Figure S1. Subgroup analysis by specimen type. Forest plot of mean difference in % HbA1c (POC-HPLC) with 95% CI, stratified by specimen type (venous, capillary, or not reported) and ordered by mean bias within each subgroup. Subgroup estimates were obtained using a random-effects model fitted with REML and Hartung-Knapp adjustment. Corresponding heterogeneity statistics for each subgroup are reported in Table SIV. HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; POC, point-of-care; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; CI, confidence interval; REML, restricted maximum likelihood.

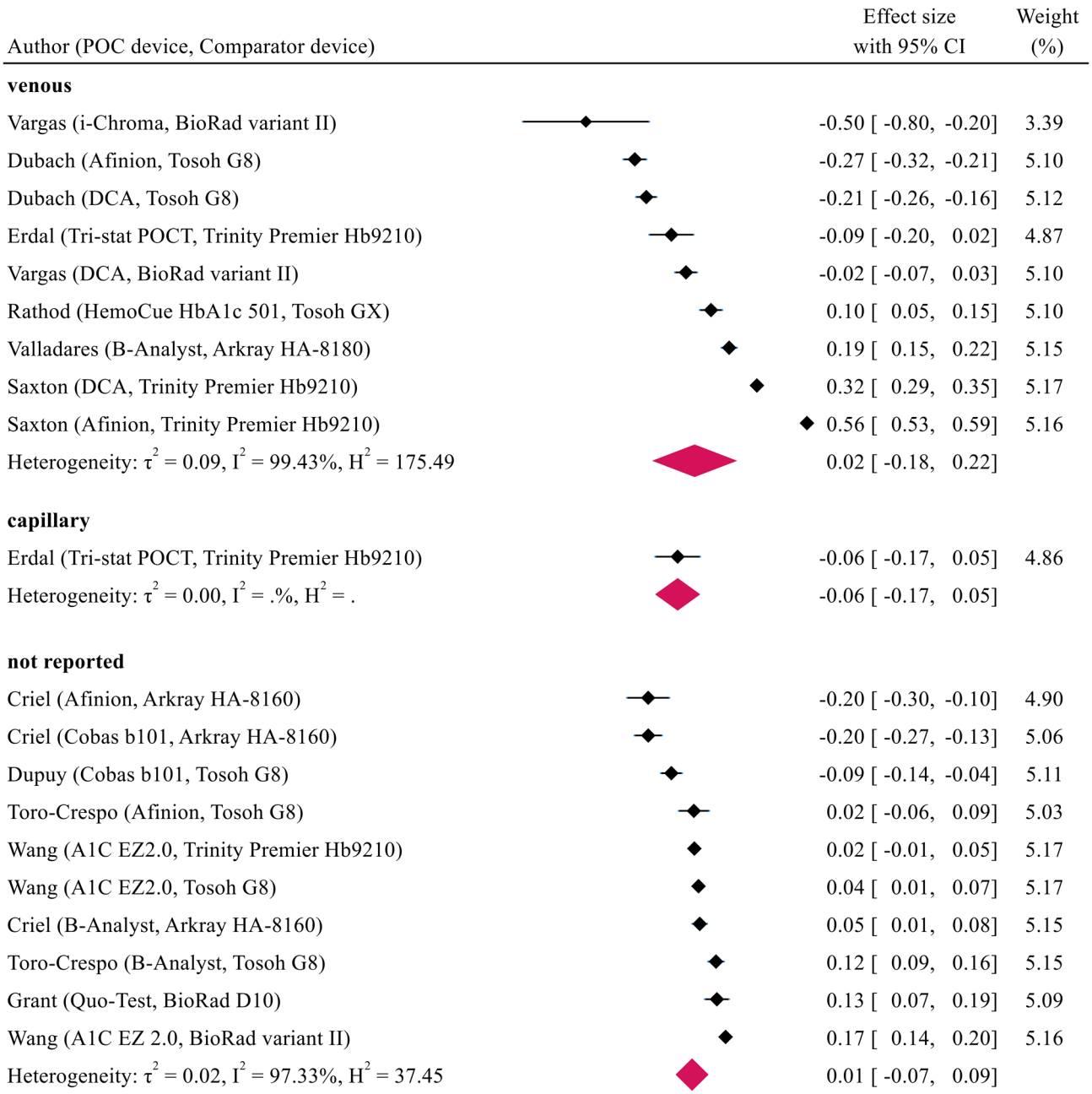

Figure S2. Subgroup analysis by analytical principle of the HPLC reference method. Forest plot of mean difference in % HbA1c (POC-HPLC) with 95% CI, stratified according to the analytical principle of the laboratory HPLC reference system (ion-exchange chromatography, boronate affinity-based integrated HPLC) and ordered by subgroup mean bias. Subgroup estimates were obtained using a random-effects model fitted with REML and Hartung-Knapp adjustment. Corresponding heterogeneity statistics for each subgroup are reported in Table SIV. HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; POC, point-of-care; CI, confidence interval; REML, restricted maximum likelihood.

