

Database	Search strategies
Pubmed	((Caregivers[mj:noexp]) OR ((caregiv*[tiab] OR carer*[tiab]) NOT MEDLINE[sb])) AND (coping[tiab]) AND (((depression[mj:noexp]) OR ((depressi*[tiab]) NOT MEDLINE[sb])))
Cinahl	(MM caregivers OR AB caregiv* OR AB carer*) AND (MM coping) AND (MM depression OR AB depressi*)
PsycINFO	MJSUB(depression) AND MJSUB(caregivers) AND MJSUB(coping behavior)
LILACS	depression AND caregivers AND coping

Table of search strategies for the different databases

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Supplementary table 1. Subgroup analyses

Coping	Issue	Subgroup	K	r	CI 95%	
					Lower limit	Upper limit
Problem-focused coping	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	23	-0,012	-0,09	0,066
		Longitudinal	3	-0,08	-0,215	0,058
	Sampling	Probabilistic	3	-0,13	-0,233	-0,025
		Non-probabilistic	23	-0,003	-0,081	0,075
	Confounding bias	Control	7	-0,042	-0,155	0,072
		No control	19	-0,01	-0,098	0,078
	Classification bias	Control	24	-0,012	-0,088	0,064
		No control	2	-0,089	-0,23	0,055
	Care recipient	Frail older people	5	-0,174	-0,273	-0,071
		Dementia	14	0,021	-0,09	0,131
		Cancer	2	0,122	0,021	0,221
		Stroke	3	-0,039	-0,244	0,169
Active coping	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	8	-0,135	-0,258	-0,007
		Longitudinal	3	-0,101	-0,332	0,141
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,221	-0,335	-0,101
		Non-probabilistic	9	-0,104	-0,229	0,025
	Confounding bias	Control	3	-0,245	-0,336	-0,148
		No control	8	-0,078	-0,21	0,057
	Care recipient	Frail older people	4	-0,2	-0,304	-0,092
		Stroke	2	-0,088	-0,421	0,265
Planning	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	10	-0,068	-0,204	0,071
		Longitudinal	3	0,02	-0,156	0,195
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,072	-0,193	0,051
		Non-probabilistic	11	-0,043	-0,174	0,088
	Confounding bias	Control	4	0,052	-0,112	0,212
		No control	9	-0,091	-0,231	0,053
	Classification bias	Control	11	-0,045	-0,159	0,069
		No control	2	-0,084	-0,571	0,446
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	-0,072	-0,193	0,051
		Dementia	5	-0,211	-0,367	-0,043
		Cancer	2	0,063	-0,101	0,223
Social support seeking	Care recipient	Dementia	7	0,002	-0,235	0,239
		Stroke	3	0,011	-0,207	0,229
Instrumental support seeking	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	8	0,073	0,003	0,142
		Longitudinal	3	0,08	-0,102	0,257
	Confounding bias	Control	3	0,067	-0,101	0,231
		No control	8	0,088	0,011	0,163
Emotion-focused coping	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	11	-0,106	-0,252	0,043
		Longitudinal	2	-0,149	-0,42	0,157
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,149	-0,42	0,157
		Non-probabilistic	11	-0,106	-0,252	0,043
	Confounding bias	Control	5	-0,237	-0,348	-0,119
		No control	8	-0,037	-0,212	0,141
	Care recipient	Frail older people	4	-0,189	-0,349	-0,018
		Dementia	7	-0,143	-0,317	0,041

		Cancer	2	0,136	0,035	0,234
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Continuation of supplementary table 1

Coping	Issue	Subgroup	K	r	CI 95%	
					Lower limit	Upper limit
Positive reappraisal	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	14	-0,217	-0,3	-0,13
		Longitudinal	3	-0,214	-0,457	0,058
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,267	-0,59	0,129
		Non-probabilistic	15	-0,208	-0,287	-0,126
	Confounding bias	Control	3	-0,285	-0,466	-0,082
		No control	14	-0,199	-0,284	-0,111
	Classification bias	Control	15	-0,221	-0,306	-0,131
		No control	2	-0,18	-0,374	0,028
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	-0,267	-0,59	0,129
		Dementia	7	-0,24	-0,375	-0,095
		Stroke	3	-0,181	-0,329	-0,024
Acceptance	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	11	-0,161	-0,266	-0,052
		Longitudinal	3	-0,065	-0,174	0,045
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,075	-0,25	0,104
		Non-probabilistic	12	-0,148	-0,248	-0,045
	Confounding bias	Control	4	-0,212	-0,35	-0,066
		No control	10	-0,097	-0,196	0,005
	Classification bias	Control	12	-0,143	-0,239	-0,044
		No control	2	-0,053	-0,213	0,109
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	-0,075	-0,25	0,104
		Dementia	6	-0,215	-0,361	-0,058
Humor	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	5	-0,064	-0,223	0,099
		Longitudinal	3	-0,067	-0,167	0,034
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,061	-0,182	0,062
		Non-probabilistic	6	-0,07	-0,199	0,061
	Confounding bias	Control	2	-0,061	-0,182	0,062
		No control	6	-0,07	-0,199	0,061
Religion	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	3	-0,018	-0,146	0,11
		Longitudinal	9	0,064	-0,038	0,164
	Sampling	Probabilistic	4	-0,031	-0,215	0,155
		Non-probabilistic	8	0,039	-0,051	0,128
	Confounding bias	Control	2	0,084	-0,068	0,233
		No control	10	-0,008	-0,124	0,11
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	0,049	-0,083	0,178
		Dementia	2	-0,166	-0,378	0,064
		Stroke	4	0,121	-0,005	0,243
Emotional support seeking	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	7	0,092	-0,038	0,22
		Longitudinal	3	-0,073	-0,249	0,108
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,154	-0,303	0,002
		Non-probabilistic	8	0,063	-0,005	0,131
	Confounding bias	Control	4	0,039	-0,194	0,268
		No control	6	0,043	-0,079	0,164

	Classification bias	Control	8	0,018	-0,11	0,146
		No control	2	0,126	-0,012	0,26

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Continuation of supplementary table 1

Coping	Issue	Subgroup	K	r	CI 95%	
					Lower limit	Upper limit
Active coping (Second order)	Sampling	Probabilistic	3	-0,183	-0,282	-0,081
		Non-probabilistic	6	-0,251	-0,322	-0,177
	Confounding bias	Control	4	-0,218	-0,3	-0,132
		No control	5	-0,231	-0,312	-0,146
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	-0,213	-0,346	-0,071
		Dementia	3	-0,162	-0,269	-0,051
		Mental health disorder	2	-0,215	-0,328	-0,097
Dysfunctional coping	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	19	0,431	0,362	0,494
		Longitudinal	3	0,325	0,093	0,524
	Sampling	Probabilistic	3	0,279	0,14	0,407
		Non-probabilistic	19	0,438	0,368	0,503
	Confounding bias	Control	10	0,433	0,342	0,516
		No control	12	0,405	0,306	0,495
	Care recipient	Frail older people	5	0,29	0,141	0,426
		Dementia	10	0,432	0,312	0,538
		Cancer	2	0,407	0,319	0,488
		Mental health disorder	2	0,515	0,42	0,599
Avoidance	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	0,324	0,073	0,536
		Non-probabilistic	18	0,377	0,298	0,452
	Confounding bias	Control	7	0,336	0,19	0,468
		No control	13	0,389	0,302	0,47
	Classification bias	Control	16	0,37	0,287	0,447
		No control	4	0,378	0,197	0,533
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	0,157	-0,114	0,407
		Dementia	10	0,472	0,414	0,527
		Stroke	5	0,224	0,088	0,352
Denial	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	7	0,314	0,247	0,377
		Longitudinal	3	0,282	0,186	0,372
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	0,263	0,145	0,374
		Non-probabilistic	8	0,314	0,253	0,374
	Confounding bias	Control	2	0,263	0,145	0,374
		No control	8	0,314	0,253	0,374
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	0,263	0,145	0,374
		Dementia	2	0,258	0,13	0,377
		Stroke	2	0,38	0,266	0,484
Self-blame	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	9	0,308	0,216	0,395
		Longitudinal	3	0,29	0,148	0,419
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	0,239	0,074	0,392

