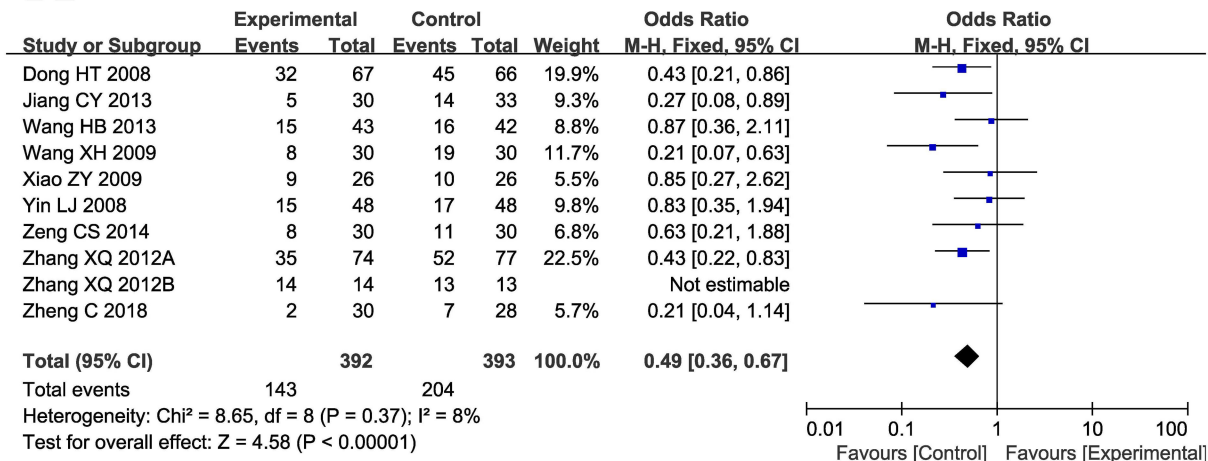


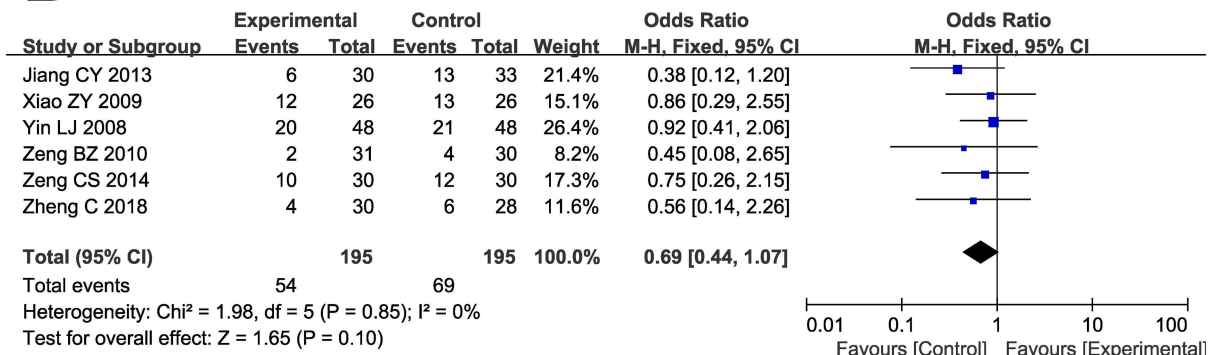
	Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)	Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Other bias
Dong HT 2008	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Jiang CY 2013	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Li B 2013	+	?	?	?	+	?	?
Meng P 2016	+	?	?	?	+	?	?
Tang WH 2015	+	?	?	?	+	?	?
Wang XH 2009	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Wu GL 2010	+	?	?	?	+	?	+
Xiao ZY 2009	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Xie B 2008	+	?	?	?	+	-	+
Xie YF 2003	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Yang PY 2013	+	?	?	?	+	?	+
Ye X 2008	+	?	?	?	+	?	+
Yin LJ 2008	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Yuan TW 2013	+	?	?	?	+	-	+
Zeng BZ 2010	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Zeng CS 2012	+	?	?	?	+	?	+
Zeng CS 2014	+	?	?	?	+	-	+
Zhang SZ 2012	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Zhang XQ 2012B	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Zheng C 2018	+	?	?	?	+	+	+
Zhu X 2003	+	?	?	?	+	?	+

