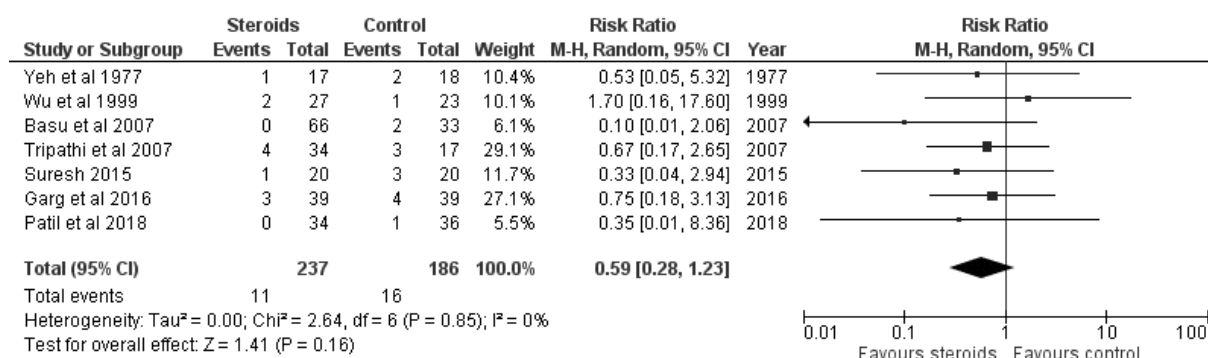
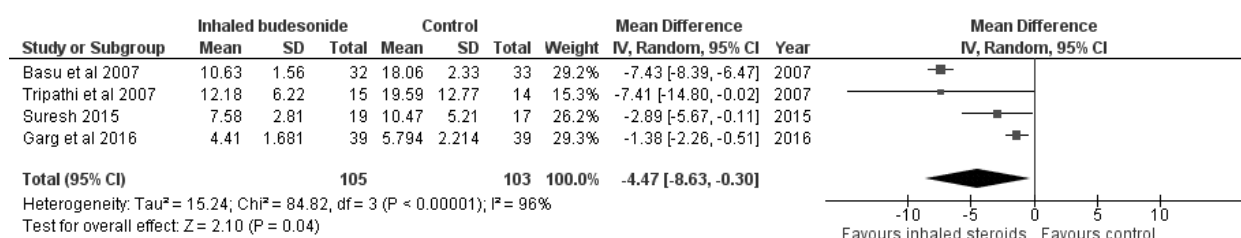
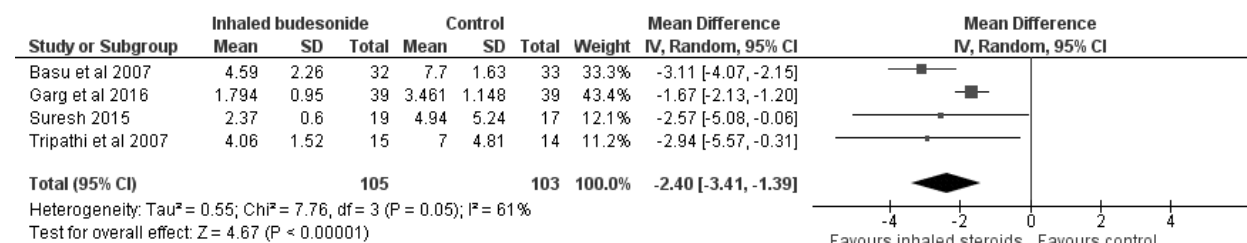




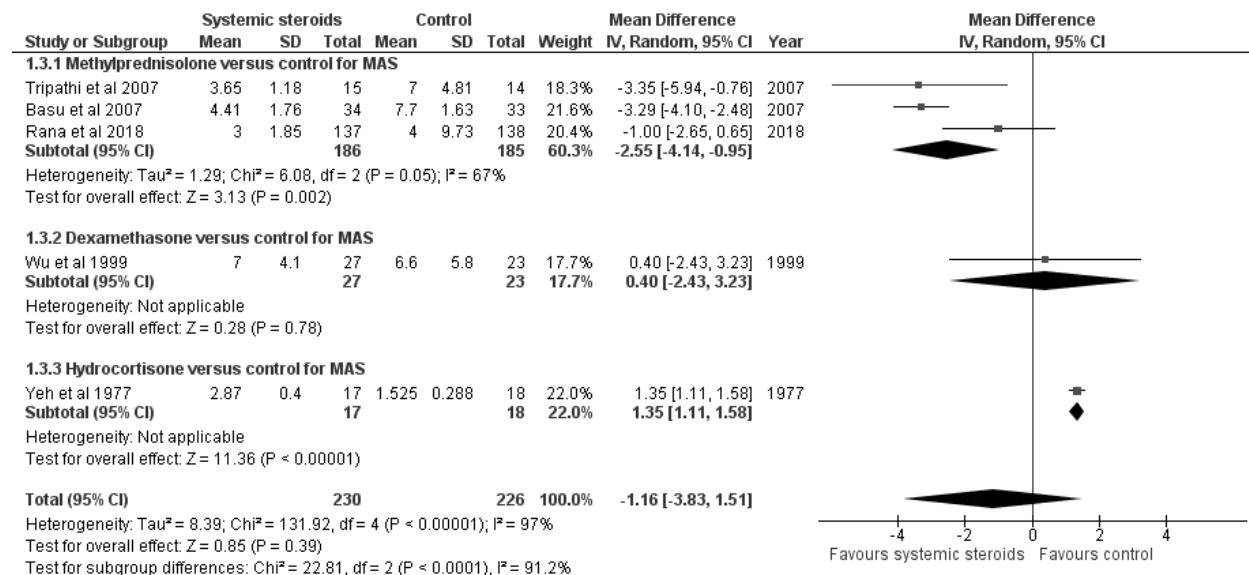
Supplementary Fig. 1 Comparison of in-hospital mortality in infants with meconium aspiration syndrome receiving systemic and inhaled steroids versus control.