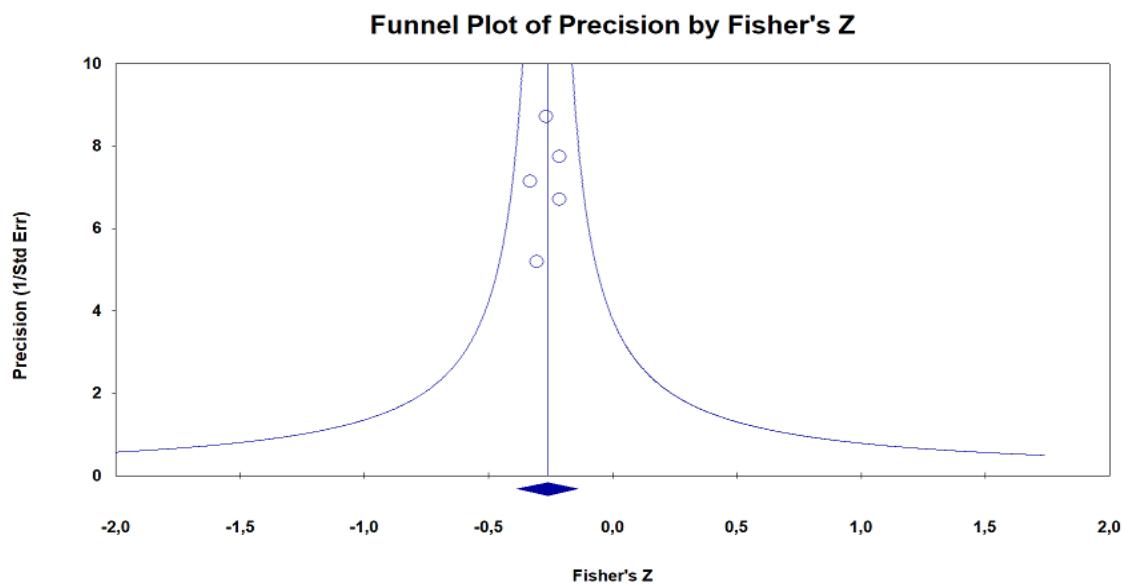
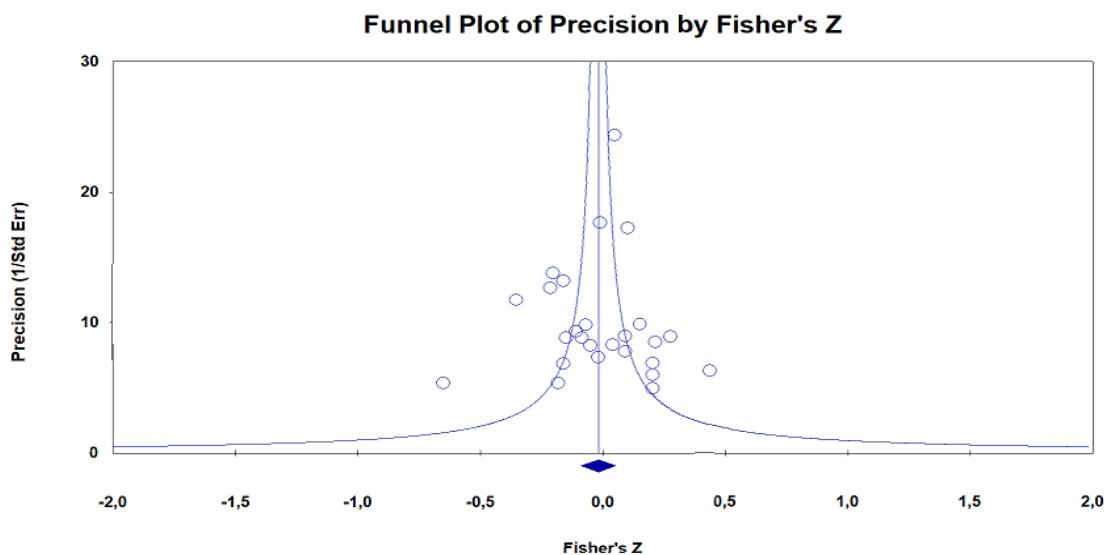
		Non-probabilistic	10	0,317	0,236	0,394
Confounding bias	Control	2	0,239	0,074	0,392	
	No control	10	0,317	0,236	0,394	
Care recipient	Frail older people	2	0,239	0,074	0,392	
	Dementia	4	0,355	0,144	0,536	
	Stroke	3	0,355	0,232	0,466	

