

Figure S1. Risk of bias for included randomized control trials. Red (-) indicates a high risk of bias; yellow (?) indicates unclear risk, and green (+) indicates a low risk of bias.

	Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Other bias
Determann <i>et al</i> , 2010	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Futier <i>et al</i> , 2013	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ge <i>et al</i> , 2013	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Kuzkov <i>et al</i> , 2016	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Lee <i>et al</i> , 1990	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Park <i>et al</i> , 2016	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Pi <i>et al</i> , 2015	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Pinheiro de Oliveria <i>et al</i> , 2010	+	+	?	?	+	+	+
Severgnin <i>et al</i> , 2013	+	+	?	?	+	+	+
Shen <i>et al</i> , 2015	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Simonis <i>et al</i> , 2018	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Soh <i>et al</i> , 2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sundar <i>et al</i> , 2011	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Treschan <i>et al</i> , 2012	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Weingarten <i>et al</i> , 2010	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Zamani	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Figure S2. Funnel plot for the effect of low Vt on short-term mortality in patients without ARDS. Vt, tidal volume; ARDS, acute respiratory distress syndrome.

Funnel plot for meta-analysis of the effect of lower tidal volume on short-term mortality in patients without ARDS. Plots were symmetrically distributed, indicating no obvious publication bias. Each point represents one trial.

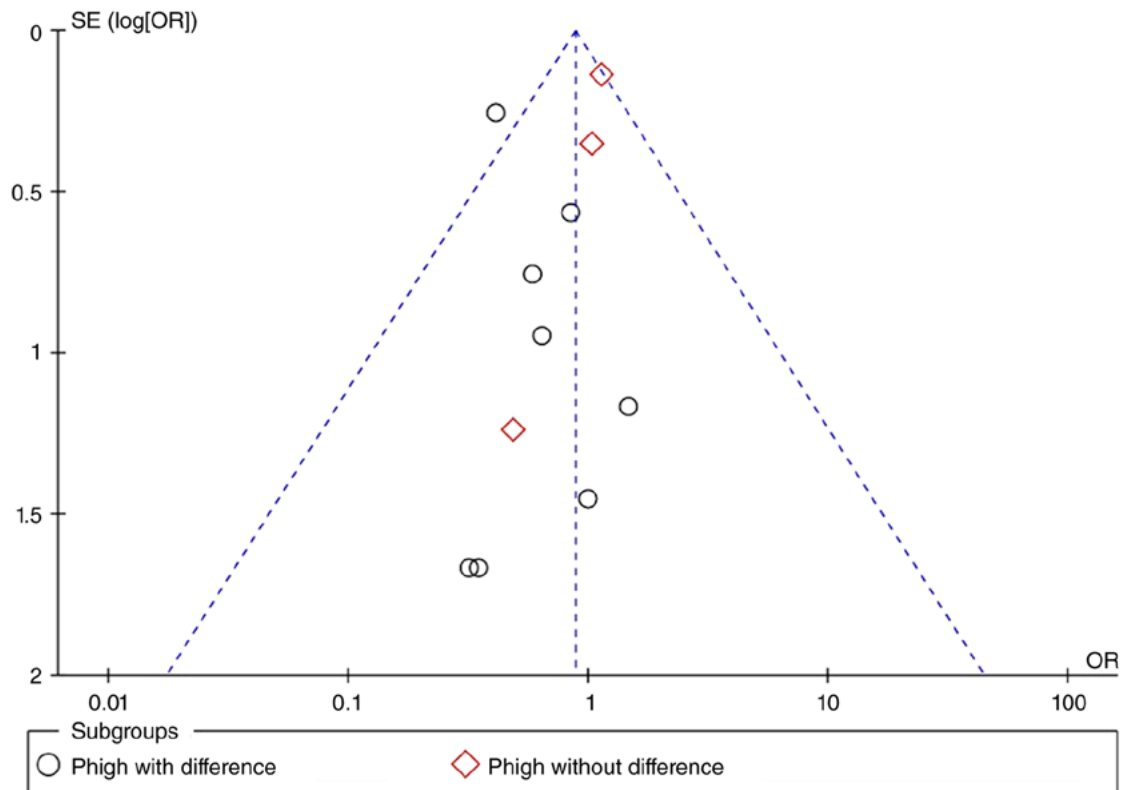


Figure S3. Meta-regression analyses exploring PEEP and  $\Delta P$  as potential sources of heterogeneity. (A) Meta-regression analyses of PEEP. (B) Meta-regression analyses of  $\Delta P$ . PEEP, positive endexpiratory pressure;  $\Delta P$ , driving pressure.

