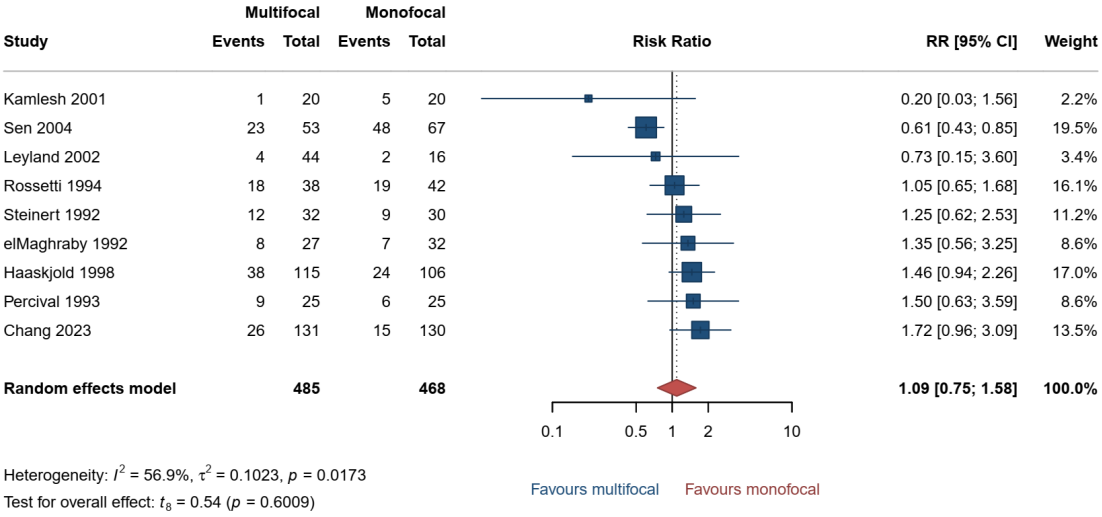
GUIDE-assisted group

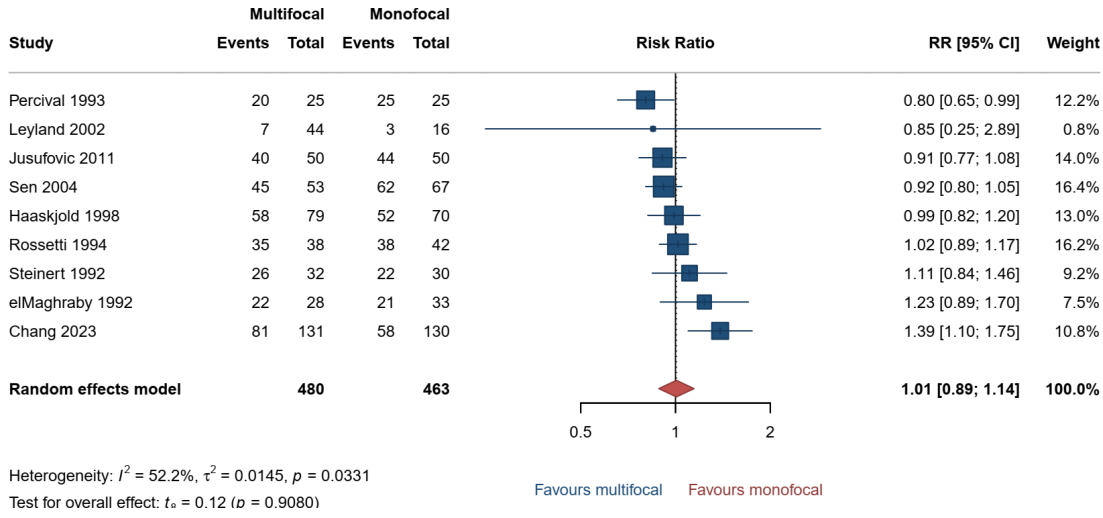
Multifocal vs Monofocal

Corrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6 (lower favours multifocal)



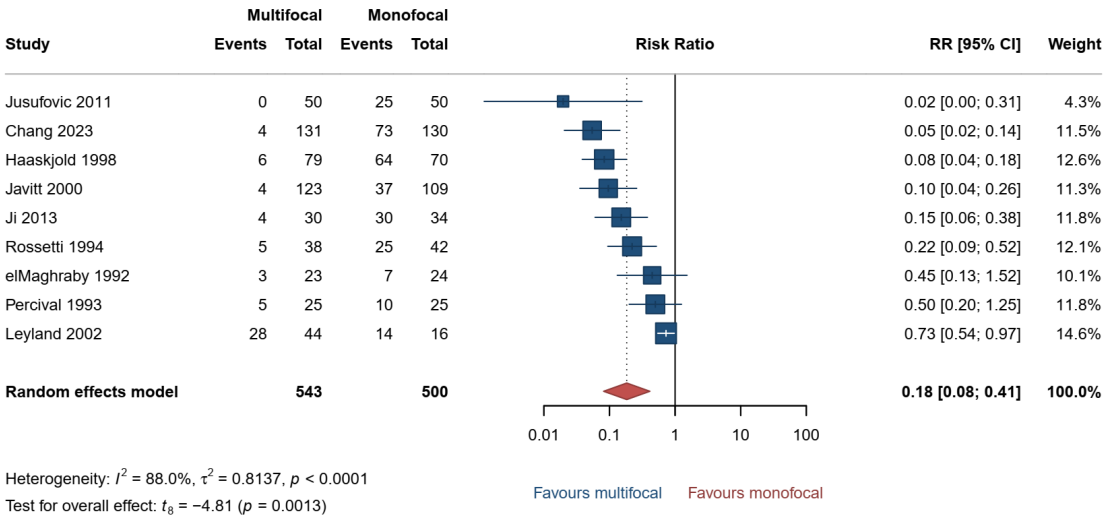
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 56.9%, τ^2 = 0.1023, p = 0.0173
Test for overall effect: t_8 = 0.54 (p = 0.6009)

Uncorrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6 (RR < 1 favours multifocal)



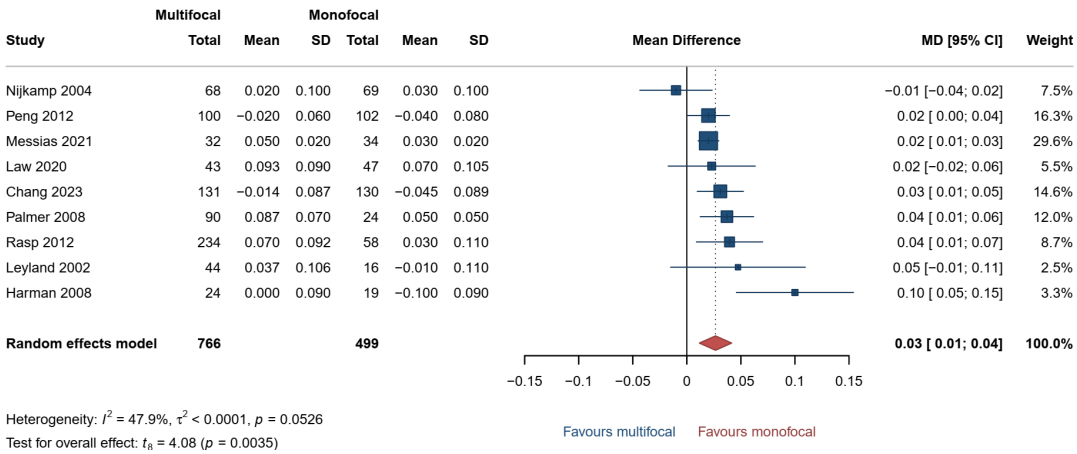
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 52.2%, τ^2 = 0.0145, p = 0.0331
Test for overall effect: t_{8} = 0.12 (p = 0.9080)

Uncorrected near visual acuity worse than J3/J4 or an equivalent threshold (RR < 1 favours multifocal)



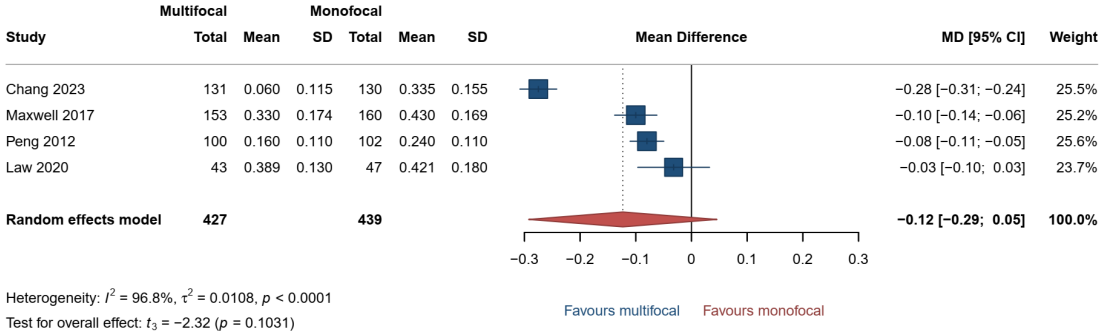
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 88.0%, τ^2 = 0.8137, p < 0.0001
Test for overall effect: t_8 = −4.81 (p = 0.0013)

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower favours multifocal)



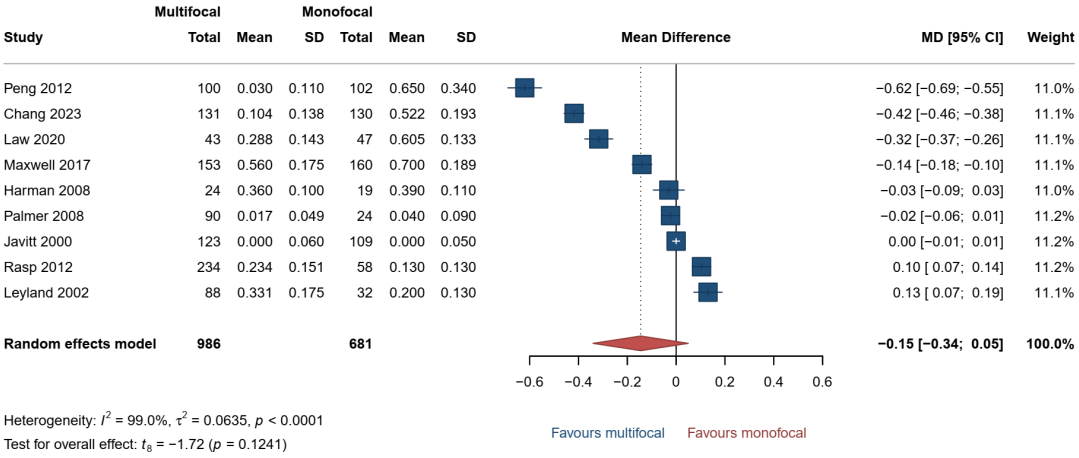
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 47.9%, τ^2 < 0.0001, p = 0.0526
Test for overall effect: t_8 = 4.08 (p = 0.0035)

Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower favours multifocal)



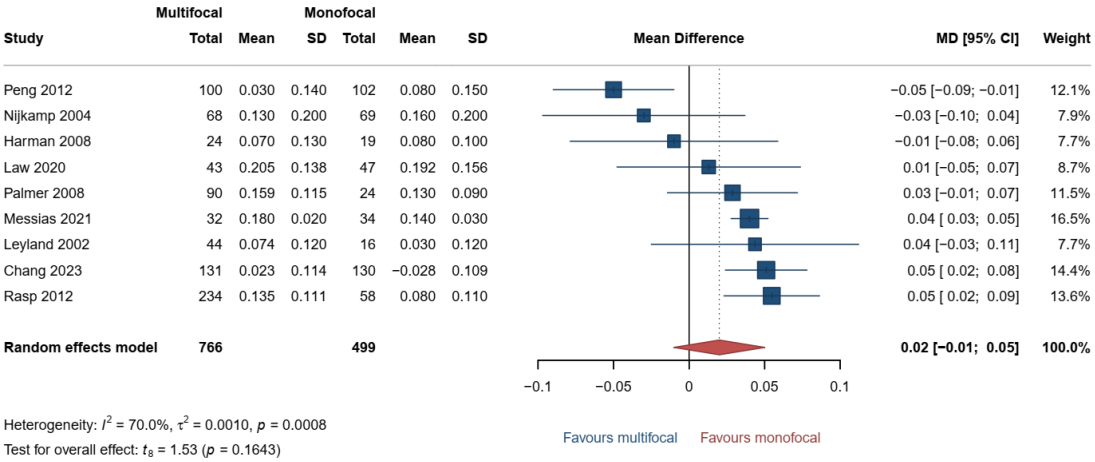
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 96.8%, τ^2 = 0.0108, p < 0.0001
Test for overall effect: t_3 = −2.32 (p = 0.1031)

Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower favours multifocal)



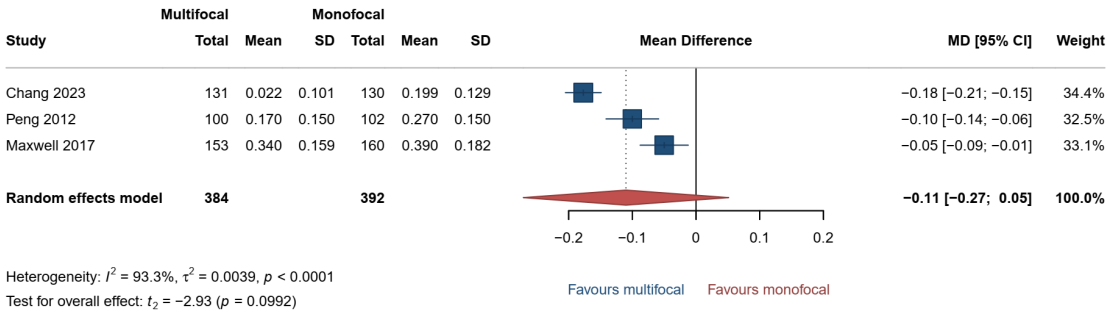
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 99.0%, τ^2 = 0.0635, p < 0.0001
Test for overall effect: t_8 = −1.72 (p = 0.1241)

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower favours multifocal)



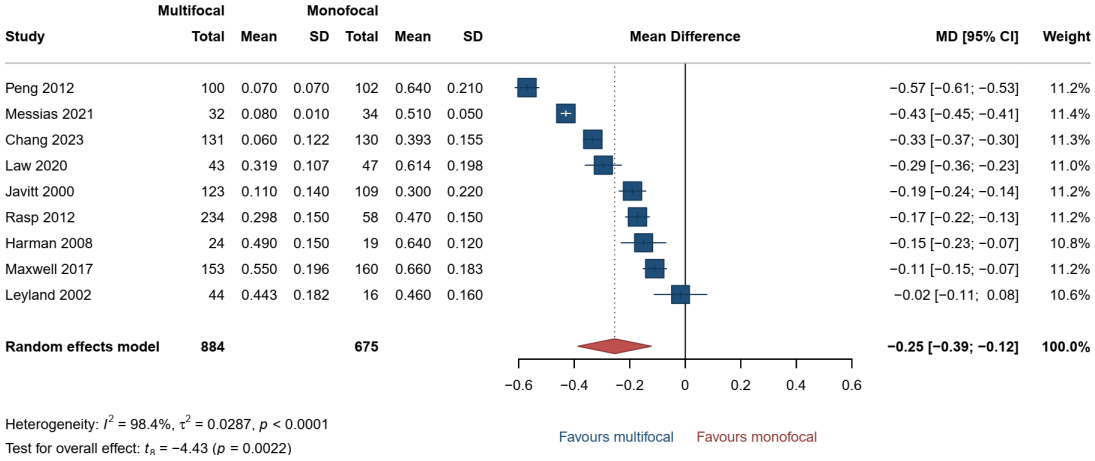
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 70.0%, τ^2 = 0.0010, p = 0.0008
Test for overall effect: t_8 = 1.53 (p = 0.1643)

Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower favours multifocal)

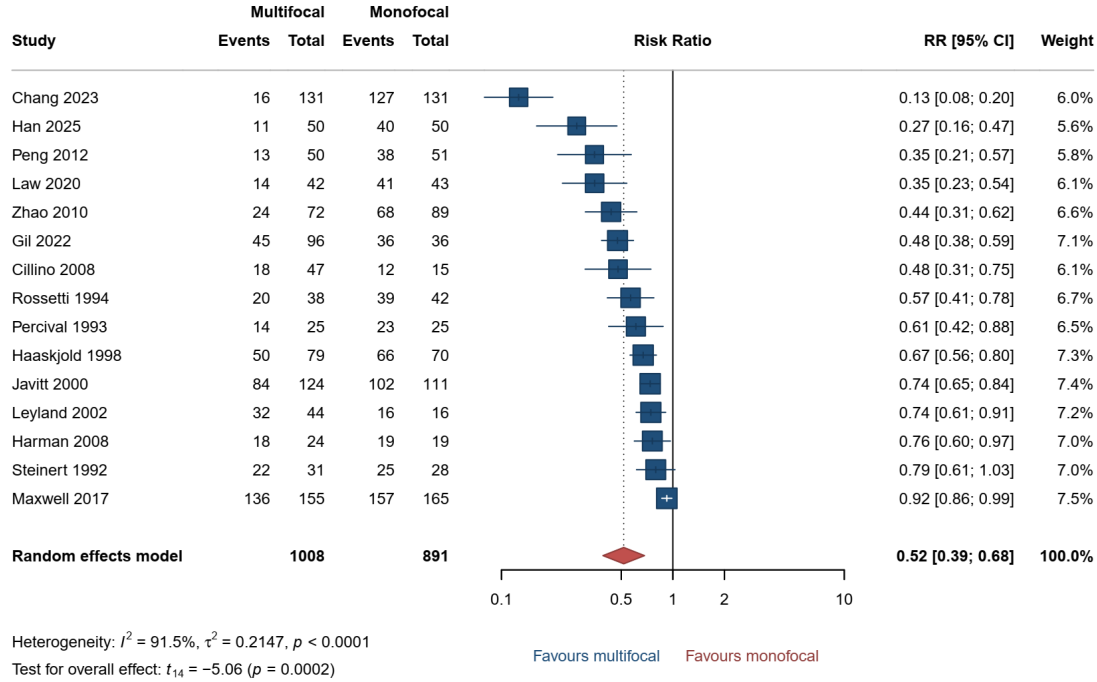


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 93.3%, τ^2 = 0.0039, p < 0.0001
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −2.93 (p = 0.0992)