Supplementary Figure 1. Risk of bias summary: review of authors' judgments about each risk of bias item for included studies. **Note:** Each color represents a different level of bias: red for high-risk, green for low-risk, and yellow for unclear-risk of bias.

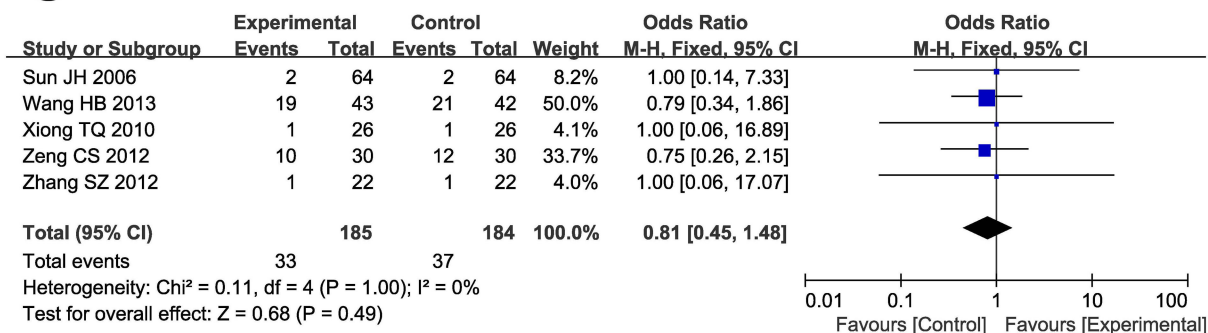
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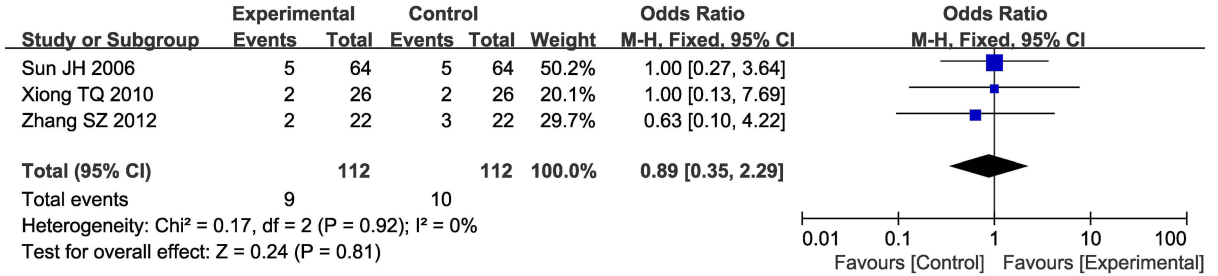
