

WEB FIG. 1 Risk of bias graph: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item presented as percentages across all included studies.



Web Fig. 2 Risk of bias summary: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study.

**WEB APPENDIX 1** Assumptions and Calculations for Imputation/Interpretation of Data from Studies Included in the Systematic Review

### Slayton 2016

- 1. The total number of participants is not provided in the published paper. The number is assumed from the total number of households and the median number of two children per household.
- 2. The number of episodes of infection are the reported episodes of illness in the 'past' 48 hours during biweekly visits to the households.
- 3. The denominator of person weeks calculated by dividing the number of biweekly visits by half.

### Shafique 2016

- 1. The data from 'Hand Sanitiser Only' and 'Hand Sanitiser and Micronutrient' groups combined as intervention and Control, and 'Micronutrient Only' groups combined as control.
- 2. The episodes of cough were diagnosed if the child reported to have any sort of cough or difficulty breathing. An upper respiratory tract infection was diagnosed if the mother reported symptoms of a stuffy or runny nose in her child. Both the episodes are presented separately, and combined under the section 'ARI'.

### Pickering 2015

- 1. The infection episodes are mean proportions expressed by respondents in a 2-week recall period.
- 2. Respiratory infections were described under three headings: congestion, cough and difficulty breathing. Here cough is included assuming it would be a common symptom for upper and lower respiratory infections.

#### Patil 2014

The confidence intervals for the change in means is given. The SD is calculated with the assumption that they are the same for both the groups as calculated for <u>Clasen 2014</u>.

### Clasen 2014

- 1. The individual SDs for weight-for-age and length-for-age Z-scores for the control and intervention groups was not available from the intervention data. However, the effect size (difference in mean) and its 95% CI was available. The SD for the two groups was calculated from 95% CI or SE as per standard statistical recommendations.
- 2. For Soil Transmitted Helmenthiasis, the mean prevalence of the entire population is given. The prevalence was assumed to be the same for children and numbers calculated from there.

## Pickering 2013

The number of school absence was calculated from the percentages given. Only one week data was given and this is represented as such in the calculations.

## Freeman 2013a

1. A total of 1113 students were assessed at follow up. The split numbers of intervention and control groups were not provided. However, the median populations at the time of second follow up were given as 302 for intervention and 275 for control group. The total population was split in the same proportion.

For intervention, n = (302/577)\*1113=583For control, n = 530

- 2. Only the percentage prevalence of helminth infection was mentioned. The individual numbers were calculated from percentages.
- 3. The same procedure was followed for school absence
- 4. SE converted to SD. Pupil reported absence used for quantitative analyses

### Peletz 2012

```
For weight-for-age Z scores, the mean scores at the end and P value were mentioned. Mean intervention=-1.21; Mean control = -1.24; P=0.92 n for intervention=61; n for control =60 From p to t: Degree of freedom 61+60-2 =119 t=2.358 (from table) SE=MD/t = -1.21+1.24/2.358 = 0.03/2.358 = 0.0127 SD = 0.0127/0.178 = 0.071
```

### Bowen 2012

SD derived from 95% CI using SD=sqrtn(UL-LL)

### Rosen 2006

- 1. Absenteeism was analyzed in terms of the percentage of days the child was absent; number of days calculated from percentage and n.
- 2. There were a total of 66 days of study period. Person-weeks of exposure calculated from n and this figure.

## Crump 2005

This study provided the number of deaths in children less than 5 years of age but not the total number of children. Based on the inclusion criteria, the total number of children less than 2 years is provided. We have this number as the denominator while analyzing the mortality data assuming that the proportion of children between 2-5 years would be the same in the intervention and control groups.

### Emerson 2004

The number of children less than 9 years and number with trachoma calculated from percentage figures.

## WEB APPENDIX 2 DETAILS OF DATABASE SEARCH AND OUTPUT

| Database   | Date               | Search Strategy  | Number of references |
|--|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| Medline  | August 26,<br>2016 | Water (Mesh Terms) OR Drinking Water (Mesh Terms)OR Water Quality (Mesh Terms) OR Water Purification (Mesh Terms) OR Water Supply (Mesh Terms) OR Sanitation (Mesh Terms) OR Environmental Health (Mesh Terms) OR Sanitary Engineering (Mesh Terms) OR Waste Disposal (Mesh Terms) OR Refuse Disposal (Mesh Terms) OR Drainage, Sanitary (Mesh Terms) OR Waste Management (Mesh Terms) OR Toilet Facilities (Mesh Terms) OR Hygiene (Mesh Terms) OR Hygiene, hand (Mesh Terms) OR Hand disinfection (Mesh Terms) Filters: Clinical Trial | 4888                 |
| Web of<br>Science<br>(including<br>Biosis<br>Previews) | August 26,<br>2016 | TOPIC: ('Water or Drinking Water or Water Quality or Water Purification or Water Supply or Sanitation or Environmental Health or Sanitary Engineering or Waste Disposal or Refuse Disposal or Drainage, Sanitary or Waste Management or Toilet Facilities or Hygiene or Hygiene, hand or Hand disinfection) Refined by: TOPIC: (child) AND TOPIC: (Clinical Trial)   | 4035                 |
| Cochrane<br>Controlled<br>Trials<br>Register           | August 26,<br>2016 | 'Water OR Drinking Water OR Water Quality OR Water Purification OR Water Supply OR Sanitation OR Environmental Health OR Sanitary Engineering OR Waste Disposal OR Refuse Disposal OR Drainage, Sanitary OR Waste Management OR Toilet Facilities OR Hygiene OR Hygiene, hand OR Hand disinfection in Keywords in Trials'  | 7900                 |
| Embase   | August 27, 2016    | Water or Drinking Water or Water Quality or Water Purification or Water Supply or Sanitation or Environmental Health or Sanitary Engineering or Waste Disposal or Refuse Disposal or Drainage, Sanitary or Waste Management or Toilet Facilities or Hygiene or Hygiene, hand or Hand disinfection).mp. (mp=title, abstract, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword)  limit 1 to (human and clinical trial and child <unspecified age="">)</unspecified>       | 1182                 |
| LILACS   | August 28, 2016    | Water OR Drinking Water OR Water Quality OR Water Purification OR Water Supply OR Sanitation OR Environmental Health OR Sanitary Engineering OR Waste Disposal OR Refuse Disposal OR Drainage, Sanitary OR Waste Management OR Toilet Facilities OR Hygiene OR Hygiene, hand OR Hand disinfection as Subject Descriptor  | 564                  |
| Popline  | August 29,<br>2016 | Searched under Popline Topic 'Population Health and Environment' the subtopics Sanitation and Water Quality and Hygiene. It included keywords:Sanitation or Water Supply or Hygiene or Health Education or Water Quality or Disease Prevention and Control or Delivery of Health Care or Education or Slums or Community Development or Waste Management   | 3608                 |
| Greysource<br>(Open Grey)                              | August 29, 2016    | Water OR Sanitation OR Hygiene discipline:(06E - Medicine)   | 2081                 |

