

**Supplementary Table 1. Characteristics of Included Eligible Studies.**

Author	Country and setting	Timeframe of study recruitment	Diagnosis of GORD	Criteria Used to define gastro-oesophageal symptoms	Weekly symptoms assessed	Endoscopically suspected and/or histologically diagnosed BO	Sample size	Mean age (years)	Proportion of males (%)	Number with BO According to Definition Used (%)	Proportion of histologically confirmed BO among endoscopically suspected cases (%)
<b>Johnston 1996 [16]</b>	USA, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	104	n/a	n/a	14 (13.5)	Not applicable
<b>Clark 1997 [17]</b>	USA, tertiary care	1991-1995	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	241	49.1	62.2	70 (29)	Not applicable
<b>Blustein 1998 [18]</b>	Canada, tertiary care	1994	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	742	50	48	47 (6.3)	Not applicable
<b>Csendes 1998 [19]</b>	Chile, tertiary care	1995-1996	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	372	49	39.2	182 (48.9)  50 (13.4)	27.5

<b>Hirota 1999 [20]</b>	USA, tertiary care	1995-1996	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	131	n/a	n/a	13 (9.9)	Not applicable
<b>Csendes 2000 [21]</b>	Chile, tertiary care	1993-1995	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	376	49	41.5	88 (23.4)  43 (11.4)	48.9
<b>Pieramico 2000 [22]</b>	Italy, secondary care	1998-1999	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	142	n/a	n/a	20 (14.1)	Not applicable
<b>Gerson 2001 [23]</b>	USA, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a validated questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	517	52.5	65	99 (19.1)	Not applicable
<b>Mantynen 2002 [24]</b>	Finland, secondary and tertiary care	1996	Interview-administered questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	760	n/a	n/a	11 (1.4)	Not applicable

<b>Romero 2002 [25]</b>	USA, tertiary care	1998-1999	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Reflux symptoms questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	200	51	63	18 (9)	Not applicable
<b>Caum 2003 [26]</b>	Brazil, tertiary care	2002	Interview-administered questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	402	50.1	32.6	15 (3.7)	Not applicable
<b>Rex (any frequency) 2003 [27]</b>	USA, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to Reflux Symptoms Questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	363	n/a	n/a	30 (8.3)	Not applicable
<b>Rex (weekly) 2003 [27]</b>	USA, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to Reflux Symptoms Questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	150	n/a	n/a	14 (9.3)	Not applicable
<b>Ahmed 2004 [28]</b>	Sudan, tertiary care	2000	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	105	n/a	n/a	11 (10.5)	Not applicable
<b>Kulig 2004 [29]</b>	Germany, Austria, Switzerland, tertiary care	2000-2001	Interview-administered questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Reflux Disease Questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	6215	54	53	702 (11.3)	Not applicable

<b>Rajendra 2004 [30]</b>	Malaysia, tertiary care	1997-2000	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed by GP or outpatient clinic	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	661	n/a	n/a	76 (11.5)	Not applicable
<b>Toruner 2004 [31]</b>	Turkey, tertiary care	2001	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	61	n/a	34.4	3 (4.9)	Not applicable
<b>Wo 2004 [32]</b>	USA, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to a questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	82	46	32	13 (15.9)	Not applicable
<b>Bafandeh 2005 [33]</b>	Iran, tertiary care	2001-2003	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn assessed by outpatient clinic	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	1248	45	60.1	104 (8.3) 30 (2.4)	28.8
<b>Bajbouj 2005 [34]</b>	Germany, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to a questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	590	50.2	53	15 (2.5)	Not applicable

<b>Kim 2005 [35]</b>	Korea, tertiary care	n/a	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	164	n/a	n/a	7 (4.3)	Not applicable
<b>Ronkainen (any frequency) 2005 [36]</b>	Sweden, primary and secondary care	1999-2001	Postal questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Abdominal Symptom Questionnaire	No	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	400	52.7	45.3	41 (10.3) 9 (2.3)	22.0
<b>Ronkainen (weekly) 2005 [36]</b>	Sweden, primary and secondary care	1999-2001	Postal questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Abdominal Symptom Questionnaire	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	200	n/a	n/a	28 (14) 5 (2.5)	17.9
<b>Westhoff 2005 [37]</b>	USA, tertiary care	1999-2002	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to GerdQ Questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	378	56	94	50 (13.2)	Not applicable

