

# Meta-Analysis\_Kinesiophobia\_Physical-Activity

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## R Markdown file set-up

## Data file glimpse (not included in PDF)

## Meta-analysis method

In our meta-analysis, we pooled Pearson product-moment correlations from eligible studies to examine the relationship between kinesiophobia and physical activity. When a study measured physical activity with both a questionnaire and accelerometers, the correlation included in the analysis was that of the most reliable outcome, i.e., the accelerometer-based outcome. Correlations were pooled using the generic inverse pooling method via the ‘metacor’ function in the R ‘meta’ package (Schwarzer, 2023). This function automatically performs a necessary Fisher’s z-transformation on the original, untransformed correlations prior to pooling. The ‘metacor’ function also reconverts the pooled association back to its original form for ease of interpretation.

We anticipated considerable between-study heterogeneity, and therefore used a random-effects model to pool correlations. The restricted maximum likelihood (RML) estimator (Viechtbauer, 2005) was used to calculate the heterogeneity variance Tau2. In addition to Tau2, to quantify between-study heterogeneity, we also reported the I2 statistic, which provides the percentage of variability in the correlations that is not caused by sampling error (Higgins and Thompson, 2002). The I2 statistic was interpreted as follows: 0-40%, may not be important; 30-60%, may represent moderate heterogeneity; 50-90%, may represent substantial heterogeneity; and 75-100%, may represent considerable heterogeneity. To reduce the risk of false positives, we used a Knapp-Hartung adjustment (Knapp and Hartung, 2003) to calculate the confidence interval around the pooled association. We also report the prediction interval, which provides a range within which we can expect the associations of future studies to fall based on the current evidence. The pooled correlation was interpreted using Cohen’s conventions (Cohen, 1988):  $r = -0.10$ , small negative correlation;  $r = -0.30$ , moderate negative correlation;  $r = -0.50$ , large negative correlation. Egger’s regression test of funnel plot asymmetry (Egger et al., 1997) and a p-curve analysis (Simonsohn et al., 2014) were conducted to assess potential publication bias in our meta-analysis. The Rücker’s limit meta-analysis method (Schwazer et al., 2023), which explicitly includes the heterogeneity variance in the model, was used to compute bias-corrected estimate of the true effect size.

We conducted subgroup analyses to examine the differences in correlations between studies including participants with different health conditions and using different types of physical activity measures (i.e., device-based versus self-reported), physical activity measurement instruments (i.e., type of questionnaires, type of devices), physical activity outcomes, and kinesiophobia measures. In addition, we used meta-regressions to examine if the average age of participants or the proportion of women in a study predicted the reported correlation between kinesiophobia and physical activity. A secondary meta-analysis was conducted using the same approach, but based on Spearman’s rho values, to further test the relationship between kinesiophobia and device-based physical activity.

All analyses were performed in RStudio integrated development environment (IDE) (2023.06.1+524, “Mountain Hydrangea” release) for R software environment (R Core Team, 2023) using the ‘meta’ (Schwarzer, 2023), ‘metasens’ (Schwarzer et al., 2023), and ‘metafor’ (Viechtbauer, 2010, 2023) R packages.

## Meta-analysis: primary analysis

```
m.cor <- metacor(cor = cor,
  n = n,
  studlab = author,
  data = Kinphob_r,
  fixed = FALSE,
  random = TRUE,
  method.tau = "REML",
```

```

    hakn = TRUE,
    title = "Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour")
summary(m.cor)

```

```

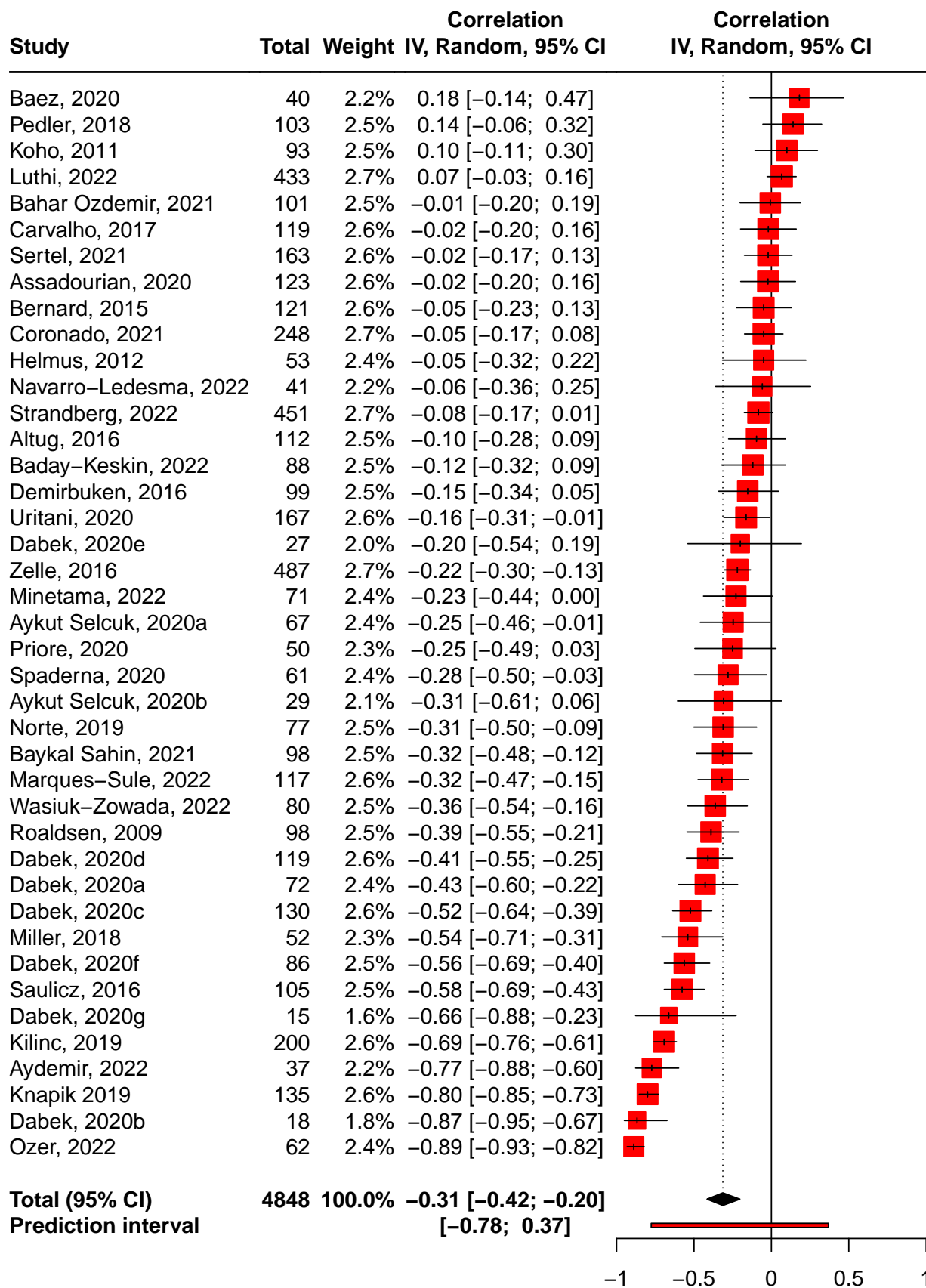
## Review:      Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
##
##              COR              95%-CI %W(random)
## Altug, 2016      -0.0960 [-0.2766; 0.0912]      2.5
## Assadourian, 2020 -0.0220 [-0.1983; 0.1556]      2.6
## Aydemir, 2022     -0.7730 [-0.8773; -0.5990]      2.2
## Aykut Selcuk, 2020a -0.2470 [-0.4599; -0.0072]      2.4
## Aykut Selcuk, 2020b -0.3090 [-0.6068; 0.0648]      2.1
## Baday-Keskin, 2022 -0.1200 [-0.3214; 0.0917]      2.5
## Baez, 2020        0.1810 [-0.1383; 0.4662]      2.2
## Bahar Ozdemir, 2021 -0.0070 [-0.2022; 0.1887]      2.5
## Baykal Sahin, 2021 -0.3150 [-0.4832; -0.1244]      2.5
## Bernard, 2015     -0.0500 [-0.2265; 0.1297]      2.6
## Carvalho, 2017    -0.0200 [-0.1993; 0.1606]      2.6
## Coronado, 2021    -0.0500 [-0.1735; 0.0750]      2.7
## Dabek, 2020a      -0.4280 [-0.6002; -0.2179]      2.4
## Dabek, 2020b      -0.8680 [-0.9499; -0.6744]      1.8
## Dabek, 2020c      -0.5230 [-0.6378; -0.3855]      2.6
## Dabek, 2020d      -0.4100 [-0.5494; -0.2483]      2.6
## Dabek, 2020e      -0.2010 [-0.5398; 0.1938]      2.0
## Dabek, 2020f      -0.5630 [-0.6923; -0.3987]      2.5
## Dabek, 2020g      -0.6630 [-0.8773; -0.2283]      1.6
## Demirbuken, 2016  -0.1530 [-0.3401; 0.0458]      2.5
## Helmus, 2012      -0.0500 [-0.3160; 0.2233]      2.4
## Kilinc, 2019      -0.6930 [-0.7588; -0.6132]      2.6
## Knapik 2019       -0.8000 [-0.8536; -0.7297]      2.6
## Koho, 2011        0.1000 [-0.1059; 0.2976]      2.5
## Luthi, 2022       0.0670 [-0.0274; 0.1602]      2.7
## Marques-Sule, 2022 -0.3200 [-0.4740; -0.1470]      2.6
## Miller, 2018      -0.5400 [-0.7085; -0.3133]      2.3
## Minetama, 2022    -0.2290 [-0.4389; 0.0045]      2.4
## Navarro-Ledesma, 2022 -0.0590 [-0.3601; 0.2532]      2.2
## Norte, 2019       -0.3120 [-0.5010; -0.0946]      2.5
## Ozer, 2022        -0.8890 [-0.9319; -0.8217]      2.4
## Pedler, 2018      0.1400 [-0.0550; 0.3247]      2.5
## Priore, 2020      -0.2510 [-0.4948; 0.0294]      2.3
## Roaldsen, 2009    -0.3900 [-0.5462; -0.2076]      2.5
## Saulicz, 2016     -0.5770 [-0.6921; -0.4332]      2.5
## Sertel, 2021      -0.0210 [-0.1742; 0.1332]      2.6
## Spaderna, 2020    -0.2800 [-0.4968; -0.0303]      2.4
## Strandberg, 2022  -0.0840 [-0.1750; 0.0084]      2.7
## Uritani, 2020     -0.1630 [-0.3073; -0.0114]      2.6
## Wasiuk-Zowada, 2022 -0.3630 [-0.5397; -0.1557]      2.5
## Zelle, 2016       -0.2200 [-0.3029; -0.1338]      2.7
##
## Number of studies: k = 41
## Number of observations: o = 4848
##
##              COR              95%-CI      t  p-value
## Random effects model -0.3136 [-0.4159; -0.2035] -5.55 < 0.0001

```

```
##
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1204 [0.0783; 0.2185]; tau = 0.3469 [0.2798; 0.4675]
## I^2 = 91.8% [89.9%; 93.5%]; H = 3.50 [3.14; 3.91]
##
## Test of heterogeneity:
##      Q d.f.  p-value
## 490.59   40 < 0.0001
##
## Details on meta-analytical method:
## - Inverse variance method
## - Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator for tau^2
## - Q-Profile method for confidence interval of tau^2 and tau
## - Hartung-Knapp adjustment for random effects model (df = 40)
## - Fisher's z transformation of correlations
```

