compared to other outcomes, and 2 studies (Chen 2021, Liu 2021) had large SD values (24.71~36.58), leading to reduced precision of effect size estimation.

[4] The reviewers downgraded the quality of evidence 2 points for the incidence of postoperative complications because (i) difficulty in blinding of participants and personnel for non-pharmacological interventions as well as unclear selective reporting and other bias due to the lack of registered clinical trial or published protocol, (ii)lacked direct comparisons, relying on indirect comparisons to derive effect sizes, with a sparse evidence network, and (iii) the total number of events is relatively small (65 events in total across all studies), and 2 studies (Wen 2020, Wang 2024) had fewer than 10 events per group, leading to reduced precision of effect size estimation.

Supplementary Table 3 The results of network meta-analysis for time to first postoperative flatus

MOX+ HHC					
-1.36 (-18.38, 15.67)	AAP				
-3.36 (-21.85, 15.13)	-2.00 (-19.45, 15.44)	EA+HHC			
-4.79 (-21.30, 11.73)	-3.43 (-18.77, 11.91)	-1.43 (-18.38, 15.52)	AUC		
-6.56 (-22.55, 9.43)	-5.20 (-19.98, 9.57)	-3.20 (-19.64, 13.24)	-1.77 (-15.88, 12.33)	AA+MOX	
-7.37 (-26.97,	-6.01 (-24.63,	-4.01	-2.58 (-20.74,	-0.81 (-18.49,	AP+MOX

12.23)	12.61)	(-23.97, 15.95)	15.57)	16.87)						
-8.63 (-24.95, 7.68)	-7.27 (-22.40, 7.85)	-5.27 (-22.03, 11.48)	-3.84 (-18.37, 10.69)	-2.07 (-16.02, 11.87)	-1.26 (-19.23, 16.71)	TEAS				
-8.75 (-23.30, 5.81)	-7.39 (-20.59, 5.82)	-5.39 (-20.43, 9.66)	-3.96 (-16.39, 8.47)	-2.19 (-13.98, 9.61)	-1.38 (-17.77, 15.02)	-0.12 (-12.38, 12.15)	AA			
-8.72 (-26.73, 9.29)	-7.36 (-24.31, 9.58)	-5.36 (-23.77, 13.05)	-3.93 (-20.36, 12.50)	-2.16 (-18.07, 13.75)	-1.35 (-20.88, 18.18)	-0.09 (-16.32, 16.14)	0.03 (-14.44,14.49)	HHC+ AP		
-10.82 (-31.01, 9.37)	-9.46 (-28.70, 9.77)	-7.46 (-28.00, 13.08)	-6.03 (-24.82, 12.75)	-4.26 (-22.59, 14.07)	-3.45 (-25.00, 18.10)	-2.19 (-20.80, 16.42)	-2.07 (-19.16,15.02)	-2.10 (-22.22, 18.02)	MOX	
-10.71 (-25.39,	-9.36 (-22.70,	-7.35 (-22.52,	-5.93 (-18.65,	-4.15 (-16.17,	-3.34 (-19.84,	-2.08 (-13.34,	-1.97 (-12.00,8	-1.99 (-16.58,	0.11 (-17.09,	EA