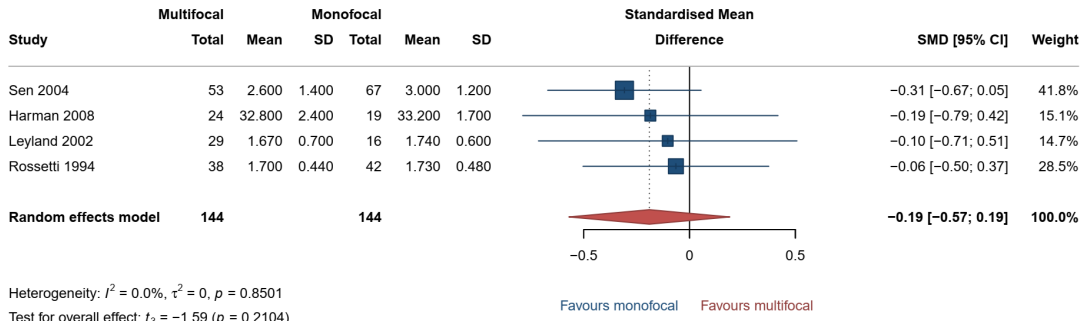
Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower favours multifocal)



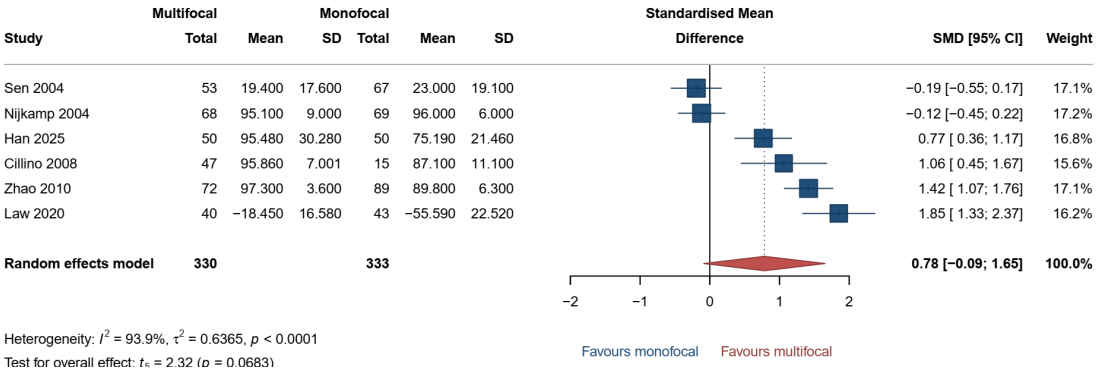
Any spectacle dependence (RR < 1 favours multifocal)



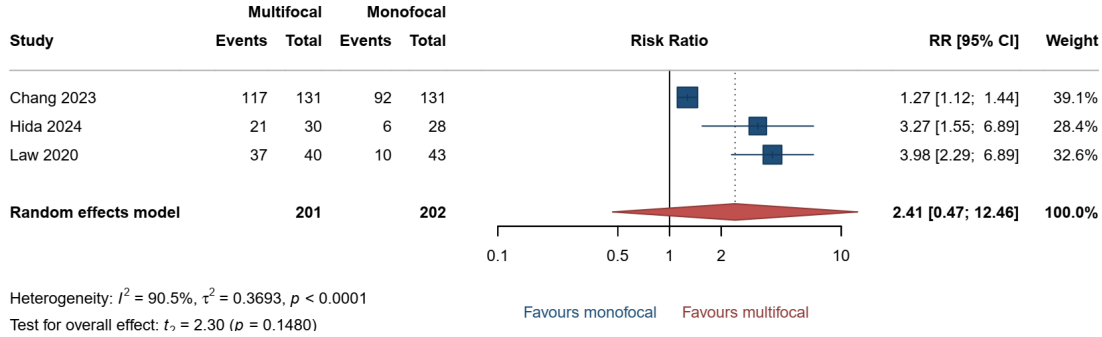
Contrast sensitivity (higher favours multifocal)



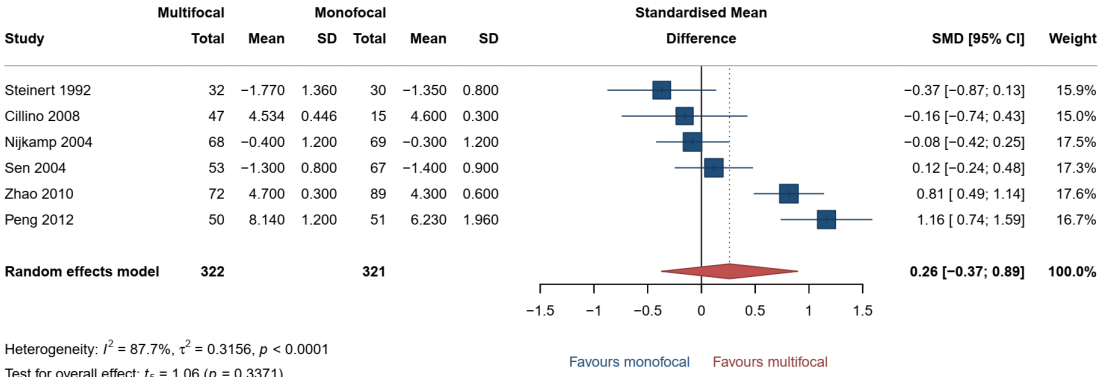
Visual function (higher favours multifocal)



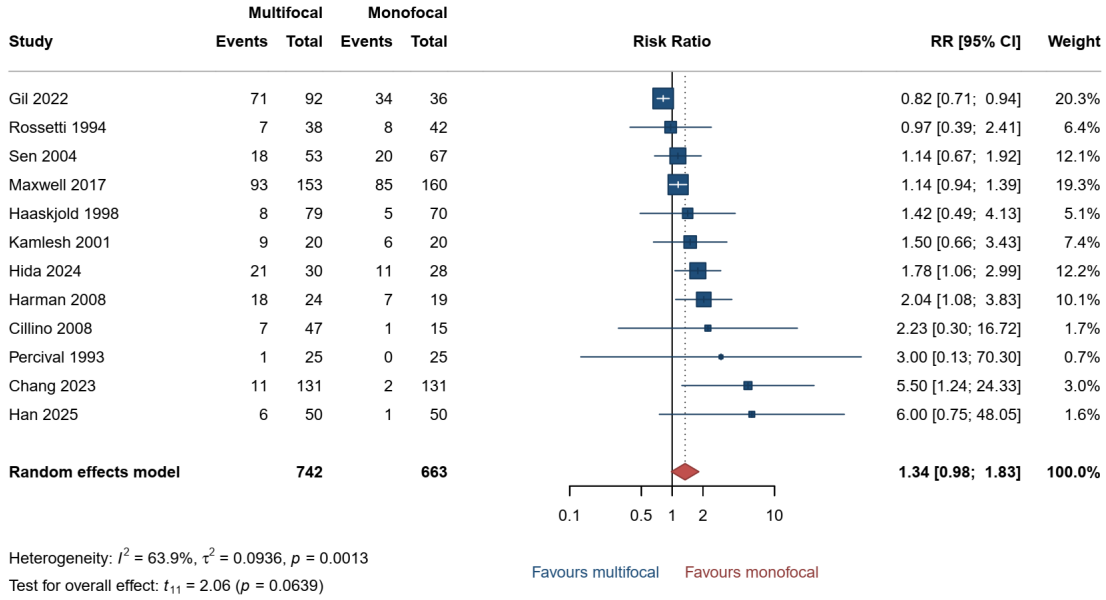
Patient satisfaction (number of satisfied participants) (RR > 1 favours multifocal)



Patient satisfaction (questionnaire score) (higher favours multifocal)

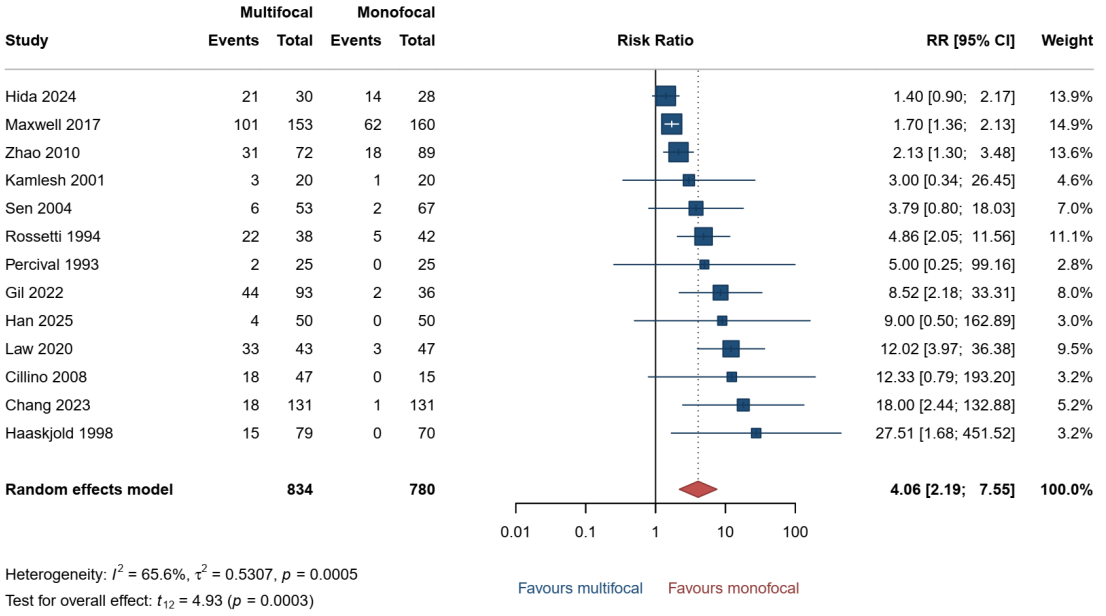


Glare (RR < 1 favours multifocal)



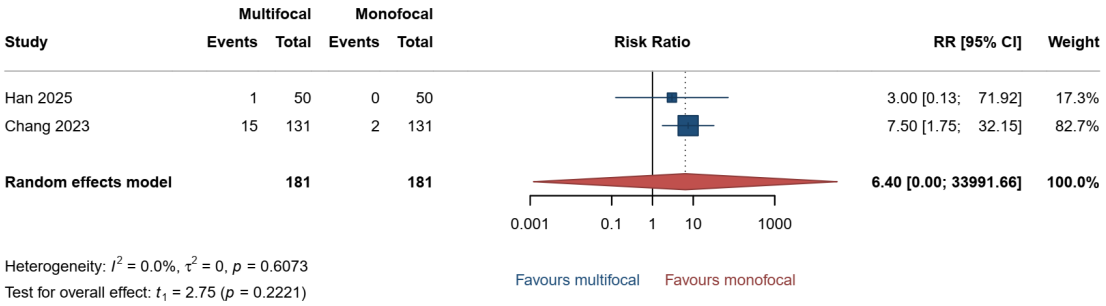
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 63.9%, τ^2 = 0.0936, p = 0.0013
Test for overall effect: t_{11} = 2.06 (p = 0.0639)

Halos (RR < 1 favours multifocal)



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 65.6%, τ^2 = 0.5307, p = 0.0005
Test for overall effect: t_{12} = 4.93 (p = 0.0003)

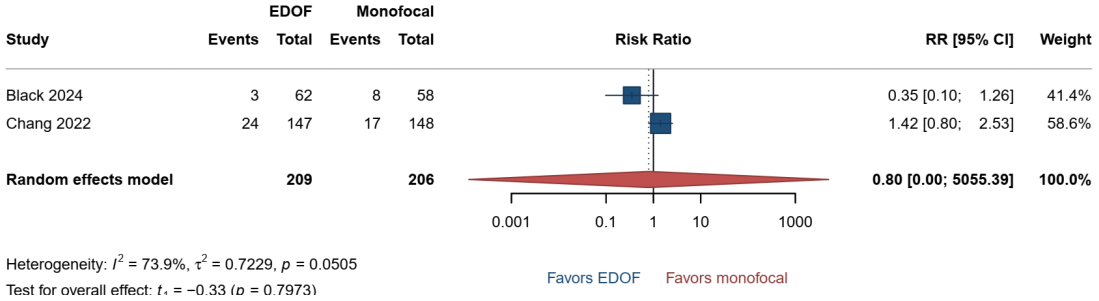
Starbursts (RR < 1 favours multifocal)



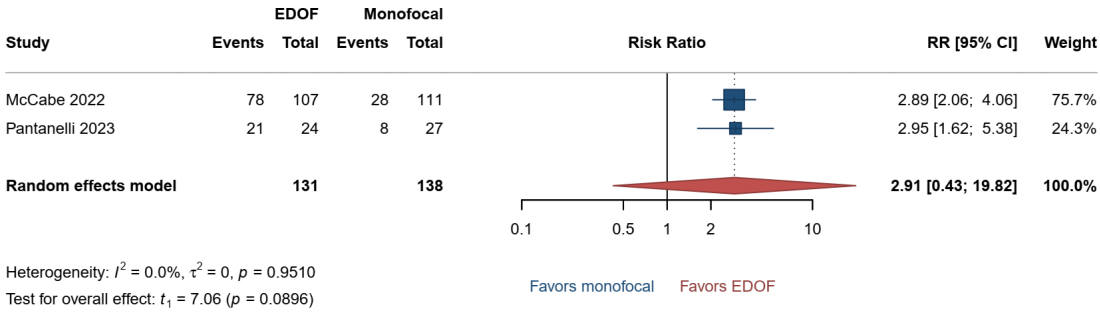
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.6073
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 2.75 (p = 0.2221)

EDOF vs Monofocal

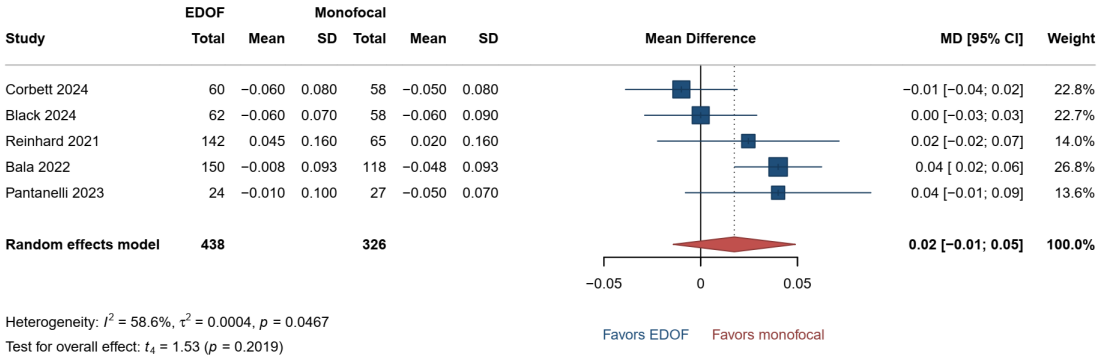
Corrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6 (RR <1 favors EDOF)



Corrected intermediate visual acuity meeting the study-defined threshold (RR > 1 favors EDOF)

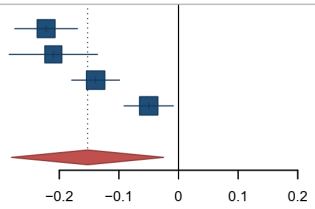


Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favor EDOF)



Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favor EDOF)

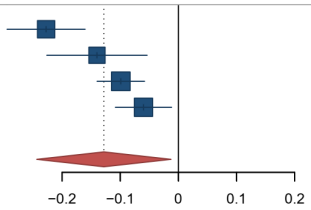
Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
Reinhard 2021	142	0.148	0.177	65	0.370	0.180	−0.22 [−0.27; −0.17]	25.0%
Pantanelli 2023	24	−0.020	0.130	27	0.190	0.140	−0.21 [−0.28; −0.14]	22.5%
Bala 2022	150	0.161	0.167	118	0.300	0.166	−0.14 [−0.18; −0.10]	26.3%
Corbett 2024	60	0.130	0.080	58	0.180	0.140	−0.05 [−0.09; −0.01]	26.2%
Random effects model	**376**			**268**			**−0.15 [−0.28; −0.02]**	**100.0%**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 90.2%, τ^2 = 0.0057, p < 0.0001
Test for overall effect: t_3 = −3.81 (p = 0.0319)

Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favor EDOF)

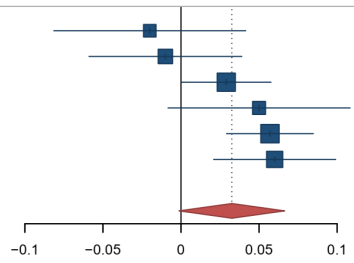
Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
Reinhard 2021	142	0.352	0.202	65	0.580	0.240	−0.23 [−0.29; −0.16]	24.1%
Pantanelli 2023	24	0.030	0.120	27	0.170	0.190	−0.14 [−0.23; −0.05]	21.1%
Bala 2022	153	0.414	0.171	115	0.513	0.167	−0.10 [−0.14; −0.06]	27.9%
Corbett 2024	60	0.370	0.100	58	0.430	0.160	−0.06 [−0.11; −0.01]	26.9%
Random effects model	**379**			**265**			**−0.13 [−0.24; −0.01]**	**100.0%**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 81.9%, τ^2 = 0.0043, p = 0.0008
Test for overall effect: t_3 = −3.54 (p = 0.0385)

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favor EDOF)