Our meta-analysis of 41 studies ( $n = 4,848$ ) revealed a statistically significant moderate negative correlation between kinesiphobia and physical activity ( $r = -0.31$ ; 95% confidence interval [95% CI]: -0.42 to -0.20;  $p < 0.0001$ ). However, we observed considerable between-study statistical heterogeneity ( $\text{Tau}^2 = 0.12$ , 95% CI: 0.08 to 0.22;  $I^2 = 91.8\%$ , 95% CI: 89.9 to 93.5%), and the prediction interval ranged from  $r = -0.78$  to 0.37, indicating that a moderate positive correlation cannot be ruled out for future studies.

```
forest.meta(m.cor,
  layout = "Revman5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  prediction = TRUE,
  print.tau2 = FALSE,
  leftlabs = c("Author", "n"),
  xlim=c(-1.0,1.0),
  fs.hetstat = 10,
  addrows.below.overall = 2)
```



```
png(file = "Main analysis forestplot.png",
     width = 2800, height = 3800, res = 300)
```

```
forest.meta(m.cor,
            layout = "Revman5",
            sortvar = -TE,
            prediction = TRUE,
            print.tau2 = FALSE,
            leftlabs = c("Author", "n"),
            xlim=c(-1.0,1.0),
            fs.hetstat = 10,
            addrows.below.overall = 2)
```

```
dev.off()
```

```
## pdf
```

```
## 2
```

## Secondary analysis based on Spearman's rho values

```
Kinphob_rho <- data.frame(author <- c("Carvalho, 2017", "Yuksel Karsli, 2019a",
                                     "Yuksel Karsli, 2019b", "Ohlman, 2018",
                                     "Verbunt, 2005"),
                          cor <- c("-0.15", "-0.158", "0.013", "-0.29", "0.06"),
                          n <- c("119", "34", "33", "52", "123"))
```

```
Kinphob_rho$cor <- as.numeric(Kinphob_rho$cor)
```

```
Kinphob_rho$n <- as.numeric(Kinphob_rho$n)
```

```
m.cor.rho <- metacor(cor = cor,
                    n = n,
                    studlab = author,
                    data = Kinphob_rho,
                    fixed = FALSE,
                    random = TRUE,
                    method.tau = "REML",
                    hakn = TRUE)
```

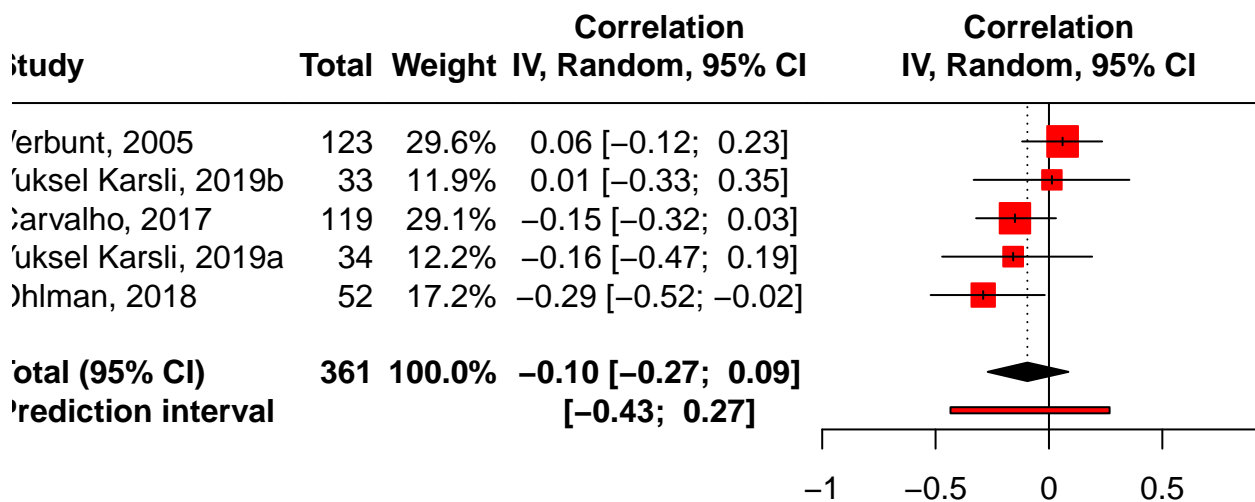
```
summary(m.cor.rho)
```

```
##              COR              95%-CI %W(random)
## Carvalho, 2017    -0.1500 [-0.3213; 0.0308]      29.1
## Yuksel Karsli, 2019a -0.1580 [-0.4710; 0.1903]      12.2
## Yuksel Karsli, 2019b  0.0130 [-0.3318; 0.3547]      11.9
## Ohlman, 2018      -0.2900 [-0.5216; -0.0186]      17.2
## Verbunt, 2005      0.0600 [-0.1183; 0.2345]      29.6
##
## Number of studies: k = 5
## Number of observations: o = 361
##
##              COR              95%-CI      t p-value
## Random effects model -0.0952 [-0.2700; 0.0856] -1.46 0.2174
##
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
```

```
## tau^2 = 0.0085 [0.0000; 0.1545]; tau = 0.0922 [0.0000; 0.3931]
## I^2 = 30.2% [0.0%; 73.1%]; H = 1.20 [1.00; 1.93]
##
## Test of heterogeneity:
##      Q d.f. p-value
## 5.73    4  0.2205
##
## Details on meta-analytical method:
## - Inverse variance method
## - Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator for tau^2
## - Q-Profile method for confidence interval of tau^2 and tau
## - Hartung-Knapp adjustment for random effects model (df = 4)
## - Fisher's z transformation of correlations
```

Results of the secondary meta-analysis based on Spearman rho values ( $k = 5$ ,  $n = 361$ ) showed no statistical evidence of an association between kinesiophobia and accelerometer-based measures of physical activity ( $r = -0.10$ ; 95% CI: -0.27 to 0.09;  $I^2 = 30.2\%$ ;  $p = 0.217$ ).

```
forest.meta(m.cor.rho,
  layout = "Revman5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  prediction = TRUE,
  print.tau2 = FALSE,
  leftlabs = c("Author", "n"),
  xlim=c(-1.0,1.0),
  fs.hetstat = 10,
  addrows.below.overall = 2)
```



Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.0085$ ;  $\chi^2 = 5.73$ ,  $df = 4$  ( $P = 0.22$ );  $I^2 = 30\%$

```
png(file = "Rho analysis forestplot.png",
  width = 2100, height = 1000, res = 300)

forest.meta(m.cor.rho,
  layout = "Revman5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  prediction = TRUE,
  print.tau2 = FALSE,
  leftlabs = c("Author", "n"),
  xlim=c(-1.0,1.0),
```

```

fs.hetstat = 10,
addrows.below.overall = 2)

dev.off()

```

```

## pdf
## 2

```

## Meta-analysis: subgroup analyses

### Subgroup analysis by health status

```

Kinhob_r$Health_status <- as.factor(Kinhob_r$Health_status)

Health_subg <- update.meta(m.cor,
  subgroup = Health_status,
  tau.common = TRUE)
Health_subg

## Review:      Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
##
## Number of studies: k = 41
## Number of observations: o = 4848
##
##              COR              95%-CI      t  p-value
## Random effects model -0.3136 [-0.4159; -0.2035] -5.55 < 0.0001
##
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1204 [0.0783; 0.2185]; tau = 0.3469 [0.2798; 0.4675]
## I^2 = 91.8% [89.9%; 93.5%]; H = 3.50 [3.14; 3.91]
##
## Quantifying residual heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.0542; tau = 0.2328; I^2 = 83.6% [77.7%; 87.9%]; H = 2.47 [2.12; 2.87]
##
## Test of heterogeneity:
##      Q d.f.  p-value
## 490.59  40 < 0.0001
##
## Results for subgroups (random effects model):
##              k      COR              95%-CI  tau^2
## Health_status = Chronic pain      11 -0.0284 [-0.1010; 0.0445] 0.0542
## Health_status = Arthritis          6 -0.4195 [-0.6906; -0.0450] 0.0542
## Health_status = Surgery            4 -0.1179 [-0.4215; 0.2094] 0.0542
## Health_status = Young adults       1 -0.0070 [-0.4656; 0.4545] 0.0542
## Health_status = Cardiovascular condition 11 -0.4661 [-0.5908; -0.3197] 0.0542
## Health_status = Older age          3 -0.4022 [-0.8558; 0.4011] 0.0542
## Health_status = Neurological condition 2 -0.6156 [-1.0000; 0.9999] 0.0542
## Health_status = Pulmonary condition 1 -0.8890 [-0.9595; -0.7135] 0.0542
## Health_status = Acute_pain         1 -0.2510 [-0.6612; 0.2747] 0.0542
## Health_status = Cancer             1 -0.0840 [-0.5004; 0.3639] 0.0542
##
##              tau      Q  I^2
## Health_status = Chronic pain      0.2328 12.25 18.3%
## Health_status = Arthritis          0.2328 68.88 92.7%

```



```

## Health_status = Surgery          0.2328 11.22 73.3%
## Health_status = Young adults     0.2328  0.00  --
## Health_status = Cardiovascular condition 0.2328 61.93 83.9%
## Health_status = Older age        0.2328 23.19 91.4%
## Health_status = Neurological condition 0.2328 11.20 91.1%
## Health_status = Pulmonary condition 0.2328  0.00  --
## Health_status = Acute_pain       0.2328  0.00  --
## Health_status = Cancer           0.2328  0.00  --
##
## Test for subgroup differences (random effects model):
##           Q d.f.  p-value
## Between groups  64.55    9 < 0.0001
## Within groups 188.67   31 < 0.0001
##
## Details on meta-analytical method:
## - Inverse variance method
## - Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator for tau^2
##   (assuming common tau^2 in subgroups)
## - Q-Profile method for confidence interval of tau^2 and tau
## - Hartung-Knapp adjustment for random effects model (df = 40)
## - Fisher's z transformation of correlations

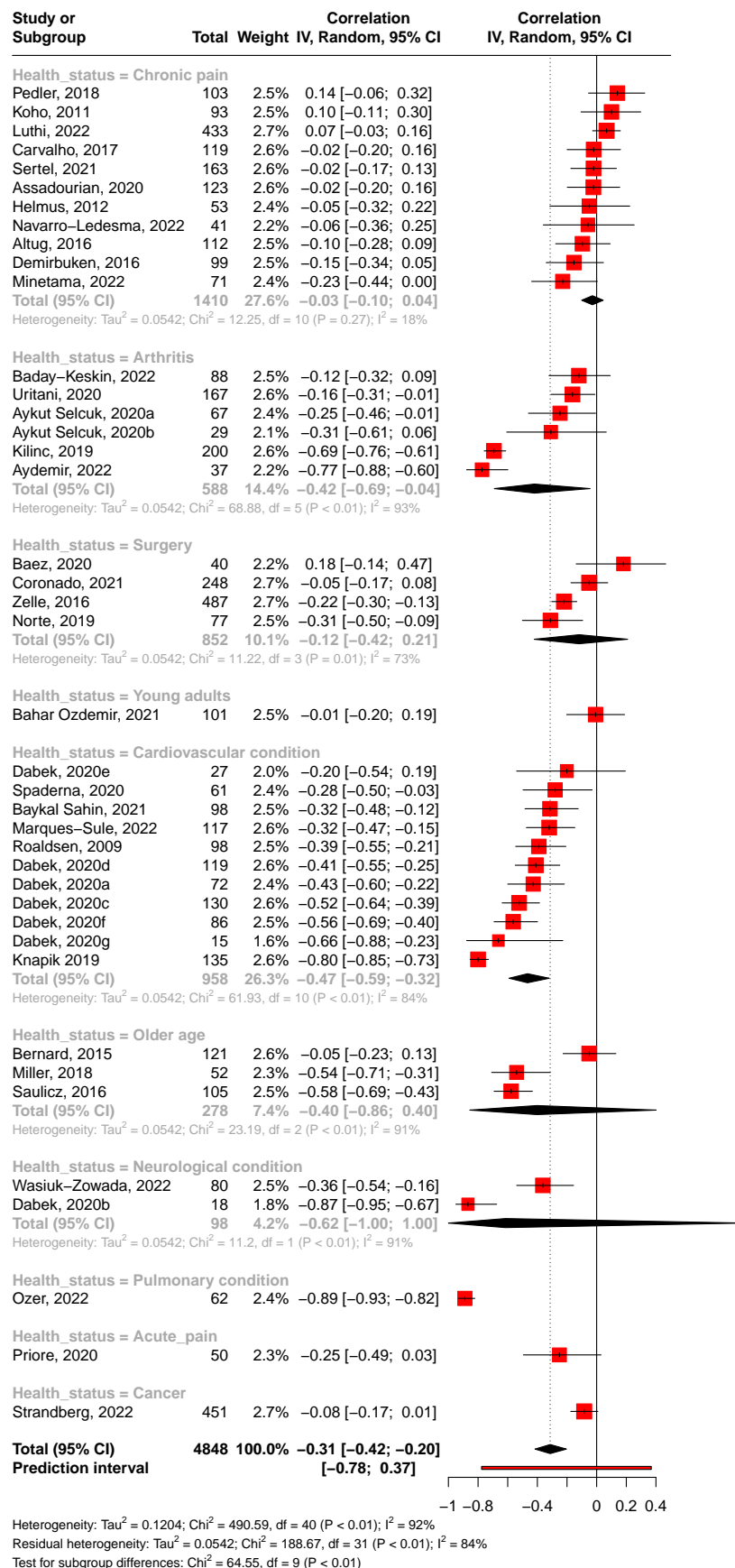
```

