

## Supplementary tables

Table SI. Systematic literature review of databases: search terms and strategy.

PubMed	2022.05.03	("Diabetes Mellitus"[Mesh] OR "diabetes"[Title/Abstract] OR "Diabetes Mellitus"[Title/Abstract] OR "Type 2 Diabetes"[Title/Abstract] OR "Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus"[Title/Abstract] OR "T2DM"[Title/Abstract] OR "Blood Glucose"[Mesh] OR "Blood Glucose"[Title/Abstract] OR "Blood sugar"[Title/Abstract] OR "Insulin Resistance"[Mesh] OR "Insulin Resistance"[Title/Abstract] OR "Insulin Sensitivity"[Title/Abstract]) AND ("microRNA-126"[Title/Abstract]) OR "miRNA-126"[Title/Abstract] OR "miR-126"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("microRNA-122"[Title/Abstract]) OR "miRNA-122"[Title/Abstract] OR "miR-122"[Title/Abstract])
Embase	2022.05.03	("diabetes mellitus"/exp OR "diabetes mellitus"[ab, ti] OR "diabetes"[ab, ti] OR "type 2 diabetes"[ab, ti] OR "type 2 diabetes mellitus"[ab, ti] OR "T2DM"[ab, ti] OR "glucose blood level"/exp OR "blood glucose"[ab, ti] OR "blood sugar"[ab, ti] OR "insulin resistance"/exp OR "insulin resistance"[ab, ti] OR "insulin sensitivity"[ab, ti]) AND "microRNA-126"[ab, ti] OR "miRNA-126"[ab, ti] OR "miR-126"[ab, ti]) OR "microRNA-122"[ab, ti] OR "miRNA-122"[ab, ti] OR "miR-122"[ab, ti])
Web of Science	2022.05.03	((TS="Diabetes Mellitus" OR "Blood Glucose" OR "Insulin Resistance") OR (TI="diabetes" OR "Diabetes Mellitus" OR "Type 2 Diabetes" OR "Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus" OR "T2DM" OR "Blood Glucose" OR "Blood sugar" OR "Insulin Resistance" OR "Insulin Sensitivity") OR (AB="diabetes" OR "Diabetes Mellitus" OR "Type 2 Diabetes" OR "Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus" OR "T2DM" OR "Blood Glucose" OR "Blood sugar" OR "Insulin Resistance" OR "Insulin Sensitivity")) AND ((TI="microRNA-126" OR "miRNA-126" OR "miR-126") OR (AB="microRNA-126" OR "miRNA-126" OR "miR-126") OR (TI="microRNA-122" OR "miRNA-122" OR "miR-122"))

		122" OR "miR-122") OR (AB="microRNA-122" OR "miRNA-122" OR "miR-122"))
Cochrane	2022.05.03	("Diabetes Mellitus"[Mesh] OR "diabetes"[ti, ab] OR "Diabetes Mellitus"[ti, ab] OR "Type 2 Diabetes"[ti, ab] OR "Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus"[ti, ab] OR "T2DM"[ti, ab] OR "Blood Glucose"[Mesh] OR "Blood Glucose"[ti, ab] OR "Blood sugar"[ti, ab] OR "Insulin Resistance"[Mesh] OR "Insulin Resistance"[ti, ab] OR "Insulin Sensitivity"[ti, ab] ) AND ("microRNA-126"[ti, ab] OR "miRNA-126" [ti, ab] OR "miR-126"[ti, ab] OR "microRNA-122"[ti, ab] OR "miRNA-122" [ti, ab] OR "miR-122"[ti, ab])
CNKI	2022.05.03	("Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus" OR "Type II Diabetes Mellitus" OR "Plasma glucose" OR "Insulin Resistance") AND ("microRNA-126" OR "miRNA-126" OR "miR-126" OR "microRNA-122" OR "miRNA-122" OR "miR-122")

Table SII. Quality assessment of the included studies according to Newcastle-Ottawa Scale scores.

