

### **Supplemental Table 1. Search Strategy**

Medline by Ovid Search strategy

1. ('cognitive training' or 'brain training' or 'attention training' or 'reasoning training' or 'memory training' or 'mental training' or 'memory skills training' or 'mental skills training' or 'neurocognitive training').mp.
2. ('cognitive exercise' or 'brain exercise' or 'memory exercise' or 'attention exercise' or 'reasoning exercise').mp.
3. ('cognitive stimulation' or 'memory stimulation' or 'memory enhancement' or 'cognitive enhancement').mp.
4. ('cognitive rehabilitation' or 'cognitive remediation' or 'cognitive restructuring').mp.
5. ('cognitive activit\$' or 'mental activit\$').mp.
6. (speed and processing and training).mp.
7. ('mnemonic\$' or 'method of loci').mp.
8. ('video game\$' or 'videogame\$' or 'wii' or 'computer game\$' or 'virtual reality').mp.
9. ('cognitive intervention\$' or 'neurocognitive intervention\$' or 'neuropsychological intervention\$').mp.
10. ('Aged' or 'Older' or 'Elder\$' or 'Senior\$' or 'aging' or 'ageing' or 'geriatric').mp.
11. ('cognitive impairment' or 'mild cognitive impairment' or 'cognitive decline' or 'neurocognitive disorder' or 'dement\$' or 'cognitive disorder' or 'alzheimer\$').mp.
12. 10 or 11
13. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9
14. 12 and 13

## **Supplementary Table 2. Categorization of outcomes by cognitive domain**

### **Non Verbal Learning**

Benton Visual Retention Test- Revised  
CANTAB- Pattern recognition memory  
Doors and People Memory Battery- Visual recognition subtest  
Delayed Matching Sample Task (DMS48)  
Korean Cognitive Functions Test- Immediate recall  
Rey-Osterreith Complex Figure- Immediate recall  
16-Item free and cued reminding test

### **Verbal Learning**

Visual Verbal Learning Test- Free and cued recall  
ADAS-Cog- List Learning Sum  
Wechsler Memory Scale- Verbal Paired Associates I  
Wechsler Memory Scale- Logical Memory I  
Demenz Test- Verbal Selective Reminding  
Mini Mental State Exam-recall of 3 words task  
Korean- Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test  
Short Story Test  
Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test- immediate recall  
Kognition Wortliste: freie Reproduktion  
Verbal Story Recall Test  
Fuld Object Memory Evaluation- Total encoding  
Fuld Object Memory Evaluation- Total recall

### **Verbal Memory**

Prose Memory Test  
Rivermead Behavioral Memory Test- Story recall subtest  
Korean- Demenia Rating Scale- Memory  
Brief Assessment of Prospective Memory-Short  
Verbal Story Recall Test  
Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test-Delayed recall  
Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test- Recognition  
Visual Verbal Learning Test- Delayed recall  
Wechsler Memory Scale- Logical Memory II  
Wechsler Memory Scale- Verbal Paired Associates II  
Addenbrooke's cognitive examination-cz Memory  
Demenz Test Verbal Pictoral Selective Reminding Paradigm  
Batterie d'efficience Mnesique (BEM-144)- word list total recall  
Hong Kong List Learning  
Word list recognition  
Fuld Object Memory Evaluation- Delaved recall

### **Non verbal memory**

Rey-Osterreith Complex Figure- Delayed recall  
Rey-Osterreith Complex Figure- Recall  
Rey-Osterreith Complex Figure- Recognition  
Korean Cognitive Functions Test- Delayed recall

### **Working Memory**

Parametric N-Back Task  
RBANS-Spatial Span  
Reading Span Test  
CANTAB-Spatial working memory  
Wechsler Memory Scale- Symbol span  
Bisyllabic Word Repetition Test  
Corsi Block Tapping Test  
Digit Span Backwards Test  
Digit Span  
Zahlenverbindungstest Digit Symbol Span (timed)

