

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		
Problem definition	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="3"/>
Hypothesis statement	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
Description of Study Outcome(s)	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
Type of exposure or intervention used	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Type of study design used	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Study population	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="4"/>
Reporting of Search Strategy		
Qualifications of searchers (eg, librarians and investigators)	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>
Search strategy, including time period included in the synthesis and keywords	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5-6"/>
Effort to include all available studies, including contact with authors	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5-6"/>
Databases and registries searched	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Search software used, name and version, including special features used (eg, explosion)	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5-6"/>
Use of hand searching (eg, reference lists of obtained articles)	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5-6"/>
List of citations located and those excluded, including justification	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="5-6"/>
Method for addressing articles published in languages other than English	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>
Method of handling abstracts and unpublished studies	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>
Description of any contact with authors	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="6-7"/>
Reporting of Methods		
Description of relevance or appropriateness of studies assembled for assessing the hypothesis to be tested	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="6-7"/>
Rationale for the selection and coding of data (eg, sound clinical principles or convenience)	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="6-7"/>
Documentation of how data were classified and coded (eg, multiple raters, blinding, and interrater reliability)	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="7-8"/>
Assessment of confounding (eg, comparability of cases and controls in studies where appropriate)	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="7-8"/>

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	6-7
Assessment of heterogeneity	Yes	8
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	8-9
Provision of appropriate tables and graphics	Yes	14
Reporting of Results		
Table giving descriptive information for each study included	No	
Results of sensitivity testing (eg, subgroup analysis)	No	
Indication of statistical uncertainty of findings	No	
Reporting of Discussion		
Quantitative assessment of bias (eg, publication bias)	No	
Justification for exclusion (eg, exclusion of non-English-language citations)	No	
Assessment of quality of included studies	No	
Reporting of Conclusions		
Consideration of alternative explanations for observed results	No	
Generalization of the conclusions (ie, appropriate for the data presented and within the domain of the literature review)	No	
Guidelines for future research	No	
Disclosure of funding source	Yes	10

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.