**Supplementary Table 2** Characterisation of the included studies.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First author** | **Year of publication** | **Type of study** | **Study period** | **Country** | **Number of centres** | **Diagnosis** | **Medical/surgical** | **No. of septic pts with metformin** | **No. of septic pts without metformin** |
| **van Vught et al.**  | 2016 | prospective observational study | 01/2011-07/2013 | The Netherlands | 2 | Sepsis | Mixed, mainly medical | 114 | 127 |
| **Hloch O et al.**  | 2012 | retrospective select cohort study | 2008-2011 | Czech Republic | 1 | Septic shock  | Medical | 4 | 21 |
| **Jochmans S et al.**  | 2017 | retrospective cohort study | 10/2010-12/2013 | France | 1 | Septic shock | Mixed | 52 | 79 |
| **Christiansen C et al.**  | 2013 | retrospective cohort study | 01/2005-12/2011 | Denmark | 17 | Diabetics, sepsis | Mixed  | 73 | 182 |
| **Park J et al.**  | 2017 | retrospective cohort study | 08/2008-09/2014 | South Korea | 1 | Severe sepsis, septic shock | Mixed  | 71 | 1247 |
| **Green et al.**  | 2012 | retrospective cohort study | 02/2007-10/2008 | USA | 1 | Sepsis | Mixed | 192 | 1755 |
| **Doenyas-Barak et al.**  | 2016 | retrospective select cohort study | 01/2011-06/2013 | Israel | 1 | Septic shock | Medical | 44 | 118 |
| **Scale et al.**  | 2011 | retrospective cohort study | 12/2005-6/2009 | UK | 1 | Sepsis | Unclear | 12 | 53 |