### Supplementary Table 1. Features of studies included in the meta-analysis of plasma folate and breast cancer risk.

| author                     | country     | study type    | Follow-up period (year) | Age (year) | Number of cases/controls/persons | Plasma folate (ng/mL) | Adjusted OR (95% CI) | Adjustment factors                                                                 |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Serena C. Houghton, 2019   | US          | Case-control  | 4.75                    | 32-53      | 610/1207                         | ≥23.7 VS <10.2        | 1.18 (0.84-1.66)     | matching factors, age at menarche, parity/age at first birth, history of breast cancer in mother or a sister, history of benign breast disease, height, body mass index at age 18, weight change since 18, and alcohol intake, age at menarche, parity/age at first birth, history of breast cancer in mother or a sister, history of benign breast disease, height, body mass index at age 18, weight change since 18, and alcohol intake, age at menarche, parity/age at first birth, history of breast cancer in mother or a sister, history of benign breast disease, height, body mass index at age 18, weight change since 18, and alcohol intake. |
| Serena C. Houghton, 2019   | US          | Case-control  | 1990-2006               | 30-55      | 2241/2241                        | ≥15.6 VS <4.7         | 0.95 (0.77-1.17)     | age at menarche, parity/age at first birth, history of breast cancer in mother or a sister, history of benign breast disease, height, body mass index at age 18, weight change from age 18, and alcohol intake, age at menarche, parity/age at first birth, history of breast cancer in mother or a sister, history of benign breast disease, height, body mass index at age 18, weight change from age 18, and alcohol intake at blood collection in 1990. |
| Matejcic, M. 2017          | Europe      | Case-control   | 1992-2010               | 35-70      | 2491/2521                        | >19.80 VS <9.82       | 0.94 (0.79-1.13)     | date at blood collection, education, BMI, height, physical activity, ever use of hormone replacement therapy, alcohol intake, parity and age at first full-term birth combined, total energy intake and family history of breast cancer. |
| Agnoli, C. 2016            | Italy       | Case-control   | 14.9                    | 35-65      | 276/276                          | 8.600-15.35 VS 2.609-5.968 | 0.74 (0.45-1.23)     | age, menopausal status, recruitment date, and distance between ORDET and EPIC recruitment, family history of breast cancer, age at menarche, parity, oral contraceptive use, smoking status, education, alcohol consumption, and BMI. |
| Gideon Rukundo, 2014       | Uganda      | Case-control   | 2012.1-2012.5           | >18        | 72/73                            | normal VS low         | 1.4 (0.7-2.9)        | age, blood-sampling date, weight, height, menopausal hormone therapy, age at menopause category, parity, household work category, socioeconomic status, smoking, total energy intake, and alcohol intake category. |
| Ericson, U. C. 2009        | Sweden      | Case-control   | 1996-2004               | 55-73      | 313/626                          | 17 VS 6               | 1.20 (0.84-1.70)     | matching variables, age, randomized treatment assignment, BMI, family history of breast cancer in a |
| Lin, J. 2008               | US          | Case-control   | 1993-2004               | ≥45        | 848/848                          | ≥15.8 VS ≤5.1         | 1.42 (1.00-2.02)     | matching variables, age, randomized treatment assignment, BMI, family history of breast cancer in a |
| Study                  | Location | Study Type | Study Period | Case-Control | Age Range | Cases/Controls | OR (95% CI) |
|-----------------------|----------|------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| Chou, Y. C. 2006      | Taiwan   | Case-control | 2004.1-2004.12 | 20-80        | 146/285   | >14.42 VS <8.16 | 0.52 (0.26-1.05) |
| Beilby, J. 2004       | Australia | Case-control | 1992-1994    | 30-84        | 141/109   | >9.0 VS <5.0   | 0.23 (0.09-0.54) |
| Zhang, S. M. 2003     | America  | Case-control | 1989-1996    | 43-69        | 712/712   | >14 VS <4.6    | 0.73 (0.50-1.07) |
| Essén, A. 2019        | Sweden   | Cohort      | 14           | >20          | 795/19775 | >32 VS <5      | 1.12 (0.85-1.48) |
| Kim, S. J. 2016       | Canada   | Cohort      | 6.3          | 18-70        | 20/164    | >24.4 VS ≤24.4 | 3.20 (1.03-9.92) |

Abbreviations: OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval; BMI, body mass index; BRCA, breast cancer; EPIC: European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition; SES: socioeconomic status; CCI: platelet count increase index.