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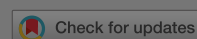
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Original Articles

Homocysteine levels and risk of essential hypertension: A meta-analysis of published epidemiological studies

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ABSTRACT

Background: Plasma homocysteine (Hcy) levels may be associated with essential hypertension (EH). However, the results of previous studies on this association are inconsistent. **Methods:** In this meta-analysis, we performed a systematic literature search of the Embase, PubMed, Cochrane Library, and Web of Science for the relevant articles. **Results:** A total of 11 studies were included, involving 11,111 participants. The pooled OR for elevated Hcy levels was 1.21 (95% CI: 0.85–1.72; $p = 0.297$). No significant publication bias was detected (OR: 1.21, 95% CI: 0.85–1.72; $p = 0.297$). No significant publication bias was

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found ($p = 0.876$ for Begg’s test, $p = 0.144$ for Egger’s test).Conclusion: Plasma Hcy levels are associated with EH risk. However, our findings do not support a causal association between Hcy levels and EH.

KEYWORDS: Epidemiological study essential hypertension homocysteine odds ratio meta-analysis

Declaration of interest

The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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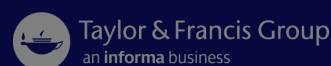
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