The Clinical Utility of Combinatorial Pharmacogenomic Testing for Patients with Depression: A Meta-Analysis

Lisa Brown¹, Rachel Daut¹, Oliver Vranjkovic¹, James Li¹, Ken Yu¹, Talal Al Habbab¹, Holly Johnson¹, Krystal Brown², Michael R. Jablonski¹, Bryan Dechairo²

1. Myriad Neuroscience, Mason, OH 2. Myriad Genetics, Salt Lake City, UT

BACKGROUND

- Pharmacogenomic testing has emerged as a possible datadriven approach to inform treatment decisions for patients with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD).
- However, there is mixed evidence available for the utility of pharmacogenomic testing depending on the test used and study population.
- Meta-analyses provide a high level of evidence and can be useful in evaluating the overall utility of a testing approach for clinical use.
- Given the meaningful differences between tests, all tests need to be evaluated separately and meta-analyses should be performed for each individual pharmacogenomic test.¹

OBJECTIVE

We present the results of a meta-analysis of prospective, twoarm studies examining the clinical utility of using the combinatorial pharmacogenomic test, GeneSight® Psychotropic, to inform treatment decisions for patients with MDD who had at least one prior medication failure.

METHODS

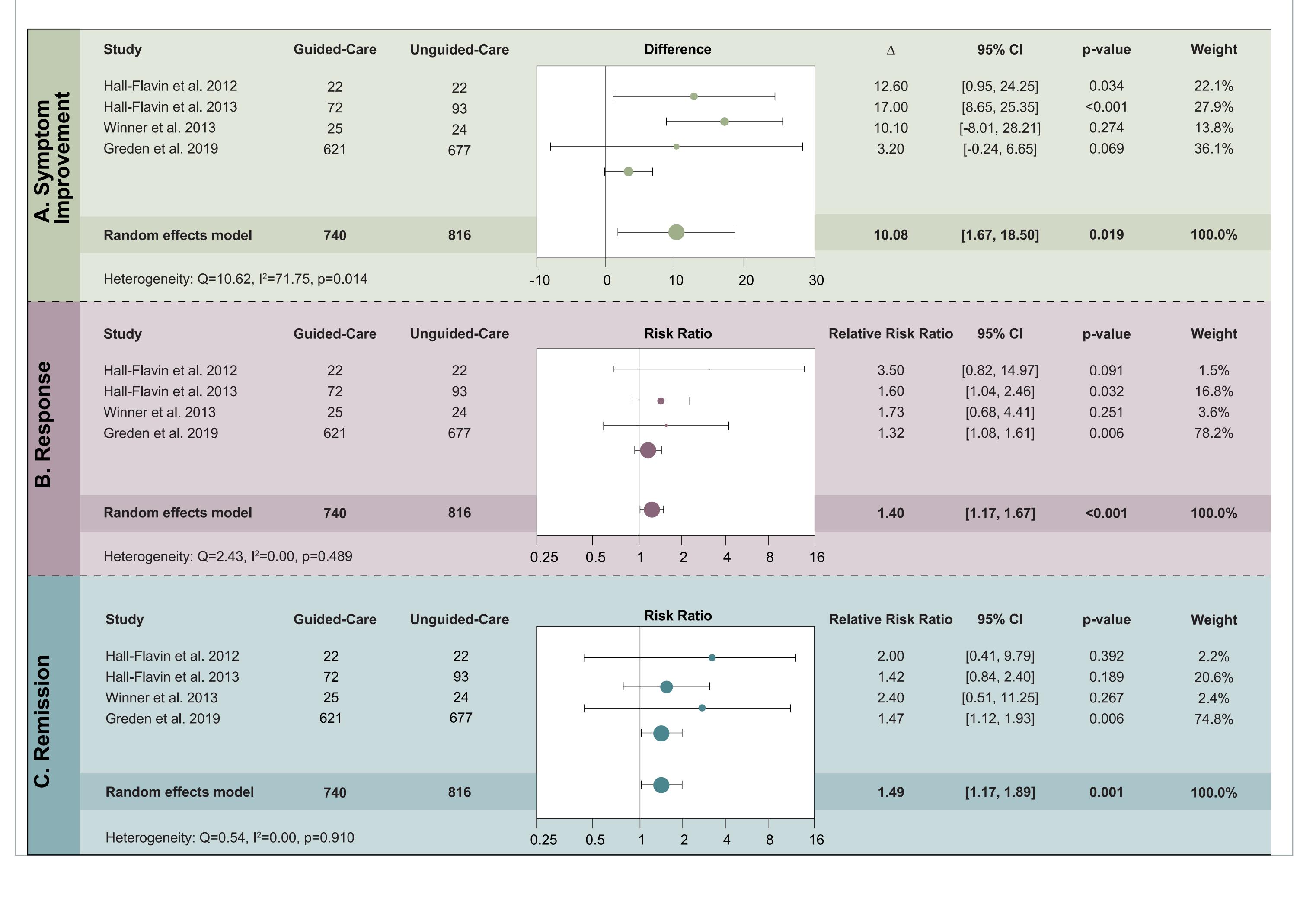
- The Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) Guidelines were utilized for this meta-analysis.
- A systematic search was performed, and all identified reports were screened to identify two-arm, prospective studies evaluating the clinical utility of this specific test that included patients ≥18 years of age diagnosed with MDD who had at least 1 prior medication failure.
- Overall, 1,556 patients were included from 4 studies [2 open-label studies and 2 randomized controlled trials (RCTs)].
- All included studies assessed symptom improvement, response, and remission using the 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HAM-D17).
- The pooled mean effect of symptom improvement and pooled relative risk ratio of response and remission were calculated using a random effects model.
- Sub-analyses were performed according to study type.
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• Patient outcomes were significantly improved for patients with MDD whose care was guided by the specific combinatorial pharmacogenomic guided-care test results compared to unguided-care (Figure 1).

