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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**

Author, Year Study, Country	Study design Assessment period Follow-up length	Study size and cases Participant characteristics	CRP assessment	Biomarkers comparison	Results	Adjustments or matching factors	Excluded reasons
Amir <i>et al.</i> , 2012 (32) NSABP-P1 trial, USA and Canada	NCC from a RCT of tamoxifen of women at high risk of breast cancer 1992–1997 4.6 y	231 cases, 856 controls Mean age 54 y 51% post-menopausal	Particle-enhanced immunoturbidimetric assay Fasting blood	Serum hs-CRP: 6.5 vs. 0.4 mg/L	1.05 (0.85, 1.30)  1.07 (0.86, 1.33)  0.95 (0.75, 1.21)	Age, 5-year Gail score, race, participant's clinical center  Above factors + treatment  Above factors + treatment and BMI	Unable to estimate the missing number of cases and non-cases per category
Van Hemelrijck <i>et al.</i> , 2011 (37) AMORIS, Sweden	Record linkage of national registers with the Central Automation Laboratory database (1985–1996)	1241 cases, 59, 220 women	Turbidimetric assay	Non-hsCRP:  ≥50.0 vs. ≤9.9 mg/L  ≥10 vs. <10 mg/L	Excluded cases ≤3 m of blood collection: 0.76 (0.41, 1.43) <i>P trend</i> = 0.77  0.95 (0.75, 1.20)	Age, SES, history of circulatory disease	Unable to estimate the missing number of cases per category
Trichopoulos <i>et al.</i> , 2006 (36) EPIC-Greece	NCC 1994–1999 Maximum 10 y	83 cases, 166 controls Myocardial infarction excluded	Latex agglutination photometric assay	Plasma CRP: Per 3.2 mg/L (1 sd)	1.16 (0.95, 1.41)  Excluded 1st year of follow-up and CRP >20 mg/L: 1.15 (0.82, 1.62)	Age, BMI, tobacco smoking, ethanol consumption, NSAID use, duration of storage in years; date of enrolment	Dose-response results not reported in log-scale, unable to re-scale

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