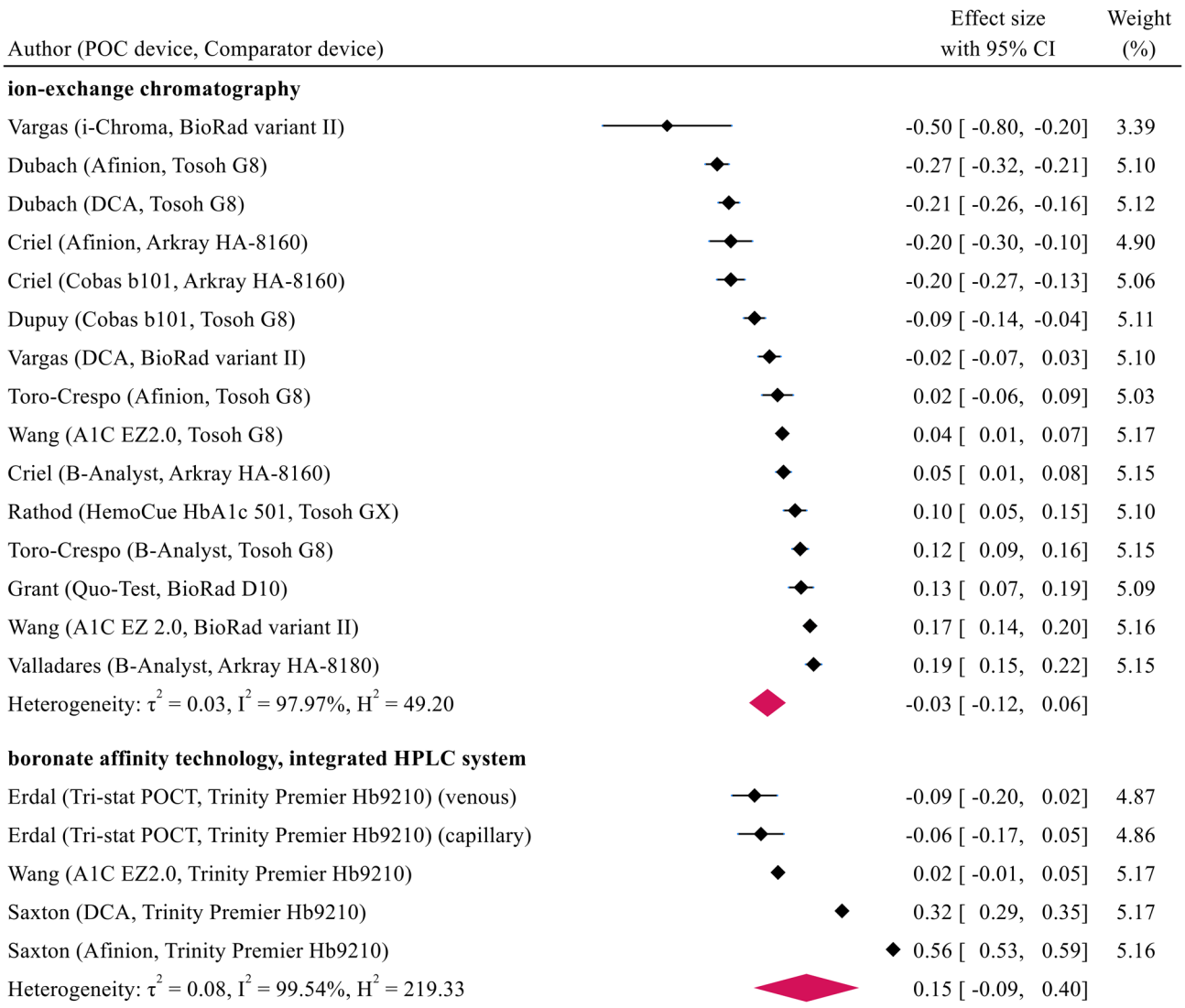

Figure S3. Subgroup analysis by exclusion of hemoglobin variants. Forest plot of mean difference in % HbA1c (POC-HPLC) with 95% CI stratified according to whether studies explicitly excluded specimens with known or suspected hemoglobin variants (variant excluded) or did not report exclusion status (not reported), and ordered by subgroup mean bias. Subgroup estimates were obtained using a random-effects model fitted with REML and Hartung-Knapp adjustment. Corresponding heterogeneity