

# Role of vitamin D in preventing and treating selected extraskeletal diseases – an umbrella review

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## Abbreviations

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 25(OH)D      | 25-hydroxyvitamin-D                     |
| AECOPD       | acute exacerbation COPD                 |
| aIRR         | adjusted incidence rate ratio           |
| ARI          | acute respiratory tract infection(s)    |
| ARR          | annualised relapse rate                 |
| CI           | confidence interval                     |
| CIS          | clinically isolated syndrome            |
| COPD         | chronic obstructive pulmonary disease   |
| EDSS         | expanded disability status scale        |
| FCP          | fasting C-peptide                       |
| FeNO         | fraction of exhaled nitric oxide        |
| FEV1         | forced expiratory volume in 1 second    |
| FFQ          | food frequency questionnaire            |
| FIS          | fatigue impact scale                    |
| HR           | hazard ratio                            |
| IFN- $\beta$ | interferon-beta                         |
| IL           | interleukin                             |
| i.m.         | intramuscular                           |
| IPD          | individual patient data                 |
| IU           | international unit(s)                   |
| LRTI         | lower respiratory tract infection(s)    |
| MA           | meta-analysis                           |
| MD           | mean difference                         |
| MRI          | magnetic resonance imaging              |
| MS           | multiple sclerosis                      |
| MSFC         | multiple sclerosis functional composite |
| NR           | not reported                            |
| OR           | odds ratio                              |
| PFT          | pulmonary function test                 |
| PMS          | premenstrual syndrome                   |
| RCT          | randomised controlled trial             |
| RR           | relative risk                           |
| RRMS         | relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis  |
| RTI          | respiratory tract infection(s)          |
| SCP          | stimulated C-peptide                    |
| SMD          | standardised mean difference            |
| SR           | systematic review                       |
| T1DM         | type 1 diabetes mellitus                |
| TMT          | trail making test                       |
| URTI         | upper respiratory tract infection(s)    |

**Table S1:** Search strategy in PubMed<sup>1</sup>.

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Study type</b>                     | Metaanalysis[tiab] OR „Meta analysis“[tiab] OR „Meta analyses“[tiab] OR Meta-analy*[tiab] OR „systematic review“[tiab] OR systematic[sb] <sup>2</sup> OR „Meta-Analysis [mh]“   |
| <b>Vitamin D</b>                      | „vitamin d“ [tiab] OR „vitamin d3“ [tiab] OR „vitamin d2“ [tiab] OR cholecalciferol [tiab] OR ergocalciferol [tiab] OR calcidiol [tiab] OR „25-hydroxyvitamin D“ [tiab] OR 25-hydroxycholecalciferol [tiab] OR hydroxycholecalciferol [tiab] OR calcifediol [tiab] OR calcitriol [tiab] OR „1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D“ [tiab] OR 1,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol [tiab] OR dihydroxycholecalciferol [tiab] OR „1-alpha-hydroxyvitamin D“ [tiab] OR alfacalcidol [tiab] OR Paricalcitol [tiab] OR „vitamin d“ [mh] |
| <b>ARI</b>                            | „respiratory tract infection“ [tiab] OR „respiratory tract infections“ [tiab] OR RTI [tiab] OR „respiratory infection“ [tiab] OR „respiratory infections“ [tiab] OR ARI [tiab] OR ARTI [tiab] OR LRTI [tiab] OR URTI [tiab] OR „common cold“ [tiab] OR pneumonia [tiab] OR influenza [tiab] OR flu [tiab] OR „respiratory tract infections“ [mh] OR „respiratory tract diseases“ [mh]   |
| <b>Asthma</b>                         | asthma [tiab] OR „asthma“ [mh]  |
| <b>COPD</b>                           | COPD [tiab] OR „chronic obstructive pulmonary disease“ [tiab] OR „chronic obstructive lung disease“ [tiab] OR exacerbation [tiab] OR exacerbations [tiab] OR emphysema [tiab] OR bronchitis [tiab] OR „pulmonary disease, chronic obstructive“ [mh]   |
| <b>Dementia and cognitive decline</b> | dementia [tiab] OR dementias [tiab] OR alzheimer [tiab] OR alzheimers [tiab] OR alzheimer’s [tiab] OR cognitive [tiab] OR cognition [tiab] OR „lewy body disease“ [tiab] OR „frontotemporal lobar degeneration“ [tiab] OR neurodegenerative [tiab] OR neurodegeneration [tiab] OR dementia [mh] OR „cognitive dysfunction“ [mh]   |
| <b>Depression</b>                     | depression [tiab] OR depressions [tiab] OR depressive [tiab] OR „affective disorder“ [tiab] OR „affective disorders“ [tiab] OR mood [tiab] OR „depression“ [mh] OR „depressive disorder“ [mh]   |
| <b>T1DM</b>                           | „type 1 diabetes“ [tiab] OR „diabetes mellitus type 1“ [tiab] OR „Diabetes Mellitus, Type 1“ [mh]   |
| <b>MS</b>                             | „multiple sclerosis“ [tiab] OR „neuroinflammatory autoimmune disease“ [tiab] OR „multiple sclerosis“ [mh]   |

<sup>1</sup> Identical search terms for the systematic literature searches across the Cochrane Reviews library<sup>2</sup> PubMed systematic reviews filter before December 2018

