

Table III - Quality assessment tool for observational cohort and cross-sectional studies

References	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5	Item 6	Item 7	Item 8	Item 9	Item 10	Item 11	Item 12	Item 13	Item 14	Scores
Fothergill e Sims (2010) [7]	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	NA	NA	No	6/14
Gasier <i>et al</i> (2016) [5]	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	NA	NA	No	7/14
Gregg <i>et al</i> (2012) [6]	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No	No	No	NA	NA	NA	Yes	NA	NA	Yes	5/14
Kang e Song (2018) [1]	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No	No	No	NA	NA	NA	Yes	NA	NA	Yes	5/14
Luria <i>et al</i> (2010) [14]	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	NA	NA	No	6/14

Item 1 = Was the research question or objective in this paper clearly stated?; Item 2 = Was the study population specified and defined?; Item 3 = Was the participation rate of eligible persons at least 50%?; Item 4 = Were all the subjects selected or recruited from the same or similar populations (including the same period)? Were inclusion and exclusion criteria for being in the study prespecified and applied uniformly to all participants?; Item 5 = Was a sample size justification, power description, or variance and effect estimates provided?; Item 6 = For the analyses in this paper, were the exposure(s) of interest measured before the outcome(s) were measured?; Item 7 = Was the timeframe sufficient so that one could reasonably expect to see an association between exposure and outcome if it existed?; Item 8 = For exposures that can vary in amount or level, did the study examine different levels of the exposure as related to the outcome (e.g., categories of exposure or exposure measured as a continuous variable)?; Item 9 = Were the exposure measures (independent variables) clearly defined, valid, reliable, and implemented consistently across all study participants?; Item 10 = Was the exposure(s) assessed more than once over time?; Item 11 = Were the outcome measures (dependent variables) clearly defined, valid, reliable, and implemented consistently across all study participants?; Item 12 = Were the outcome assessors blinded to the exposure status of participants?; Item 13 = Was loss to follow-up after baseline 20% or less?; Item 14 = Were key potential confounding variables measured and adjusted statistically for their impact on the relationship between exposure(s) and outcome(s)?; NA = Not applicable; NR = Not reported