## Supplementary Appendix 1:

### Supplementary Table S1: Search Strategy Medline (Ovid) on 11/02/2014 and 02/10/2018

1. randomi\*ed controlled trial.pt
2. controlled trial.pt
3. randomi\*ed.ab
4. placebo.ab
5. drug therapy.fs
6. randomly.ab
7. trial.ab
8. groups.ab
9. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8
10. JAMA.jn
11. New England Journal of Medicine.jn
12. Lancet.jn
13. BMJ.jn
14. 10 or 11 or 12 or 13
15. 9 and 14
16. limit 15 to (humans and yr=2013)
17. limit 16 to (comment or editorial or letter or news)
18. 16 not 17
19. ..dedup 18

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **No of trials (%)** | | | | | |
| **Reporting in the CONSORT flow diagram** | **2013 cohort (n=165) a** | | | **2018 Cohort (n=47)** | | |
| **Yes** | **No** | **Unclear** | **Yes** | **No** | **Unclear** |
| Does the number analysed in the flow diagram match the results? | 104 (63) | 16 (10) | 45 (27) **b** | 36 (7) | 3 (6) | 8 (17) **b** |

### Supplementary Table S2: Consistency of reporting the number included in the primary analysis population between the CONSORT participant flow diagram and the results.

***Notes:*** *aOne study did not include a participant flow diagram b The number analysed was either not reported in the CONSORT or the text.*

### Supplementary Table S3: Studies where imputed data could not be evaluated

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Article ID** | **Year** | **Reason for not being able to extract data** | **Primary outcome** | **CONSORT reported follow up** | **CONSORT reported number analysed** | **Study terminated early** |
| 27 | 2013 | Reports treatment adherence with no information on follow up However, states they are using LOCF within the repeated measures analysis suggesting there was missing data. No further information on missing data in the results. | Change in HbA1c | No | No | No |
| 42 | 2013 | CONSORT and results table report investigator led exclusions, but results table has no further information on attrition. CONSORT and supplementary material report participant attrition but it appears contradictory. In addition, most data reports vital status but not availability of hospitalisation data. | Death or hospitalisation | Unclear | No | Yes |
| 71 | 2013 | Reports those who withdrew from the study and is clear that those who stopped treatment were only included in the withdrawn population if they stopped follow up. However, there is no further definition of the withdrawn population and how this relates to outcome ascertainment and early study termination. The number of deaths (primary outcome) and withdrawals exceeds the number randomised suggesting there is an overlap. No information on missing data in the results table. | Overall Survival | Unclear | No | Yes |
| 115 | 2013 | CONSORT reports those who discontinued the study early. However, the figure notes suggest this may be after inclusion in the primary analysis (90 day event) but before the final (360 day) visit. It is also unclear how this relates to early study termination or the numbers excluded from the analysis population. No information in the results on missing data | Infection | Unclear | Yes | Yes |
| 129 | 2013 | The number of those listed as discontinued due to protocol defined virologic failure in the CONSORT exceeds those in the results table suggesting some of those who were lost to follow up in the results table may have reached an endpoint. | HIV load | Unclear | No | No |
| 158 | 2013 | No information on follow up for primary outcome. Longer term losses and treatment discontinuations reported but not clear how these relate to the primary outcome. No information in the results on missing outcome data. | Patient reported outcome (AUC) | Unclear | Yes | No |
| 163 | 2013 | Consent withdrawals are listed underneath treatment discontinuation heading. It is not clear whether these are treatment only or study withdrawals. No information in the results on missing outcome data. | Progression free survival | No | Yes | No |
| 197 | 2018 | The primary analysis population was a subset of the overall recruited population. Losses are not reported by subset. | Overall survival | Yes (for overall population) | Yes | No |