Quality assessment							No of patients		Effect			
No of studi es	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistenc y	Indirectnes s	Imprecisio n	Other consideration s	Shared care (above UK equivalent)	Shared care (UK equivalen t)	Relati ve (95% CI)	Absolut e	Quali ty	Importan ce
Lung function: First to last FEV1 (% per year) (follow-up 3 years; range of scores: 0-100; Better indicated by higher values)												
1 (Tho mas 2008)	observation al studies	very serious	no serious inconsistenc y	serious ²	serious ³	none	19	30	-	MD 0.5 lower (5.63 lower to 4.63 higher)	VER Y LOW	CRITICAL
Lung f	unction: Slope	e FEV₁ (%	per year) (follo	ow-up 3 years	; range of s	cores: 0-100; B	etter indicate	ed by highe	r values)			
1 (Tho mas 2008)	observation al studies	very serious 1	no serious inconsistenc y	serious ²	serious ³	none	19	30	-	MD 2.1 lower (6.52 lower to 2.32 higher)	VER Y LOW	CRITICAL

Table 7: Clinical evidence profile: Comparison 3.2. Shared care (above UK equivalent) versus shared care (UK equivalent)

Abbreviations: CI: confidence interval; CF: cystic fibrosis; FEV₁: forced expiratory volume in 1 second; MD: mean difference 1 The quality of the evidence was downgraded by 2 due to high risk of bias in relation to the selection of the population and high loss to follow-up

2 The quality of the evidence was downgraded by 1 because 1 of the comparators is not representative of current UK practice

3 The quality of the evidence was downgraded by 1 because the 95% CI crossed 1 clinical MID