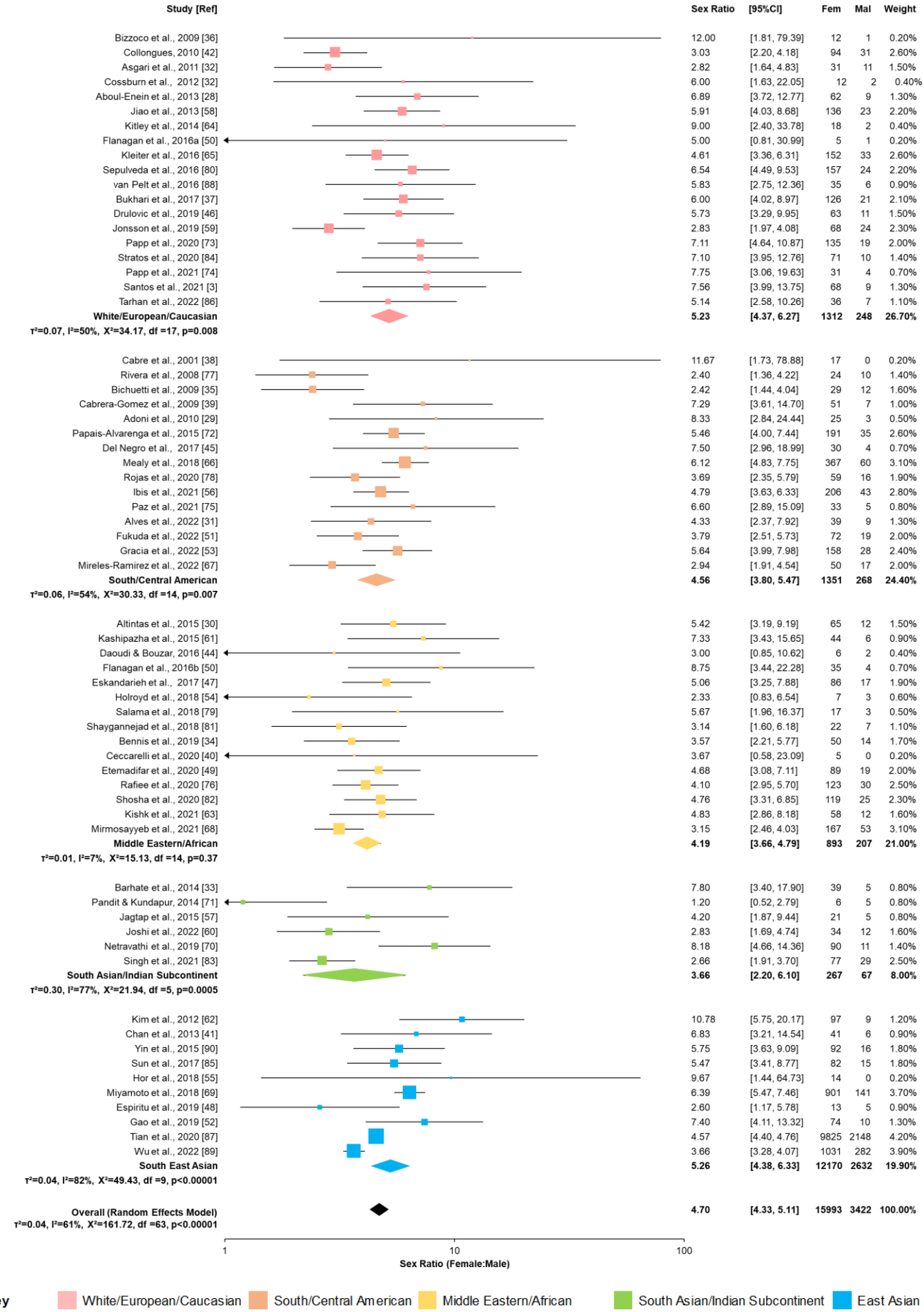
