**Supplementary Table 2.** Comparison of stage-specific estimates of sensitivity and estimates of specificity according to type of studies

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Group / group comparisons** | **Sensitivity (95% CI)** | **Specificity (95% CI)** |
|  | **Stage I** | **Stage II** | **Stage III** | **Stage IV** |
| A. Screening cohorts | 75 (56-88) | 77 (63-87) | 85 (65-94) | 79 (42-95) | 87 (75-94) |
| B. Symptomatic / diagnostic cohorts  | 79 (68-86) | 88 (80-93) | 85 (75-91) | 87 (76-93) | 87 (83-90) |
| C. Case-control studies | 64 (50-76) | 78 (69-85) | 78 (73-82) | 64 (46-78) | 93 (88-96) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| p-value difference A versus B | 0.89 | 0.27 | 0.99 | 0.57 | 0.87 |
| p-value difference A versus C | 0.36 | 0.82 | 0.58 | 0.51 | 0.15 |

P values for differences in pooled sensitivities and in pooled specificity between settings were obtained from meta-regression with setting as explanatory variable and “screening setting” as reference group. Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; Ref., reference