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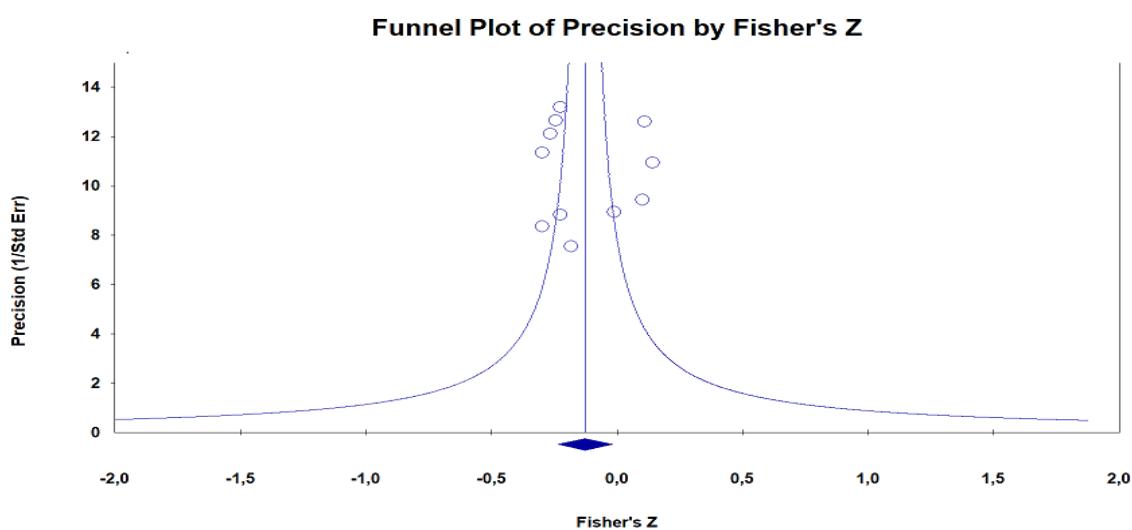
Continuation of supplementary table 1

Coping	Issue	Subgroup	K	r	CI 95%	
					Lower limit	Upper limit
Wishful thinking	Confounding bias	Control	2	0,402	0,322	0,476
		No control	7	0,337	0,217	0,447
	Care recipient	Dementia	5	0,34	0,238	0,435
		Stroke	2	0,324	-0,303	0,755
Venting	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	8	0,155	-0,022	0,323
		Longitudinal	2	0,226	0,09	0,353
	Care recipient	Dementia	2	-0,019	-0,452	0,421
		Stroke	3	0,081	-0,055	0,214
Substance use	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	5	0,354	0,195	0,496
		Longitudinal	2	0,199	0,062	0,328
Behavioural disengagement	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	8	0,257	0,163	0,346
		Longitudinal	3	0,023	-0,155	0,199
	Sampling	Probabilistic	2	-0,071	-0,192	0,052
		Non-probabilistic	9	0,247	0,163	0,328
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	-0,071	-0,192	0,052
		Dementia	2	0,353	0,024	0,613
		Stroke	3	0,26	0,168	0,346
Self-distraction	Follow-up	Cross-sectional	7	-0,053	-0,215	0,112
		Longitudinal	3	-0,029	-0,258	0,203
	Sampling	Probabilistic	3	-0,132	-0,254	-0,007
		Non-probabilistic	7	-0,015	-0,179	0,149
	Confounding bias	Control	3	-0,132	-0,254	-0,007
		No control	7	-0,015	-0,179	0,149
	Classification bias	Control	6	-0,08	-0,254	0,098
		No control	4	0,012	-0,164	0,187
	Care recipient	Frail older people	2	-0,127	-0,327	0,084
		Dementia	2	-0,272	-0,477	-0,039
		Stroke	3	0,074	-0,12	0,262

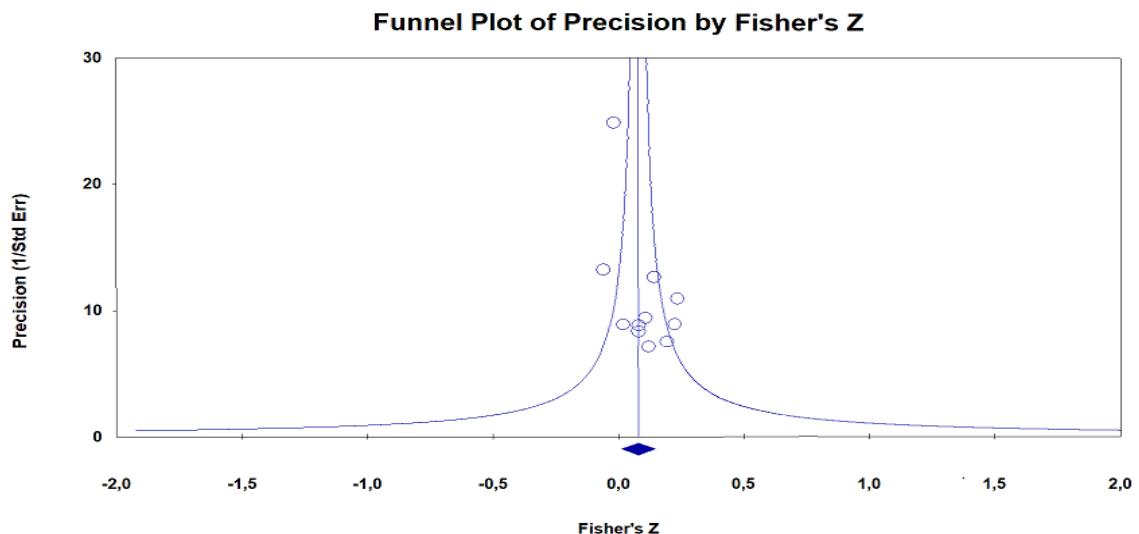
Abbreviations: K (number of included studies); r (combined correlation coefficient).



