

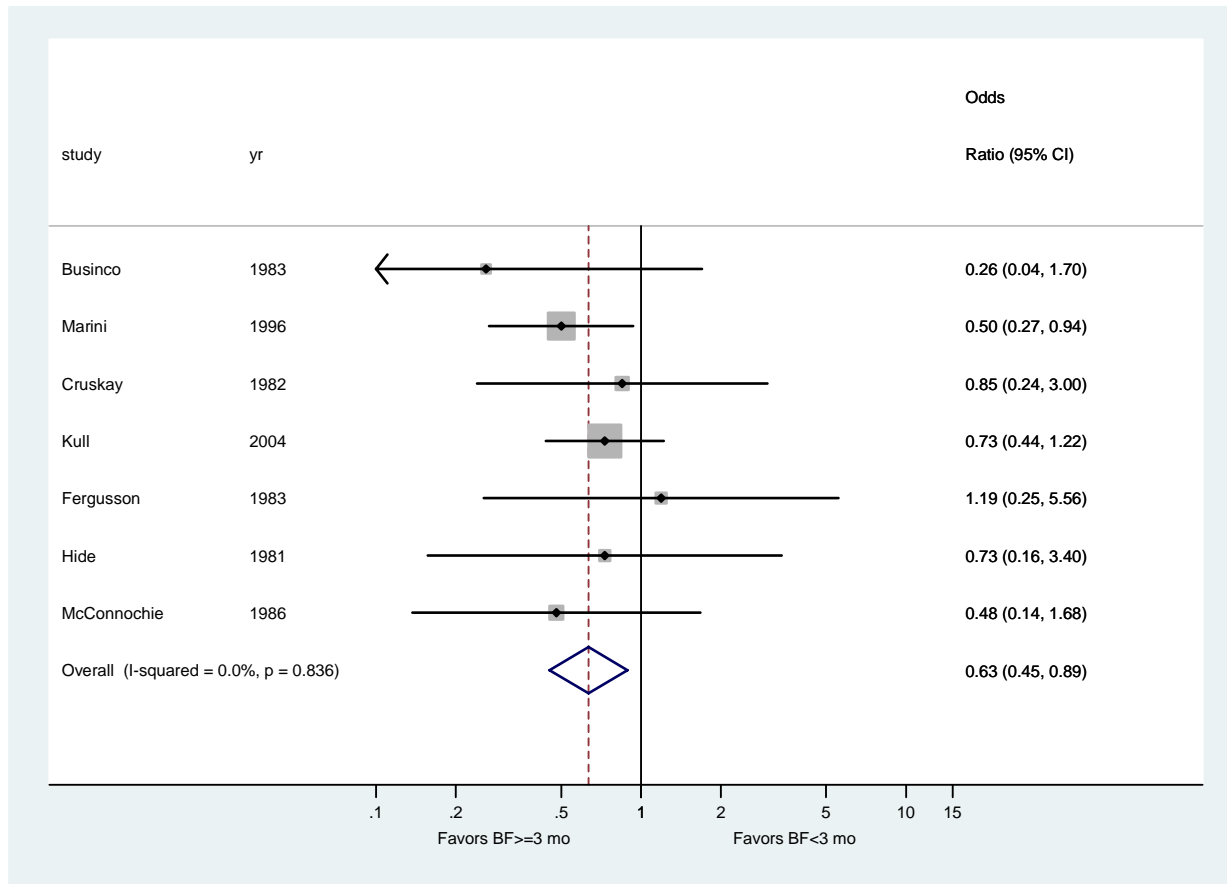
## **Addendum to Breastfeeding and Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes in Developed Countries (1) (5-15-2009)**

It has been brought to our attention that Ranjit K Chandra may be involved in fraudulent publications (2;3). Dr. Chandra is an author of a primary study (4) included in our update meta-analysis on the association of breastfeeding and asthma risk published in AHRQ Evidence Report Number 153 (1). To assess the impact of this potentially fraudulent study, we repeated the meta-analysis by removing this study. Our original meta-analysis was conducted with and without a study that reported a very large adjusted odds ratio (5). Our re-analysis excluding Chandra 1991 and Wright 2001 (the one with the very large adjusted odds ratio) showed that the overall summary odds ratio remains significant (adjusted OR 0.63; 95%CI 0.45 – 0.89) (**Figure 1**). Our re-analysis excluding Chandra 1991 but including Wright 2001 showed that the overall summary odds ratio remains non-significant (adjusted OR 0.86; 95%CI 0.62 – 1.18) (**Figure 2**). These findings are similar to what were reported in the AHRQ Evidence Report. We conclude that excluding Chandra 1991 from our meta-analysis does not affect conclusions concerning breastfeeding and asthma risk made in the report.