3.96)	3.99)	7.81)	6.80)	7.87)	13.16)	9.17)	.07)	12.59)	17.30)							
-11.21 (-25.25, 2.84)	-9.85 (-22.49, 2.79)	-7.85 (-22.40, 6.70)	-6.42 (-18.35, 5.51)	-4.65 (-15.85, 6.56)	-3.84 (-19.78, 12.10)	-2.57 (-14.24, 9.09)	-2.46 (-11.50,6 .58)	-2.49 (-16.43, 11.46)	-0.39 (-17.04, 16.27)	-0.49 (-9.74,8 .75)	AAP+ AP					
-11.74 (-29.88, 6.40)	-10.38 (-27.46, 6.70)	-8.38 (-26.92, 10.16)	-6.95 (-23.52, 9.62)	-5.18 (-21.23, 10.87)	-4.37 (-24.02, 15.28)	-3.11 (-19.48, 13.27)	-2.99 (-17.61,1 1.63)	-3.02 (-21.09, 15.05)	-0.92 (-21.15, 19.31)	-1.03 (-15.77, 13.72)	-0.53 (-14.64, 13.58)	MOX+ AAP				
-13.09 (-32.07, 5.89)	-11.73 (-29.70, 6.24)	-9.73 (-29.09, 9.63)	-8.30 (-25.79, 9.19)	-6.53 (-23.53, 10.47)	-5.72 (-26.15, 14.71)	-4.46 (-21.76, 12.84)	-4.34 (-20.00,1 1.31)	-4.37 (-23.28, 14.54)	-2.27 (-23.26, 18.72)	-2.38 (-18.14, 13.39)	-1.88 (-17.06, 13.29)	-1.35 (-20.38 ,17.68)	AA+A AP			
-13.21 (-29.82, 3.40)	-11.86 (-27.30, 3.59)	-9.85 (-26.89, 7.19)	-8.43 (-23.33, 6.48)	-6.65 (-20.96, 7.66)	-5.84 (-24.08, 12.40)	-4.58 (-16.89, 7.73)	-4.47 (-17.16,8 .22)	-4.49 (-21.02, 12.03)	-2.39 (-21.26, 16.48)	-2.50 (-14.66, 9.66)	-2.01 (-14.08, 10.07)	-1.47 (-18.14 ,15.19)	-0.12 (-17.70, 17.45)	AP		
-14.18 (-32.19, 3.83)	-12.82 (-29.76, 4.12)	-10.82 (-29.23, 7.59)	-9.39 (-25.82, 7.04)	-7.62 (-23.52, 8.28)	-6.81 (-26.34, 12.72)	-5.55 (-21.78, 10.68)	-5.43 (-19.89,9 .03)	-5.46 (-23.40, 12.48)	-3.36 (-23.47, 16.75)	-3.47 (-18.05, 11.11)	-2.97 (-16.91, 10.97)	-2.44 (-20.50 ,15.62)	-1.09 (-20.00, 17.82)	-0.97 (-17.49, 15.56)	AA+ AP	
-20.64	**-19.28**	**-17.28**	**-15.85**	**-14.08**	-13.27	**-12.01**	**-11.89**	-11.92	-9.82	**-9.93**	**-9.43**	-8.90	-7.55	-7.43	-6.46	UC

(-33.43, -7.85)	**(-30.51, -8.05)**	**(-30.63, -3.93)**	**(-26.30, -5.41)**	**(-23.68, -4.48)**	(-28.12, 1.58)	**(-22.13,-1.88)**	**(-18.84,-4.95)**	(-24.61, 0.77)	(-25.43, 5.79)	**(-17.12, -2.73)**	**(-15.23, -3.64)**	(-21.77 ,3.97)	(-21.58, 6.48)	(-18.02, 3.17)	(-19.1 4,6.22)	
-23.91	**-22.55**	**-20.55**	**-19.12**	**-17.35**	-16.54	**-15.28**	**-15.16**	-15.19	-13.09	-13.19	**-12.70**	-12.17	-10.82	-10.70	-9.73	-3.27	P
(-40.20, -7.62)	**(-37.65, -7.45)**	**(-37.28, -3.82)**	**(-33.60, -4.64)**	**(-31.25, -3.44)**	(-34.49, 1.41)	**(-22.67,-7.88)**	**(-27.38,-2.94)**	(-31.40, 1.02)	(-31.68, 5.50)	(-23.97, -2.42)	**(-24.34, -1.07)**	(-28.52 ,4.18)	(-28.10, 6.46)	(-22.02, 0.63)	(-25.9 3,6.48)	(-13.36 ,6.82)	L