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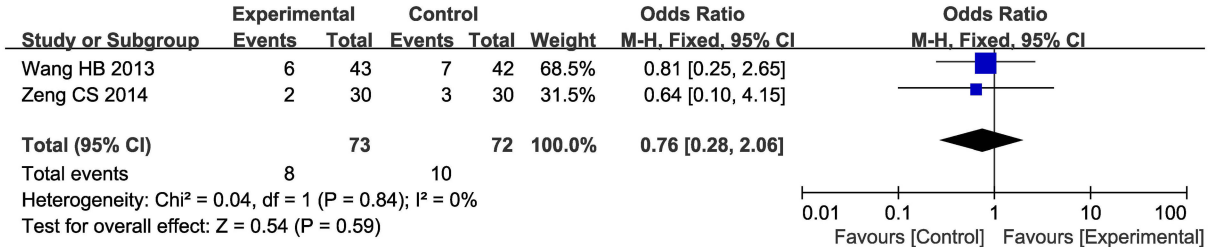
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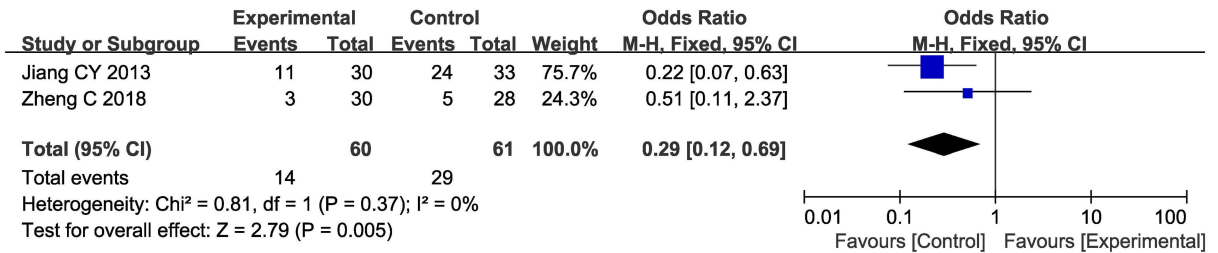
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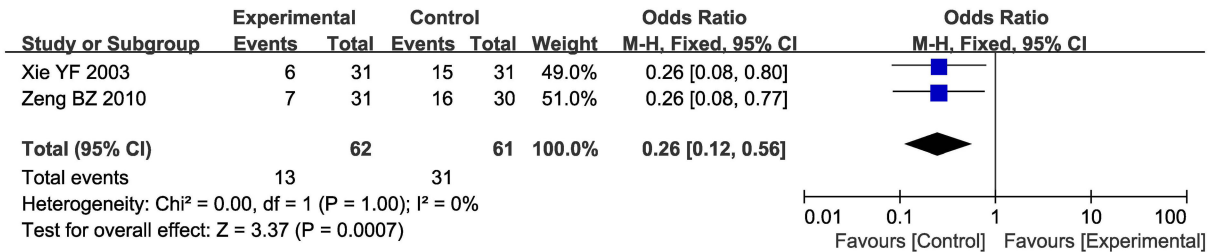
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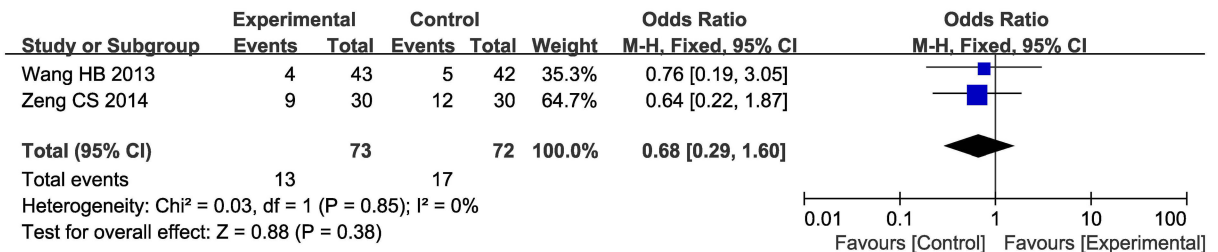
F