### **Attention**

CANTAB-Rapid visual information processing  
Digit Cancellation Test  
Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination- AttentionAddenbrooke's Cognitive Alters-Konzentrations-test- Timed  
Korean Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale Digit span Forward  
Korean Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale Revised- Digit span Forward  
Korean-Demenita Rating scale-Attention  
Attentive Matrices

### **Visuospatial Skills**

Constructional apraxia  
Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination- Visuospatial  
Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination Revised- Visuospatial Gollins Incomplete Picture Test  
Korean-Dementia Rating Scale- Construction  
Korean-Cognitive Functions Test- Copy  
Clock Drawing Test  
Rey-Osterreith Complex Figure- Copy

## Speed

The Trail Making Test A  
Symbol Digits Modality Test- Oral version  
Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System Test Battery- Number Sequencing  
Go/No Go Reaction Time  
Tracking A (Numbers in reverse)  
Stroop Color Reading  
Korean Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale Revised- Digit Symbol  
Tracking A (Numbers in reverse)  
The Useful Field of View

## Language

Category Fluency  
Semantic Verbal Fluency  
Denomination  
Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination- Language  
Demenz Test- supermarket naming  
Der Fragmentier Bilder Test- Token Test (errors)  
Boston Naming Test  
Phonetic Fluency- Animal Naming

## Executive Functions

Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale III- Similarities  
Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale III - Reasoning  
WAIS-III Matrix Reasoning  
The Trail Making Test B  
Tracking B Months forwards and numbers in reverse  
Semantic Fluency- Letter generation  
Raven's Coloured Progressive Matrices  
Controlled Oral Word Association Test  
Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System Test Battery-Number Letter Switching  
Letter Verbal FluencyLetter Fluency  
Korean-Dementia Rating Scale- Executive function  
Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination- Fluency  
Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination Revised- Fluency  
Phonetic Verbal Fluency Test  
Dual Task Performance Test  
Cognitive Estimation Test  
CANTAB- Spatial working memory  
Examiner  
Color Trails 1 & 2

## Global cognition

ADAS-cog  
Computerized Assessment of Cognitive Impairment  
Demenzstatus Mini Mental Status  
Chinese Mattis Dementia Rating Scale  
Global Cognition Domain  
Korean-Mini Mental State Exam  
Mental Status in Neurology  
Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE)  
Milan Overall Dementia Assessment  
Syndrom Kurztest  
Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination-cz Total

## Activities Of Daily Living

Barthel Index of Activities of Daily Living strumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)  
Chinese Modified Barthel Index  
Rapid Disability Rating Scale

## Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

Lawton Instrumental Activities of Daily Living  
functional activities Questionnaire  
Bayer Activity of Daily Living  
Timed Instrumental ADLs  
Brief Assessment of Prospective Memory  
Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly

## Psychosocial Functioning

Depression Anxiety Stress Scale 21  
Cognitive Failures Questionnaire  
Cognitive Self Report Questionnaire  
Revised Memory and Behavior Problems Checklist  
Center for Epidemiological Studies-Depression  
Lebensqualitat Seelisches Wohlbefinden Mental QOL  
Quality of Life Questionnaire  
Neuropsychiatric Inventory Questionnaire  
Cornell scale for depression in dementia  
Geriatric Depression Scale  
Multifactorial Memory Questionnaire

