Figure S1. Begg's funnel plots of publication bias for SFRP promoter methylation in various cancer types. (A) SFRP1, (B) SFRP2, (C) SFRP4 and (D) SFRP5 promoter methylation in various cancer types. (E) Publication bias following trim and fill analysis for SFRP1 promoter methylation in various cancer types. The circles represent the individual studies in this meta-analysis, and the line in the center represents the pooled OR. OR, odds ratio; s.e., standard error; SFRP, secreted frizzled-related protein.

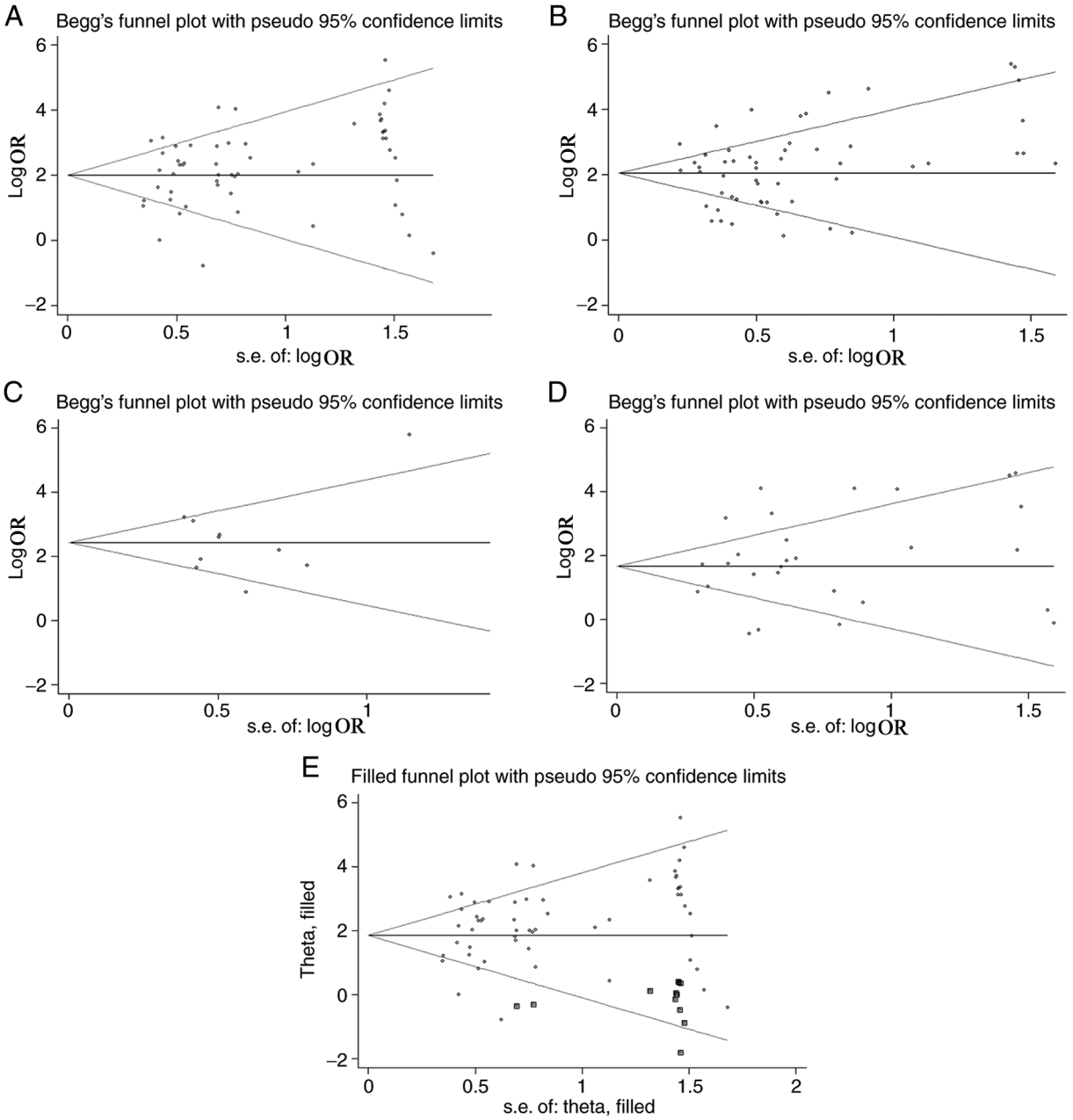

Table SII. Association of SFRP promoter methylation status with clinicopathological features of four types of cancer.