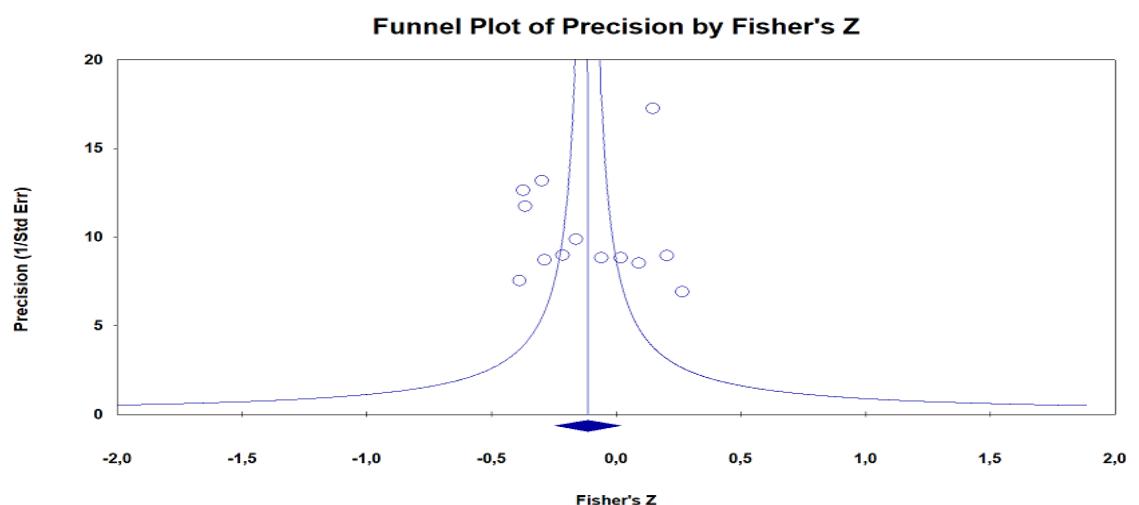
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 2 Funnel Plot of problem-solving and depressive symptoms



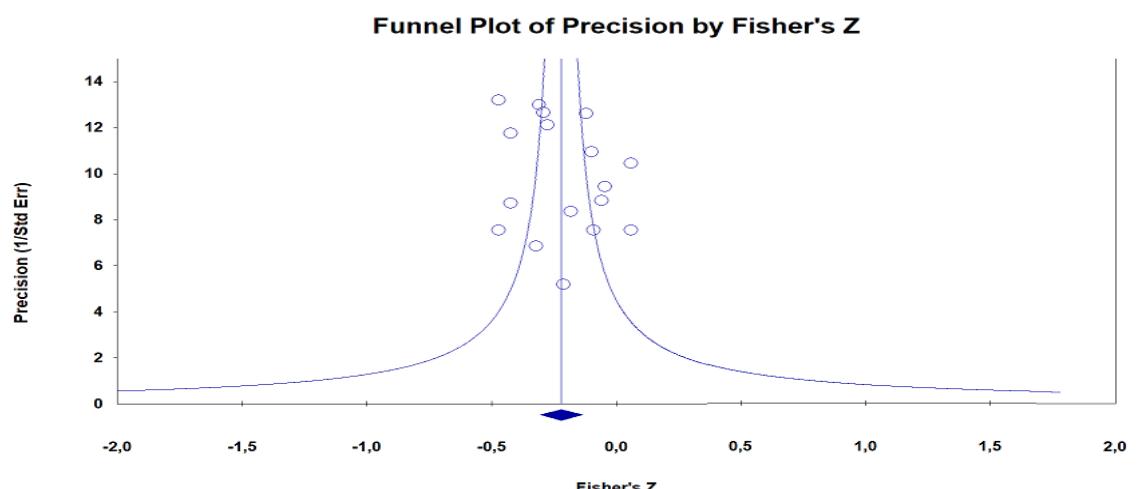
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 3. Funnel Plot of active coping and depressive symptoms