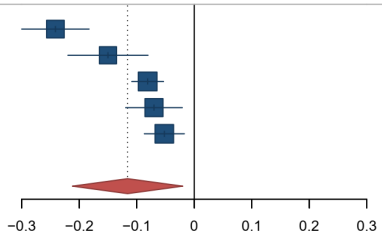
Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
Reinhard 2021	142	0.120	0.184	65	0.140	0.220	−0.02 [−0.08; 0.04]	10.7%
Black 2024	31	−0.030	0.080	29	−0.020	0.110	−0.01 [−0.06; 0.04]	14.2%
Bala 2022	149	0.013	0.125	117	−0.016	0.113	0.03 [0.00; 0.06]	22.6%
Pantanelli 2023	24	0.020	0.130	27	−0.030	0.070	0.05 [−0.01; 0.11]	11.5%
McCabe 2022	106	0.035	0.102	111	−0.022	0.107	0.06 [0.03; 0.08]	23.0%
Skov 2026	43	0.050	0.100	49	−0.010	0.090	0.06 [0.02; 0.10]	17.9%
Random effects model	**495**			**398**			**0.03 [−0.00; 0.07]**	**100.0%**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 53.1%, τ^2 = 0.0005, p = 0.0587
Test for overall effect: t_5 = 2.48 (p = 0.0560)

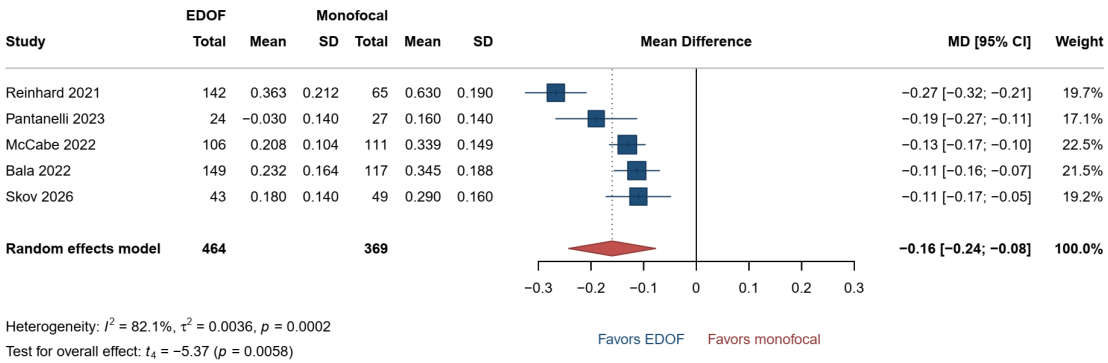
Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR; lower values favor EDOF)

Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
Reinhard 2021	142	0.179	0.175	65	0.420	0.210	−0.24 [−0.30; −0.18]	19.2%
Pantanelli 2023	24	0.010	0.140	27	0.160	0.110	−0.15 [−0.22; −0.08]	18.1%
McCabe 2022	106	0.058	0.083	111	0.139	0.122	−0.08 [−0.11; −0.05]	21.6%
Skov 2026	43	0.050	0.100	49	0.120	0.140	−0.07 [−0.12; −0.02]	20.0%
Bala 2022	149	0.060	0.115	117	0.112	0.163	−0.05 [−0.09; −0.02]	21.2%
Random effects model	**464**			**369**			**−0.12 [−0.21; −0.02]**	**100.0%**



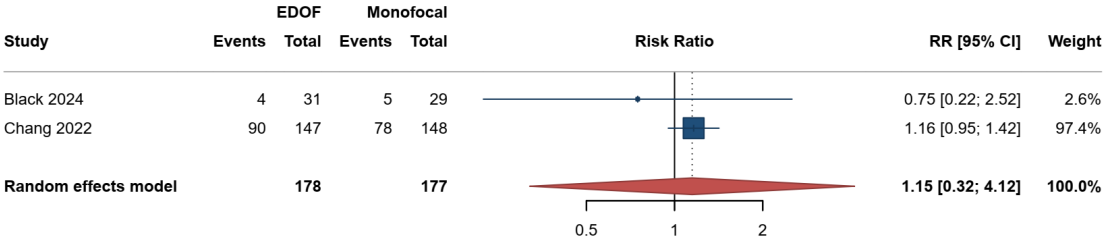
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 88.3%, τ^2 = 0.0052, p < 0.0001
Test for overall effect: t_4 = −3.35 (p = 0.0285)

Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favor EDOF)



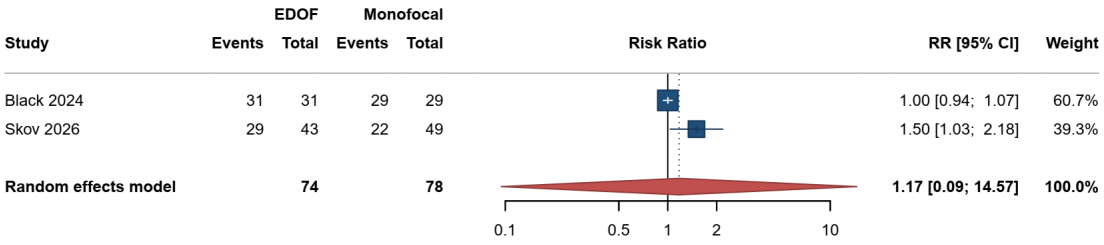
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 82.1%, τ^2 = 0.0036, p = 0.0002
Test for overall effect: t_4 = −5.37 (p = 0.0058)

Uncorrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6 (RR <1 favors EDOF)



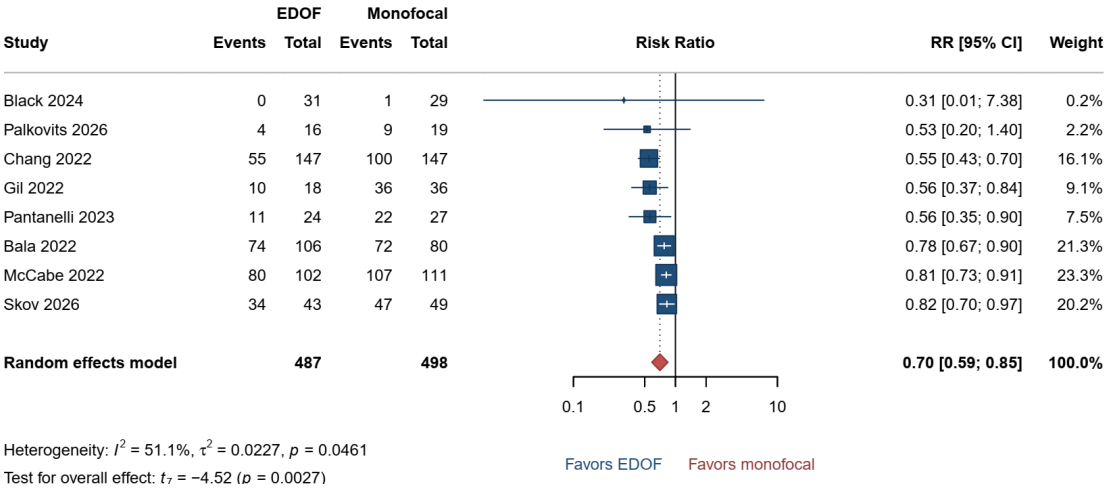
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.4834
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 1.38 (p = 0.4000)

Patient satisfaction (RR >1 favors EDOF)

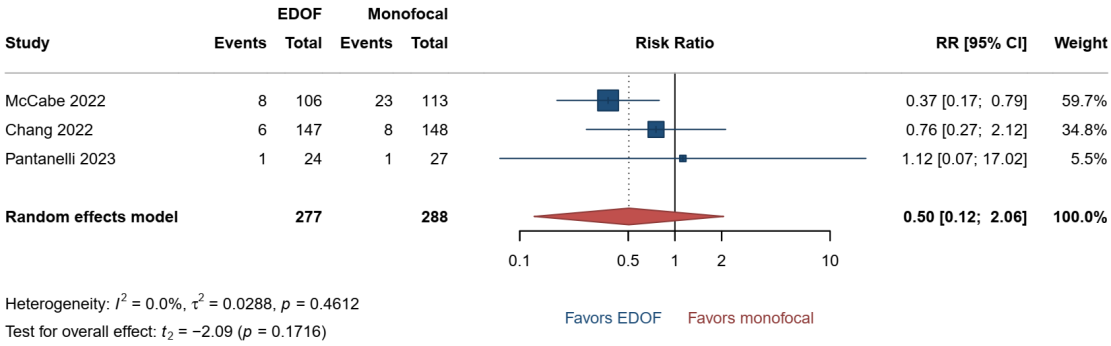


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 77.3%, τ^2 = 0.0637, p = 0.0357
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 0.81 (p = 0.5665)

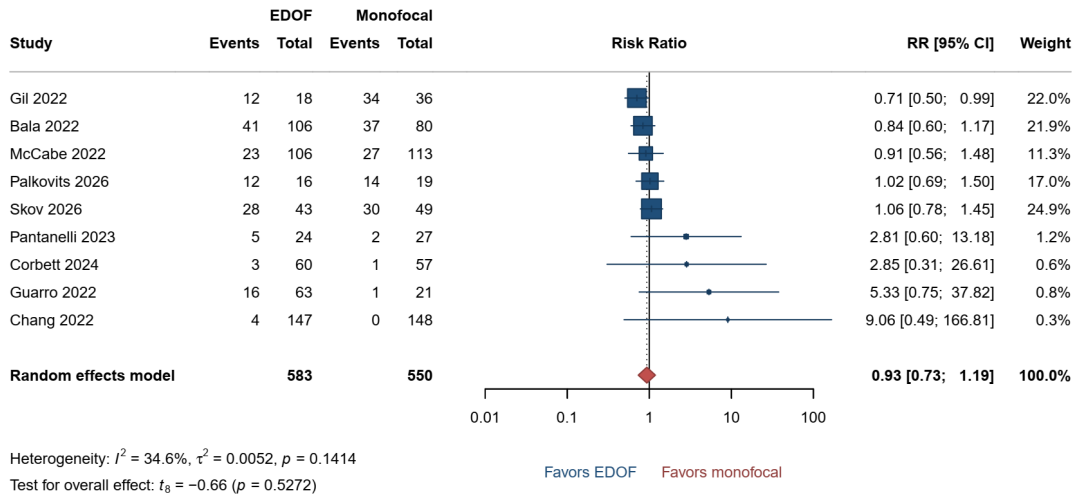
Spectacle dependence, any (RR <1 favors EDOF)



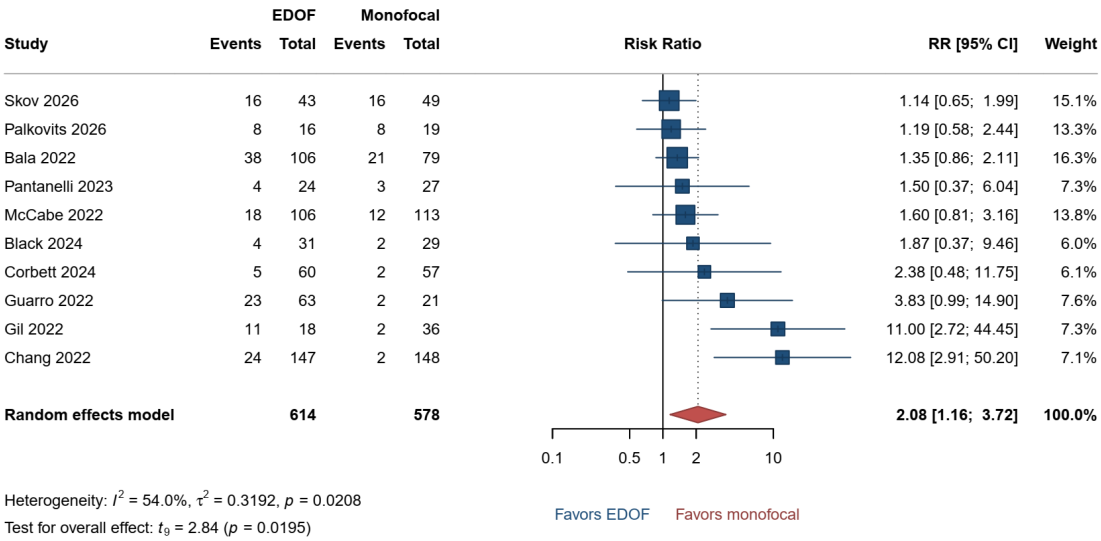
Blurred vision (RR <1 favors EDOF)



Glare (RR <1 favors EDOF)

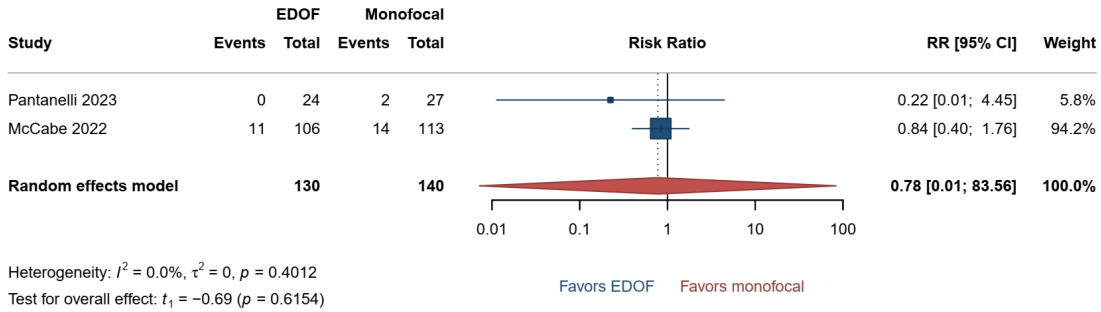


Halos (RR <1 favors EDOF)



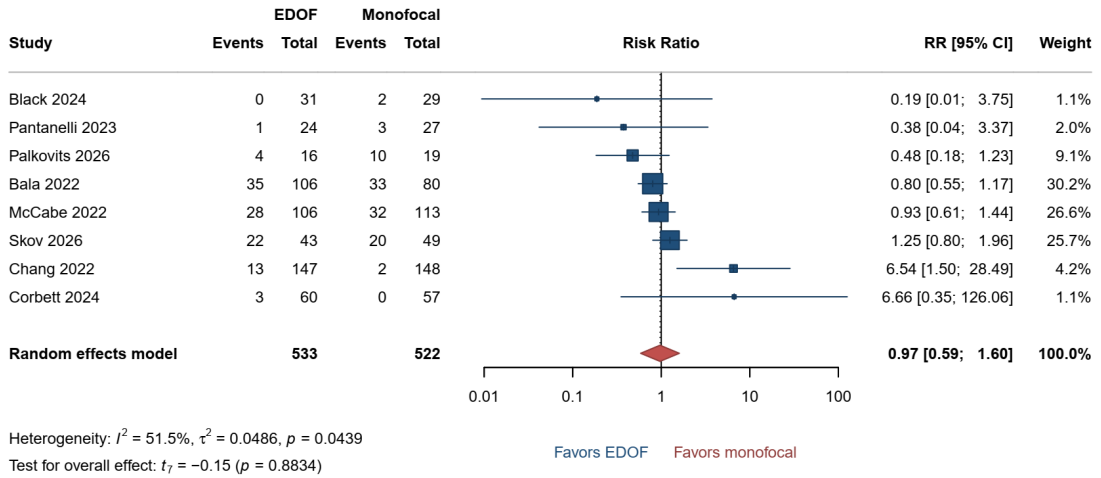
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 54.0%, τ^2 = 0.3192, p = 0.0208
Test for overall effect: t_9 = 2.84 (p = 0.0195)

Hazy vision (RR <1 favors EDOF)



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.4012
Test for overall effect: t_1 = −0.69 (p = 0.6154)

Starbursts (RR <1 favors EDOF)

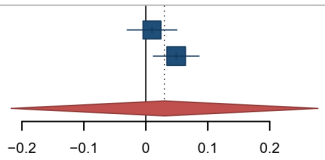


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 51.5%, τ^2 = 0.0486, p = 0.0439
Test for overall effect: t_7 = −0.15 (p = 0.8834)

Multifocal vs EDOF

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal)

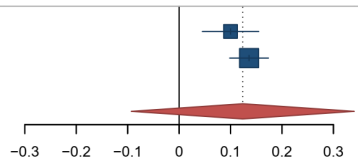
Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
AkkayaTurhan 2021	15	−0.050	0.060	14	−0.060	0.050	0.01 [−0.03; 0.05]	47.9%
Gil 2020	96	0.037	0.043	20	−0.012	0.082	0.05 [0.01; 0.09]	52.1%
Random effects model	**111**			**34**			**0.03 [−0.22; 0.28]**	**100.0%**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 49.1%, τ^2 = 0.0004, p = 0.1610
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 1.56 (p = 0.3637)

Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal)

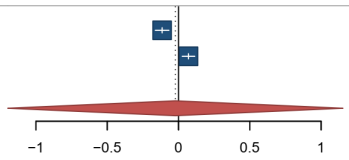
Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
AkkayaTurhan 2021	15	0.130	0.070	14	0.030	0.080	0.10 [0.05; 0.15]	34.0%
Gil 2020	96	0.157	0.096	20	0.021	0.074	0.14 [0.10; 0.17]	66.0%
Random effects model	**111**			**34**			**0.12 [−0.09; 0.34]**	**100.0%**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 11.0%, τ^2 < 0.0001, p = 0.2892
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 7.26 (p = 0.0872)

Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal)

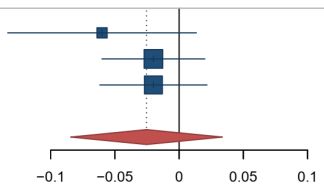
Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
Gil 2020	96	0.123	0.110	20	0.238	0.097	−0.11 [−0.16; −0.07]	49.9%
AkkayaTurhan 2021	15	0.280	0.070	14	0.210	0.050	0.07 [0.03; 0.11]	50.1%
Random effects model	**111**			**34**			**−0.02 [−1.20; 1.15]**	**100.0%**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 96.8%, τ^2 = 0.0166, p < 0.0001
Test for overall effect: t_1 = −0.24 (p = 0.8497)

