**Appendix S5. Summary of findings table-GRADE levels of evidence for studies comparing VR-based exercise with other treatments.**

| **VR-based exercise compared to other treatments for stroke** |
| --- |
| **Patient or population:** people receiving stroke rehabilitation**Settings:** hospital**Intervention:** VR-based exercise**Comparison:** conventional therapies |
| **Certainty assessment** | **№ of patients** | **Effect** | **Certainty** |
| **№ of studies** | **Study design** | **Risk of bias** | **Inconsistency** | **Indirectness** | **Imprecision** | **Other considerations** | **VR-based balance training** | **other training** | **Relative(95% CI)** | **Absolute(95% CI)** |
| **BBS (follow up: mean 5.18 weeks)** |
| 11 | RCT | serious1  | serious2  | not serious3  | not serious  | strongly suspected 4 | 155  | 149  | -  | MD **1.35 higher**(0.85 higher to 1.86 higher)  | ⨁⨁◯◯LOW  |
| **TUG** **(follow up: mean 5.67 weeks)** |
| 9  | RCT  | very serious6 | not serious  | not serious3  | not serious  | none  | 149 | 139  | -  | MD **0.81 lower**(1.18 lower to 0.44 lower)  | ⨁⨁◯◯LOW  |
| **10MWT (follow up: mean 5.50 weeks)** |
| 4  | RCT  | very serious6 | not serious  | not serious3  | serious5  | none  | 56  | 56  | -  | MD **1.53 lower**(2.92 lower to 0.13 lower)  | ⨁◯◯◯VERY LOW  |
| **FRT** **(follow up: mean 5.33 weeks)** |
| 3  | RCT  | very serious6  | not serious  | not serious3  | serious5  | none  | 53  | 48  | -  | MD **3.06 higher**(1.31 higher to 4.80 higher)  | ⨁◯◯◯VERY LOW  |
| **MBI (follow up: mean 5.33 weeks)** |
| 3  | RCT  | very serious6  | not serious  | not serious3  | serious5  | none  | 43  | 38  | -  | MD **5.26 higher**(1.70 higher to 8.82 higher)  | ⨁◯◯◯VERY LOW  |
| \*The basis for the **assumed risk** (e.g. the median control group risk across studies) is provided in footnotes. The **corresponding risk** (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).**CI:** Confidence interval;  |
| GRADE Working Group grades of evidence**High quality:** Further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect. **Moderate quality:** Further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.**Low quality:** Further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.**Very low quality:** We are very uncertain about the estimate. |
| 1 >25% of participants were from studies with moderate risk of bias (inadequate concealment).2 *I2* >40%. 3 Participants in all the pooled studies are adolescents or adults. 4 The funnel plot had an asymmetrical distribution.5 There were less than 200 participants in total.6 >25% of participants were from studies with high risk of bias (lack of double-blinding and inadequate concealment). |

*GRADE: Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluations; VR: virtual reality; CI: confidence interval; MD: mean difference; RCT: randomized controlled trial.*