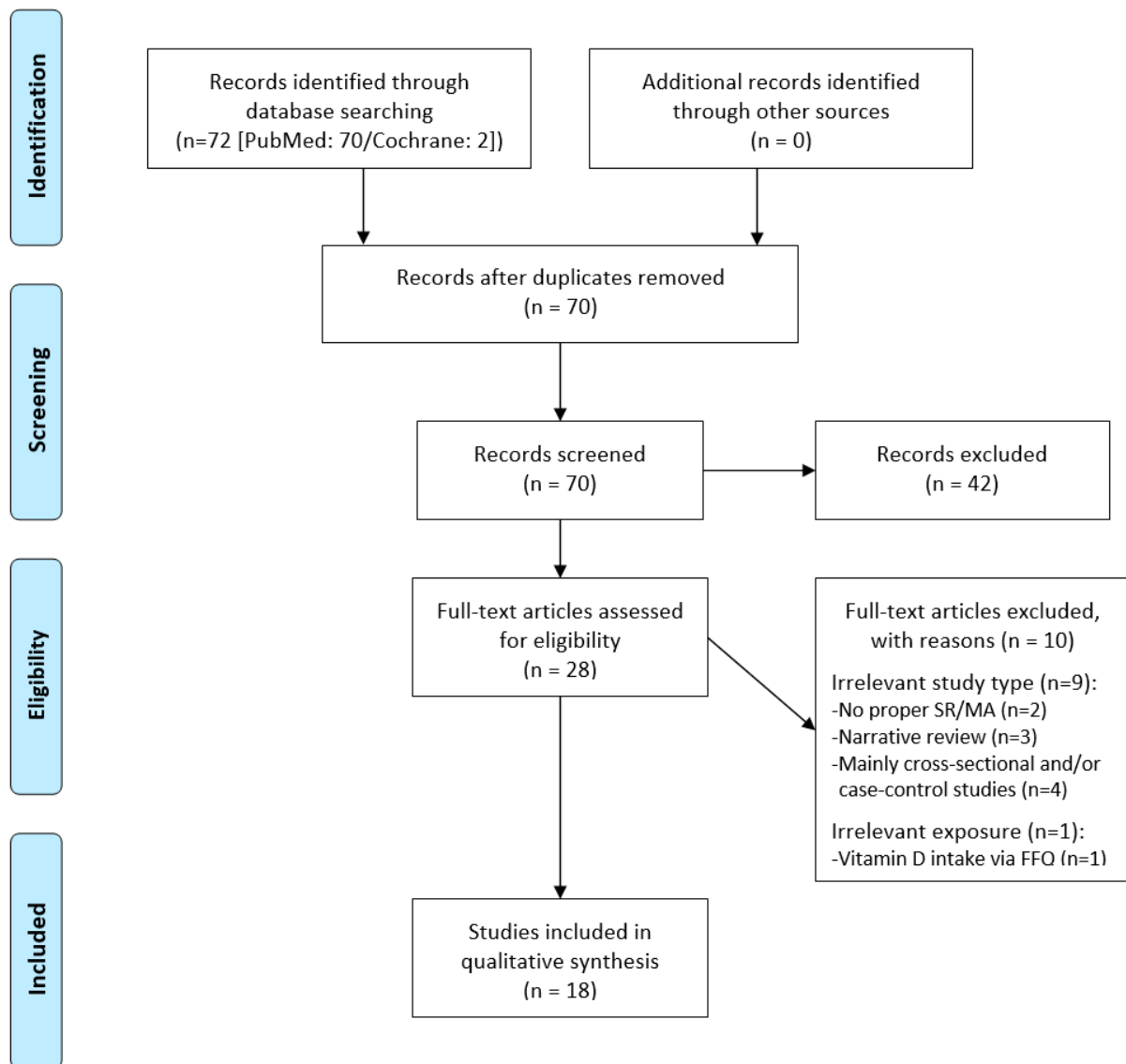


Figure S1: PRISMA flow diagram – Asthma

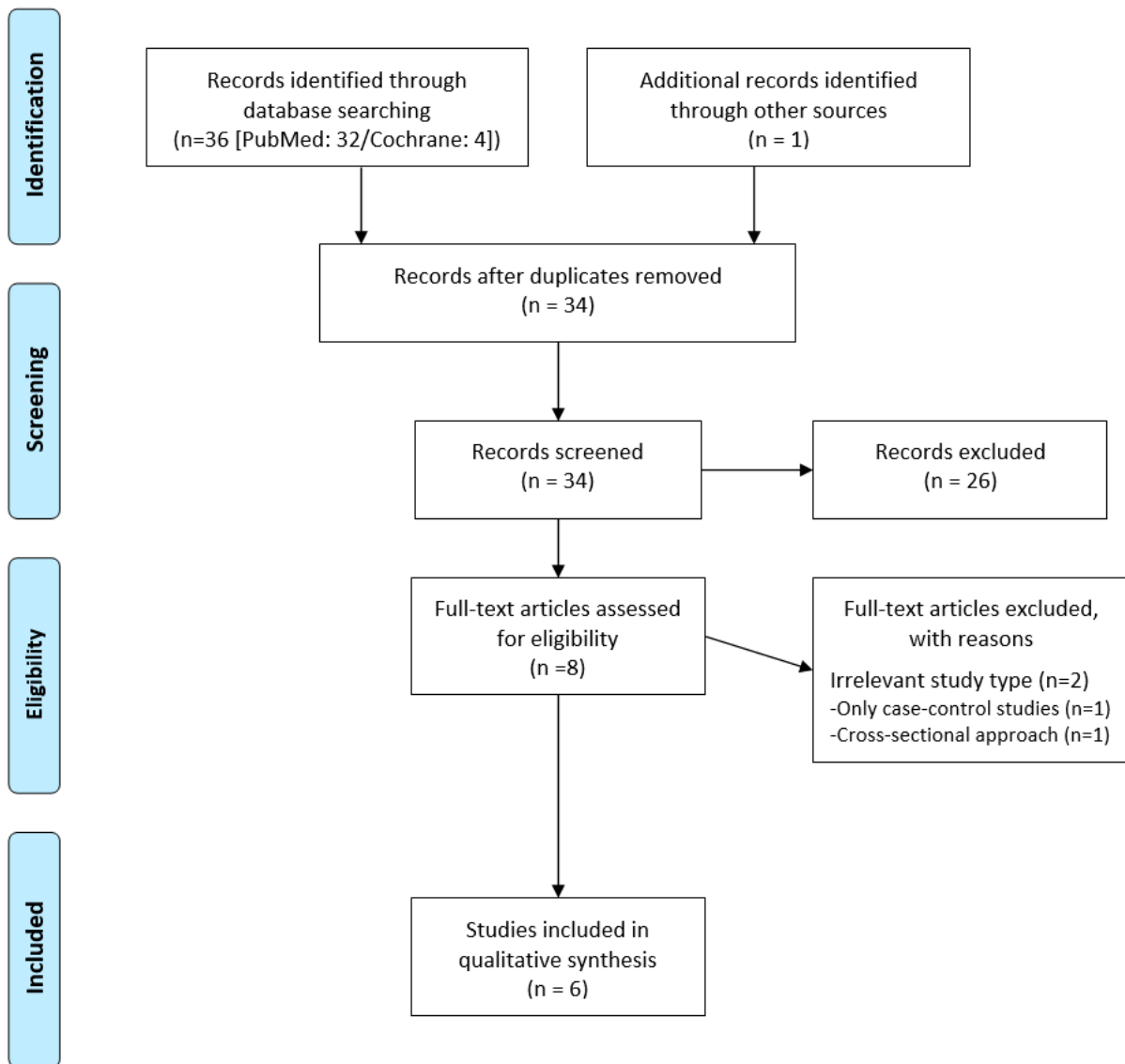


Figure S2: PRISMA flow diagram – COPD

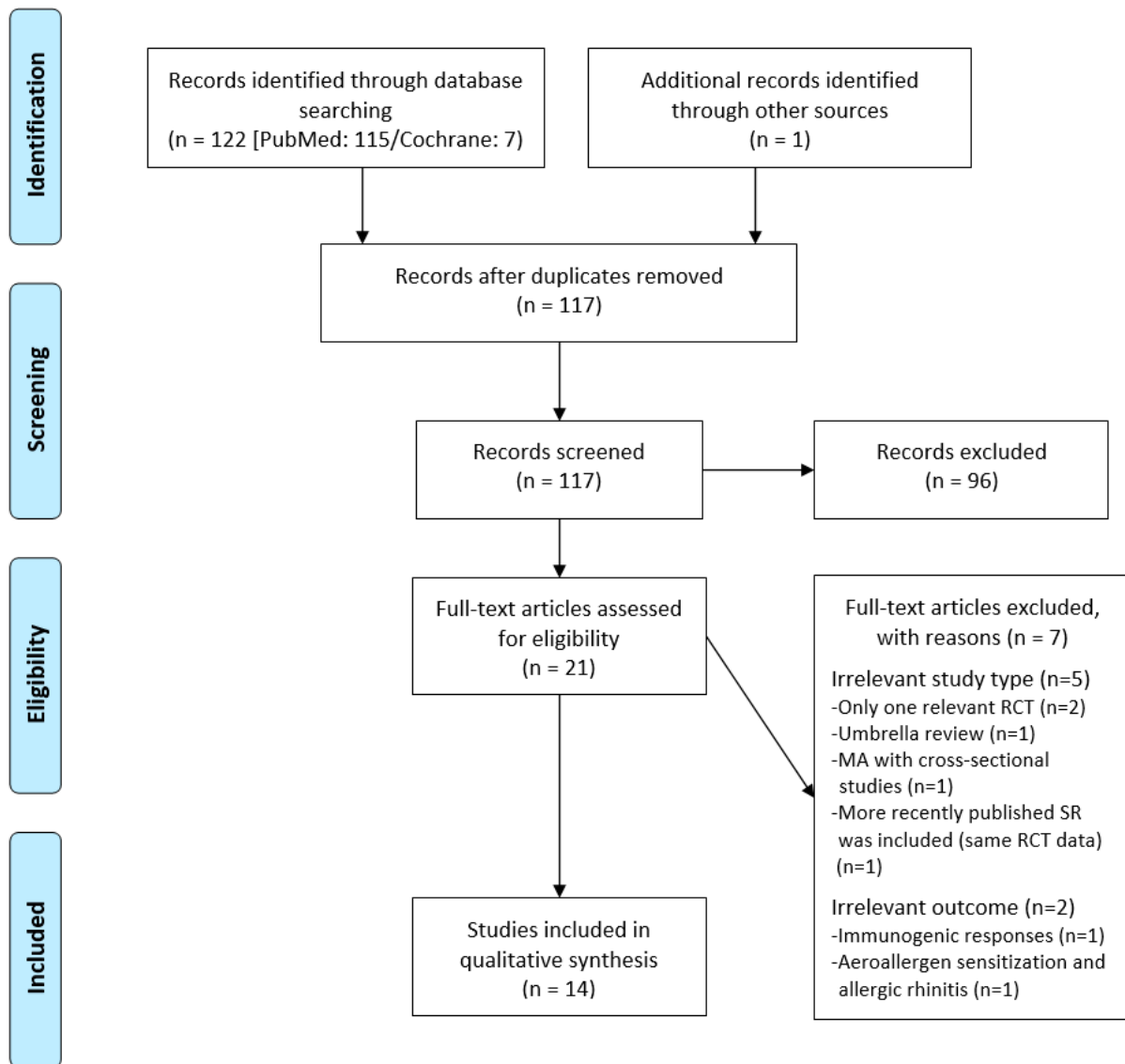


Figure S3: PRISMA flow diagram – ARI

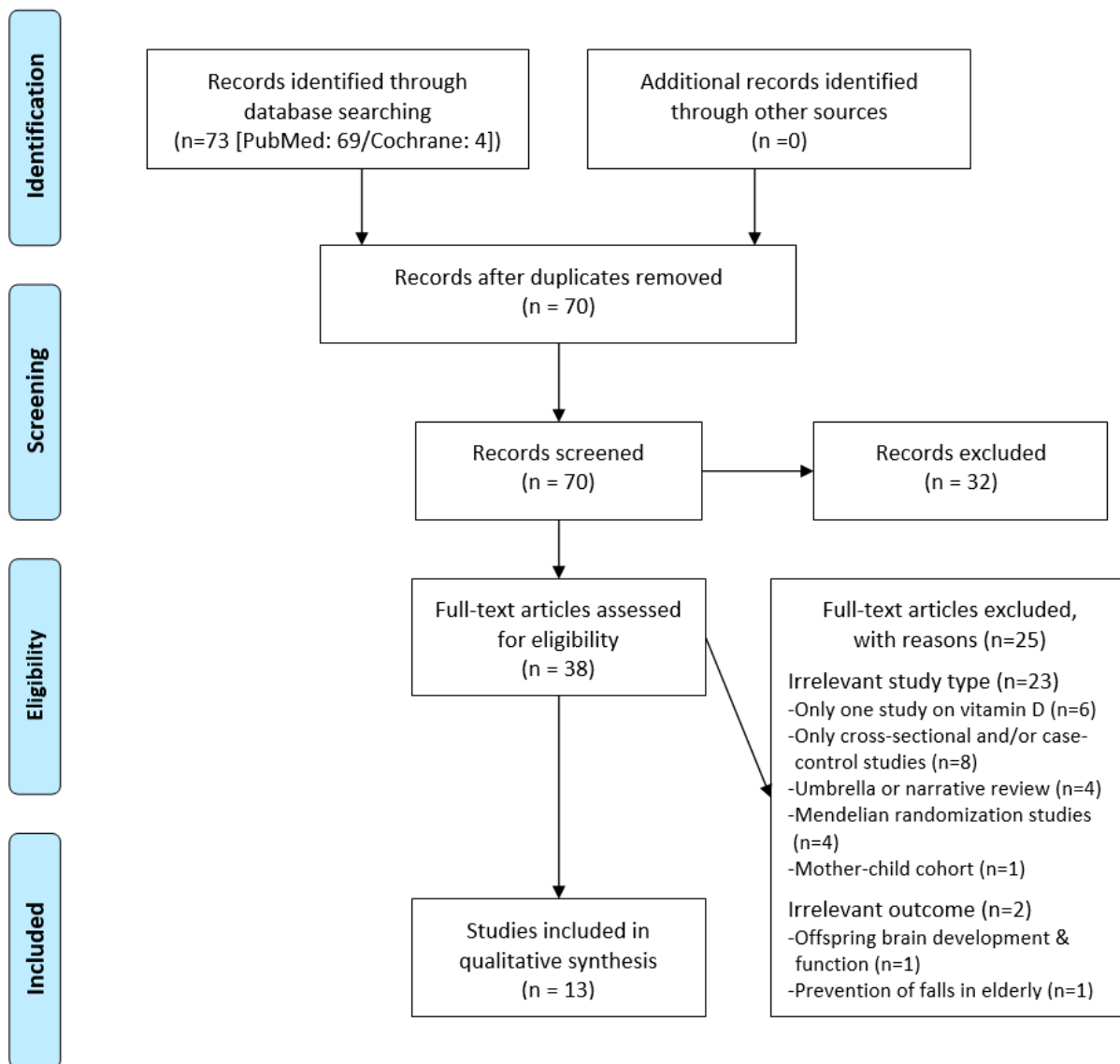


Figure S4: PRISMA flow diagram – Dementia and cognitive decline

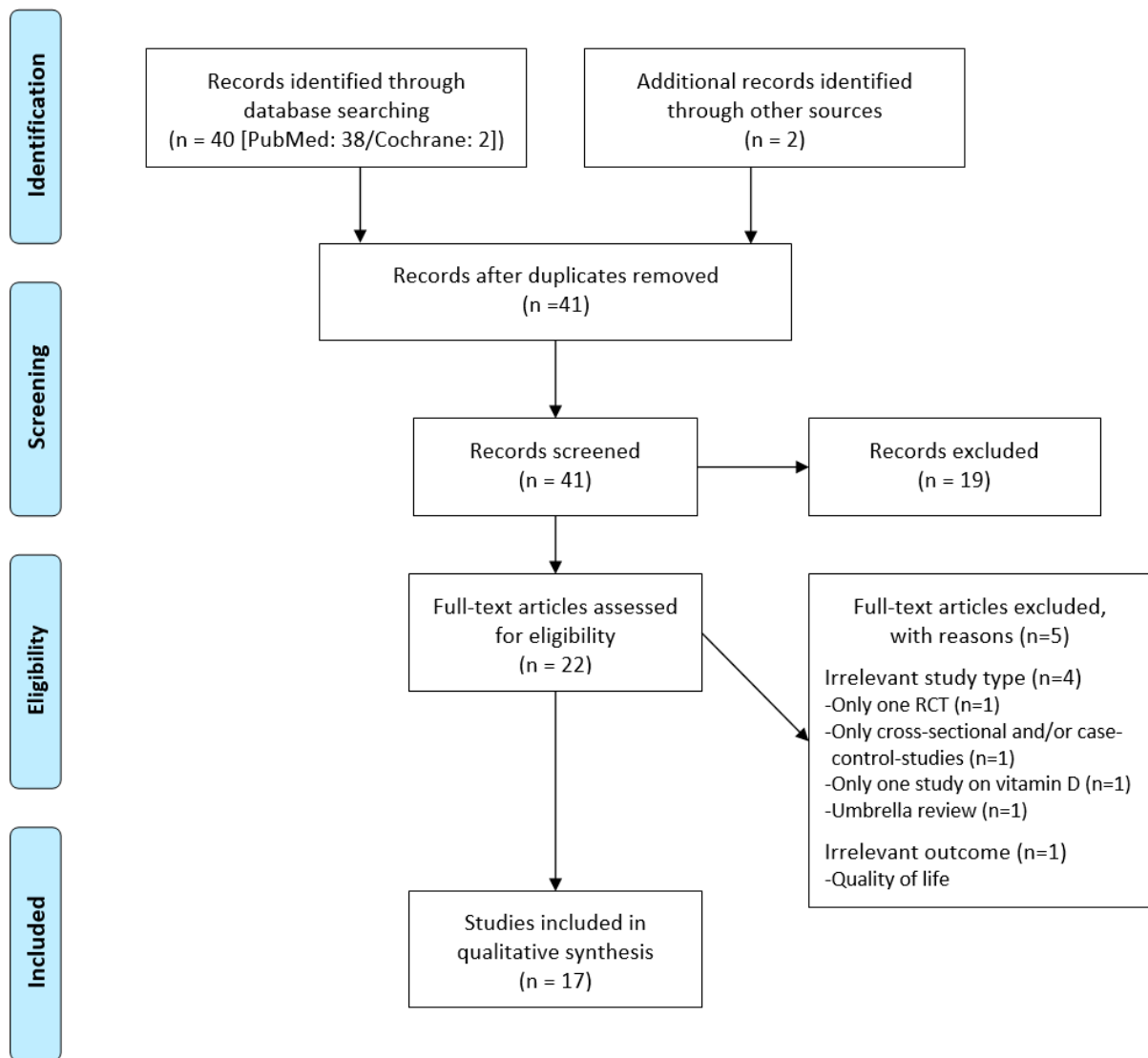


Figure S5: PRISMA flow diagram – Depression



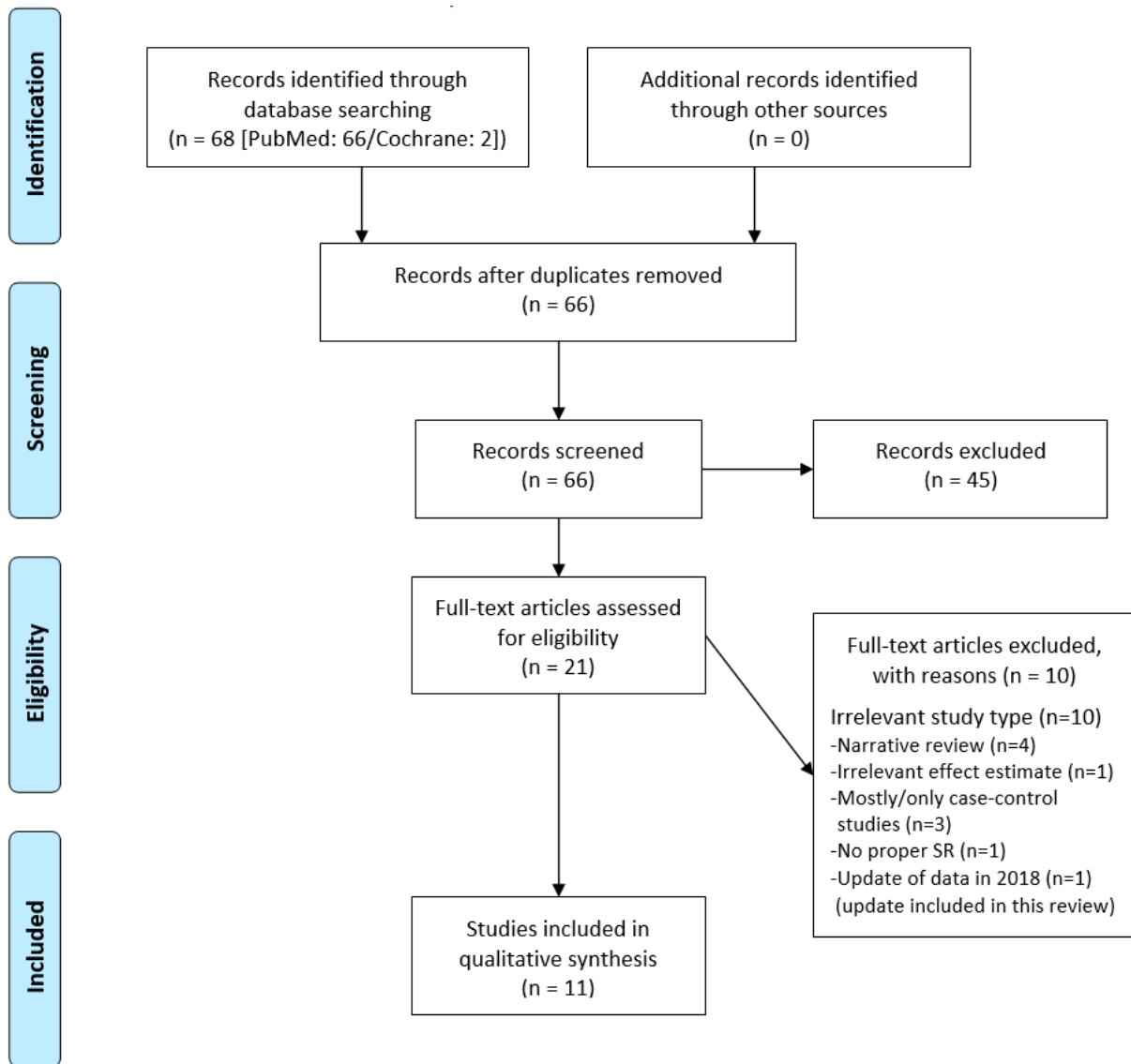


Figure S6: PRISMA flow diagram – MS

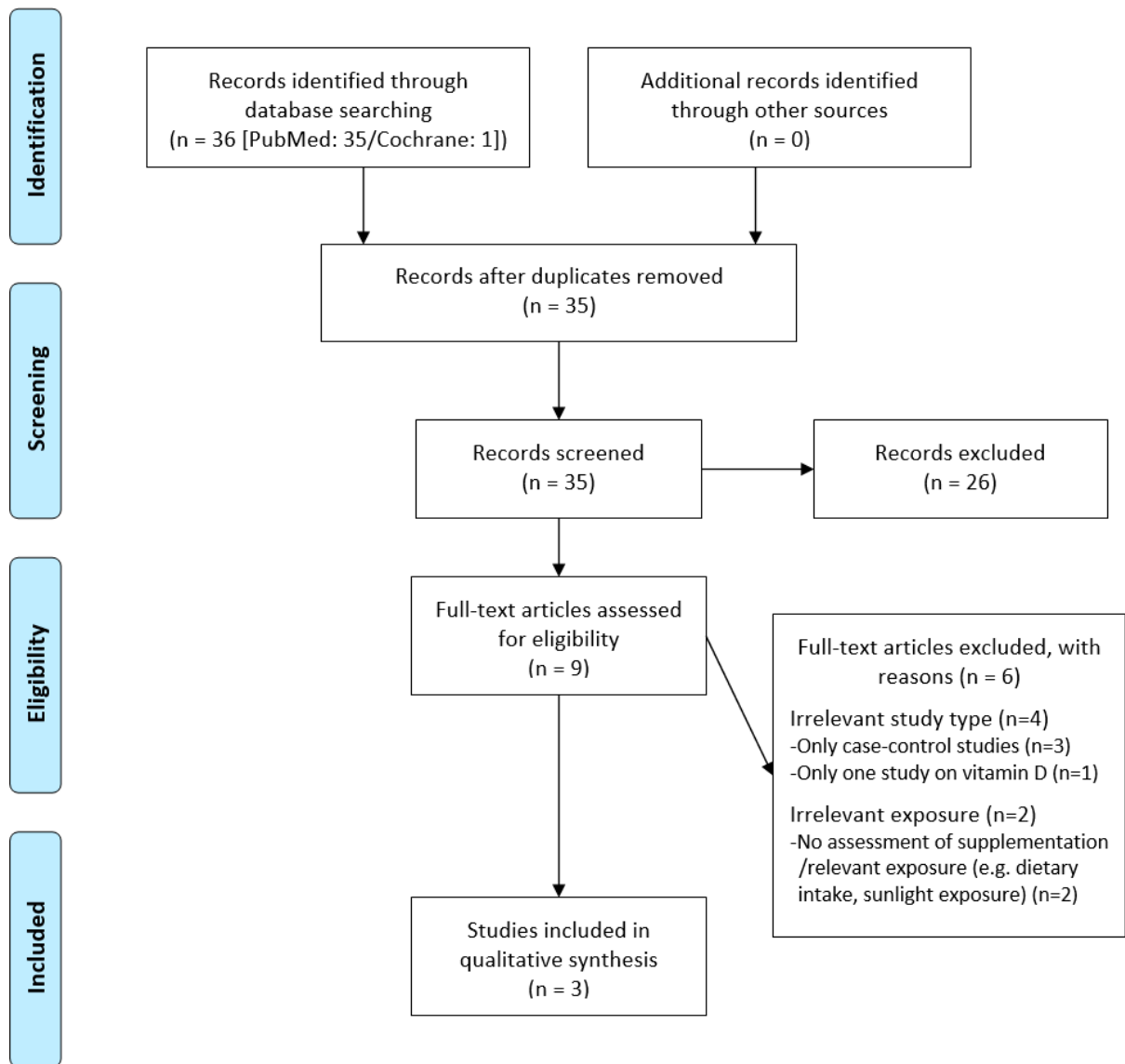


Figure S7: PRISMA flow diagram – T1DM

**Table S2: Meta-analyses of RCTs - Asthma**

| Meta-analyses of RCTs      |                      |  |   |                             |  |  |                               |                               |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator          | Outcome  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2                      |                               |
| Jolliffe et al. 2017 [1]   | 7                    | n= 955 participants with asthma (297 children, 658 adults)<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 1.6-85 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1200 IU/d (4 mth)   | Placebo                     | Rate of asthma exacerbations requiring treatment with systemic corticosteroids | Overall results:<br>aIRR 0.74 (0.56, 0.97)   | No assessment, because IPD-MA |                               |
|                            |                      |  | 500 IU/d (6 mth)  | Placebo                     |  |  |                               |                               |
|                            |                      |  | 100,000 IU bolus, then 4000 IU/d (28 wk)  | Placebo                     |  | Proportion of people with ≥ 1 exacerbation treated with systemic corticosteroids (secondary outcome)               |                               | Adjusted OR 0.75 (0.51, 1.09) |
|                            |                      |  | 120,000 IU bolus once/2 mth (1 yr)  | Placebo                     |  | Asthma exacerbation resulting in emergency department attendance or hospital admission or both (secondary outcome) |                               | Adjusted OR 0.46 (0.24, 0.91) |
|                            |                      |  | 800 IU/d, first 2 mth (6 mth)   | Placebo                     |  | Asthma exacerbation as defined in primary trial (secondary outcome)  |                               | Adjusted OR 0.81 (0.58, 1,11) |
|                            |                      |  | 2000 IU/d (15 wk)   | Placebo                     |  |  |                               |                               |
|                            |                      |  | 100,000 IU bolus, then 400 IU/d (6 mth)   | 400 IU/d                    |  |  |                               |                               |
| Vahdaninia et al. 2017 [2] | 3                    | n= 1493 mother-child-pairs/ 337 events<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR                            | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>2400 IU/d (3.5-4 mth + 1 wk)<br><br>200,000 IU bolus (vitamin D <sub>3</sub> ) or 800 IU/d (until | Placebo<br><br>No treatment | Asthma or wheeze incidence assessed at 3 years of age                          | RR 0.81 (0.67, 0.98)   | Moderate                      |                               |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs     |                      |   |  |   |   |  |          |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---|--|---|---|--|----------|
| Author, year              | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator  | Outcome   | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
|                           |                      |   | delivery vitamin D <sub>2</sub> ; 3 mth + 1 wk)<br><br><u>Vitamin D</u><br>4000 IU/d (5-7.5 mth)   | No treatment  |   |  |          |
| Martineau et al. 2016 [3] | 9                    | n= 1093 participants with asthma (435 children, 658 adults)<br><br>Majority of participants: mild/moderate asthma<br><br>25(OH)D concentrations at baseline: 48-89 nmol/l; small minority: < 25 nmol/l<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 1 - ≥18 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>100,000 IU bolus, then 4000 IU/d (28 wk)<br><br>100,000 IU bolus, then 400 IU/d (6 mth)<br><br>1000 IU/d (12 mth)<br>1000 IU/wk (3 mth)<br>500 IU/d (6 mth)<br><br>120,000 IU/2 mth (12 mth)<br>800 IU/d (2 mth)<br>1200 IU/d (24 wk)<br>60,000 IU/mth (6 mth) | Placebo<br><br>Placebo, then 400 IU/d<br><br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo | Rate ratio of exacerbations requiring treatment with systemic corticosteroids (primary outcome)<br><br>≥ 1 exacerbations requiring visits to an emergency department or hospitalisation (secondary outcome)<br><br>People with ≥ 1 exacerbation (secondary outcome)<br><br>Asthma control test (secondary outcome)<br><br>FEV1 (% of predicted value) (secondary outcome) | RR 0.64 (0.46, 0.90) (3 studies)<br><br>OR 0.39 (0.19, 0.78) (7 studies)<br><br>OR 0.53 (0.28, 0.99) (7 studies)<br><br>MD -0.08 (-0.70, 0.54) (3 studies)<br><br>MD 0.48 (0.93, 1.89) (4 studies) | High     |
| Luo et al. 2015 [4]       | 7                    | n= 903 participants with asthma   | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>(frequency: NR)  |   | Rate of asthma exacerbation   | RR 0.66 (0.32, 1.37) (3 studies)   | Moderate |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs   |                      |  |  |   |   |   |          |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|---|---|---|----------|
| Author, year            | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator  | Outcome   | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
|                         |                      | 3 studies in children (mean age 9 yr), 4 in adults (mean age 40-55 yr)<br>25(OH)D concentrations at baseline: 49.8-60 nmol/l<br>Both sexes<br>Age: 9-59 yr | 1000 IU +calcium (6mth)<br>1000 IU subcutaneous,12 mth)<br>650 IU (subcutaneous, 12 mth)<br>100,000 IU, then 4000 IU (oral, 28 wk)<br>60,000 IU (oral, 6 mth)<br>40,000 IU (oral, 9 wk)<br>120,000 IU (oral, 12 mth) | Calcium + Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo      | FEV1 (% of predicted value)<br>FeNO<br>Asthma control test  | SMD -0.02 (-0.15, 0.11) (4 studies)<br>SMD -0.02 (-0.16, 0.12) (2 studies)<br>SMD -0.05 (-0.17, 0.06) (2 studies)   |          |
| Riverin et al. 2015 [5] | 8                    | n= 573 children diagnosed with asthma<br>Both sexes<br>Age: 3-18 yr  | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>650 IU/d (12 mth)<br>60,000 IU/mth (6 mth)<br>500 IU/d (6 mth)<br>1000 IU/d (12 mth)<br>500 IU/d (6 mth)<br>1200 IU/d (4 mth)  | Placebo<br>No treatment<br>Placebo<br>No treatment<br>Placebo<br>No treatment | Emergency department visits and/or hospitalisation admissions for asthma exacerbations<br>Rate of asthma exacerbations (secondary outcome)<br>Asthma symptom scores (secondary outcome) | Significantly less emergency department visits for children treated with vitamin D (1 study, n=100)<br>RR 0.41 (0.27, 0.63) (3 studies)<br>SMD 0.10 (-0.59, 0.80) (3 studies) | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs    |                      |   |   |                    |   |                                     |          |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---|---|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Author, year             | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome   | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI) | AMSTAR 2 |
|                          |                      |   | 1000 IU/wk (12 mth)<br>600 IU/d (1 mth)   | Placebo<br>Placebo | FEV1 (% of predicted value) (secondary outcome)         | MD 0.00 (-3.17, 3.1)                |          |