<b>Shapiro 2006 [38]</b>	USA, tertiary care	n/a	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed GP or outpatient clinic	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	121	53.7	63.6	23 (19)	Not applicable
<b>Ward 2006 [39]</b>	USA, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	106	n/a	60.4	21 (19.8)	Not applicable
<b>Johansson 2007 [40]</b>	Sweden, secondary care	1997-1999	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	224	n/a	n/a	43 (19.2) 10 (4.5)	23.3
<b>Bayrakci 2008 [41]</b>	Turkey, tertiary care	2004-2005	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to GerdQ Questionnaire	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	160	48	40	3 (1.9) 1 (0.6)	33.3

<b>Hak 2008 [42]</b>	Egypt, tertiary care	n/a	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	91	36	65.9	9 (9.9)	Not applicable
<b>Koek 2008 [43]</b>	Belgium, tertiary care	n/a	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	422	46.8	48	30 (7.1)	Not applicable
<b>Tseng 2008 [44]</b>	Taiwan, tertiary care	2003-2006	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a validated questionnaire	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy	3171	n/a	n/a	12 (0.4)	Not applicable
<b>Zagari (any frequency) 2008 [45]</b>	Italy, tertiary care	2000-2004	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a validated questionnaire	No	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy  Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	458	58.2	47.6	19 (4.1)  7 (1.5)	36.8

<b>Zagari (weekly) 2008 [45]</b>	Italy, tertiary care	2000-2004	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a validated questionnaire	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	245	57.9	49.4	15 (6.1)  7 (2.9)	46.7
<b>Fouad 2009 [46]</b>	Egypt, tertiary care	2006-2008	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	1000	38.8	85.3	73 (7.3)	Not applicable
<b>Odemis 2009 [47]</b>	Turkey, tertiary care	2001-2002	Interview-administered questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	351	n/a	n/a	6 (1.7)	Not applicable
<b>Park 2009 [48]</b>	Korea, secondary and tertiary care	2006	Interview-administered questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	5534	n/a	n/a	55 (1)	Not applicable
<b>Peng 2009 [49]</b>	China, tertiary care	2006-2007	Interview-administered questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	310	42	52.6	16 (5.2)	Not applicable



<b>Kuo 2010 [50]</b>	Taiwan, tertiary care	2007	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to GerdQ Questionnaire	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	344	49.8	55.5	21 (6.1)  13 (3.8)	61.9
<b>Lee (any frequency) 2010 [51]</b>	Korea, secondary and tertiary care	2006	Interview- administered questionnaire	Presence of regurgitation according to a validated questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	262	n/a	n/a	7 (2.7)	Not applicable
<b>Lee (weekly) 2010 [51]</b>	Korea, secondary and tertiary care	2006	Interview- administered questionnaire	Presence of regurgitation according to a validated questionnaire	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	120	n/a	n/a	4 (3.3)	Not applicable
<b>Xiong 2010 [52]</b>	China, tertiary care	2007	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	139	n/a	n/a	3 (2.2)	Not applicable

<b>Mathew 2011 [53]</b>	India, tertiary care	2006-2008	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Montreal definition	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	278	41	53.6	46 (16.5)  25 (9)	54.3
<b>Zou (any frequency) 2011 [54]</b>	China, tertiary care	2007-2008	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Montreal definition	No	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy	235	n/a	n/a	2 (0.9)	Not applicable
<b>Zou (weekly) 2011 [54]</b>	China, tertiary care	2007-2008	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Montreal definition	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy	48	n/a	n/a	1 (2.1)	Not applicable
<b>Balasubramanian 2012 [55]</b>	USA, tertiary care	2000-2011	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to GerdQ Questionnaire	No	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	1058	57.2	91.4	247 (23.3)  150 (14.2)	60.7

