Meta-analysis: summarizing causes of death

To summarize these differences across studies, we calculated the risk difference (RD) between treatment (castrated or contraceptive) and control groups using the formula:

where is the proportion of deaths from a specific cause in the treatment group and is the proportion of deaths from the same cause in the control group.

The sampling variance () of the risk difference was calculated as follows:

where and are the total number of individuals in the treatment and control groups, respectivel.