Favours [experimental] Favours [control]

SMD in full extension									
	DLE				on-DLE			Mean Difference	Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Fixed, 95% CI	IV, Fixed, 95% CI
2.10.1 A									
Jin 2016	15.97	1.83	35	17.07	1.7	158	8.9%	-1.10 [-1.76, -0.44]	
Li 2017	16.06	1.21	35	18.01	1.47	55	12.5%	-1.95 [-2.51, -1.39]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			70			213	21.4%	-1.60 [-2.02, -1.17]	•
Heterogeneity: Chi² = 3.70, df = 1 (P = 0.05); i² = 73%									
Test for overall effect: Z = 7.33 (P < 0.00001)									
2.10.3 C									
Chen 2019	15.89	1.25	63	17.94	1.51	121	23.3%	-2.05 [-2.46, -1.64]	
Liu 2021	14.33	0.9	52	16.28	0.69	98	49.7%	-1.95 [-2.23, -1.67]	*
Subtotal (95% CI)			115			219	73.0%	-1.98 [-2.21, -1.75]	◆
Heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.16, df = 1 (P = 0.69); l² = 0%									
Test for overall effect: Z = 16.80 (P < 0.00001)									
2.10.4 D									
Huang 2016	15.2	1.8	6	16.1	1.9	52	1.7%	-0.90 [-2.43, 0.63]	
Liu 2022	12.88	2.1		14.09		73		-1.21 [-2.21, -0.21]	
Subtotal (95% CI)			28			125		-1.12 [-1.96, -0.28]	
Heterogeneity: $Chi^2 = 0.11$, $df = 1$ ($P = 0.74$); $I^2 = 0\%$									
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.61 (P = 0.009)									
Total (95% CI)			213			557	100.0%	-1.85 [-2.05, -1.65]	•

Supplementary Fig. 12. Forest plot illustrating the differences of sternomental distance (SMD) in full extension between four subgroups. DLE, difficult laryngeal exposure; SD, standard deviation; IV, inverse variance; CI, confidence interval.

Heterogeneity: $Chi^2 = 9.51$, df = 5 (P = 0.09); $I^2 = 47\%$ Test for overall effect: Z = 18.36 (P < 0.00001)

Test for subgroup differences: $Chi^2 = 5.54$, df = 2 (P = 0.06), $I^2 = 63.9\%$