

Statistical Review Waiver

The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by Lynne McFarland from University of Washington, who holds a PhD in Epidemiology (biomedical statistics) and is qualified to review the biomedical statistical methods of this meta-analysis. Therefore, an independent review by another biomedical statistician was not needed.

The author reviewed the statistical method(s) used in the study, including but not limited to the *t*-test (group or paired comparisons), chi-square test, ridit, probit, logit and regression (linear, curvilinear, or stepwise) modeling, correlation, analysis of variance, and analysis of covariance.

The review by the biomedical statistician was conducted with respect to the following points: (1)

Statistical methods were adequately and appropriately described when they are used to verify the results

(2) The statistical techniques were suitable or correct

(3) Only homogeneous data were be averaged. The number of observations and subjects (*n*) was given and losses in observations, such as drop-outs from the study, were reported

(4) Values, such as ED50, LD50 and IC50, were not used in this meta-analysis.

(5) The word "significantly" was only used when P value < 0.05 .

Signed,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lynne V. McFarland". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lynne V. McFarland, PhD