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### Supplementary Table S1. Characteristics and results of studies excluded from the dose-response meta-analysis of circulating CRP and breast cancer risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author, Year Study, Country</th>
<th>Study design Assessment period Follow-up length</th>
<th>Study size and cases Participant characteristics</th>
<th>CRP assessment</th>
<th>Biomarkers comparison</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Adjustments or matching factors</th>
<th>Excluded reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amir et al., 2012 (32) NSABP-P1 trial, USA and Canada</td>
<td>NCC from a RCT of tamoxifen of women at high risk of breast cancer 1992–1997 4.6 y</td>
<td>231 cases, 856 controls Mean age 54 y 51% post-menopausal</td>
<td>Particle-enhanced immunoturbidimetric assay Fasting blood</td>
<td>Serum hs-CRP: 6.5 vs. 0.4 mg/L</td>
<td>1.05 (0.85, 1.30)</td>
<td>Age, 5-year Gail score, race, participant's clinical center</td>
<td>Unable to estimate the missing number of cases and non-cases per category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Hemelrijck et al., 2011 (37) AMORIS, Sweden</td>
<td>Record linkage of national registers with the Central Automation Laboratory database (1985–1996)</td>
<td>1241 cases, 59, 220 women</td>
<td>Turbidimetric assay</td>
<td>Non-hsCRP: ≥50.0 vs. ≤9.9 mg/L</td>
<td>0.95 (0.75, 1.20)</td>
<td>Age, SES, history of circulatory disease</td>
<td>Unable to estimate the missing number of cases per category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trichopoulos et al., 2006 (36) EPIC-Greece</td>
<td>NCC 1994–1999 Maximum 10 y</td>
<td>83 cases, 166 controls Myocardial infarction excluded</td>
<td>Latex agglutination photometric assay</td>
<td>Plasma CRP: Per 3.2 mg/L (1 sd)</td>
<td>1.16 (0.95, 1.41)</td>
<td>Age, BMI, tobacco smoking, ethanol consumption, NSAID use, duration of storage in years; date of enrolment</td>
<td>Dose-response results not reported in log-scale, unable to re-scale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: AMORIS-Apolipoprotein Mortality Risk study, EPIC-Greece-European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition-Greece, hs-high sensitive, NCC-nested case-control study, NSABP-P1-National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project Protocol-P1-trial, RCT-randomised controlled trial, SES-socioeconomic status