

Checklist for the Appraisal of Epidemiologic Articles

(Leave items blank that do not apply.)

Title _____

Author _____ Journal _____ Vol. ____ Issue ____ Date _____

- | | |
|---|--|
| The study's main objective was conveyed plainly and rationally. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| The study population was clearly identified. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Case/cohort selection criteria were described and were adequate. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Exposures were adequately described. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Outcomes were adequately described. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Cases/cohorts were representative of the population (i.e., low risk of selection bias). | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Non-exposed cohorts or controls were drawn from the defined study population. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Controls were shown not have a history of the condition under investigation. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Cohorts were shown not have the outcome of interest at beginning of the study. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Groups were matched or confounders were adjusted for in the analysis. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| The study design was appropriate. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| There was an independent blind assessment of outcomes. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Follow-up of cohorts was long enough for the outcomes to occur. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| The study was completed by an acceptable number of subjects. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Demographic characteristics of the groups were presented. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| The data were reported with sufficient detail. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| The discussion corresponded to and was supported by the data. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Discussion statements were reasonable and logical. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Conclusions were in agreement with the study's predetermined purpose. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Study limitations were listed. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| References were acceptable. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Overall impression about the trustworthiness of this article: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good – Accept all or most of the article's findings. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fair – Cautiously accept <u>some</u> of its findings. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poor – Do not accept <u>any</u> of its findings. | |

Key points to consider: _____

If acceptable, how will I apply the results to my patient/practice? _____

