

eTable 3. Quality assessment of selected articles

Author	Introduction				Methods					Results						Discussion			Other	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Wang WL	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Xiao F	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Young BE	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Cai JH	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	N	N	NM
Pan XF	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	NM	NM	N	NM
Kujawski SA	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	NM
Deng LS	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Guan WJ	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NM
Ling Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	N	NM	NM
Xie CB	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	N	N	N	Y
Zhang JC	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	NM
Shi SR	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	Y	N	NM
Chen Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	N	NM	NM
Wu BS	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NM
Tang A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	N	NM	NM
Li BL	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NM
Zou JB	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	NM	Y	Y	N	N	NM

Y, Yes; N, Not; NM, not mentioned.

According to quality of cross-sectional studies (AXIS) scale (Downes MJ, Brennan ML, Williams HC, Dean RS. Development of a critical appraisal tool to assess the quality of cross-sectional studies (AXIS). *BMJ open* 2016; **6**(12): e011458.):

Introduction

1. Were the aims/objectives of the study clear?

Methods

2. Was the study design appropriate for the stated aim(s)?
3. Was the sample size justified?
4. Was the target/reference population clearly defined? (Is it clear who the research was about?)
5. Was the sample frame taken from an appropriate population base so that it closely represented the target/reference population under investigation?
6. Was the selection process likely to select subjects/participants that were representative of the target/reference population under investigation?
7. Were measures undertaken to address and categorise non-responders?
8. Were the risk factor and outcome variables measured appropriate to the aims of the study?
9. Were the risk factor and outcome variables measured correctly using instruments/measurements that had been trialled, piloted or published previously?
10. Is it clear what was used to determine statistical significance and/or precision estimates? (eg, p values, CIs)
11. Were the methods (including statistical methods) sufficiently described to enable them to be repeated?

Results

12. Were the basic data adequately described?
13. Does the response rate raise concerns about non-response bias?
14. If appropriate, was information about non-responders described?
15. Were the results internally consistent?
16. Were the results for the analyses described in the methods, presented?

Discussion

17. Were the authors' discussions and conclusions justified by the results?
18. Were the limitations of the study discussed?

Other

19. Were there any funding sources or conflicts of interest that may affect the authors' interpretation of the results?
20. Was ethical approval or consent of participants attained?