statistics for each subgroup are reported in Table SIV. HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; POC, point-of-care; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; CI, confidence interval; REML, restricted maximum likelihood.

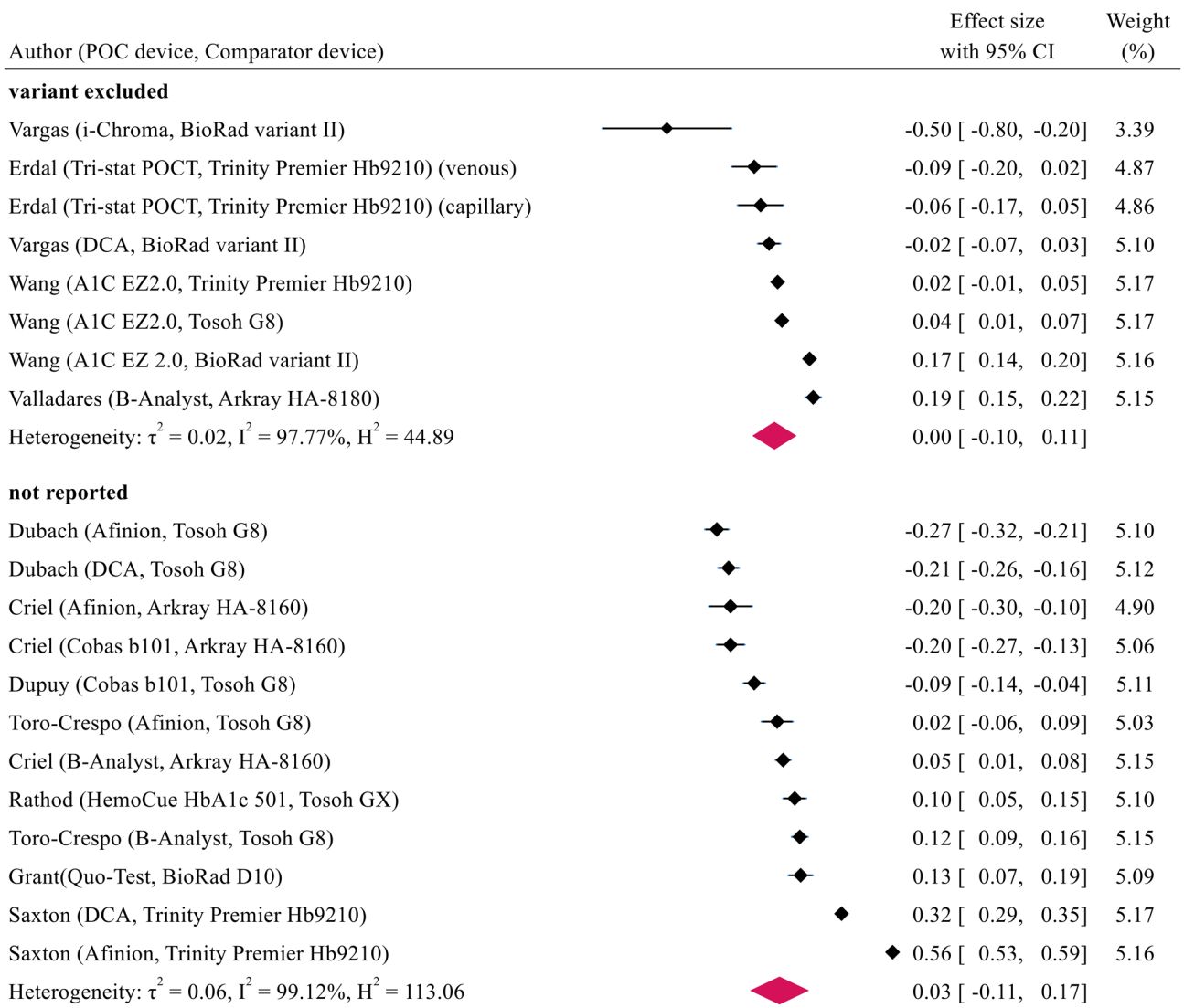

Figure S4. Subgroup analysis by study setting. Forest plot of mean difference in % HbA1c (POC-HPLC) with 95% CI, stratified according to study setting (tertiary hospital or research center, general hospital, or not reported) and ordered