**Table 4: Statistical analysis in multiparous women only for all studies included in the meta-analysis.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | No. of studies analyzed | Q  P-value\* | Pooled effect  [95%CI]\*\* | *P*-value\*\*\* |
| Time from catheter insertion to delivery (hours) | 1 | - | 0.90 [-1.25, 3.05] | 0.412 |
| Time from catheter insertion to vaginal delivery (hours) | 2 | 0.608 | 0.93 [-0.76, 2.62] | 0.279 |
| Vaginal deliveries | 2 | 0.629 | 0.97 [0.89-1.06] | 0.514 |
| Spontaneous vaginal deliveries | 1 | - | 0.90 [0.81-0.99] | 0.049 |
| Vacuum deliveries | 1 | - | 8.75 [0.48-159.4] | 0.143 |
| Cesarean deliveries | 2 | 0.426 | 1.35 [0.54-3.36] | 0.516 |
| Vacuum or cesarean | 1 | - | 3.24 [0.93-11.26] | 0.065 |
| Delivery within 24 h from catheter insertion | 1 | - | 1.002 [0.91-1.1] | 0.962 |
| Vaginal delivery within 24 h from catheter insertion | 2 | 0.226 | 1.02 [0.89-1.18] | 0.77 |
| Apgar score < 7 at 5 min | 0 | - | - | - |
| Intrapartum fever/chorioamnionitis | 1 | - | 2.92 [0.12-70.35] | 0.51 |

\* Heterogeneity of the studies was explored using Cochrane’s Q test of heterogeneity (P<0.1 considered statistically significant). Random and fixed effects (DerSimonian and Laird and inverse variance methods, respectively) were chosen accordingly. When only one study was included, no heterogeneity test was performed.

\*\* Relative risk (RR) was the pooled effect for categorical outcomes and the weighted mean difference (WMD) was the pooled effect for continuous outcomes.

\*\*\* P-value for the test: pooled effect insignificant; for categorical outcomes the test was RR=1 and for continuous outcomes the test was WMD=0.