**Supplementary Table 3. Risk of Bias within individual studies**

Author	Sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Assessor blinding	Participant blinding	Selective outcome reporting	Other sources of bias	Risk of Bias
Barban studies 1 & 2 (44)	High	Low	Unclear	High	High	Low	HIGH
Barnes (29)	Low	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	LOW
Boller (42) studies 1 & 2	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Finn (48)	Low	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Finn (49)	Low	Low	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Galante (32)	Low	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Heiss (58)	Unclear	Unclear	High	High	Low	Low	HIGH
Herrera (56)	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Hughes (57)	Low	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Lee (60)	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	HIGH
Lowenstein (52)	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Man (50)	Low	Unclear	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	LOW
Optale (31)	Low	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Rozzini (51)	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	LOW
Fiatarone Singh (43) studies 1& 2	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	LOW
Tarnanas (47)	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	HIGH
Tarraga (59)	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	HIGH
Zhuang (33)	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Hagovska (45, 46)	Low	Low	High	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Fernandez-Calvo (55)	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	LOW
Wittelsberger (54)	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	HIGH
Kim 2005	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	High	Low	HIGH
Gooding studies 1 & 2 (30)	Unclear	Low	Unclear	High	Low	Low	HIGH
Barcelos (53)	Low	Unclear	Unclear	High	Low	Low	HIGH
Lin (67)	Unclear	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	LOW

**Supplementary Table 4. Meta-analyses of individual cognitive domains across dementia studies**

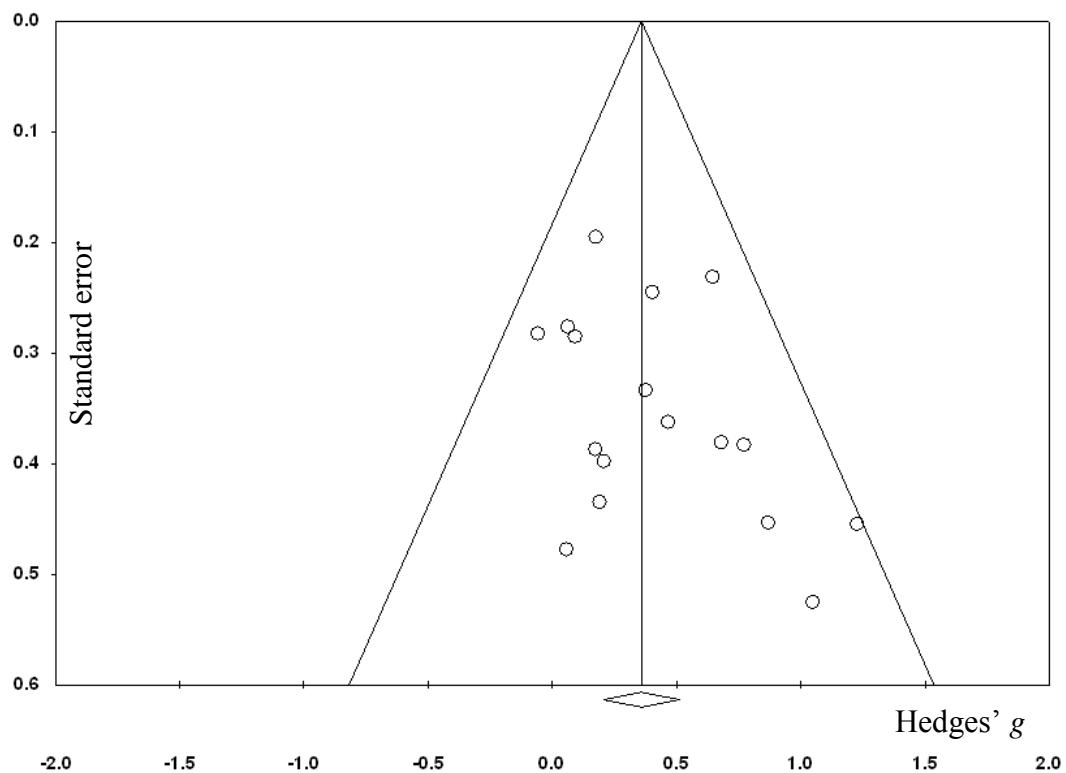
Domain	<i>k</i>	<i>g</i> (95% CI)	P-value	<i>I</i> <sup>2</sup>
Overall cognition	11	0.26 (0.01 to 0.52)	0.05	26.48%
Global cognition	7	0.31 (-0.11 to 0.72)	0.15	56.66%
Activities of Daily Living	2	0.06 (-0.51 to 0.64)	0.84	0%
Instrumental Activities of Daily Living	6	-0.24 (-0.50 to 0.02)	0.07	0%
Language	4	0.08 (-0.29 to 0.44)	0.67	0%
Executive function	5	0.02 (-0.46 to 0.51)	0.92	59.81%
Attention	2	-0.19 (-0.77 to 0.39)	0.52	0%
Verbal learning	4	0.42 (-0.14 to 0.97)	0.14	51.22%
Non-verbal learning	2	0.23 (-0.43 to 0.90)	0.50	0%
Verbal memory	9	0.17 (-0.25 to 0.59)	0.42	65.0%
Non-verbal memory	1	-0.06 (-0.49 to 0.38)	0.80	0%
Psychosocial functioning	6	0.60 (-0.05 to 1.25)	0.07	73.4%
Processing speed	2	0.11 (-0.43 to 0.66)	0.69	50.33%
Visuospatial skills	3	0.54 (0.07 to 1.01)	0.02	4.77%
Working memory	4	0.22 (-0.34 to 0.78)	0.45	33.71%