Author (year)	Study design	NOS									(References)	
		Selection				Comparability		Outcome			Total	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9		
Rezk (2016)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(4)
Zhang (2015)	Retrospective cohort study	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(5)
Zampetaki (2010)	Case-control study	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	(6)
Nunez Lopez (2016)	Cross-sectional study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(8)
Jones (2017)	Case control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(9)
Liu (2014)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(11)
Willeit (2017)	Prospective cohort study	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	(12)
Regmi (2019)	Nested case-controlled study	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	(13)
Lin (2020)	Case control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(16)
Al-Kafaji (2016)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	6	(17)
Weale (2021)	Cross-sectional study	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	7	(18)
Al-Kafaji (2017)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	6	(31)
Wang (2014)	Cross-sectional study	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	7	(32)

Ezaz (2020)	Cross-sectional study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(33)
Nie (2022)	Case control study	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(34)
Yuan (2019)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	6	(35)
Wan (2016)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(36)
Zhang (2020)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(37)
Zhou (2013)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(38)
Wang (2021)	Intervention trial study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(39)
Lv (2015)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(40)
Gao (2016)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(41)
Chong (2019)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(42)
Ren (2014)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(43)
Ortega (2014)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	7	(44)
Olivieri (2015)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	7	(45)
Olivieri (2014)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(46)
Giannella (2017)	Case-control study	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(47)
Ghaneh (2020)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(48)
Flowers (2021)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	6	(49)
Amr (2018)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(50)

Hess (2020)	Randomized intervention trial study	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(51)
Guo (2017)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(52)
Bao (2011)	Case control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(53)
Chen (2019)	Case control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(54)
Dong (2019)	Case control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(55)
Wang (2015)	Case control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(56)
Zhu (2020)	Case control study	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	(57)
Mohany (2021)	Case control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(58)
González-Arce (2020)	Case control study	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	(59)
Refeat (2021)	Case control study	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	6	(60)
Krause (2015)	Cross-sectional study	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	7	(61)
Seyhan (2016)	Cross-sectional study	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	8	(62)
Song (2018)	Cross-sectional study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(63)
Lin (2019)	Case-control study	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	(64)
Zeinali (2021)	Case-control study	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	(65)

Q1, representativeness of exposed cohort; Q2, selection of non-exposed cohort; Q3, ascertainment of exposure; Q4, outcome of interest demonstrably not present at start of study; Q5, cohort comparable by design or analysis (adjusted for age); Q6, cohort comparable by design

or analysis (adjusted for any other factor); Q7: assessment of outcome; Q8, follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur; Q9, adequacy of cohort follow-up.

Table SIII. Characteristics of the included studies for correlation of miR-126 and miR-122 with FBG level and HOMA-IR index.

Author (year)	Country	Sample, n (male/female)	Age, years	Diagnosis and assessment of metabolic diseases	Biological Sample	miRNA assessment	Adjusted variables	(References)
Rezk (2016)	Egypt	286 (135/151)	46.75±8.25	T2DM, ADA criteria (2015)	Serum	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Pearson correlation analysis.	(4)
Nunez Lopez (2016)	USA	33 (-)	-	ADA guidelines: Prediabetes [either 5.7≤ HbA1c < 6.5, or IFG (100 mg/dl ≤ FG < 126 mg/dl); Diabetes (FG≥126 mg/dl, or HbA1c≥6.5)].	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Partial correlation analysis, adjusted for age, gender, and diabetes status.	(8)
Jones (2017)	New Zealand	57 (-)	42.35±7.44	IR: HOMA-IR≥1.0 and a McA<6.3; T2D, FBG≥7 mmol/L and/or HbA1c>6.5 %.	Plasma	miR-122 RT-qPCR	Pearson correlation analysis.	(9)
Regmi (2019)	China	117 (69/48)	49.92±9.41	-	Serum	miR-122 RT-qPCR	Spearman correlation	(13)

