

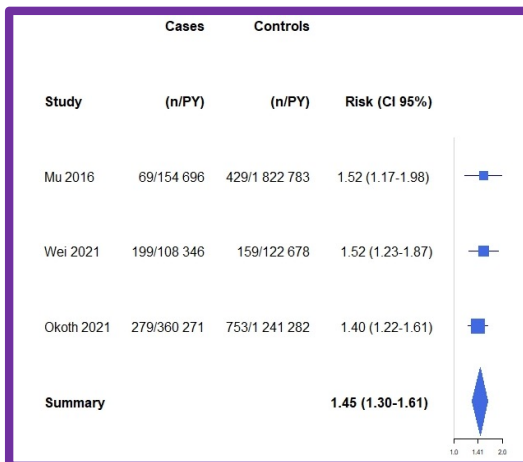
**Background:** Endometriosis is a chronic and estrogen-dependent benign disorder that affects about 10% to 15% of women in reproductive age in France. Endometriosis has been associated with chronic inflammation and atherogenic lipid profile, two conditions increasing relative risk of atherothrombotic cardiovascular diseases (CVD).

**Materials and Methods:** A systematic search of the Medline database was performed to find all relevant articles which included women who had endometriosis. Eligible articles published in English and reporting risk of arterial events (CVD, coronary heart disease (CHD), myocardial infarction and stroke) among women suffering from endometriosis were reviewed. We screened all articles identified through Medline (n=553). Five studies were eligible for inclusion in this meta-analysis from Taiwan\*, UK and US).

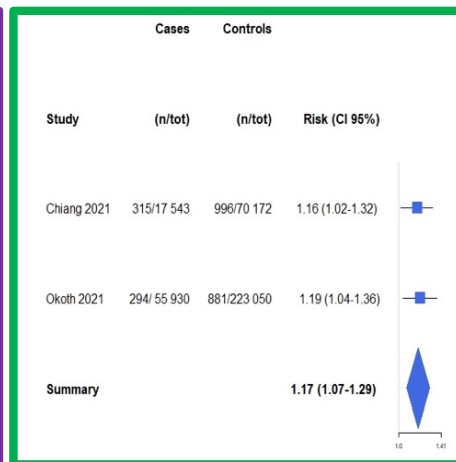
\* 3 retrospective nation-wide population-based cohort studies from Taiwan, It was also considered that the three Taiwan studies provided risks estimated with the same database but for different endpoints, except for CHD.

## Results:

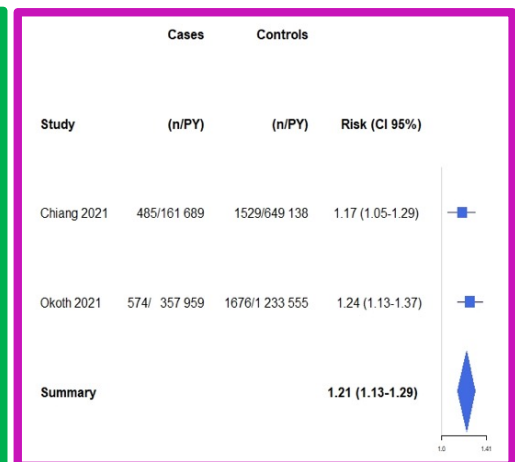
### CHD



### STROKE



### MAJOR CVD



**Discussion:** Although their results were homogeneous, the confounding factors taken into account were not the same, the UK study being the more detailed one. Moreover, endometriosis was laparoscopically confirmed only in the Nurse's Health Study. Thus, these results must be interpreted with caution.

**Conclusion:** Endometriosis seems to be associated with an increased risk of CVD, either CHD or stroke. More studies are needed to confirm these results.