

Attachment 1

Rating of the included study: PRKI et al. (2020)

7 of 10 possible stars

Wells GA, Shea B, O'Connell D, Peterson J, Welch V, Losos M, Tugwell P. The Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (NOS) for assessing the quality if nonrandomized studies in meta-analyses, 2012. Available from: http://www.ohrica/programs/clinical_epidemiology/oxfordasp.

COHORT STUDIES

Note: A study can be awarded a maximum of one star for each numbered item within the Selection and Outcome categories. A maximum of two stars can be given for Comparability

Selection

1) Representativeness of the exposed cohort

- a) truly representative of the average _____ (describe) in the community
- b) somewhat representative of the average _____ in the community *
- c) selected group of users eg nurses, volunteers
- d) no description of the derivation of the cohort

2) Selection of the non exposed cohort

- a) drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort *
- b) drawn from a different source
- c) no description of the derivation of the non exposed cohort

3) Ascertainment of exposure

- a) secure record (eg surgical records) *
- b) structured interview *
- c) written self report
- d) no description

4) Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study

- a) yes
- b) no x

Comparability (no adjustment)

1) Comparability of cohorts on the basis of the design or analysis

a) study controls for _____ (select the most important factor)

b) study controls for any additional factor (This criteria could be modified to indicate specific control for a second important factor.)

Outcome

1) Assessment of outcome

a) independent blind assessment

b) record linkage *

c) self report

d) no description

2) Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur

a) yes (select an adequate follow up period for outcome of interest) *

b) no

3) Adequacy of follow up of cohorts

a) complete follow up - all subjects accounted for *

b) subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias - small number lost - > ____ % (select an adequate %) follow up, or description provided of those lost)

c) follow up rate < ____ % (select an adequate %) and no description of those lost

d) no statement