

Table DS1 Selected characteristics of included randomised placebo-controlled studies assessing the effects of antidepressant treatment of minor depression on depressive symptomatology

Study	Intervention (n)	Age, years	Definition of minor depression	Exclusion criteria	Weeks	Continuous outcome	Dichotomous outcome	Funding
Barrett 2001 ³⁵	Paroxetine (38) Placebo (39)	18–59	3 of the 9 DSM–III–R symptoms for major depression, 1 of these had to be depressed mood or anhedonia).	Individuals were excluded if they were found to have major depression. The trial included people with dysthymia (but results are specifically reported for minor depression).	11	–	HRSD score of less than 7	John A. Hartford Foundation of New York and the MacArthur Foundation
Burrows 2002 ³⁶ (USA)	Paroxetine (12) Placebo (12)	80–97	DSM–IV	Individuals were excluded if they were found to be actively suicidal, psychotic, or to have major depression.	8	17-item HRSD	Clinical Global Impression of 1 or 2	SmithKline Beecham
Davidson 1988 ³⁷ (USA)	Isocarboxazid (19) Placebo (16)	18–65	Research Diagnostic Criteria	The trial included individuals both with major and minor depression (but results are specifically reported for minor depression).	6	–	Clinical Global Impression of 1 or 2	Hoffmann La Roche
Judd 2004 ³⁸ (USA)	Fluoxetine (81) Placebo (81)	18+	National Institute of Mental Health Diagnostic Interview Schedule	Individuals were excluded if they were found to have major depression.	12	17-item HRSD	–	NIMH, Roher Fund of the University of California, Eli Lilly
Paykel 1988 ³⁹ (UK)	Amitriptyline (19) Placebo (18)	18–64	Research Diagnostic Criteria	The trial included individuals both with major and minor depression (but results are specifically reported for minor depression).	6	17-item HRSD	–	Medical Research Council
Williams 2000 ⁴² (USA)	Paroxetine (68) Placebo (70)	60+	DSM–IV	Individuals were excluded if they were found to have major depression. The trial included those with dysthymia (but results are reported for minor depression).	11	–	HRSD score of less than 7	John A. Hartford Foundation of New York and the MacArthur Foundation

HRSD, Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression.