

MOOSE (Meta-analyses Of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) Checklist

A reporting checklist for Authors, Editors, and Reviewers of Meta-analyses of Observational Studies. You must report the page number in your manuscript where you consider each of the items listed in this checklist. If you have not included this information, either revise your manuscript accordingly before submitting or note N/A.

Reporting Criteria	Reported (Yes/No)	Reported on Page No.
Reporting of Background	Yes	2,3
Problem definition	Yes	4
Hypothesis statement	No	NA
Description of Study Outcome(s)	Yes	5
Type of exposure or intervention used	Yes	4
Type of study design used	Yes	
Study population		
Reporting of Search Strategy	Yes	3
Qualifications of searchers (eg, librarians and investigators)	Yes	3
Search strategy, including time period included in the synthesis and keywords	Yes	3,4
Effort to include all available studies, including contact with authors	Yes	3
Databases and registries searched	Yes	
Search software used, name and version, including special features used (eg, explosion)	Yes	3
Use of hand searching (eg, reference lists of obtained articles)	Yes	3
List of citations located and those excluded, including justification	Yes	Figure 1
Method for addressing articles published in languages other than English	Yes	4
Method of handling abstracts and unpublished studies	Yes	3,4
Description of any contact with authors	Yes	3
Reporting of Methods	Yes	
Description of relevance or appropriateness of studies assembled for assessing the hypothesis to be tested	Yes	3,4
Rationale for the selection and coding of data (eg, sound clinical principles or convenience)	Yes	4
Documentation of how data were classified and coded (eg, multiple raters, blinding, and interrater reliability)	Yes	4
Assessment of confounding (eg, comparability of cases and controls in studies where appropriate)	Yes	4
	Yes	5

Reporting Criteria	Reported (Yes/No)	Reported on Page No.
Assessment of study quality, including blinding of quality assessors; stratification or regression on possible predictors of study results	Yes	5
Assessment of heterogeneity		
Description of statistical methods (eg, complete description of fixed or random effects models, justification of whether the chosen models account for predictors of study results, dose-response models, or cumulative meta-analysis) in sufficient detail to be replicated	Yes	5
Provision of appropriate tables and graphics		
Reporting of Results		
Table giving descriptive information for each study included	Yes	Table 1 & 2
Results of sensitivity testing (eg, subgroup analysis)	Yes	10,11
Indication of statistical uncertainty of findings	Yes	10,11
Reporting of Discussion		
Quantitative assessment of bias (eg, publication bias)	Yes	NA
Justification for exclusion (eg, exclusion of non-English-language citations)	Yes	NA
Assessment of quality of included studies	Yes	4
Reporting of Conclusions		
Consideration of alternative explanations for observed results	Yes	14
Generalization of the conclusions (ie, appropriate for the data presented and within the domain of the literature review)	Yes	13,14
Guidelines for future research		
Disclosure of funding source	Yes	15
	Yes	Title page

Once you have completed this checklist, please save a copy and upload it as part of your submission. DO NOT include this checklist as part of the main manuscript document. It must be uploaded as a separate file.