

Table 14: Clinical evidence profile: positional modifiers vs no active treatment (moderate OSAHS)

Quality assessment							No of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Positional modifiers	No active treatment (moderate)	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute		
FOSQ (follow-up mean 1 months; range of scores: 5-20; Better indicated by higher values)												
1	randomised trials	serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	serious ²	no serious imprecision	None	47	39	-	MD 0.2 higher (0.02 lower to 0.42 higher)	⊕⊕⊕ LOW	CRITICAL
Epworth (follow-up mean 1-2 months; range of scores: 0-24; Better indicated by lower values)												
2	randomised trials	very serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	serious ²	serious ³	None	84	76	-	MD 1.55 lower (3 to 0.1 lower)	⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW	IMPORTANT
AHI (follow-up mean 1-2 months; Better indicated by lower values)												
2	randomised trials	serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	serious ²	serious ³	None	84	76	-	MD 6.69 lower (10.2 to 3.17 lower)	⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW	IMPORTANT
Supine AHI (BMI of less than 30 kg/m²) (follow-up mean 2 months; Better indicated by lower values)												
1	randomised trials	very serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	serious ²	serious ³	None	37	37	-	MD 15.60 lower (25.45 to 5.75 lower)	⊕⊕⊕ VERY LOW	IMPORTANT
Supine AHI (BMI of 30 kg/m² or more) (follow-up mean 1 months; Better indicated by lower values)												

1	randomised trials	no serious risk of bias	no serious inconsistency	serious ²	serious ⁴	None	47	39	-	MD 2.4 lower (13.66 lower to 8.86 higher)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ LOW	IMPORTANT
% of TST supine (follow-up mean 1-2 months; Better indicated by lower values)												
2	randomised trials	serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	serious ²	no serious imprecision	None	84	76	-	MD 17.79 lower (23.38 to 12.19 lower)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ LOW	IMPORTANT
Systolic BP (follow-up mean 1 months; Better indicated by lower values)												
1	randomised trials	no serious risk of bias	no serious inconsistency	serious ²	serious ³	None	47	39	-	MD 7.7 lower (13.2 to 2.2 lower)	⊕⊕⊕⊕ LOW	IMPORTANT

¹ Downgraded by 1 increment if the majority of the evidence was at high risk of bias, and downgraded by 2 increments if the majority of the evidence was at very high risk of bias

² Downgraded by 1 or 2 increments because the majority of the evidence included an indirect or very indirect population respectively

³ Downgraded by 1 increment if the confidence interval crossed one MID or by 2 increments if the confidence interval crossed both MIDs. Established MIDs for FOSQ- 2; ESS -2.5; SAQLI – 2.. GRADE default MID (0.5XSD) used for all other continuous outcomes.