G.6.1.2 NSAIDs versus placebo

Quality assessment						No of patients		Effect estimate	Quality
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Indirectness	Inconsistency	Imprecision	Intervention	Control	Summary of results	
Cognition – ADAS-cog (6 months) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
4	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	1,097	918	MD -0.00 (-0.53, 0.53)	Low
Cognition – ADAS-cog (12 months) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
7	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Serious[3]	Serious[2]	1,743	1,541	MD -0.25 (-1.89, 1.40)	Low
Cognition – MMSE (6 months) – higher numbers favour NSAIDs									
6	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	292	165	MD -0.33 (-0.81, 0.15)	Low
Cognition – MMSE (12 months) – higher numbers favour NSAIDs									
6	RCT	Very serious[1,4]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	1,375	1,231	MD -0.22 (-0.47, 0.03)	Very low
Functional ability – ADCS-ADL (6 months) – higher numbers favour NSAIDs									
1 (Green 2009)	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	N/A	Serious[2]	751	725	MD -0.41 (-1.20, 0.38)	Low
Functional ability – ADCS-ADL (12 months) – higher numbers favour NSAIDs									
4	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Serious[3]	Not serious	1,350	1,321	MD 1.60 (0.31, 2.90)	Low
Functional ability – ADCS-ADL, IDDD & BADLS (12 months: SMD) – higher numbers favour NSAIDs									
7	RCT	Very serious[1,4]	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	1,512	1,477	SMD 0.10 (0.02, 0.17)	Moderate
Global assessment – CIBIC+ (6 months) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
2	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	296	158	MD 0.06 (-0.12, 0.24)	Low
Global assessment – CIBIC+ & CGIC (6 months: SMD) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
3	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[5]	313	172	SMD 0.04 (-0.15, 0.23)	Low
Global assessment – CIBIC+ (12 months) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
4	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	668	528	MD 0.04 (-0.08, 0.16)	Low

Quality assessment						No of patients		Effect estimate	Quality
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Indirectness	Inconsistency	Imprecision	Intervention	Control	Summary of results	
Behavioural symptoms: NPI (6 months) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
2	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	787	750	MD -0.01 (-0.91, 0.89)	Low
Behavioural symptoms: NPI & Behave-AD (6 months: SMD) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
3	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	1,062	885	SMD 0.03 (-0.06, 0.12)	Moderate
Behavioural symptoms: NPI (12 months) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
4	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	1,061	1,012	MD -0.32 -0.95, 0.31)	Low
Behavioural symptoms: NPI & Behave-AD (12 months: SMD) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
5	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Serious[3]	Not serious	1,337	1,147	SMD 0.02 (-0.06, 0.10)	Low
Dementia severity: CDR-SB (12 months) – lower numbers favour NSAIDs									
5	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Serious[3]	Serious[2]	1,424	1,379	MD 0.03 (-0.15, 0.21)	Very low
Quality of life: QoL-AD (12 months)									
2	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[2]	810	775	MD 0.31 (-0.26, 0.88)	Low
Any adverse events (12 months)									
4	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	1,561	1,373	RR 1.03 (1.00, 1.07)	Moderate
Serious adverse events (12 months)									
6	RCT	Very serious[1,4]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[6]	1,913	1,673	RR 1.16 (1.02, 1.31)	Very low
Adverse events leading to discontinuation (12 months)									
6	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Serious[6]	1,867	1,666	RR 1.44 (1.20, 1.73)	Low
Mortality (12 months)									
4	RCT	Serious[1]	Not serious	Not serious	Very serious[7]	690	458	RR 1.63 (0.71, 3.71)	Very low

1. Participants were allowed to take other medications (such as antipsychotics, antidepressants and vitamin E supplements) which may have had an impact the outcome measure of interest; however, it was not reported what proportions of participants in each group took these medications.
2. Non-significant result.
3. I^2>40%
4. Assessors not blinded to group allocation
5. Confidence interval crosses one line of a defined minimum clinically important difference (SMDs of -0.2 and 0.2)
6. 95% CI crosses one line of a defined MID interval.
7. 95% CI crosses two lines of a defined MID interval.