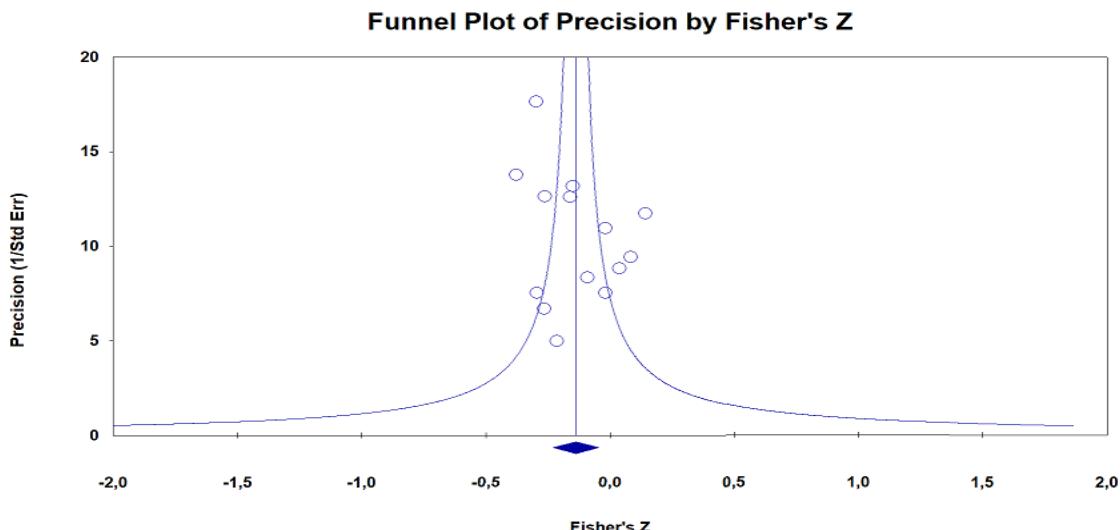
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 4 Funnel Plot of instrumental support seeking and depressive



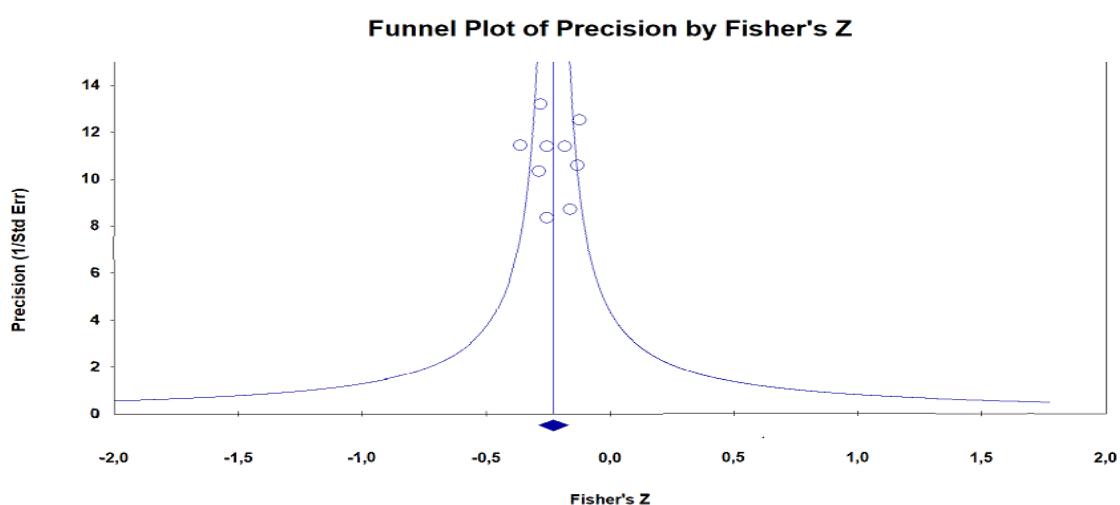
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 5 Funnel Plot of emotion-focused coping and depressive