| Xiao et al. 2015 [6]     | 2                    | n= 478 children with newly diagnosed asthma<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 10-12 yr  | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1200 IU/d (4 mth)<br>500 IU/d (6 mth)                             | NR                 | Asthma exacerbation triggered by respiratory infections | RR 0.28 (0.12, 0.64)                | High     |
| Fares et al. 2015 [7]    | 2                    | n=102 children with asthma<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 5-18 yr  | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1000 IU/week (1 yr)<br>500 IU (frequency: NR; 6 mth)              | Placebo            | FEV1 (% of predicted value)                             | MD -0.54 (-5.28, 4.19) (2 studies)  | High     |
| Pojsupap et al. 2015 [8] | 3                    | n= 578 children and adolescents<br><br>2/3 studies included asthmatic patients. One study enrolled 430 school children; 26% | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1200 IU/d (15-17 wk)<br>500 IU/d (26 wk)<br>60,000 IU/mth (26 wk) | Placebo            | Asthma exacerbations                                    | RR 0.41 (0.27, 0.63) (3 studies)    | Moderate |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs |                      |  |                |                    |         |                                     |          |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Author, year          | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                              | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI) | AMSTAR 2 |
|                       |                      | diagnosed with asthma<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 5-18 years |                |                    |         |                                     |          |

**Table S3:** Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies – Asthma

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |   |                    |   |   |          |
|---|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|---|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose                          | Control/Comparator | Outcome                                       | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Shen et al. 2018 [9]                        | 8                    | n= 35,000 mother-child-pairs<br><br>asthma incidence in adulthood (1 study)<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood | -                  | Asthma incidence assessed at > 5 years of age | Highest vs. lowest category of 25(OH)D (8 studies):<br>OR 0.96 (0.79, 1.18) | High     |
|   |                      |  |   |                    |   | ≥ 75 nmol/l vs. < 50 nmol/l (5 studies):<br>OR 1.11 (0.92, 1.33)            |          |
|   |                      |  |   |                    | Asthma incidence assessed at ≤ 5 years of age | Highest vs. lowest category of 25(OH)D (6 studies):<br>OR 0.81 (0.65, 1.01) |          |
|   |                      |  |   |                    |   | ≥ 75 nmol/l vs. < 50 nmol/l (6 studies):<br>OR 0.93 (0.85, 1.03)            |          |

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |  |  |  |                    |  |  |          |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------|--|--|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n)   | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Pacheco-González et al. 2018 [10]           | 14   | n= 33,521<br>mother-child-pairs<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR                   | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood  | -                  | Asthma incidence in childhood assessed between 3-14 years of age | Highest vs. lowest category of 25(OH)D:<br>OR 0.91 (0.78, 1.06)  | High     |
| Song et al. 2017 [11]                       | 15<br>(14 birth cohorts and 1 nested case-control study)<br><br>Meta-analysis of 12 cohort studies | n= 12,758<br>mother-child-pairs/ 1795 events<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≤ 18 yr | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood<br><br>mean maternal 25(OH)D ranged from 44 to 74 nmol/l | -                  | Incidence of childhood asthma                                    | Highest vs. lowest category of 25(OH)D (12 studies):<br>RR 0.87 (0.75, 1.02)<br><br>Per 10 nmol/l increase of maternal 25(OH)D levels (7 studies):<br>RR 0.99 (0.95, 1.02)<br><br>An U-shaped dose-response relationship was found between 25(OH)D levels and risk of childhood asthma, with the lowest risk at approx. 70 nmol/l of 25(OH)D, and remained protective until a concentration of about 130 nmol/l. Further increase tended to be a risk factor for childhood asthma. | High     |
| Feng et al. 2017 [12]                       | 10   | n= 8871<br>mother-child-   | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood  | -                  | Asthma incidence in childhood assessed at 4-14 years of age      | Highest vs. lowest category of 25(OH)D (8 studies):<br>OR 0.84 (0.70, 1.01)  | High     |



| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |   |   |                    |   |  |          |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--------------------|---|--|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome   | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
|   |                      | pairs/ 1494 events<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR                           |   |                    |   | Each 10 nmol/l increment in 25(OH)D (8 studies):<br>OR 0.99 (0.97, 1.02)   |          |
| Wei et al. 2016 [13]                        | 4                    | n= 3666 mother-child-pairs<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR                       | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood (3 studies) or intake of vitamin D via food or supplement (1 study) | -                  | Asthma incidence in childhood assessed at 5-6 years of age                            | Highest vs. lowest category of 25(OH)D:<br>OR 0.98 (0.94, 1.02)  | High     |
| Man et al. 2015 [14]                        | 4                    | n=1291 events<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 0-<12 yr                          | 25(OH)D (maternal blood or cord blood)<br><br>Deficiency: <50 nmol/l<br><br>Insufficiency: < 75 nmol/l      | -                  | Incidence of childhood asthma   | Vitamin D deficiency (4 studies):<br>RR 1.57 (1.26, 2.02)  | Low      |
|   |                      |   |   |                    |   | Vitamin D insufficiency (2 studies):<br>RR 1.25 (1.01, 1.55)   |          |
| Cassim et al. 2015 [15]                     | 11                   | n= range: 14 to 6487 mother-child-pairs<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 1-20 yr | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood<br><br>25(OH)D levels in childhood (4 cohorts)                      | Asthma incidence   | Parental reports, physician diagnosis of asthma, use of inhaler medication for asthma | No association between 25(OH)D levels and asthma incidence (studies= 5/6).<br>Increasing maternal serum 25(OH)D during pregnancy increased the risk of asthma in offspring at age of 9 (1 study).<br><br>Investigated incident asthma in children with serum 25(OH)D measured in childhood found no association. (3/4 studies) | Very low |

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |                               |                             |   |         |   |          |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose              | Control/Comparator  | Outcome | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
|   |                      |                               | 25(OH)D levels in childhood | Asthma exacerbations requiring hospitalisation and treatment with oral steroids |         | High vs. low 25(OH)D levels (2 cohort studies and 2 cross-sectional studies):<br>RR 0.64 (0.50, 0.81) |          |