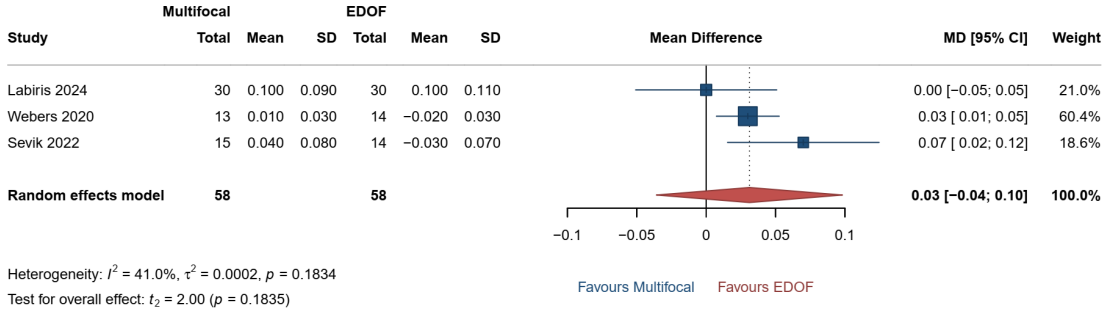
Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD [95% CI]	Weight
Webers 2020	13	−0.050	0.070	14	0.010	0.120	−0.06 [−0.13; 0.01]	13.4%
Sevik 2022	15	−0.050	0.060	14	−0.030	0.050	−0.02 [−0.06; 0.02]	45.0%
Labiris 2024	30	0.010	0.060	30	0.030	0.100	−0.02 [−0.06; 0.02]	41.6%
Random effects model	**58**			**58**			**−0.03 [−0.08; 0.03]**	**100.0%**

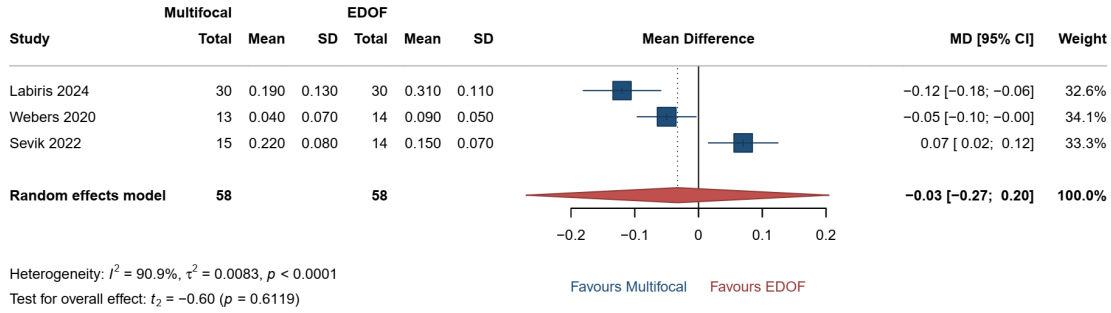


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.6109
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −1.85 (p = 0.2059)

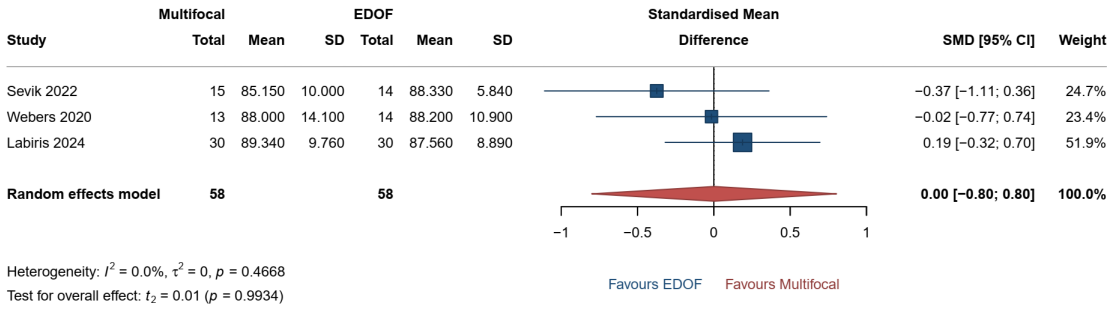
Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal)



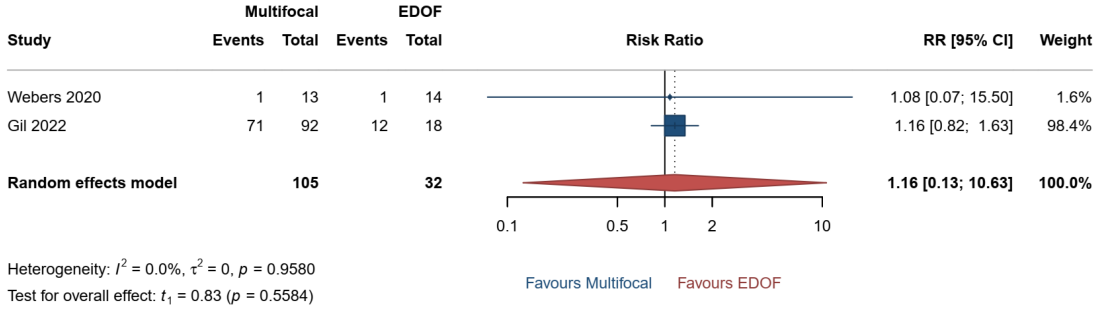
Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal)



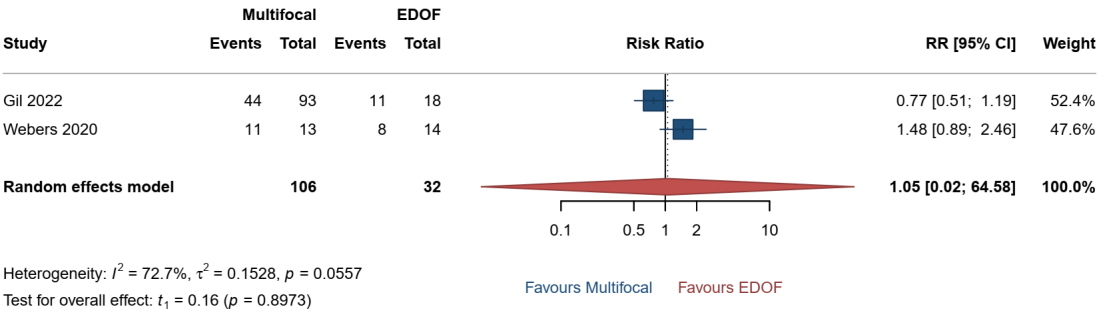
Visual function (unspecified instruments) (higher values favour multifocal)



Glare (RR < 1 favours multifocal)



Halos (RR < 1 favours multifocal)

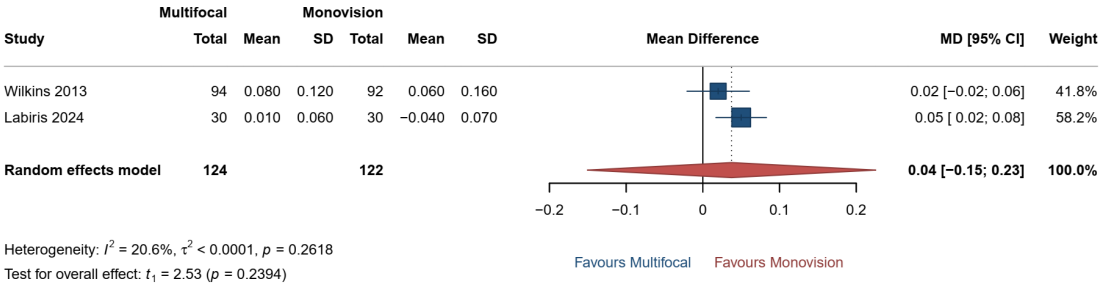


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 72.7%, τ^2 = 0.1528, p = 0.0557

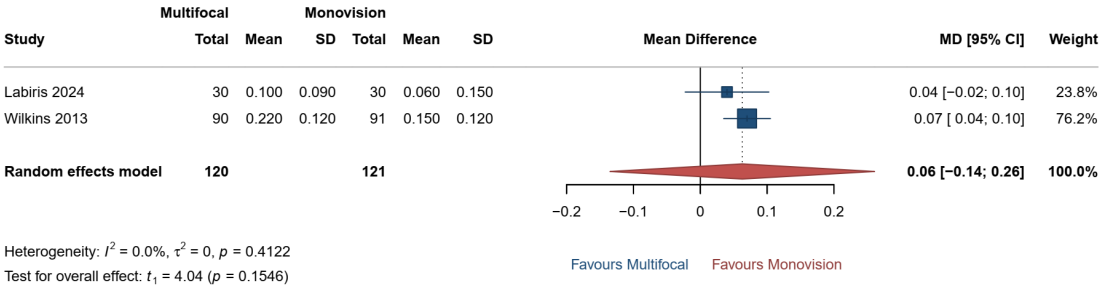
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 0.16 (p = 0.8973)

Multifocal vs Monovision

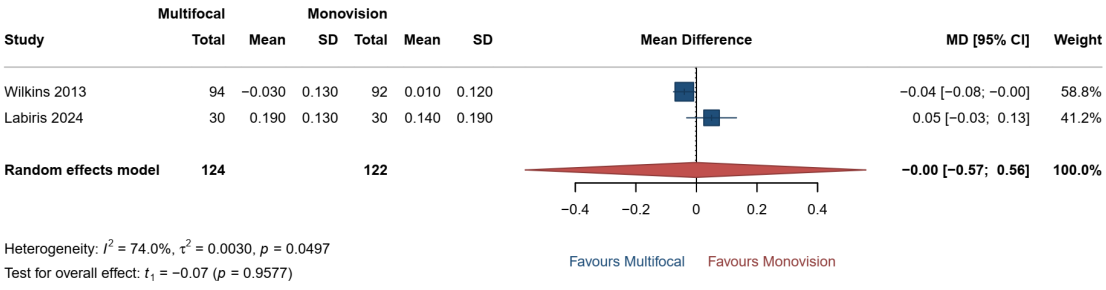
Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal lenses)



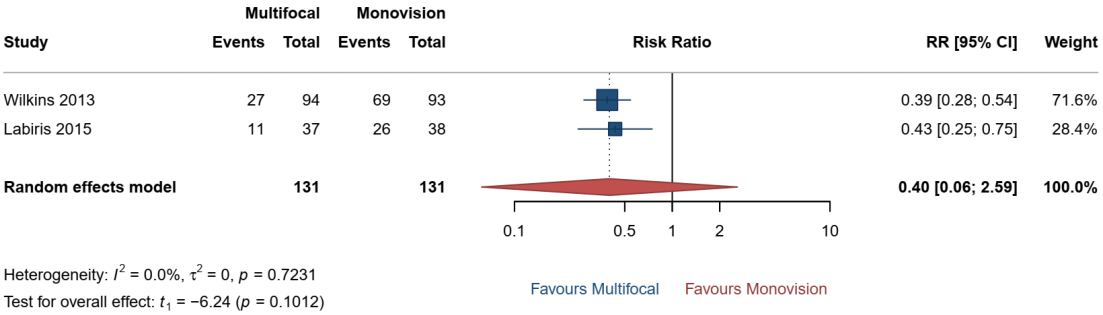
Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal lenses)



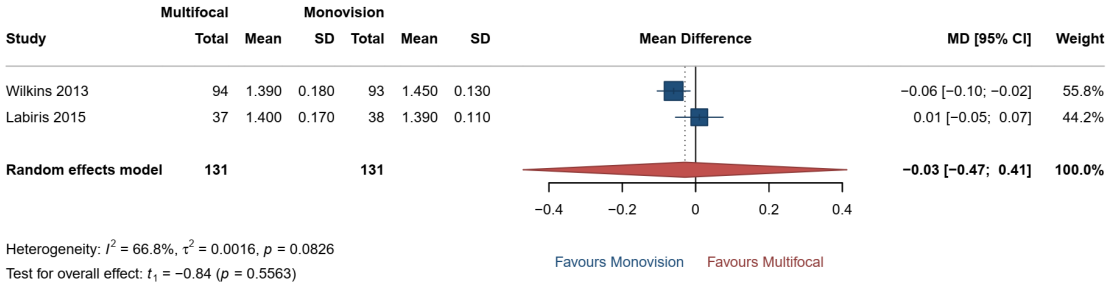
Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour multifocal lenses)



Spectacle dependence - any (lower values favour multifocal lenses)



Contrast sensitivity - Pelli-Robson test (higher values favour multifocal lenses)

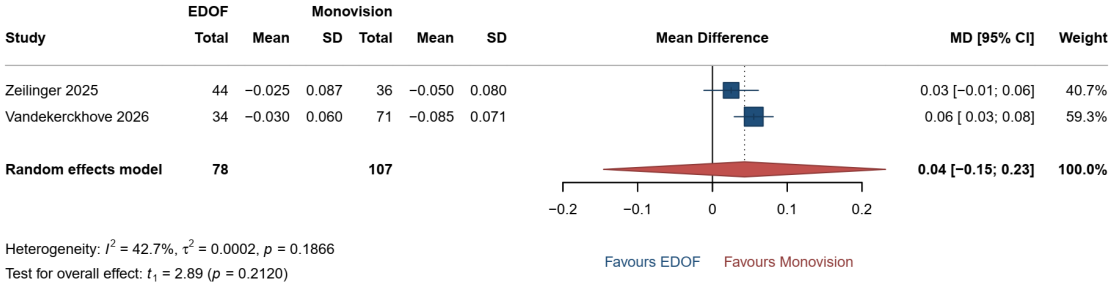


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 66.8%, τ^2 = 0.0016, p = 0.0826

Test for overall effect: t_1 = −0.84 (p = 0.5563)

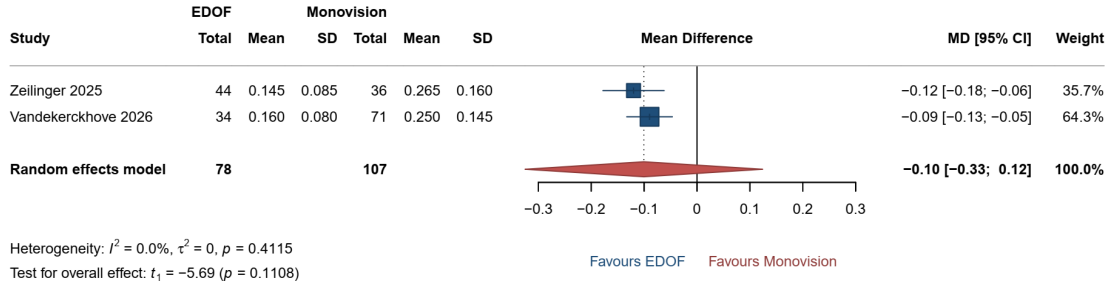
EDOF vs Monovision

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour EDOF IOL)



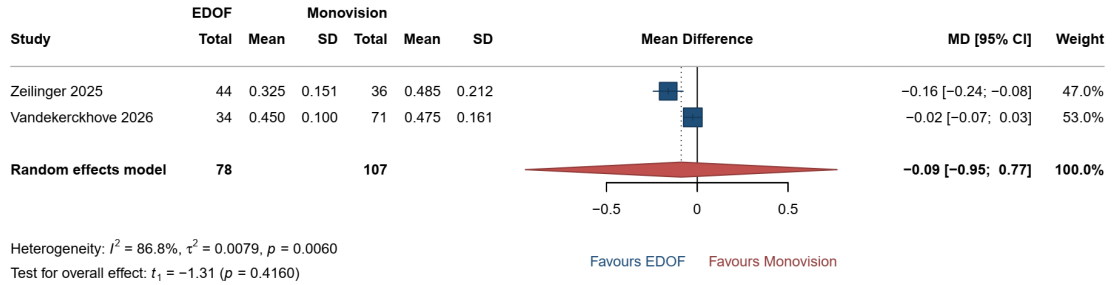
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 42.7%, τ^2 = 0.0002, p = 0.1866
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 2.89 (p = 0.2120)

Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour EDOF IOL)



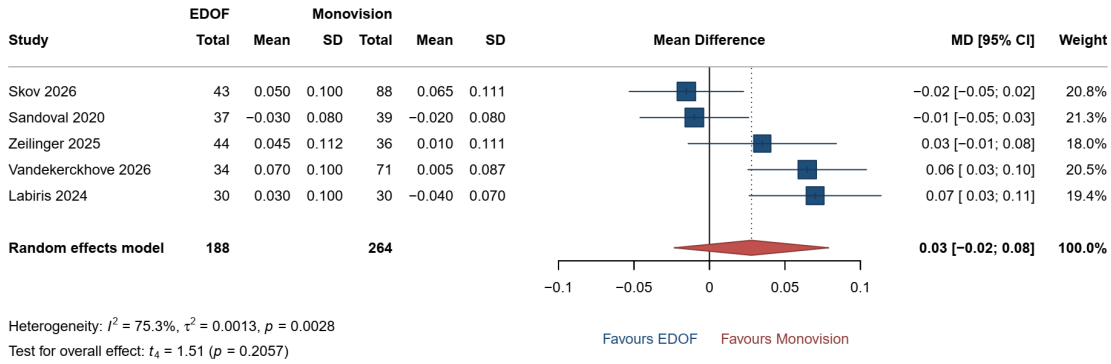
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.4115
Test for overall effect: t_1 = −5.69 (p = 0.1108)

Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour EDOF IOL)