							analysis.	
Lin (2020)	USA	21 (12/9)	14.61±2.37	Adolescents with obesity, age and sex-specific BMI ≥ 95th percentile per CDC growth charts, and attainment of puberty.	Serum	miR-122 RT-qPCR	Pearson's correlation analysis.	(16)
Al-Kafaji (2016)	Kingdom of Bahrain	50 (24/26)	64.60±6.30	T2DM, WHO criteria (1997)	Peripheral blood (plasma)	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Pearson's correlation analysis, adjusted for age, gender, BMI and BP, FG and HbA1c, TG and LDL.	(17)
Weale (2021)	The Republic of South Africa	1273 (345/928)	47.78±15.38	T2DM, WHO criteria	Whole blood	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Spearman's partial correlations adjusted for	(18)

							age, sex, WC, 2h PG, fasting insulin, HDL-C and cotinine.	
Wang (2014)	Sweden	152 (83/69)	55.76±5.80	T2DM, FPG level $\geq$ 7.0 mmol/l and/or a 2-h PG level in the OGTT of $\geq$ 11.1 mmol/l	Plasma	miR-126 RT-PCR	Pearson's correlations analysis. (32)	
Yuan (2019)	China	176 (98/78)	60.5±8.86	T2DM, FBG $\geq$ 7.0mmol/l, random PG or 2 h PG $\geq$ 11.1 mmol/l in OGTT, with or without diabetes symptoms	Serum	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Multivariate correlation analysis: miR-10a, age, BMI, SBP, DBP, HbA1c, TG, TC, HDL- C, LDL-C, (35)	

							APO-A, APO-B, hs- CRP, HCY.	
Wan (2016)	China	165 (115/50)	50.3±14.4	T2DM, WHO criteria: FG≥7.0 mmol/l, and/or a 2h PG≥11.1 mmol/l in OGTT and/or HbA1c levels>6.5 %.	Serum	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Spearman's correlation analysis.	(36)
Zhang (2020)	China	172 (81/91)	55.29±11.15	T2DM, guideline for the prevention and treatment of T2DM in China (2017 edition).	Serum	miR-126 qPCR	Pearson correlation analysis.	(37)
Zhou (2013)	China	48 (29/19)	66.2±9.3	T2DM, FPG levels ≥ 7.0 mmol/l, and/or a 2h PG≥ 11.1 mmol/l in OGTT.	Serum	miR-126 RT-PCR	Spearman's correlation analysis.	(38)
Wang (2021)	China	30 (17/13)	–	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999)	Serum exosomes	miR-126 RT-PCR	Pearson correlation analysis.	(39)
Lv (2015)	China	102 (62/40)	67.76±5.61	T2DM, ADA criteria (2014)	Endothelial progenitor	miR-126 RT- PCR	Spearman's correlation	(40)

					cells		analysis.	
Gao (2016)	China	76 (35/41)	56.93±8.73	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999)	Plasma	miR-126 RT- PCR	Pearson's correlation analysis. (41)	
Chong (2019)	China	135 (60/75)	57.42±12.75	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999)	Serum	miR-126 RT-PCR	Linear correlation analysis. (42)	
Ren (2014)	China	170 (88/82)	46.00±9.01	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999) and OGTT test.	Plasma	miR-126 RT-PCR	Correlation analysis. (43)	
Ortega (2014)	Spain	65(65/0)	50.82±10.48	T2DM, ADA criteria	Plasma	miR-126 RT-PCR	Spearman correlation analysis. (44)	
Olivieri (2015)	Italy	300 (154/146)	65.46±7.45	T2DM, ADA criteria	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Partial correlation analysis, adjusted for age and sex. (45)	
Olivieri (2014)	Italy	285 (161/124)	65.87±9.2	T2DM, ADA criteria (2007)	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Pearson's partial (46)	