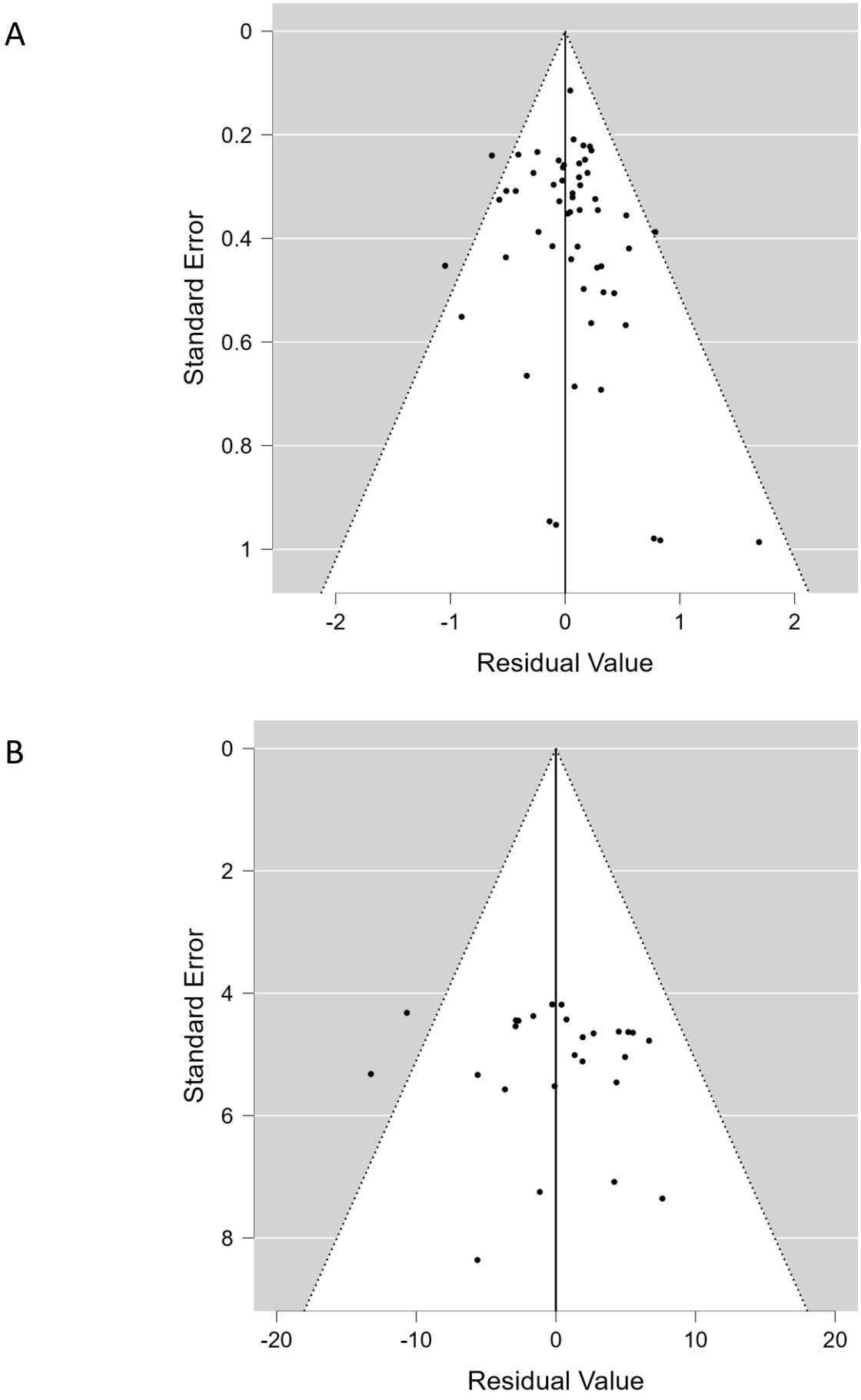
Supplementary Figure 1



