Supplementary information to:

Review article:

TOXIC HEAVY METAL CONCENTRATIONS IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS PATIENTS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS

Sorour Sarihi¹, Maryam Niknam², Sanaz Mahjour³, Mahnaz Hosseini-Bensenjan⁴, Fatemeh Moazzen⁵, Sahar Soltanabadi^{6*}, Hamed Akbari^{7,8}

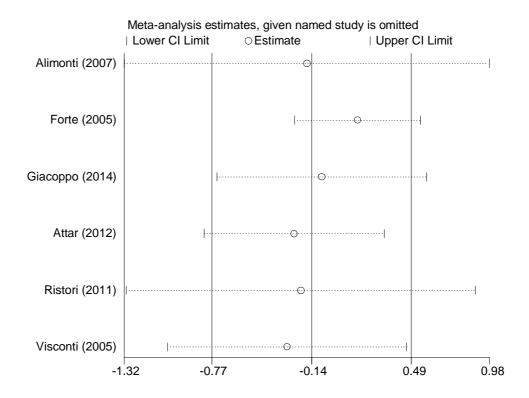
- Shiraz HIV/AIDS Research Center, Institute of Health, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran
- Department of Biochemistry, School of Medicine, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran
- Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Psychiatry, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, USA
- ⁴ Hematology Research Center, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran
- Department of Hematology, Faculty of Allied Medicine, Bushehr University of Medical Sciences, Bushehr, Iran
- ⁶ Student Research Committee, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran
- Department of Biochemistry, School of Medicine, Kerman University of Medical Sciences, Kerman, Iran
- Student Research Committee, School of Medicine, Kerman University of Medical Sciences, Kerman, Iran
- * Corresponding author: Sahar Soltanabadi, Student Research Committee, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran. Tel:+98 917 713 3214; E-mail: saharsoltany@gmail.com

http://dx.doi.org/10.17179/excli2021-3484

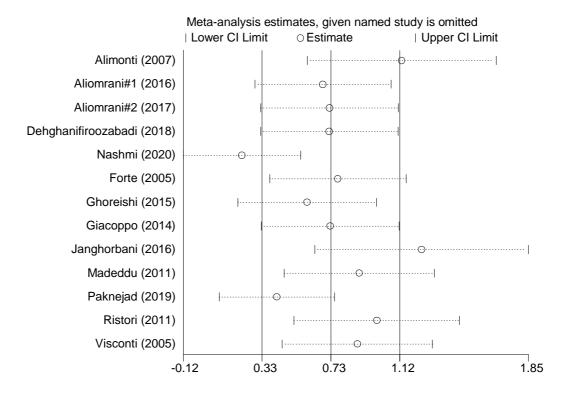
This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

Supplementary Table 1: Overall quality scores of including studies using Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (NOS) tool

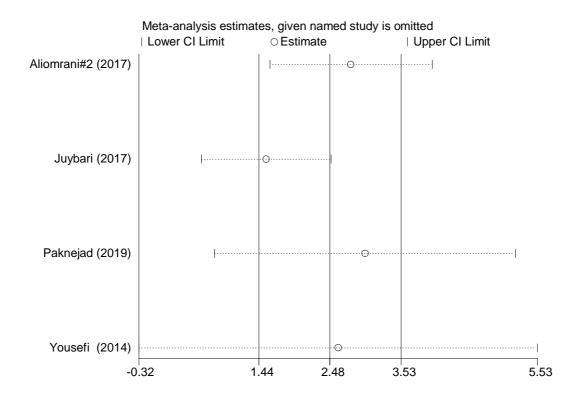
Author name	Study design	Selec- tion	Compara- bility	Exposure/ outcome	Overall quality assessment score
Alimonti	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Aliomrani, 2016	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Aliomrani, 2017	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Juybari	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Dehghani- firoozabadi	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Nashmi	Case-control	***	*	***	7
Forte	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Ghoreishi	Case-control	***	*	***	7
Giacoppo	Case-control	***	*	***	7
Janghorbani	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Madeddu	Case-control	***	*	***	7
Attar	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Paknejad	Case-control	****	*	***	8
Ristori	Cohort	****	*	***	8
Visconti	Case-control	***	*	***	7
Yousefi	Case-control	****	*	***	8



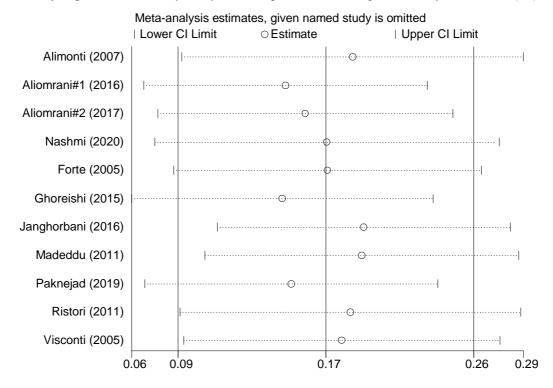
Supplementary Figure 1: Sensitivity analysis findings after excluding each study for mercury (Hg)



Supplementary Figure 2: Sensitivity analysis findings after excluding each study for lead (Pb)



Supplementary Figure 3: Sensitivity analysis findings after excluding each study for Arsenic (As)



Supplementary Figure 4: Sensitivity analysis findings after excluding each study for Cadmium (Cd)