## **WEB APPENDIX 3** SUMMARY OF FINDINGS TABLES

## A. Hygiene Compared to No Intervention for Children

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries Intervention: Hygiene; Comparison: No intervention

| Outcomes                | Illustrative cor   | nparative risks* (95% CI)   | Relative effec |                        | Quality of the   | Comments             |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------|------------------------|--|----------------------|
|                         | Assumed risk       | Corresponding risk  | (95% CI)       | Participants (studies) | evidence<br>(GRADE)  |                      |
|                         | No<br>intervention | Hygiene   |                | (Studies)              | (CIVIDE)   |                      |
| Weight (kg)             |                    | The mean weight in the intervention groups was 0.2 higher (0.12 lower to 0.52 higher)                           |                | 1272<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |                      |
| Weight (Follow-up) (kg) |                    | The mean weight (follow up) in the intervention groups was 0.2 lower (0.53 lower to 0.13 higher)                |                | 1390<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |                      |
| Height (mm)             |                    | The mean height in the intervention groups was 10 higher (5.39 lower to 25.39 higher)                           |                | 1272<br>(1 study)      | $\begin{array}{c} \bigoplus \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \\ \text{very low}^{1,2,3} \end{array}$ |                      |
| Height (Follow-up) (mm) |                    | The mean height (follow up) (mm) in the intervention groups was 10 lower (24.77 lower to 4.77 higher)           |                | 1390<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |                      |
| Weight for age          |                    | The mean weight for age in the intervention groups was 0 higher (1.26 lower to 1.26 higher)                     |                | 1272<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |                      |
| WAZ (Follow-up)         |                    | The mean WAZ (follow-up) in the intervention groups was 0 standard deviations higher (0.09 lower to 0.1 higher) |                | 1691<br>(2 studies)    | $\bigoplus_{low^{4,5}} \ominus$  | SMD 0 (-0.09 to 0.1) |
| Height for age          |                    | The mean height for age in the intervention groups was 0 higher (0.66 lower to 0.66 higher)                     |                | 1272<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |                      |
| HAZ (Follow-up)         |                    | The mean HAZ (follow-up) in the intervention groups was 0 standard deviations higher (0.1 lower to 0.09 higher) |                | 1691<br>(2 studies)    | $\bigoplus_{low^{4,5}} \ominus$  | SMD 0 (-0.1 to 0.09) |
| Weight for Height       |                    | The mean weight for height in the intervention groups was 0 higher (0.99 lower to 0.99 higher)                  |                | 1272<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |                      |
| WFH (Follow up)         |                    | The mean WFH (follow up) in the intervention groups was 1 lower (1.95 to 0.05 lower)                            |                | 1390<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |                      |
| BMI Z score (Follow up) |                    | The mean BMI Z score (follow up) in the intervention groups was 0.1 higher (0.2 lower to 0.4 higher)            |                | 301<br>(1 study)       | $\oplus \ominus \ominus \ominus$ very low <sup>2,6</sup>                                       |                      |
| Low WAZ                 | Study populat      | ion   | RR 0.85        | 168                    | ⊕⊝⊝ુ့  |                      |
|                         | 211 per 1000       | 179 per 1000 (97 to 334)  | (0.46 to 1.58) | (1 study)              | very low <sup>7,8</sup>  |                      |
|                         | Moderate           |   |                |                        |  |                      |
|                         | 211 per 1000       | 179 per 1000 (97 to 333)  |                |                        |  |                      |
| ARI (ep/person-week)    | Study populat      | ion   | RR 0.76        | 894427                 | $\Theta \Theta \Theta \Theta$  |                      |
|                         | 48 per 1000        | 36 per 1000 (28 to 47)  | (0.59 to 0.98) | (6 studies)            | moderate <sup>9</sup>  |                      |
|                         | Moderate           |   |                |                        |  |                      |
|                         | 64 per 1000        | 49 per 1000 (38 to 63)  |                |                        |  |                      |

| Cough (episodes/ person-   | Study population   | RR 0.9 20980               | ⊕⊕⊕⊝ ့                           |  |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| week)                      | 118 per 1000 106 per 1000 (98 to 114)  | (0.83 to 0.97) (1 study)   | moderate <sup>8</sup>            |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 118 per 1000 106 per 1000 (98 to 114)  |                            |                                  |  |
| URI (episodes/ person-     | Study population   | RR 0.67 231113             | $\oplus \oplus \ominus \ominus$  |  |
| week)                      | 170 per 1000 114 per 1000 (59 to 217)  | (0.35 to 1.28) (2 studies) | low <sup>8,10</sup>              |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 232 per 1000 155 per 1000 (81 to 297)  |                            |                                  |  |
| Lab Confirmed Influenza    | Study population   | RR 0.5 44451               | ⊕⊝⊝⊙                             |  |
|                            | 12 per 1000 6 per 1000 (5 to 7)  | (0.41 to 0.62) (1 study)   | very low <sup>8</sup>            |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 12 per 1000 6 per 1000 (5 to 7)  |                            |                                  |  |
| Fever                      | Study population   | RR 0.87 25140              | ⊕⊕⊕⊝ ,,                          |  |
|                            | 66 per 1000 57 per 1000 (49 to 67)   | (0.74 to 1.02) (2 studies) | moderate <sup>11</sup>           |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 67 per 1000 58 per 1000 (50 to 68)   |                            |                                  |  |
| Skin Infection             | Study population   | RR 0.8 214293              | ⊕⊕⊖<br>low <sup>8,12</sup>       |  |
|                            | 10 per 1000 8 per 1000 (5 to 13)   | (0.51 to 1.25) (2 studies) | low <sup>6,12</sup>              |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 22 per 1000 18 per 1000 (11 to 28)   |                            |                                  |  |
| Conjunctivitis (ep/person- | Study population   | RR 0.49 533416             | $\oplus \oplus \ominus \ominus$  |  |
| week)                      | 4 per 1000 2 per 1000 (2 to 2)   | (0.45 to 0.55) (1 study)   | low <sup>8</sup>                 |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 4 per 1000 2 per 1000 (2 to 2)   |                            |                                  |  |
| Intestinal Parasite        | Study population   | RR 0.65 1456               | ⊕⊕⊕⊝ ๋                           |  |
| Infection                  | 637 per 1000 414 per 1000 (197 to 872)   | (0.31 to 1.37) (2 studies) | moderate <sup>8</sup>            |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 528 per 1000 343 per 1000 (164 to 723)   |                            |                                  |  |
| School Absence             | Study population   | RR 0.78 587825             | $\oplus \oplus \oplus \ominus$   |  |
| (d/person-week)            | 70 per 1000 55 per 1000 (53 to 56)   | (0.76 to 0.8) (4 studies)  | moderate <sup>13</sup>           |  |
|                            | Moderate   |                            |                                  |  |
|                            | 93 per 1000 73 per 1000 (71 to 74)   |                            |                                  |  |
| School absence (Mean)      | The mean school absence (mean) in the intervention groups was 0 higher (0.01 lower to 0.01 higher) | 10792<br>(1 study)         | ⊕⊖⊝<br>very low <sup>14,15</sup> |  |
| Mortality                  | Study population   | RR 0.65 5158               | $\oplus \oplus \ominus \ominus$  |  |
|                            | 5 per 1000 3 per 1000 (1 to 9)   | (0.25 to 1.7) (2 studies)  | low <sup>8</sup>                 |  |

Moderate

14 per 1000 9 per 1000 (3 to 24)

\*The basis for the assumed risk (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The corresponding risk (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the relative effect of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