Forrest plot of sex ratio for all available studies subgrouped by geographical region. Inverse variance method with random effects model. CI = confidence interval; Fem = female; Mal = male.

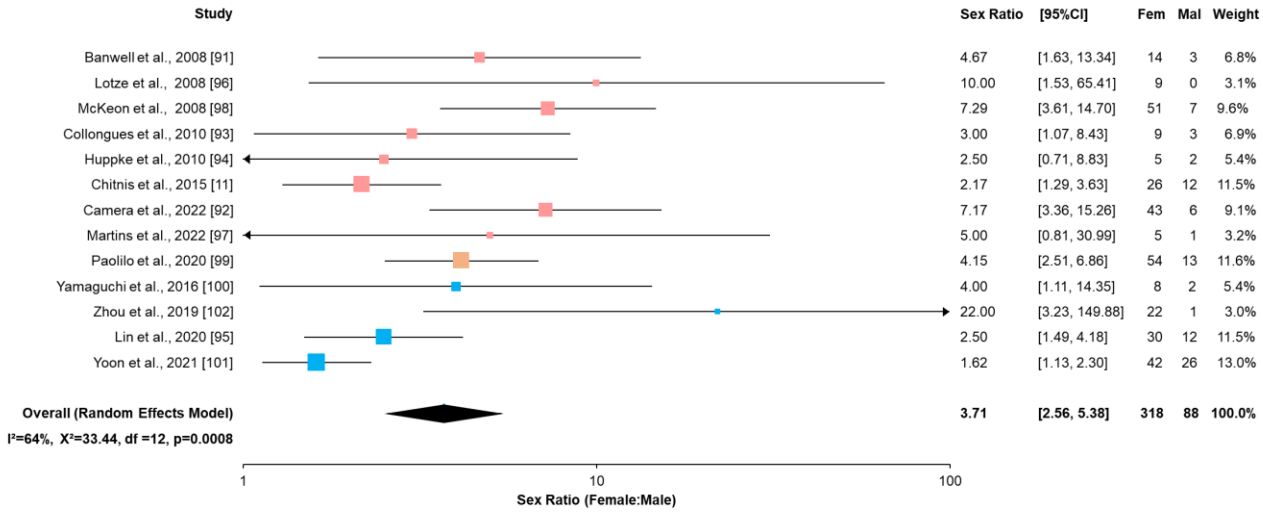
Supplementary Figure 2



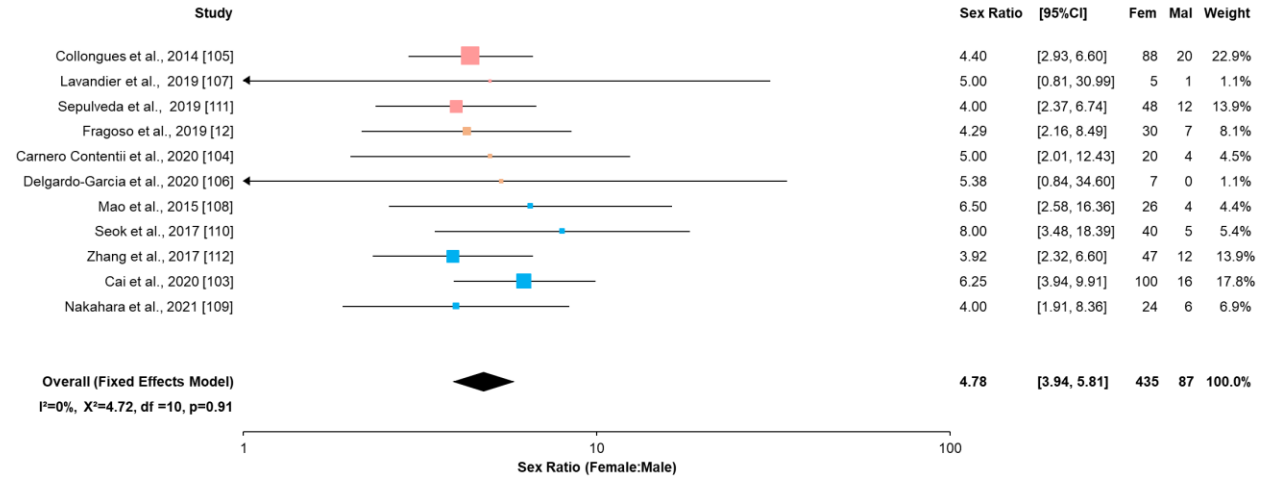
Funnel plots for sex ratio (A) and age of onset (B) meta-regression analyses. Age of onset analysis restricted to AQP4 antibody positive studies.