 Heterogeneity in effect size across studies was significant, but moderate for symptom improvement, and was not significant for response and remission.

Figure 1. Meta-analysis of 4 prospective clinical utility studies of GeneSight® Psychotropic

Forest plot of random-effects meta-analysis of 4 prospective, two-arm studies that examined the clinical utility of GeneSight[®] Psychotropic in guiding treatment decisions for patients with MDD. (a) Average difference in symptom improvement (b) relative risk ratio for response, and (c) relative risk ratio for remission between guided- and unguided-care. Circle size indicates weight in overall analysis.

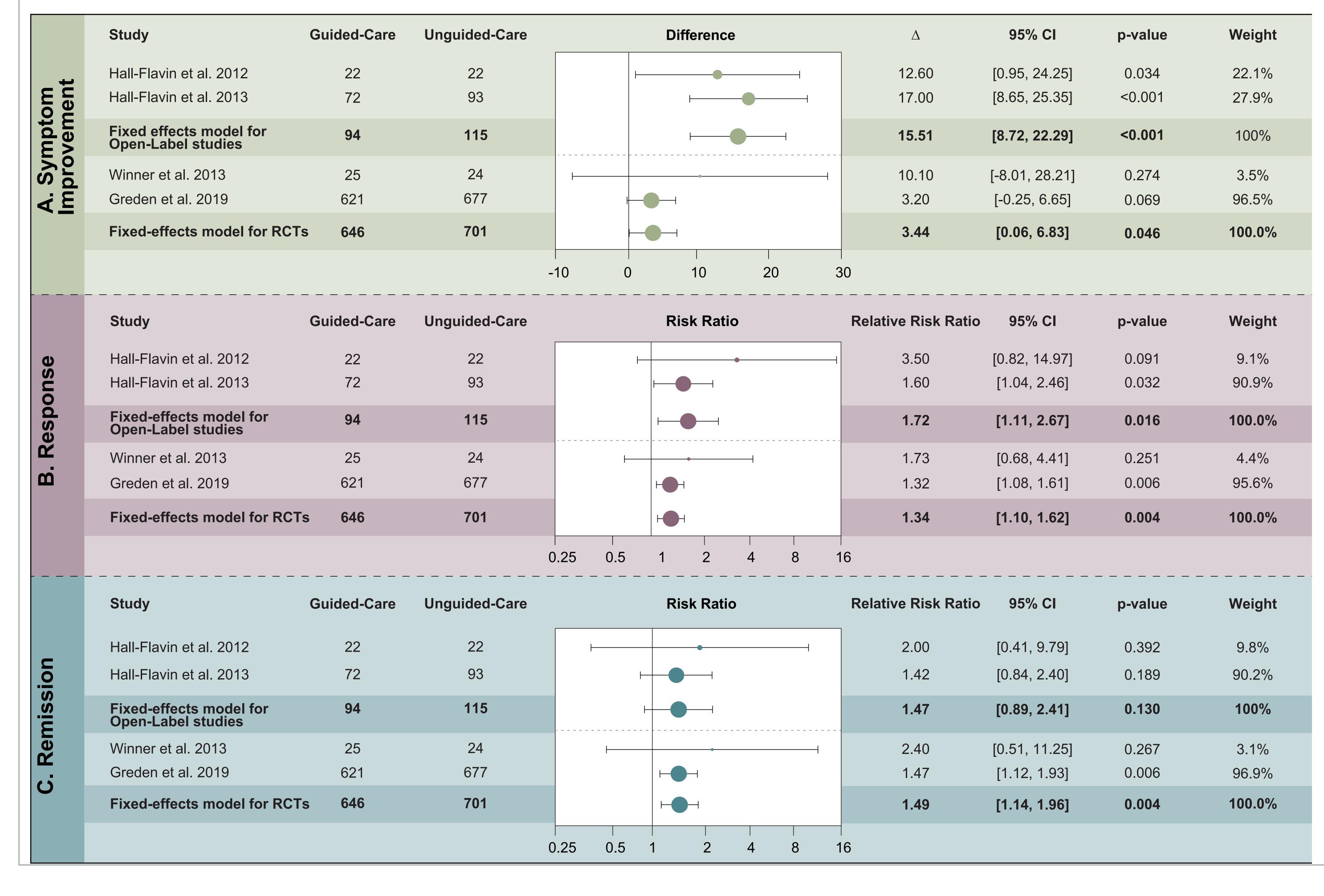


RESULTS

analysis.

- When the open-label studies were assessed separately, symptom improvement and response were significantly improved in the combinatorial pharmacogenomic guided-care group versus unguided-care group (Figure 2).
- When the analysis was restricted to RCTs, all 3 evaluated outcomes were significantly improved in the combinatorial pharmacogenomic guided-care group versus unguided-care group (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Sub-analysis of open-label and GeneSight® Psychotropic randomized controlled trial studies
Forest plot of fixed-effects meta-analysis for the open-label and RCTs. (a) average difference in symptom improvement (b) relative risk ratio for response, and (c) relative risk ratio for remission between guided-and unguided-care. Circle size indicates weight in overall



CONCLUSIONS

- In a meta-analysis of 4 independent studies, all outcomes were significantly improved for patients in the GeneSight® Psychotropic guided-care arm versus unguided-care.
- This meta-analysis adds to the body of evidence supporting the clinical utility of using GeneSight®
 Psychotropic to guide medication selection for patients with MDD who have failed at least 1 medication.²