#### CI: Confidence interval: RR: Risk ratio:

#### GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

- 1 Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. The included trial had high risk of bias for unit of analysis error, allocation concealment and blinding.
- <sup>2</sup> Downgraded by 2 for Indirectness as there is only one included study from Asia. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.
- <sup>3</sup> Downgraded by 1 for imprecision. There is only included study, with few study participants and estimates have wide confidence intervals around the estimate of the effect
- Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. Both trials had high risk of bias for allocation concealment and blinding and one had high risk of bias for unit of analysis error
- Downgraded by 1 for indirectedness as both included trials are from South Asia. Extrapolation to other areas and population not possible.
- <sup>6</sup> Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. The one included trial had high risk of bias for blinding and allocation concealment
- <sup>7</sup> Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. The included trial had high risk of bias for recruitment, allocation concealment and blinding.
- <sup>8</sup> No explanation was provided
- 9 Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. All trials were at high risk of bias for blinding. Two trial were considered at high risk of bias for attrition.
- 10 Downgraded by 1 for imprecision. There are only two studies, with estimates that have wide confidence intervals around the estimate of the effect
- 11 Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. The two included trials had high risk of bias for allocation concealment and blinding.
- <sup>12</sup> Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. One trial had high risk of bias for allocation concealment and both for blinding
- 13 Downgraded by 1 for serious risk of bias. All four trials had high risk of bias for allocation concealment and blinding. One trial had risk of bias for attrition.
- <sup>14</sup> The one included trial had high risk of bias for blinding, allocation concealment and baseline balance between clusters.
- <sup>15</sup> The only included trial is from Africa. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

## B. Improvement in Water Supply and Quality Compared to No Intervention for Children

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries Intervention: Improvement in Water Supply and Quality; Comparison: No Intervention

| Outcomes                              | Illustrative com | parative risks* (95% CI)  | Relative                 | No of                  | Quality of the                   | Comments |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
|                                       | Assumed risk     | Corresponding risk  | effect<br>(95% CI)       | Participants (studies) | evidence<br>(GRADE)              |          |
|                                       | No Intervention  | Improvement in Water Supply and Quality   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
| WAZ                                   |                  | The mean waz in the intervention groups was <b>0.03 higher</b> (0 to 0.06 higher) |                          | 121<br>(1 study)       | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low <sup>1,2</sup>       |          |
| Cough                                 | Study populati   | on  | RR 0.97                  | 5518                   | $\oplus \oplus \ominus \ominus$  |          |
|                                       | 122 per 1000     | <b>118 per 1000</b> (102 to 136)  | (0.84 to 1.12)           | (1 study)              | low <sup>2,3</sup>               |          |
|                                       | Moderate         |   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
|                                       | 122 per 1000     | <b>118 per 1000</b> (102 to 137)  |                          |                        |                                  |          |
| Fever (ep/person weeks)               | Study populati   | on  | RR 1.02                  | 5518                   | ⊕⊝⊝⊝                             |          |
|                                       | 118 per 1000     | <b>120 per 1000</b> (105 to 139)  | (0.89 to 1.18)           | (1 study)              | very low                         |          |
|                                       | Moderate         |   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
|                                       | 118 per 1000     | <b>120 per 1000</b> (105 to 139)  |                          |                        |                                  |          |
| Ocular Chlamydia                      | Study populati   | on  | <b>RR 1.35</b> 557       |                        | $\oplus \ominus \ominus \ominus$ |          |
|                                       | 110 per 1000     | <b>148 per 1000</b> (96 to 230)   | (0.87 to 2.09) (1 study) | very low⁴              |                                  |          |
|                                       | Moderate         |   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
|                                       | 110 per 1000     | <b>149 per 1000</b> (96 to 230)   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
| Active Trachoma                       | Study populati   | on  | <b>RR 1.1</b> 557        |                        | $\oplus \ominus \ominus \ominus$ |          |
|                                       | 495 per 1000     | <b>544 per 1000</b> (460 to 638)  | (0.93 to 1.29)           | (1 study)              | very low                         |          |
|                                       | Moderate         |   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
|                                       | 495 per 1000     | <b>545 per 1000</b> (460 to 639)  |                          |                        |                                  |          |
| School Absenteeism (days absent/total | Study populati   | on  | RR 0.99                  | 91946                  | $\oplus \oplus \ominus \ominus$  |          |
| child-school days)                    | 144 per 1000     | <b>142 per 1000</b> (138 to 146)  | (0.96 to 1.02)           | (1 study)              | low <sup>5</sup>                 |          |
|                                       | Moderate         |   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
|                                       | 144 per 1000     | <b>143 per 1000</b> (138 to 147)  |                          |                        |                                  |          |
| Mortality                             | Study populati   | on  | RR 0.45                  | 4088                   | ⊕⊖⊝⊝                             |          |
|                                       | 17 per 1000      | 8 per 1000 (4 to 14)  | (0.25 to 0.81)           | (5 studies)            | very low <sup>6,7</sup>          |          |
|                                       | Moderate         |   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
|                                       | 12 per 1000      | <b>5 per 1000</b> (3 to 10)   |                          |                        |                                  |          |
| Mortality - RCT                       | Study populati   | on  | RR 0.45                  | 3739                   | ⊕⊝⊝⊝့                            |          |
|                                       | 18 per 1000      | 8 per 1000 (4 to 15)  | (0.25 to 0.82)           | (4 studies)            | very low <sup>8</sup>            |          |

|                     | Moderate                                 |                          |                       |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
|                     | <b>33 per 1000 15 per 1000</b> (8 to 27) |                          |                       |
| Mortality - Non RCT | Study population                         | <b>RR 0.5</b> 349        | ⊕⊝⊝ુ                  |
|                     | <b>11 per 1000 6 per 1000</b> (1 to 62)  | (0.05 to 5.43) (1 study) | very low <sup>9</sup> |
|                     | Moderate                                 |                          |                       |
|                     | <b>12 per 1000 6 per 1000</b> (1 to 65)  |                          |                       |

<sup>\*</sup>The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

#### CI: Confidence interval: RR: Risk ratio:

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

**High quality:** Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

- The one included trial was at high risk of bias for attrition, blinding, and loss of clusters and unclear risk of bias for allocation concealment and baseline balance between clusters
- <sup>2</sup> There is only one included study with small sample size from Africa. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible
- <sup>3</sup> The one included trial had high risk of bias for attrition
- <sup>4</sup> The one included trial had high risk of bias for allocation concealment, blinding, and baseline imbalance bwteeen clusters
- The one included trial is from a state in India, Asia. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible
- <sup>6</sup> Three trials were at high risk of bias while one had unclear risk of bias for allocation concealment. All included trials had high risk of bias for blinding. Three trials were at high risk of bias for loss of clusters. Two had unclear riak of bias for baseline imbalance between clusters.
- Thus studies inaquately powered to study mortality. Total number of events (deaths) very low, below the threshold rule of thumb value of 300.
- <sup>8</sup> Of the 4 included trials 2 were at high risk for allocation concealment, all for blinding, 2 for attriition and 2 for loss of clusters.
- <sup>9</sup> The one included trial had high risk of bias for allocation concealment, blinding, attrition, loss of clusters and unclear risk of bias for random sequence generation, recruitment of clusters and baseline imbalance between clusters