by subgroup mean bias. Subgroup estimates were obtained using a random-effects model fitted with REML and Hartung-Knapp adjustment. Corresponding heterogeneity statistics for each subgroup are reported in Table SIV. HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; POC, point-of-care; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; CI, confidence interval; REML, restricted maximum likelihood

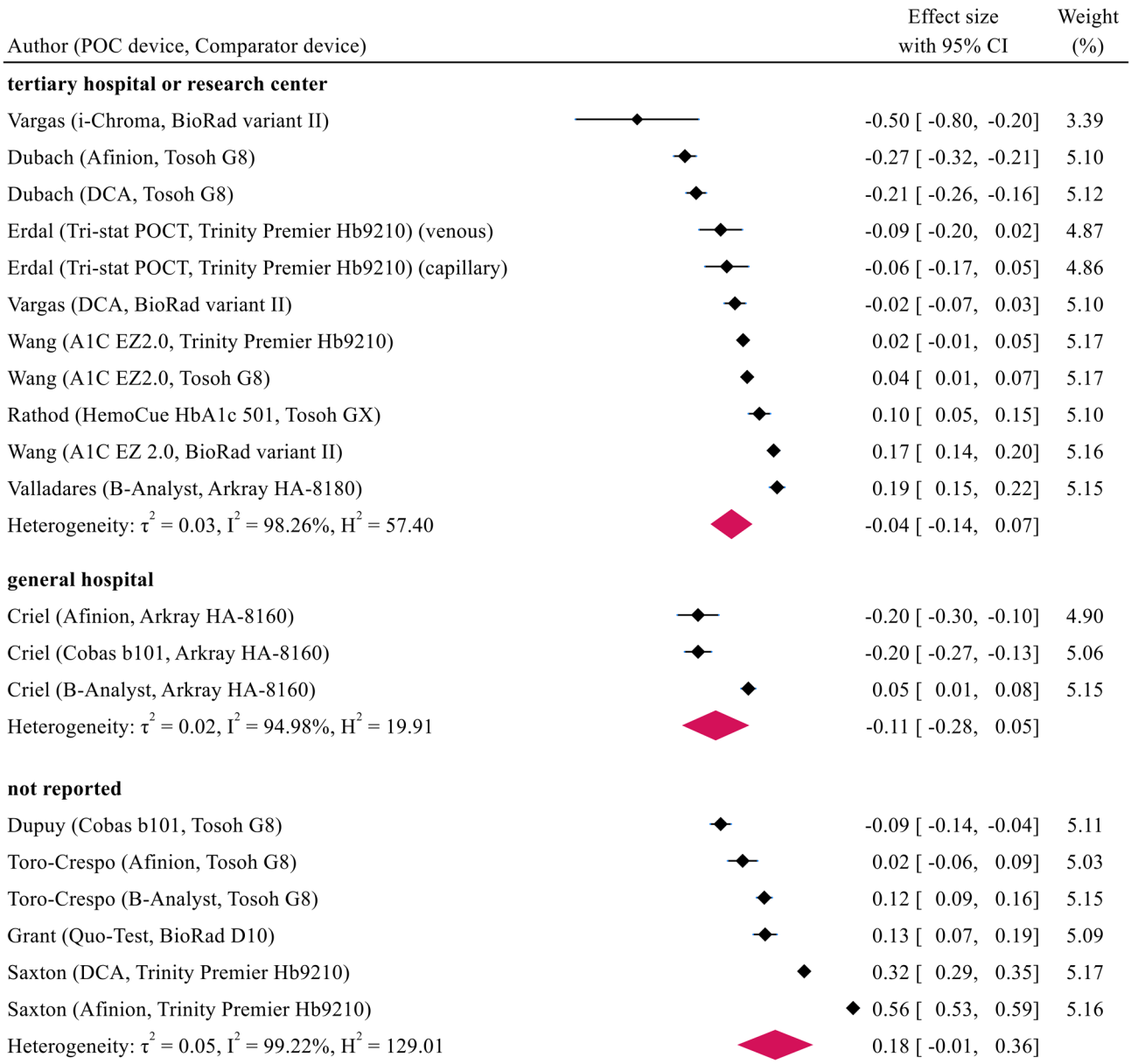

Figure S5. Subgroup analysis by study-level risk of bias. Forest plot of mean difference in % HbA1c (POC-HPLC) with 95% CI, stratified by study-level risk of bias (high, low, or not clear) and ordered by subgroup mean bias. Subgroup estimates were obtained using a random-effects model fitted with REML and Hartung-Knapp adjustment. Corresponding heterogeneity statistics for each subgroup are reported in Table SIV. HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; POC, point-of-care; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; CI, confidence interval; REML, restricted maximum likelihood.

