Supplemental Table II.   Quality assessment score

Characteristic		Points
Design		
Study design	Prospective	3
	Retrospective from prospective database	2
	Retrospective	1
	Case control	0
Selection		
Representativeness of the exposed cohort	Representative of the average ischemic stroke population	1
	Selected group of the ischemic stroke population	0
Selection of the non-exposed cohort	Drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort	1
	Drawn from a different source	0
Ascertainment of exposure	Secure record or structured interview	1
	Self-report or no description	0
Outcome was not present at study start	Yes	1
	No	0
Comparability		
Univariable analysis	Both crude data and estimates* with 95% CI were provided	2
	Crude data or estimates* with 95% CI were provided	1
	No crude data or estimates* were provided	0
Multivariable analysis and confounding	Contained important potential confounders and rule of ten events per variable was respected	2
	Contained important potential confounders or rule of ten events per variable was respected	1
	Did not contain important potential confounders and rule of ten events per variable was not respected	0
Outcome		
Outcome definition	Recurrent ischemic stroke was defined	1
	Unclearly defined or other definition than recurrent ischemic stroke	0
Assessment of outcome	Independent blind assessment or record linkage	1
	Self-report or no description	0
Adequate follow-up duration (≥90 days)	Yes	1
	No	0
Adequacy of follow-up of cohorts	≤10% or description of those lost	1
	>10% or no description of those lost	0
Maximum score		**15**

*estimates include risk ratios, odds ratios or hazard ratios