## C. Improvement in Sanitation Compared to No intervention for Children

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries Intervention: Improvement in Sanitation; Comparison: No intervention

| Outcomes               |                  | nparative risks* (95% CI)   | Relative effect (95% CI) | No of<br>Participants | Quality of the evidence         | Comments |
|------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
|                        | Assumed risk     | Corresponding risk  | (93 % 01)                | (studies)             | (GRADE)                         |          |
|                        | No intervention  | Improvement in Sanitation   |                          |                       |                                 |          |
| Weight                 |                  | The mean weight in the intervention groups was <b>0.21 lower</b> (0.42 lower to 0.01 higher)      |                          | 4315<br>(1 study)     | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup> |          |
| Height                 |                  | The mean height in the intervention groups was <b>0.63 lower</b> (1.18 to 0.08 lower)             |                          | 4360<br>(1 study)     | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup> |          |
| WAZ                    |                  | The mean WAZ in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 lower</b> (0.12 lower to 0.1 higher)          |                          | 9719<br>(3 studies)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊝<br>moderate <sup>3</sup>   |          |
| HAZ                    |                  | The mean HAZ in the intervention groups was <b>0.02 lower</b> (0.28 lower to 0.23 higher)         |                          | 7462<br>(3 studies)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊝<br>moderate³               |          |
| WHZ                    |                  | The mean WHZ in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 lower</b> (0.18 lower to 0.16 higher)         |                          | 4108<br>(1 study)     | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup> |          |
| MUAC                   |                  | The mean MUAC in the intervention groups was <b>0.02 lower</b> (0.17 lower to 0.12 higher)        |                          | 4388<br>(1 study)     | ⊕⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |          |
| MUAC z score           |                  | The mean MUAC Z score in the intervention groups was <b>0</b> higher (0.13 lower to 0.13 higher)  |                          | 4388<br>(1 study)     | ⊕⊖⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |          |
| BMI Z score            |                  | The mean bmi z score in the intervention groups was <b>0.06</b> lower (0.23 lower to 0.11 higher) |                          | 4104<br>(1 study)     | ⊕⊖⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>  |          |
| Stunting               | Study population |   | RR 0.88                  | 2791                  | $\oplus \oplus \oplus \ominus$  |          |
|                        | 399 per 1000     | <b>351 per 1000</b> (311 to 395)  | (0.78 to 0.99)           | (2 studies)           | moderate <sup>4</sup>           |          |
|                        | Moderate         |   |                          |                       |                                 |          |
|                        | 375 per 1000     | 330 per 1000 (292 to 371)   |                          |                       |                                 |          |
| Stunting - Cluster RCT | Study populati   | on  | RR 0.85                  | 2415                  | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low⁵                    |          |
|                        | 410 per 1000     | <b>348 per 1000</b> (316 to 389)  | (0.77 to 0.95)           | (1 study)             |                                 |          |
|                        | Moderate         |   |                          |                       |                                 |          |
|                        | 410 per 1000     | <b>349 per 1000</b> (316 to 389)  |                          |                       |                                 |          |
| Stunting - CBA         | Study populati   | on  | RR 1.01                  | 376                   | #000<br>#000                    |          |
|                        | 340 per 1000     | 343 per 1000 (258 to 455)   | (0.76 to 1.34)           | (1 study)             | very low <sup>2,4,6</sup>       |          |
|                        | Moderate         |   |                          |                       |                                 |          |
|                        | 340 per 1000     | 343 per 1000 (258 to 456)   |                          |                       |                                 |          |
| Underweight            | Study populati   | on  | RR 0.86                  | 2708                  | ⊕⊕⊕⊝ .                          |          |
| -                      | 266 per 1000     | <b>228 per 1000</b> (202 to 260)  | (0.76 to 0.98)           | (2 studies)           | moderate <sup>4</sup>           |          |

|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|---------------------------|--|--|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
|                           | 286 per 1000   | <b>246 per 1000</b> (217 to 280)   |                |                     |                                  |
| Underweight - Cluster RCT | Study populati   | on   | RR 0.85        | 2452                | $\oplus \oplus \ominus \ominus$  |
|                           | 260 per 1000   | <b>221 per 1000</b> (193 to 255)   | (0.74 to 0.98) | (1 study)           | low <sup>2</sup>                 |
|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|                           | 260 per 1000   | <b>221 per 1000</b> (192 to 255)   |                |                     |                                  |
| Underweight - CBA         | Study populati   | on   | RR 0.98        | 256                 | ⊕⊖⊝ <sub>453</sub>               |
|                           | 311 per 1000   | <b>305 per 1000</b> (212 to 442)   | (0.68 to 1.42) | (1 study)           | very low <sup>4,5,6</sup>        |
|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|                           | 311 per 1000   | <b>305 per 1000</b> (211 to 442)   |                |                     |                                  |
| Vasting                   | Study populati   | on   | RR 0.12        | 120                 | ⊕⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>2,4,6</sup> |
|                           | 212 per 1000   | <b>25 per 1000</b> (4 to 181)  | (0.02 to 0.85) | (1 study)           | very low <sup>2,4,0</sup>        |
|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|                           | 213 per 1000   | <b>26 per 1000</b> (4 to 181)  |                |                     |                                  |
| RTI (number of episodes)  | Study populati   | on   | RR 1.27        | 5209                | ⊕⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup>   |
|                           | 128 per 1000   | <b>163 per 1000</b> (143 to 186)   | (1.12 to 1.45) | (1 study)           | very low ',²                     |
|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|                           | 128 per 1000   | <b>163 per 1000</b> (143 to 186)   |                |                     |                                  |
| RTI                       |  | The mean rti in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 higher</b> (0.02 lower to 0.03 higher) |                | 6017<br>(1 study)   | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low⁵                     |
| ever                      |  | The mean fever in the intervention groups was <b>0 higher</b> (0.03 lower to 0.02 higher)  |                | 6015<br>(1 study)   | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low⁵                     |
| lelminth Infection        | Study population 155 per 1000 115 per 1000 (64 to 206) |  | RR 0.74        | 5326<br>(3 studies) | ⊕⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>4,7,8</sup> |
|                           |  |  | (0.41 to 1.33) |                     |                                  |
|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|                           | 164 per 1000   | <b>121 per 1000</b> (67 to 218)  |                |                     |                                  |
| Helminth Infection -      | Study populati   | on   | RR 0.98        | 4985                | ⊕⊕⊕⊝ _                           |
| Cluster RCT               | 139 per 1000   | <b>136 per 1000</b> (120 to 157)   | (0.86 to 1.13) | (2 studies)         | moderate <sup>/</sup>            |
|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|                           | 110 per 1000   | <b>108 per 1000</b> (95 to 124)  |                |                     |                                  |
| Helminth Infection - CBA  | Study populati   | on   | RR 0.4         | 341                 | <b>0000</b>                      |
|                           | 420 per 1000   | <b>168 per 1000</b> (118 to 244)   | (0.28 to 0.58) | (1 study)           | very low <sup>2,4,6</sup>        |
|                           | Moderate   |  |                |                     |                                  |
|                           | 420 per 1000   | <b>168 per 1000</b> (118 to 244)   |                |                     |                                  |
| Chlamydia trachomatis     | Study populati   | on   | RR 1.01        | 1211                | #999 <sub>500</sub>              |
| infection                 | 146 per 1000   | <b>147 per 1000</b> (112 to 194)   | (0.77 to 1.33) | (1 study)           | very low <sup>5,6,9</sup>        |