**Supplementary Table 5. Long-term outcomes for MCI and Dementia studies**

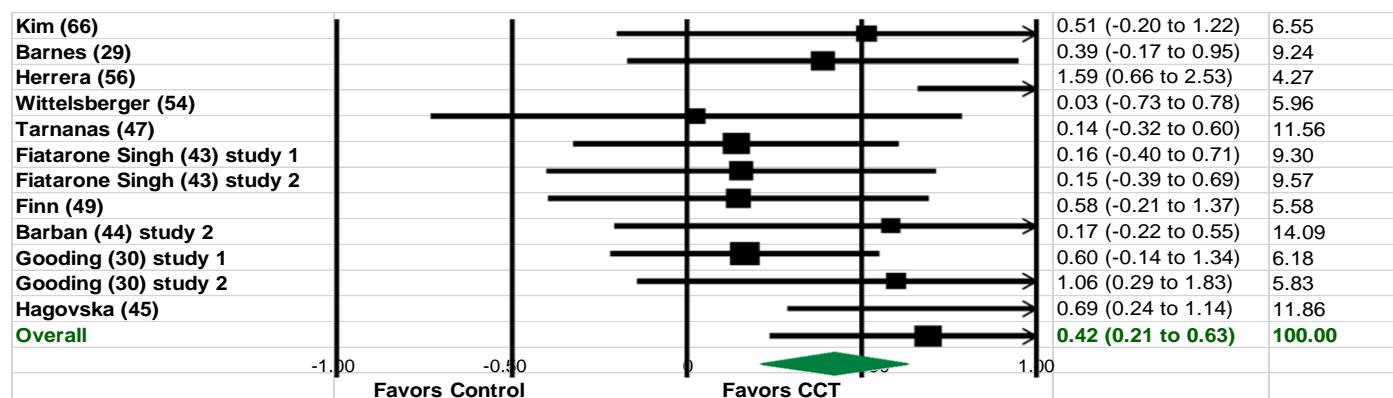
Study	Population	Follow-up 1	Follow-up 2	Follow-up 3
Galante 2007 (32)	Dementia	4 (wks from baseline) $g = -0.13$ CI[-1.26 to 1.00]	8 (wks from FU1) $g = -0.37$ CI[-1.52 to 0.79]	24 (wks from FU2) $g = 0.83$ CI[-0.35 to 2.01]
Heiss 1994 (58)	Dementia	8 (wks from baseline) $g = -0.01$ CI[-0.65 to 0.64]	8 (wks from FU1) $g = 0.02$ CI[-0.63 to 0.67]	8 (wks from FU2) $g = 0.07$ CI[-0.59 to 0.72]
Tarraga 2006 (59)	Dementia	12 (wks from baseline) $g = 0.11$ CI[-0.58 to 0.8]	24 (wks from FU1) $g = 0.09$ CI[-0.60 to 0.78]	
Herrera 2012 (56)	MCI	12 (wks from baseline) $g = 1.23$ CI[0.34 to 2.12]	12 (wks from FU1) $g = 0.86$ CI[0.01 to 1.71]	
Hughes 2014 (57)	MCI	24 (wks from baseline) $g = 0.19$ CI[-0.66 to 1.05]	28 (wks from FU1) $g = 0.01$ CI[-0.86 to 0.88]	
Lee 2013 (60)	Dementia	6 (wks from baseline) $g = -0.06$ CI[-1.08 to 0.96]	6 (wks from FU1) $g = -0.27$ CI[-1.29 to 0.76]	
Fiatarone Singh 2014 study 1 (43) (CT + PRT vs Sham CT Sham + PRT)	MCI	24 (wks from baseline) $g = -0.06$ CI[-1.08 to 0.96]	48 (wks from FU1) $g = -0.08$ CI[-0.64 to 0.47]	