Supplementary Figure 3

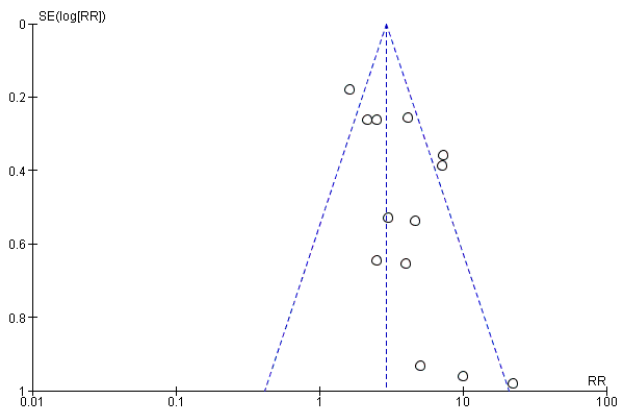
A



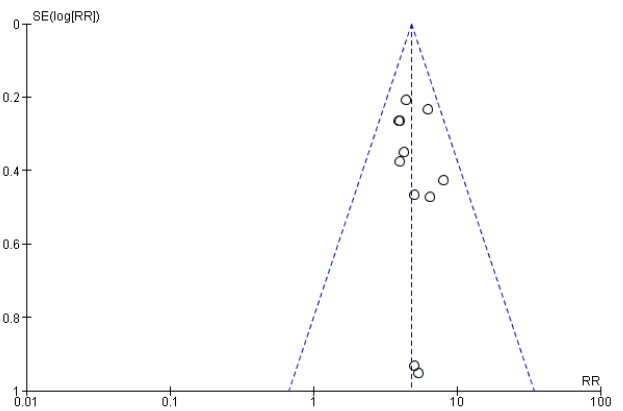
B



C

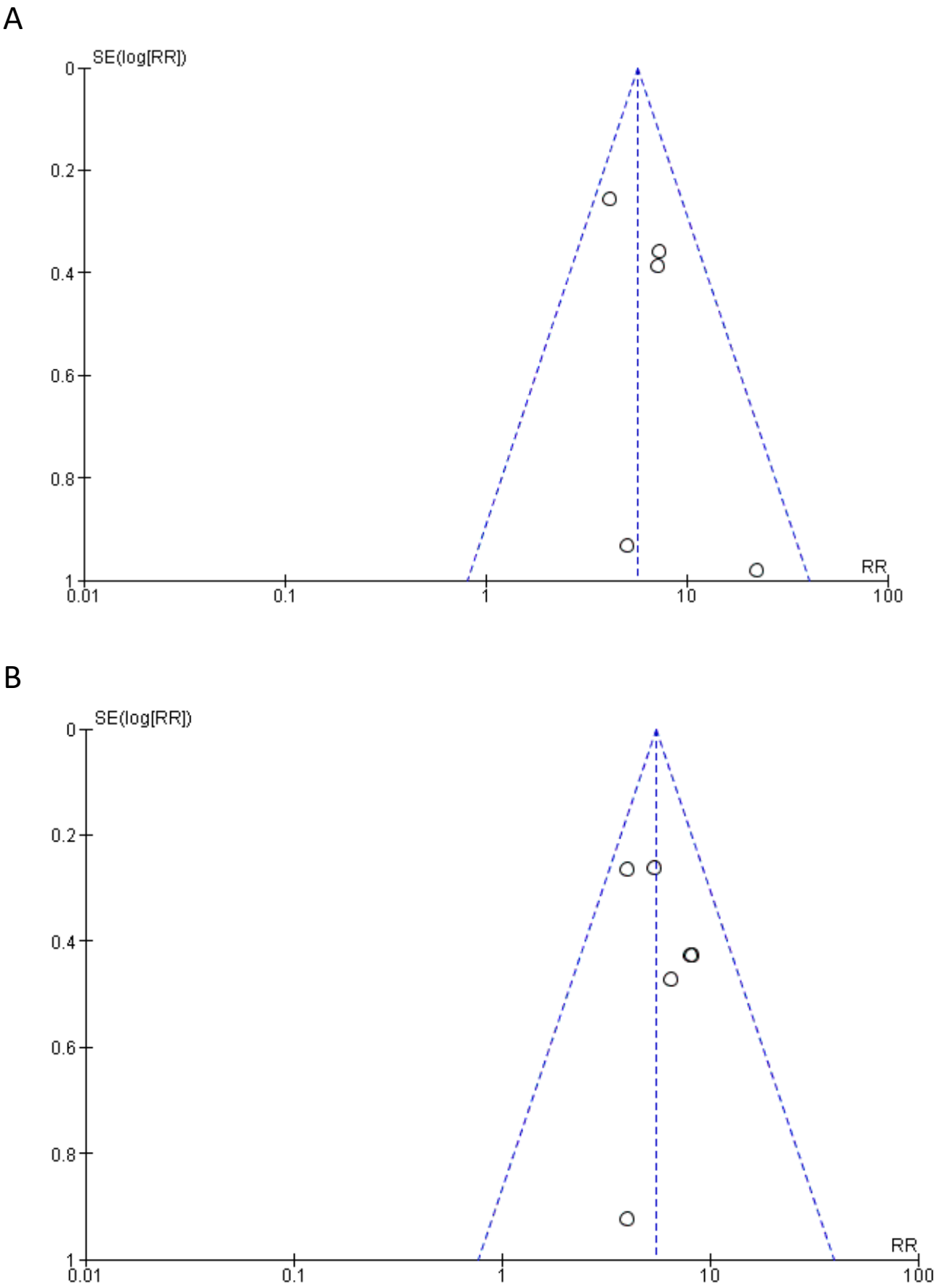