							correlation analysis, adjusted for age.	
Giannella (2017)	Italy	160 (103/57)	59.01±1.73	ADA criteria: PreDM, IFG [FPG 100–125 mg/dl (5.5–6.9 mmol/l] and/or IGT [2-h PG 140–199 mg/dl (7.7–11.1 mmol/l)].	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Correlation analysis.	(47)
Ghaneh (2020)	Iran	52 (23/29)	51.36±6.46	T2DM, ADA criteria	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Spearman's correlation analysis.	(48)
Flowers (2021)	Mexico and the United States	66 (19/47)	47.59±8.04	Prediabetes, PG 100-125 mg/dl or 2-h post-glucose challenge between 140 and 199 mg/dl.	Plasma	miR-126 qPCR	Pearson's correlation analysis.	(49)
Amr (2018)	Egypt	54 (29/25)	56.5±7.7	T2DM, ADA criteria (2016)	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Spearman's correlation analysis.	(50)

Hess (2020)	Denmark	85 (30/55)	48.5±8.80	Overweight or obesity, BMI 28-45 kg/m <sup>2</sup> , and have hemoglobin levels above 7.0 mmol/l.	Plasma	miR-126; miR-122 RT-PCR	Spearman correlation analysis.	(51)
Guo (2017)	China	120 (74/46)	55.23±12.3	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999)	Serum	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Spearman's correlation analysis.	(52)
Bao (2011)	China	49 (-)	-	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999)	Plasma	miR-122 qPCR	Pearson correlation analysis.	(53)
Chen (2019)	China	92 (51/41)	10.05±1.87	Children with severely obesity, weight is more than 50% of the average weight of children of the same age, sex and height.	Serum	miR-122 RT-qPCR	Pearson correlation analysis.	(54)
Dong (2019)	China	268 (127/141)	53.54±12.99	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999)	Serum	miR-122 qPCR	Spearman correlation analysis.	(55)
Wang	China	230 (112/118)	24.00±2.74	Obesity, BMI ≥30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	Serum	miR-122	Pearson	(56)

(2015)						RT-qPCR	correlation analysis.	
Zhu (2020)	China	50 (27/23)	34.50±10.40	–	Serum	miR-122 qPCR	Linear regression analysis.	(57)
Mohany (2021)	Saudi Arabia	298 (195/103)	12.15±1.31	Obese child: WC≥90th percentile and BMI≥95 percentile for age and sex; cases with T2DM: a random PPG ≥200 mg/dl, or FPG ≥126 mg/dl, or a 2h PG≥200 mg/dl in OGTT, or HbA1c% >6.5%.	Serum	miR-122 RT-qPCR	Spearman correlation analysis.	(58)
González-Arce (2020)	Mexico	99 (49/50)	9.02±1.66	Children with obesity, WHO growth charts for children from 5 to 19 years old.	Peripherical vein blood	miR-122 RT-qPCR	Pearson's correlation analysis.	(59)
Refeat (2021)	Egypt	150 (123/27)	48.11±7.02	Metabolic syndrome, the NCEP ATP III criteria	Serum samples	miR-122 RT-qPCR	Spearman rank correlation	(60)

Krause (2015)	Chile	158 (66/92)	11.64±0.90	MS, at least 3 out of 5 of followings were present: WC $\geq$ 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile; SBP or DBP $\geq$ 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile, HDL-C $\leq$ 40 mg/dl; TG $>$ 110 mg/dl, and GLU $\geq$ 100 mg/dl.	Plasma	miR-126 qPCR	Pearson's correlation analysis.	(61)
Seyhan (2016)	USA	31 (15/16)	52.90±2.00	T2DM, prior diagnosis of T2D or a HbA1c $\geq$ 6.5% (49 mmol/mol) and were treated.	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Spearman and Pearson correlation analyses, adjusting for BMI, age and gender.	(62)
Song (2018)	China	188 (104/84)	60.34±13.08	T2DM, WHO criteria (1999)	Serum	miR-126 RT-PCR	Pearson correlation analysis.	(63)
Lin (2019)	China	222 (115/107)	62.89±11.20	IGT, normal FPG and 2h PG 7.8 ~ 11.1 mmol/l in OGTT.	Plasma	miR-126 RT-qPCR	Pearson correlation	(64)