The test of subgroup differences between health status measures was possible between studies comprising people with chronic pain ( $k = 11$ ), cardiovascular disease ( $k = 11$ ), arthritis ( $k = 6$ ), and neurological conditions ( $k = 2$ ), people who had received surgery ( $k = 4$ ), and older adults ( $k = 3$ ). We found statistical differences between these studies ( $p < 0.0001$ ). The relationship between kinesiophobia and physical activity was statistically significant only in studies that included participants with cardiovascular disease ( $r = -0.47$ ; 95% CI: -0.59 to -0.32) and arthritis ( $r = -0.42$ ; 95% CI: -0.69 to -0.05). The effect of arthritis remained non-significant when focusing on osteoarthritis ( $k = 5$ ) ( $r = -0.48$ ; 95% CI: -0.76 to -0.35). Statistical heterogeneity was higher in the studies comprising people with arthritis ( $I^2 = 92.7\%$ ) than the studies comprising people with cardiovascular disease ( $I^2 = 83.9\%$ ).

```

forest.meta(Health_subg,
  layout = "RevMan5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  common = FALSE,
  xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
  prediction = TRUE,
  fs.hetstat = 10,
  addrows.below.overall = 2)

```



```
png(file = "Health condition forestplot.png",
     width = 2800, height = 5600, res = 300)
```

```
forest.meta(Health_subg,
             layout = "Revman5",
             sortvar = -TE,
             common = FALSE,
             xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
             prediction = TRUE,
             fs.hetstat = 10,
             addrows.below.overall = 2)
```

```
dev.off()
```

```
## pdf
## 2
```

## Subgroup analysis by physical activity measure: device vs self-report

```
Kinhob_r$PA_objectivity <- as.factor(Kinhob_r$PA_objectivity)
```

```
PAobj_subg <- update.meta(m.cor,
                          subgroup = PA_objectivity,
                          tau.common = TRUE)
```

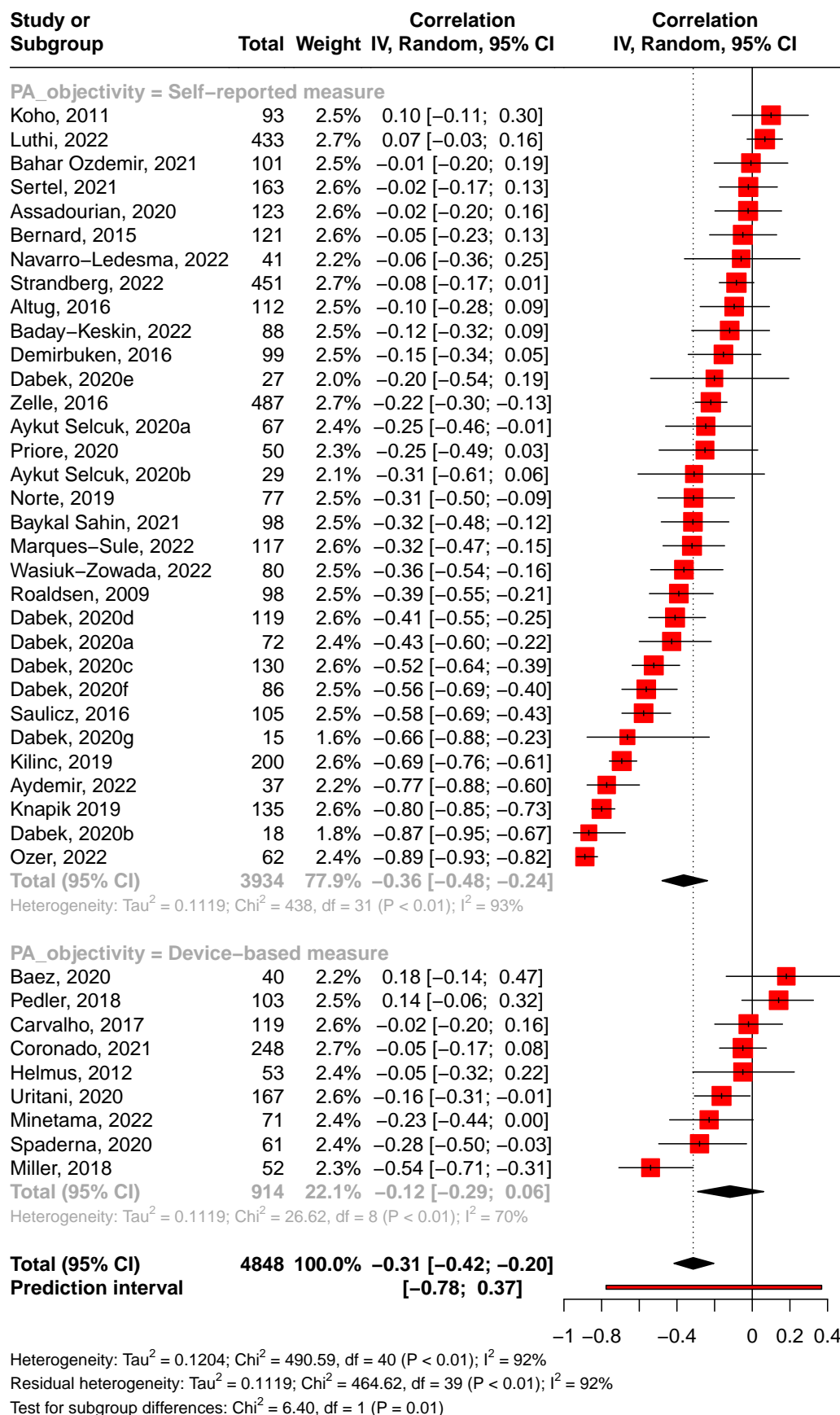
```
PAobj_subg
```

```
## Review:      Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
##
## Number of studies: k = 41
## Number of observations: o = 4848
##
##              COR              95%-CI      t  p-value
## Random effects model -0.3136 [-0.4159; -0.2035] -5.55 < 0.0001
##
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1204 [0.0783; 0.2185]; tau = 0.3469 [0.2798; 0.4675]
## I^2 = 91.8% [89.9%; 93.5%]; H = 3.50 [3.14; 3.91]
##
## Quantifying residual heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1119; tau = 0.3345; I^2 = 91.6% [89.5%; 93.3%]; H = 3.45 [3.09; 3.86]
##
## Test of heterogeneity:
##      Q d.f.  p-value
## 490.59  40 < 0.0001
##
## Results for subgroups (random effects model):
##              k      COR              95%-CI  tau^2
## PA_objectivity = Self-reported measure  32 -0.3645 [-0.4792; -0.2375] 0.1119
## PA_objectivity = Device-based measure    9 -0.1186 [-0.2906; 0.0607] 0.1119
##              tau      Q      I^2
## PA_objectivity = Self-reported measure 0.3345 438.00 92.9%
## PA_objectivity = Device-based measure 0.3345 26.62 69.9%
##
## Test for subgroup differences (random effects model):
```

```
##               Q d.f.  p-value
## Between groups   6.40    1   0.0114
## Within groups  464.62   39 < 0.0001
##
## Details on meta-analytical method:
## - Inverse variance method
## - Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator for tau^2
##   (assuming common tau^2 in subgroups)
## - Q-Profile method for confidence interval of tau^2 and tau
## - Hartung-Knapp adjustment for random effects model (df = 40)
## - Fisher's z transformation of correlations
```

The test of subgroup differences between self-reported ( $k = 32$ ) and device-based ( $k = 9$ ) measures of physical activity showed a statistical difference between these groups ( $p = 0.011$ ), with only the self-reported measures showing a statistical correlation ( $r = -0.36$ ; 95% CI:  $-0.48$  to  $-0.24$ ). However, we observed considerable between-study statistical heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 92.9\%$ ).

```
forest.meta(PAobj_subg,
  layout = "RevMan5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  common = FALSE,
  xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
  prediction = TRUE,
  fs.hetstat = 10,
  addrows.below.overall = 2)
```



```
png(file = "PA objectivity forestplot.png",
     width = 2800, height = 4500, res = 300)
```

```
forest.meta(PAobj_subg,
             layout = "Revman5",
             sortvar = -TE,
             common = FALSE,
             xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
             prediction = TRUE,
             fs.hetstat = 10,
             addrows.below.overall = 2)
```

```
dev.off()
```

```
## pdf
## 2
```

