Table 39 in Model parameters of this report presents the cumulative incidence of awareness in studies identified by our targeted searches, for general surgical populations and for patients deemed as being at high risk of awareness. The proportion of patients identified as experiencing awareness in each study were pooled by first transforming the proportions to the Freeman–Tukey variant of the arcsine square root transformed proportion, which is suitable for calculating fixed or random-effect summaries. The pooled proportion is calculated as the back-transform of the weighted mean of the transformed proportions, using inverse arcsine variance weights for the fixed-effect model and DerSimonian–Laird weights for the random-effects model.

Figure 12 shows the forest plot for all identified studies in general surgical populations. A pooled estimate from all these studies gives a cumulative incidence of awareness of 0.21% (95% CI 0.06% to 0.45%) assuming random effects [Cochran's Q = 212.55 (df = 5), p < 0.0001, p < 0.0001,

Excluding the two outlying studies (Pollard and colleagues¹⁴ and Errando and colleagues¹⁸) yields a slightly lower estimate of 0.16% [95% CI 0.10% to 0.23%] assuming random effects [Cochran's Q = 7.85 (df = 3), p = 0.0493, $l^2 = 61.8\%$ for fixed-effect model] (*Figure 13*).

Figure 14 shows the forest plot for studies in high-risk surgical populations. A pooled estimate from all these studies gives a cumulative incidence of awareness of 0.45% (95% CI 0.06% to 1.19%) assuming random effects [Cochran's Q = 19.97 (df = 4), p = 0.0005, $l^2 = 80.0\%$ for fixed-effect model].

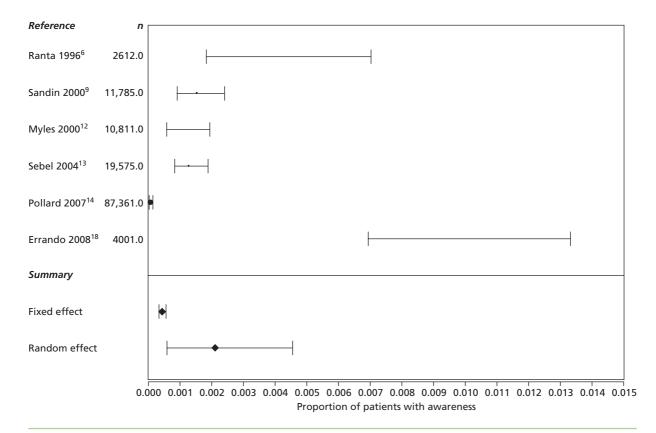


FIGURE 12 Forest plot for pooled estimate of proportion of general surgical patients experiencing awareness.

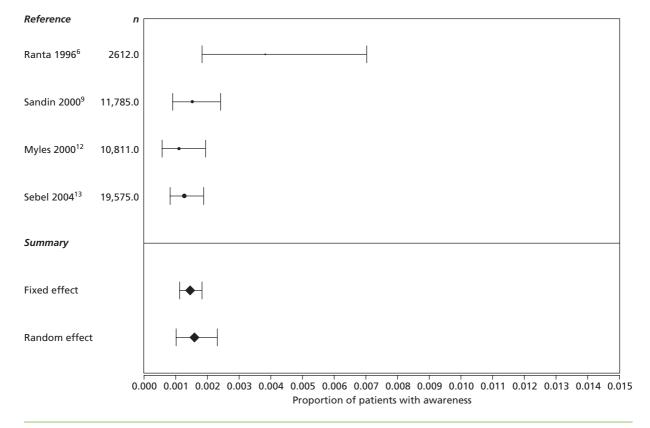


FIGURE 13 Forest plot for pooled estimate of proportion of general surgical patients experiencing awareness (excluding outliers).

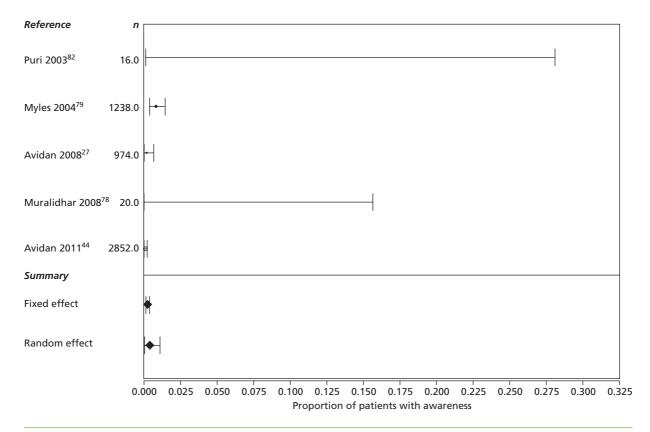


FIGURE 14 Forest plot for pooled estimate of proportion of high-risk surgical patients experiencing awareness.