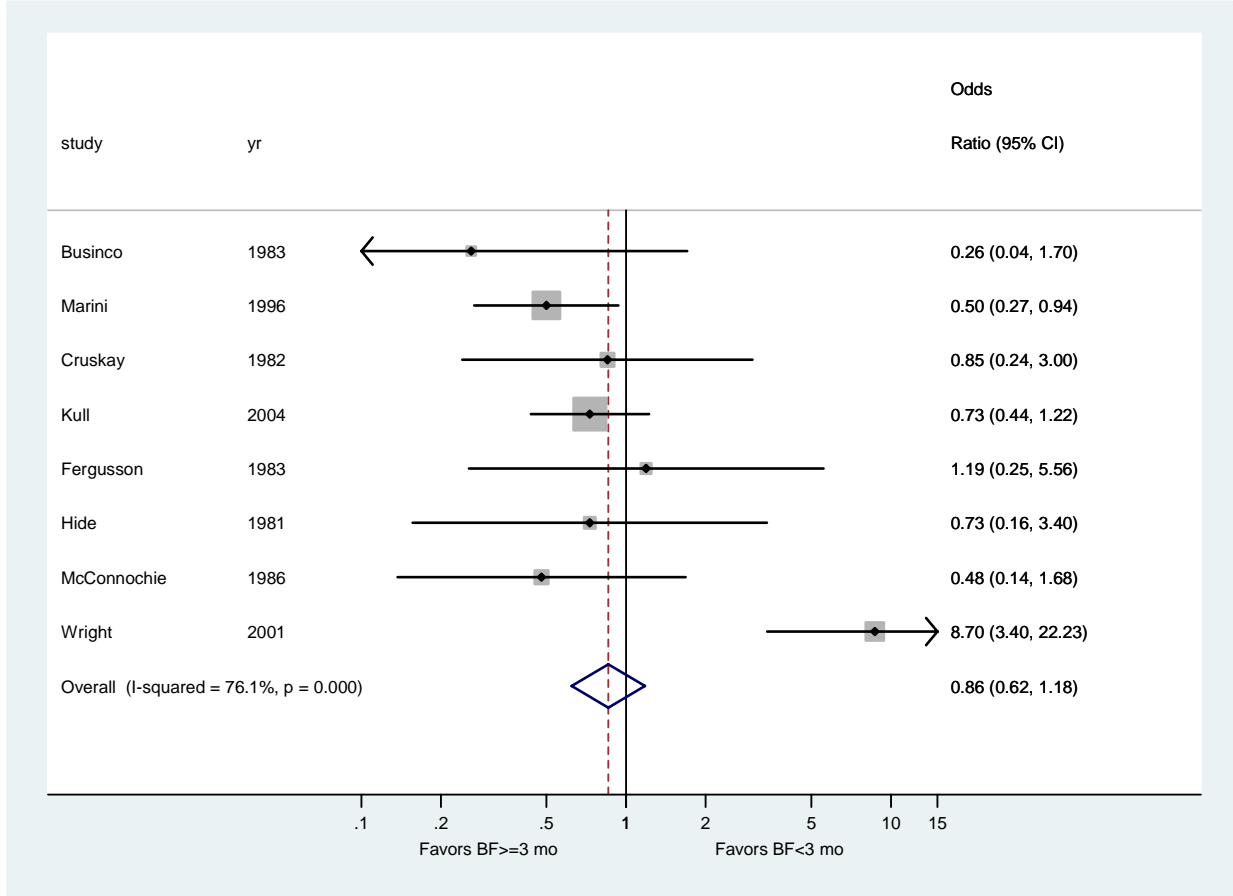
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**Figure 1. Meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies of the association between asthma risk and breastfeeding  $\geq 3$  months for children with positive family history of asthma or atopy (excluding Wright 2001)**



**Figure 2. Meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies of the association between asthma risk and breastfeeding  $\geq 3$  months for children with positive family history of asthma or atopy (including Wright 2001)**



## Reference List

- (1) Ip, S., Chung, M., Raman, G., Chew, P., Magula, N., DeVine, D., Trikalinos, T., and Lau, J. Breastfeeding and Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes in Developed Countries. 153. 4-20-2007. Rockville, MD, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Evidence Report/Technology Assessment.  
Ref Type: Report
- (2) Roberts S. Dealing with scientific fraud: a proposal. *Public Health Nutr.* 2006;9:664-65.
- (3) Sternberg S, Roberts S. Nutritional supplements and infection in the elderly: why do the findings conflict? *Nutr J.* 2006;5:30.
- (4) Chandra RK, Hamed A. Cumulative incidence of atopic disorders in high risk infants fed whey hydrolysate, soy, and conventional cow milk formulas. *Ann Allergy.* 1991;67:129-32.
- (5) Wright AL, Holberg CJ, Taussig LM, Martinez FD. Factors influencing the relation of infant feeding to asthma and recurrent wheeze in childhood.[see comment]. *Thorax.* 2001;56:192-97.