## Subgroup analysis by physical activity measurement instruments

```
Kinhob_r$PA_measure <- as.factor(Kinhob_r$PA_measure)
```

```
PAmeas_subg <- update.meta(m.cor,
                           subgroup = PA_measure,
                           tau.common = TRUE)
```

```
PAmeas_subg
```

```
## Review: Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
```

```
##
```

```
## Number of studies: k = 41
```

```
## Number of observations: o = 4848
```

```
##
```

```
## COR 95%-CI t p-value
## Random effects model -0.3136 [-0.4159; -0.2035] -5.55 < 0.0001
```

```
##
```

```
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
```

```
## tau^2 = 0.1204 [0.0783; 0.2185]; tau = 0.3469 [0.2798; 0.4675]
```

```
## I^2 = 91.8% [89.9%; 93.5%]; H = 3.50 [3.14; 3.91]
```

```
##
```

```
## Quantifying residual heterogeneity:
```

```
## tau^2 = 0.0929; tau = 0.3048; I^2 = 88.4% [84.6%; 91.3%]; H = 2.94 [2.55; 3.39]
```

```
##
```

```
## Test of heterogeneity:
```

```
## Q d.f. p-value
```

```
## 490.59 40 < 0.0001
```

```
##
```

```
## Results for subgroups (random effects model):
```

	k	COR	95%-CI	tau^2	tau	Q
## PA_measure = IPAQ	18	-0.4265	[-0.5702; -0.2575]	0.0929	0.3048	164.97
## PA_measure = Diary	1	-0.0220	[-0.5687; 0.5382]	0.0929	0.3048	0.00
## PA_measure = UCLA	1	-0.7730	[-0.9370; -0.3295]	0.0929	0.3048	0.00
## PA_measure = Pedometer	2	-0.0363	[-0.9906; 0.9891]	0.0929	0.3048	4.15
## PA_measure = Questionnaire	1	-0.0500	[-0.5876; 0.5183]	0.0929	0.3048	0.00
## PA_measure = Accelerometer	8	-0.1322	[-0.3049; 0.0488]	0.0929	0.3048	22.51
## PA_measure = PAQE	1	-0.8000	[-0.9378; -0.4441]	0.0929	0.3048	0.00

```

## PA_measure = MLTPAQ          2 -0.0689 [-0.9719; 0.9631] 0.0929 0.3048 7.97
## PA_measure = BHPAQ           3 -0.3033 [-0.8437; 0.5425] 0.0929 0.3048 49.74
## PA_measure = GLTEQ           2 -0.1958 [-0.9537; 0.9004] 0.0929 0.3048 1.75
## PA_measure = SGPALS          1 -0.3900 [-0.7787; 0.2151] 0.0929 0.3048 0.00
## PA_measure = PASE            1 -0.0210 [-0.5636; 0.5343] 0.0929 0.3048 0.00
##                               I2
## PA_measure = IPAQ            89.7%
## PA_measure = Diary           --
## PA_measure = UCLA            --
## PA_measure = Pedometer       75.9%
## PA_measure = Questionnaire   --
## PA_measure = Accelerometer   68.9%
## PA_measure = PAQE            --
## PA_measure = MLTPAQ          87.4%
## PA_measure = BHPAQ           96.0%
## PA_measure = GLTEQ           42.7%
## PA_measure = SGPALS          --
## PA_measure = PASE            --
##
## Test for subgroup differences (random effects model):
##                               Q d.f.  p-value
## Between groups  23.76   11   0.0138
## Within groups  251.08   29 < 0.0001
##
## Details on meta-analytical method:
## - Inverse variance method
## - Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator for tau2
##   (assuming common tau2 in subgroups)
## - Q-Profile method for confidence interval of tau2 and tau
## - Hartung-Knapp adjustment for random effects model (df = 40)
## - Fisher's z transformation of correlations

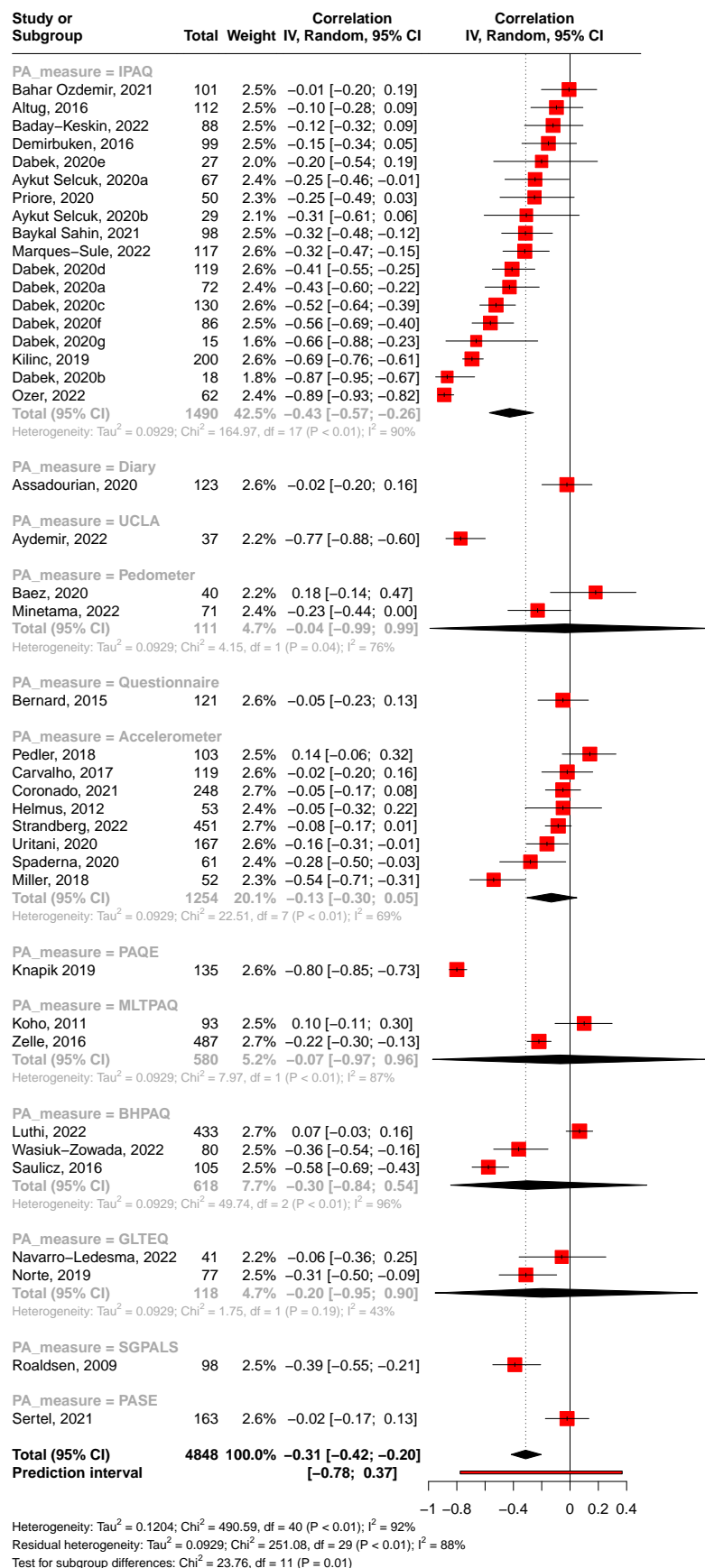
```

The test of subgroup differences according to the instruments used to measure physical activity was possible between studies using the IPAQ ( $k = 18$ ), BHPAQ ( $k = 3$ ), MLTPAQ ( $k = 2$ ), GLTEQ ( $k = 2$ ), as well as accelerometers ( $k = 8$ ) and pedometers ( $k = 2$ ). We found statistical differences between these studies ( $p = 0.014$ ). The relationship between kinesiophobia and physical activity was statistically significant only in studies that used the IPAQ ( $r = -0.43$ ; 95% CI: -0.57 to -0.26). However, we observed considerable between-study statistical heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 89.7\%$ ).

```

forest.meta(PAmeas_subg,
  layout = "Revman5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  common = FALSE,
  xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
  prediction = TRUE,
  fs.hetstat = 10,
  addrows.below.overall = 2)

```





```
png(file = "Physical activity measure forestplot.png",
     width = 2800, height = 5600, res = 300)
```

```
forest.meta(PAmeas_subg,
             layout = "Revman5",
             sortvar = -TE,
             common = FALSE,
             xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
             prediction = TRUE,
             fs.hetstat = 10,
             addrows.below.overall = 2)
```

```
dev.off()
```

```
## pdf
## 2
```

## Subgroup analysis by physical activity outcome

```
Kinphob_r$PA_outcome <- as.factor(Kinphob_r$PA_outcome)
```

```
PAout_subg <- update.meta(m.cor,
                          subgroup = PA_outcome,
                          tau.common = TRUE)
```

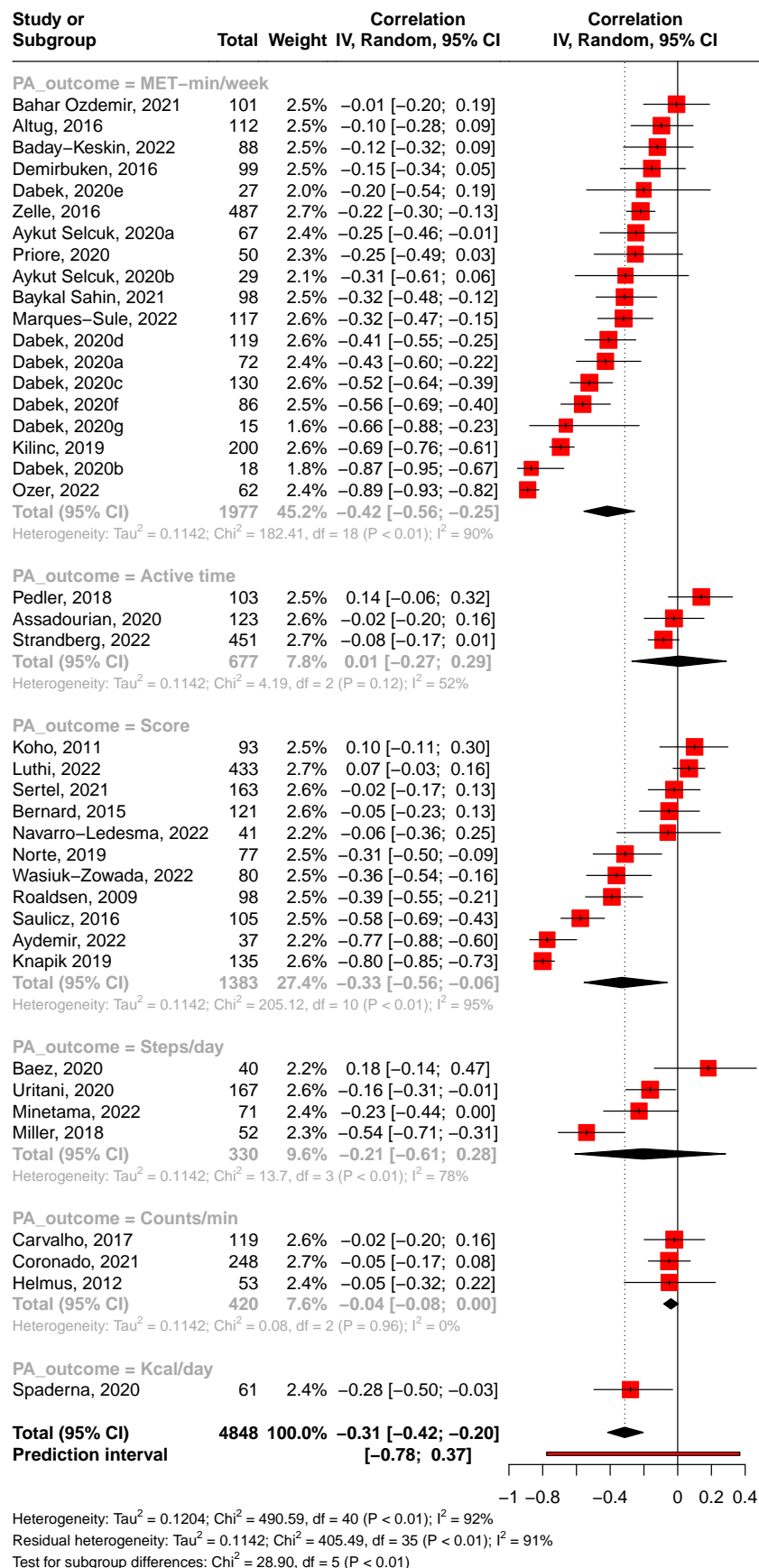
```
PAout_subg
```

```
## Review:      Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
##
## Number of studies: k = 41
## Number of observations: o = 4848
##
##              COR              95%-CI      t  p-value
## Random effects model -0.3136 [-0.4159; -0.2035] -5.55 < 0.0001
##
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1204 [0.0783; 0.2185]; tau = 0.3469 [0.2798; 0.4675]
## I^2 = 91.8% [89.9%; 93.5%]; H = 3.50 [3.14; 3.91]
##
## Quantifying residual heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1142; tau = 0.3379; I^2 = 91.4% [89.0%; 93.2%]; H = 3.40 [3.02; 3.83]
##
## Test of heterogeneity:
##      Q d.f.  p-value
## 490.59  40 < 0.0001
##
## Results for subgroups (random effects model):
##              k      COR              95%-CI  tau^2    tau      Q
## PA_outcome = MET-min/week  19 -0.4170 [-0.5562; -0.2550] 0.1142 0.3379 182.41
## PA_outcome = Active time   3  0.0094 [-0.2719;  0.2891] 0.1142 0.3379  4.19
## PA_outcome = Score        11 -0.3308 [-0.5551; -0.0616] 0.1142 0.3379 205.12
## PA_outcome = Steps/day     4 -0.2053 [-0.6099;  0.2842] 0.1142 0.3379 13.70
## PA_outcome = Counts/min    3 -0.0399 [-0.0829;  0.0034] 0.1142 0.3379  0.08
## PA_outcome = Kcal/day      1 -0.2800 [-0.7609;  0.3994] 0.1142 0.3379  0.00
##              I^2
```

```
## PA_outcome = MET-min/week  90.1%
## PA_outcome = Active time   52.2%
## PA_outcome = Score          95.1%
## PA_outcome = Steps/day      78.1%
## PA_outcome = Counts/min     0.0%
## PA_outcome = Kcal/day       --
##
## Test for subgroup differences (random effects model):
##           Q d.f.  p-value
## Between groups  28.90    5 < 0.0001
## Within groups  405.49   35 < 0.0001
##
## Details on meta-analytical method:
## - Inverse variance method
## - Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator for tau^2
##   (assuming common tau^2 in subgroups)
## - Q-Profile method for confidence interval of tau^2 and tau
## - Hartung-Knapp adjustment for random effects model (df = 40)
## - Fisher's z transformation of correlations
```