**Table S4:** Systematic Reviews of RCTs – Asthma

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |  |  |  |  |  |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                      | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator   | Outcome  | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Shen et al. 2018 [9]       | 2                    | n= 1499<br>mother-child-pairs<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR         | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>2400 IU/d<br><br>4000 IU/d +<br>multivitamin with<br>400 IU                                    | Placebo<br><br>Placebo +<br>multivitamin<br>with 400 IU<br>vitamin D | Asthma incidence<br>assessed from birth to<br>3 years of age | Non-significant trends of<br>vitamin D supplementation<br>during pregnancy on<br>preventing the development of<br>offspring asthma.                                  | High     |
| Fares et al. 2015 [7]      | 4                    | n= 149<br>children with<br>asthma<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age:5-18 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1000 IU/wk (1yr)<br><br>1000 IU/d (1yr)<br><br>600 IU/d<br>(+multivitamin<br>supplement) (4wk) | No treatment<br><br>Placebo<br><br>Placebo                           | Asthma symptoms  | Improvement in asthma<br>symptoms in the vitamin D<br>supplemented study group, but<br>no statistically significant<br>difference between the groups<br>(3 studies). | High     |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |  |   |                    |                                  |   |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome                          | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|                            |                      |  | 500 IU (frequency: NR; 6 mth)   | Placebo            |                                  | No effect of vitamin D supplementation on the asthma symptom score (1 study).<br><br>The RCTs used different instruments to measure the outcome, therefore results were not pooled in a meta-analysis.  |          |
| Pojsupap et al. 2015 [8]   | 5                    | n= 625 children and adolescents<br>4/5 studies included asthmatic patients. One study enrolled 430 school children; 26% diagnosed with asthma<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 5-18 years | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>600 IU/d (4 wk)<br>1200 IU/d (15-17 wk)<br>500 IU/d (26 wk)<br>1000 IU/d (26, 52 wk)<br>60,000 IU/month (26 wk) | Placebo            | PFT<br><br>Asthma symptom scores | Greater improvements in PFTs for the vitamin D group (2/4 studies)<br><br>Report of pre- and postintervention (2/3 studies). No difference in symptom score between groups (1/2 studies) and a greater reduction in asthma symptoms in the placebo group (1/2 studies). | Moderate |

**Table S5:** Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies – Asthma

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |   |  |   |                    |   |  |          |
|--|---|--|---|--------------------|---|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n)                            | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose                          | Control/Comparator | Outcome   | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Jat and Khairwa 2017 [16]                        | 3 (birth cohorts)                               | n= 3991 mother-child-pairs   | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood | -                  | asthma incidence assessed at age of 4 to 14                                     | <p>Inverse association between 25(OH)D concentrations and asthma/severe asthma at age of 4; no association between 25(OH)D and severe asthma at age of 8 (1 study).</p> <p>No association between cord blood vitamin D levels and incidence of asthma at age of 5 for insufficiency and deficiency compared to sufficiency (1 study)</p> <p>In a pregnancy cohort asthma at age of 14 was not related to vitamin D levels.</p> | Moderate |
| Cassim et al. 2015 [15]                          | 4 (2 cohort studies, 2 cross-sectional studies) | n= range: 226 to 1024 mother-child-pairs<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 1-20 yr | 25(OH)D levels in childhood             | -                  | Asthma exacerbations requiring hospitalisation and treatment with oral steroids | High vs. low 25(OH)D levels: RR 0.64 (0.50, 0.81)  | Very low |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |   |                    |                  |  |          |
|--|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                              | Vitamin D dose                          | Control/Comparator | Outcome          | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Harvey et al. 2014 [17]                          | 3                    | n= 2234<br>mother-child-pairs<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | 25(OH)D in maternal blood or cord blood | -                  | Asthma incidence | Cord blood levels of 25(OH)D had no association with incident asthma at age of 5.<br><br>No association between maternal 25(OH)D and offspring asthma at age of 4-6.<br><br>Children whose mothers had a 25(OH)D level in pregnancy of > 75 nmol/l had an increased risk of asthma at age of 9 compared to children whose mothers had a level < 30 nmol/l. | High     |
| Rajabbik et al. 2014 [18]                        | 3                    | n= 4684<br>children<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 8-15.5 yr    | Serum 25(OH)D                           | -                  | Asthma incidence | Low serum 25(OH)D level was associated with an increased risk of developing asthma late in childhood (2 studies), while one found no association.  | High     |

**TableS6:** Meta-analyses of RCTs – COPD

| Meta-analyses of RCTs     |                                 |  |   |                    |                            |   |          |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|--------------------|----------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year              | Included studies (n)            | Participants (n), gender, age                    | Vitamin D dose                                    | Control/Comparator | Outcome                    | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Jolliffe et al. 2019 [19] | 3 (individual participant data) | n=472<br>Both sexes (66.7% men)<br>Age: 40-86 yr | Vitamin D <sub>3</sub><br>100,000 IU/mth (12 mth) | NR                 | Rate of COPD exacerbations | Overall results:<br>aIRR 0.94 (0.78, 1.13)  | Low      |
|                           |                                 |  | 120,000 IU/2 mth (12 mth)                         |                    |                            | Baseline 25(OH)D levels < 25 nmol/l (87 participants):<br>aIRR 0.55 (0.36, 0.84)  |          |
|                           |                                 |  | 1200 IU/d (6 mth)                                 |                    |                            | Baseline 25(OH)D levels ≥ 25 nmol/l (382 participants):<br>aIRR 1.04 (0.85, 1.27) |          |

**Table S7:** Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies – COPD

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                                     |  |                |                    |                    |   |          |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n)                | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome            | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Zhu et al. 2016 [20]                        | 2 cohort and 5 case-control studies | n= 2091 COPD patients<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR                             | 25(OH)D        | -                  | Severity of COPD   | 25(OH)D level of severe-very severe COPD patients vs. mild-moderate COPD patients:<br>SMD -0.87 (-1.51, -0.22). | High     |
|   | 2 cohort and 3 case-control studies | n= 278 AECOPD patients & 563 stable COPD patients<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR |                |                    | COPD exacerbations | 25(OH)D level of AECOPD patients vs. stable COPD patients:<br>SMD -0.43 (-0.70, -0.15)                          |          |

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |   |                    |                  |  |          |
|---|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose                                | Control/Comparator | Outcome          | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Zhu et al. 2015 [21]                        | 8                    | n=6313 COPD patients/2418 controls* (for 3 studies data NR)<br><br>Both Sexes<br>Age: NR | 25(OH)D<br><br>Deficiency: 25(OH)D <50 nmol/l | -                  | COPD             | 25(OH)D levels of COPD patients vs. controls (4 studies): SMD 0.19 (-0.13, 0.51)                   | Moderate |
|   |                      |  |   |                    |                  | Deficiency rates COPD patients vs. controls (4 studies): RR 0.96 (0.75, 1.21)                      |          |
|   |                      |  |   |                    | Severity of COPD | Deficiency rates of 25(OH)D (mild COPD vs. moderate/severe COPD) (3 studies): RR 0.72 (0.63, 0.83) |          |
|   |                      |  |   |                    |                  | Deficiency rates of 25(OH)D (moderate COPD vs. severe COPD) (n=4): RR 0.74 (CI 0.56, 0.98)         |          |

**Table S8:** Systematic Reviews of RCTs – COPD

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |  |  |                    |                        |  |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--------------------|------------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                  | Vitamin D dose                           | Control/Comparator | Outcome                | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Ferrari et al. 2018 [22]   |                      | 510 COPD patients<br><br>Both Sexes<br>Age: NR | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>Dose: NR | NR                 | Exacerbation frequency | Vitamin D <sub>3</sub> supplementation reduced the risk of moderate and severe exacerbation in COPD patients with 25(OH)D levels <50 nmol/l or < 25nmol/l (2/3 studies). | Very low |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |  |  |                                     |   |   |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator                  | Outcome   | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Autier et al. 2017 [23]    | 3                    | n=512 COPD patients<br>Both Sexes<br>Age: NR                                   | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>very high doses<br>(7 d – 1 yr)  | Calcitriol<br>10 IU/d or<br>placebo | Respiratory function<br>and time to first<br>exacerbation               | No effect of vitamin D supplementation on the investigated outcome parameters.  | Low      |
| Zhu et al. 2015 [21]       | 5                    | n=596 COPD patients (300 vitamin D, 296 with placebo)<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>100,000 IU/mth (6 mth)<br>120,000 IU/2 mth (6 mth)<br>2000 IU/d (6 wk)<br>100,000 IU/mth (1 yr)<br>100,000 IU/mth (1 yr) | Placebo                             | Exacerbations,<br>maximal oxygen uptake, inspiratory<br>Muscle strength | Beneficial effect of vitamin D intake in COPD patients (4/5 studies).<br><br>Inhibition of exacerbations and improvement of FEV1 within severe COPD patients or patients with baseline 25(OH)D levels <50 nmol/l.<br><br>Improvements in inspiratory muscle strength and maximal oxygen uptake. | Moderate |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]    | 1                    | n= 182<br>Sex and age:<br>NR   | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>3560 IU/d (12 mth)   | Placebo                             | Exacerbation  | No improvement.   | Low      |



**Table S9:** Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies – COPD

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                |                    |                        |   |          |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                  | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome                | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Ferrari et al. 2018 [22]                         | 6                    | n= 2473 COPD patients<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | 25(OH)D        | -                  | Exacerbation frequency | No association between exacerbation frequency and vitamin D levels (majority of studies).                             | Very low |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]                          | 2                    | n=1070<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR                | 25(OH)D        | -                  | Exacerbation           | Data from two studies of patients with COPD showed decreases in risk of exacerbation with high 25(OH)D concentrations | Low      |

**Table S10:** Meta-analyses of RCTs – ARI

| Meta-analyses of RCTs      |                      |  |   |                    |  |   |                               |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                        | Vitamin D dose                                    | Control/Comparator | Outcome  | Results/ Summary statistics (95% CI)                          | AMSTAR 2                      |
| Martineau et al. 2019 [25] | 25                   | n= 10,933 participants<br>Both sexes<br>Age: 0-95 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>2000 IU/d (3 mth) | Placebo            | Proportion of participants experiencing at least one ARI | Adjusted OR 0.88 (0.81, 0.96) (25 studies)                    | No assessment, because IPD-MA |
|                            |                      |  | 1200 IU/d (4 mth)                                 | Placebo            |  |   |                               |
|                            |                      |  | 100,000 IU bolus (3 mth)                          | Placebo            |  |   |                               |
|                            |                      |  | 400 IU/d (6 mth)                                  | Placebo            | ARI rate   | Adjusted incidence rate ratio 0.96 (0.92, 0.997) (25 studies) |                               |
|                            |                      |  |   |                    | Time to first ARI  | Adjusted HR 0.95 (0.89, 1.01) (8 studies)                     |                               |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs |                      |                               |   |                    |         |                                     |          |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Author, year          | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI) | AMSTAR 2 |
|                       |                      |                               | 500 IU/d (6 mth)  | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 1400 IU/wk (6 mth)  | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 100,000 IU bolus/mth (1y)   | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 100,000 IU bolus/3 mth (1.5 yr)                                       | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 300 IU/d (7 wk)   | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 2x 200,000 IU/mth, then 100,000 IU/mth (1,5 yr)                       | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 4000 IU/d (1yr)   | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 1000 IU/d (6 mth)   | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 1000 IU/d (average: 13 mth)   | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 60,000 IU/mth or 30,000 IU/mth (1 yr)                                 | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 10,000 IU/wk (8 wk)   | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 2000 IU/d (2 mth)   | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |
|                       |                      |                               | Mothers: 1000 or 2000 IU/d<br>Infants: 400 or 800 IU/d (9 mth: 3 mth) | Placebo            |         |                                     |          |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs |                      |   |   |  |  |   |          |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---|---|--|--|---|----------|
| Author, year          | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                           | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator   | Outcome  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)                                     | AMSTAR 2 |
|                       |                      |   | in pregnancy, 6 mth in infants)<br>120,000 IU/2 mth (1yr)<br>Older adults:<br>96,000 IU/2 mth + 400 IU/d (1 yr)<br>Carers:<br>120,000 IU/2 mth (1 yr)<br>20,000 IU/wk (17 wk)<br>2000 IU/d (12 wk)<br>100,000 IU bolus, then 4000 IU/d (28 wk)<br>800 IU/first 2 mth (6 mth)<br>2000 IU//d (15 wk)<br>100,000/mth, + ≤ 1000 IU/d (1 yr) | Placebo<br>Placebo+ 400 IU/d<br>Carers: Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo + 400-1000 IU/d |  |   |          |
| Das et al. 2018 [26]  | 7                    | n= 1529 participants<br>Both sexes<br>Age: 1 mth – 5 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1000 IU children < 1 yr; 5 d<br>2000 IU children > 1 yr; 5 d  | Placebo  | Time to resolution of acute pneumonia<br>Duration of hospitalisation | MD -0.95 (-6.14, 4.24) (3 studies)<br>MD 0.49 (-8.41, 9.40) (4 studies) | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs           |                      |  |  |                        |                                  |   |          |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                    | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator     | Outcome                          | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)                         | AMSTAR 2 |
|                                 |                      |  | 100,000 IU bolus (i.m.; 3 mth)<br>100,000 IU bolus (29 mth)<br>100,000 IU bolus (2 mth)<br>50,000 IU/d for 2 d (12 mth)<br>1000 IU children < 1 yr; 5 d<br>2000 IU children > 1 yr; 5 d<br>100,000 IU bolus (12 mth) |                        |                                  |   |          |
| Vuichard Gysin et al. 2016 [27] | 14                   | n= 7053 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Average age: 19 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>Years 1-2: 800 IU<br>Year 3: 2000 IU + calcium 1200-1500 mg/d (3 yr)   | Calcium 1200-1500 mg/d | Risk of clinical RTI             | Vitamin D vs. control (14 studies)<br>RR 0.94 (0.88, 1.00)  | High     |
|                                 |                      |  | 300 IU/d with mongolian milk (7 wk)  | Non fortified Milk     | Risk of laboratory confirmed RTI | Vitamin D vs. control (4 studies)<br>RR 0.90 (0.68, 1.21)   |          |
|                                 |                      |  | 1000 IU/d (8 wk)   | No treatment           | Mean duration of RTI symptoms    | Vitamin D vs. control (6 studies)<br>MD -0.06 (-0.29, 0.18) |          |
|                                 |                      |  | 2000 IU/d (12 wk)  | Placebo                | Number of days absent from       | Vitamin D vs. control (3 studies)                           |          |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs   |                      |  |  |                             |  |   |          |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|--|---|----------|
| Author, year            | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                          | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator          | Outcome  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)                       | AMSTAR 2 |
|                         |                      |  | +/-10,000 IU/wk (8 wk)   | Placebo                     | work/school due to RTI                               | MD 0.06 (-0.41, 0.54)                                     |          |
|                         |                      |  | 400 or 800 IU/d (12 mth)   | Placebo                     | Severity of RTI                                      | Vitamin D vs. control (5 studies)<br>OR 0.95 (0.76, 1.18) |          |
|                         |                      |  | 400 IU/d (6 mth)   | Placebo                     |  |   |          |
|                         |                      |  | 2000 IU/d (3 mth)  | Placebo                     |  |   |          |
|                         |                      |  | 100,000 IU/3 mth (18 mth)  | Placebo                     |  |   |          |
|                         |                      |  | Month 0 and 1: 200,000 IU/ mth then 100,000 IU/ mth (18 mth)                       | Placebo                     |  |   |          |
|                         |                      |  | 30,000 or 60,000 IU/ mth (12mth)   | Placebo +/- calcium         |  |   |          |
|                         |                      |  | 20,000 IU/wk (17 wk)   | Placebo                     |  |   |          |
|                         |                      |  | 1200 IU/d (4 mth)  | Placebo                     |  |   |          |
|                         |                      |  | 2000 IU/d (8 wk)   | Placebo                     |  |   |          |
| Yakoob et al. 2016 [28] | 2                    | n= 3134 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: <12 mth | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>402 IU/d (12 mth)<br><br>100,000 IU/3 mth (18 mth) | No treatment<br><br>Placebo | Incidence rate of first or only episode of pneumonia | Rate Ratio 1.06 (0.89, 1.26)                              | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs    |                      |  |   |                    |                               |  |          |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year             | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome                       | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)            | AMSTAR 2 |
| Xiao et al. 2015 [6]     | 7                    | n= 6503 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: < 18 yr       | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1200 IU/d (4 mth)<br><br>100,000 IU bolus (3 mth)<br><br>1400 IU/wk (6 mth)<br><br>500 IU/d (6 mth)<br><br>100,000 IU/3 mth (18 mth)<br><br>300 IU/d (7 wk)<br><br>1000 IU < 1 yr (age)<br>2000 IU > 1 yr (age) (5 d) | NR                 | Risk of ARI                   | RR 0.79 (0.55, 1.13) (4 studies)               | High     |
|                          |                      |  |   |                    | Repeat episodes of pneumonia  | RR 1.16 (0.55, 2.45) (2 studies)               |          |
|                          |                      |  |   |                    | Risk of pneumonia             | RR 1.06 (0.90, 1.25) (2 studies)               |          |
|                          |                      |  |   |                    | Hospital admission due to ARI | RR 0.95 (0.72, 1.26) (2 studies)               |          |
|                          |                      |  |   |                    | Influenza A                   | RR 0.58 (0.34, 1.00) (1 study)                 |          |
| Bergman et al. 2013 [29] | 11                   | n= 5660 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Average age: 16 yr | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>Frequency: once to every 3 mth<br><br>average daily doses: 800 or 2000 IU (3yr)<br><br>4000 IU (12 mth)<br><br>300 IU (7 wk)<br><br>3344 IU (12 wk)<br><br>400 IU (6 mth)   | Placebo            | Risk of RTI                   | Vitamin D vs. control:<br>OR 0.64 (0.49, 0.84) | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs   |                      |  |  |                    |                  |  |          |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year            | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome          | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)                          | AMSTAR 2 |
|                         |                      |  | 2000 IU (3 mth)<br>500 IU (6 mth)<br>100,000 IU (3 mth)<br>1296 IU (18 mth)<br>3653 IU (18 mth)<br>1200 IU (4 mth)   |                    |                  |  |          |
| Mao and Huang 2013 [30] | 7                    | n= 4827 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 1 month-63 yr | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>2000 IU/d (3 mth)<br>400 IU/d (6 mth)<br>1200 IU/d (4 mth)<br>300 IU/d (1,75 mth)<br>1111-6800 IU/d (6 mth)<br>100,000 IU/3 mth (18 mth)<br>200,000 IU/mth (2 mth), then 100,000 IU/mth (18 mth) | Placebo            | Risk of RTI      | RR 0.98 (0.93, 1.03)   | High     |
| Charan et al. 2012 [31] | 5                    | n= 943 participants  | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>400 IU/d (6 mth)   | Placebo            | Incidence of RTI | Vitamin D vs. control (5 studies)<br>OR 0.582 (0.417, 0.812) | Moderate |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs |                      |  |  |                    |         |   |          |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--------------------|---------|---|----------|
| Author, year          | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age          | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
|                       |                      | Both sexes<br>Age: 1 to 15 and ≥ 18 yr | 1200 IU/d (4 mth)<br>1200 IU/d (3 mth)<br>100,000 IU bolus (3 mth)<br>2000 UI/d (3 yr) |                    |         | Vitamin D vs. control in adult population (3 studies):<br>OR 0.544 (0.278, 1.063)<br>Vitamin D vs. control in paediatric population (2 studies):<br>OR 0.579 (0.416, 0.805) |          |