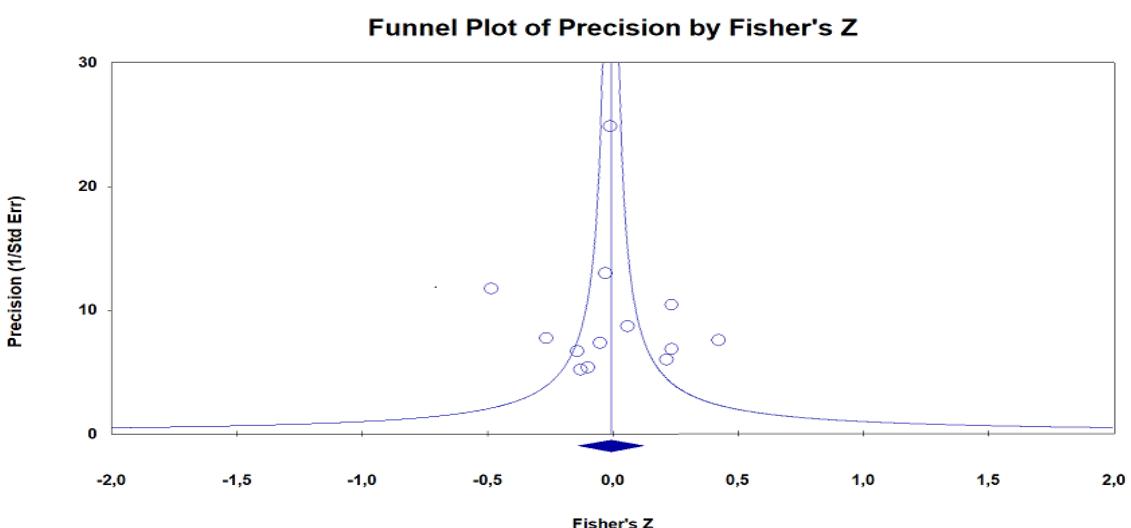
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 6 Funnel Plot of positive reappraisal and depressive symptoms



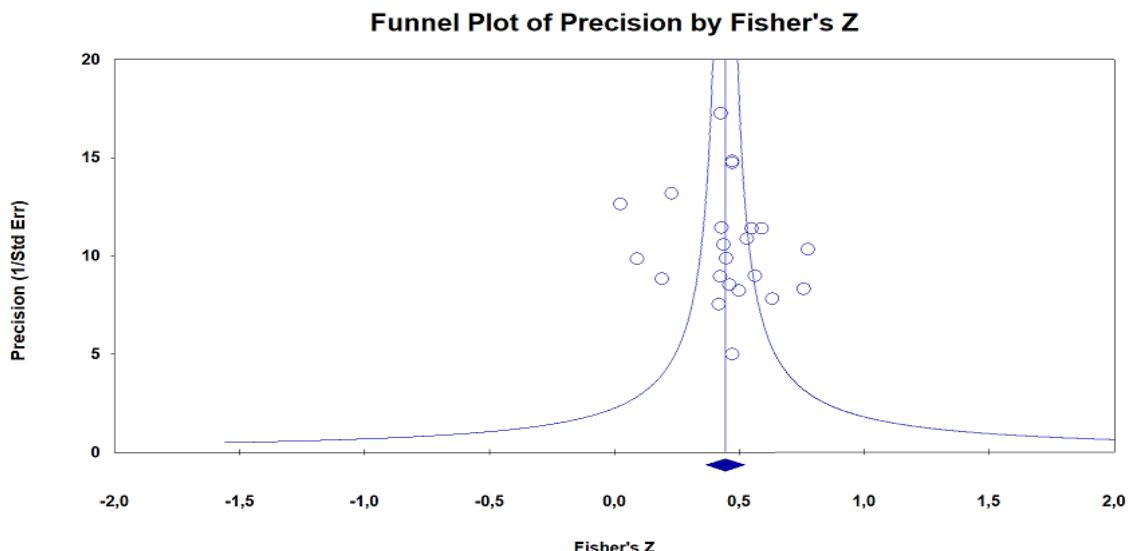
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 7 Funnel Plot of acceptance and depressive symptoms