							analysis.	
Zeinali (2021)	Iran	90 (-)	25–65 years old	Prediabetes: FPG 100-125 mg/dl and/or HbA1c 5.7-6.4%; diabetes: FPG $\geq$ 126 mg/dl and/or HbA1c $\geq$ 6.5%.	Whole blood	miR-126; miR-122 qPCR	Pearson's correlation analysis.	(65)

FPG, fasting blood glucose; HOMA-IR, homeostasis model assessment of insulin resistance; T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus; WHO, World Health Organization; ADA, American Diabetes Association; RT-qPCR, reverse transcription quantitative polymerase chain reaction; BMI, body mass index; HbA1c, glycated hemoglobin; LDL, low density lipoprotein; SBP, systolic blood pressure; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; TG, triglyceride; TC, total cholesterol; HDL-C, high density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; APO-A, apolipoprotein A; APO-B, apolipoprotein B; hs-CRP, hyper sensitive C-reactive protein; HCY, homocysteine; IGT, impaired glucose tolerance; PG, plasma glucose; IR, insulin resistance; McA, McAuley Index; MS, metabolic syndrome; WC, waist circumference; NCEP ATP III, National Cholesterol Education Programmed Adult Treatment Panel III.

Table SIV. Subgroup analyses to examine the association of miR-126 with T2DM.

Group	Number of studies	OR	95% CI	I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value
Country					
Asia	4	0.761	0.564, 1.026	99.6	<0.001
Europe	2	0.811	0.435, 1.514	87.6	0.005
South Africans	1	1.430	1.210, 1.690	–	–
Number of samples (case + control)					
<100	2	0.825	0.593, 1.148	93.6	<0.001
≥100	5	0.861	0.590, 1.255	97.5	<0.001
Age, years					
<60	6	0.894	0.695, 1.152	99.4	<0.001
≥60	1	0.570	0.370, 0.860	–	–
Study types					
Descriptive studies	2	1.237	0.941, 1.627	84.9	0.010
Analytical studies	5	0.729	0.553, 0.960	99.5	<0.001

miR, microRNA; T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus; OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

Table SV. Subgroup analyses to examine the association of miR-126 with T2DM in 5 analytical studies.

Group	Number of studies	OR	95% CI	I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value
Country					
Asia	4	0.761	0.564, 1.026	99.6	<0.001
Europe	1	0.570	0.370, 0.860	–	–
Number of samples (case + control)					
<100	2	0.825	0.593, 1.148	93.6	<0.001
≥100	3	0.665	0.562, 0.788	55.3	0.107
Age, years					
<60	4	0.761	0.564, 1.026	99.6	<0.001
≥60	1	0.570	0.370, 0.860	–	–

miR, microRNA; T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus; OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.

Table SVI. Results of the Egger's tests for the association of miR-126 and miR-122 with T2DM, FBG level and HOMA-IR index.

Associations	Number of studies	Coef.	t/Z	P-value	95% CI
miR-126 with T2DM	5	3.546	0.38	0.731	-26.347, 33.439
miR-126 with FBG level	22	-0.543	1.831	0.067	-0.884, -0.201
miR-122 with FBG level	10	0.732	-3.215	0.001	0.480, 0.984
miR-126 with HOMA-IR level	9	-0.622	1.654	0.098	-1.075, -0.169
miR-122 with HOMA-IR level	9	0.848	-2.017	0.044	0.368, 1.328

miR, microRNA; T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus; FBG, fasting blood glucose; CI, confidence interval.

Table SVII. Subgroup analyses to examine the correlation of microRNAR-126 with fasting blood glucose level.

