Appendix 4: Safety

Forest plots for (A) malaria parasitemia at endpoint (RR 1.10 [0.94 - 1.29], p=0.86, I²=93%, 4 studies, 919 children) and (B) gastrointestinal upset (RR 1.30 [0.89 - 1.91], p=0.17, I²=0%, 4 studies, 576 children) both showing no difference between iron supplemented children and controls. Inverse Variance. M-H: Mantel-Haenszel. Random: Random Effects. 95% CI: 95% Confidence Interval. Df: degrees of freedom.

Α

	Experimental		Control		Risk Ratio		Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% CI	M-H, Random, 95% CI
Gebreselassie 1996	23	239	17	241	7.3%	1.36 [0.75, 2.49]	
Harvey 1989	66	156	55	142	34.3%	1.09 [0.83, 1.44]	-
Latham 1990	24	29	18	26	28.1%	1.20 [0.88, 1.62]	+-
Lawless 1994	28	42	30	44	30.3%	0.98 [0.73, 1.31]	+
Total (95% CI)		466		453	100.0%	1.10 [0.94, 1.29]	•
Total events	141		120				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.00; Chi ² =	0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10					
Test for overall effect:	Z = 1.16 (P	= 0.24)					0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10 Favours iron Favours control

В

	Iron		Contr	rol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio			
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% CI			
de Silva 2003	17	127	2	52	7.2%	3.48 [0.83, 14.53]	-			
Harvey 1989	35	144	27	144	74.0%	1.30 [0.83, 2.02]	=			
Konofal 2008	1	18	0	5	1.6%	0.95 [0.04, 20.33]				
Lawless 1994	7	42	8	44	17.3%	0.92 [0.36, 2.30]	_			
Total (95% CI)		331		245	100.0%	1.30 [0.89, 1.91]	•			
Total events	60		37							
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.00; Chi ² = 2.49, df = 3 (P = 0.48); I ² = 0%										
Test for overall effect:	Z = 1.36 (P = 0.1	7)				Favours Iron Favours control			