Note: Significant results are in bold and underlined and/indicates not available. UC=Usual care; PL=Placebo; ACU=Acupuncture; EA=Electroacupuncture; TEAS=Transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation; MOX=Moxibustion; AAP=Acupoint application; AA=Auricular acupressure; AP=Acupressure; AA+AP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupressure; AA+AAP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupoint application; AAP+AP=Acupoint application combine with acupressure; AP+MOX=Acupressure combine with moxibustion; MOX+AAP=Moxibustion combine with acupoint application; MOX+HHC=Moxibustion combine with herbal hot compress; AA+MOX=Auricular acupressure combine with moxibustion; HHC+AP=Herbal hot compress combine with acupressure; EA+HHC=Electroacupuncture combine with herbal hot compress.

Supplementary Table 4 The results of network meta-analysis for time to first postoperative defecation

AP+ MOX				
-3.78 (-27.63,20.08)	AUC			
-5.08 (-32.77,22.61)	-1.30 (-26.63,24.02)	MOX		
-7.17 (-32.95,18.61)	-3.39 (-26.62,19.84)	-2.09 (-29.24,25.06)	HHC+ AP	
-9.12 (-30.81,12.5	-5.34 (-23.94,13.2	-4.04 (-27.33,19.2	-1.95 (-22.95, 19.04)	EA

6)	5)	5)						
-10.57 (-31.37,10.24)	-6.79 (-24.26,10.69)	-5.49 (-27.96,16.99)	-3.40 (-23.48, 16.69)	-1.44 (-15.90,13.01)	AAP+AP			
-9.55 (-40.92,21.82)	-5.77 (-35.08,23.54)	-4.47 (-36.97,28.03)	-2.38 (-33.28, 28.52)	-0.43 (-28.00,27.14)	1.02 (-25.87 ,27.90)	AAP		
-10.90 (-33.72,11.92)	-7.12 (-26.94,12.70)	-5.82 (-30.17,18.53)	-3.73 (-25.89, 18.43)	-1.78 (-19.01,15.46)	-0.33 (-16.40 ,15.73)	-1.35 (-29.82, 27.12)	AA+MOX	
-11.31 (-35.97,13.36)	-7.53 (-29.42,14.36)	-6.23 (-32.32,19.86)	-4.14 (-28.20, 19.92)	-2.18 (-20.94,16.57)	-0.74 (-19.32 ,17.84)	-1.76 (-31.73, 28.22)	-0.41 (-21.21, 20.40)	TEAS

-12.25 (-33.82,9.32)	-8.47 (-26.83,9.88)	-7.17 (-30.36,16.02)	-5.08 (-25.96, 15.80)	-3.13 (-18.68,12.42)	-1.69 (-15.91 ,12.54)	-2.70 (-30.18, 24.78)	-1.35 (-18.38, 15.68)	-0.94 (-20.36, 18.47)	AA				
-12.50 (-38.33,13.33)	-8.72 (-32.00,14.56)	-7.42 (-34.61,19.77)	-5.33 (-30.58, 19.92)	-3.38 (-24.42,17.67)	-1.93 (-22.07 ,18.20)	-2.95 (-33.89, 27.99)	-1.60 (-23.82, 20.61)	-1.19 (-25.30, 22.92)	-0.25 (-21.18, 20.69)	EA+HHC			
-15.95 (-41.91,10.01)	-12.17 (-35.60,11.25)	-10.87 (-38.19,16.45)	-8.78 (-34.17, 16.61)	-6.83 (-28.03,14.38)	-5.38 (-25.69 ,14.92)	-6.40 (-37.45, 24.65)	-5.05 (-27.42, 17.32)	-4.64 (-28.89, 19.61)	-3.70 (-24.79, 17.40)	-3.45 (-28.88 ,21.98)	MOX+AAP		
-19.61 (-46.00,6.78)	-15.83 (-39.73,8.07)	-14.53 (-42.26,13.20)	-12.44 (-38.27, 13.39)	-10.49 (-32.22,11.25)	-9.04 (-29.90 ,11.81)	-10.06 (-41.47, 21.35)	-8.71 (-31.58, 14.15)	-8.30 (-33.01, 16.41)	-7.36 (-28.98, 14.27)	-7.11 (-32.98 ,18.76)	-3.66 (-29.66, 22.34)	AA+AAP	
-19.40 (-43.4	-15.63 (-36.9	-14.32 (-39.8	-12.23 (-35.66,	-10.28 (-28.51,7	-8.84 (-26.63	-9.85 (-39.32,	-8.50 (-28.62,	-8.10 (-26.87,	-7.15 (-25.84,	-6.90 (-30.38	-3.45 (-27.07,	0.21 (-23.89,	AP

