

Supplementary Table 1 Search strategy

Database	Search query	Filter	Search results
PubMed	("Colorectal Neoplasms"[Mes h] OR "colorectal cancer" OR "colon cancer" OR "rectal cancer") AND ("Fusobacterium nucleatum"[Mesh] OR "Fusobacterium nucleatum" OR "F. nucleatum") AND ("quantitative PCR" OR qPCR OR "digital droplet PCR" OR ddPCR OR "molecular detection" OR "bacterial load") AND ("high levels" OR "low levels" OR "bacterial abundance" OR "bacterial density")	All Fields	200
Scopus	TITLE-ABS-	Title/ Abstract/Key	180

KEY(("colorectal word
 neoplasms" OR
 "colorectal cancer"
 OR "colon cancer"
 OR "rectal
 cancer") AND
 ("Fusobacterium
 nucleatum" OR
 "F. nucleatum")
 AND
 ("quantitative
 PCR" OR qPCR
 OR "digital
 droplet PCR" OR
 ddPCR OR
 "molecular
 detection" OR
 "bacterial load")
 AND ("high
 levels" OR "low
 levels" OR
 "bacterial
 abundance" OR
 "bacterial
 density"))

Web of Science

TS=("colorectal Topic
 neoplasms" OR
 "colorectal cancer"
 OR "colon cancer"
 OR "rectal
 cancer") AND

150

TS=("Fusobacteri
um nucleatum"
OR "F.
nucleatum") AND
TS=("quantitative
PCR" OR qPCR
OR "digital
droplet PCR" OR
ddPCR OR
"molecular
detection" OR
"bacterial load")
AND TS=("high
levels" OR "low
levels" OR
"bacterial
abundance" OR
"bacterial
density")

Cochrane
CENTRAL

("colorectal Title/ Abstract/Key 42
neoplasms" OR word
"colorectal cancer"
OR "colon cancer"
OR "rectal
cancer") AND
("Fusobacterium
nucleatum" OR
"F. nucleatum")
AND
("quantitative
PCR" OR qPCR

OR "digital
 droplet PCR" OR
 ddPCR OR
 "molecular
 detection" OR
 "bacterial load")
 AND ("high
 levels" OR "low
 levels" OR
 "bacterial
 abundance" OR
 "bacterial
 density")

Total

–

–

572

Supplementary Table 2 Risk of bias assessment using Newcastle Ottawa scale (NOS) of cohort studies

Study ID	Selection (max4)	Comparability (max2)	Outcomes (max3)	Total (max 9)
Ito 2015	***	*	**	Fair
Kunzmann 2019	***	**	***	Good
Oh 2019	****	**	***	Good
Chen 2019	****	**	**	Good
Mima 2015	***	**	***	Good
Wei 2016	****	*	***	Good
Sun 2016	***	*	***	Good
Yamaoka 2018	****	**	***	Good
Yan 2017	***	**	***	Good
Phipps 2025	****	**	***	Good
Sakamoto 2020	****	**	***	Good
de Carvalho 2019	****	**	***	Good