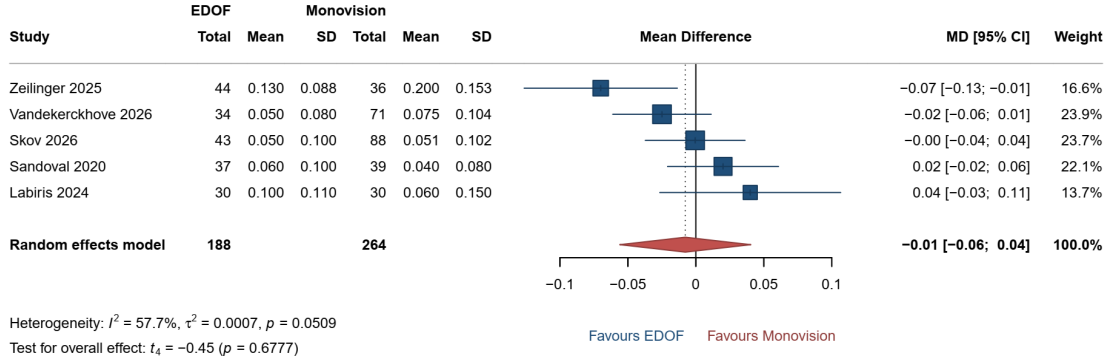


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 86.8%, τ^2 = 0.0079, p = 0.0060
Test for overall effect: t_1 = −1.31 (p = 0.4160)

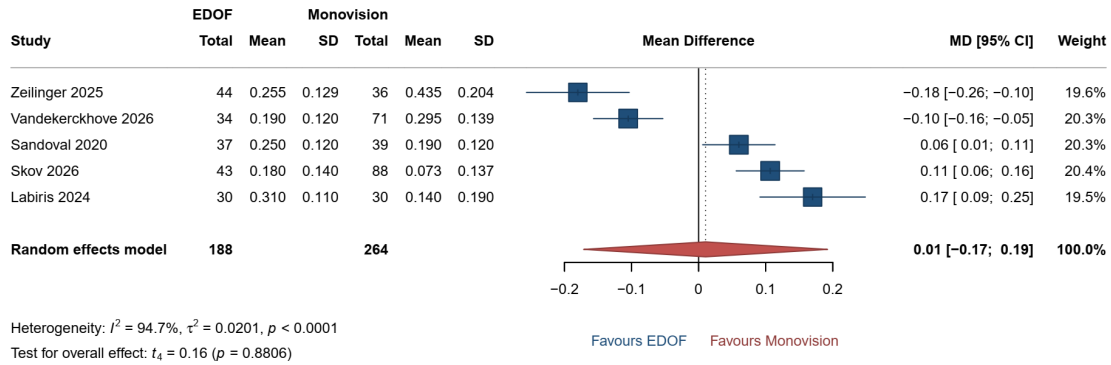
Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour EDOF IOL)



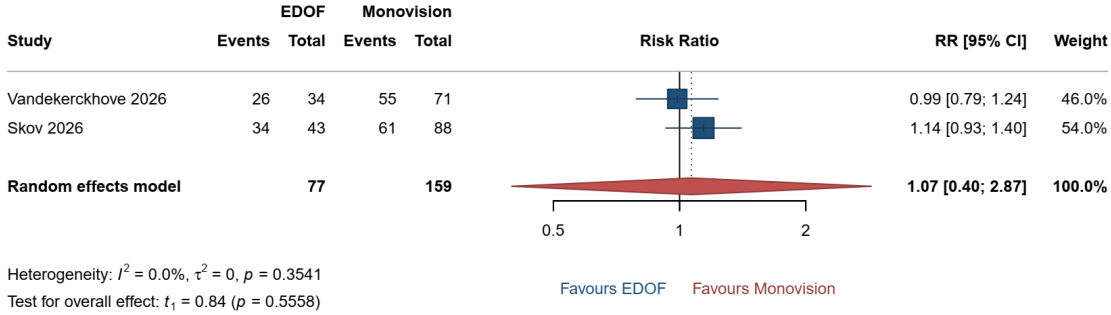
Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour EDOF IOL)



Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour EDOF IOL)

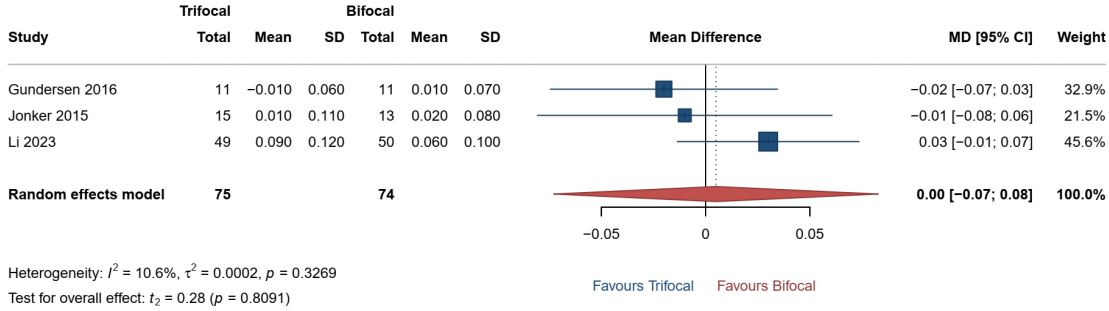


Spectacle dependence (any) (lower risk favours EDOF IOL)



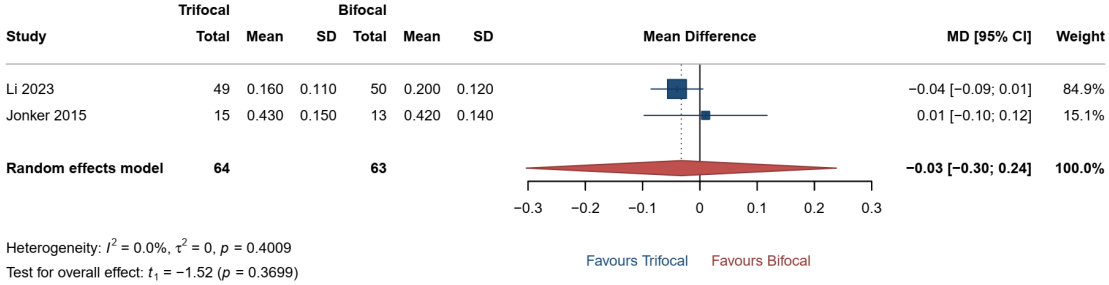
Trifocal vs Bifocal

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (lower values favour trifocal lenses)



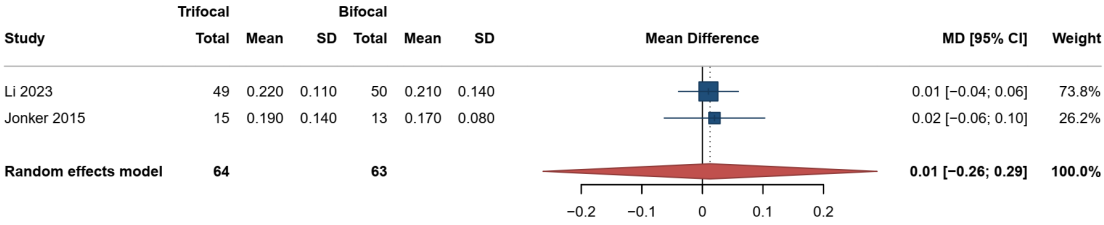
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 10.6%, τ^2 = 0.0002, p = 0.3269
Test for overall effect: t_2 = 0.28 (p = 0.8091)

Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (lower values favour trifocal lenses)



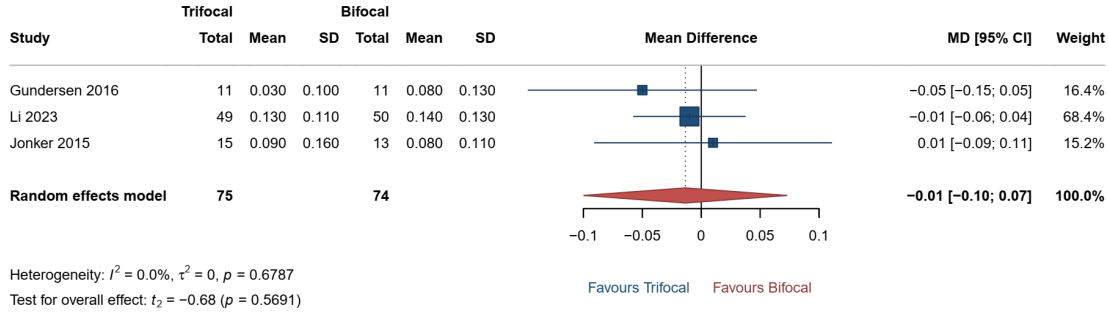
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.4009
Test for overall effect: t_1 = −1.52 (p = 0.3699)

Mean corrected near visual acuity(lower values favour trifocal lenses)



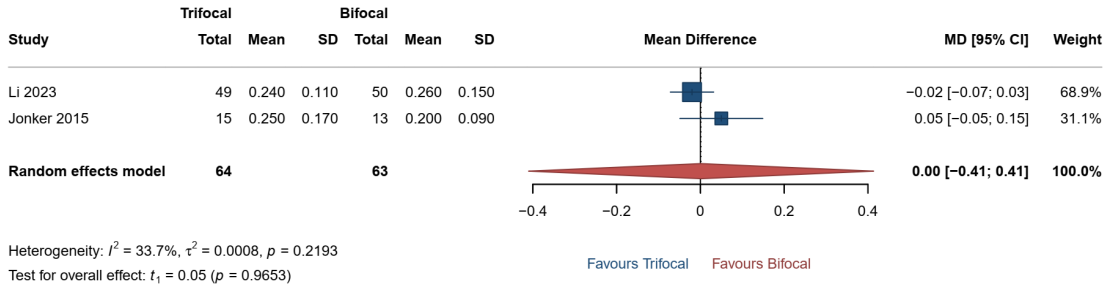
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.8395
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 0.58 (p = 0.6648)

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR) (lower values favour trifocal lenses)



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, p = 0.6787
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −0.68 (p = 0.5691)

Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (lower values favour trifocal lenses)



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 33.7%, τ^2 = 0.0008, p = 0.2193

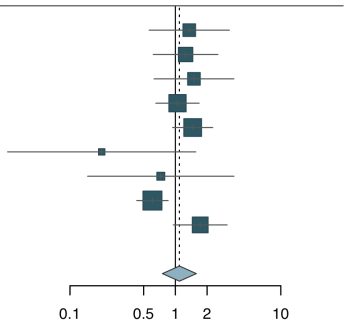
Test for overall effect: t_1 = 0.05 (p = 0.9653)

Human-only group

Multifocal vs Monofocal

Corrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6

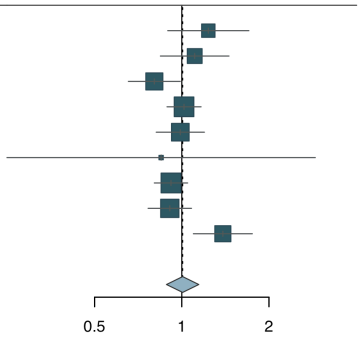
Study	Multifocal Events	Multifocal Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
elMaghraby 1992	8	27	7	32	1.35 [0.56; 3.25]	8.6
Steinert 1992	12	32	9	30	1.25 [0.62; 2.53]	11.2
Percival 1993	9	25	6	25	1.50 [0.63; 3.59]	8.6
Rossetti 1994	18	38	19	42	1.05 [0.65; 1.68]	16.1
Haaskjold 1998	38	115	24	106	1.46 [0.94; 2.26]	17.0
Kamlesh 2001	1	20	5	20	0.20 [0.03; 1.56]	2.2
Leyland 2002	4	44	2	16	0.73 [0.15; 3.60]	3.4
Sen 2004	23	53	48	67	0.61 [0.43; 0.85]	19.5
Chang 2023	26	131	15	130	1.72 [0.96; 3.09]	13.5
Total	**139**	**485**	**135**	**468**	**1.09 [0.75; 1.58]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 56.9%, τ^2 = 0.1023, χ^2_8 = 18.58 (p = 0.0173)
Test for overall effect: t_8 = 0.54 (p = 0.6009)

Uncorrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6

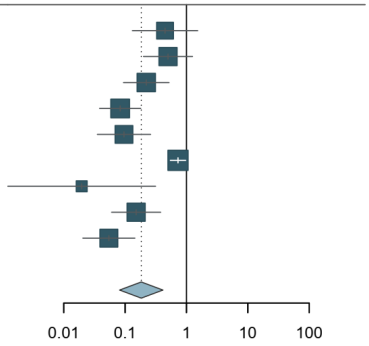
Study	Multifocal Events	Multifocal Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
elMaghraby 1992	22	28	21	33	1.23 [0.89; 1.70]	7.5
Steinert 1992	26	32	22	30	1.11 [0.84; 1.46]	9.2
Percival 1993	20	25	25	25	0.80 [0.65; 0.99]	12.2
Rossetti 1994	35	38	38	42	1.02 [0.89; 1.17]	16.2
Haaskjold 1998	58	79	52	70	0.99 [0.82; 1.20]	13.0
Leyland 2002	7	44	3	16	0.85 [0.25; 2.89]	0.8
Sen 2004	45	53	62	67	0.92 [0.80; 1.05]	16.4
Jusufovic 2011	40	50	44	50	0.91 [0.77; 1.08]	14.0
Chang 2023	81	131	58	130	1.39 [1.10; 1.75]	10.8
Total	**334**	**480**	**325**	**463**	**1.01 [0.89; 1.14]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 52.2%, τ^2 = 0.0145, χ^2_8 = 16.73 (p = 0.0331)
Test for overall effect: t_8 = 0.12 (p = 0.9080)

Uncorrected near visual acuity worse than J3/J4 or an equivalent threshold

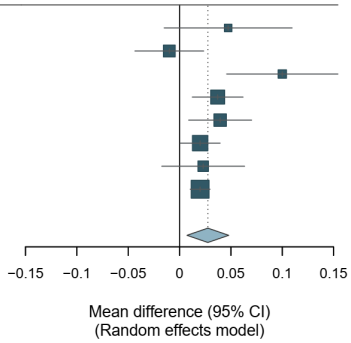
Study	Multifocal Events	Multifocal Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
elMaghraby 1992	3	23	7	24	0.45 [0.13; 1.52]	10.1
Percival 1993	5	25	10	25	0.50 [0.20; 1.25]	11.8
Rossetti 1994	5	38	25	42	0.22 [0.09; 0.52]	12.1
Haaskjold 1998	6	79	64	70	0.08 [0.04; 0.18]	12.6
Javitt 2000	4	123	37	109	0.10 [0.04; 0.26]	11.3
Leyland 2002	28	44	14	16	0.73 [0.54; 0.97]	14.6
Jusufovic 2011	0	50	25	50	0.02 [0.00; 0.31]	4.3
Ji 2013	4	30	30	34	0.15 [0.06; 0.38]	11.8
Chang 2023	4	131	73	130	0.05 [0.02; 0.14]	11.5
Total	**59**	**543**	**285**	**500**	**0.18 [0.08; 0.41]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 88.0%, τ^2 = 0.8137, χ^2_8 = 66.84 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_8 = −4.81 (p = 0.0013)

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

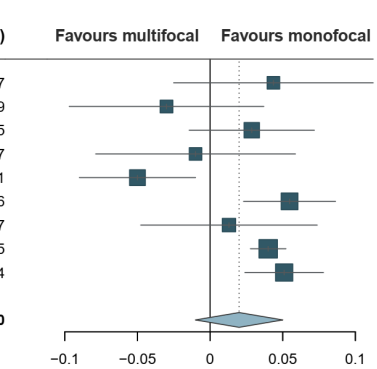
Study	Multifocal Total	Multifocal Mean	Multifocal SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Leyland 2002	44	0.037	0.106	16	−0.010	0.110	0.05 [−0.01; 0.11]	4.4
Nijkamp 2004	68	0.020	0.100	69	0.030	0.100	−0.01 [−0.04; 0.02]	10.9
Harman 2008	24	0.000	0.090	19	−0.100	0.090	0.10 [0.05; 0.15]	5.5
Palmer 2008	90	0.087	0.070	24	0.050	0.050	0.04 [0.01; 0.06]	15.2
Rasp 2012	234	0.070	0.092	58	0.030	0.110	0.04 [0.01; 0.07]	12.1
Peng 2012	100	−0.020	0.060	102	−0.040	0.080	0.02 [0.00; 0.04]	18.4
Law 2020	43	0.093	0.090	47	0.070	0.105	0.02 [−0.02; 0.06]	8.6
Messias 2021	32	0.050	0.020	34	0.030	0.020	0.02 [0.01; 0.03]	24.9
Total	**635**			**369**			**0.03 [0.01; 0.05]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 53.0%, τ^2 = 0.0002, χ^2_7 = 14.90 (p = 0.0373)
Test for overall effect: t_7 = 3.20 (p = 0.0150)

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Multifocal Mean	Multifocal SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Leyland 2002	44	0.074	0.120	16	0.030	0.120	0.04 [−0.03; 0.11]	7.7
Nijkamp 2004	68	0.130	0.200	69	0.160	0.200	−0.03 [−0.10; 0.04]	7.9
Palmer 2008	90	0.159	0.115	24	0.130	0.090	0.03 [−0.01; 0.07]	11.5
Harman 2008	24	0.070	0.130	19	0.080	0.100	−0.01 [−0.08; 0.06]	7.7
Peng 2012	100	0.030	0.140	102	0.080	0.150	−0.05 [−0.09; −0.01]	12.1
Rasp 2012	234	0.135	0.111	58	0.080	0.110	0.05 [0.02; 0.09]	13.6
Law 2020	43	0.205	0.138	47	0.192	0.156	0.01 [−0.05; 0.07]	8.7
Messias 2021	32	0.180	0.020	34	0.140	0.030	0.04 [0.03; 0.05]	16.5
Chang 2023	131	0.023	0.114	130	−0.028	0.109	0.05 [0.02; 0.08]	14.4
Total	**766**			**499**			**0.02 [−0.01; 0.05]**	**100.0**

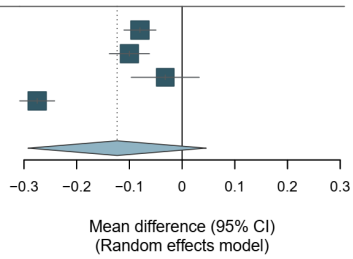


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 70.0%, τ^2 = 0.0010, χ^2_8 = 26.69 (p = 0.0008)
Test for overall effect: t_8 = 1.53 (p = 0.1643)

Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Peng 2012	100	0.160	0.110	102	0.240	0.110	−0.08 [−0.11; −0.05]	25.6
Maxwell 2017	153	0.330	0.174	160	0.430	0.169	−0.10 [−0.14; −0.06]	25.2
Law 2020	43	0.389	0.130	47	0.421	0.180	−0.03 [−0.10; 0.03]	23.7
Chang 2023	131	0.060	0.115	130	0.335	0.155	−0.28 [−0.31; −0.24]	25.5
Total	**427**			**439**			**−0.12 [−0.29; 0.05]**	**100.0**

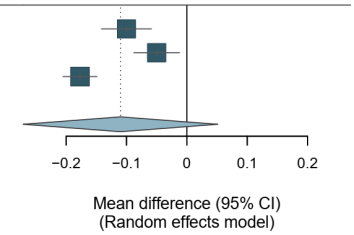
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 96.8%, τ^2 = 0.0108, χ^2_3 = 93.80 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_3 = −2.32 (p = 0.1031)



Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Peng 2012	100	0.170	0.150	102	0.270	0.150	−0.10 [−0.14; −0.06]	32.5
Maxwell 2017	153	0.340	0.159	160	0.390	0.182	−0.05 [−0.09; −0.01]	33.1
Chang 2023	131	0.022	0.101	130	0.199	0.129	−0.18 [−0.21; −0.15]	34.4
Total	**384**			**392**			**−0.11 [−0.27; 0.05]**	**100.0**

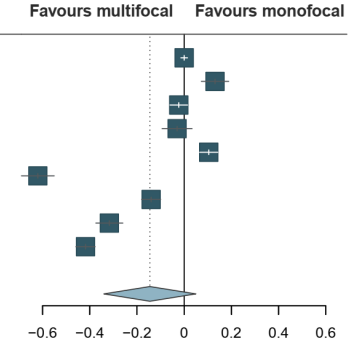
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 93.3%, τ^2 = 0.0039, χ^2_2 = 29.64 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −2.93 (p = 0.0992)



Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Javitt 2000	123	0.000	0.060	109	0.000	0.050	0.00 [−0.01; 0.01]	11.2
Leyland 2002	88	0.331	0.175	32	0.200	0.130	0.13 [0.07; 0.19]	11.1
Palmer 2008	90	0.017	0.049	24	0.040	0.090	−0.02 [−0.06; 0.01]	11.2
Harman 2008	24	0.360	0.100	19	0.390	0.110	−0.03 [−0.09; 0.03]	11.0
Rasp 2012	234	0.234	0.151	58	0.130	0.130	0.10 [0.07; 0.14]	11.2
Peng 2012	100	0.030	0.110	102	0.650	0.340	−0.62 [−0.69; −0.55]	11.0
Maxwell 2017	153	0.560	0.175	160	0.700	0.189	−0.14 [−0.18; −0.10]	11.1
Law 2020	43	0.288	0.143	47	0.605	0.133	−0.32 [−0.37; −0.26]	11.1
Chang 2023	131	0.104	0.138	130	0.522	0.193	−0.42 [−0.46; −0.38]	11.1
Total	**986**			**681**			**−0.15 [−0.34; 0.05]**	**100.0**

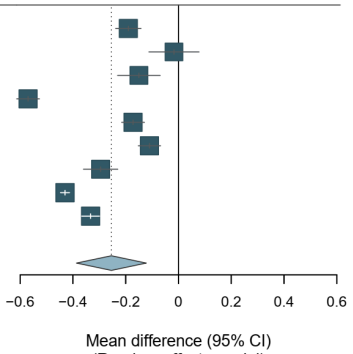
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 99.0%, τ^2 = 0.0635, χ^2_8 = 823.02 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_8 = −1.72 (p = 0.1241)



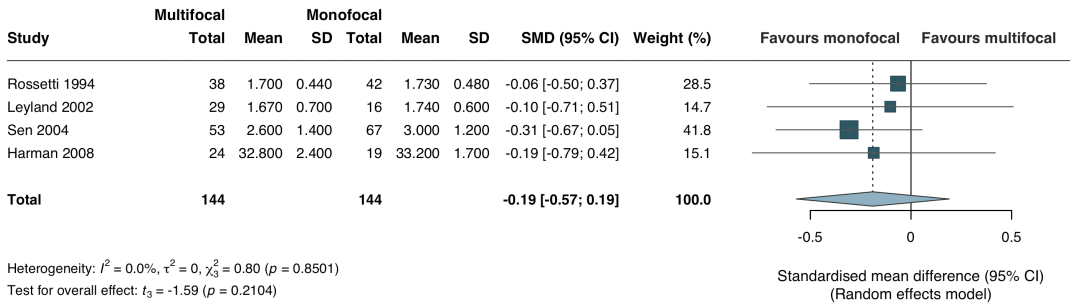
Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Javitt 2000	123	0.110	0.140	109	0.300	0.220	−0.19 [−0.24; −0.14]	11.2
Leyland 2002	44	0.443	0.182	16	0.460	0.160	−0.02 [−0.11; 0.08]	10.6
Harman 2008	24	0.490	0.150	19	0.640	0.120	−0.15 [−0.23; −0.07]	10.8
Peng 2012	100	0.070	0.070	102	0.640	0.210	−0.57 [−0.61; −0.53]	11.2
Rasp 2012	234	0.298	0.150	58	0.470	0.150	−0.17 [−0.22; −0.13]	11.2
Maxwell 2017	153	0.550	0.196	160	0.660	0.183	−0.11 [−0.15; −0.07]	11.2
Law 2020	43	0.319	0.107	47	0.614	0.198	−0.29 [−0.36; −0.23]	11.0
Messias 2021	32	0.080	0.010	34	0.510	0.050	−0.43 [−0.45; −0.41]	11.4
Chang 2023	131	0.060	0.122	130	0.393	0.155	−0.33 [−0.37; −0.30]	11.3
Total	**884**			**675**			**−0.25 [−0.39; −0.12]**	**100.0**

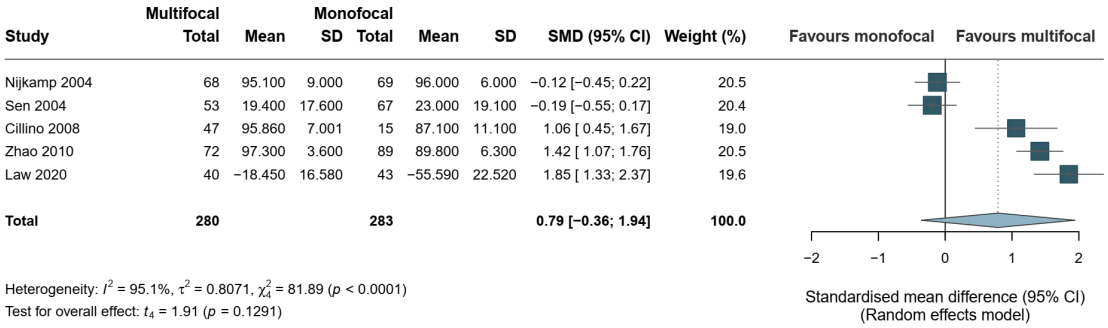
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 98.4%, τ^2 = 0.0287, χ^2_8 = 491.40 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_8 = −4.43 (p = 0.0022)



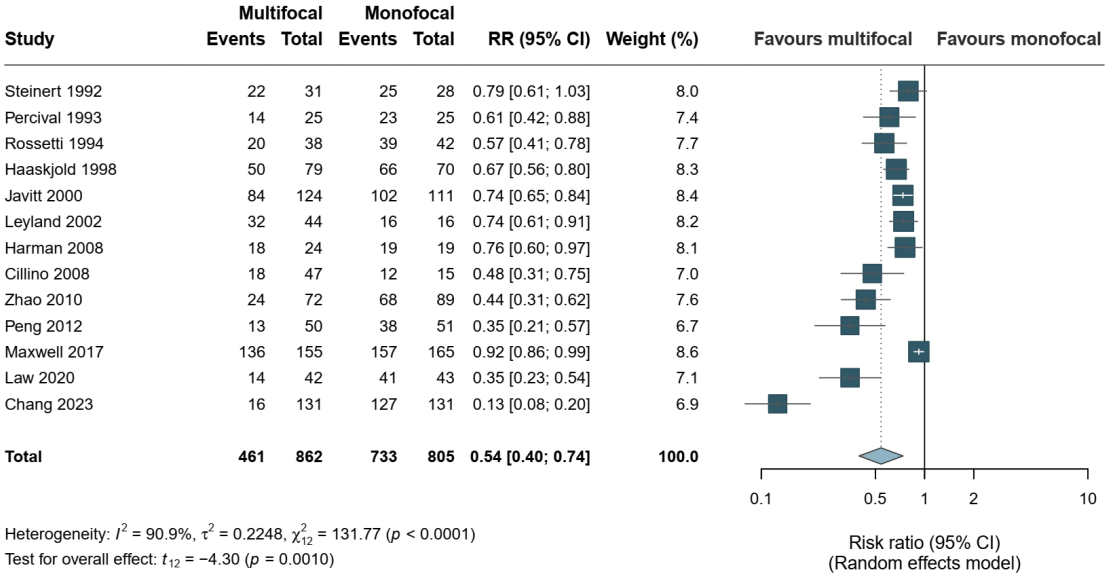
Contrast sensitivity



Visual function (any)

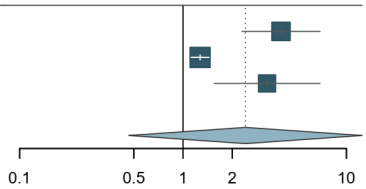


Spectacle dependence (any)



Patient satisfaction (number)

Study	Multifocal Events	Multifocal Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Law 2020	37	40	10	43	3.98 [2.29; 6.89]	32.6
Chang 2023	117	131	92	131	1.27 [1.12; 1.44]	39.1
Hida 2024	21	30	6	28	3.27 [1.55; 6.89]	28.4
Total	**175**	**201**	**108**	**202**	**2.41 [0.47; 12.46]**	**100.0**

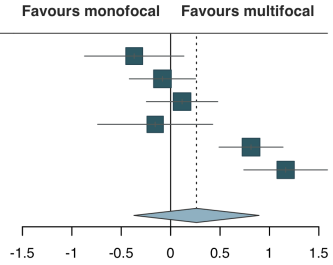


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 90.5%, τ^2 = 0.3693, χ^2_2 = 20.95 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = 2.30 (p = 0.1480)

Risk ratio (95% CI)
(Random effects model)

Patient satisfaction (score)

Study	Multifocal Total	Multifocal Mean	Multifocal SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	SMD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Steinert 1992	32	-1.770	1.360	30	-1.350	0.800	-0.37 [-0.87; 0.13]	15.9
Nijkamp 2004	68	-0.400	1.200	69	-0.300	1.200	-0.08 [-0.42; 0.25]	17.5
Sen 2004	53	-1.300	0.800	67	-1.400	0.900	0.12 [-0.24; 0.48]	17.3
Cillino 2008	47	4.534	0.446	15	4.600	0.300	-0.16 [-0.74; 0.43]	15.0
Zhao 2010	72	4.700	0.300	89	4.300	0.600	0.81 [0.49; 1.14]	17.6
Peng 2012	50	8.140	1.200	51	6.230	1.960	1.16 [0.74; 1.59]	16.7
Total	**322**			**321**			**0.26 [-0.37; 0.89]**	**100.0**

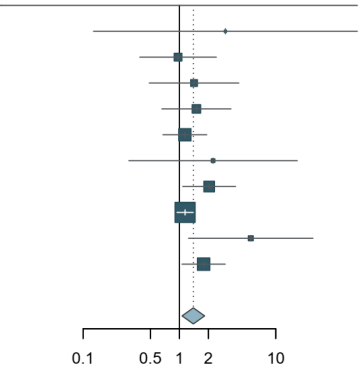


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 87.7%, τ^2 = 0.3156, χ^2_5 = 40.81 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_5 = 1.06 (p = 0.3371)

Standardised mean difference (95% CI)
(Random effects model)

Glare

Study	Multifocal Events	Multifocal Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Percival 1993	1	25	0	25	3.00 [0.13; 70.30]	0.5
Rossetti 1994	7	38	8	42	0.97 [0.39; 2.41]	5.8
Haaskjold 1998	8	79	5	70	1.42 [0.49; 4.13]	4.4
Kamlesh 2001	9	20	6	20	1.50 [0.66; 3.43]	7.0
Sen 2004	18	53	20	67	1.14 [0.67; 1.92]	14.4
Cillino 2008	7	47	1	15	2.23 [0.30; 16.72]	1.3
Harman 2008	18	24	7	19	2.04 [1.08; 3.83]	10.9
Maxwell 2017	93	153	85	160	1.14 [0.94; 1.39]	38.6
Chang 2023	11	131	2	131	5.50 [1.24; 24.33]	2.4
Hida 2024	21	30	11	28	1.78 [1.06; 2.99]	14.8
Total	**193**	**600**	**145**	**577**	**1.39 [1.06; 1.83]**	**100.0**

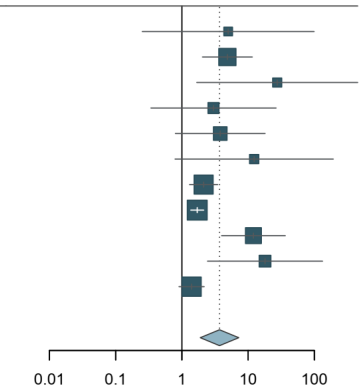


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 9.4%, τ^2 = 0.0273, χ^2_9 = 9.93 (p = 0.3561)
Test for overall effect: t_9 = 2.77 (p = 0.0216)

Risk ratio (95% CI)
(Random effects model)

Halos

Study	Multifocal Events	Multifocal Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Percival 1993	2	25	0	25	5.00 [0.25; 99.16]	3.2
Rossetti 1994	22	38	5	42	4.86 [2.05; 11.56]	12.5
Haaskjold 1998	15	79	0	70	27.51 [1.68; 451.52]	3.5
Kamlesh 2001	3	20	1	20	3.00 [0.34; 26.45]	5.1
Sen 2004	6	53	2	67	3.79 [0.80; 18.03]	7.8
Cillino 2008	18	47	0	15	12.33 [0.79; 193.20]	3.6
Zhao 2010	31	72	18	89	2.13 [1.30; 3.48]	15.3
Maxwell 2017	101	153	62	160	1.70 [1.36; 2.13]	16.7
Law 2020	33	43	3	47	12.02 [3.97; 36.38]	10.7
Chang 2023	18	131	1	131	18.00 [2.44; 132.88]	5.8
Hida 2024	21	30	14	28	1.40 [0.90; 2.17]	15.7
Total	**270**	**691**	**106**	**694**	**3.70 [1.89; 7.23]**	**100.0**

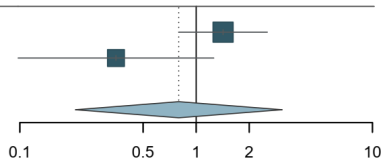


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 66.1%, τ^2 = 0.5273, χ^2_{10} = 29.48 (p = 0.0010)
Test for overall effect: t_{10} = 4.35 (p = 0.0014)

EDOF vs Monofocal

Corrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6

Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Chang 2022	24	147	17	148	1.42 [0.80; 2.53]	58.6
Black 2024	3	62	8	58	0.35 [0.10; 1.26]	41.4
Total	**27**	**209**	**25**	**206**	**0.80 [0.21; 3.08]**	**100.0**

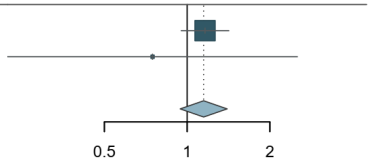


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 73.9%, τ^2 = 0.7229, χ^2_1 = 3.82 (p = 0.0505)
Test for overall effect: z = −0.33 (p = 0.7417)

Risk ratio (95% CI)
(Random effects model)

Uncorrected distance visual acuity worse than 6/6

Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Chang 2022	90	147	78	148	1.16 [0.95; 1.42]	97.4
Black 2024	4	31	5	29	0.75 [0.22; 2.52]	2.6
Total	**94**	**178**	**83**	**177**	**1.15 [0.94; 1.40]**	**100.0**

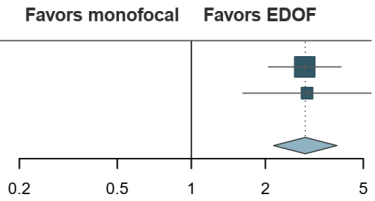


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.49 (p = 0.4834)
Test for overall effect: z = 1.38 (p = 0.1688)

Risk ratio (95% CI)
(Random effects model)

Corrected intermediate visual acuity meeting the study-defined threshold

Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
McCabe 2022	78	107	28	111	2.89 [2.06; 4.06]	75.7
Pantanelli 2023	21	24	8	27	2.95 [1.62; 5.38]	24.3
Total	**99**	**131**	**36**	**138**	**2.91 [2.16; 3.91]**	**100.0**

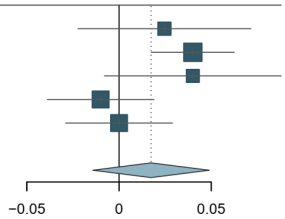


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.00 (p = 0.9510)
Test for overall effect: z = 7.06 (p < 0.0001)

Risk ratio (95% CI)
(Random effects model)

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Reinhard 2021	142	0.045	0.160	65	0.020	0.160	0.02 [−0.02; 0.07]	14.0
Bala 2022	150	−0.008	0.093	118	−0.048	0.093	0.04 [0.02; 0.06]	26.8
Pantanelli 2023	24	−0.010	0.100	27	−0.050	0.070	0.04 [−0.01; 0.09]	13.6
Corbett 2024	60	−0.060	0.080	58	−0.050	0.080	−0.01 [−0.04; 0.02]	22.8
Black 2024	62	−0.060	0.070	58	−0.060	0.090	0.00 [−0.03; 0.03]	22.7
Total	**438**			**326**			**0.02 [−0.01; 0.05]**	**100.0**