The test of subgroup differences between physical activity outcomes was possible between studies using MET-min/week typically from the IPAQ ( $k = 19$ ), a score from a questionnaire ( $k = 11$ ), steps/day ( $k = 4$ ), counts/min ( $k = 3$ ), and active time in hours per day or week ( $k = 3$ ). We observed statistical differences between these studies ( $p < 0.0001$ ), with only the studies using the MET-min/week ( $r = -0.42$ ; 95% CI: -0.56 to -0.26) and score outcome ( $r = -0.33$ ; 95% CI: -0.56 to -0.06) showing a statistical correlation. Heterogeneity was considerable in studies relying on these outcomes ( $I^2 = 90.1$  and 95.1%, respectively).

```
forest.meta(PAout_subg,
  layout = "RevMan5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  common = FALSE,
  xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
  prediction = TRUE,
  fs.hetstat = 10,
  addrows.below.overall = 2)
```



```
png(file = "PA outcome forestplot.png",
     width = 2800, height = 5600, res = 300)
```

```
forest.meta(PAout_subg,
             layout = "Revman5",
             sortvar = -TE,
             common = FALSE,
             xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
             prediction = TRUE,
             fs.hetstat = 10,
             addrows.below.overall = 2)
```

```
dev.off()
```

```
## pdf
## 2
```

## Subgroup analysis by kinesiophobia measure

```
Kinhphob_r$Kinesiophobia_measure <- as.factor(Kinhphob_r$Kinesiophobia_measure)
```

```
Kines_subg <- update.meta(m.cor,
                           subgroup = Kinesiophobia_measure,
                           tau.common = TRUE)
```

```
Kines_subg
```

```
## Review:      Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
##
## Number of studies: k = 41
## Number of observations: o = 4848
##
##              COR              95%-CI      t  p-value
## Random effects model -0.3136 [-0.4159; -0.2035] -5.55 < 0.0001
##
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1204 [0.0783; 0.2185]; tau = 0.3469 [0.2798; 0.4675]
## I^2 = 91.8% [89.9%; 93.5%]; H = 3.50 [3.14; 3.91]
##
## Quantifying residual heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1087; tau = 0.3298; I^2 = 90.5% [87.7%; 92.6%]; H = 3.24 [2.85; 3.68]
##
## Test of heterogeneity:
##      Q d.f.  p-value
## 490.59  40 < 0.0001
##
## Results for subgroups (random effects model):
##              k      COR              95%-CI  tau^2  tau
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_17      21 -0.2755 [-0.4286; -0.1070] 0.1087 0.3298
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_11       6 -0.0946 [-0.3071;  0.1269] 0.1087 0.3298
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_13       1 -0.0500 [-0.6097;  0.5429] 0.1087 0.3298
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_Heart    8 -0.5875 [-0.7479; -0.3623] 0.1087 0.3298
## Kinesiophobia_measure = FABQ         1 -0.3900 [-0.7964;  0.2590] 0.1087 0.3298
## Kinesiophobia_measure = KCS          1 -0.5770 [-0.8699;  0.0169] 0.1087 0.3298
## Kinesiophobia_measure = FActS        1 -0.2800 [-0.7545;  0.3868] 0.1087 0.3298
```

```

## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_14      1 -0.0840 [-0.6274;  0.5144] 0.1087 0.3298
## Kinesiophobia_measure = BFOMSO      1 -0.1630 [-0.6798;  0.4619] 0.1087 0.3298
##                                     Q    I^2
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_17      269.45 92.6%
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_11       19.39 74.2%
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_13        0.00  --
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_Heart    46.69 85.0%
## Kinesiophobia_measure = FABQ          0.00  --
## Kinesiophobia_measure = KCS           0.00  --
## Kinesiophobia_measure = FActS         0.00  --
## Kinesiophobia_measure = TSK_14        0.00  --
## Kinesiophobia_measure = BFOMSO        0.00  --
##
## Test for subgroup differences (random effects model):
##               Q d.f.  p-value
## Between groups 16.87   8   0.0315
## Within groups 335.53  32 < 0.0001
##
## Details on meta-analytical method:
## - Inverse variance method
## - Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator for tau^2
##   (assuming common tau^2 in subgroups)
## - Q-Profile method for confidence interval of tau^2 and tau
## - Hartung-Knapp adjustment for random effects model (df = 40)
## - Fisher's z transformation of correlations

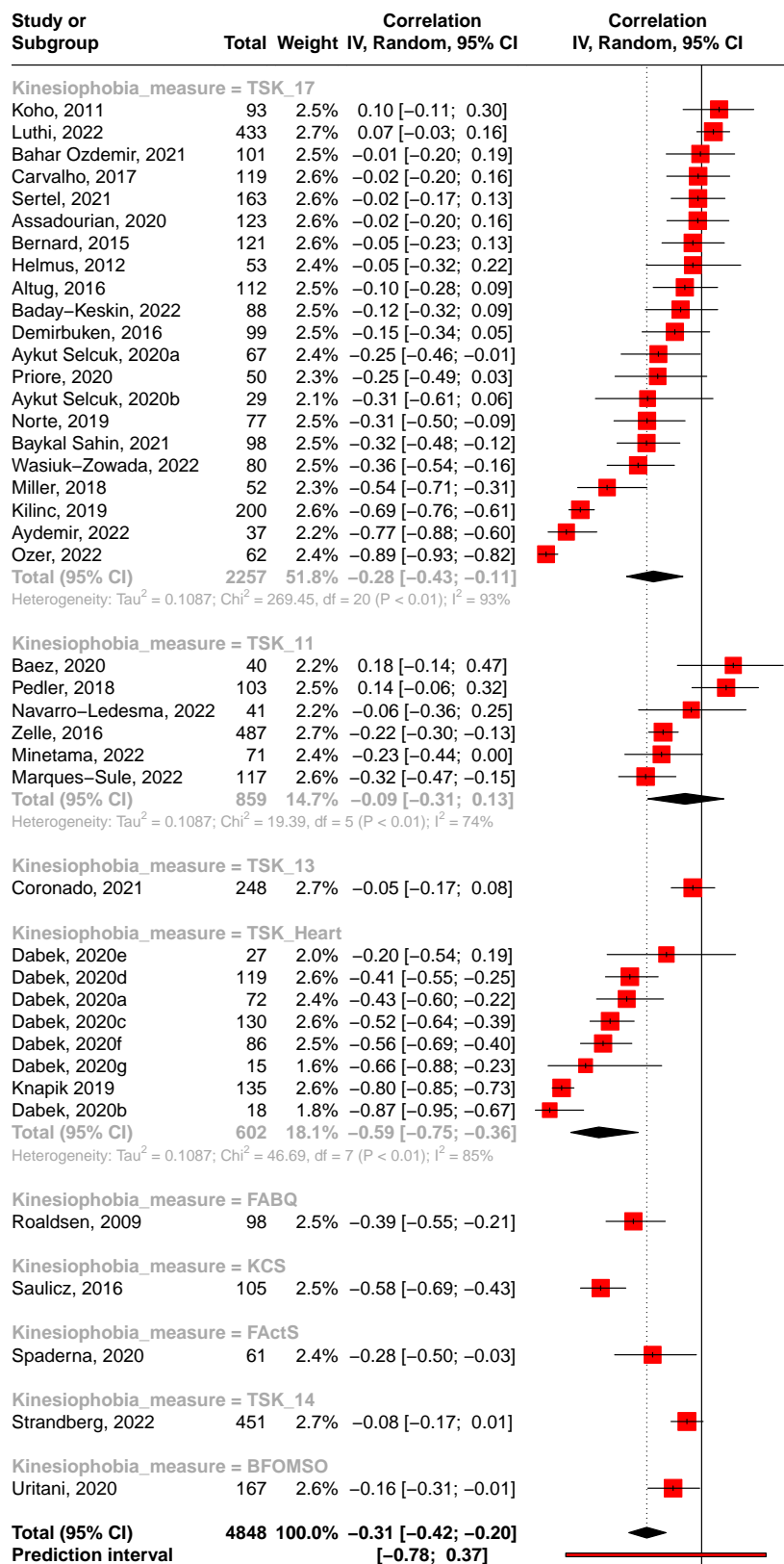
```

The test of subgroup differences between kinesiophobia measures was possible only for TSK-17 ( $k = 21$ ), TSK-Heart ( $k = 8$ ), and TSK-11 ( $k = 6$ ), with only the former ones showing a statistical correlation. The correlation was stronger in studies using the TSK-Heart ( $r = -0.59$ ; 95% CI: -0.75 to -0.36) than with the TSK-17 ( $r = -0.28$ ; 95% CI: -0.43 to -0.11). Heterogeneity was lower, albeit substantial to considerable in the studies using TSK-Heart ( $I^2 = 85.0\%$ ) than TSK-17 ( $I^2 = 92.6\%$ ).

```

forest.meta(Kines_subg,
  layout = "Revman5",
  sortvar = -TE,
  common = FALSE,
  xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
  prediction = TRUE,
  fs.hetstat = 10,
  addrows.below.overall = 2)