|                                   | Moderate         |   |                |                    |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                   | 146 per 1000     | <b>147 per 1000</b> (112 to 194)  |                |                    |                                 |
| <b>Clinically Active Trachoma</b> | Study populati   | on  | RR 0.94        | 1390               | ⊕⊕⊖⊝<br>low <sup>9,10,11</sup>  |
|                                   | 428 per 1000     | <b>402 per 1000</b> (355 to 453)  | (0.83 to 1.06) | (2 studies)        | low <sup>9,10,11</sup>          |
|                                   | Moderate         |   |                |                    |                                 |
|                                   | 287 per 1000     | <b>270 per 1000</b> (238 to 304)  |                |                    |                                 |
| School Absence (Mean)             |                  | The mean school absence (mean) in the intervention groups was <b>0 higher</b> (0.01 lower to 0.01 higher) |                | 12262<br>(1 study) | ⊕⊖⊖<br>very low <sup>5,12</sup> |
| Mortality (<10 years)             | Study population |   | RR 1.03        | 20086              | ⊕⊕⊕⊝ ၞ                          |
|                                   | 19 per 1000      | <b>19 per 1000</b> (14 to 26)   | (0.77 to 1.39) | (3 studies)        | moderate <sup>9</sup>           |
|                                   | Moderate         |   |                |                    |                                 |
|                                   | 7 per 1000       | 7 per 1000 (5 to 10)  |                |                    |                                 |

<sup>\*</sup>The basis for the assumed risk (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The corresponding risk (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the relative effect of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

#### CI: Confidence interval; RR: Risk ratio;

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The one included trial was at high risk of bias for allocation concealment and blinding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> There is only one included trial from Asia. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible <sup>3</sup> One trial was at high risk of bias for attrition and one for allocation concealment and blinding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The one included trial was at high risk for random sequence generation, allocation concealment, blinding, recruitment bias and unclear risk of bias for unit of analysis error

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> There is only one included trial from Africa. Extrapolation to other populations and areas not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Total number of events is less than 300 (a threshold rule-of-thumb value)

One trial was at high risk of bias for allocation concealment and blinding and one for attrition.

There are widely differing estimates of the treatment effect (i.e. heterogeneity or variability in results) across studies without a plausible explanation except study design

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The included trial was at high risk of bias for allocation concealment, baseline imbalance of clusters and unit of analysis error.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> One trial was at high risk of bias for allocation concealment, blinding and attrition

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Both trials from Africa. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> One trial was at high risk of bias for allocation concealment, blinding and baseline imbalance of clusters

### D. Improvement in Sanitation and Hygiene Compared to No Intervention for Children

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries Intervention: Improvement in Sanitation and Hygiene; Comparison: No Intervention

| Outcomes              | Assumed risk     | nparative risks* (95% CI)  Corresponding risk  Improvement in Sanitation and Hygiene                        | Relative<br>effect<br>(95% CI) | No of<br>Participants<br>(studies) | Quality of the evidence (GRADE) | Comments |
|-----------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| STH                   | Study population |   |                                | 727                                | ⊕⊖⊝ <sub>123</sub>              |          |
|                       | 208 per 1000     | <b>237 per 1000</b> (181 to 312)  | (0.87 to 1.5)                  | (1 study)                          | very low <sup>1,2,3</sup>       |          |
|                       | Moderate         |   |                                |                                    |                                 |          |
|                       | 208 per 1000     | 237 per 1000 (181 to 312)   |                                |                                    |                                 |          |
| School Absence (Mean) |                  | The mean school absence (mean) in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 lower</b> (0.05 lower to 0.02 higher) |                                | 14337<br>(2 studies)               | ⊕⊕⊕⊝<br>moderate⁴               |          |

<sup>\*</sup>The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

#### CI: Confidence interval; RR: Risk ratio; STH: soil transmitted helminths

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

The one included trial was at high risk of bias for blinding, attrition and unit of analysis error

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The one included trial is from Africa. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Total number of events less than rule of thumb figure of 300

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Both trials at high risk of bias for allocation concealment and blinding and one for baseline imbalance of clusters

#### E. Improvement in Water Supply and Quality and Hygiene Compared to No Intervention for Children

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries

Intervention: Improvement in Water Supply and Quality and Hygiene; Comparison: No Intervention

| Outcomes                | Assumed risk Corresponding risk   | Relative<br>effect<br>(95% CI) | No of<br>Participants<br>(studies) | Quality of the evidence (GRADE) | Comments |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
|                         | No Intervention Improvement in Water Supply and Quality and Hygiene   |                                |                                    |                                 |          |
| WAZ (Follow-up)         | The mean WAZ (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>0.14 lower</b> (0.5 lower to 0.22 higher)          |                                | 320<br>(1 study)                   | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup> |          |
| HAZ (Follow-up)         | The mean HAZ (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>0.13 lower</b> (0.55 lower to 0.29 higher)         |                                | 320<br>(1 study)                   | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup> |          |
| BMI Z-score (Follow up) | The mean BMI z score (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>0.05</b> lower (0.39 lower to 0.29 higher) |                                | 320<br>(1 study)                   | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,2</sup> |          |

<sup>\*</sup>The basis for the assumed risk (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The corresponding risk (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the relative effect of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

#### CI: Confidence interval:

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Only one included trial from urban slums in Pakistan. Extrapolation to other populations not possible.
<sup>2</sup> Total population size is less than 400 (a threshold rule-of-thumb value; using the usual α and β, and an effect size of 0.2 SD.

#### F. Improvement in Water Supply and Quality and Sanitation Compared to No Intervention for Children

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries

Intervention: Improvement in Water Supply and Quality and Sanitation; Comparison: No Intervention

| Outcomes           | Illustrative compa | Illustrative comparative risks* (95% CI) Assumed risk Corresponding risk |               | No of Participants | Quality of the evidence Comments |  |
|--------------------|--------------------|--|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|
|                    | Assumed risk       |  |               | (studies)          | (GRADE)                          |  |
|                    | No Intervention    | Improvement in Water Supply and Quality and Sanitation                   |               |                    |                                  |  |
| Low weight for age | Study population   | Study population   |               | 197                | ⊕⊖⊝⊝                             |  |
|                    | 333 per 1000       | <b>257 per 1000</b> (167 to 397)   | (0.5 to 1.19) | (1 study)          | very low <sup>1,2,3</sup>        |  |
|                    | Moderate           |  |               |                    |                                  |  |
|                    | 333 per 1000       | <b>256 per 1000</b> (166 to 396)   |               |                    |                                  |  |

<sup>\*</sup>The basis for the assumed risk (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The corresponding risk (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the relative effect of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

#### CI: Confidence interval; RR: Risk ratio;

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The one included trial was at high risk of bias for random sequence generation, allocation concealment, blinding, attrition, recruitment bias, loss of clusters and unit of analysis error <sup>2</sup> The study was conducted in an urban slum in Chile. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Total number of events less than rule of thumb value of 300.