**Table S11:** Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies – ARI

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |  |                    |             |   |          |
|---|----------------------|--|--|--------------------|-------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                  | Vitamin D dose                                 | Control/Comparator | Outcome*    | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Pacheco-Gonzalez et al. 2018 [10]           | 13                   | n= 8370<br>mother-child-pairs<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 0-3 yr | 25(OH)D levels in maternal blood or cord blood | -                  | Risk of RTI | Highest vs. lowest 25(OH)D<br>OR 0.64 (0.47, 0.87)  | High     |
| Feng et al. 2017 [12]                       | 10                   | n= 8359<br>mother-child-pairs<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR         | 25(OH)D levels in maternal blood or cord blood | -                  | Risk of RTI | Highest vs lowest 25(OH)D (9 studies):<br>OR 0.85 (0.66, 1.09)<br>Per 10 nmol/l increment in 25(OH)D (9 studies):<br>OR 0.97 (0.94, 1.01) | High     |

\* Outcome variable as described in the respective systematic review



**Table S12: Systematic Reviews of RCTs – ARI**

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |   |   |   |  |   |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|--|---|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator  | Outcome*   | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]    | 5                    | n= 6057 participants<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR                                 | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>range: 800-400 IU/d (3-62 mth)  |   | URTI<br>(11 outcomes were assessed by trials)        | Overall 2 outcomes with significant improvements  | Low      |
| Das et al. 2013 [32]       | 2                    | n= 653 participants<br>Both sexes<br>Age: 1 mth- 5 yr                         | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>100,000 IU bolus (duration: NR)<br>1000 IU < 1 yr (age)<br>2000 IU > 1 yr (age) (5 d)   | Placebo   | Time period to resolution or recovery from pneumonia | No beneficial effect of vitamin D supplementation in acute (severe and non-severe) pneumonia.   | Moderate |
| Jolliffe et al. 2013 [33]  | 14                   | n= 11,431 participants<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR, infants, children and adults | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>800 IU/d for 2 years, then 2,000 IU/d for 1 year (3 yr)<br>800 IU/d alone or 800 IU/d + calcium (2 yr)<br>2000 IU/d (3 mth)<br>2000 IU/d (1 yr)<br>1200 IU/d (4 mth)<br>400 IU/d (6 mth)<br>100,000 IU single bolus (3 mth) | Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>800 IU/d<br>NR<br>Placebo<br>Placebo | Risk of ARI  | Vitamin D supplementation protected against ARI (7 studies) – in the study population as a whole (6 studies) and in a subgroup with profound vitamin D deficiency (1 study)<br>Null effects for all respiratory outcomes investigated (6 studies).<br><br>Null effect of vitamin D supplementation on primary outcome (pneumonia incidence) with a negative effect on one secondary | Very low |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |                               |   |                    |          |  |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|----------|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome* | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|                            |                      |                               | 1400 IU/wk (6 mth)  | Placebo            |          | outcome (vitamin D increased incidence of repeat episodes of radiologically confirmed pneumonia) (1 study) |          |
|                            |                      |                               | 500 IU/d (6 mth)  | Placebo            |          |  |          |
|                            |                      |                               | 100,000 IU/mth (1 yr)                                       | Placebo            |          |  |          |
|                            |                      |                               | 100,000 IU/3 mth (18 mth)                                   | Placebo            |          |  |          |
|                            |                      |                               | 1111-6800 IU/d (6 mth)                                      | Placebo            |          |  |          |
|                            |                      |                               | 300 IU/d (7 wk)   | Placebo            |          |  |          |
|                            |                      |                               | month 1 & 2: 200,000 IU bolus, then 100,000 IU/mth (18 mth) | Placebo            |          |  |          |

\* Outcome variable as described in the respective systematic review

**Table S13:** Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies – ARI

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |   |  |                    |             |  |          |
|--|----------------------|---|--|--------------------|-------------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                               | Vitamin D dose                                 | Control/Comparator | Outcome*    | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Fried et al. 2016 [34]                           | 12                   | n= 8822 mother-child pairs<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 0-3 yr | 25(OH)D levels in maternal blood or cord blood | -                  | Risk of RTI | LRTI:<br>Significant protective associations between 25(OH)D (6 studies) and LRTI (or URTI (1 study)).<br>Increased ORs of LRTI in children born to mothers with higher 25(OH)D (2 studies). | Moderate |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                             |   |   |                    |                            |   |          |
|--|-----------------------------|---|---|--------------------|----------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n)        | Participants (n), gender, age                     | Vitamin D dose                                  | Control/Comparator | Outcome*                   | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                             |   |   |                    |                            | <p>No association between 25(OH)D levels and LRTI (3 studies).</p> <p>Other RTIs:<br/>           No association between maternal 25(OH)D levels and other RTIs (2 studies).<br/>           No association with otitis media (2 studies), increased ORs of any RTI in children with lower maternal 25(OH)D levels (1 study).<br/>           More recurrent RTIs in children born to vitamin D-deficient mothers (1 study).</p> |          |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]                          | 3                           | n= 7787 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | 25(OH)D   | -                  | Risk of RTI                | RR for highest vs. lowest 25(OH)D: 0.50 to 0.95 (1 study)<br>Inverse association between RTI risk and 25(OH)D levels (outcome as a continuous variable) (2 studies)   | Low      |
|  |                             |   |   |                    | Days of absence due to RTI | RR for highest vs. lowest 25(OH)D: 0.50 to 0.95 (1 study)   |          |
| Jolliffe et al. 2013 [33]                        | 11 (3 birth cohort studies) | n= 6627<br><br>Both sexes                         | 25(OH)D (serum or maternal blood or cord blood) | -                  | Risk of ARI                | Inverse associations between low serum 25(OH)D and risk of ARI (7 studies).   | Very low |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                |                    |          |   |          |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|----------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                  | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome* | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                      | Age: NR;<br>Infants,<br>children and<br>adults |                |                    |          | <p>Serum 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D levels may be protective (as evidenced by higher serum 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D levels or by administration of 1-alpha-hydroxylated vitamin D metabolites) (2 studies).</p> <p>No association (3 studies) and a positive association (1 study) between higher maternal serum 25(OH)D levels in late pregnancy and increased risk of LRTI in offspring during infancy.</p> |          |

\* Outcome variable as described in the respective systematic review

**Table S14:** Meta-analyses of RCTs – Cognitive decline

| Meta-analyses of RCTs     |   |   |   |                    |           |   |          |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------|-----------|---|----------|
| Author, year              | Included studies (n)                      | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome   | Results/<br>Summary statistics (95% CI) | AMSTAR 2 |
| Goodwill et al. 2017 [35] | 2 RCTs and 1 retrospective pre-post study | n=314<br><br>Sex: NR<br>Age: ≥ 18 yr (two trials with elderly participants) | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>5000 IU Vitamin D <sub>3</sub> /d (6 wk)<br><br><u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>3x50,000 IU/week (4 wk) | Placebo            | Cognition | SMD 0.21 (-0.05, 0.46)                  | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs      |  |                                  |  |   |   |                                     |          |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n)                                   | Participants (n), gender, age    | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator                                | Outcome   | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI) | AMSTAR 2 |
|                            |  |                                  | 600,000 IU (single injection) (6 mth)  |   |   |                                     |          |
| Annweiler et al. 2013 [36] | 3 (2 open pre-post study designs, 1 double-blind RCTs) | n=234<br>Sex: NR<br>Age: ≥ 18 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>800 or 100,000 IU/mth (7.8 mth)<br><br>5000 IU/d (6 wk)<br><br><u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>50,000 IU x 3/week (4 wk) | No vitamin D supplements<br><br>Placebo<br><br>NR | impaired executive functions before and after vitamin D supplementation | Effect size -0.50 (-0.69, -0.32)    | Moderate |
|                            |  |                                  |  |   | impaired executive functions at the end of follow-up                    | Effect size 0.14 (-0.04, 0.32)      |          |

**Table S15:** Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies – Dementia and cognitive decline

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                |                    |                                 |   |          |
|---|----------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                      | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome                         | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Chen et al. 2018 [37]                       | 10                   | n=28,640<br><br>Both sexes<br>Mean age: 56-84.6 yr | 25(OH)D level  |                    | Dementia<br>Alzheimer's disease | Dementia (10 studies); highest vs. lowest: RR 0.72 (0.59, 0.88)   | High     |
|   |                      |  |                |                    |                                 | Dose response analysis (7 studies); risk of dementia for every 10 nmol/l increment in 25(OH)D: RR 0.95 (0.93, 0.98)<br><br>p for nonlinearity = 0.176 (non-significant) |          |
|   |                      |  |                |                    |                                 | Alzheimer's disease (6 studies); highest vs. lowest: RR 0.78 (0.60, 1.00)   |          |

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |  |  |  |                    |                                 |  |          |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n)   | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome                         | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
|   |  |  |  |                    |                                 | Dose response analysis (4 studies); risk of Alzheimer's disease for every 10 nmol/l increment in 25(OH)D: RR 0.93 (0.89, 0.97)<br><br>p for nonlinearity = 0.804 (non-significant)   |          |
| Jayedi et al. 2018 [38]                     | 8 cohorts from 1966- 2017 (seven prospective and one retrospective cohort study) | Dementia: n=18,168 (1953 cases)<br><br>Alzheimer's disease: n= 25,520 (1607 cases)<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥ 18 yr | 25(OH)D level<br><br>sufficiency: ≥ 50 nmol/l<br>insufficiency: 25-50 nmol/l<br><br>deficiency: <25 nmol/l |                    | Dementia<br>Alzheimer's disease | Vitamin D insufficiency (6 studies) and dementia: pooled HR 1.09 (0.95, 1.24)<br><br>Vitamin D deficiency (5 studies) and dementia: pooled HR 1.33 (1.08, 1.58)<br><br>Risk of dementia for a 25-nmol/l increment in serum 25(OH)D (7 studies): pooled HR 0.83 (0.70, 0.96)<br><br>Nonlinear dose-response analysis: U-shaped association with a nadir at ~62 nmol/l serum 25(OH)D<br><br>Risk of dementia decreased continuously with increasing serum levels of 25(OH)D from a baseline of ~13 nmol/l up to ~80 nmol/l (after excluding the study reporting risk estimates | High     |