```



Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.1204$ ;  $\chi^2 = 490.59$ ,  $df = 40$  ( $P < 0.01$ );  $I^2 = 92\%$   
Residual heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.1087$ ;  $\chi^2 = 335.53$ ,  $df = 32$  ( $P < 0.01$ );  $I^2 = 90\%$   
Test for subgroup differences:  $\chi^2 = 16.87$ ,  $df = 8$  ( $P = 0.03$ )

```
png(file = "Kinesiophobia measure forestplot.png",
     width = 2800, height = 4700, res = 300)
```

```
forest.meta(Kines_subg,
            layout = "Revman5",
            sortvar = -TE,
            common = FALSE,
            xlim = c(-1.0, 0.5),
            prediction = TRUE,
            fs.hetstat = 10,
            addrows.below.overall = 2)
```

```
dev.off()
```

```
## pdf
## 2
```

## Meta-analysis: meta-regression

### Meta-regression by age

```
m.cor.reg.age <- metareg(m.cor, ~Age)
```

```
## Warning: 10 studies with NAs omitted from model fitting.
```

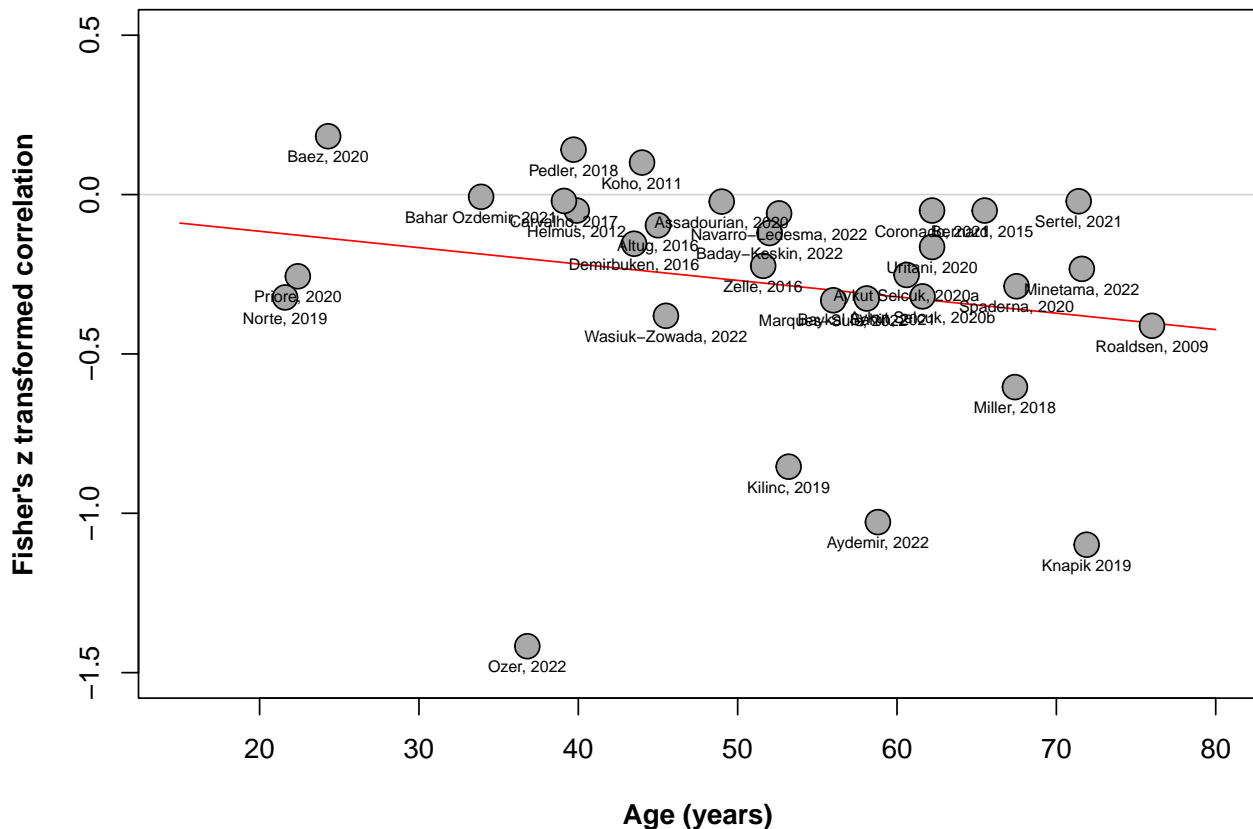
```
m.cor.reg.age
```

```
##
## Mixed-Effects Model (k = 31; tau^2 estimator: REML)
##
## tau^2 (estimated amount of residual heterogeneity):      0.1195 (SE = 0.0348)
## tau (square root of estimated tau^2 value):             0.3456
## I^2 (residual heterogeneity / unaccounted variability): 92.58%
## H^2 (unaccounted variability / sampling variability):    13.47
## R^2 (amount of heterogeneity accounted for):             1.03%
##
## Test for Residual Heterogeneity:
## QE(df = 29) = 350.4233, p-val < .0001
##
## Test of Moderators (coefficient 2):
## F(df1 = 1, df2 = 29) = 1.3045, p-val = 0.2627
##
## Model Results:
##
##      estimate      se      tval  df    pval    ci.lb    ci.ub
## intrcpt  -0.0123  0.2427  -0.0508  29  0.9598  -0.5087  0.4840
## Age      -0.0051  0.0045  -1.1421  29  0.2627  -0.0143  0.0041
##
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Age did not statistically influence the correlation values of the meta-analysis studies ( $k = 31$ ;  $p = 0.263$ ). Due to the similar  $I^2$  between this meta-regression and the main meta-analysis (92.6% vs. 91.8%, respectively), the addition of age as a predictor did not explain the considerable heterogeneity observed between study

correlations. The  $R^2$  revealed that only 1.0% of the differences between study correlations could be explained by age.

```
bubble(m.cor.reg.age,
       xlim = c(15, 80),
       ylim = c(-1.5, 0.5),
       xlab = 'Age (years)',
       font.lab = 2,
       studlab = TRUE,
       cex = 2,
       cex.studlab = 0.6,
       pos.studlab = 1,
       offset = 0.5,
       col.line = 'red')
```



## Meta-regression by proportion of women

```
m.cor.reg.women <- metareg(m.cor, ~Prop_women)
```

```
## Warning: 8 studies with NAs omitted from model fitting.
```

```
m.cor.reg.women
```

```
##
```

```
## Mixed-Effects Model (k = 33; tau^2 estimator: REML)
```

```
##
```

```
## tau^2 (estimated amount of residual heterogeneity): 0.1245 (SE = 0.0348)
```

```
## tau (square root of estimated tau^2 value): 0.3529
```

```
## I^2 (residual heterogeneity / unaccounted variability): 93.21%
```



```
## H^2 (unaccounted variability / sampling variability): 14.73
## R^2 (amount of heterogeneity accounted for): 0.00%
##
## Test for Residual Heterogeneity:
## QE(df = 31) = 418.4237, p-val < .0001
##
## Test of Moderators (coefficient 2):
## F(df1 = 1, df2 = 31) = 0.2070, p-val = 0.6523
##
## Model Results:
##
##           estimate      se      tval  df    pval    ci.lb    ci.ub
## intrcpt      -0.3597  0.1876  -1.9178  31  0.0644   -0.7422   0.0228 .
## Prop_women    0.1337  0.2938   0.4549  31  0.6523   -0.4656   0.7329
##
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

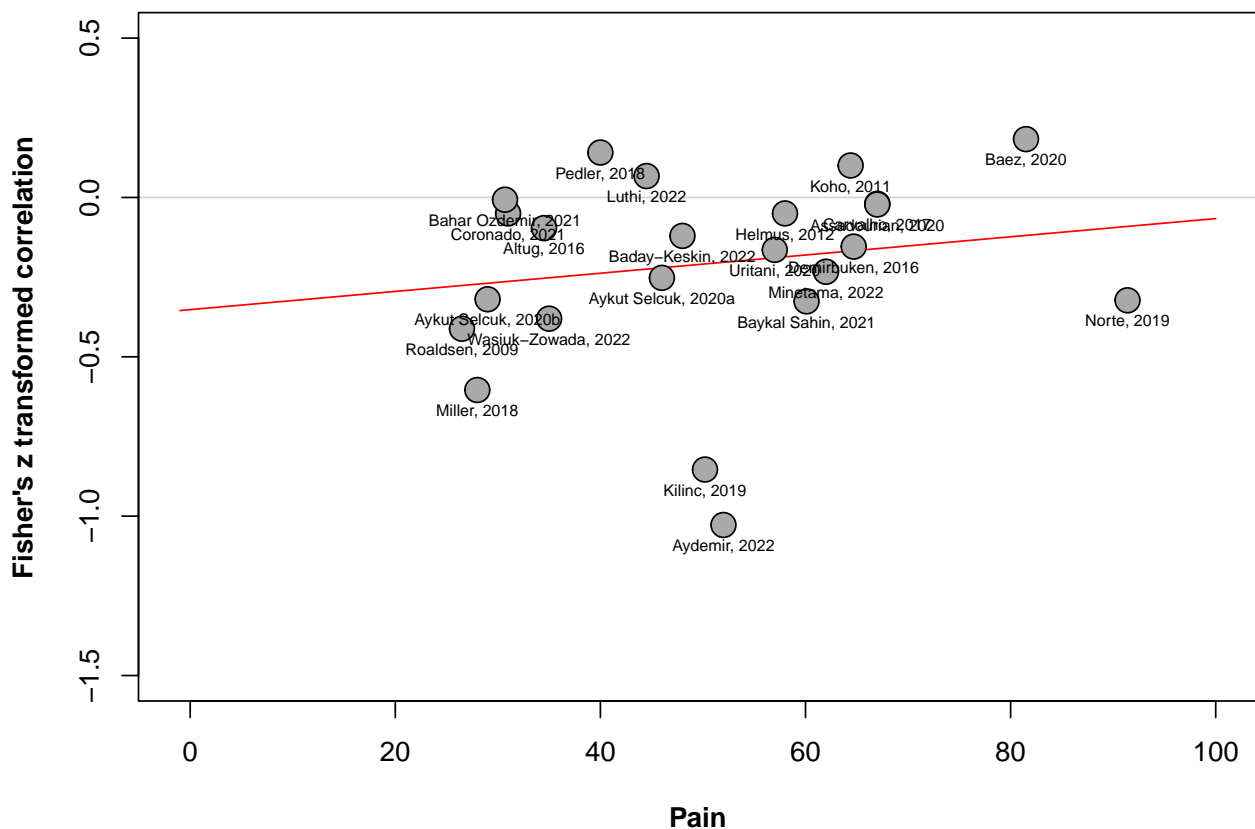
Similarly, the proportion of women ( $k = 33$ ) and the mean level of pain in the studies ( $k = 23$ ) did not influence correlation values. The  $R^2$  revealed that these variables explained less than 0.01% of the differences between study correlations.

```
bubble(m.cor.reg.women,
       xlim = c(-0.1, 1.1),
       ylim = c(-1.5, 0.5),
       xlab = 'Proportion of women',
       font.lab = 2,
       studlab = TRUE,
       cex = 2,
       cex.studlab = 0.6,
       pos.studlab = 1,
       offset = 0.5,
       col.line = 'red')
```



```
##
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

bubble(m.cor.reg.pain,
  xlim = c(-1, 100),
  ylim = c(-1.5, 0.5),
  xlab = 'Pain',
  studlab = TRUE,
  font.lab = 2,
  cex = 2,
  cex.studlab = 0.6,
  pos.studlab = 1,
  offset = 0.5,
  col.line = 'red')
```