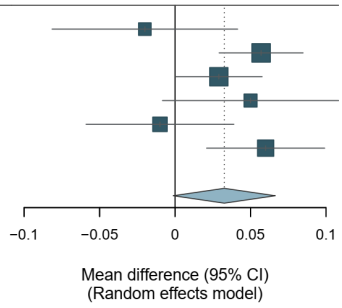
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 58.6%, τ^2 = 0.0004, χ^2_4 = 9.65 (p = 0.0467)
Test for overall effect: t_4 = 1.53 (p = 0.2019)

Mean difference (95% CI)
(Random effects model)

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Reinhard 2021	142	0.120	0.184	65	0.140	0.220	−0.02 [−0.08; 0.04]	10.7
McCabe 2022	106	0.035	0.102	111	−0.022	0.107	0.06 [0.03; 0.08]	23.0
Bala 2022	149	0.013	0.125	117	−0.016	0.113	0.03 [0.00; 0.06]	22.6
Pantanelli 2023	24	0.020	0.130	27	−0.030	0.070	0.05 [−0.01; 0.11]	11.5
Black 2024	31	−0.030	0.080	29	−0.020	0.110	−0.01 [−0.06; 0.04]	14.2
Skov 2026	43	0.050	0.100	49	−0.010	0.090	0.06 [0.02; 0.10]	17.9
Total	**495**			**398**			**0.03 [−0.00; 0.07]**	**100.0**

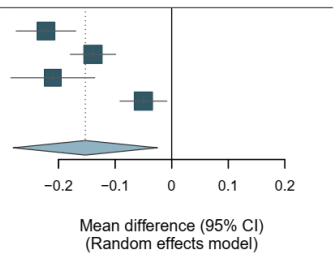
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 53.1%, τ^2 = 0.0005, χ^2_5 = 10.65 (p = 0.0587)
Test for overall effect: t_5 = 2.48 (p = 0.0560)



Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Reinhard 2021	142	0.148	0.177	65	0.370	0.180	−0.22 [−0.27; −0.17]	25.0
Bala 2022	150	0.161	0.167	118	0.300	0.166	−0.14 [−0.18; −0.10]	26.3
Pantanelli 2023	24	−0.020	0.130	27	0.190	0.140	−0.21 [−0.28; −0.14]	22.5
Corbett 2024	60	0.130	0.080	58	0.180	0.140	−0.05 [−0.09; −0.01]	26.2
Total	**376**			**268**			**−0.15 [−0.28; −0.02]**	**100.0**

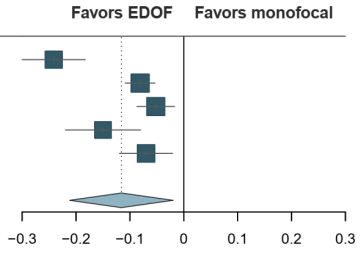
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 90.2%, τ^2 = 0.0057, χ^2_3 = 30.75 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_3 = −3.81 (p = 0.0319)



Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Reinhard 2021	142	0.179	0.175	65	0.420	0.210	−0.24 [−0.30; −0.18]	19.2
McCabe 2022	106	0.058	0.083	111	0.139	0.122	−0.08 [−0.11; −0.05]	21.6
Bala 2022	149	0.060	0.115	117	0.112	0.163	−0.05 [−0.09; −0.02]	21.2
Pantanelli 2023	24	0.010	0.140	27	0.160	0.110	−0.15 [−0.22; −0.08]	18.1
Skov 2026	43	0.050	0.100	49	0.120	0.140	−0.07 [−0.12; −0.02]	20.0
Total	**464**			**369**			**−0.12 [−0.21; −0.02]**	**100.0**

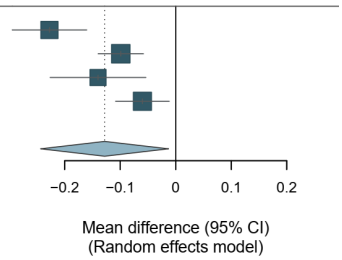
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 88.3%, τ^2 = 0.0052, χ^2_4 = 34.05 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_4 = −3.35 (p = 0.0285)



Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR)

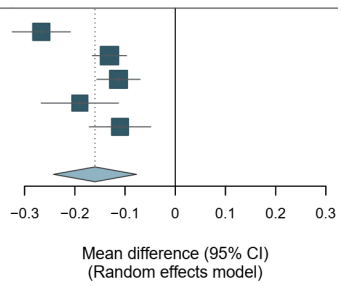
Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monofocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Reinhard 2021	142	0.352	0.202	65	0.580	0.240	−0.23 [−0.29; −0.16]	24.1
Bala 2022	153	0.414	0.171	115	0.513	0.167	−0.10 [−0.14; −0.06]	27.9
Pantanelli 2023	24	0.030	0.120	27	0.170	0.190	−0.14 [−0.23; −0.05]	21.1
Corbett 2024	60	0.370	0.100	58	0.430	0.160	−0.06 [−0.11; −0.01]	26.9
Total	**379**			**265**			**−0.13 [−0.24; −0.01]**	**100.0**

Heterogeneity: I^2 = 81.9%, τ^2 = 0.0043, χ^2_3 = 16.61 (p = 0.0008)
Test for overall effect: t_3 = −3.54 (p = 0.0385)



Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR)

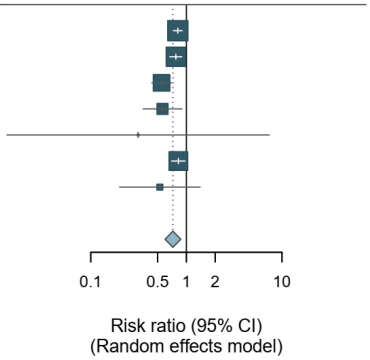
Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monofocal Total	Monofocal Mean	Monofocal SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Reinhard 2021	142	0.363	0.212	65	0.630	0.190	−0.27 [−0.32; −0.21]	19.7
McCabe 2022	106	0.208	0.104	111	0.339	0.149	−0.13 [−0.17; −0.10]	22.5
Bala 2022	149	0.232	0.164	117	0.345	0.188	−0.11 [−0.16; −0.07]	21.5
Pantanelli 2023	24	−0.030	0.140	27	0.160	0.140	−0.19 [−0.27; −0.11]	17.1
Skov 2026	43	0.180	0.140	49	0.290	0.160	−0.11 [−0.17; −0.05]	19.2
Total	**464**			**369**			**−0.16 [−0.24; −0.08]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 82.1%, τ^2 = 0.0036, χ^2_4 = 22.32 (p = 0.0002)
Test for overall effect: t_4 = −5.37 (p = 0.0058)

Spectacle dependence (any)

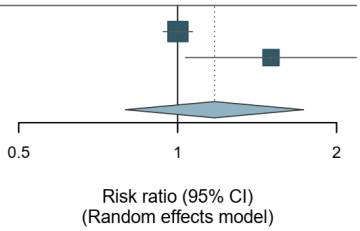
Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
McCabe 2022	80	102	107	111	0.81 [0.73; 0.91]	26.1
Bala 2022	74	106	72	80	0.78 [0.67; 0.90]	23.7
Chang 2022	55	147	100	147	0.55 [0.43; 0.70]	17.5
Pantanelli 2023	11	24	22	27	0.56 [0.35; 0.90]	7.8
Black 2024	0	31	1	29	0.31 [0.01; 7.38]	0.2
Skov 2026	34	43	47	49	0.82 [0.70; 0.97]	22.3
Palkovits 2026	4	16	9	19	0.53 [0.20; 1.40]	2.3
Total	**258**	**469**	**358**	**462**	**0.72 [0.60; 0.88]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 50.2%, τ^2 = 0.0204, χ^2_6 = 12.04 (p = 0.0611)
Test for overall effect: t_6 = −4.15 (p = 0.0060)

Patient satisfaction

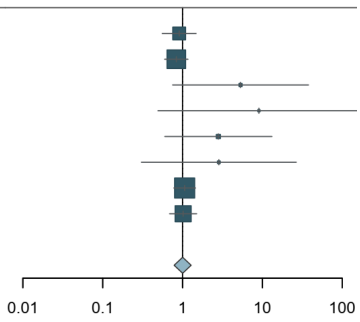
Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Black 2024	31	31	29	29	1.00 [0.94; 1.07]	60.7
Skov 2026	29	43	22	49	1.50 [1.03; 2.18]	39.3
Total	**60**	**74**	**51**	**78**	**1.17 [0.80; 1.73]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 77.3%, τ^2 = 0.0637, χ^2_1 = 4.41 (p = 0.0357)
Test for overall effect: z = 0.81 (p = 0.4179)

Glare

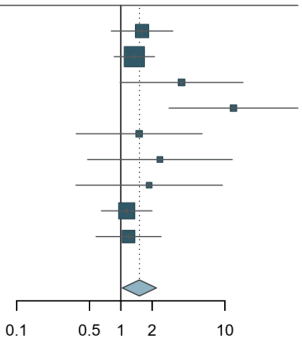
Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
McCabe 2022	23	106	27	113	0.91 [0.56; 1.48]	13.6
Bala 2022	41	106	37	80	0.84 [0.60; 1.17]	28.6
Guarro 2022	16	63	1	21	5.33 [0.75; 37.82]	0.8
Chang 2022	4	147	0	148	9.06 [0.49; 166.81]	0.4
Pantanelli 2023	5	24	2	27	2.81 [0.60; 13.18]	1.4
Corbett 2024	3	60	1	57	2.85 [0.31; 26.61]	0.6
Skov 2026	28	43	30	49	1.06 [0.78; 1.45]	33.3
Palkovits 2026	12	16	14	19	1.02 [0.69; 1.50]	21.3
Total	**132**	**565**	**112**	**514**	**1.00 [0.78; 1.28]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 21.9%, τ^2 < 0.0001, χ^2_7 = 8.96 (p = 0.2556)
Test for overall effect: t_7 = 0.03 (p = 0.9746)

Halos

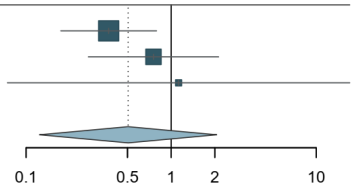
Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
McCabe 2022	18	106	12	113	1.60 [0.81; 3.16]	14.8
Bala 2022	38	106	21	79	1.35 [0.86; 2.11]	34.3
Guarro 2022	23	63	2	21	3.83 [0.99; 14.90]	3.7
Chang 2022	24	147	2	148	12.08 [2.91; 50.20]	3.4
Pantanelli 2023	4	24	3	27	1.50 [0.37; 6.04]	3.5
Corbett 2024	5	60	2	57	2.38 [0.48; 11.75]	2.7
Black 2024	4	31	2	29	1.87 [0.37; 9.46]	2.6
Skov 2026	16	43	16	49	1.14 [0.65; 1.99]	21.9
Palkovits 2026	8	16	8	19	1.19 [0.58; 2.44]	13.2
Total	**140**	**596**	**68**	**542**	**1.51 [1.03; 2.20]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 33.6%, τ^2 < 0.0001, χ^2_8 = 12.05 (p = 0.1491)
Test for overall effect: t_8 = 2.51 (p = 0.0365)

Blurred vision

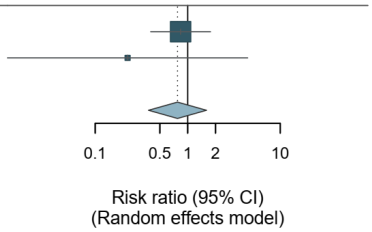
Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
McCabe 2022	8	106	23	113	0.37 [0.17; 0.79]	59.7
Chang 2022	6	147	8	148	0.76 [0.27; 2.12]	34.8
Pantanelli 2023	1	24	1	27	1.12 [0.07; 17.02]	5.5
Total	**15**	**277**	**32**	**288**	**0.50 [0.12; 2.06]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0.0288, χ^2_2 = 1.55 (p = 0.4612)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −2.09 (p = 0.1716)

Hazy vision

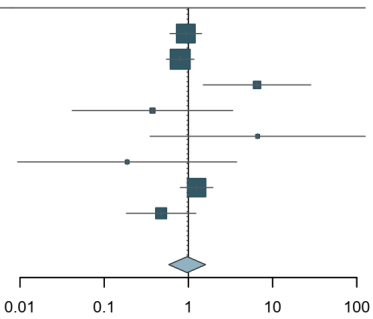
Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
McCabe 2022	11	106	14	113	0.84 [0.40; 1.76]	94.2
Pantanelli 2023	0	24	2	27	0.22 [0.01; 4.45]	5.8
Total	**11**	**130**	**16**	**140**	**0.78 [0.38; 1.60]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.70 (p = 0.4012)
Test for overall effect: z = −0.69 (p = 0.4901)

Starbursts

Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monofocal Events	Monofocal Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
McCabe 2022	28	106	32	113	0.93 [0.61; 1.44]	26.6
Bala 2022	35	106	33	80	0.80 [0.55; 1.17]	30.2
Chang 2022	13	147	2	148	6.54 [1.50; 28.49]	4.2
Pantanelli 2023	1	24	3	27	0.38 [0.04; 3.37]	2.0
Corbett 2024	3	60	0	57	6.66 [0.35; 126.06]	1.1
Black 2024	0	31	2	29	0.19 [0.01; 3.75]	1.1
Skov 2026	22	43	20	49	1.25 [0.80; 1.96]	25.7
Palkovits 2026	4	16	10	19	0.48 [0.18; 1.23]	9.1
Total	**106**	**533**	**102**	**522**	**0.97 [0.59; 1.60]**	**100.0**



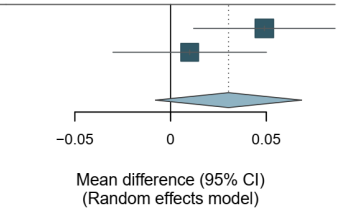
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 51.5%, τ^2 = 0.0486, χ^2_7 = 14.44 (p = 0.0439)
Test for overall effect: t_7 = −0.15 (p = 0.8834)

Multifocal vs EDOF

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Gil 2020	96	0.037	0.043	20	−0.012	0.082	0.05 [0.01; 0.09]	52.1
AkkayaTurhan 2021	15	−0.050	0.060	14	−0.060	0.050	0.01 [−0.03; 0.05]	47.9
Total	**111**			**34**			**0.03 [−0.01; 0.07]**	**100.0**

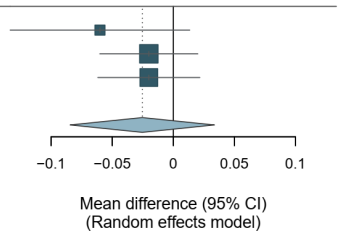
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 49.1%, τ^2 = 0.0004, χ^2_1 = 1.97 (p = 0.1610)
Test for overall effect: z = 1.56 (p = 0.1198)



Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Webers 2020	13	−0.050	0.070	14	0.010	0.120	−0.06 [−0.13; 0.01]	13.4
Sevik 2022	15	−0.050	0.060	14	−0.030	0.050	−0.02 [−0.06; 0.02]	45.0
Labiris 2024	30	0.010	0.060	30	0.030	0.100	−0.02 [−0.06; 0.02]	41.6
Total	**58**			**58**			**−0.03 [−0.08; 0.03]**	**100.0**

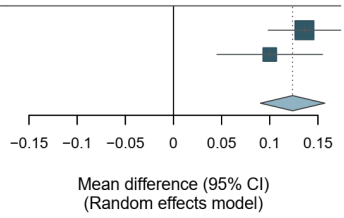
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_2 = 0.99 (p = 0.6109)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −1.85 (p = 0.2059)



Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Gil 2020	96	0.157	0.096	20	0.021	0.074	0.14 [0.10; 0.17]	66.0
AkkayaTurhan 2021	15	0.130	0.070	14	0.030	0.080	0.10 [0.05; 0.15]	34.0
Total	**111**			**34**			**0.12 [0.09; 0.16]**	**100.0**

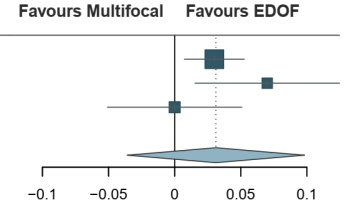
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 11.0%, τ^2 < 0.0001, χ^2_1 = 1.12 (p = 0.2892)
Test for overall effect: z = 7.26 (p < 0.0001)



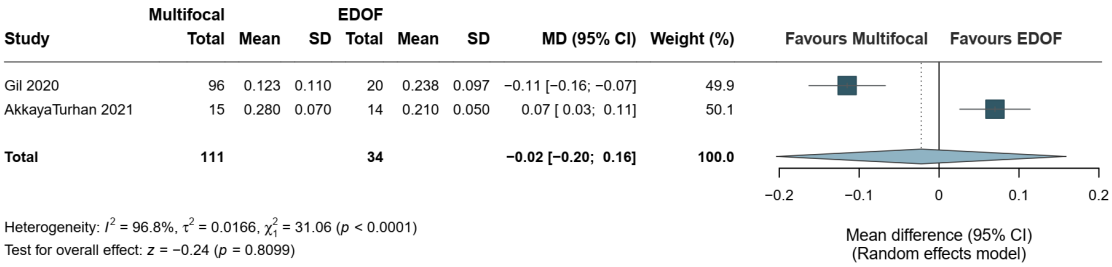
Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

Study	Multifocal Total	Mean	SD	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Webers 2020	13	0.010	0.030	14	−0.020	0.030	0.03 [0.01; 0.05]	60.4
Sevik 2022	15	0.040	0.080	14	−0.030	0.070	0.07 [0.02; 0.12]	18.6
Labiris 2024	30	0.100	0.090	30	0.100	0.110	0.00 [−0.05; 0.05]	21.0
Total	**58**			**58**			**0.03 [−0.04; 0.10]**	**100.0**

Heterogeneity: I^2 = 41.0%, τ^2 = 0.0002, χ^2_2 = 3.39 (p = 0.1834)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = 2.00 (p = 0.1835)

