



# MONASH University

**School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine**  
Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Dec 10 2014

TO: *World Journal of Meta-Analysis*

Re: ESPS Manuscript No: 14797

I, Baki Billah, Senior Biostatistician Consultant and Senior Lecturer in Biostatistics at Monash University, confirm that the statistical approach reported in the manuscript was adequate and satisfies the following criteria: 1) the statistical methods are adequately and appropriately described when they are used to verify the results; 2) the statistical techniques are correct and homogeneity among studies has been recognised and addressed; 3) the number of studies ( $n$ ) is given; 4) prevalence estimates and their 95% confidence limits are provided and their % weight, and (5) The word "significantly" is replaced by its synonyms (if it indicates extent) or the  $P$  value (if it indicates statistical significance)".

Sincerely,

Dr. Baki Billah

Senior Biostatistician Consultant and Senior Lecturer in Biostatistics

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