

Additional file 4 Additional information on patient characteristics for each study used in the included meta-analyses

Meta-analysis	Included studies	Race/ethnicity in %	Men in %	BPH related scores (mean values)	Co-medication	Co-morbidities
Buzelin et al. (1997) [57]	Buzelin et al. (1997) [60] Double-blind randomized placebo-controlled trial	N.a.	100%	SR Alfuzosin: • IPSS: 15.0 • Boyarsky score: 9.9 • Q _{max} : 10.4 ml/s • PVR: 58 ml Placebo: • IPSS: 15.9 • Boyarsky score: 10.3 • Q _{max} : 10.1 ml/s • PVR: 63 ml	Patients were excluded if they used a drug that could interfere with the voiding pattern.	SR Alfuzosin: • CVD: 45% • Hypertension: 29% Placebo: • CVD: 49% • Hypertension: 29%
	Second included study not published and data therefore not available.					
Lowe (1994) [58]	Lepor et al. (1992) [61] Double-blind randomized placebo-controlled trial	• N.a.	100%	Placebo/2mg/5mg/10mg: • Boyarsky score: 9.7/10.0/10.7/10.1 • Q _{max} in ml/s: 10.1/8.8/9.3/8.8	Patients were excluded if they used a drug that could interfere with study (e.g. α -agonists, (anti)cholinergic drug, diuretics, antihypertensive medication)	Patients were excluded if they had (a history of) one or more of the following diseases: • Postural hypotension • TIA • Myocardial infarction • CeVD

						• Carcinoma of prostate • Surgery for BPH • Urinary tract disease • Insulin dependent diabetes • Renal insufficiency • Hepatic impairment
	Lloyd et al. (1992) [62] Double-blind randomized placebo-controlled trial	N.a.	100%	Placebo/2mg/5mg/10mg: • Boyarsky obstructive Symptom Score: 6.8/6.5/6.3/6.6 • Boyarsky irritative Symptom Score: 4.4/4.0/4.1/5.2 • Q_{max} in ml/s: 7.8/7.9/8.0/8.4	Patients were excluded if they used a drug that could interfere with study (e.g. antihypertensive medication incl. diuretics and vasodilators)	Patients were excluded if they had (a history of) one or more of the following diseases: • Postural hypotension • Syncope • TIA • Myocardial infarction • CeVD • Carcinoma of prostate • Surgery for BPH • Urinary tract disease • Hydronephrosis • Insulin dependent diabetes • Renal insufficiency • Hepatic impairment

	Di Silverio (1992) [63]	N.a.	100%	Placebo/2mg/5mg/10mg: • Boyarsky obstructive Symptom Score: 6.0/5.1/6.0/6.0 • PVR in ml: 48.8/45.6/47.2/60.4 • Q _{max} in ml/s: 8.8/8.8/8.3/8.4	Patients were excluded if they were treated for hypertension	N.a.
	Brawer et al. (1993) [64]	N.a.	100%	Placebo vs. terazosin: • Boyarsky symptom score: 10.4 vs. 10.9 • Q _{max} in ml/s: 8.8 vs. 8.6	N.a.	Patients were excluded if they had (a history of) one or more of the following diseases: • Carcinoma of prostate • Detrusor instability • Significant cardiopulmonary disease
	2 included studies not published and data therefore not available.					