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |   |   |                    |           |   |          |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--------------------|-----------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome   | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
|   |                      |   |   |                    |           | <p>of dementia for serum 25(OH)D levels &gt; ~88 nmol/l)</p> <p>Vitamin D insufficiency and Alzheimer's disease (4 studies): pooled HR 1.19 (0.96, 1.41)</p> <p>Vitamin D deficiency and Alzheimer's disease (3 studies) HR 1.31 (0.98, 1.65)</p> <p>risk of Alzheimer's disease for a 25-nmol/l increment of serum 25(OH)D (6 studies): pooled HR 0.83 (CI 0.68, 0.98)</p> <p>nonlinear dose-response analyses: continuous decrement in risk with increasing serum 25(OH)D levels from a baseline of ~13 nmol/l up to ~ 88nmol/l</p> |          |
| Goodwill et al. 2017 [35]                   | 14                   | n~30,000/ NR<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥ 18 yr (in the majority of the included studies participants were >40 yr) | High vs. low 25(OH)D level<br><br>(no thresholds available) | -                  | Cognition | Low vitamin D and cognitive decline:<br>OR 1.14 (1.06, 1.23)  | High     |

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |  |   |  |                    |                                     |   |          |
|---|--|---|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n)                             | Participants (n), gender, age                     | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome                             | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Sommer et al. 2017 [39]                     | 5 (4 prospective studies, 1 retrospective study) | n=18,933<br>Both sexes<br>Adults                  | 25(OH)D level<br><br>no deficiency or sufficient supply: $\geq 50$ nmol/l<br><br>insufficiency: $\geq 25$ to $<50$ nmol/l<br><br>serious deficiency: $< 25$ nmol/l | -                  | Dementia                            | Serious deficiency ( $< 25$ nmol/l or 7-28 nmol/l) vs. sufficient supply ( $\geq 50$ nmol/l or 54-159 nmol/l)<br><br>Point estimate: 1.54 (1.19, 1.99)<br><br>Vitamin D deficiency increased the risk of dementia.  | High     |
| Cao et al. 2016 [40]                        | 3  | n=12,702<br>Both sexes<br>Age: $\geq 20$ yr       | Vitamin D status<br>25(OH)D  | -                  | Dementia, mild cognitive impairment | Low levels of vitamin D and cognitive decline:<br>RR 1.52 (1.17, 1.98)  | Very low |
| Shen and Ji 2015 [41]                       | 2  | n = 8086<br>Both sexes<br>Average Age: 73.6 yr/NR | Vitamin D status (deficiency: $\leq 50$ nmol/l)<br><br>$\leq 50$ vs. $> 50$ nmol/l   | -                  | Alzheimer's disease<br>Dementia     | Risk in vitamin D deficient subjects:<br>Alzheimer's disease risk (n=2):<br>OR 1.21 (1.01, 1.40)<br><br>Dementia risk (n=1)*:<br>OR 1.63 (1.09, 2.16)<br><br>*the results including 3 additional cross-sectional studies did not differ: OR 1.49 (1.09, 1.88) | Low      |



| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |   |  |                    |  |  |          |
|---|----------------------|---|--|--------------------|--|--|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age               | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Annweiler et al. 2013 [36]                  | 3                    | n=4095/NR<br>Both sexes<br>Mean age: ~75 yr | Vitamin D status (higher vs. lower 25(OH)D concentrations) | -                  | Cognitive (executive) function<br><br>Executive function refer to a heterogeneous set of high-level processes that control and regulate other abilities and behaviours | Risk of incident decline of TMT-B score:<br>OR 1.25 (1.05, 1.48)<br><br>Participants with lower 25(OH)D concentrations had a 1.25 times greater risk of worsening TMT-B score in longitudinal follow-ups compared to those with higher 25(OH)D concentrations, indicating that low vitamin D status may precede decline of executive functions | Moderate |
| Etgen et al. 2012 [42]                      | 2                    | n=497/90<br>Sex: NR<br>Age: ≥ 65 yr         | Vitamin D deficiency vs. normal vitamin D concentrations   | -                  | Cognitive impairment   | OR 2.49 (1.74, 3.56)   | Low      |

**Table S16:** Systematic Reviews of RCTs – Cognitive decline

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |                                   |                             |                    |                      |  |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age     | Vitamin D dose              | Control/Comparator | Outcome              | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Lerner et al. 2018 [43]    | 3                    | n=222<br>Men and women<br>Age: NR | <u>Vitamin D</u> dosage: NR | Placebo/NR         | Cognitive impairment | Vitamin D <sub>3</sub> supplements were associated with medium-term improvement in cognitive performance in older adults | Low      |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |                                      |   |   |                                     |  |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age        | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator  | Outcome                             | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|                            |                      |                                      |   |   |                                     | and in particular with better executive functioning<br><br>Younger adults: Vitamin D status may be important for both executive functioning and mental health (1 study). No effect of vitamin D supplements on cognitive or emotional functioning. (1 study)   |          |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]    | 1                    | n=4143<br>sex: NR<br>Age: elderly    | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>400 IU/d (84 mth)   | NR  | Dementia, mild cognitive impairment | No significant differences in incident dementia or mild cognitive impairment, or in global or domain-specific cognitive function.  | Low      |
| Balion et al. 2012 [44]    | 3                    | n=354<br>Both sexes<br>Age: 74-87 yr | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>Oral supplement containing various nutrients including 160 IU/d (12 mth)<br><br>Nutrient dense drink containing 520 IU/d (24 wk)<br><br><u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>9000 IU/d (8-40 wk) | Placebo containing calcium and magnesium<br><br>Placebo drink containing no vitamins or minerals<br><br>Placebo | Cognitive function                  | No significant differences between treatment and control group for almost all cognitive tests (2 studies).<br><br>Significant differences between treatment and control groups for almost all cognitive tests (except long-term memory recall test) (1 study). | High     |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |   |  |   |                    |   |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---|--|---|--------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                   | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator                            | Outcome            | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Etgen et al. 2012 [42]     | 2                    | n = 202<br><br>both sexes<br>elderly<br>persons | <u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>600,000 IU (single injection)<br><br>50,000 IU x 3/wk (4 wk) | Placebo<br><br>No active medical intervention | Cognitive function | Vitamin D <sub>2</sub> led to a significant improvement of choice reaction time compared with placebo (1 study).<br>Neurocognitive performance did not improve significantly (1 study). | Low      |

**Table S17:** Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies – Dementia and cognitive decline

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |                                       |                  |                    |                      |  |          |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age         | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome              | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Lerner et al. 2018 [43]                          | 6 cohort             | n=11,981<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | Vitamin D status | -                  | Cognitive impairment | Vitamin D deficiency was associated with cognitive impairment (4/6 studies; 3 studies included elderly participants).<br><br>Vitamin D <sub>3</sub> supplements were associated with medium-term improvement in cognitive performance in older adults and in particular with better executive functioning.<br><br>In younger adults vitamin D status may be important for both executive functioning and | Low      |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                            |                    |  |  |          |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------|--|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose             | Control/Comparator | Outcome  | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                      |  |                            |                    |  | mental health (1 study).<br>Another study showed no effect of vitamin D supplementation on cognitive or emotional functioning (1 study).   |          |
| Killin et al. 2016 [45]                          | 3                    | n=11,884 (691 cases)<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR  | Vitamin D status           | -                  | Dementia   | Lower vitamin D levels at baseline were associated with an increased risk of developing dementia.<br><br>Overall strength of evidence: strong evidence = there is a reported association with dementia in the majority of published papers   | Low      |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]                          | 5                    | Cognitive function:<br>n=10,358 (260 cases)<br><br>Non-Alzheimer disease:<br>n=40 (6 cases)<br><br>Sex: NR<br>Age: elderly | Highest vs. lowest 25(OH)D | -                  | Cognitive function (4 studies), Non-Alzheimer dementia (1 study) | <u>Cognitive function:</u><br>Decreasing risk for reduced cognitive function with higher 25(OH)D (RR of highest vs. lowest quintile 0.50 to 0.95) (3 studies; 2 of them significant).<br><br>Inverse relation between serum 25(OH)D concentrations (1 study; multiple linear regression).<br><br><u>Non-Alzheimer disease:</u> | Low      |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                             |                    |                    |   |          |
|--|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                  | Vitamin D dose              | Control/Comparator | Outcome            | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                      |  |                             |                    |                    | Significantly decreasing risk (RR of highest vs. lowest quintile < 0.50) for Non-Alzheimer dementia with higher 25(OH)D levels (1 study).   |          |
| van der Schaft et al. 2013 [46]                  | 6                    | n=10,896<br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥ 65 years                      | Serum 25(OH)D concentration | -                  | Cognitive function | Statistically significant decline on ≥1 cognitive function test or higher frequency of dementia in participants with lower vitamin D levels or intake compared to participants with higher vitamin D levels or intake (4/6 studies).  | High     |
| Balion et al. 2012 [44]                          | 2                    | n= 2464<br>Both sexes (one study without women)<br>Age:≥ 65 yr | Vitamin D status            | -                  | Cognitive function | No significant association between vitamin D quartile and baseline cognitive impairment or incident cognitive decline (1 study).<br><br>Participants deficient in 25(OH)D (25 nmol/l) experienced an increased risk of substantial cognitive decline over 6 years, compared to those with sufficient concentrations (75 nmol/l). Individuals with 25(OH)D concentrations 25 nmol/l declined by an | High     |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |                               |                |                    |         |  |          |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                      |                               |                |                    |         | additional 0.3 points per year compared to those sufficient in 25(OH)D (75 nmol/l), even after restricting the sample to individuals without dementia (1 study). |          |

**Table S18:** Meta-analyses of RCTs – Depression

| Meta-analyses of RCTs          |                      |                                      |  |  |                     |                                     |          |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Author, year                   | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age        | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator                               | Outcome             | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI) | AMSTAR 2 |
| Vellekkatt and Menon 2018 [47] | 4                    | n=948<br>Sex and age: NR             | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>50,000 IU/wk (52 wk)<br>50,000 IU/wk (8 wk)<br>300,000/150,000 IU (i.m. single dose; 12 wk)<br>1500 IU + 20 mg Fluoxetine/d (8 wk) | Placebo<br>Placebo<br>No treatment<br>Fluoxetine | Depressive symptoms | Effect size: 0.58 (0.45, 0.72)      | Moderate |
| Gowda et al. 2015 [48]         | 9                    | n=4923<br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥ 18 yr | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>20,000 or 40,000 IU/d (1yr)<br>50,000 IU/wk (8 wk)<br>5000 IU/d (6 wk)   | Placebo  | Depressive symptoms | SMD 0.28 (-0.14, 0.69)              | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs    |                      |                                       |   |                    |                     |  |          |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year             | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age         | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome             | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
|                          |                      |                                       | 400 IU/d (+calcium + antidepressants; 2yr)<br>40,000 IU/wk (6 mth)<br><u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>400 or 800 IU/d (5d)<br>500,000 IU/y (3-5 yr)<br>1500 IU/d (8 wk)<br><u>Calcitriol</u><br>2,000,000 IU x 2/d (36 mth) |                    |                     |  |          |
| Spedding 2014 [49]       | 4                    | n=4610<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR       | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>range: 400-18,400 IU/d  | Placebo or NR      | Depression symptoms | Studies were grouped according to the presence of biological flaws (e.g. 25(OH)D not assessed, dose not appropriate):<br><br>Studies without flaws<br>Meta-analysis (2 studies):<br>SMD 0.78 (0.24, 1.27)<br>Studies with flaws<br>Meta-Analysis (2 studies):<br>SMD -1.1 (-0.7, -1.5) | Low      |
| Shaffer et al. 2014 [50] | 7                    | n=3191<br>Both sexes<br>Age: 18-79 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>600 IU/d (8 wk)   | Placebo            | Depressive symptoms | SMD -0.14 (-0.33, 0.05)  | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs |                      |   |   |                      |            |  |          |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---|---|----------------------|------------|--|----------|
| Author, year          | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                 | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator   | Outcome    | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
|                       |                      |   | 20,000 or 40,000 IU/wk (+ calcium; 1 yr)                        | Placebo              |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 5000 IU/d (6wk)   | Placebo              |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 400 IU/d (+ calcium; 1 yr)                                      | Placebo              |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 20,000 IU/wk (6 mth)  | Placebo              |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 1500 IU/d + fluoxetine (8 wk)                                   | Placebo + fluoxetine |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 150,000 or 300,000 IU IM injection                              | no injection         |            |  |          |
| Li et al. 2014 [51]   | 6                    | n=1203<br>71 depressed patients<br><br>72% females<br>Age: NR | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>20,000 or 40,000 IU/wk (12 mth) | Placebo              | Depression | Postintervention SMD of depression scores:<br>-0.14 (-0.41, 0.13)                            | High     |
|                       |                      |   | 50,000 IU/wk (8 wk)   | Placebo              |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 500,000 IU/yr (bolus) (3-5 yr)                                  | Placebo              |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 20,000 IU/wk (6 mth)  | Placebo              |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | 1500 IU/d + fluoxetine (8 wk)                                   | Placebo + fluoxetine |            |  |          |
|                       |                      |   | <u>Calcitriol</u><br>10 IU/twice a day (3 yr)                   | Placebo              |            | OR of depression for vitamin D supplementation vs. placebo (2 studies):<br>0.93 (0.54, 1.59) |          |



**Table S19:** Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies – Depression

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |  |                    |                       |   |          |
|---|----------------------|--|--|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                      | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome               | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Wang et al. 2018 [52]                       | 3                    | n=4593<br>Women<br>Age: NR                         | Vitamin D status<br>Vitamin D deficiency: 25(OH)D <30 nmol/l | -                  | Antepartum depression | OR 1.47 (0.92, 2.35)  | High     |
|   | 4                    | n=2228<br>Women<br>Age: NR                         | Vitamin D status<br>Vitamin D deficiency: 25(OH)D <50 nmol/l | -                  | Postpartum depression | OR 3.67 (1.72, 7.85)  | High     |
| Ju et al. 2013 [53]                         | 4                    | n=12,648 (2663 cases)<br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥40 yr | Vitamin D status   | -                  | Depression            | 10 ng/ml increase in 25(OH)D levels: OR 0.92 (0.87, 0.98)   | Moderate |
|   |                      |  |  |                    |                       | 15 ng/ml increase in 25(OH)D levels: OR 0.88 (0.81, 0.96)   |          |
|   |                      |  |  |                    |                       | 20 ng/ml increase in 25(OH)D levels: OR 0.85 (0.76, 0.95)   |          |
| Anglin et al. 2013 [54]                     | 3                    | n=8815<br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥50 yr                | Vitamin D status   | -                  | Depression            | Lowest vs. highest vitamin D status: HR 2.21 (1.40, 3.49)   | Moderate |
|   |                      |  |  |                    |                       | Change in the ln(HR) of depression per 20 nmol(L change in vitamin D level: $\beta = -0.19$ (-0.41, 0.04)   |          |
|   |                      |  |  |                    |                       | Vitamin D deficiency using cut-off points of 50 nmol/l and 37.5 nmol/l: HR 1.04 (0.59, 1.86)<br><br>The HRs of depression for those with and without vitamin D levels below 50 nmol/l |          |

| Meta-analyses of prospective cohort studies |                      |                               |                |                    |         |  |          |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
|   |                      |                               |                |                    |         | (2 studies) were pooled with the HR of depression for vitamin D below vs. above 37.5 nmol/l (1 study).<br>Vitamin D deficiency using cut-off points of 50 nmol/l and 75 nmol/l: HR 1.31 (0.97, 1.77) |          |