Group	Number of studies	r	95% CI	I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value
Country					
Asia	12	-0.312	-0.549, -0.075	97.84	<0.001
Africa	3	-0.374	-0.993, 0.245	99.56	<0.001
North America	2	0.155	-0.038, 0.348	0.00	0.428
Europe	5	-0.204	-0.301, -0.107	53.51	0.080
Number of subjects					
<100	10	-0.287	-0.515, -0.059	92.52	<0.001
≥100	12	-0.234	-0.462, -0.006	98.85	<0.001
Age, years <sup>a</sup>					
<60	15	-0.179	-0.376, -0.018	97.50	<0.001
≥60	6	-0.471	-0.727, -0.215	97.33	<0.001
Study types					
Descriptive studies	2	0.253	0.202, 0.304	0.00	0.967
Analytical studies	18	-0.326	-0.498, -0.154	97.75	<0.001
Experimental studies	2	-0.128	-0.309, 0.054	0.00	0.674

<sup>a</sup>Excluding one study in which average age ranged from 35 to 70 years old. r, correlation coefficient; CI, confidence interval.

Table SVIII. Subgroup analyses to examine the correlation of microRNA-122 with fasting blood glucose level.

Group	Number of studies	r	95% CI	I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value
Country					
Asia + Africa	8	0.389	0.230, 0.547	92.88	<0.001
North America + Europe	2	0.133	-0.010, 0.276	0.00	0.929
Number of subjects					
<100	5	0.189	0.092, 0.287	0.00	0.681
≥100	5	0.459	0.249, 0.668	95.89	<0.001
Age, years					
<30	4	0.295	0.171, 0.420	68.13	0.035
≥30	6	0.376	0.152, 0.600	93.76	<0.001
Study types					
Analytical studies	9	0.360	0.209, 0.512	92.59	<0.001
Experimental studies	1	0.140	-0.076, 0.356	–	–

r, correlation coefficient; CI, confidence interval.

Table SIX. Subgroup analyses to examine the correlation of microRNA-126 with homeostasis model assessment of insulin resistance index.

Group	Number of studies	r	95% CI	I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value
Country					
Asia + Africa	5	-0.516	-0.734, -0.299	96.13	<0.001
North America + South America + Europe	4	0.052	-0.126, 0.231	68.96	0.013
Number of subjects					
<100	3	-0.268	-0.705, 0.168	92.23	<0.001
≥100	6	-0.286	-0.590, 0.019	98.01	<0.001
Age, years <sup>a</sup>					
<60	6	-0.075	-0.277, 0.128	89.63	<0.001
≥60	2	-0.674	-0.727, -0.621	0.00	0.755
Study types					
Descriptive studies	4	-0.146	-0.543, 0.252	96.47	<0.001
Analytical studies	4	-0.478	-0.744, -0.212	96.32	<0.001
Experimental studies	1	0.140	-0.076, 0.356	–	–

<sup>a</sup>Excluding one study in which average age ranged from 25 to 65 years old. r, correlation coefficient; CI, confidence interval.

Table SX. Subgroup analyses to examine the correlation of miR-122 with homeostasis model assessment of insulin resistance index.

Group	Number of studies	r	95% CI	I <sup>2</sup> (%)	P-value
Country					
Asia	6	0.489	0.286, 0.692	95.73	<0.001
Oceania + North America + Europe	3	0.227	-0.414, 0.867	96.43	<0.001
Number of subjects					
<100	6	0.349	-0.022, 0.720	96.93	<0.001
≥100	3	0.486	0.334, 0.637	87.86	<0.001
Age, years <sup>a</sup>					
<30	4	0.563	0.441, 0.686	75.45	0.004
≥30	4	0.107	-0.282, 0.496	94.71	<0.001
Study types					
Analytical studies	8	0.395	0.120, 0.670	97.80	<0.001
Experimental studies	1	0.140	-0.076, 0.356	–	–

<sup>a</sup>Excluding one study in which average age ranged from 25 to 65 years old. r, correlation coefficient; CI, confidence interval.