No of Participants Quality of the

low<sup>3,4</sup>

 $\Theta\Theta\Theta\Theta$ 

Comments

Relative

(0.6 to 1.29) (2 studies)

2263

Outcomes

#### G. Improvement in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Compared to No Intervention for Children

217 per 1000 (148 to 318)

276 par 4000 (256 to 551)

Illustrative comparative risks\* (95% CI)

246 per 1000

Moderate

effect (studies) evidence Assumed risk Corresponding risk (95% CI) (GRADE) Improvement in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene No Intervention HAZ The mean HAZ in the intervention groups was **0.22 higher** (0.12 1899  $\Theta\Theta\Theta\Theta$ very low 1,2 to 0.32 higher) (1 study) RR 0.87 1899 Stunting Study population  $\Theta\Theta\Theta\Theta$ very low 1,2 (0.81 to 0.94) (1 study) 617 per 1000 537 per 1000 (500 to 580) Moderate 617 per 1000 537 per 1000 (500 to 580) **STH Prevalence** Study population RR 0.88 1291  $\oplus \oplus \ominus \ominus$ 

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries; Intervention: Improvement in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Comparison: No Intervention

|            |                          | 427 per 1000    | 376 per 1000 (256 to 551)        |                |           |                         |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| STH<br>RCT | STH Prevalence - Cluster | Study populatio | n                                | RR 1.06        | 1113      | ⊕⊖⊝⊝ <sub>56</sub>      |
|            | RCT                      | 179 per 1000    | <b>190 per 1000</b> (149 to 244) | (0.83 to 1.36) | (1 study) | very low <sup>5,6</sup> |
|            |                          | Moderate        |                                  |                |           |                         |
|            |                          | 179 per 1000    | <b>190 per 1000</b> (149 to 243) |                |           |                         |

|                          |                  | ( /                              |                |           |                         |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| STH Prevalence - Cluster | Study population |                                  | RR 0.73        | 178       | ⊕⊝⊝9,,                  |
| Non RCT                  | 675 per 1000     | <b>493 per 1000</b> (385 to 634) | (0.57 to 0.94) | (1 study) | very low <sup>3,7</sup> |
|                          | Moderate         |                                  |                |           |                         |
|                          | 675 per 1000     | <b>493 per 1000</b> (385 to 634) |                |           |                         |

The mean school absence (mean) in the intervention groups was

\*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

CI: Confidence interval; RR: Risk ratio; STH: soil transmitted helminths

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence: **High quality:** Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect; **Moderate quality:** Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate; **Low quality:** Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate; **Very low quality:** We are very uncertain about the estimate.

School Absence (Mean)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The included trial was at high risk of bias for randomization, allocation concealment, blinding and recruitment bias

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The trial was conducted in rural Ethiopia. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The included trial was at high risk of bias for randomization, allocation concealment and blinding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 95% confidence interval (or alternative estimate of precision) around the pooled or best estimate of effect includes both 1) no effect and 2) appreciable benefit or appreciable harm with a relative risk reduction (RRR) or relative risk increase (RRI) greater than 25%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The study took place in school children in Kenya. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Total number of events less than rule of thumb value of 300: <sup>7</sup> The study was conducted in rural Uzbekistan. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

## H. All WASH Interventions Compared to No Intervention for Growth in Children

Patient or population: Children; Settings: Low- and Middle-income Countries Intervention: All WASH Interventions; Comparison: No Intervention

| Outcomes                   | Illustrative co    | mparative risks* (95% CI)  | Relative           | No of                  | Quality of the                  | Comments                 |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                            | Assumed risk       | Corresponding risk   | effect<br>(95% CI) | Participants (studies) | evidence<br>(GRADE)             |                          |
|                            | No<br>Intervention | All WASH Interventions   |                    |                        |                                 |                          |
| Weight                     |                    | The mean weight in the intervention groups was <b>0.02 lower</b> (0.42 lower to 0.38 higher)                             |                    | 5587<br>(2 studies)    | ⊕⊕⊜⊝<br>low <sup>1,2</sup>      |                          |
| Weight (Follow up)         |                    | The mean weight (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>0.2 lower</b> (0.53 lower to 0.13 higher)                  |                    | 1390<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,3</sup> |                          |
| Height                     |                    | The mean height in the intervention groups was <b>1.79 higher</b> (6.95 lower to 10.53 higher)                           |                    | 5632<br>(2 studies)    | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low <sup>1,2</sup>      |                          |
| Height (Follow up)<br>(mm) |                    | The mean height (follow up) (mm) in the intervention groups was <b>10 lower</b> (24.77 lower to 4.77 higher)             |                    | 1390<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,3</sup> |                          |
| WAZ/WFA                    |                    | The mean WAZ/WFA in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 standard deviations higher</b> (0.06 lower to 0.09 higher)       |                    | 11112<br>(5 studies)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊝<br>moderate⁴               | SMD 0.01 (-0.06 to 0.09) |
| WAZ (Follow up)            |                    | The mean WAZ (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 standard deviations lower</b> (0.1 lower to 0.08 higher) |                    | 2011<br>(2 studies)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊝<br>moderate <sup>1</sup>   | SMD -0.01 (-0.1 to 0.08) |
| HAZ/HFA                    |                    | The mean HAZ/HFA in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 standard deviations higher</b> (0.11 lower to 0.14 higher)       |                    | 10633<br>(5 studies)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊝<br>moderate <sup>5</sup>   | SMD 0.01 (-0.11 to 0.14) |
| HAZ (Follow up)            |                    | The mean HAZ (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>0.01 standard deviations lower</b> (0.1 lower to 0.07 higher) | 1                  | 2011<br>(2 studies)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊝<br>moderate <sup>1</sup>   | SMD -0.01 (-0.1 to 0.07) |
| WHZ/WFH                    |                    | The mean WHZ/WFH in the intervention groups was <b>0 standard deviations higher</b> (0.06 lower to 0.05 higher)          |                    | 5380<br>(2 studies)    | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low <sup>1,2</sup>      | SMD 0 (-0.06 to 0.05)    |
| WFH (Follow up)            |                    | The mean WFH (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>1 lower</b> (1.95 to 0.05 lower)                              |                    | 1390<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊝⊝⊝<br>very low <sup>1,3</sup> |                          |
| MUAC                       |                    | The mean MUAC in the intervention groups was <b>0.02 lower</b> (0.17 lower to 0.12 higher)                               |                    | 4388<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low <sup>6</sup>        |                          |
| MUAC z score               |                    | The mean MUAC z score in the intervention groups was <b>0 higher</b> (0.13 lower to 0.13 higher)                         |                    | 4388<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low <sup>6</sup>        |                          |
| BMI Z score                |                    | The mean BMI z score in the intervention groups was <b>0.06 lower</b> (0.23 lower to 0.11 higher)                        |                    | 4104<br>(1 study)      | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low <sup>6</sup>        |                          |
| BMI z score (Follow<br>up) |                    | The mean BMi z score (follow up) in the intervention groups was <b>0.05 lower</b> (0.39 lower to 0.29 higher)            |                    | 320<br>(1 study)       | ⊕⊕⊝⊝<br>low <sup>7</sup>        |                          |
| Underweight/ Low           | Study popula       | tion   | OR 0.81            | 3073                   | ⊕⊕°⊝⊝                           |                          |
| WAZ                        | 266 per 1000       | <b>227 per 1000</b> (200 to 258)   | (0.69 to<br>0.96)  | (4 studies)            | low <sup>8</sup>                |                          |

|          | Moderate                                      |   |
|----------|---|---|
|          | <b>286 per 1000 245 per 1000</b> (217 to 278) |   |
| Stunting | Study population                              | OR 0.77 4690 ⊕⊕⊝⊝                                       |
|          | <b>493 per 1000 429 per 1000</b> (399 to 456) | (0.68 to (3 studies) <b>low</b> <sup>9</sup>            |
|          | Moderate                                      | 0.00)   |
|          | <b>410 per 1000 349 per 1000</b> (321 to 374) |   |
| Wasting  | Study population                              | RR 0.12 120 ⊕⊖⊖<br>(0.02 to (1 study) very low 10,11,12 |
|          | <b>212 per 1000 25 per 1000</b> (4 to 181)    | (0.02 to (1 study) <b>very low</b> <sup>10,11,12</sup>  |
|          | Moderate                                      | 0.00)   |
|          | <b>213 per 1000 26 per 1000</b> (4 to 181)    |   |