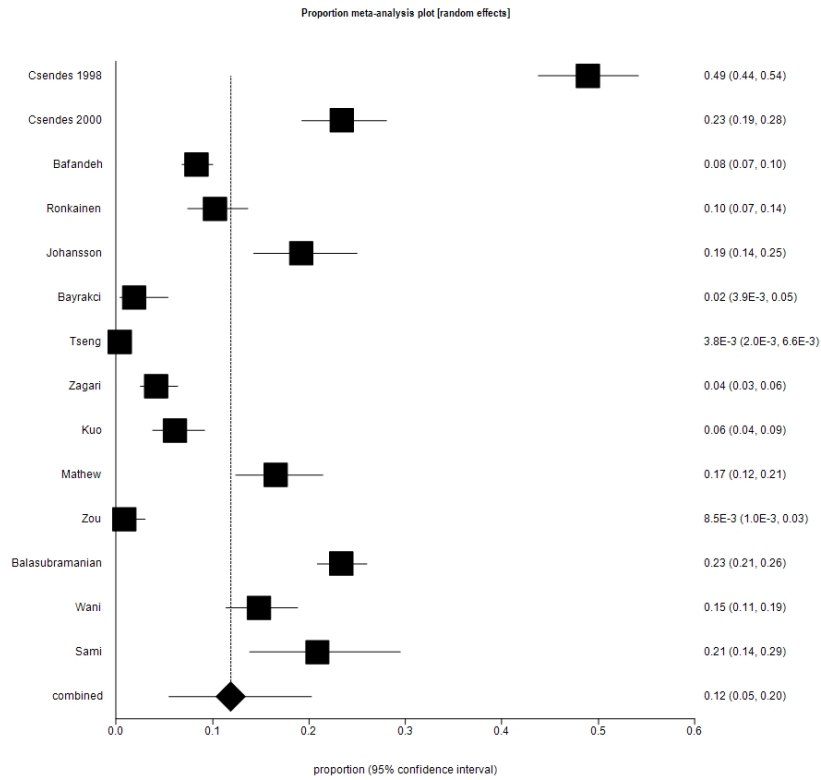
<b>Sharif 2014 [56]</b>	Iran, tertiary care	n/a	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to Montreal definition	Yes	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	736	48.9	55.8	34 (4.6)	Not applicable
<b>Wani 2014 [57]</b>	India, tertiary care	2010-2012	Clinical assessment	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation assessed clinically prior to endoscopy	No	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	378	48.2	66.6	56 (14.8) 9 (2.4)	16.1
<b>Ege 2015 [58]</b>	Turkey, secondary and tertiary care	2011-2013	Interview-administered questionnaire	Presence of heartburn according to a questionnaire	No	Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	180	n/a	37.2	1 (0.6)	Not applicable
<b>Sami (any frequency) 2015 [59]</b>	USA, tertiary care	2011-2013	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to GerdQ Questionnaire	No	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	115	n/a	n/a	24 (20.9) 12 (10.4)	50.0

<b>Sami (weekly) 2015 [59]</b>	USA, tertiary care	2011-2013	Self-completed questionnaire	Presence of heartburn and/or regurgitation according to GerdQ Questionnaire	Yes	Columnar-lined oesophagus at endoscopy Specialised intestinal metaplasia on biopsy	29	n/a	n/a	7 (24.1)  6 (20.7)	85.7
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### **Abbreviations**

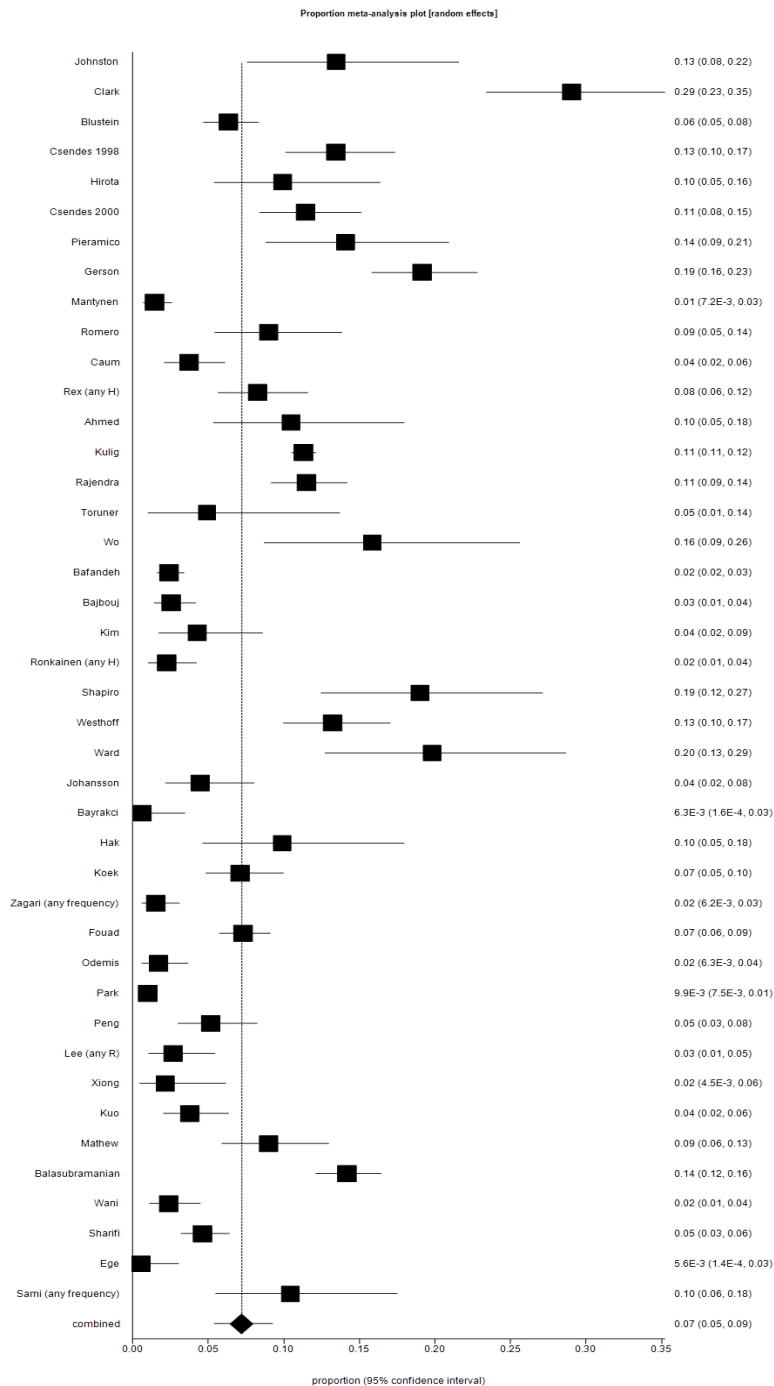
GP: general practitioner; n/a: not available

