

NEWCASTLE-OTTAWA QUALITY ASSESSMENT SCALE

COHORT STUDIES

(http://www.ohri.ca/programs/clinical_epidemiology/oxford.asp)

	Selection	Comparability	Outcome
Ben-Shoshan <i>et al</i> (18)	****		*
Rogers <i>et al</i> (8)	****		*
Eitan <i>et al</i> (17)	****		*
Finkelstein <i>et al</i> (20)	****	*	**
Enriquez-Rodriguez <i>et al</i> (19)	****	*	*

For the citation of references, please refer to the main text.

Selection

- 1) Representativeness of the exposed cohort
 - a) Truly representative of the average _____ (describe) in the community *
 - b) Somewhat representative of the average _____ in the community *
 - c) Selected group of users e.g. nurses, volunteers
 - d) No description of the derivation of the cohort
- 2) Selection of the non exposed cohort
 - a) Drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort *
 - b) Drawn from a different source
 - c) No description of the derivation of the non exposed cohort
- 3) Ascertainment of exposure
 - a) Secure record (e.g. surgical records) *
 - b) Structured interview *
 - c) Written self report
 - d) No description

- 4) Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study
 - a) Yes *
 - b) No

Comparability

- 1) Comparability of cohorts on the basis of the design or analysis
 - a) Study controls for _____ (select the most important factor) *
 - b) Study controls for any additional factor * (This criteria could be modified to indicate specific control for a second important factor.)

Outcome

- 1) Assessment of outcome
 - a) Independent blind assessment *
 - b) Record linkage *
 - c) Self report
 - d) No description
- 2) Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur
 - a) Yes (select an adequate follow up period for outcome of interest) *
 - b) No
- 3) Adequacy of follow up of cohorts
 - a) Complete follow up-all subjects accounted for *
 - b) Subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias-small number lost -> ___% (select an adequate %) follow up, or description provided of those lost) *
 - c) Follow up rate < ___% (select an adequate %) and no description of those lost
 - d) No statement