## Sensitivity analysis: meta-regression by axis score

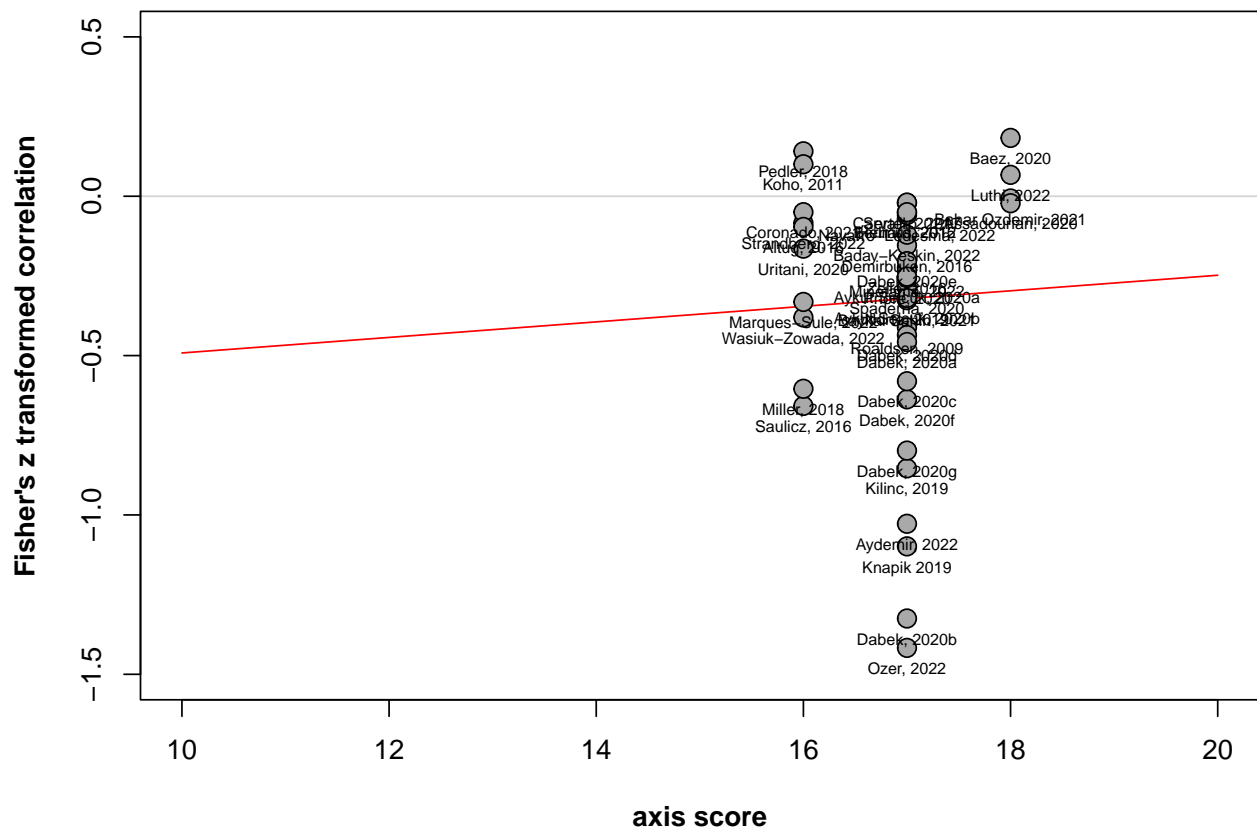
```
m.cor.reg.axis <- metareg(m.cor, ~Axis_score)
m.cor.reg.axis

##
## Mixed-Effects Model (k = 41; tau^2 estimator: REML)
##
## tau^2 (estimated amount of residual heterogeneity):      0.1239 (SE = 0.0314)
## tau (square root of estimated tau^2 value):             0.3521
## I^2 (residual heterogeneity / unaccounted variability): 93.10%
```

```
## H^2 (unaccounted variability / sampling variability): 14.49
## R^2 (amount of heterogeneity accounted for): 0.00%
##
## Test for Residual Heterogeneity:
## QE(df = 39) = 489.0111, p-val < .0001
##
## Test of Moderators (coefficient 2):
## F(df1 = 1, df2 = 39) = 0.0561, p-val = 0.8140
##
## Model Results:
##
##           estimate      se      tval  df      pval      ci.lb      ci.ub
## intrcpt      -0.7356  1.7353  -0.4239  39  0.6740  -4.2454  2.7743
## Axis_score    0.0244  0.1029   0.2368  39  0.8140  -0.1839  0.2326
##
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

A study's axis score ( $k = 41$ ) did not influence correlation values. The  $R^2$  revealed that these variables explained less than 0.00% of the differences between study correlations. However, it should be noted that there was very little variation in axis scores with all scores ranging between 16 and 18.

```
bubble(m.cor.reg.axis,
       xlim = c(10, 20),
       ylim = c(-1.5, 0.5),
       xlab = 'axis score',
       studlab = TRUE,
       font.lab = 2,
       cex = 1.5,
       cex.studlab = 0.6,
       pos.studlab = 1,
       offset = 0.5,
       col.line = 'red')
```



## Publication bias analysis

### Small-study effects

#### Funnel plot

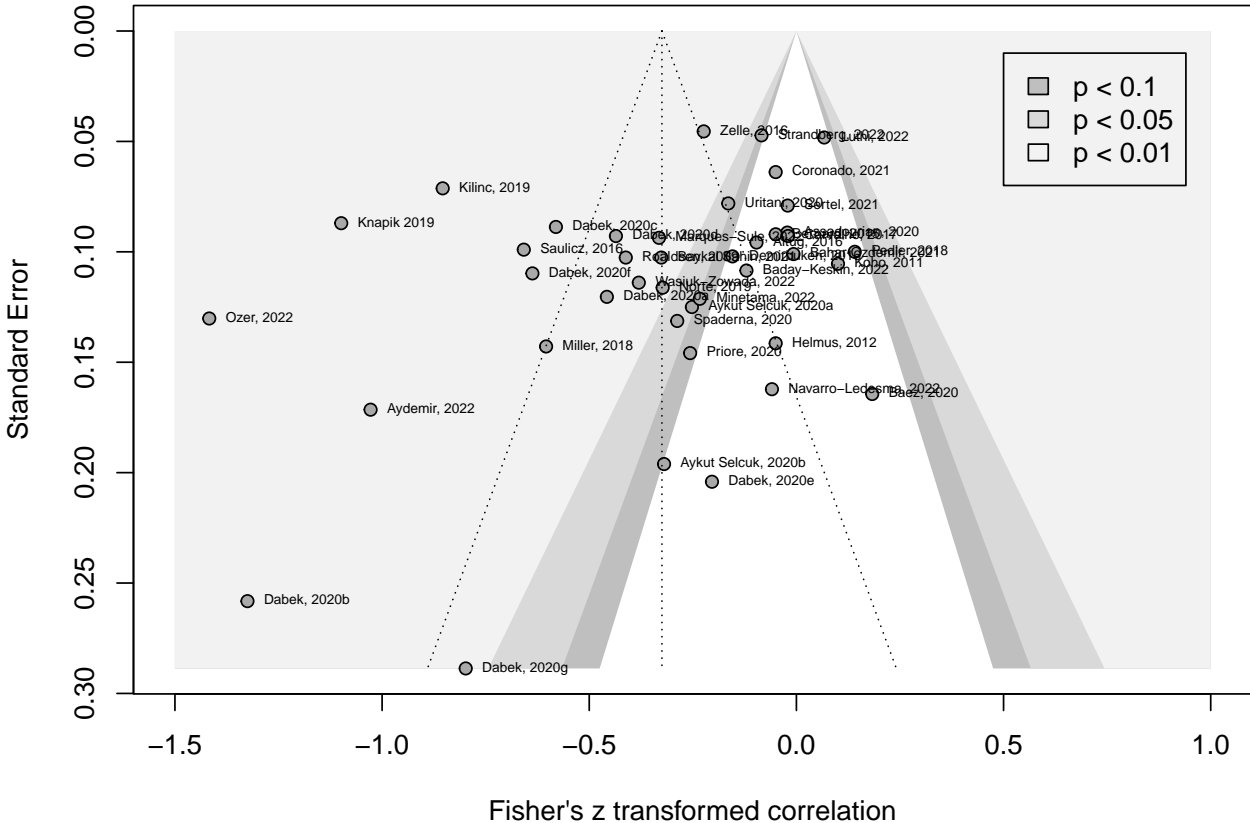
```
# Define fill colors for contour
col.contour = c("gray75", "gray85", "gray95")

# Funnel plot
funnel.meta(m.cor, xlim = c(-1.5, 1),
            contour = c(0.9, 0.95, 0.99),
            col.contour = col.contour,
            studlab = TRUE,
            cex = 1,
            cex.studlab = 0.5,
            pos.studlab = 4,
            offset = 0.5)

# legend
legend(x = 0.5, y = 0.01,
       legend = c("p < 0.1", "p < 0.05", "p < 0.01"),
       fill = col.contour)

# title
title("Contour-Enhanced Funnel Plot (Kinesiophobia and Physical Activity)")
```

### Contour-Enhanced Funnel Plot (Kinesiophobia and Physical Activity)



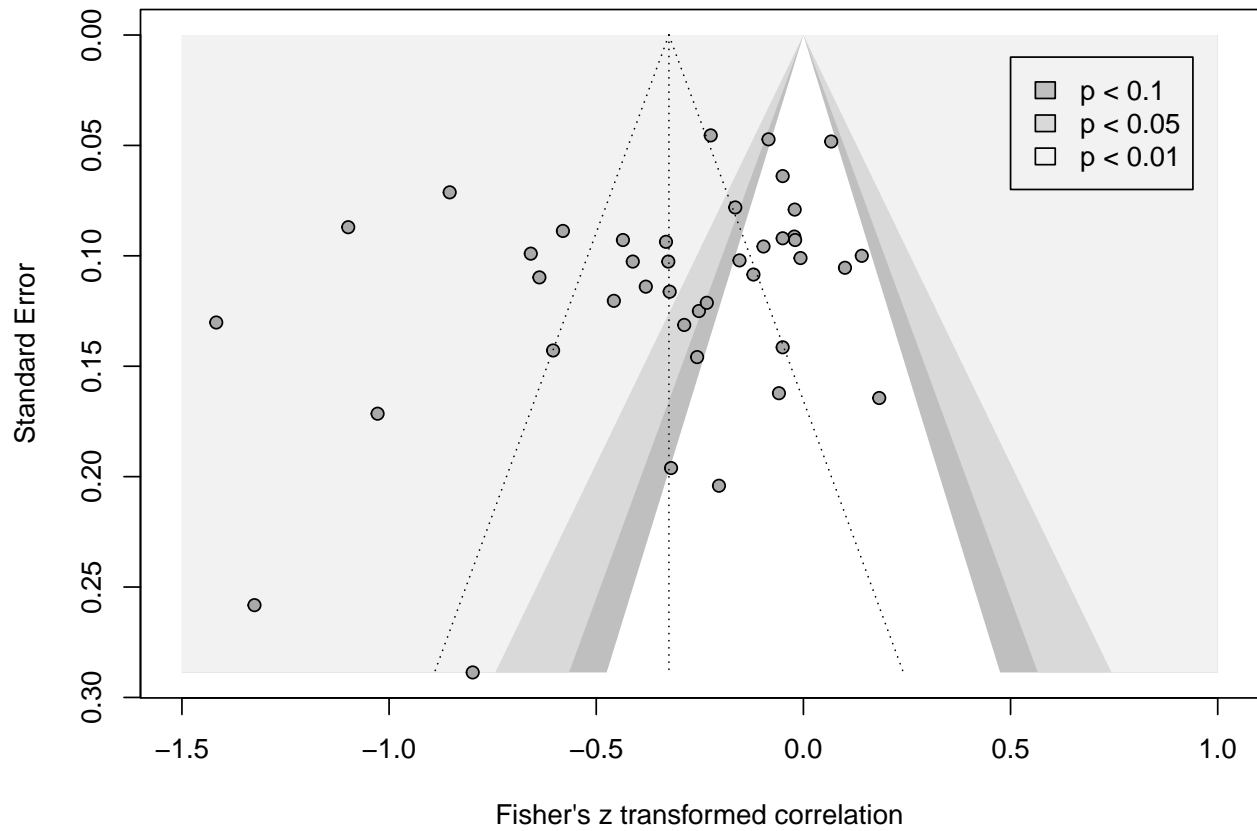
```
# Define fill colors for contour
col.contour = c("gray75", "gray85", "gray95")