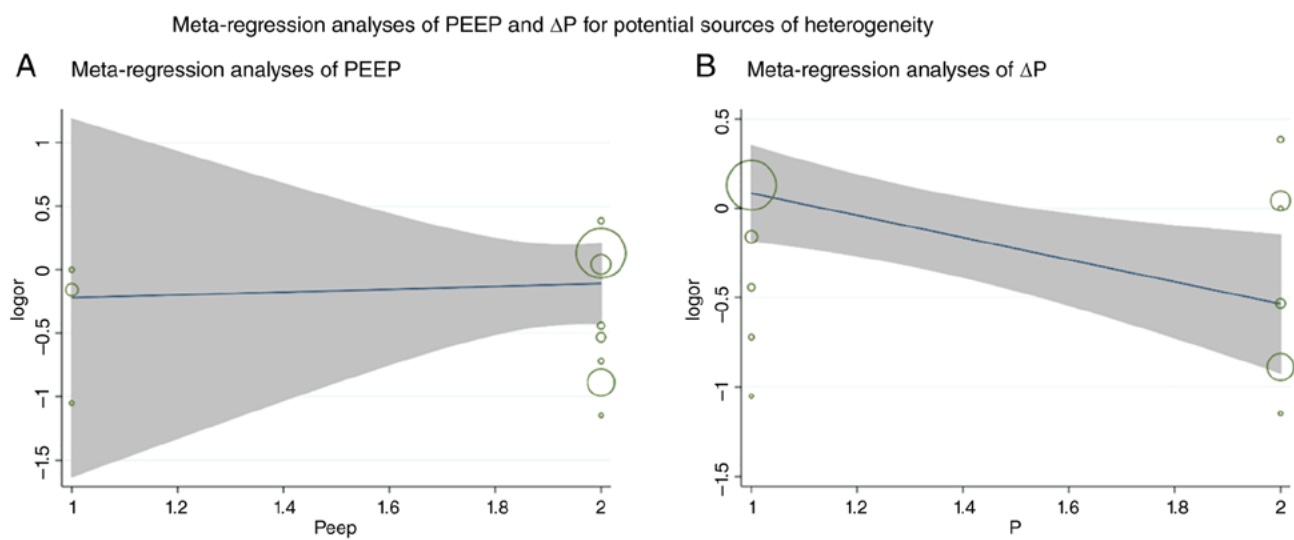


Figure S4. Number of days of ventilation in patients without ARDS. ARDS, acute respiratory distress syndrome.

Days of ventilation in patients without ARDS available for lower versus higher tidal volume. IV = Inverse variance.

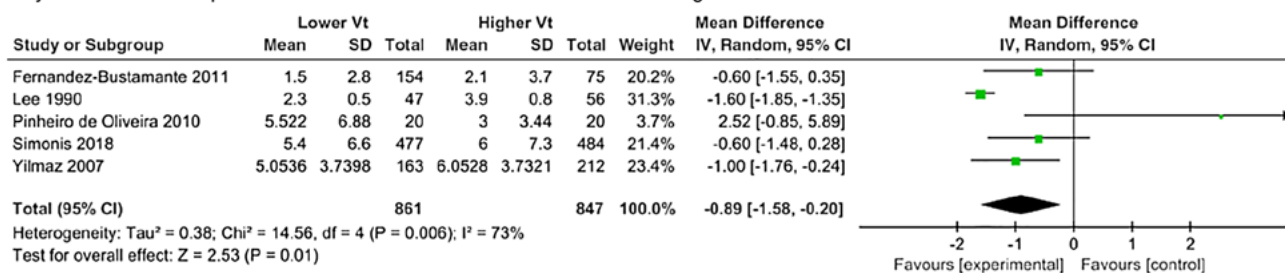


Figure S5. Incidence of pulmonary complications in patients without ARDS. ARDS, acute respiratory distress syndrome; M-H, Mantel-Haenszel.

Incidence of pulmonary complications in patients without ARDS available for lower versus higher tidal volume.

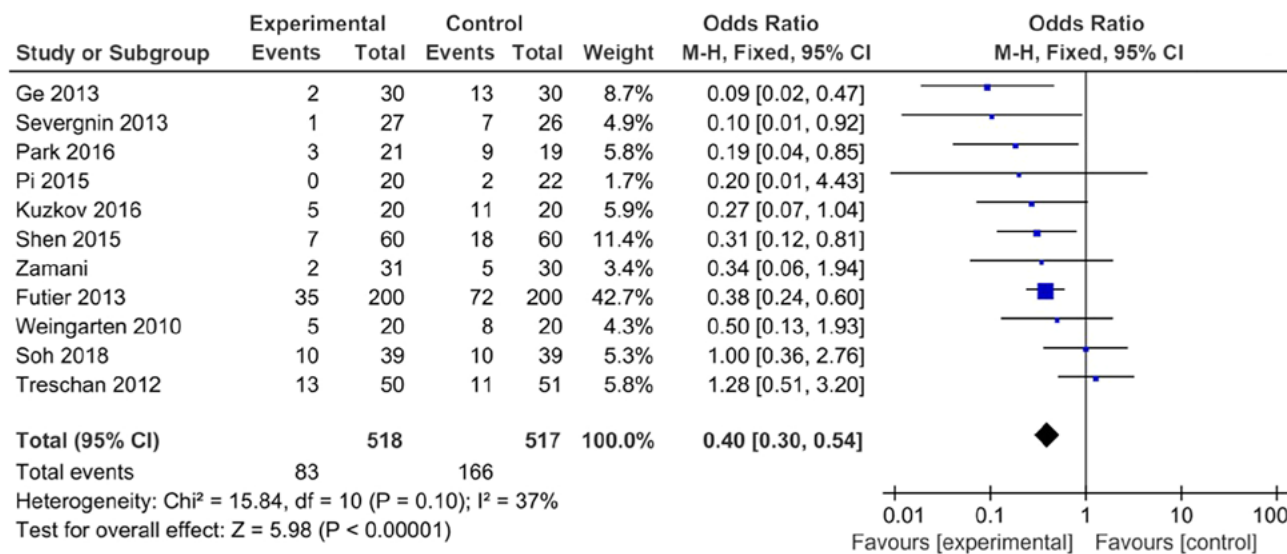


Figure S6. Hospital length of stay in patients without ARDS. ARDS, acute respiratory distress syndrome. CI, confidence intervals.

Hospital length of stay in patients without ARDS available for lower versus higher tidal volume. IV = Inverse variance.