Fiatrone Singh 2014 study 2 (43) (CT + Sham PRT vs Sham + Sham)	MCI	24 (wks from baseline) $g = -0.06$ CI[-0.48 to 0.61]	48 (wks from FU1) $g = 0.05$ CI[-0.49 to 0.59]
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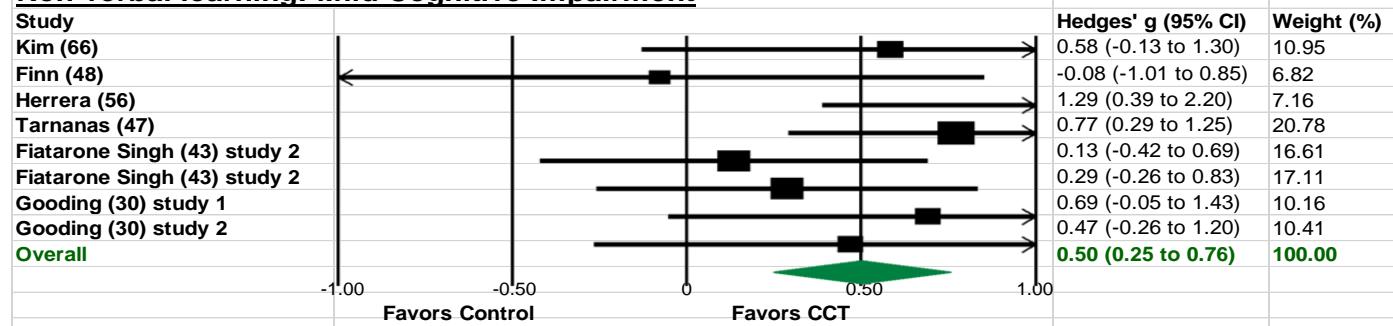
**Supplementary Figure 1. Funnel plot of overall cognition in mild cognitive impairment**



