

MOOSE reporting checklist for meta-analyses of observational studies.

Reporting section and item		Reported on page
Reporting of background		
1	Problem definition	5-6
2	Hypothesis statement	6-7
3	Description of study outcome(s)	7
4	Type of exposure or intervention used	7
5	Type of study designs used	7
6	Study population	7
Reporting of search strategy		
1	Qualifications of searchers (eg, librarians and investigators)	7-8
2	Search strategy, including time period included in the synthesis and keywords	7-8, Supplementary Text
3	Effort to include all available studies, including contact with authors	8
4	Databases and registries searched	7
5	Search software used, name and version, including special features used (eg, explosion)	7
6	Use of hand searching (eg, reference lists of obtained articles)	7-8
7	List of citations located and those excluded, including justification	Figure 1
8	Method of addressing articles published in languages other than in English	8
9	Method of handing abstracts and unpublished studies	8
10	Description of any contact with authors	8-9
Reporting of methods		
1	Description of relevance or appropriateness of studies assembled for assessing the hypothesis to be tested	8-9
2	Rationale for the selection and coding of data (eg, sound clinical principles or convenience)	8-9
3	Documentation of how data were classified and coded (eg, multiple raters, binding, and interrater reliability)	9-12, Supplementary material
4	Assessment of confounding (eg, comparability of cases and controls in studies where appropriate)	9-10, Supplementary material
5	Assessment of study quality, including binding of quality assessors; stratification or regression on possible predictors of study results	9-10, Supplementary material
6	Assessment of heterogeneity	10
7	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-analyses) in sufficient detail to be replicated	10-12
8	Provision of appropriate tables and graphics	Figure 1, Supplementary material

Reporting of results		
1	Graphic summarizing individual study estimates and overall estimate	Figure 2, 4-5
2	Table giving descriptive information for each study included	Table 1, Supplemental material
3	Results of sensitivity testing (eg, subgroup analysis)	16-19, Supplemental material
4	Indication of statistical uncertainty of findings	16-19, Supplemental material
Reporting of discussion		
1	Quantitative assessment of bias (eg, publication bias)	20-22, Figure 3
2	Justification for exclusion (eg, exclusion for non-English-language citations)	20-24
3	Assessment of quality of included studies	20-22, Supplemental material
Reporting of conclusion		
1	Consideration of alternative explanations for observed results	24-25
2	Generalization of the conclusions (ie, appropriate for the data presented and within the domain of the literature review)	24-25
3	Guideline for future research	24-25
4	Disclosure of funding source	26