<sup>\*</sup>The basis for the assumed risk (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The corresponding risk (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the relative effect of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

#### CI: Confidence interval: RR: Risk ratio: OR: Odds ratio:

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate quality: Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low quality: Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> One trial was at high risk of bias for unit of analysis error and both for blinding and allocation concealment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Both trials were conducted in rural areas in South Asia. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Only one trial included from rural Bangladesh. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> One trial was at high risk of bias unit of analysis error, one for loss of clusters, two for attrition, two for allocation concealment and three for blinding.

One trial was at high risk of bias for randomization and recruitment bias, one for unit of analysis error, one for attrition, three for allocation concealment and blinding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Only one trial from rural India. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Only one trial from urban slums in Pakistan. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Three of the included trials were non randomized trials. One had high risk of bias for attrition, loss of clusters and unit of analysis error. Three were at high risk of bias for allocation concealment and blinding.

Two of the three included trials were at high risk for random sequence generation, recruitment bias, allocation concealment and blinding.

Two of the three included trials were at high risk for random sequence generation, recruitment bias, allocation concealment and blinding.

There is only one included trial from Asia. Extrapolation to other areas and populations not possible

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Total number of events is less than 300 (a threshold rule-of-thumb value)

# WEB TABLE I CHARACTERISTICS OF INCLUDED STUDIES

| Study           | Design         | Country        | ry Continent | inent Age<br>group |       | N            |         | Intervention | Intervention details   | Outcome of interest  |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------|--------------|---------|--------------|--|--|
|                 |                |                |              |                    | Total | Intervention | Control |              |  |  |
| Slayton<br>2016 | Cluster<br>RCT | Kenya          | Africa       | < 2 y              | 738   |              |         | Hygiene      | Antimicrobial Hand Towel   | Acute respiratory infections, self-reported fever, and skin infections in children |
| Shafique 2016   | Cluster<br>RCT | Banglade sh    | Asia         | 0-12 mo            | 467   | 236          | 231     | Hygiene      | Hand Sanitiser   | Stunting, Infections   |
| Pickering 2015  | Cluster<br>RCT | Mali           | Africa       | < 5 y              | 6012  | 3140         | 2872    | Sanitation   | Community-led total sanitation (CLTS) uses participatory methods to eliminate the practise of open defecation in rural communities and promote building of toilets.  | Respiratory tract infections, Anthropometry, Mortality                             |
| Patil 2014      | Cluster<br>RCT | India          | Asia         | < 5 y              | 5209  | 2600         | 2609    | Sanitation   | Subsidies for and promotion of individual household latrines that can safely confine feces (similar to Joint Monitoring Programme defined improved sanitation facilities), school sanitation and hygiene education, Anganwadi (preschool) toilets, and community sanitation complexes. | Respiratory tract infections, Anthropometry, Worm infestations                     |
| Mahmud<br>2015  | Cluster<br>RCT | Ethiopia       | Africa       | 6-15 y             | 367   | 185          | 182     | Hygiene      | Handwashing, Nail clipping   | Worm infestations  |
| Ercumen 2015    | Cluster<br>RCT | Banglade<br>sh | Asia         | 6 mo-5 y           | 1814  | 1209         | 605     | Water        | Safe storage and/or water treatment  | Mortality  |
| Christensen     | Cluster        | Kenya          | Africa       | 4-16 mo            | 432   | 198          | 234     | Water,       | Water treatment, sanitation  | Respiratory Tract  |

| 2015              | RCT            |            |        |                    |       |       |      | Sanitation and<br>Hygiene   | improvement, health education   | Infections, Fever. Growth studied (data not provided) |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|--------|--------------------|-------|-------|------|---|---|---|
| Belizario<br>2015 | CBA<br>study   | Philipines | Asia   | 2-15 y             | 341   | 150   | 191  | Sanitation  | Community-led total sanitation (CLTS) uses participatory methods to eliminate the practise of open defecation in rural communities and promote building of toilets.   | Worm infestations,<br>Anthropometry                   |
| Nicholson<br>2014 | Cluster<br>RCT | India      | Asia   | < 5 y              | 1680  | 847   | 833  | Hygiene   | Handwashing promotion and provision of free soap  | Respiratory infections,<br>School absence             |
| Morris<br>2014    | Cluster<br>RCT | Kenya      | Africa | 4-10 mo            | 240   |       |      | Water   | Ceramic water filters (CWFs) remove or inactivate waterborne diarrheal pathogens in drinking water through size exclusion and silver exposure.  | Respiratory infections,<br>Febrile illness            |
| Clasen<br>2014    | Cluster<br>RCT | India      | Asia   | 0-5 y              | 3835  | 1919  | 1916 | Sanitation  | Latrine promotion and construction by combining social mobilisation with a post-hoc subsidy.  | Helminth infection,<br>Weight, Height,<br>Mortality   |
| Caruso<br>2014    | Cluster<br>RCT | Kenya      | Africa | School<br>children | 17564 | 12262 | 5302 | 1. Sanitation and Handwashing vs Control; Handwashing vs Control; Sanitation and Handwashing vs Handwashing | Sanitation: Schools received reusable hardware (buckets, brooms, hand brushes, plastic scoop), consumables (bleach, powdered soap), toilet tissue, handwashing materials, sheets for pupils to monitor latrines conditions daily and training for two | School absence  |

| Pickering 2013   | Cluster<br>RCT | Nairobi | Africa           | School<br>children | 1364 | 895 | 469 | Hygiene  | teachers – the head teacher<br>and health patron.<br>Handwashing: Received<br>powdered soap and<br>instructions on how to<br>make soapy water<br>Provision of soap and<br>water or hand sanitizers for<br>hand hygiene   | Vomiting, cough,<br>difficulty breathing,<br>skin rash, rhinorrhea,<br>school absence |
|------------------|----------------|---------|------------------|--------------------|------|-----|-----|--|--|---|
| Hammer<br>2013   | Cluster<br>RCT | India   | Asia             | Under 5<br>years   |      |     |     | Sanitation   | Latrine promotion and construction by combining social mobilisation with a subsidy.  | Height  |
| Gyorkos<br>2013  | Cluster<br>RCT | Peru    | South<br>America | 10 y               | 1089 | 518 | 571 | Hygiene  | Hygiene Education  | Soil transmitted helminthiasis prevalence   |
| Freeman<br>2013a | Cluster<br>RCT | Kenya   | Africa           | School<br>children | 915  | 470 | 445 | Water,<br>Sanitation and<br>Hygiene;<br>Water and<br>Hygiene | Hygiene promotion, water treatment technology, and sanitation infrastructure, which included commercially manufactured hand washing and drinking water storage containers and a 1-year supply of point-of-use water treatment product distributed by Population Services International with the brand name WaterGuard. | Soil transmitted helminthiasis prevalence   |
| Dumba<br>2013    | Cluster<br>RCT | Uganda  | Africa           | Under 5 years      | 727  | 357 | 370 | Sanitation and<br>Hygiene                                    | PHAST means Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation; a participatory approach  | Soil transmitted<br>helminthiasis<br>prevalence                                       |