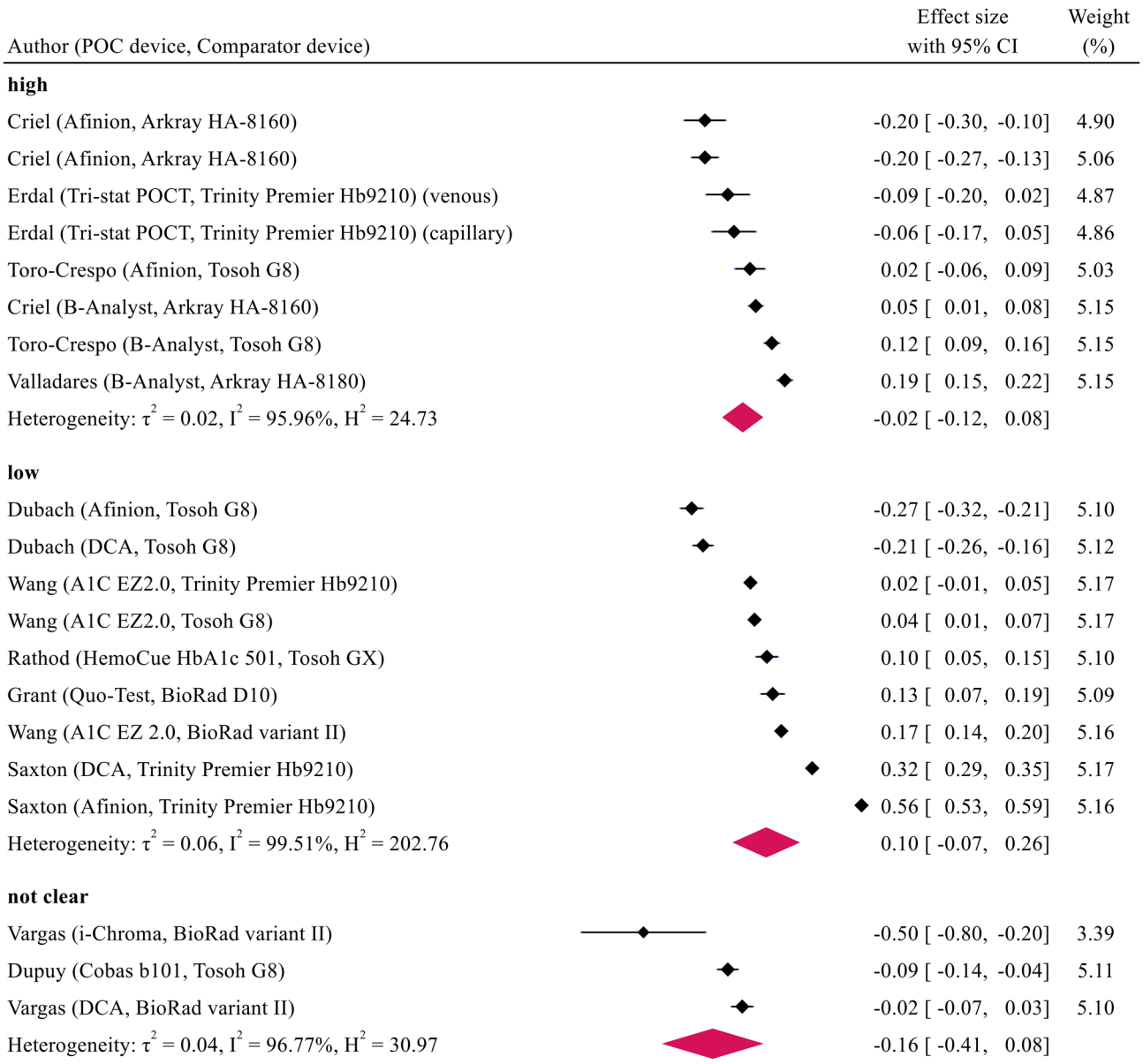

Figure S6. Subgroup analysis by funding source. Forest plot of mean difference in % HbA1c (POC-HPLC) with 95% CI, stratified according to study funding source (not reported, industrial sponsorship, or institutional support) and ordered by subgroup mean bias. Subgroup estimates were obtained using a random-effects model fitted with REML and Hartung-Knapp adjustment. Corresponding heterogeneity statistics for each subgroup are reported in Table SIV. HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; POC, point-of-care; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; CI, confidence interval; REML, restricted maximum likelihood.

