Comparison	Number of Studies	Direct Evidence	Random effects model	RR	95%–CI
high–dose dexamethasone vs hydrocortisone					
Direct estimate	0	0			
Indirect estimate				0.72	[0.58; 0.90]
Network estimate				0.72	[0.58; 0.90]
high–dose dexamethasone vs low–dose dexamethasone					
Direct estimate	0	0			
Indirect estimate				0.76	[0.60; 0.97]
Network estimate				0.76	[0.60; 0.97]
high–dose dexamethasone vs placebo					
Direct estimate	2	1.00		0.72	[0.59; 0.86]
Indirect estimate					
Network estimate				0.72	[0.59; 0.86]
hydrocortisone vs low–dose dexamethasone					
Direct estimate	0	0			
Indirect estimate				1.06	[0.88; 1.27]
Network estimate				1.06	[0.88; 1.27]
hydrocortisone vs placebo					
Direct estimate	2	1.00		0.99	[0.89; 1.10]
Indirect estimate					
Network estimate				0.99	[0.89; 1.10]
low–dose dexamethasone vs placebo					
Direct estimate	2	1.00		0.94	[0.80; 1.10]
Indirect estimate					
Network estimate				0.94	[0.80; 1.10]

0.75   1   1.5

Effect of late corticosteroids on death or BPD at 36 weeks' PMA, studies including 50 or more infants.