D



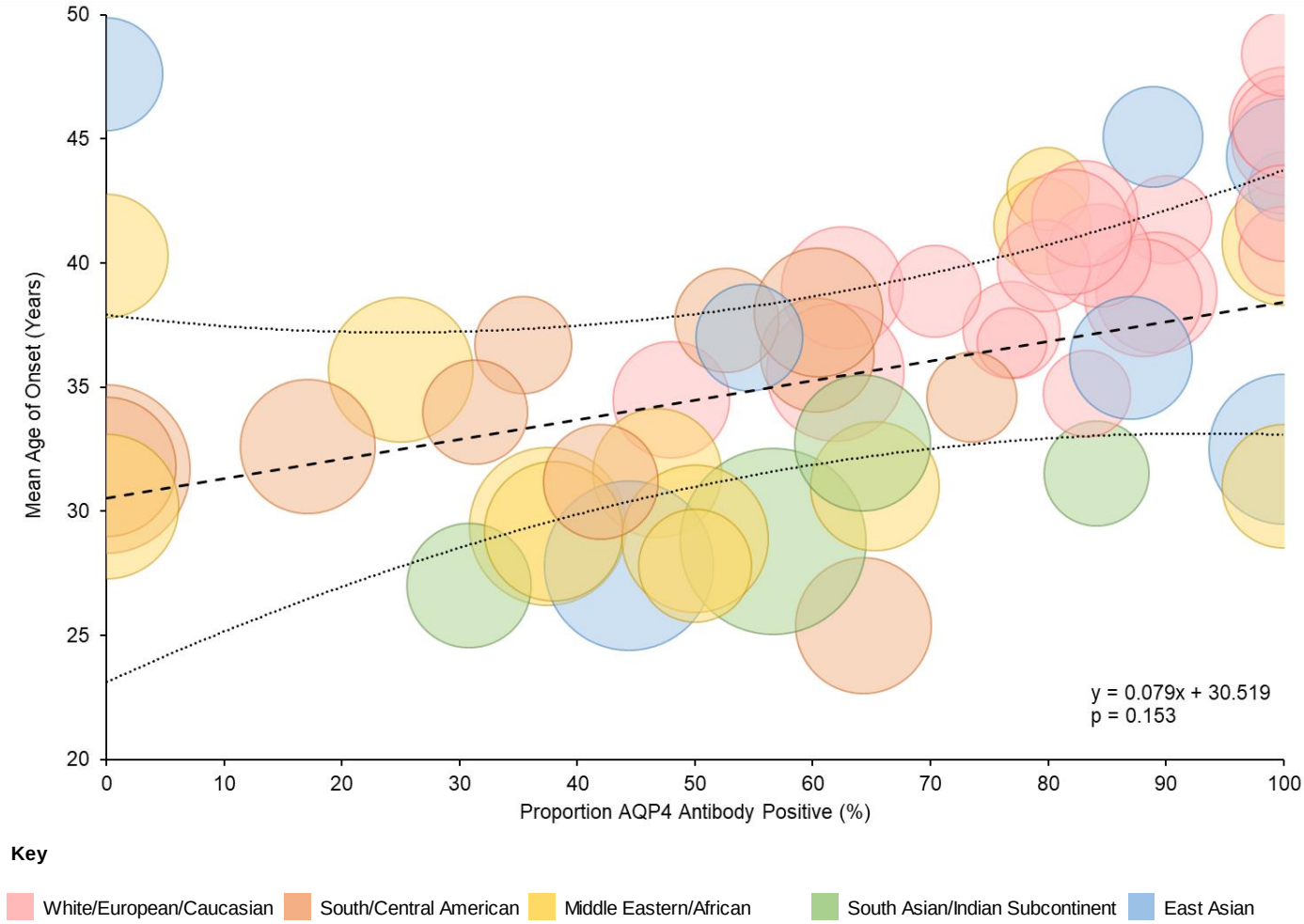
Forrest plots of sex ratio for paediatric (A) and late onset (B) studies and funnel plots of paediatric (C) and late onset (D) studies. SE = standard error; IV = inverse variance; CI = confidence interval; RR = risk ratio.