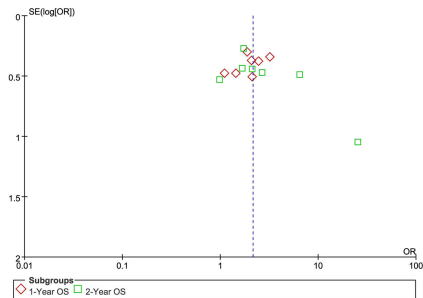
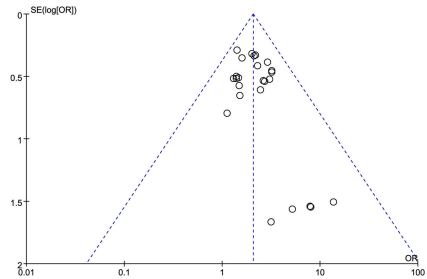
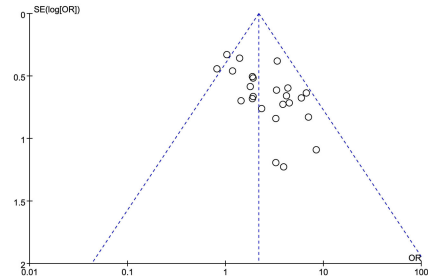
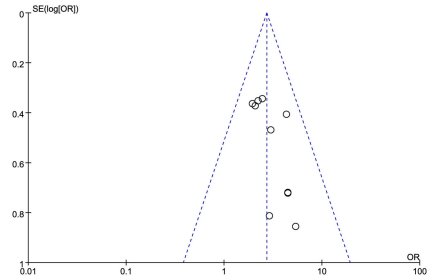
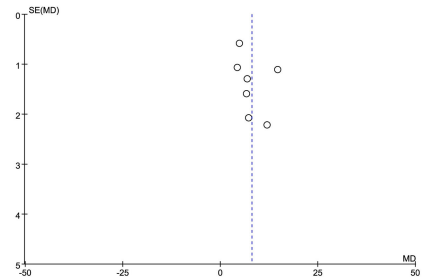
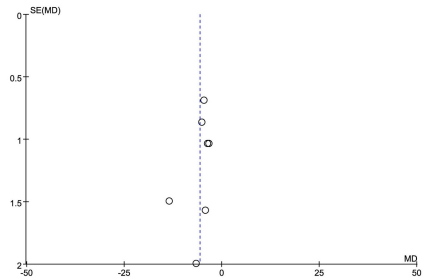
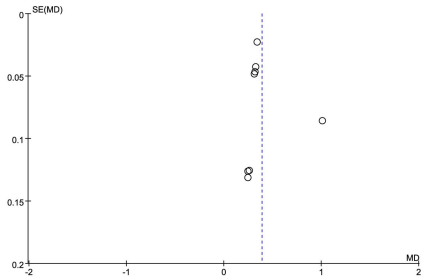
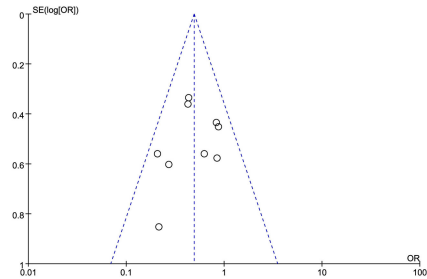
G



H



Supplementary Figure 2. Forest plot of the comparison of adverse effects including leukopenia (A), gastrointestinal adverse effects (B), nausea and vomiting (C), anorexia (D), thrombocytopenia (E), hepatotoxicity (F), myelosuppression (G) and anemia (H) between the experimental and control group. Control group, conventional treatment alone group; Experimental group, conventional treatment and JLC combined group; JLC, Jinlong capsule. The fixed-effects meta-analysis model (Mantel–Haenszel method) was used.

A**B****C****D****E****F****G****H**

Supplementary Figure 3. Funnel plot of 12- and 24-month overall survival (OS, A), overall response rate (ORR, B), disease control rate (DCR, C), quality of life improved rate (QIR, D), CD4⁺ (E), CD8⁺ (F), CD4⁺/CD8⁺ (G), and leukopenia (H).

Supplementary Table 1. Quality assessment of non-randomized comparative studies

Study	Non-randomized studies							Additional criteria in comparative study					Total
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
Jia CH 2008 ^[19]	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	19
Li H 2007 ^[23]	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	19
Liang TJ 2005 ^[24]	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	20
Liu ZY 2015 ^[25]	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	19
Sun JH 2006 ^[27]	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	21
Wang HB 2013 ^[29]	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	21
Xiong TQ 2010 ^[34]	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	20
Zhang XQ 2012 ^[43]	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	21

Notes: The items are scored 0 (not reported), 1 (reported but inadequate) and 2 (reported and adequate).