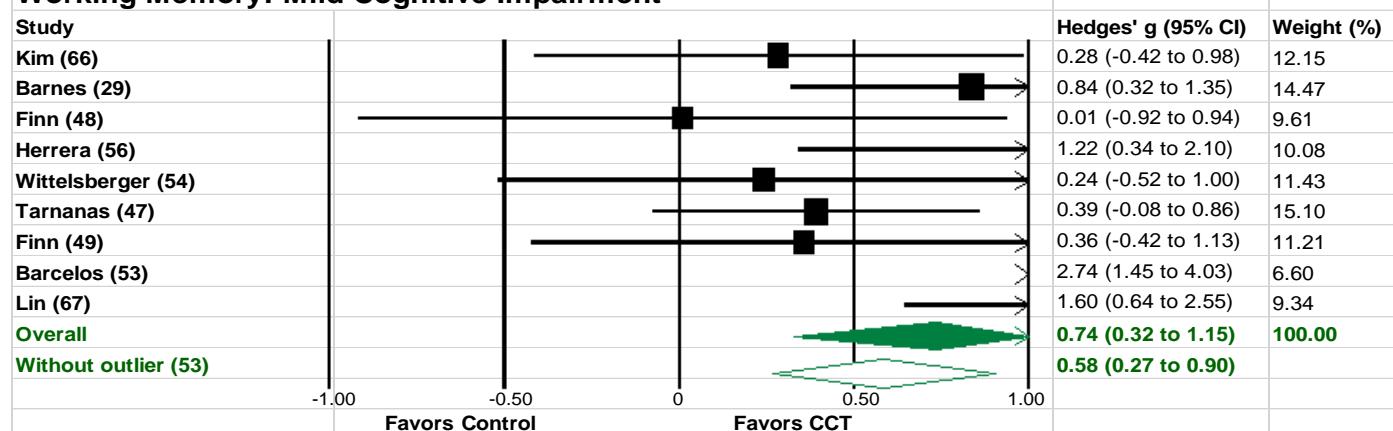
## Supplementary Figure 2. Forest plots of cognitive and behavioral domains in MCI and Dementia



### Non-verbal learning: Mild Cognitive Impairment



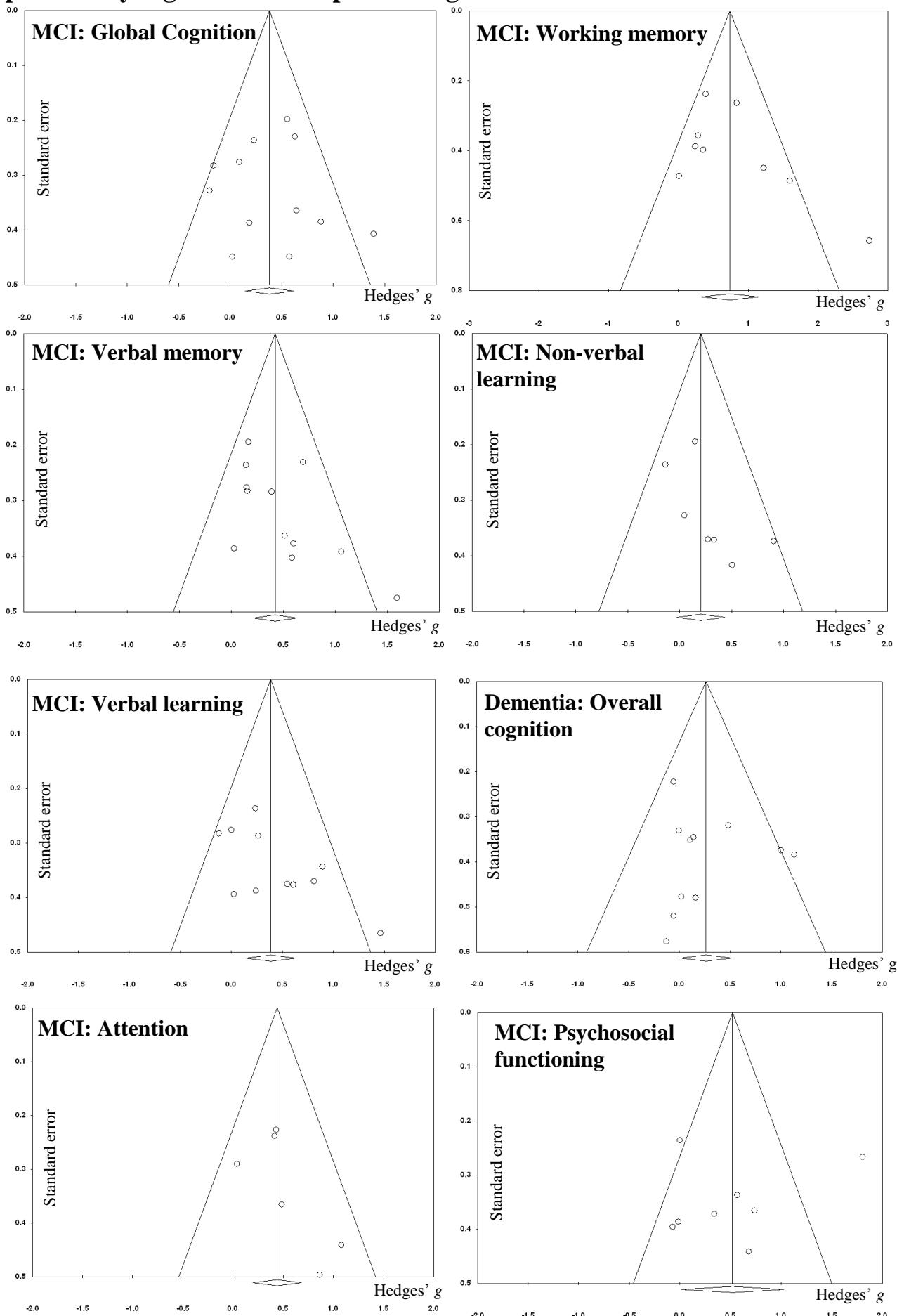
### Working Memory: Mild Cognitive Impairment



