

Comparison 3: Silver-impregnated vs. standard wound dressings

Quality assessment							№ of patients		Effect		Quality
№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Silver-containing	Standard dressings	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	
Surgical site infection											
4	RCTs	serious ¹	not serious	not serious	very serious ²	none	61/572 (10.7%)	70/472 (14.8%)	OR: 0.67 (0.34 to 1.30)	44 fewer per 1000 (from 36 more to 92 fewer)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW

1. Risk of performance bias, detection bias and other possible bias (4 of 4 RCTs: financial support, compensation or products given to research group from dressings manufacturer)
2. Optimal information size not met and CI fails to exclude both appreciable benefit and harm (RR and RRR of 25%)

RCT: randomized controlled trial; CI: confidence interval; OR: odds ratio; RR: relative risk; RRR: relative risk reduction