Supplementary Figure 4



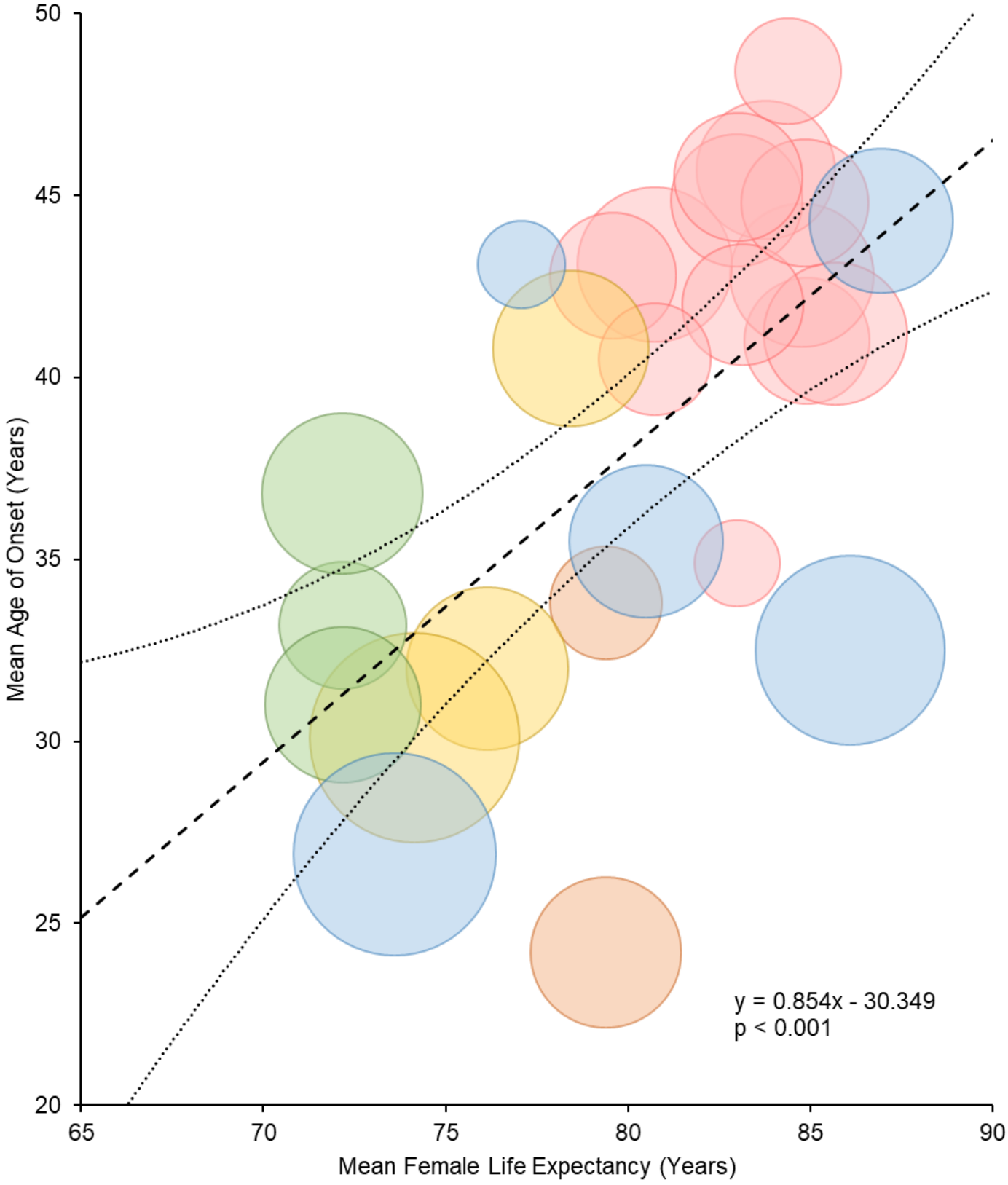
Funnel plots of sex ratio in paediatric (A) and late onset (B) studies restricted to AQP4 antibody positive studies. SE = standard error; RR = risk ratio.

Supplementary Figure 5



Bubble plot of mean age of onset against proportion of AQP4 antibody positive cases. Bubble size is proportional to the variance of the mean age of onset. Meta-regression model included geographical region. Dashed line indicates fitted regression from meta-regression analysis (indicated by formula) and dotted lines show 95% confidence interval.