A: A clearly stated aim; B: Inclusion of consecutive patients; C: Prospective collection of data; D: Endpoints appropriate to the aim of the study; E: Unbiased assessment of the study endpoint; F: Follow-up period appropriate to the aim of the study; G: Loss to follow up less than 5%; H: Prospective calculation of the study size; I: An adequate control group; J: Contemporary groups; K: Baseline equivalence of groups; L: Adequate statistical analyses.

Supplementary Table 2. Publication bias on therapeutic efficacy indexes (OS, ORR, DCR and QIR), immune function indexes (CD4⁺, CD8⁺, and CD4⁺/CD8⁺) and leucopenia.

Publication Bias	Therapeutic efficacy indexes					Immune function indexes			Adverse events
	12-month OS	24-month OS	ORR	DCR	QIR	CD4 ⁺	CD8 ⁺	CD4 ⁺ /CD8 ⁺	Leucopenia
Begg	0.764	0.133	0.168	0.035	0.107	0.133	0.548	0.902	0.675
Egger	0.301	0.161	0.049	0.001	0.036	0.321	0.331	0.603	0.542
Trim and fill analysis									
before			$P < .0001$	$P < .0001$	$P < .0001$				
after			$P < .0001$	$P < .0001$	$P < .0001$				

Notes: Parameters discussed in over 7 papers were conducted bias analyses.

Abbreviations: OS: overall survival; ORR: overall response rate; DCR: disease control rate; QIR: quality of life improved rate.

Supplementary Table 3. Subgroup analyses of ORR and DCR between the experimental and control group.

Parameter	Factors	Patients	Analysis	Heterogeneity		Odds	95% CI	P-value
	at study level	Con/Exp	method	I ² (%)	P-value	Ratio		
ORR	Therapeutic regimen							
	JLC+TACE	739/719	Fixed	0	0.96	1.93	1.56-2.38	<0.00001
	JLC+SST	157/157	Fixed	0	0.97	7.37	1.91-28.36	0.004
	JLC+RT	117/116	Fixed	0	0.93	3.02	1.72-5.31	0.0001
	Study sample size							
	>80	719/683	Fixed	0	0.83	2.06	1.64-2.59	<0.00001
	<80	379/380	Fixed	0	0.89	2.06	1.48-2.88	<0.0001
	Type of control trials							
	RCTs	677/654	Fixed	0	0.93	2.06	1.63-2.61	<0.00001
	non-RCTs	421/409	Fixed	0	0.69	2.07	1.52-2.82	<0.00001
DCR	Therapeutic regimen							
	JLC+TACE	672/653	Fixed	6	0.39	1.66	1.26-2.18	0.0003
	JLC+SST	157/157	Fixed	0	0.65	3.90	2.42-6.29	<0.00001
	JLC+RT	117/116	Fixed	0	0.76	4.50	1.46-13.86	0.009
	Study sample size							
	>80	652/617	Fixed	24	0.23	1.62	1.22-2.15	0.0009
	<80	379/380	Fixed	0	0.91	3.46	2.40-4.99	<0.00001
	Type of control trials							
	RCTs	610/588	Fixed	0	0.83	2.48	1.84-3.33	<0.00001
	non-RCTs	421/409	Random	63	0.01	2.09	1.11-3.94	0.02

Notes: Con, Control group (Conventional treatment alone group); Exp, Experimental group (Conventional treatment and JLC combined group).

Abbreviations: ORR: overall response rate; DCR: disease control rate; JLC: Jinlong capsule; TACE: transcatheter arterial chemoembolization; SST: Support and symptomatic treatment; RT: Radiotherapy; RCTs; randomized controlled trials.