Supplementary Fig. 2 Duration of hospitalization (days); comparison: Inhaled steroids versus control.



Supplementary Fig. 3 Duration of oxygen support (days); comparison: Inhaled steroids versus control.



Supplementary Fig. 4 Outcome: Duration of oxygen support (days); Comparison: Systemic steroids versus control

Supplementary Table I Search strategy

Name of Database	Search strategy	Number of articles obtained
Medline	1 Meconium Aspiration Syndrome/ (1085) 2 (meconium adj2 (aspirat* or inhalat* or respirat*)).mp. (1928) 3 (meconium adj2 syndrome*).mp. (1647) 4 exp Steroids/ (851004) 5 exp Methylprednisolone/ (19348) 6 exp Dexamethasone/ (51058) 7 exp Hydrocortisone/ (72791) 8 exp Budesonide/ (4467) 9 steroid*.mp. (330574) 10 methylprednisolone.mp. (26325) 11 Dexamethasone.mp. (71154) 12 hydrocortisone.mp. (76881) 13 budesonide.mp. (6214) 14 1 or 2 or 3 (1998) 15 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 (1073935) 16 14 and 15 (84) 17 Meconium/ (3341) 18 meconium.mp. (7332) 19 14 or 17 or 18 (7332) 20 15 and 19 (259)	259
CINAHL	S1 (MH "Meconium Aspiration") S2 (MH "Meconium") S3 TX meconium S4 TX meconium aspirat* S5 TX meconium inhalat* S6 TX meconium syndrome* S7 (MH "Steroids+") S8 TX steroid* S9 (MH "Methylprednisolone") S10 (MH "Dexamethasone") S11 (MH "Hydrocortisone") S12 (MH "Budesonide") S13 TX Methylprednisolone OR Dexamethasone OR Hydrocortisone OR Budesonide S14 S1 OR S2 OR S3 OR S4 OR S5 OR S6 S15 S7 OR S8 OR S9 OR S10 OR S11 OR S12 OR S13 S16 S14 AND S15 S17 (MH "Hydrocortisone") S18 TX Methylprednisolone OR Dexamethasone	2

	OR Hydrocortisone OR Budesonide	
Embase	1 Meconium Aspiration Syndrome/ (1085) 2 (meconium adj2 (aspirat* or inhalat* or respirat*)).mp. (1928) 3 (meconium adj2 syndrome*).mp. (1647) 4 exp Steroids/ (851004) 5 exp Methylprednisolone/ (19348) 6 exp Dexamethasone/ (51058) 7 exp Hydrocortisone/ (72791) 8 exp Budesonide/ (4467) 9 steroid*.mp. (330574) 10 methylprednisolone.mp. (26325) 11 Dexamethasone.mp. (71154) 12 hydrocortisone.mp. (76881) 13 budesonide.mp. (6214) 14 1 or 2 or 3 (1998) 15 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 (1073935) 16 14 and 15 (84) 17 Meconium/ (3341) 18 meconium.mp. (7332) 19 14 or 17 or 18 (7332) 20 15 and 19 (259)	561
Cochrane	1 Meconium Aspiration Syndrome/ (1085) 2 (meconium adj2 (aspirat* or inhalat* or respirat*)).mp. (1928) 3 (meconium adj2 syndrome*).mp. (1647) 4 exp Steroids/ (851004) 5 exp Methylprednisolone/ (19348) 6 exp Dexamethasone/ (51058) 7 exp Hydrocortisone/ (72791) 8 exp Budesonide/ (4467) 9 steroid*.mp. (330574) 10 methylprednisolone.mp. (26325) 11 Dexamethasone.mp. (71154) 12 hydrocortisone.mp. (76881) 13 budesonide.mp. (6214) 14 1 or 2 or 3 (1998) 15 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 (1073935) 16 14 and 15 (84) 17 Meconium/ (3341) 18 meconium.mp. (7332) 19 14 or 17 or 18 (7332) 20 15 and 19 (259)	67

Supplementary Table II Risk of Bias Assessment

	Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Other bias
Basu et al 2007	+	+	-	?	+	+	+
Garg et al 2016	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Patil et al 2018	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Rana et al 2018	?	?	?	+	+	+	+
Sangeetha et al 2017	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Suresh et al 2015	+	?	-	-	+	+	+
Tripathi et al 2007	+	?	+	+	+	+	+
Wu et al 1999	+	?	+	?	+	+	+
Yeh et al 1977	+	+	+	?	+	+	+