Supplementary Figure 6

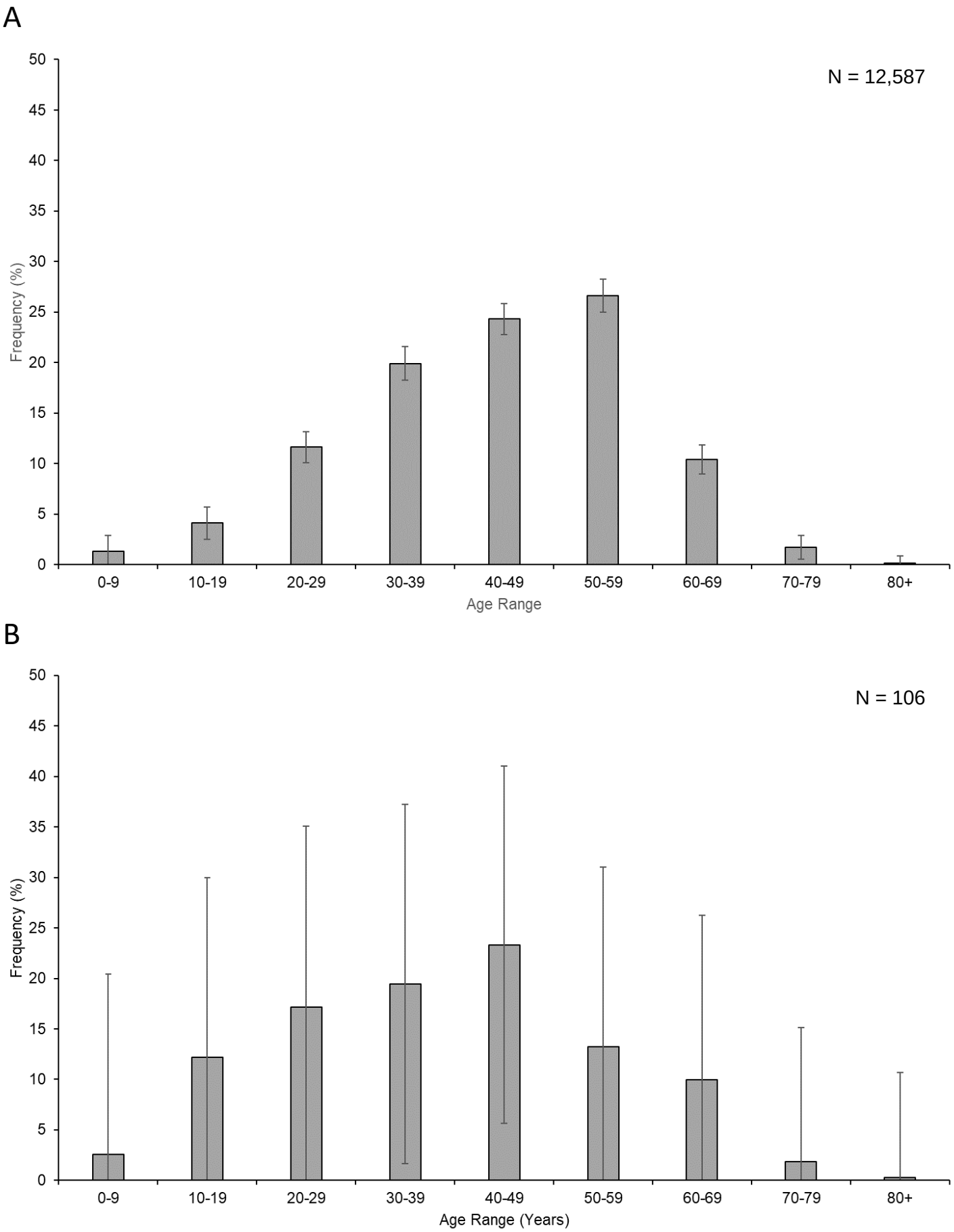


Key

White/European/Caucasian | South/Central American | Middle Eastern/African | South Asian/Indian Subcontinent | East Asian

Bubble plot of mean age of onset against mean female, life expectancy for the country of study, restricted to studies with all AQP4 antibody positive cases. Bubble size is proportional to the variance of the mean age of onset. Meta-regression model included geographical region. Dashed line indicates fitted regression from meta-regression analysis (indicated by formula) and dotted lines show 95% confidence interval.

Supplementary Figure 7



Age of onset distributions for NMOSD adjusted to a flat population structure for all studies (A) or restricted to studies of AQP4 seropositive cases and meeting all JBI critical appraisal criteria (B). Error bars show 95% confidence interval. N = total number of cases.