Cancer types	Comparisons	No. of studies	No. of patients	Heterogeneity test I^2, %	Heterogeneity test P-value	OR Model	Effect size (95% CI)	Effect size P-value
Colorectal cancer (SFRP2)	Age (<50 vs. ≥50 years)	5	816	35	0.19	F	1.35 (0.89-2.04)	0.15
	Male vs. female	8	1,115	0	0.90	F	1.00 (0.73-1.37)	0.99
	Poor or other vs. well or moderate	7	1,078	59	0.02	R	2.16 (1.02-4.56)	0.04
	Lymph node status (N/P)	8	1,034	71	0.001	R	0.69 (0.34-1.39)	0.30
	Distant metastasis (N/P)	4	343	21	0.29	F	1.26 (0.65-2.44)	0.49
	TNM stage (I and II vs. III and IV)	11	1,522	64	0.002	R	0.86 (0.51-1.42)	0.55
	Tumor location (proximal vs. distal)	2	180	0	0.9	F	1.96 (0.98-3.94)	0.06
Lung cancer (SFRP1)	Male vs. female	3	360	37	0.20	F	0.65 (0.39-1.09)	0.1
	Smoking habit (non-smoker vs. smoker)	3	360	45	0.16	F	1.65 (0.99-2.74)	0.05
	Adenocarcinoma vs. squamous cell carcinoma	3	329	0	0.92	F	1.60 (0.99-2.61)	0.06
Breast cancer (SFRP2)	pT category (pTis+pT1 vs. pT2+pT3+pT4)	2	258	0	0.99	F	1.07 (0.54-2.12)	0.85
	N0 vs. N1+N2+N3	2	246	0	0.49	F	0.59 (0.30-1.13)	0.11
	ER (N/P)	2	228	0	0.50	F	0.55 (0.28-1.09)	0.09
Gastric cancer (SFRP2)	Age (<60 vs. >60)	2	92	0	0.34	F	0.47 (0.17-1.28)	0.14
	Male vs. female	2	92	0	0.99	F	0.64 (0.21-1.99)	0.44
	Poor or other vs. well or moderate	2	151	0	0.71	F	1.27 (0.59-2.77)	0.54
	TNM stage (I and II vs. III and IV)	4	285	0	0.55	F	0.75 (0.39-1.45)	0.40
	N0 vs. N1+N2	2	92	0	0.64	F	1.12 (0.41-3.07)	0.82

SFRP, secreted frizzled-related protein; TNM, Tumor-Node-Metastasis; ER, estrogen receptor; N/P, negative vs. positive.

Table SIII. Meta-regression analysis of the association between SFRP1, SFRP2, SFRP4 and SFRP5 and various types of cancer.

Sources of heterogeneity	Coefficient	95% CI	P-value
SFRP1			
Publication year	0.144	-0.522 to 0.811	0.665
Region	0.384	-0.080 to 0.848	0.103
Cancer type	-0.004	-0.070 to 0.062	0.903
Sample material	0.235	-0.045 to 0.516	0.099
Method	*0.033*	0.302 to 0.368	0.842
Sample size	0.315	-0.35 to 0.987	0.350
SFRP2			
Publication year	-0.268	-1.040 to 0.504	0.488
Region	-0.131	-0.639 to 0.377	0.606
Cancer type	0.004	-0.103 to 0.112	0.934
Sample material	0.002	-0.456 to 0.460	0.993
Method	-0.106	-0.422 to 0.209	0.501
Sample size	-0.035	-0.779 to 0.709	0.926
SFRP4			
Publication year	0.380	-1.611 to 3.371	0.685
Region	0.589	-0.501 to 1.680	0.262
Cancer type	-0.154	-0.512 to 0.203	0.366
Sample material	0.241	-1.436 to 1.918	0.760
Method	0.766	-2.382 to 3.914	0.606
Sample size	1.286	-1.273 to 3.845	0.295
SFRP5			
Publication year	-0.322	-1.687 to 1.044	0.629
Region	-0.069	-0.904 to 0 .767	0.866
Cancer type	0.026	-0.117 to 0.169	0.709
Sample material	0.184	-0.495 to 0 .863	0.578
Method	-1.044	-2.499 to 0.410	0.150
Sample size	0.220	-1.304 to 1.745	0.767

SFRP, secreted frizzled-related protein.

Table SIV. Publication bias regarding the analysis of the association between SFRP1, SFRP2, SFRP4 and SFRP5, and various types of cancer.

	Egger's test		
Outcome measures	t	P-value	Presence of publication bias
SFRP1	2.06	0.044	Significant
SFRP2	0.87	0.386	Non-significant
SFRP4	0.01	0.992	Non-significant
SFRP5	1.17	0.254	Non-significant

SFRP, secreted frizzled-related protein.