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| **Summary of findings table** |
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| **Outcomes** |  |  |  |  |  |
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 | **Risk with placebo** | **Risk with SSRIs** | **Relative effect(95% CI)** | **№ of participants(trials)** | **Quality of the evidence(GRADE** | **Comments** |
| Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS) | - | - | The mean HDRS score at end of treatment in the SSRI group was 1.94 (2.50 to -1.3) HDRS points lower than the placebo group | 10,464 (49 trials)  | ⊕⊕⊝⊝ Very low | Trial sequential analysis showed that the boundary for harm was crossed |
| Serious adverse events  | 22 per 1,000 | 31 (25 to 40) per 1,000  | OR 1.37 (1.08 to 1.75) | 13,299 (44 trials) | ⊕⊕⊝⊝ Very low | Trial sequential analysis showed that the boundary for harm was crossed |
| No remission  | 746 per 1,000 | 657 (642 to 679) per 1,000 | RR 0.88 (0.84 to 0.91) | 4214 (34 trials) | ⊕⊕⊝⊝ Very low | Trial sequential analysis showed that the boundary for benefit was crossed |

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| \***The risk in the intervention group** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the observed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).**CI:** Confidence interval; **OR:** Odds ratio; **RR:** Risk ratio; |
| **GRADE Working Group grades of evidence****High quality:** We are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect**Moderate quality:** We are moderately confident in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different**Low quality:** Our confidence in the effect estimate is limited: The true effect may be substantially different from the estimate of the effect**Very low quality:** We have very little confidence in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be substantially different from the estimate of effect |