**APPENDIX**

**NIH Quality Assessment for Cohort and Cross-sectional Studies**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Research question was clearly stated | Clearly specified study population | The participation rate of eligible persons was at least 50% | The subjects were selected or recruited from the same or similar populations (including the same time period). Inclusion and exclusion criteria for being in the study was applied uniformly to all participants | Provided a sample size justification, power description, or variance and effect estimates | The exposure(s) of interest was measured prior to the outcome(s) being measured | The timeframe was sufficient so that one could reasonably expect to see an association between exposure and outcome | Examined different levels of the exposure as related to the outcome | The exposure measures were clearly defined, valid, reliable, and implemented consistently across all study participants | The exposure(s) was assessed more than once | The outcome measures were clearly defined, valid, reliable, and implemented consistently across all study participants | The outcome assessors were blinded to the exposure status of participants | Loss to follow-up after baseline was 20% or less | Key potential confounding variables were measured and adjusted statistically for their impact on the relationship between exposure(s) and outcome(s) | TOTAL |
| Haim Shmilovich, et,al. (USA, 2012) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | V | V | X | V | V | V | V | 10 |
| Xing Li Wu, et.al. (China, 2014) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | V | V | X | V | V | V | V | 10 |
| ﻿Mahdi Montazeri, et.al. (Iran, 2014) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | V | X | V | X | 7 |
| ﻿Mahdi Montazeri, et.al. (Iran, 2014) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | V | X | V | X | 7 |
| Mette Christoffersen, et.al. (Denmark, 2014) | V | V | V | V | X | V | V | X | V | X | V | V | V | V | 11 |
| Xuwei Hou, et.al. (China, 2015) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | V | V | X | V | X | V | V | 9 |
| Claudia Rodríguez-López, et.al. (Spain, 2015) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | V | V | V | V | 9 |
| Yong Wang, et.al. (China, 2016) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | V | V | X | V | V | V | V | 10 |
| ﻿S. Viveka, et.al. (India, 2016) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | V | X | V | X | 7 |
| ﻿Amit Kumar (India, 2016) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | V | V | X | V | X | V | X | 8 |
| Marta Aligisakis, et.al. (Swiss, 2016) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | V | X | V | V | 8 |
| Minako Wakasugi, et.al. (Japan, 2017) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | V | V | V | V | 9 |
| Himmatrao Saluba Bawaskar, et.al. (India, 2018) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | X | X | V | X | 7 |
| ﻿Anil Kumar, et.al. (India, 2018) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | X | V | X | V | X | V | X | 7 |
| Vikas Mishra, et.al. (India, 2020) | V | V | V | V | V | X | X | V | V | X | V | X | V | X | 9 |
| ﻿Ehrlson De Sousa, et.al. (India, 2020) | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | V | V | X | V | X | V | X | 8 |
| Minako Wakasugi, et.al. (Japan, 2020) | V | V | V | V | V | V | V | X | X | X | V | V | V | V | 11 |

**NIH Quality Assessment for Case-control Studies**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | The research question or objective in this paper was clearly stated and appropriate | The study population was clearly specified and defined | The authors included a sample size justification | Controls were recruited from the same or similar population that gave rise to the cases (including the same timeframe) | The definitions, inclusion and exclusion criteria, algorithms or processes used to identify or select cases and controls were valid, reliable, and implemented consistently | The cases were clearly defined and differentiated from controls | If less than 100 percent of eligible cases and/or controls were selected for the study, the cases and/or controls were randomly selected from those eligible | There was use of concurrent controls | The investigators were able to confirm that the exposure/risk occurred prior to the development of the condition or event that defined a participant as a case | The measures of exposure/risk were clearly defined, valid, reliable, and implemented consistently (including the same time period) | The assessors of exposure/risk were blinded to the case or control | Key potential confounding variables were measured and adjusted statistically in the analyses | TOTAL |
| Lorna Kwai-Ping Suen, et.al. (Hong Kong, 2012) | V | V | X | X | V | V | Not Applicable (all cases and controls were eligible) | X | X | X | V | V | 6 |
| Rida Kamal, et.al. (Pakistan, 2017) | V | V | V | V | V | V | Not Applicable (all cases and controls were eligible) | X | X | X | X | X | 6 |
| Praveenkumar Ramdurg, et.al. (India, 2018) | V | V | X | X | X | X | Not Applicable (all cases and controls were eligible) | X | X | X | X | X | 4 |
| Rahul Kumar Sharma, et.al. (India, 2018) | V | V | X | V | V | V | Not Applicable (all cases and controls were eligible) | X | X | X | X | X | 5 |