

Table 13: Clinical evidence profile: Comparison 1. BAL monitoring versus standard monitoring

| Quality assessment | | | | | | | No of patients | | Effect | | Quality | Importance |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--|----------|------------|
| No of studies | Design | Risk of bias | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | BAL monitoring | Standard monitoring | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute | | |
| FEV₁ (follow-up 5 years; measured with: z score; Better indicated by higher values) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 (Wainwright 2011) | randomised trials | no serious risk of bias | no serious inconsistency | serious ¹ | No serious imprecision | none | 80 | 77 | - | MD 0.15 lower (0.58 lower to 0.28 higher) | MODERATE | CRITICAL |
| Clearance of <i>P aeruginosa</i> following 1 or 2 courses of eradication therapy (Follow up: 5 years; Better indicated by higher values) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 (Wainwright 2011) | randomised trials | no serious risk of bias | no serious inconsistency | serious ¹ | no serious imprecision | none | 38/39 (97.4%) | 39/43 (90.7%) | RR 1.07 (0.96 to 1.2) | 63 more per 1000 (from 36 fewer to 181 more) | MODERATE | CRITICAL |
| Weight (follow-up 5 years; measured with: z scores; Better indicated by higher values) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 (Wainwright 2011) | randomised trials | no serious risk of bias | no serious inconsistency | serious ¹ | serious ² | none | 80 | 77 | - | MD 0.06 higher (0.21 lower to 0.32 higher) | LOW | IMPORTANT |
| Height (follow-up 5 years; measured with: z scores; Better indicated by higher values) | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Quality assessment | | | | | | | No of patients | | Effect | | Quality | Importance |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|----------|------------|
| No of studies | Design | Risk of bias | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | BAL monitoring | Standard monitoring | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute | | |
| 1 (Wainwright 2011) | randomised trials | no serious risk of bias | no serious inconsistency | serious ¹ | no serious imprecision | none | 80 | 77 | - | MD 0.06 higher (0.23 to 0.35 lower) | MODERATE | IMPORTANT |
| BMI (follow-up 5 years; measured with: z scores, BMI calculated as weight in kg divided by height in meters squared.; Better indicated by higher values) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 (Wainwright 2011) | randomised trials | no serious risk of bias | no serious inconsistency | serious ¹ | no serious imprecision | none | 80 | 77 | - | MD 0.02 higher (0.25 lower to 0.3 higher) | MODERATE | IMPORTANT |

Abbreviations: BAL: bronchoalveolar lavage; BMI: body mass index; FEV₁: forced expiratory volume in 1 second; MD: mean difference; RR: risk ratio

¹ The quality of the evidence was downgraded by 1 due to serious indirectness as intervention in BAL monitoring group does not reflect that of current clinical practice.

² The quality of the evidence was downgraded by 1 due to serious imprecision as 95% CI crossed 1 default MID.