**Table S20: Systematic Reviews of RCTs– Depression**

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs  |                                  |                               |  |                                   |                       |   |          |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                | Included studies (n)             | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator                | Outcome               | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Aghajafari et al. 2018 [55] | 2 (secondary analysis of 1 RCT)  | n=279<br>Women<br>Age: NR     | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>2000 IU/d from 26-28 week to birth<br><br>1 study:<br>NR | Placebo<br><br>for 1 study:<br>NR | Antenatal depression  | Low vitamin D levels in early pregnancy were associated with higher depressive symptom scores in early and late pregnancy.<br>Significant association between lower levels of vitamin D and antenatal depression (1 study). | High     |
|                             | 3 (secondary analyses of 2 RCTs) | n=1319<br>Women<br>Age: NR    | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>2000 IU/d from 26-28 week to birth<br><br>NR (2 studies) | Placebo<br><br>NR (2 studies)     | Postpartum depression | No association (2 studies); vitamin D supplementation was effective in decreasing postpartum depression levels (1 study).   | High     |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |                                       |   |  |   |   |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age         | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator   | Outcome   | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Lerner et al. 2018 [43]    | 2                    | n=2159<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR       | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1500 IU/d + fluoxetine (8 wk)<br><br><u>Vitamin D</u><br>800 IU/d (6 mth)   | Placebo + fluoxetine<br><br>NR   | Depression  | Vitamin D + Fluoxetine combination was superior to fluoxetine alone in controlling depressive symptoms (1 study). Vitamin D supplementation did not lead to an improvement in mental health scores (1 study). | Low      |
| Föcker et al. 2017 [56]    | 21                   | n=43,340<br>Both sexes<br>Age: adults | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>400 IU/d + 377 mg calcium/d (1 yr)<br>400 or 800 IU/d (5 d)<br>100,000 IU once<br>4000 IU/wk (1 yr)<br>800 IU/d + 1000 mg calcium/d (6 mth)<br>20,000 or 40,000 IU/wk (1 yr)<br>8,000,000 IU/d + 500 mg calcium/d (2 menstrual cycles)<br>50,000 IU/wk (8 wk)<br>9200 IU/d (8 wk) + calcium | 377 mg calcium/d<br>0 IU/d<br>Photo-therapy/mth<br>600 IU/d<br>No treatment<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>No treatment | Mental health (Mood, Depression, Seasonal affective symptoms, Fibromyalgia, Wellbeing, PMS) | No effect on mental health (11 studies); beneficial effect on parameters of mental health (10 studies).   | Very low |

**Systematic Reviews of RCTs**

| Author, year | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator         | Outcome | Results | AMSTAR 2 |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
|              |                      |                               | 5000 IU/d (6 wk)   | Placebo                    |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 500,000 IU once (3-5 yr)                                   | Placebo                    |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 2000 IU/d (8 d)  | 500 mg vitamin C           |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 400 IU/d + 1000mg calcium (3 yr)                           | Placebo                    |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 20,000,000 IU/d (3 yr) or 20,000,000 IU/d+ hormone therapy | hormone therapy or placebo |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 40,000 IU/wk (6 mth)                                       | Placebo                    |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 1500 IU/d + 20 mg fluoxetine                               | 20 mg fluoxetine           |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 150,000 or 300,000 IU single injection (3 mth)             | injection                  |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 5000 IU/d (8.1-10 d)                                       | 2x 500 mg vitamin C/d      |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 2800 IU/d (12 wk)  | Placebo                    |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 200,000 IU then 25,000 IU/2 wk (4 mth)                     | Placebo                    |         |         |          |
|              |                      |                               | 2000 IU/d (from 26-28 wk of gestation until childbirth)    | Placebo                    |         |         |          |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                                     |                                   |   |                                |                     |  |          |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n)                | Participants (n), gender, age     | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator             | Outcome             | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Autier et al. 2017 [23]    | 5                                   | n=1111<br>Sex and age: NR         | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>very high doses (2-12 mth)  | NR                             | Mood disorders      | No effect (4 studies); vitamin D supplementation reduced mood disorders significantly (1 study)  | Low      |
| Sarris et al. 2016 [57]    | 2 (open label CT, double blind RCT) | n=81<br>Sex and age: NR           | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>1500 IU/d (8 wk)<br>300,000 IU once (4 wk)                                      | Placebo<br>antidepressant only | Depressive symptoms | Statistically significant reduction in depression rating scores in the treatment group compared with the control group in both studies between baseline and endpoint/over the course of the study  | Low      |
| Spedding 2014 [49]         | 15                                  | n=42,258<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>400 - 18,400 IU/d (doses not precisely specified: were depicted in bar graph; duration: NR) | NR                             | Depression symptoms | Studies were grouped according to the presence of biological flaws (e.g. 25(OH)D not assessed, dose not appropriate, high baseline 25(OH)D levels)<br>These flaws limit the ability of these studies to demonstrate a change in vitamin D status in the intervention group.<br><br>Studies without flaws:<br>6/7 studies showed improvement in depression symptoms.<br><br>Studies with flaws: | Low      |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |                               |  |                    |                             |   |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome                     | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|                            |                      |                               |  |                    |                             | 6/9 studies showed no effect on depression symptoms.  |          |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]    | 7                    | n=7191<br><br>Sex and age: NR | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>range: 400-5720 IU/d<br>(0.2-60 mth) | NR                 | Mood disorders (depression) | No effect (5 studies); vitamin D supplementation reduced mood disorders significantly (2 studies) | Low      |

**Table S21:** Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies – Depression

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                  |                    |                       |  |          |
|--|----------------------|--|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age          | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome               | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Aghajafari et al. 2018 [55]                      | 2                    | n=4592<br><br>Women<br>Age: NR         | Vitamin D status | -                  | Antenatal depression  | Significant association between lower levels of vitamin D and antenatal depression.  | High     |
|  | 4                    | n=1455<br><br>women<br>age: NR         | Vitamin D status | -                  | Postpartum depression | Lower vitamin D concentration was associated with increased and higher levels of vitamin D were associated with decreased odds of PPD as well as reduced symptoms (3 studies). No association (1 study). | High     |
| Trujillo et al. 2018 [58]                        | 2                    | n=4279<br><br>Women<br>Age: 26.7-31 yr | Vitamin D status | -                  | Antenatal depression  | Serum vitamin D deficiency and insufficiency were significantly associated with an increased likelihood of depression (2 studies).   | High     |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                  |                    |                       |   |          |
|--|----------------------|--|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                                  | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome               | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                      |  |                  |                    |                       | 1-unit increase of log serum vitamin D levels was significantly associated with a 46% decreased likelihood of depression (1 study).   |          |
|  | 4                    | n=1441<br>Women<br>Age: 26-31 yr                               | Vitamin D status | -                  | Postpartum depression | Significant inverse association between serum vitamin D levels and depression scores (3 studies). No association (1 study).   | High     |
| Amini et al. 2018 [59]                           | 6                    | n=2416<br>Women<br>Age: NR                                     | Vitamin D status | -                  | Postpartum depression | In all studies low 25(OH)D was associated with reduced depressive symptoms  | Low      |
| Lerner et al. 2018 [43]                          | 3                    | n=~ 5600<br>Both sexes (children and adults)<br>Age: ≤10-65 yr | Vitamin D status | -                  | Depression            | Low vitamin D levels were associated with presence and severity of depression (3 studies).<br>Significant association between low serum vitamin D measured at age 9.8 years and higher scores on depressive symptoms assessed at age 13.8 years but not at age 10.6 years (1 study) | Low      |
| Sparling et al. 2017 [60]                        | 8                    | n=6705<br>Women<br>Age: NR                                     | Vitamin D status | -                  | Postpartum depression | Protective associations and linear trends between vitamin D concentrations and depression (6/8 studies). No   | High     |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                  |                    |                             |  |          |
|--|----------------------|--|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age              | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome                     | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                      |  |                  |                    |                             | significant protective association (2/8 studies).  |          |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]                          | 5                    | n=6016<br>514 cases<br><br>Sex and age: NR | Vitamin D status | -                  | Mood disorders (depression) | Highest vs. lowest 25(OH)D: increased frequency of mood disorders associated with low 25(OH)D (4 studies)<br><br>Significant inverse association with mood disorders (1 study; outcome as a continuous variable) | Low      |

**Table S22:** Meta-analyses of RCTs – MS

| Meta-analyses of RCTs        |                      |   |  |                    |          |   |          |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|--|--------------------|----------|---|----------|
| Author, year                 | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)                         | AMSTAR 2 |
| Mc Laughlin et al. 2018 [61] | 12                   | n= 950 participants with RRMS or CIS (111 with CIS)<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥ 15 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>6000 IU/d for 2 wk, then adjusted dose (target 25(OH)D levels of 130–175 nmol/l) (6 mth) | 1000 IU/d          | ARR      | Overall, 12 studies:<br>MD -0.04 (-0.17, 0.09)*             | High     |
|                              |                      |   |  |                    |          | Vitamin D vs. placebo, 4 studies:<br>MD 0.00 (-0.10, 0.10)* |          |
|                              |                      |   |  | 800 IU/d           | EDSS     | Overall, 5 studies:<br>MD -0.04 (-0.19, 0.03)*              |          |
|                              |                      |   |  |                    | 800 IU/d | Number of new T2 MRI lesions                                |          |
| 2857 IU/d (24 mth)           | Placebo              |   | Vitamin D vs. placebo, 3 studies:  |                    |          |   |          |



| Meta-analyses of RCTs      |                      |   |   |   |  |   |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|--|---|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator  | Outcome  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)   | AMSTAR 2 |
|                            |                      |   | 2857 IU/d (12 mth)  | Placebo   |  | MD -0.77 (-1.37, -0.17)*  |          |
|                            |                      |   | 7143 IU (24 mth)  | Placebo   | Number of new Gadolinium-enhancing MRI lesions         | Overall, 5 studies:<br>MD -0.14 (-0.56, 0.29)*<br><br>*values of effect estimates (MD and CI) were roughly assessed from depicted forest plots  |          |
|                            |                      |   | 14,007 IU/d (12 mth)  | Placebo   |  |   |          |
|                            |                      |   | 7143 IU (12 mth)  | Placebo   |  |   |          |
|                            |                      |   | 7143 IU (6 mth)   | Placebo   |  |   |          |
|                            |                      |   | 5000 IU or 10,000 IU/d (6 mth)  | Placebo   |  |   |          |
|                            |                      |   | <u>Calcitriol</u><br>20 IU/d (12 mth)   | Placebo   |  |   |          |
|                            |                      |   | <u>Alfacalcidol</u><br>40 IU/d (6 mth)  | Placebo   |  |   |          |
| Jagannath et al. 2018 [62] | 12                   | n= 933 participants with RRMS (464 treatment group, 469 control group)<br>Range: 23 to 232<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 18-60 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>6000 IU/d (6 mth)<br><br><u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>50,000 IU/5 d (3 mth)<br><br>40,000 IU/d (28 wk), then 10,000 IU/d (12 wk), then down-titrated to 0 IU/d + 1200 mg calcium/d (52 wk) | 1000 IU/d<br><br>Placebo<br><br>4000 IU + 1200 mg calcium/d | ARR<br><br>EDSS<br><br>Gadolinium-enhancing T1 lesions | Rate difference at 52 weeks follow-up:<br>-0.05 (-0.17, 0.07)<br>(5 studies)<br><br>MD at 52 weeks follow-up:<br>-0.25 (-0.61, 0.10)<br>(5 studies)<br><br>MD at 52 weeks follow-up:<br>0.02 (-0.45, 0.48)<br>(2 studies) | High     |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs |                      |                               |   |  |                        |   |          |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year          | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator                         | Outcome                | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)             | AMSTAR 2 |
|                       |                      |                               | 50,000 IU/wk (from 12 to 16 weeks' gestation until delivery; 6 mth) | Routine care                               | Serious adverse events | Risk difference: 0.01 (-0.03, 0.04) (8 studies) |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 800 IU/d (tablet) + 75,000 IU/3 wk (solution) (=4370 IU/d; 1 yr)    | 800 IU/d (tablet) + placebo (solution)     | Minor adverse events   | Risk difference: 0.02 (-0.02, 0.06) (8 studies) |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 6670 IU/d (4 wk), then 14,007 IU/d (44 wk)                          | Placebo                                    |                        |   |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 20,000 IU/wk (96 wk)  | Placebo                                    |                        |   |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 300,000 IU/mth (i.m. injection; 6 mth)                              | Placebo                                    |                        |   |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 20,000 IU/wk (12 mth)   | Placebo                                    |                        |   |          |
|                       |                      |                               | 10,000 IU/d + multivitamin + 1000mg calcium/d (6 mth)               | 400 IU/d + multivitamin + 1000mg calcium/d |                        |   |          |
|                       |                      |                               | <u>Calcitriol</u><br>10 IU/d (2 wk), then 20 IU/d (12 mth)          | Placebo                                    |                        |   |          |
|                       |                      |                               | <u>Alfacalcidol</u><br>40 IU/d (6 mth)                              | Placebo                                    |                        |   |          |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs   |                      |   |   |   |         |                                     |          |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|---------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Author, year            | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age   | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator  | Outcome | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI) | AMSTAR 2 |
| Zheng et al. 2018 [63]  | 6                    | n= 337 participants (169 treatment group/ 168 control group)<br><br>Both sexes (90 men/ 247 women)<br><br>Age: NR | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>40,000 IU/d (28 wk), then 10,000 IU/d (12 wk), then 0 IU/d (52wk) +1200 mg calcium/d  | ≤ 4000 IU/d   | EDSS    | MD -0.01 (-0.34, 0.33) (6 studies)  | Moderate |
|                         |                      |   | 4370 IU/d (12 mth)<br>20,000 IU/wk +500 mg calcium/d (96 wk)<br>300,000 IU/mth (i.m., 6 mth)<br>800,000/wk (12 mth)<br><u>Calcitriol</u><br>10 IU/d (2 wk), then 20 IU/d (12 mth)                               | 800 IU/d<br>500 mg calcium/d<br>Placebo<br>Placebo<br>Placebo | ARR     | MD 0.05 (0.01, 0.10) (5 studies)    |          |
| Hempel et al. 2017 [64] | 5                    | n= 295 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥ 18 yr (2 studies: NR)   | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>escalating doses up to 40,000 IU/d (28 wk), then 10,000 IU/d, then 0 IU/d + 1200 mg Calcium/d (52 wk)<br><br>20,000 IU/wk (96 wk)<br><br>300,000 IU/mth (i.m. injection; 6 mth) | Placebo   | EDSS    | SMD -0.15 (-0.33, 0.02)             | Moderate |

| Meta-analyses of RCTs  |                      |  |   |   |                          |   |          |
|------------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|--------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year           | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator  | Outcome                  | Results/Summary statistics (95% CI)           | AMSTAR 2 |
|                        |                      |  | 20,000 IU/wk (1 yr)<br><u>Calcitriol</u><br>low dose (12 yr)  |   |                          |   |          |
| James et al. 2013 [65] | 5                    | n= 254 participants (129 high-dose treated MS patients, 125 controls)<br><br>Sex: NR<br>Age: ≥ 15 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>40,000 IU/d (28 wk), then 10,000 IU/d (12 wk), then 0 IU/d (52 wk)<br><br>20,000 IU/week + 500 mg calcium/d (96 wk)<br><br>20,000 IU/wk (1 yr)<br><br><u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>13,000 IU/d (6 mth)<br><br><u>Calcitriol</u><br>10 IU/d (2 wk), then 20 IU/d (12 mth) | 4000 IU/d if desired<br><br>500 mg calcium/d<br><br>Placebo<br><br>1000 IU/d<br><br>Placebo | Relative risk of relapse | Vitamin D vs. control<br>OR 0.98 (0.44, 2.17) | Low      |

