

Managing Hepatic Encephalopathy - Combination of Lactulose and Rifaximin Versus Lactulose Monotherapy: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

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Table A.1: Quality assessment of cohort studies by Newcastle-Ottawa scale.

Author	Cohort Representability	Selection of Non exposed Cohort	Ascertainment of Exposure	Outcome Not Present at Baseline	Comparability of Cohorts for Important Factors	Comparability of Cohorts for Other Variables	Assessment of Outcome	Follow-Up Long Enough for Outcome to Occur	Adequacy of Follow-Up	Quality
Courson 2015 [1]	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	...	Good
Kang 2017 [2]	*	*	*	*	*	...	*	*	...	Good
Ahire 2017 [3]	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	...	Good
Bajaj 2019 [4]	*	*	*	*	*	..	*	*	...	Good
Poudyal 2019 [5]	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	...	Good
Chang 2021 [6]	*	*	*	*	*	...	*	*	*	Good

Table A.2: Quality assessment of Randomized Controlled Trials by Cochrane Risk of bias tool.

Article	Selection Bias		Performance Bias	Detection bias	Attrition bias	Reporting Bias	Other bias	Our evaluation
	Random Sequence Generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective Reporting	Anything else, ideally prespecified	
Sharma 2013 [7]	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Good quality
Haq 2014 [8]	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Poor quality
Butt 2018 [9]	Low risk	Unclear risk	Low risk	Unclear risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Fair quality
Hasan 2018 [10]	Low risk	Low risk	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Fair quality
Shafique Ahmed 2018 [11]	Low risk	Unclear risk	High risk	High risk	Low risk	Unclear risk	Low risk	Poor quality
Shoaib Ahmed 2018 [12]	Low risk	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Poor quality
Hussain 2020 [13]	Low risk	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Unclear risk	Low risk	Low risk	Low risk	Poor quality

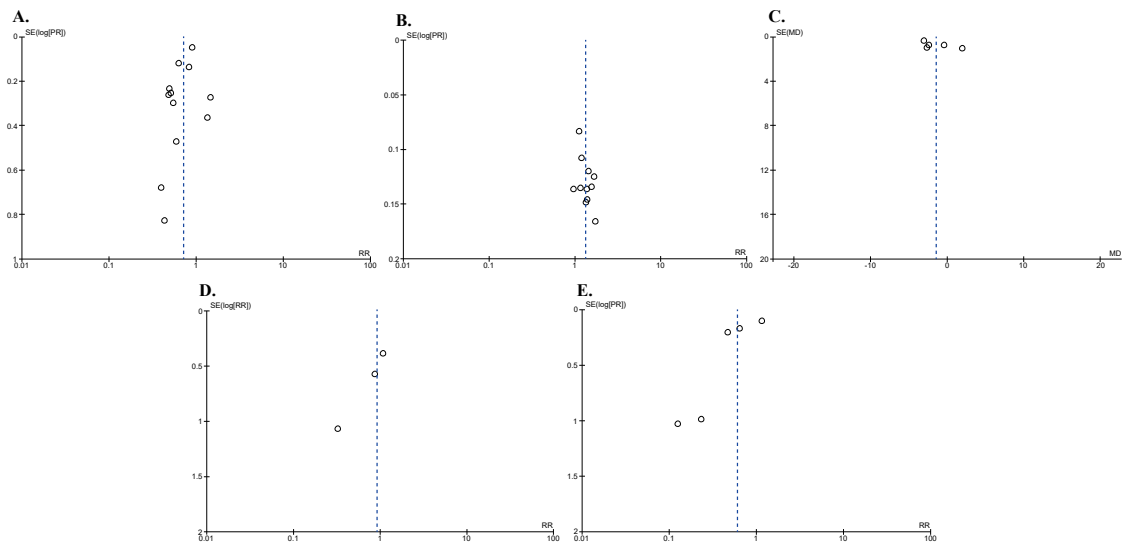


Fig A.1: Funnel plots for all outcomes. (A) Mortality (B) Clinical Efficacy (C) Length of stay (D) Adverse effects (E) HE recurrence

Table A.3: Results of Egger test for publication bias of all outcomes.

Outcome	Eggers's test
Mortality	0.7913
Clinical efficacy	0.0004
Length of stay	0.1020
Adverse effects	0.4167
HE recurrence	0.2297

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