### Attention: Mild Cognitive Impairment

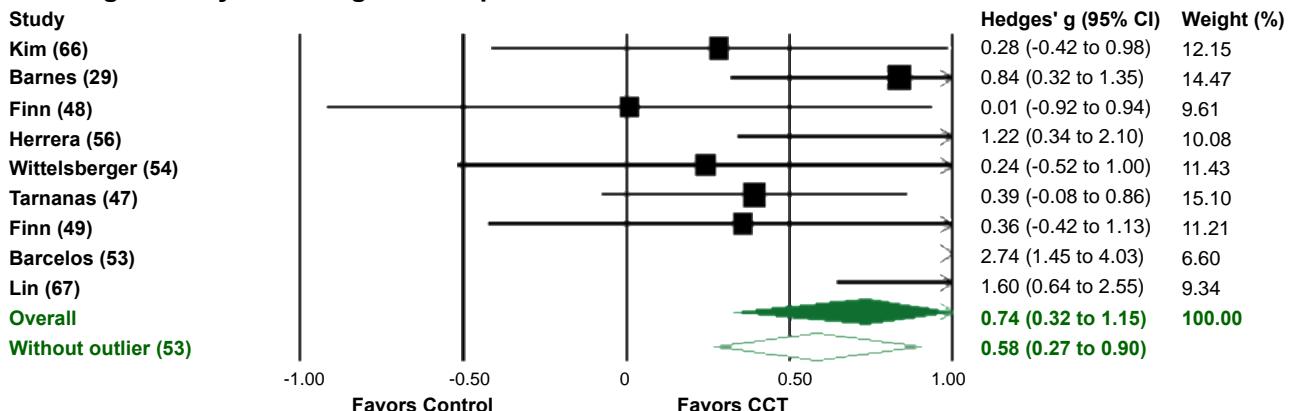


**Supplementary Figure 3. Funnel plots of cognitive and behavioral domains**



## Supplementary Figure 4. Forest plots of cognitive and behavioral domains in MCI and Dementia

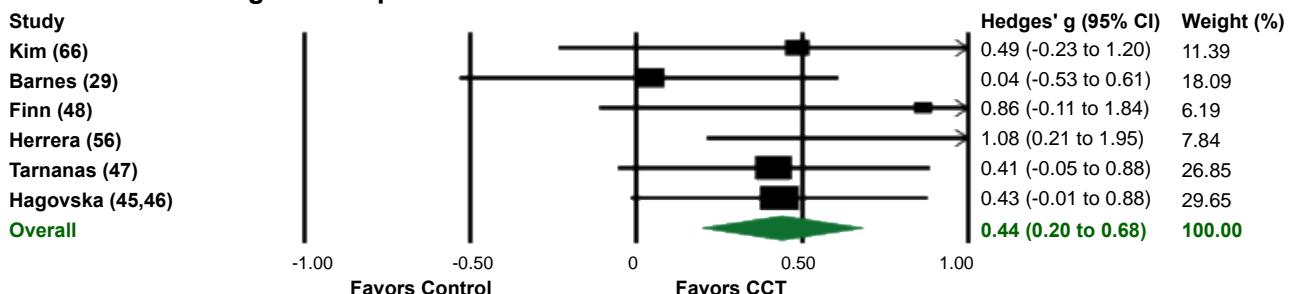
### Working Memory: Mild Cognitive Impairment



Tests for heterogeneity:  $\chi^2=21.7$  df=8, P=0.006,  $I^2=63.1$

Test for overall random effect: Z=3.50, P<0.001

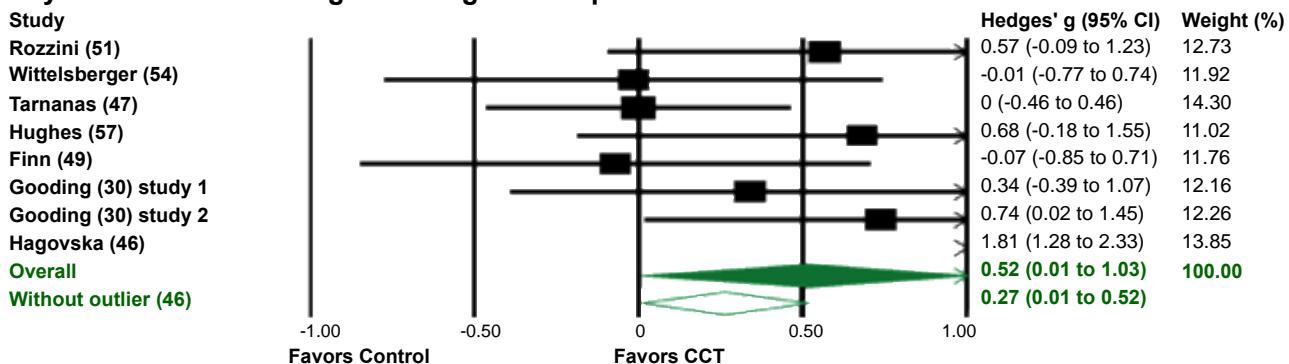