5,4.64)	1,5.66)	3,11.18)	11.19)	.95)	,8.96)	19.61)	11.61)	10.68)	11.54)	,16.57)	20.17)	24.30)			
-22.11 (-47.78,3.56)	-18.33 (-41.44,4.77)	-17.03 (-44.08,10.02)	-14.94 (-40.03, 10.15)	-12.99 (-33.84,7.87)	-11.54 (-31.48,8.39)	-12.56 (-43.37, 18.25)	-11.21 (-33.24, 10.82)	-10.80 (-34.75, 13.14)	-9.86 (-30.60, 10.88)	-9.61 (-34.75 ,15.53)	-6.16 (-31.43, 19.11)	-2.50 (-28.22, 23.22)	-2.71 (-26.01 ,20.60)	AA+AP	
-25.16 (-50.23,-0.08)	-21.38 (-43.74,0.99)	-20.08 (-46.55,6.40)	-17.99 (-42.47, 6.49)	-16.03 (-34.78,2.72)	-14.59 (-33.72 ,4.53)	-15.61 (-45.92, 14.70)	-14.26 (-35.55, 7.04)	-13.85 (-27.73, 0.03)	-12.90 (-32.84, 7.03)	-12.66 (-37.18 ,11.87)	-9.21 (-33.87, 15.46)	-5.55 (-30.66, 19.57)	-5.75 (-22.68 ,11.18)	-3.05 (-27.41, 21.32)	PL	
-27.25 (-45.88,-8.62)	**-23.47 (-38.37,-8.58)**	**-22.17 (-42.65,-1.69)**	**-20.08 (-37.90, -2.26)**	**-18.13 (-29.22,-7.04)**	**-16.68 (-25.93 ,-7.44)**	-17.70 (-42.94, 7.54)	**-16.35 (-29.52, -3.18)**	-15.94 (-32.11, 0.22)	**-15.00 (-25.87, -4.12)**	-14.75 (-32.64 ,3.14)	-11.30 (-29.38, 6.78)	-7.64 (-26.33, 11.05)	-7.85 (-23.05 ,7.36)	-5.14 (-22.80, 12.52)	-2.09 (-18.88,14.69)	UC

Note: Significant results are in bold and underlined and/indicates not available. UC=Usual care; PL=Placebo; ACU=Acupuncture; EA=Electroacupuncture; TEAS=Transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation; MOX=Moxibustion; AAP=Acupoint application; AA=Auricular acupressure; AP=Acupressure; AA+AP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupressure; AA+AAP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupoint application; AAP+AP=Acupoint application combine with acupressure;

AP+MOX=Acupressure combine with moxibustion; MOX+AAP=Moxibustion combine with acupoint application; AA+MOX=Auricular acupressure combine with moxibustion; HHC+AP=Herbal hot compress combine with acupressure; EA+HHC=Electroacupuncture combine with herbal hot compress.