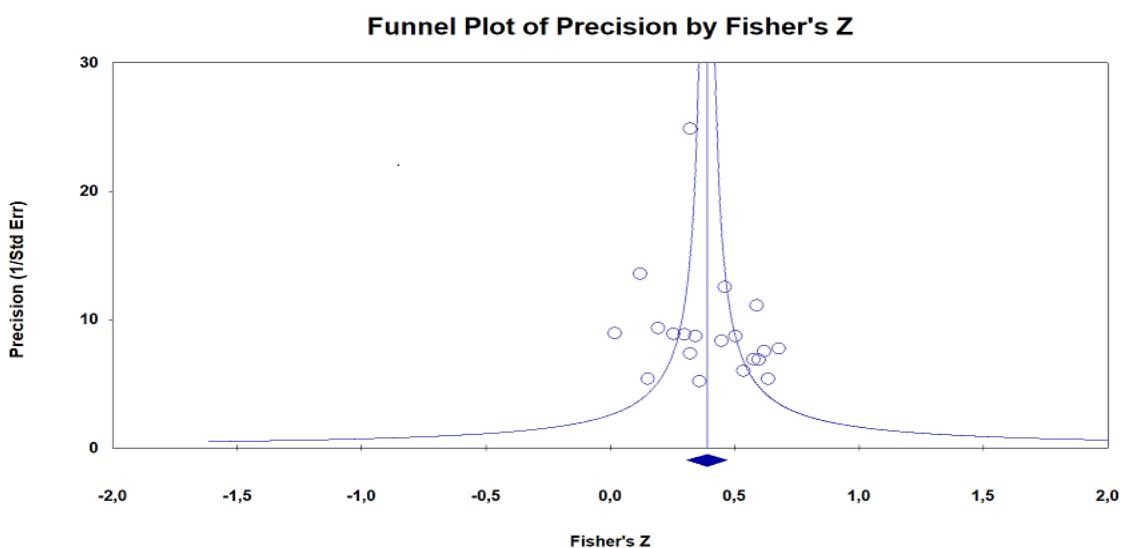
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 8 Funnel Plot of active coping (second order) and depressive



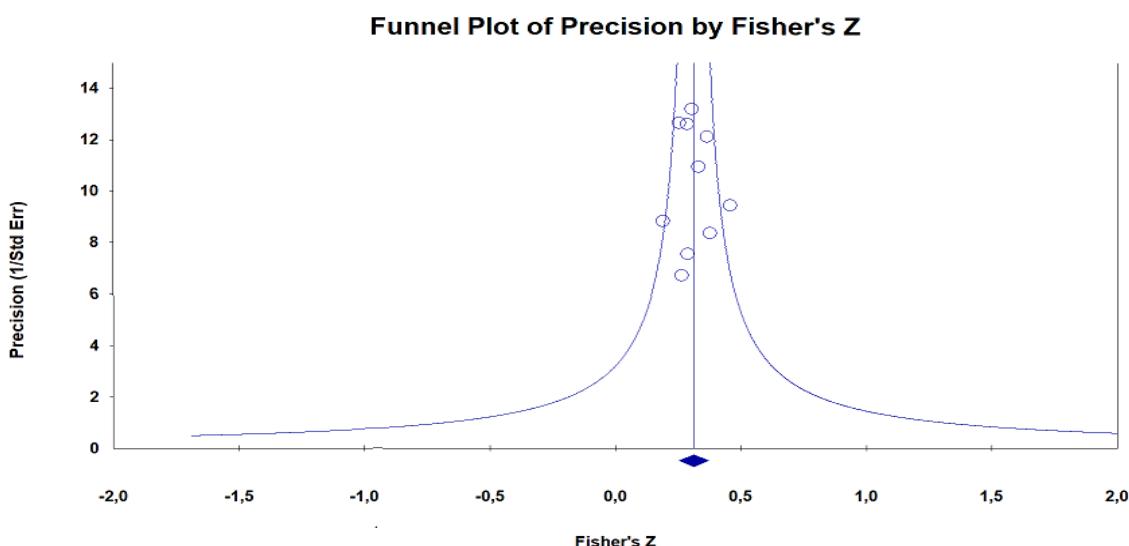
APPENDIX D – FIGURE 9 Funnel Plot of social support seeking and depressive



APPENDIX D – FIGURE 10 Funnel Plot of dysfunctional coping and depressive



APPENDIX D – FIGURE 11 Funnel Plot of avoidance and depressive symptoms



APPENDIX D – FIGURE 12 Funnel Plot of denial and depressive symptoms