### Attention: Mild Cognitive Impairment



Tests for heterogeneity:  $\chi^2=4.76$  df=5, P=0.45,  $I^2<0.001$

Test for overall random effect: Z=3.56, P<0.001

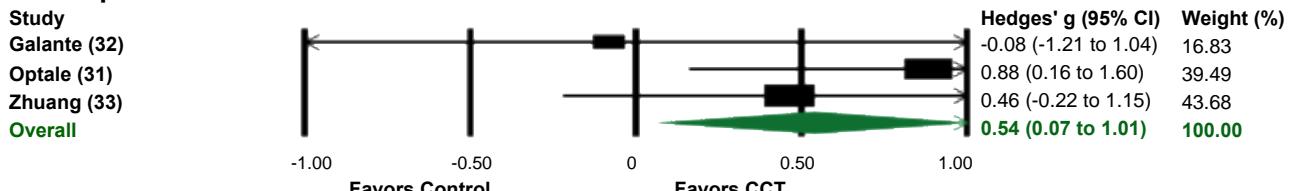
### Psychosocial functioning: Mild Cognitive Impairment



Tests for heterogeneity:  $\chi^2=32.84$ , df=7, P<0.001,  $I^2=78.69$

Test for overall random effect: Z=2.00, P=0.045

### Visuospatial skills: Dementia



Tests for heterogeneity:  $\chi^2=2.1$ , df=2, P=0.35,  $I^2=4.77$

Test for overall random effect: Z=2.26, P=0.024