Supplementary Table 5 The results of network meta-analysis for time to first bowel sounds

MOX+HHC					
-4.36 (-17.39,8.67)	HHC+AP				
-5.38 (-16.65,5.89)	-1.02 (-12.63,10.58)	AA+MOX			
-5.33 (-17.46,6.79)	-0.97 (-13.41,11.46)	0.05 (-10.54,10.64)	EA		
-5.49 (-18.06,7.08)	-1.13 (-14.00,11.74)	-0.11 (-11.20,10.98)	-0.16 (-12.12,11.80)	AP	
-6.23 (-18.77,6.3	-1.87 (-14.71,10.	-0.85 (-11.91,	-0.90 (-12.83,	-0.74 (-13.12,	EA+HC

1)	97)	10.21)	11.03)	11.64)							
-6.95	-2.59	-1.57	-1.62	-1.46	-0.72	MOX+					
(-19.53,5.6	(-15.47,10.	(-12.67,	(-13.59,	(-13.88,	(-13.11,	AAP					
3)	29)	9.54)	10.35)	10.96)	11.67)						
-6.86	-2.50	-1.48	-1.53	-1.37	-0.63	0.09	MOX				
(-22.25,8.5	(-18.14,13.	(-15.69,	(-16.42,	(-16.63,	(-15.87,	(-15.18,					
3)	14)	12.73)	13.37)	13.89)	14.61)	15.36)					
-7.13	-2.77	-1.75	-1.80	-1.64	-0.90	-0.18	-0.27	AA			
(-17.59,3.3	(-13.58,8.0	(-10.35,	(-11.51,	(-11.90,	(-11.13,	(-10.46,	(-13.84,				
3)	5)	6.86)	7.92)	8.63)	9.33)	10.10)	13.31)				
-8.35	-3.99	-2.97	-3.02	-2.86	-2.12	-1.40	-1.49	-1.22	AUC		
(-19.80,3.0	(-15.77,7.7	(-12.77,	(-13.79,	(-14.13,	(-13.36,	(-12.68,	(-15.84,	(-10.08,			
9)	8)	6.84)	7.75)	8.41)	9.12)	9.88)	12.86)	7.63)			
-8.51	-4.15	-3.13	-3.18	-3.02	-2.28	-1.56	-1.65	-1.38	-0.16	AAP+	
(-18.36,1.3	(-14.38,6.0	(-11.00,	(-12.24,	(-12.67,	(-11.89,	(-11.22,	(-14.76,	(-8.04,5	(-8.28,7	AP	
4)	8)	4.74)	5.88)	6.62)	7.33)	8.10)	11.46)	.27)	.96)		
-8.83	-4.47	-3.45	-3.50	-3.34	-2.60	-1.88	-1.97	-1.70	-0.48	-0.32	AP+M

(-21.51,3.85)	(-17.45,8.51)	(-14.66, 7.77)	(-15.57, 8.58)	(-15.87, 9.19)	(-15.10, 9.90)	(-14.42, 10.66)	(-17.32, 13.38)	(-12.10, 8.70)	(-11.87, 10.92)	(-10.11, 9.47)	OX				
-11.03 (-23.48,1.42)	-6.67 (-19.42,6.08)	-5.65 (-16.60, 5.31)	-5.70 (-17.53, 6.14)	-5.54 (-17.83, 6.75)	-4.80 (-17.06, 7.46)	-4.08 (-16.38, 8.22)	-4.17 (-19.33, 10.99)	-3.90 (-14.02, 6.22)	-2.68 (-13.82, 8.46)	-2.52 (-12.01, 6.97)	-2.20 (-14.60, 10.20)	AA+AP			
-11.10 (-23.10,0.91)	-6.74 (-19.06,5.58)	-5.72 (-16.14, 4.71)	-5.77 (-14.99, 3.46)	-5.61 (-17.45, 6.23)	-4.87 (-16.68, 6.94)	-4.15 (-16.00, 7.70)	-4.24 (-19.04, 10.56)	-3.97 (-13.52, 5.58)	-2.75 (-13.39, 7.90)	-2.59 (-11.48, 6.31)	-2.27 (-14.22, 9.69)	-0.07 (-11.78, 11.64)	TEAS		
-15.72 (-24.72,-6.72)	**-11.36 (-20.78,-1.94)**	**-10.34 (-17.12, -3.56)**	**-10.39 (-18.51, -2.26)**	**-10.23 (-19.01, -1.45)**	**-9.49 (-18.23, -0.75)**	-8.77 (-17.56, 0.02)	-8.86 (-21.35, 3.63)	**-8.59 (-13.91, -3.27)**	**-7.37 (-14.44, -0.30)**	**-7.21 (-11.21, -3.21)**	-6.89 (-15.83, 2.05)	-4.69 (-13.29, 3.91)	-4.62 (-12.57 ,3.32)	UC	
-17.25 (-29.92,-4.58)	-12.89 (-25.86,0.08)	**-11.87 (-23.03, -0.70)**	**-11.92 (-20.89, -2.95)**	-11.76 (-24.27, 0.75)	-11.02 (-23.50, 1.46)	-10.30 (-22.82, 2.22)	-10.39 (-25.73, 4.95)	-10.12 (-20.48, 0.24)	-8.90 (-20.29, 2.50)	-8.74 (-18.50, 1.03)	-8.42 (-21.04, 4.20)	-6.22 (-18.61, 6.17)	**-6.15 (-12.13 ,-0.18)**	-1.53 (-10.4 4,7.39)	PL

