

Table 20: Clinical evidence profile: Low dose HC [0.2-0.3 mg/kg] vs High dose HC [0.4-0.6mg/kg]

Certainty assessment							Summary of findings				
Participants (studies) Follow-up	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Publication bias	Overall certainty of evidence	Study event rates (%)		Relative effect (95% CI)	Anticipated absolute effects	
							With high dose HC (0.4-0.6 mg/kg)	With low dose HC (0.2-0.3 mg/kg)		Risk with high dose HC (0.4-0.6 mg/kg)	Risk difference with low dose HC (0.2-0.3 mg/kg)
Systolic BP (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^b	none	⊕○○○ Very low	47	47	-	The mean systolic BP was 138 mmHg	MD 5 mmHg lower (11.08 lower to 1.08 higher)
Diastolic BP (follow-up: 10 weeks)											

Certainty assessment							Summary of findings				
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^c	none	⊕○○○ Very low	47	47	-	The mean diastolic BP was 78 mmHg	MD 2 mmHg lower (5.85 lower to 1.85 higher)
BMI (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	not serious	none	⊕⊕○○ Low	47	47	-	The mean BMI was 27.1 kg/m ²	MD 0.2 kg/m² lower (1.82 lower to 1.42 higher)
Number of patients with impaired memory: immediate memory (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	15/47 (31.9%)	13/47 (27.7%)	RR 0.87 (0.46 to 1.62)	319 per 1,000	41 fewer per 1,000 (from 172 fewer to 198 more)
Number of patients with impaired memory: short-term memory (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	4/47 (8.5%)	3/47 (6.4%)	RR 0.75 (0.18 to 3.17)	85 per 1,000	21 fewer per 1,000 (from 70 fewer to 185 more)
Number of patients with impaired memory: delayed memory (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	8/47 (17.0%)	8/47 (17.0%)	RR 1.00 (0.41 to 2.44)	170 per 1,000	0 fewer per 1,000 (from 100 fewer to 245 more)

Certainty assessment							Summary of findings				
Number of patients with impaired memory: recognition (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	3/47 (6.4%)	6/47 (12.8%)	RR 2.00 (0.53 to 7.53)	64 per 1,000	64 more per 1,000 (from 30 fewer to 417 more)
Number of patients with impaired attention: divided attention errors (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	7/47 (14.9%)	6/47 (12.8%)	RR 0.86 (0.31 to 2.36)	149 per 1,000	21 fewer per 1,000 (from 103 fewer to 203 more)
Number of patients with impaired attention: visual scanning errors (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	5/47 (10.6%)	5/47 (10.6%)	RR 1.00 (0.31 to 3.23)	106 per 1,000	0 fewer per 1,000 (from 73 fewer to 237 more)
Number of patients with impaired executive function: fluency (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	5/47 (10.6%)	5/47 (10.6%)	RR 1.00 (0.31 to 3.23)	106 per 1,000	0 fewer per 1,000 (from 73 fewer to 237 more)
Number of patients with impaired executive function: working memory (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	4/47 (8.5%)	3/47 (6.4%)	RR 0.75 (0.18 to 3.17)	85 per 1,000	21 fewer per 1,000 (from 70 fewer to 185 more)

Certainty assessment						Summary of findings					
Number of patients with impaired executive function: cognitive flexibility (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^e	none	⊕○○○ Very low	6/47 (12.8%)	6/47 (12.8%)	RR 1.00 (0.35 to 2.88)	128 per 1,000	0 fewer per 1,000 (from 83 fewer to 240 more)
Number of patients with impaired social cognition (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^f	none	⊕○○○ Very low	11/47 (23.4%)	18/47 (38.3%)	RR 1.64 (0.87 to 3.08)	234 per 1,000	150 more per 1,000 (from 30 fewer to 487 more)
Number of patients with impaired psychomotor speed (follow-up: 10 weeks)											
47 (1 RCT)	very serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^f	none	⊕○○○ Very low	24/47 (51.1%)	17/47 (36.2%)	RR 0.71 (0.44 to 1.14)	511 per 1,000	148 fewer per 1,000 (from 286 fewer to 71 more)

Explanations

- Downgraded by 2 increments for risk of bias due to missing outcome data.
- Downgraded by 1 increment as confidence interval crossed 1 MID (+/- 8)
- Downgraded by 1 increment as confidence interval crossed 1 MID (+/- 4.5)
- Downgraded by 2 increments as confidence interval crossed both MIDs (+/- 2)
- Downgraded by 2 increments as confidence interval crossed both MIDs (0.8, 1.25)
- Downgraded by 1 increment as confidence interval crossed one MIDs (0.8, 1.25)