	NEWCASTLE - OTTAWA QUALITY ASSESSMENT SCALE	**NEWCASTLE - OTTAWA QUALITY ASSESSMENT SCALE** (Modified version)
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	Truly / Somewhat describes a stroke population with dementia Selected group described (may not represent exclusively stroke population with dementia) No description
	3) Ascertainment of exposure a) secure record (e.g. surgical records) ∗ b) structured interview ∗ c) written self-report d) no description	Clinical diagnosis of stroke and dementia +/- inv. / Interview with subsequent validation Case Report / Structured interview (with no validation by clinician) Written / Self-reported / No description
	4) Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study a) yes ∗ b) no	Post-Stroke Dementia clearly defined Post stroke dementia mixed with pre-stroke dementia (no description to separate them) No proper description of cohort
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	Description of Age + Sex + Vascular Risk Factor + Additional Factors Description of Age + Sex + (at least 1) Vascular Risk Factor

	important factor.)	Age / Sex / Age+Sex / No description
Outcome	1) <u>Assessment of outcome</u> a) independent blind assessment * b) record linkage * c) self-report d) no description	Clinical Diagnosis
		Neuro-psychological battery (test only with no clinical assessment)
		Self reported / No description
	2) <u>Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur</u> a) yes (select an adequate follow up period for outcome of interest) * b) no	1 year or more
		3 months - 1 year
		Less than 3 months
	3) <u>Adequacy of follow up of cohorts</u> 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	Complete / >90% accounted)
		Numbers lost > 90% with no description
		No description of loss or completeness
<u>Note</u>: A study can be awarded a maximum of one star for each numbered item within the Selection and Outcome categories. A maximum of two stars can be given for Comparability		