Note: Significant results are in bold and underlined and/indicates not available. UC=Usual care; PL=Placebo; ACU=Acupuncture; EA=Electroacupuncture; TEAS=Transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation; MOX=Moxibustion; AA=Auricular acupressure; AP=Acupressure; AA+AP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupressure; AAP+AP=Acupoint application combine with

acupressure; AP+MOX=Acupressure combine with moxibustion; MOX+AAP=Moxibustion combine with acupoint application; AA+MOX=Auricular acupressure combine with moxibustion; HHC+AP=Herbal hot compress combine with acupressure; EA+HHC=Electroacupuncture combine with herbal hot compress.

Supplementary Table 6 The results of network meta-analysis for time to first oral feeding

EA						
-9.18 (-10.23,-8.12)	AAP+AP					
-9.98 (-19.55,-0.41)	-0.80 (-10.43,8.82)	AA				
-14.39 (-25.15,-3.63)	-5.21 (-16.02,5.60)	-4.41 (-18.81,9.99)	MOX			
-17.33 (-18.53,-16.13)	-8.15 (-9.74,-6.56)	-7.35 (-16.99,2.29)	-2.94 (-13.76,7.88)	AA+AP		
-22.94 (-38.02,-7.86)	-13.76 (-28.88,1.35)	-12.96 (-30.82,4.90)	-8.55 (-27.07,9.97)	-5.61 (-20.74,9.52)	ACU	
-22.58 (-22.71,-22.45)	**-13.40 (-14.45,-12.35)**	**-12.60 (-22.17,-3.03)**	-8.19 (-18.95,2.57)	**-5.25 (-6.45,-4.05)**	0.36 (-14.72,15.44)	UC

Note: Significant results are in bold and underlined and/indicates not available. UC=Usual care; ACU=Acupuncture; EA=Electroacupuncture; MOX=Moxibustion; AA=Auricular acupressure; AA+AP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupressure; AAP+AP=Acupoint application combine with acupressure.

Supplementary Table 7 The results of network meta-analysis for incidence of postoperative complications

HHC+AP					
0.88 (0.09,8.67)	AA+AAP				
0.74 (0.11,5.16)	0.84 (0.12,6.05)	AA+AP			
0.76 (0.07,7.85)	0.87 (0.08,9.12)	1.03 (0.14,7.77)	AAP+AP		
0.25 (0.04,1.63)	0.28 (0.04,1.92)	0.34 (0.08,1.48)	0.33 (0.05,2.32)	TEAS	
0.22 (0.04,1.08)	0.25 (0.05,1.28)	**0.30 (0.10,0.89)**	0.29 (0.05,1.55)	0.88 (0.33,2.39)	UC

Note: Significant results are in bold and underlined and/indicates not available. UC=Usual care; TEAS=Transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation; AA+AP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupressure; AA+AAP=Auricular acupressure combine with acupoint application; AAP+AP=Acupoint application combine with acupressure; HHC+AP=Herbal hot compress combine with acupressure.