| Boisson        | Cluster        | India          | Asia             | All      | 2986 | 1504 | 1482 | Water                               | that uses visual tools to stimulate the participation of people in promotion of improved hygiene and sanitation.  Intensive promotion   | Weight-for-age Z  |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------|------|------|------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| 2013           | RCT            |                |                  | children |      |      |      |                                     | campaign and free<br>distribution of sodium<br>dichloroisocyanurate<br>(NaDCC) tablets  | score; school<br>absenteeism  |
| Peletz 2012    | Cluster<br>RCT | Zambia         | Africa           | <2 y     | 121  | 61   | 60   | Water                               | LifeStraw Family filter and two 5-L safe storage containers.  | Weight-for-age Z score, Mortality   |
| Huda 2012      | CBA<br>study   | Banglade<br>sh | Asia             | < 5 y    | 1000 | 500  | 500  | Water,<br>Sanitation and<br>Hygiene | Improvements in latrine coverage and usage; access to and use of arsenic-free water; and improved hygiene practices, especially handwashing with soap.  | Acute respiratory infections  |
| Correa<br>2012 | Cluster<br>RCT | Colombia       | South<br>America | 1-5 y    | 1682 | 749  | 933  | Hygiene                             | Alcohol based hand sanitiser  | Acute respiratory infections  |
| Bowen<br>2012  | Cluster<br>RCT | Pakistan       | Asia             | < 8 y    | 461  | 301  | 160  | 1. Hygiene; 2. Water and Hygiene    | 10 clusters received sodium hypochlorite solution for drinking water treatment; 9 received a flocculent-disinfectant product for drinking water treatment; 10 received soap, handwashing promotion, and flocculent disinfectant for drinking water treatment; 9 received soap and handwashing promotion; and 9 served as the control group. | Weight for age Z score, Height for age Z score, Body Mass Index Z score on long term follow- up |

| Fenn 2012        | CBA<br>study           | Ethiopia        | Africa | 6 mo-3 y                    | 1899  | 863   | 1036  | Water,<br>sanitation and<br>hygiene | Hygiene education, pit latrines, treated water                                      | Height for age Z score, Stunting  |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Talaat 2011      | Cluster<br>RCT         | Egypt           | Africa | Median<br>8 y               | 44451 | 20882 | 23569 | Hygiene                             | Provision of soap and water and education   | Acute respiratory infection, Influenza, Conjunctivitis, School absenteeism  |
| Stoller<br>2011  | Cluster<br>RCT         | Ethiopia        | Africa | 0-9 y                       | 1211  | 608   | 603   | Sanitation                          | Latrine construction  | Ocular chlamydia infection; Trachoma  |
| du Preez<br>2011 | Cluster<br>RCT         | Kenya           | Africa | 6 mo -<br>5 y               | 1089  | 555   | 534   | Water                               | Solar disinfection of water   | Mortality, weight for age, height for age, weight for height  |
| Langford<br>2011 | Cluster<br>non-<br>RCT | Nepal           | Asia   | 3-12 mo                     | 88    | 45    | 43    | Hygiene                             | Handwashing promotion   | Weight for age Z score, Height for age Z score, Weight for height Z score, cough, cold, fever                     |
| Bosisson<br>2010 | Cluster<br>RCT         | Congo           | Africa | 0-15 y                      | 190   | 85    | 105   | Water                               | Lifestraw Family filter for water treatment   | Fever, Cough  |
| Abdou<br>2010    | Cluster<br>RCT         | Niger           | Africa | < 5 y                       | 557   | 284   | 273   | Water                               | Wells and Handpump  | Ocular chlamydia infection; Trachoma  |
| Gungoren<br>2007 | Cluster<br>non-<br>RCT | Uzbeki-<br>stan | Asia   | 2-14 y                      | 178   | 95    | 83    | Water,<br>Sanitaion and<br>Hygiene  | Hand washing with soap,<br>safe disposal of feces and<br>boiling of drinking water. | Soil transmitted<br>helminthiasis<br>prevalence   |
| Bowen<br>2007    | Cluster<br>RCT         | China           | Asia   | School<br>children          | 3810  | 2545  | 1265  | Hygiene                             | Handwashing promotion, soap provision   | School absence, Fever,<br>Headache, Otalgia,<br>Rhinnorhea,<br>Conjunctivitis, Sore<br>throat, Cough,<br>Vomiting |
| Rosen 2006       | Cluster<br>RCT         | Israel          | Asia   | Pre -<br>school<br>children | 1029  | 489   | 540   | Hygiene                             | Handwashign promotion, eliminating shared cups and towels                           | School absence  |
| Luby 2005        | Cluster<br>RCT         | Pakistan        | Asia   | < 15 y                      | 4691  | 3163  | 1528  | Hygiene                             | Handwashing promotion, soap provision   | Acute respiratory infection, Pneumonia, Impetigo, Mortality   |

INDIAN PEDIATRICS

VOLUME 55—MAY 15, 2018

| Crump<br>2005       | Cluster<br>RCT         | Kenya          | Africa           | < 5 y   | 715  | 467 | 248 | Water                   | Flocullent disinfectant and sodium hypochlorite  | Mortality   |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------|------|-----|-----|-------------------------|--|---|
| Emerson<br>2004     | Cluster<br>RCT         | Gambia         | Africa           | <9 y    | 179  | 83  | 96  | Sanitation              | Latrine construction   | Trachoma  |
| Quick 1999          | Cluster<br>RCT         | Bolivia        | South<br>America | < 14 y  | 403  | 199 | 204 | Water                   | Point of use water chlorination and safe storage   | Soil transmitted<br>helminthiasis<br>prevalence   |
| Conroy<br>1999      | Cluster<br>non-<br>RCT | Kenya          | Africa           | < 6 y   | 349  | 175 | 174 | Water                   | Solar disinfection of water  | Mortality   |
| West 1995           | Cluster<br>RCT         | Tanzania       | Africa           | 1-7 y   | 1417 | 680 | 737 | Hygiene                 | Facewashing  | Trachoma  |
| Ahmed<br>1994       | Cluster<br>non-<br>RCT | Pakistan       | Asia             | 0-18 mo | 168  | 78  | 90  | Hygiene                 | Hygiene education<br>focusing on ground<br>sanitation, personal<br>hygiene and food hygiene            | Weight for age Z score  |
| Stanton<br>1988     | Cluster<br>RCT         | Banglade<br>sh | Asia             | < 6 y   | 1390 | 636 | 754 | Hygiene                 | Education regarding handwashing, defectation away from house and suitable disposal of waste and faeces | Weight, Height, Weight for age Z score, Height for age Z score, Weight for Height Z score |
| Schlesinger<br>1983 | CBA<br>study           | Chile          | South<br>America | 0-4 y   | 197  | 113 | 84  | Water and<br>Sanitation | Construction of a sanitary<br>unit consisting of a kitchen,<br>sink and lavatory with<br>water supply  | Low weight for age  |

CBA: Controlled before-after; RCT: Randomized controlled trial