**Supplementary Figure 1. Forest plot of prevalence of endoscopically suspected Barrett's oesophagus in individuals with gastro-oesophageal reflux symptoms of any frequency.**



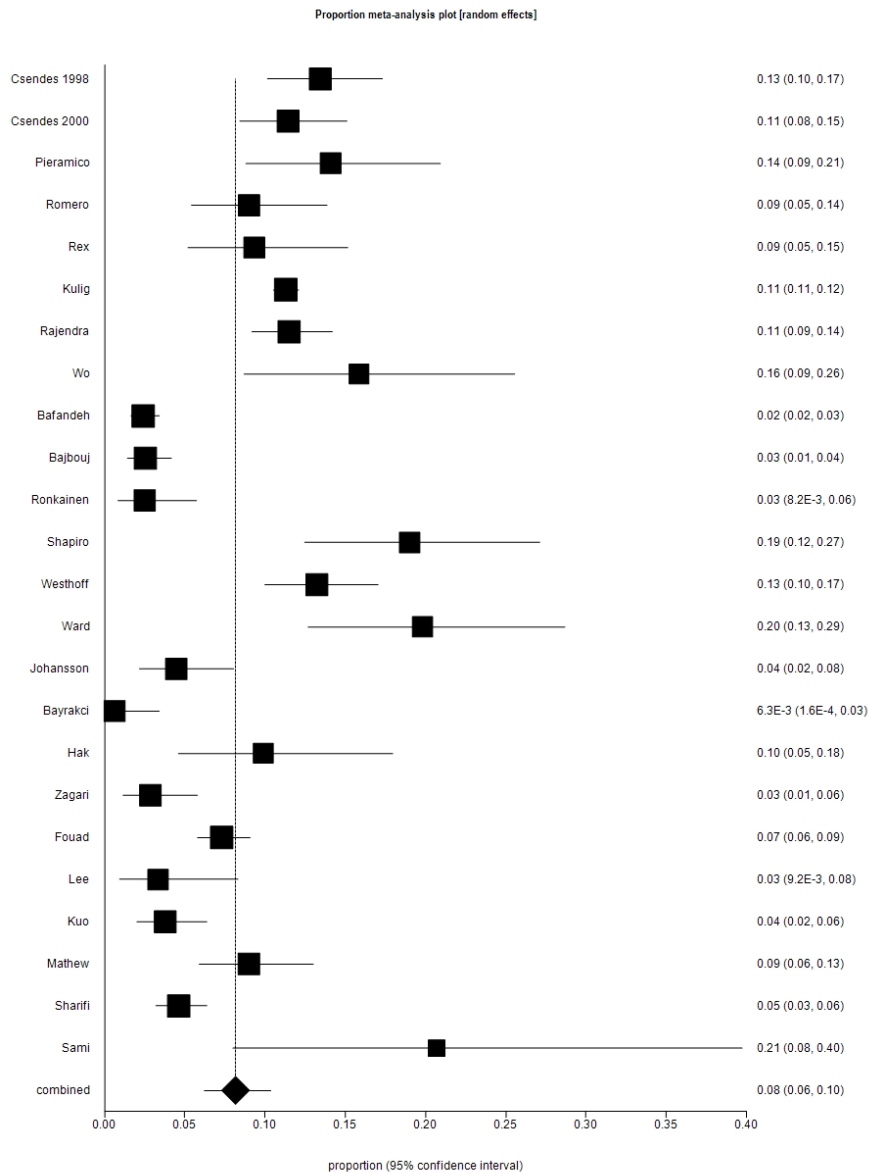
$I^2 = 99.1\%$ ,  $P < 0.001$

**Supplementary Figure 2. Forest plot of prevalence of histologically confirmed Barrett's oesophagus in individuals with gastro-oesophageal reflux symptoms of any frequency.**