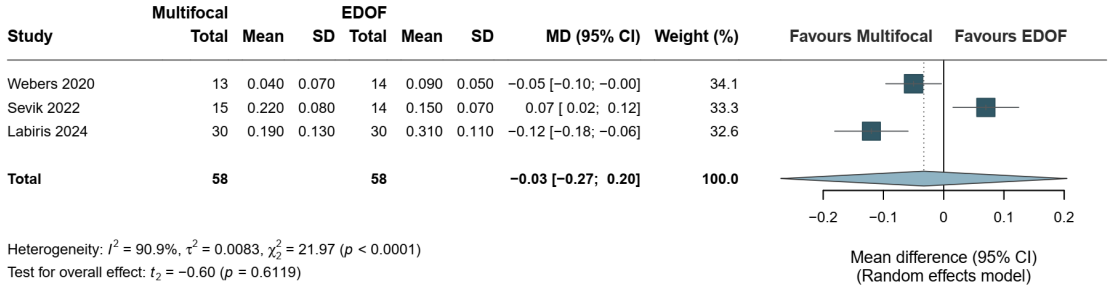


Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR)



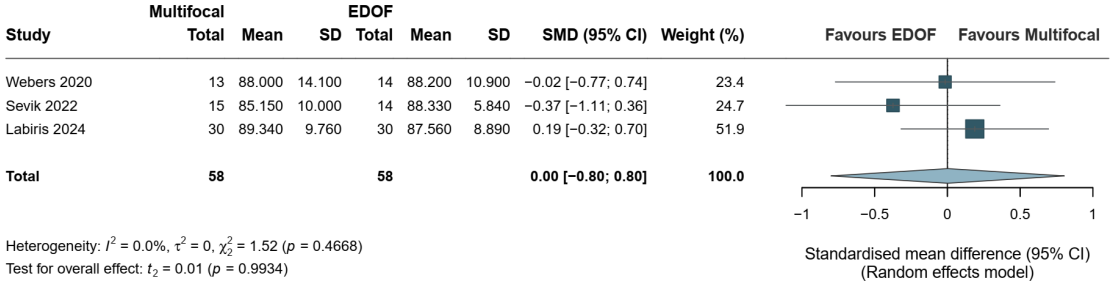
Heterogeneity: I^2 = 96.8%, τ^2 = 0.0166, χ^2_1 = 31.06 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: z = −0.24 (p = 0.8099)

Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR)



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 90.9%, τ^2 = 0.0083, χ^2_2 = 21.97 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −0.60 (p = 0.6119)

Visual function (unspecified instruments)

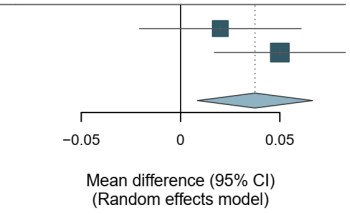


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_2 = 1.52 (p = 0.4668)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = 0.01 (p = 0.9934)

Multifocal vs Monovision

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

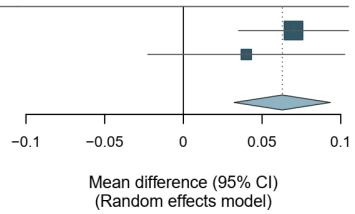
	Multifocal			Monovision				
Study	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Wilkins 2013	94	0.080	0.120	92	0.060	0.160	0.02 [−0.02; 0.06]	41.8
Labiris 2024	30	0.010	0.060	30	−0.040	0.070	0.05 [0.02; 0.08]	58.2
Total	**124**			**122**			**0.04 [0.01; 0.07]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 20.6%, τ^2 < 0.0001, χ^2_1 = 1.26 (p = 0.2618)
Test for overall effect: z = 2.53 (p = 0.0113)

Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

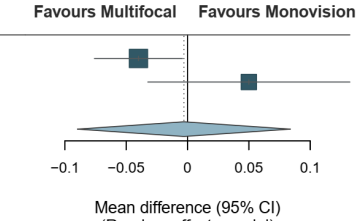
	Multifocal			Monovision				
Study	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Wilkins 2013	90	0.220	0.120	91	0.150	0.120	0.07 [0.04; 0.10]	76.2
Labiris 2024	30	0.100	0.090	30	0.060	0.150	0.04 [−0.02; 0.10]	23.8
Total	**120**			**121**			**0.06 [0.03; 0.09]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.67 (p = 0.4122)
Test for overall effect: z = 4.04 (p < 0.0001)

Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR)

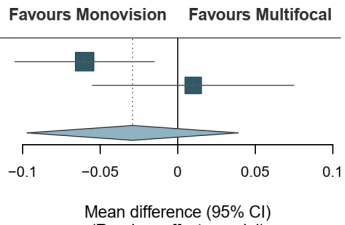
	Multifocal			Monovision				
Study	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Wilkins 2013	94	−0.030	0.130	92	0.010	0.120	−0.04 [−0.08; −0.00]	58.8
Labiris 2024	30	0.190	0.130	30	0.140	0.190	0.05 [−0.03; 0.13]	41.2
Total	**124**			**122**			**−0.00 [−0.09; 0.08]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 74.0%, τ^2 = 0.0030, χ^2_1 = 3.85 (p = 0.0497)
Test for overall effect: z = −0.07 (p = 0.9470)

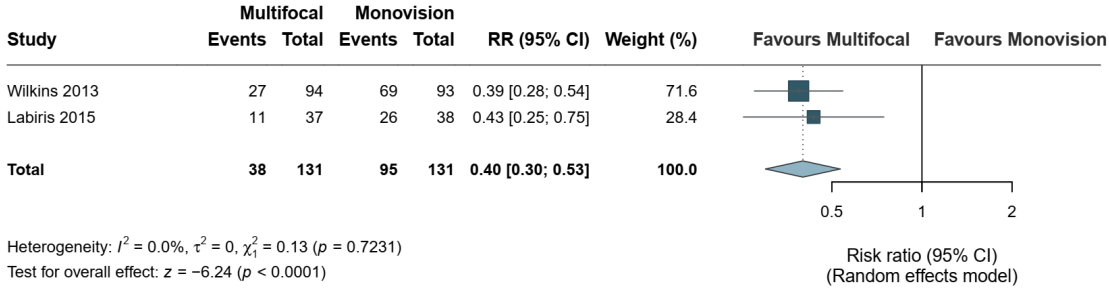
Contrast sensitivity (Pelli-Robson test)

	Multifocal			Monovision				
Study	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Wilkins 2013	94	1.390	0.180	93	1.450	0.130	−0.06 [−0.10; −0.02]	55.8
Labiris 2015	37	1.400	0.170	38	1.390	0.110	0.01 [−0.05; 0.07]	44.2
Total	**131**			**131**			**−0.03 [−0.10; 0.04]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 66.8%, τ^2 = 0.0016, χ^2_1 = 3.01 (p = 0.0826)
Test for overall effect: z = −0.84 (p = 0.4026)

Spectacle dependence (any)

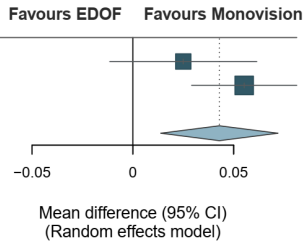


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.13 (p = 0.7231)
Test for overall effect: z = −6.24 (p < 0.0001)

EDOF vs Monovision

Mean corrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

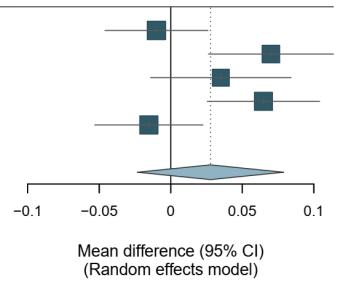
Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monovision Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Zeilinger 2025	44	−0.025	0.087	36	−0.050	0.080	0.03 [−0.01; 0.06]	40.7
Vandekerckhove 2026	34	−0.030	0.060	71	−0.085	0.071	0.06 [0.03; 0.08]	59.3
Total	**78**			**107**			**0.04 [0.01; 0.07]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 42.7%, τ^2 = 0.0002, χ^2_1 = 1.74 (p = 0.1866)
Test for overall effect: z = 2.89 (p = 0.0038)

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

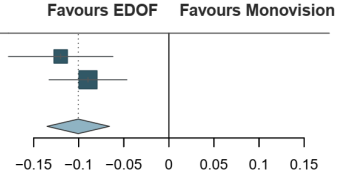
Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monovision Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Sandoval 2020	37	−0.030	0.080	39	−0.020	0.080	−0.01 [−0.05; 0.03]	21.3
Labiris 2024	30	0.030	0.100	30	−0.040	0.070	0.07 [0.03; 0.11]	19.4
Zeilinger 2025	44	0.045	0.112	36	0.010	0.111	0.03 [−0.01; 0.08]	18.0
Vandekerckhove 2026	34	0.070	0.100	71	0.005	0.087	0.06 [0.03; 0.10]	20.5
Skov 2026	43	0.050	0.100	88	0.065	0.111	−0.02 [−0.05; 0.02]	20.8
Total	**188**			**264**			**0.03 [−0.02; 0.08]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 75.3%, τ^2 = 0.0013, χ^2_4 = 16.17 (p = 0.0028)
Test for overall effect: t_4 = 1.51 (p = 0.2057)

Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

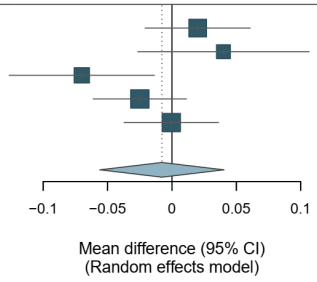
Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monovision Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Zeilinger 2025	44	0.145	0.085	36	0.265	0.160	−0.12 [−0.18; −0.06]	35.7
Vandekerckhove 2026	34	0.160	0.080	71	0.250	0.145	−0.09 [−0.13; −0.05]	64.3
Total	**78**			**107**			**−0.10 [−0.14; −0.07]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.67 (p = 0.4115)
Test for overall effect: z = −5.69 (p < 0.0001)

Mean uncorrected intermediate visual acuity (logMAR)

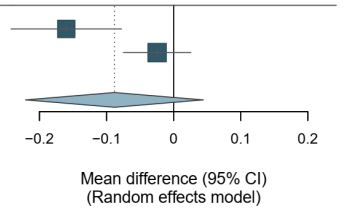
Study	EDOF Total	Mean	SD	Monovision Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Sandoval 2020	37	0.060	0.100	39	0.040	0.080	0.02 [−0.02; 0.06]	22.1
Labiris 2024	30	0.100	0.110	30	0.060	0.150	0.04 [−0.03; 0.11]	13.7
Zeilinger 2025	44	0.130	0.088	36	0.200	0.153	−0.07 [−0.13; −0.01]	16.6
Vandekerckhove 2026	34	0.050	0.080	71	0.075	0.104	−0.02 [−0.06; 0.01]	23.9
Skov 2026	43	0.050	0.100	88	0.051	0.102	−0.00 [−0.04; 0.04]	23.7
Total	**188**			**264**			**−0.01 [−0.06; 0.04]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 57.7%, τ^2 = 0.0007, χ^2_4 = 9.45 (p = 0.0509)
Test for overall effect: t_4 = −0.45 (p = 0.6777)

Mean corrected near visual acuity (logMAR)

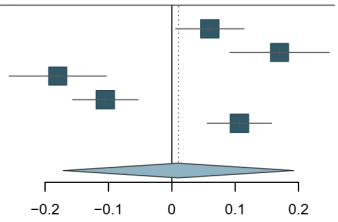
Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monovision Total	Monovision Mean	Monovision SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Zeilinger 2025	44	0.325	0.151	36	0.485	0.212	−0.16 [−0.24; −0.08]	47.0
Vandekerckhove 2026	34	0.450	0.100	71	0.475	0.161	−0.02 [−0.07; 0.03]	53.0
Total	**78**			**107**			**−0.09 [−0.22; 0.04]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 86.8%, τ^2 = 0.0079, χ^2_1 = 7.56 (p = 0.0060)
Test for overall effect: z = −1.31 (p = 0.1915)

Mean uncorrected near visual acuity (logMAR)

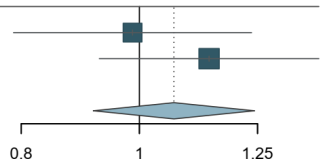
Study	EDOF Total	EDOF Mean	EDOF SD	Monovision Total	Monovision Mean	Monovision SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Sandoval 2020	37	0.250	0.120	39	0.190	0.120	0.06 [0.01; 0.11]	20.3
Labiris 2024	30	0.310	0.110	30	0.140	0.190	0.17 [0.09; 0.25]	19.5
Zeilinger 2025	44	0.255	0.129	36	0.435	0.204	−0.18 [−0.26; −0.10]	19.6
Vandekerckhove 2026	34	0.190	0.120	71	0.295	0.139	−0.10 [−0.16; −0.05]	20.3
Skov 2026	43	0.180	0.140	88	0.073	0.137	0.11 [0.06; 0.16]	20.4
Total	**188**			**264**			**0.01 [−0.17; 0.19]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 94.7%, τ^2 = 0.0201, χ^2_4 = 75.69 (p < 0.0001)
Test for overall effect: t_4 = 0.16 (p = 0.8806)

Spectacle dependence (any)

Study	EDOF Events	EDOF Total	Monovision Events	Monovision Total	RR (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Vandekerckhove 2026	26	34	55	71	0.99 [0.79; 1.24]	46.0
Skov 2026	34	43	61	88	1.14 [0.93; 1.40]	54.0
Total	**60**	**77**	**116**	**159**	**1.07 [0.92; 1.24]**	**100.0**

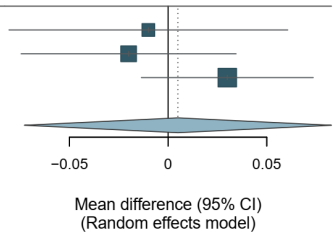


Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.86 (p = 0.3541)
Test for overall effect: z = 0.84 (p = 0.4018)

Trifocal vs Bifocal

Mean corrected distance visual acuity

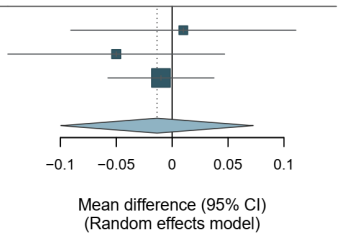
Study	Trifocal Total	Mean	SD	Bifocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Jonker 2015	15	0.010	0.110	13	0.020	0.080	−0.01 [−0.08; 0.06]	21.5
Gundersen 2016	11	−0.010	0.060	11	0.010	0.070	−0.02 [−0.07; 0.03]	32.9
Li 2023	49	0.090	0.120	50	0.060	0.100	0.03 [−0.01; 0.07]	45.6
Total	**75**			**74**			**0.00 [−0.07; 0.08]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 10.6%, τ^2 = 0.0002, χ^2_2 = 2.24 (p = 0.3269)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = 0.28 (p = 0.8091)

Mean uncorrected distance visual acuity (logMAR)

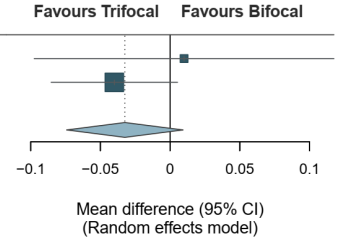
Study	Trifocal Total	Mean	SD	Bifocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Jonker 2015	15	0.090	0.160	13	0.080	0.110	0.01 [−0.09; 0.11]	15.2
Gundersen 2016	11	0.030	0.100	11	0.080	0.130	−0.05 [−0.15; 0.05]	16.4
Li 2023	49	0.130	0.110	50	0.140	0.130	−0.01 [−0.06; 0.04]	68.4
Total	**75**			**74**			**−0.01 [−0.10; 0.07]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_2 = 0.78 (p = 0.6787)
Test for overall effect: t_2 = −0.68 (p = 0.5691)

Mean corrected intermediate visual acuity

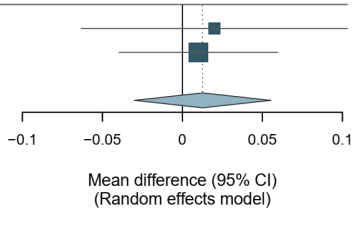
Study	Trifocal Total	Mean	SD	Bifocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Jonker 2015	15	0.430	0.150	13	0.420	0.140	0.01 [−0.10; 0.12]	15.1
Li 2023	49	0.160	0.110	50	0.200	0.120	−0.04 [−0.09; 0.01]	84.9
Total	**64**			**63**			**−0.03 [−0.07; 0.01]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.71 (p = 0.4009)
Test for overall effect: z = −1.52 (p = 0.1278)

Mean corrected near visual acuity

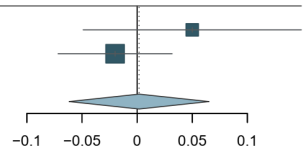
Study	Trifocal Total	Mean	SD	Bifocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Jonker 2015	15	0.190	0.140	13	0.170	0.080	0.02 [−0.06; 0.10]	26.2
Li 2023	49	0.220	0.110	50	0.210	0.140	0.01 [−0.04; 0.06]	73.8
Total	**64**			**63**			**0.01 [−0.03; 0.06]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 0.0%, τ^2 = 0, χ^2_1 = 0.04 (p = 0.8395)
Test for overall effect: z = 0.58 (p = 0.5611)

Mean uncorrected near visual acuity

Study	Trifocal Total	Mean	SD	Bifocal Total	Mean	SD	MD (95% CI)	Weight (%)
Jonker 2015	15	0.250	0.170	13	0.200	0.090	0.05 [−0.05; 0.15]	31.1
Li 2023	49	0.240	0.110	50	0.260	0.150	−0.02 [−0.07; 0.03]	68.9
Total	**64**			**63**			**0.00 [−0.06; 0.07]**	**100.0**



Heterogeneity: I^2 = 33.7%, τ^2 = 0.0008, χ^2_1 = 1.51 (p = 0.2193)
Test for overall effect: z = 0.05 (p = 0.9565)