# Funnel plot
funnel.meta(m.cor, xlim = c(-1.5, 1),
            contour = c(0.9, 0.95, 0.99),
            col.contour = col.contour)

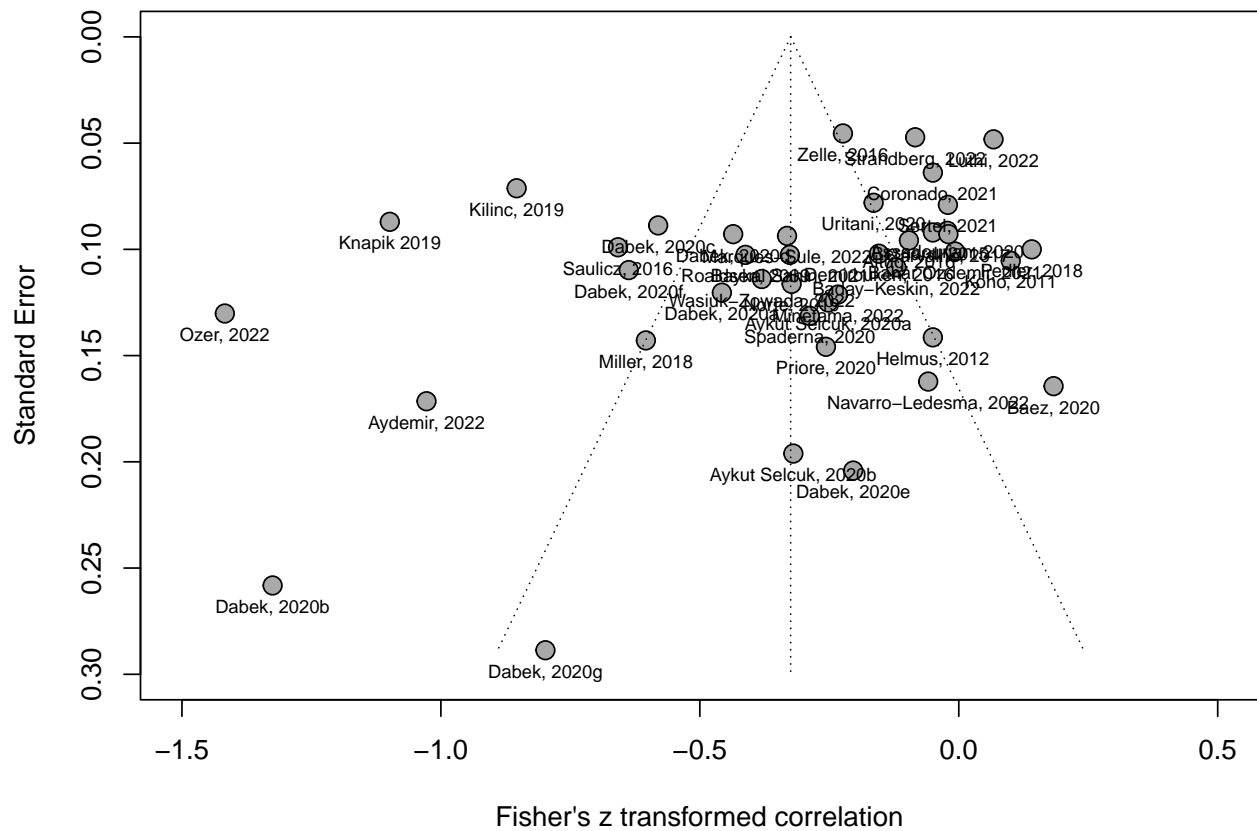
# legend
legend(x = 0.5, y = 0.01,
       legend = c("p < 0.1", "p < 0.05", "p < 0.01"),
       fill = col.contour)

# title
title("Contour-Enhanced Funnel Plot (Kinesiophobia and Physical Activity)")
```

## Contour-Enhanced Funnel Plot (Kinesiophobia and Physical Activity)



```
# Produce funnel plot
funnel.meta(m.cor,
  xlim = c(-1.5, 0.5),
  ylim = c(0.3, 0.0),
  studlab = TRUE,
  cex = 1.5,
  cex.studlab = 0.7,
  pos.studlab = 1,
  offset = 0.5)
```



```
png(file = "Funnel Plot.png", width = 2100, height = 1500, res = 300)
```

```
funnel.meta(m.cor,
  xlim = c(-1.5, 0.5),
  ylim = c(0.31, 0.0),
  studlab = TRUE,
  cex = 1,
  cex.studlab = 0.6,
  pos.studlab = 1,
  offset = 0.5)
```

```
dev.off()
```

```
## pdf
```

```
## 2
```

### Egger's test

```
metabias(m.cor, method.bias = "linreg")
```

```
## Review: Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
```

```
##
```

```
## Linear regression test of funnel plot asymmetry
```

```
##
```

```
## Test result: t = -2.06, df = 39, p-value = 0.0458
```

```
##
```

```
## Sample estimates:
```

```
## bias se.bias intercept se.intercept
```



```
## -2.8483 1.3806 -0.0051 0.1286
##
## Details:
## - multiplicative residual heterogeneity variance (tau^2 = 11.3415)
## - predictor: standard error
## - weight: inverse variance
## - reference: Egger et al. (1997), BMJ
```

```
eggers.test(m.cor)
```

```
## Eggers' test of the intercept
## =====
##
## intercept      95% CI      t      p
##      -2.848 -5.55 - -0.14 -2.063 0.04580985
##
## Eggers' test indicates the presence of funnel plot asymmetry.
```

Egger's regression test showed that the data in the funnel plot was asymmetric ( $b = -2.85$ , 95% CI: -5.55 to -0.14,  $p = 0.046$ ), which may be explained by publication bias, but also by other potential causes, such as different study procedures and between-study heterogeneity, which was considerable here.

## Limit meta-analysis

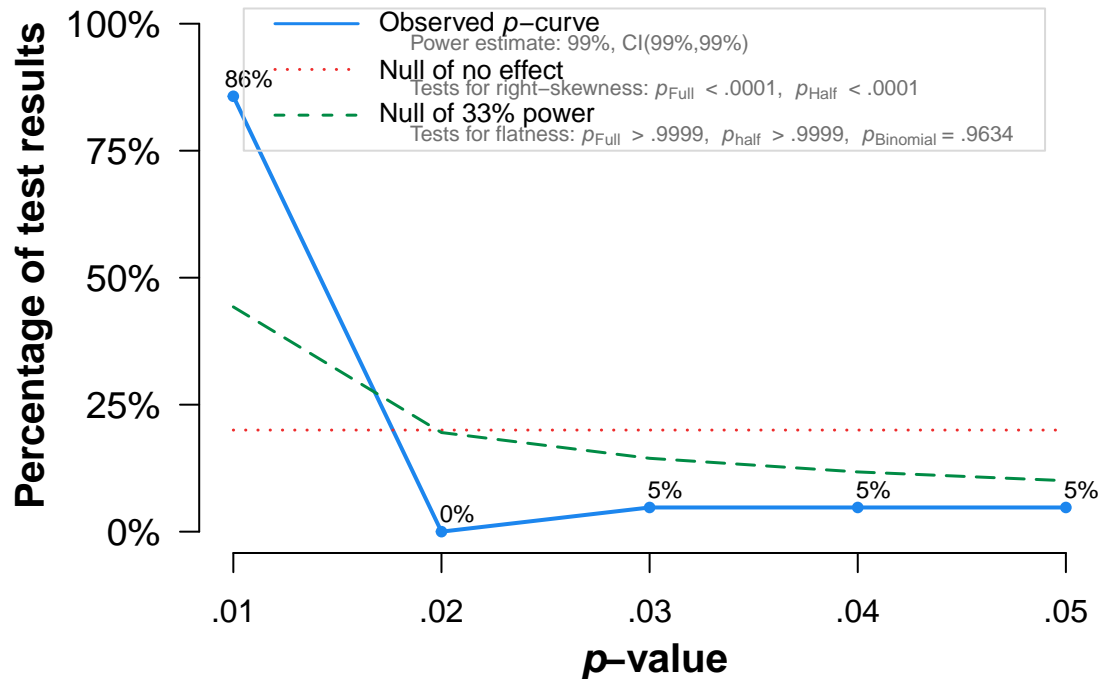
```
limitmeta(m.cor)
```

```
## Review:      Kinesiophobia and physical activity behaviour
##
## Result of limit meta-analysis:
##
## Random effects model      COR      95%-CI      z      pval
## Adjusted estimate -0.1788 [-0.3376; -0.0102] -2.08 0.0378
## Unadjusted estimate -0.3136 [-0.4159; -0.2035] -5.55 < 0.0001
##
## Quantifying heterogeneity:
## tau^2 = 0.1204; I^2 = 91.8% [89.9%; 93.5%]; G^2 = 98.4%
##
## Test of heterogeneity:
##      Q d.f. p-value
## 490.59 40      0
##
## Test of small-study effects:
##      Q-Q' d.f. p-value
## 48.27 1 < 0.0001
##
## Test of residual heterogeneity beyond small-study effects:
##      Q' d.f. p-value
## 442.32 39      0
##
## Details on adjustment method:
## - expectation (beta0)
```

The bias-corrected estimate of the true effect size, calculated using Rücker's limit meta-analysis method, showed that the correlation would remain significant if there was publication bias ( $r = -0.18$ ; 95% CI: -0.34 to -0.01;  $p = 0.0378$ ).

## Pcurve analysis

```
pcurve(m.cor, effect. estimation = FALSE, N, dmin = 0, dmax = 1)
```



Note: The observed  $p$ -curve includes 21 statistically significant ( $p < .05$ ) results, of which 18 are  $p < .025$ . There were 20 additional results entered but excluded from  $p$ -curve because they were  $p > .05$ .

```
## P-curve analysis
## -----
## - Total number of provided studies: k = 41
## - Total number of  $p < 0.05$  studies included into the analysis: k = 21 (51.22%)
## - Total number of studies with  $p < 0.025$ : k = 18 (43.9%)
##
## Results
## -----
##               pBinomial   zFull pFull   zHalf pHalf
## Right-skewness test    0.001 -16.221    0 -17.087    0
## Flatness test          0.963  12.917    1  15.794    1
## Note: p-values of 0 or 1 correspond to  $p < 0.001$  and  $p > 0.999$ , respectively.
## Power Estimate: 99% (99%-99%)
##
## Evidential value
## -----
## - Evidential value present: yes
## - Evidential value absent/inadequate: no
```

A total of 41 studies were provided to the  $p$ -curve analysis, including 21 (51.2%) studies with  $p < 0.05$  and 18 studies (43.9%) with  $p < 0.025$ . The  $p$ -value of the right-skewness test was  $< 0.001$  for both the half and full curve, suggesting that evidential value was present.

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