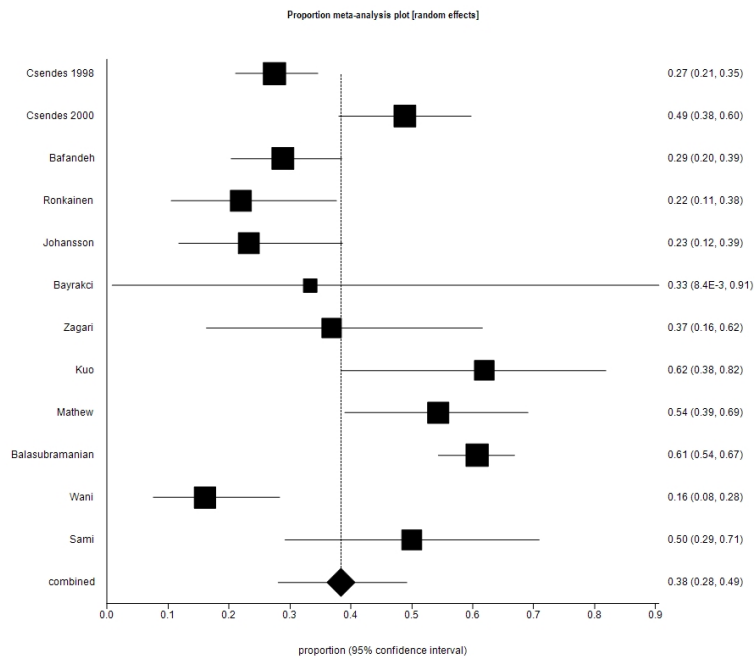
$I^2 = 97.1\%$ ,  $P < 0.001$

**Supplementary Figure 3. Forest plot of prevalence of histologically confirmed Barrett's oesophagus in individuals with GORD as per the Montreal Definition.**



$I^2 = 93.6\%$ ,  $P < 0.001$

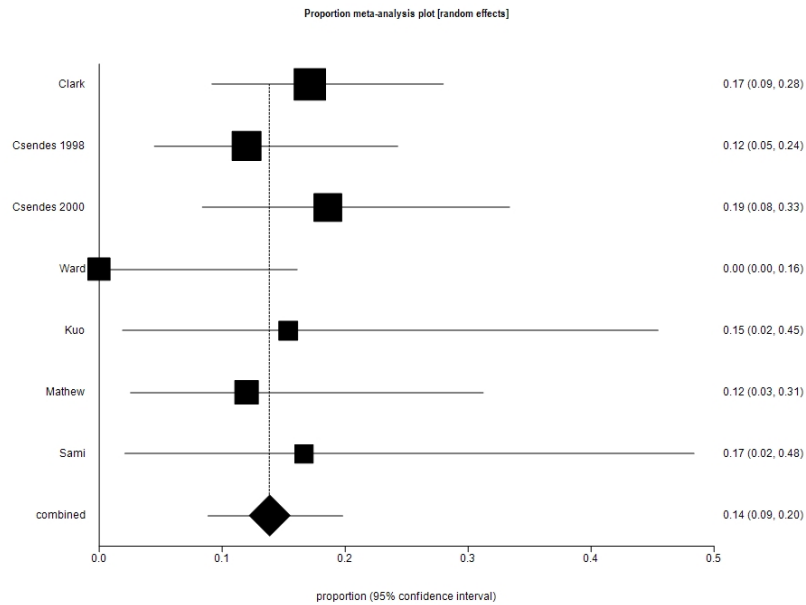
**Supplementary Figure 4. Forest plot of proportion of endoscopically suspected Barrett's oesophagus cases confirmed by histology among subjects with reflux symptoms of any frequency.**



$I^2 = 89\%$ ,  $P < 0.001$



**Supplementary Figure 5. Forest plot of prevalence of dysplasia among all cases of histologically confirmed Barrett's oesophagus in individuals with gastro-oesophageal reflux symptoms of any frequency.**



$I^2 = 30\%$ ,  $P = 0.199$