Supplementary Table 8 The results of consistency test for all network meta-analyses

Outcomes	I^2	Q	d.f.	*P* value
Time to first postoperative flatus	75.2%	30.75	8	0.001
Time to first postoperative defecation	76.5%	40.52	11	0.001
Time to first bowel sounds	75.7%	38.03	10	0.02
Time to first oral feeding	89.3%	46.45	15	<0.001
Incidence of postoperative complications	49.2%	45.12	12	0.08

Supplementary Table 9 Node-splitting assessment of local inconsistency for comparisons with separable direct and indirect evidence

Outcomes	Comparison	Direct evidence		Indirect evidence		Difference		P value	τ (h)
		Estimate (h)	SE (h)	Estimate (h)	SE (h)	Estimate (h)	SE (h)		
time to first postoperative flatus	PL vs AP	3.08	11.33	9.91	14.58	-6.83	18.47	0.71	9.42
	UC vs AP	9.65	9.45	2.82	15.87	6.83	18.47	0.71	9.42
	PL vs EA	4.00	18.18	20.71	11.41	-16.71	21.46	0.44	9.13
	UC vs EA	19.41	5.99	2.85	20.55	16.56	21.41	0.44	9.13
	PL vs TEAS	-17.63	8.07	-0.05	15.43	-17.59	17.43	0.31	9.08
	UC vs TEAS	9.80	10.31	27.39	14.05	-17.59	17.42	0.31	9.08
time to first postoperative defecation	PL vs AP	5.77	6.89	17.64	7.83	-11.87	10.43	0.26	5.54
	UC vs AP	11.05	5.67	-0.82	8.75	11.87	10.43	0.26	5.54
	PL vs EA	9.00	7.70	16.74	6.72	-7.74	10.22	0.45	5.73
	UC vs EA	10.96	3.56	3.23	9.57	7.73	10.22	0.45	5.73
	PL vs TEAS	-17.95	3.38	-1.51	7.98	-16.44	8.67	0.06	5.02
	UC vs	5.10	5.58	21.54	6.64	-16.44	8.67	0.06	5.02

	TEAS								
	PL vs EA	6.00	5.36	22.00	6.74	-16.00	8.61	0.06	3.88
	UC vs EA	14.60	4.39	-1.40	7.41	-16.00	8.61	0.06	3.88
time to first bowel sounds	PL vs TEAS	-8.10	2.91	7.90	8.11	-16.00	8.61	0.06	3.88
	UC vs TEAS	0.70	4.21	16.70	7.52	-16.00	8.61	0.06	3.88

Note: Only comparisons with separable direct and indirect evidence are presented. Local inconsistency could not be assessed for the remaining direct comparisons because no separable indirect evidence was available. UC=Usual care; PL=Placebo; EA=Electroacupuncture; TEAS=Transcutaneous electrical acupoint stimulation; AP=Acupressure.

Supplementary Table 10 The results of subgroup analyse

		Time to first postoperative flatus		Time to first postoperative defecation	
		Hedge's g (95% CI)	I^2	Hedge's g (95% CI)	I^2
All		-1.79 (-2.21, -1.37)	96.4%	-1.78 (-2.25, -1.31)	96.8%
POGD					
	Yes	**-5.30 (-8.11, -2.48)**	99.1%	**-6.61 (-9.66, -3.57)**	99.1%
	Not	-1.42 (-1.75, -1.08)	93.8%	-1.25 (-1.62, -0.88)	94.1%
		Q=7.21		Q=11.73	
		***P*=0.007**		***P*=0.001**	