**Table S23:** Systematic Reviews of RCTs – MS

| Author, year                | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator | Outcome                                | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|--|--|----------|
| Berezowska et al. 2019 [66] | 10                   | n= 627 participants with RRMS (321 treatment group, 264 control group)<br><br>Both sexes (164 men/463 women)<br><br>Age: ≥ 18 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>20,000 IU/wk (96 wk)  | Placebo            | Immunological and inflammatory markers | Improvements in IFN-gamma, IL-17A, IL-9, IL-10, 17+CD4+ T cells, CD161+CD4+ T cells and effector memory CD4+ T cells, the proportion of central memory CD4+ T cells and naive CD4+ T in the intervention group (3/7 studies).<br><br>The majority of studies showed no effect of vitamin D supplementation on immunological and inflammatory markers compared to placebo/low dose vitamin D. | Moderate |
|                             |                      |  | 75,000 IU/every 3 wk + 800 IU/d (total 4, 370 IU/d; 48 wk)  | Placebo + 800 IU/d |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | 20,000 IU/d (48 wk)   | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | 50,000 IU/5 d (12 wk)   | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | 20,000 IU/wk (96 wk)  | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | 50,000 IU/5 d (12 wk)   | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | 7000 IU/d (4 wk), then 14,000 IU/d (48 wk)  | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | 10,000 IU/d (24 wk)   | 400 IU/d           |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | 20,000/wk (48 wk)   | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                             |                      |  | <u>Calcitriol</u><br>10 IU/d (2 wk), then 20 IU/d (48 wk)   | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                             |                      | ARR  | No significant difference between groups (4/4 studies).   |                    |  |  |          |
|                             |                      | EDSS   | Benefit in EDSS score after vitamin D supplementation (1/5 studies).  |                    |  |  |          |
|                             |                      | Safety and Tolerability  | No significant differences between intervention and control/placebo group nor were any of the adverse events serious in either group (4 studies). |                    |  |  |          |

| Author, year  | Included studies (n)                        | Participants (n), gender, age                         | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator | Outcome              | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|---|---|---|--|--------------------|----------------------|---|----------|
| Iacopetta et al. 2018 [67]                          | 9 (8 RCTs and 1 non-blinded clinical trial) | n= 560 participants<br><br>Sex and Age: NR            | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>50,000/w (i.m. injection)  | No injection       | MS risk              | In patients with optic neuritis (associated with MS) who supplemented vitamin D <sub>3</sub> MS risk reduction was 68.4% (1 study).   | Low      |
|   |   |   | 50,000 IU/wk (12 mth)  | Placebo            | EDSS                 | After 8 weeks of treatment with vitamin D, MS patients had a significant reduction in the mean EDSS scores (1 study). No effect on EDSS score after 6 and 12 months of treatment with vitamin D <sub>3</sub> (3 studies). |          |
|   |   |   | 20,000 IU/wk (12 mth)  | Placebo            |                      |   |          |
|   |   |   | 300,000 IU/mth im. injection (6 mth)   | Placebo            |                      |   |          |
|   |   |   | Escalating doses up to 20 IU/d (12 mth)  | Placebo            | Relapse rate         | No effect on relapse rate with supplementation of vitamin D <sub>3</sub> (3 studies).   |          |
|   |   |   | 4370 IU/d (12 mth)   | 800 IU/d           |                      |   |          |
|   |   |   | 20,000 IU/wk (18 mth)  | Placebo            | FIS score            | Decreased mean relative FIS score compared to placebo (1 study).  |          |
| <u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>12,000 IU/d (6 mth) | 1000 IU/d                                   |   |  |                    |                      |   |          |
| <u>Alfacalcidol</u><br>40 IU/d (6 mth)              | Placebo                                     | MRI disease activity                                  | Supplementation of vitamin D <sub>3</sub> reduced MRI disease activity (1 study).<br>Supplementation of vitamin D <sub>2</sub> had no effect on MRI lesions (1 study). |                    |                      |   |          |
| Bagur et al. 2017 [68]                              | 7   | n= 267 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: ≥ 18 yr | <u>Vitamin D</u><br>1000 IU/d (48 wk)<br><br>4000-40,000 IU/d (28 wk)  | NR                 | MRI disease activity | Reduction in brain lesions (4 studies).<br><br>Reduction of MRI disease activity (1 study).   | Low      |

| Author, year            | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                | Vitamin D dose  | Control/Comparator   | Outcome  | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|---|--|--|--|----------|
|                         |                      |  | 20,000 IU/d (12 wk)<br>200-10,200 IU/d (72 wk)<br>2800 IU/d (96 wk)<br>2800 IU/d (12 wk)<br>7000 IU/d (12 wk)   |  | EDSS<br>ARR  | Reduced disease activity measured by EDSS (1 study).<br>No effect on relapse rate (1 study).   |          |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24] | 6                    | n= 241 participants<br>Sex and age: NR       | Vitamin D range: 2840-32,000 IU/d (6-24 mth)  | NR   | 15 different outcomes assessed by trials (e.g. relapse, disability)        | None of the trials showed significant improvements.  | Low      |
| Ganesh et al. 2013 [69] | 7                    | n= 363 participants<br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | <u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>6000 IU (frequency: NR, 6 mth)<br><u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>40,000 IU/d (52 wk)<br>300,000 IU/mth (i.m. injection; 6 mth)<br>20,000 IU/w (96 wk)<br>800 IU +75,000 IU/3 wk (1yr)<br>20,000 IU (frequency: NR,1yr) | 1000 IU (frequency: NR)<br>NR<br>NR<br>NR<br>800 IU/3 wk<br>NR | EDSS<br>Gadolinium-enhancing lesions change in volume of T2 lesions<br>ARR | No effect (3 studies)<br>No effect (2 studies); lower increase in T2 burden of disease in vitamin D group (1 study)<br>No effect (3 studies) | High     |

| Author, year                    | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose   | Control/Comparator  | Outcome  | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|---------------------|--|--|----------|
|                                 |                      |  | <u>Calcitriol</u><br>Up to 20 IU/d<br>(duration: NR)   | NR                  |  |  |          |
| Pozuelo-Moyano et al. 2013 [70] | 5                    | n= 265 participants (131 treatment group/ 134 control group)<br><br>Sex: NR<br>Age:≥ 15 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>2</sub></u><br>1000 IU + high-dose supplement/d (6 mth)                                     | 1000 IU/d + placebo | EDSS, MSFC   | No significant difference (3 studies).<br>Follow-up EDSS after adjustment for baseline EDSS was higher for high-dose vitamin D <sub>2</sub> than for low-dose vitamin D <sub>2</sub> (1 study).<br>Significant reduction in EDSS (1 study), but due to the small sample size the trial was not powered to address clinical outcomes. | High     |
|                                 |                      |  | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>300,000 IU/mth (6 mth)<br><br>20,000 IU/wk (2 yr)<br><br>20,000 IU/wk (1 yr) | NR                  |  |  |          |
|                                 |                      |  | <u>Calcitriol</u><br>10 IU/d (2 wk), then 20 IU/d (1 yr)   | NR                  |  |  |          |
|                                 |                      |  |  |                     | T2 lesion load and new T2 or T1 Gadolinium-enhancing lesions | Significant reduction in the number of T1 enhancing lesions and trends in MRI burden of disease (1 study).   |          |



**Table S24:** Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies – MS

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |  |                |                    |                             |   |          |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age              | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome                     | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
| Iacopetta et al. 2018 [67]                       | 5                    | n= 717 participants<br><br>Sex and Age: NR | 25(OH)D        | -                  | MS risk                     | <p>Higher levels of 25(OH)D were associated with lower incidence of MS and MS-related disability in women. Every 10 nmol/l increase of 25(OH)D reduced the MS risk by 19% (1 study).</p> <p>Women supplemented with vitamin D had a 40% lower risk of developing MS vs. women with not supplement (1 study).</p> <p>Increasing 25(OH)D was associated with lower relapse rate; each 10 nmol/l increase in 25(OH)D the risk was reduced by 9% after adjusting for age and sex (1 study).</p> <p>Higher reported sun exposure, rather than 25(OH)D levels were associated with less depressive symptoms and fatigue in MS patients (1 study).</p> | Low      |
| Autier et al. 2014 [24]                          | 3                    | n= 917 participants<br>cases= 257          | 25(OH)D        |                    | Risk of relapse. disability | Decreases in risk of relapse and disability with high 25(OH)D concentrations in MS patients (2 studies).  | Low      |

**Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies**

| Author, year            | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                    | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome                            | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|--|----------|
|                         |                      | Sex and age: NR                                  |                |                    |                                    | No association reported (1 study).   |          |
| Ganesh et al. 2013 [69] | 5                    | n= 903 participants<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: NR | 25(OH)D        |                    | Risk of relapse                    | Inverse association between 25(OH)D levels and relapse risk (2 studies).<br><br>25(OH)D was associated with lower relapse risk only in those on IFN-β (1 study).<br><br>Lower 25(OH)D levels during pregnancy or post-partum were not associated with increased risk of post-partum relapse (in birth cohort).<br>No association of 25(OH)D levels and relapse risk (2 studies). | High     |
|                         |                      |  |                |                    | Exacerbation rate                  | Exacerbation rate decreased with each doubling of 25(OH)D levels.  |          |
|                         |                      |  |                |                    | Clinical or radiological variables | Each 10 ng/mL increase in 25(OH)D was associated with lower risk of new T2 lesion (1 study).<br><br>No association of 25(OH)D levels with MRI lesions.   |          |

| Systematic Reviews of prospective cohort studies |                      |                               |                |                    |         |   |          |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------|---|----------|
| Author, year                                     | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age | Vitamin D dose | Control/Comparator | Outcome | Results   | AMSTAR 2 |
|  |                      |                               |                |                    | EDSS    | EDSS progression was not associated with 25(OH)D levels (1 study).<br><br>Each 10 ng/mL increase in 25(OH)D levels was associated with lower subsequent disability. |          |

**Table S25:** Meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies – T1DM

| Author, year          | Included studies (n)                           | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose + insulin   | Control/Comparator | Outcome                 | Results/ Summary statistics (95% CI)  | AMSTAR 2 |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|--------------------|-------------------------|---|----------|
| Dong et al. 2013 [71] | 2 cohort studies<br><br>6 case-control studies | Cohort studies:<br>n=10,657<br><br>Case-control studies:<br>n=8103 (1860 cases and 6243 controls)<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 0-31 | Cohort studies:<br>Questionnaire or FFQ + 25(OH)D<br><br>Case-control studies:<br>Questionnaire or interview | NR                 | Risk of developing T1DM | Inverse association between vitamin D intake and risk of T1DM (5/8 studies).<br><br>OR = 0.71 (0.51, 0.98)<br>(2 case-control + 6 cohort studies)<br><br>Subgroup analysis by study design:<br><br>OR = 0.68 (0.49–0.94)<br>(6 case-control studies)<br><br>RR = 0.62 (0.11–3.45)<br>(2 cohort studies) | Low      |

**Table S26:** Systematic Reviews of RCTs – T1DM

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |  |  |                    |  |  |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--------------------|--|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age  | Vitamin D dose                                       | Control/Comparator | Outcome  | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
| Gregoriou et al. 2017 [72] | 7                    | n= 287 participants (newly diagnosed with T1D within a period of 4 wk to 1 yr)<br><br>Both sexes<br>Age: 5-38 yr | <u>Vitamin D<sub>3</sub></u><br>2000 IU/d (18 mth)   | Placebo            | Changes in daily insulin doses (IU/d)          | Insulin doses were significantly lower (treatment vs. control) after 3 and 6 months, but no effect was seen at 12 months (1 study, calcitriol)<br><br>Daily insulin doses were comparable between groups after 9 and 24 months (2 studies, calcitriol)<br><br>Daily insulin doses were significantly different in the between-subject comparison, with lower values in (1 study, alfacalcidol) | High     |
|                            |                      |  | 70 IU/kg body weight/d (12 mth)                      | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                            |                      |  | <u>Calcitriol</u><br>10 IU/on alternate days (1 yr)  | NR                 |  | Daily insulin doses were significantly increased in CG, while no change was observed in treatment group (1 study, vitamin D <sub>3</sub> )   |          |
|                            |                      |  | 10IU/d (2 yr)  | NR                 |  |  |          |
|                            |                      |  | 10 IU/d (9 mth)                                      | Placebo            |  |  |          |
|                            |                      |  | <u>Alfacalcidol</u><br>20 IU/d (1 yr)                | NR                 |  |  |          |
|                            |                      |  | 10 IU/once or twice daily (based on serum Ca; 6 mth) | Placebo            | changes in glycaemic indices (HbA1c, FCP, SCP) | No effect on HbA1c levels during or after treatment (1 study, calcitriol)<br><br>The cumulative incidence of progression to undetectable levels of FCP during 18 months  |          |

| Systematic Reviews of RCTs |                      |  |   |                    |  |  |          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|---|--------------------|--|--|----------|
| Author, year               | Included studies (n) | Participants (n), gender, age                          | Vitamin D dose                                | Control/Comparator | Outcome                                | Results  | AMSTAR 2 |
|                            |                      |  |   |                    |  | <p>of monitoring was lower (treatment vs. control; 1 study, vitamin D<sub>3</sub>)</p> <p>Within-subject comparisons showed that the differences in FCP between TG and CG were highest at 3 and 6 months of treatment. FCP levels were reduced in treatment vs. control (1 study, alfacalcidol)</p> <p>FCP levels decreased significantly in CG between baseline and months 6 and 12 of therapy, but no changes were observed in TG. Also, FCP levels were maintained or increased (treatment vs. control; 1 study, alfacalcidol)</p> <p>SCP increase in the first 12 months and reduced decline after 18 months (treatment vs. control; 1 study, vitamin D<sub>3</sub>)</p> |          |
| Antico et al. 2012 [73]    | 2                    | n= 51 cases (diagnosed with T1DM)<br>Sexes and age: NR | <u>Alfacalcidol</u><br>20 IU/d (duration: NR) | NR                 | Insulin requirement<br>β-cell function | Reduction of insulin requirement and protection of β-cell function   | Low      |

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