

Supplementary Table 7. GRADE quality of evidence of the meta-analysis

No. of studie	Certainty assessment						No. of patients		Effect		Certainty	Impor- tance
	Study de- sign	Risk of bias	Inconsis- tency	Indirect- ness	Impreci- sion	Other consider- ations	GTB	Other cause of infertility	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Question: spontaneous conception outcome of GTB compared to other cause of infertility												
Pregnancy rate per patients												
4	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Serious ^c	Not serious	Not serious	None	342/651 (52.5)	189/720 (26.3)	RR, 1.67 (1.16 to 2.38)	176 more per 1,000 (from 42 more to 362 more)	○ Very low	
Miscarriage												
2	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Extremely serious ^b	None	45/277 (16.2)	15/95 (15.8)	RR, 1.43 (0.85 to 2.40)	68 more per 1,000 (from 24 fewer to 221 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Question: IVF pregnancy outcome of GTB patients compared to other causes of infertility												
Clinical pregnancy per patients												
12	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Very serious ^a	Not serious	Not serious	None	443/825 (53.7)	865/2,031 (42.6)	RR, 1.07 (0.86 to 1.33)	30 more per 1,000 (from 60 fewer to 141 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Clinical pregnancy per patients - tubal damage												
4	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Very serious ^a	Not serious	Not serious	None	180/312 (57.7)	395/794 (49.7)	RR, 1.30 (0.76 to 2.22)	149 more per 1,000 (from 119 fewer to 607 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Clinical pregnancy per patients - tubal and endometrial damage												

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	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	GTB	Other cause of infertility	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
4	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Very serious ^a	Not serious	Extremely serious ^b	None	51/170 (30.0)	198/669 (29.6)	RR, 0.83 (0.47 to 1.44)	50 fewer per 1,000 (from 157 fewer to 130 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Clinical Pregnancy per patients - no tubal or endometrial damage												
4	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Very serious ^d	Not serious	Not serious	None	212/343 (61.8)	272/568 (47.9)	RR, 1.02 (0.76 to 1.36)	10 more per 1,000 (from 115 fewer to 172 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Clinical pregnancy per cycles												
9	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Serious ^d	Not serious	Extremely serious ^b	None	368/995 (37.0)	1,092/3,068 (35.6)	RR, 0.93 (0.78 to 1.11)	25 fewer per 1,000 (from 78 fewer to 39 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Clinical pregnancy per cycles - tubal damage												
2	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	None	81/225 (36.0)	320/708 (45.2)	RR, 0.83 (0.60 to 1.16)	77 fewer per 1,000 (from 181 fewer to 72 more)	⊕⊕○○ Low	
Clinical pregnancy per cycles - tubal and endometrial damage												
4	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	None	94/399 (23.6)	533/1,779 (30.0)	RR, 0.85 (0.67 to 1.06)	45 fewer per 1,000 (from 99 fewer to 18 more)	⊕⊕○○ Low	
Clinical pregnancy per cycles - no tubal or endometrial damage												
3	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Serious ^d	Not serious	Not serious	None	193/371 (52.0)	239/581 (41.1)	RR, 1.09 (0.78 to 1.51)	37 more per 1,000 (from 90 fewer to 210 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Miscarriage per pregnancies												

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	Study de- sign	Risk of bias	Inconsis- tency	Indirect- ness	Impreci- sion	Other consider- ations	GTB	Other cause of infertility	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
6	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Serious ^c	Not serious	Not serious	None	77/299 (25.8)	97/620 (15.6)	RR, 1.68 (0.96 to 2.92)	106 more per 1,000 (from 6 fewer to 300 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Live birth per pregnancies												
6	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Serious ^c	Not serious	Not serious	None	210/265 (79.2)	799/931 (85.8)	RR, 0.96 (0.85 to 1.08)	34 fewer per 1,000 (from 129 fewer to 69 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
No. of oocytes retrieved per cycles												
6	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Very serious ^a	Not serious	Extremely serious ^b	None	943	1,947	-	MD, 0.22 higher (1.23 lower to 1.67 higher)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Mean embryo transferred per cycles												
6	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Very serious ^a	Not serious	Extremely serious ^b	None	517	1,374	-	MD, 0.02 higher (0.12 lower to 0.16 higher)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Implantation rate per ET												
6	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Serious ^d	Not serious	Not serious	None	359/1,578 (22.8)	802/4,238 (18.9)	RR, 1.00 (0.79 to 1.25)	0 fewer per 1,000 (from 40 fewer to 47 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	
Endometrial thickness per patients												
2	Non- randomised studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	None	268	607	-	MD, 0.52 lower (0.84 lower to 0.21 lower)	⊕⊕○○ Low	
Question: IVF compared to other modalities for genital TB												
Pregnancy per patient spontaneous												

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	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	GTB	Other cause of infertility	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
3	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Very serious ^a	Not serious	Not serious	Very strong association	101/197 (51.3)	73/515 (14.2)	RR, 5.04 (3.60 to 7.07)	573 more per 1,000 (from 369 more to 860 more)	⊕⊕○○ Low	
Pregnancy per patient IUI												
3	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Strong association	122/221 (55.2)	80/348 (23.0)	RR, 2.29 (1.61 to 3.28)	297 more per 1,000 (from 140 more to 524 more)	⊕⊕⊕○ Moderate	
IUI vs. spontaneous												
2	Non-randomised studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Extremely serious ^b	None	40/186 (21.5)	72/344 (20.9)	RR, 0.92 (0.65 to 1.31)	17 fewer per 1,000 (from 73 fewer to 65 more)	⊕○○○ Very low	

GRADE, a trademark by Cochrane of quality of study grading system; GTB, genital tuberculosis; CI, confidence interval; RR, risk ratio; IVF, *in vitro* fertilization; MD, mean difference; ET, embryo transfer; TB, tuberculosis; IUI, intrauterine insemination; OIS, optimum information size.

^a $I^2 > 75\%$ and the direction differ between studies.

^bNumber of patients in cohort group $< 30\%$ OIS.

^c $I^2 > 50\%$ and the direction differ between studies.

^d $I^2 > 75\%$ but the direction between studies are not differ.