Appendix S3. Items for risk of bias assessment

| Hoy et al. tool for cross sectional studies                        | Yes (1)/No (0) |
|--|----------------|
| External validity  |                |
| 1. Was the study's target population a close representation of the | 1              |
| national population in relation to occult hepatitis B virus        |                |
| prevalence or case fatality rate?                                  |                |
| 2. Was the sampling frame a true or close representation of the    | 1              |
| population?  |                |
| 3. Was some form of random selection used to select the sample,    | 1              |
| OR was a census undertaken?  |                |
| 4. Was the likelihood of non-response bias minimal?                | 1              |
| Internal validity  |                |
| 5. Were data collected directly from the subjects (as opposed to a | 1              |
| proxy)?  |                |
| 6. Was an acceptable case definition used in the study?            | 1              |
| 7. Was the study viral detection assay shown to have validity and  | 1              |
| reliability?   |                |
| 8. Was the same mode type of sample collected for all subjects?    | 1              |
| 9. Was the length of the length of the study period > 1 year?      | 1              |
| 10. Were the numerator(s) and denominator(s) for the prevalence    | 1              |
| or case fatality rate of occult hepatitis B virus appropriate?     |                |
| Total score  | 10             |
| Interpretation of the risk of bias tool                            |                |
|  |                |
| • 7-10: Low risk of bias   |                |
| • 4-6: Moderate risk of bias                                       |                |
| • 0-3: High risk of bias   |                |