

**Supplementary table 2** Statistics for the crude annual incident rate of colon and rectal cancer (per year per 100,000 population), the number of cases and the population size. The number of data points is denoted by N. (SD: standard deviation, IR: incidence rate, CI: confidence interval)

		Number of cases		Population		IR		IR	
Colon cancer	N	mean (SD)	median (Q <sub>1</sub> – Q <sub>3</sub> )	mean (SD)	median (Q <sub>1</sub> – Q <sub>3</sub> )	mean (SD)	median (Q <sub>1</sub> – Q <sub>3</sub> )	Meta-analysis (95% CI)	I <sup>2</sup> (95% CI)
All data	30	306.3 (438.97)	128 (39.5 – 392.25)	7,098,564 (9730662)	4,572,876 (2,279,323 – 9,546,955)	1.34 (0.67)	1.34 (0.90 – 1.78)	1.35 (1.00 – 1.69)	98% (98 – 98)
<b>Publication status</b>									
Systematic review	12	247.67 (526.53)	78 (38.5 – 189)	9,279,699 (14,469,435)	4,686,438 (3,913,547 – 8,672,761)	1.36 (0.86)	1.16 (0.85 – 1.88)	1.36 (0.65 – 2.07)	99% (99 – 99)
Cancer registries	18	345.39 (381.16)	262.5 (43.75 – 493.5)	5,644,473 (4,522,690)	4,376,217 (1,292,974 – 10,613,950)	1.33 (0.53)	1.35 (1.02 – 1.78)	1.35 (1.08 – 1.62)	92 (89 – 94)
<i>p-value*</i>						0.898	0.611		
<b>Data source</b>									
Hospital based	5	57 (35.16)	40 (31 – 91.50)	3,661,871 (1,975,416)	4,572,876 (1,675,783 – 5,192,456)	1.06 (0.75)	0.88 (0.40 – 1.82)	1.01 (0.38 – 1.65)	96% (94 – 98)
Cancer registries	25	356.16 (465.93)	203 (51.50 – 444)	7,785,902 (10,526,580)	4,800,000 (2,694,236 – 10,170,183)	1.40 (0.66)	1.34 (0.98 – 1.83)	1.41 (1.06 – 1.76)	97% (97 – 98)
<i>p-value*</i>						0.315	0.303		
Rectal cancer	N	mean (SD)	median (Q <sub>1</sub> – Q <sub>3</sub> )	mean (SD)	median (Q <sub>1</sub> – Q <sub>3</sub> )	mean (SD)	median (Q <sub>1</sub> – Q <sub>3</sub> )	Meta-analysis (95% CI)	I <sup>2</sup> (95% CI)
All data	29	278.48 (317.15)	152 (63 – 375.5)	5,419,204 (3,895,375)	4,452,434 (2,035,241 – 9,353,548)	1.62 (0.59)	1.70 (1.22 – 1.96)	1.60 (1.36 – 1.84)	93% (91 – 95)
<b>Publication status</b>									
Systematic	11	119	97	5,050,581	4,572,876	1.54	1.64	1.48	96%

review		(84.39)	(60 – 152)	(2,733,715)	(3,500,000 – 6,429,112)	(0.70)	(1.03 – 1.9)	(1.04 – 1.92)	(94 – 97)
Cancer registries	18	375.94 (367.37)	315.5 (57.5 – 582)	5,644,473 (4,522,690)	4,376,217 (1,292,974 – 10,613,950)	1.67 (0.53)	1.82 (1.22 – 2.01)	1.70 (1.50 – 1.89)	81% (70 – 87)
<i>p-value*</i>						0.573	0.590		
<b>Data source</b>									
Hospital based	6	107.83 (93.3)	79.5 (41 – 161)	3,634,892 (1,768,102)	4,036,438 (2,099,594 – 4,882,666)	1.43 (0.91)	1.48 (0.71 – 2.00)	1.34 (0.68 – 1.99)	96% (94 – 98)
Cancer registries	23	323 (340.62)	224 (73 – 507)	5,884,676 (4,184,135)	4,452,434 (1,547,076 – 9,925,891)	1.67 (0.50)	1.82 (1.23 – 2.01)	1.68 (1.51 – 1.86)	83% (75 – 88)
<i>p-value*</i>						0.390	0.333		

\* P-values were calculated using t-test for mean values and Mann-Whitney test for median values