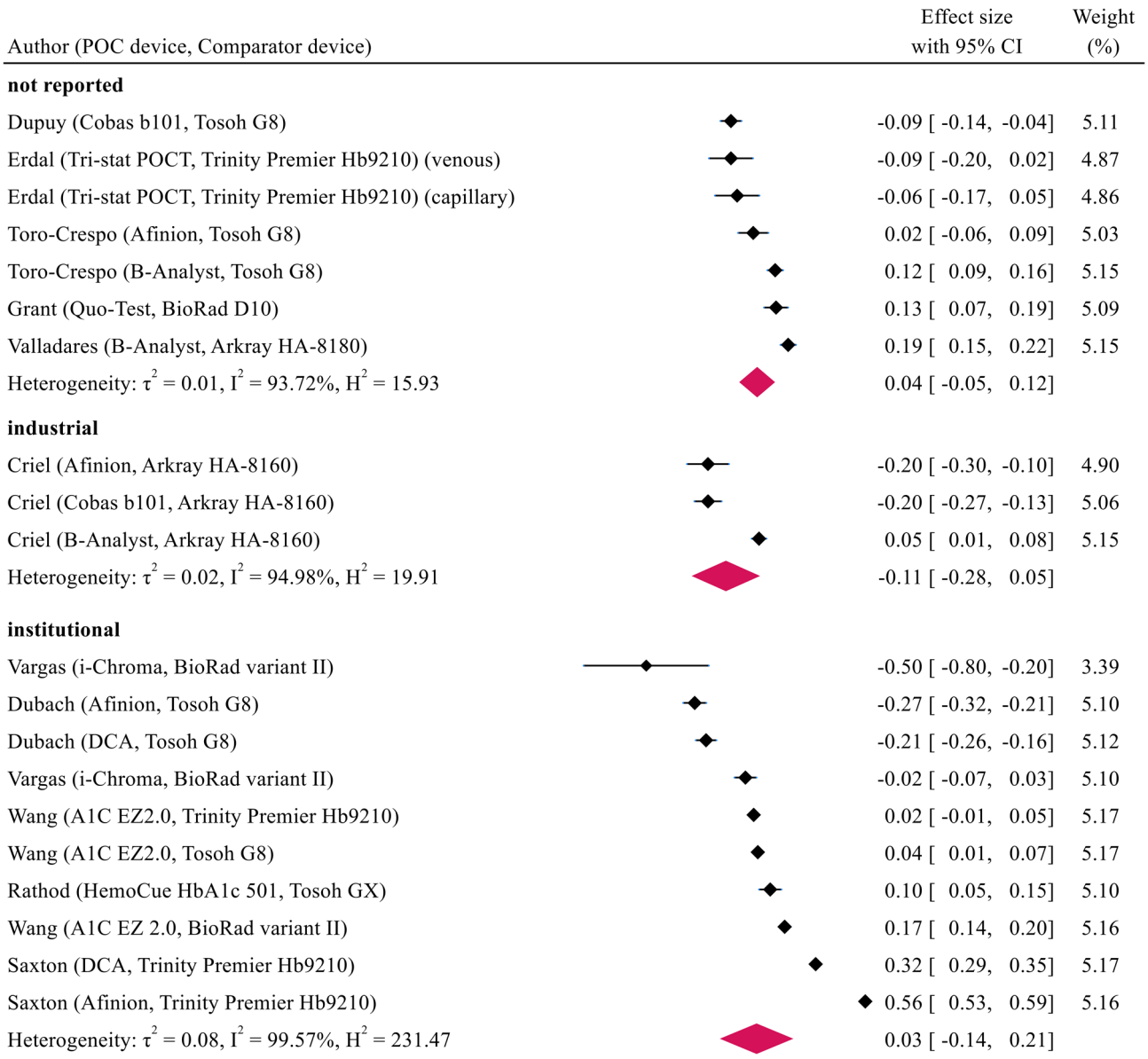

Figure S7. Funnel plot for assessment of small-study effects. Funnel plot of individual comparisons using the mean difference in % HbA1c (POC-HPLC) as the effect size (x-axis) plotted against the corresponding standard error (y-axis). The vertical red line represents the pooled estimate under a random-effects model fitted with REML. Pseudo-95% confidence limits are shown to aid visual assessment of asymmetry. HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; POC, point-of-care; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; REML, restricted maximum likelihood.