

Supplementary Table S1. Quality assessment of studies addressing the association between body mass index and cervical cancer risk

Quality assessment											
Studies	Design ^a	Limitation ^b	Consistency ^c	Directness ^d	Precision ^e	Reporting bias ^f	Strength ^g	Gradient ^h	Confounding ⁱ	Quality ^j	Sample size
Freeman 2001	Cohort	0	0	0	0	0	+1	+1	0	Moderate	375
Whiteman 2003	Case-control	0	0	0	0	0	0	+1	0	Moderate	1060
Gallicchio 2006	Case-control	0	0	0	0	0	0	+1	0	Moderate	611
Miller 2006	Case-control	0	0	0	0	0	0	+1	+1	Moderate	609
Schilling 2007	Case-control	0	0	0	0	0	+1	+1	0	Moderate	628
Tan 2014	Cross-sectional	-1	0	0	0	0	0	+1	+1	Low	305
Gallicchio 2015	Cohort	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	Low	731

^a Refers to the basic study design, which we have broadly categorized as randomized trials (high), observational (cohort/case-control) studies (low), and other evidence (very low)

^b Refers to the detailed study methods and execution [serious (-1) or very serious (-2) limitation]

^c Refers to the similarity of estimates of effect across studies [important inconsistency (-1)]

^d Refers to the extent to which the 'people', 'interventions', and 'outcome' measures are similar to those of interest [some (-1) or major (-2) uncertainty about directness]

^e Refers to if sample size <2000 & confidence interval includes 1.0 =-1, otherwise =0]

^f Refers to the high risk of reporting bias (-1)

^g Refers to the strong (RR >2 or <0.5) (+1) or very strong (RR >5 or <0.2) (+2) evidence of association with no plausible confounders

^h Refers to the evidence of a dose response gradient (+1)

ⁱ Refers to all plausible confounders would have reduced the effect (+1)

^j Quality: high: if having no negative score with all positive scores; moderate: if having no negative score with at least one positive score; low: if otherwise