Table 35: Clinical evidence profile: Antihistamines (terfenadine) versus placebo

	Quality assessment						No of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Antihistamines versus placebo	Control	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute		
Physical functioning: modified Medical Outcome Study Short Form - physical functioning (follow-up 2 months; range of scores: 0-100; Better indicated by higher values)												
1	randomised trials	serious[1]	no serious inconsistency	serious[2]	serious[3]	none	14	14	-	MD 6.56 lower (19.75 lower to 6.63 higher)	⊕◯◯◯ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Psychological status: modified Medical Outcome Study Short Form - mental health (follow-up 2 months; range of scores: 0-100; Better indicated by higher values)												

1	randomised trials	serious[1]	no serious inconsistency	serious[2]	serious[3]	none	14	14	-	MD 10.73 lower (24.5 lower to 3.04 higher)	⊕◯◯◯ VERY LOW	CRITICAL

[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] The majority of the evidence included an indirect population (downgraded by one increment) or a very indirect population (downgraded by two increments). Populations were downgraded if the ME/CFS diagnostic criteria used did not include PEM as a compulsory feature
[3] Downgraded by 1 increment if the confidence interval crossed one MID or by 2 increments if the confidence interval crossed both MIDs