MOOSE (Meta-analyses of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) Checklist

Item No	Recommendation	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
Reporting of Background			
1	Problem definition	page3–4/l i ne69–120	introduction/paragraph 1-4
2	Hypothesis statement	page3–4/l i ne69–120	introduction/paragraph 1-4
3	Description of Study Outcome(s)	N/A	N/A
4	Type of exposure or intervention used	page4/l i ne120–127	introduction/paragraph 4
5	Type of study design used	page4/l i ne120–127	introduction/paragraph 4
6	Study population	page4/l i ne120–127	introduction/paragraph 4
Reporting of Search Strategy			
7	Qualifications of searchers (eg, librarians and investigators)	page5/l i ne160–163	met hods/par agr aph4
8	Search strategy, including time period included in the synthesis and keywords	page4–5/l i ne132–141	met hods/par agr aph1
9	Effort to include all available studies, including contact with authors	N/A	N/A
10	Databases and registries searched	page4-5/line132-141	methods/paragraph1
11	Search software used, name and version, including special features used (eg, explosion)	page4–5/l i ne132–141	met hods/par agr aph1
12	Use of hand searching (eg, reference lists of obtained articles)	page4–5/l i ne132–141	met hods/par agr aph1
13	List of citations located and those excluded, including justification	page5/l i ne145–156	met hods/par agr aph2–3
14	Method for addressing articles published in languages other than English	N/A	N/A
15	Method of handling abstracts and unpublished studies	N/A	N/A
16	Description of any contact with authors	N/A	N/A

Reporting of Methods

17	Description of relevance or appropriateness of studies assembled for assessing the hypothesis to be tested	page6/line166–182	methods/paragraph5–6
18	Rationale for the selection and coding of data (eg, sound clinical principles or convenience)	page6/line166–182	methods/paragraph5–6
19	Documentation of how data were classified and coded (eg, multiple raters, blinding, and interrater reliability)	page5/line160–163	methods/paragraph4
20	Assessment of confounding (eg, comparability of cases and controls in studies where appropriate)	page6/line166–182	methods/paragraph5–6
21	Assessment of study quality, including blinding of quality assessors; stratification or regression on possible predictors of study results	page6/line185–189	methods/paragraph7
22	Assessment of heterogeneity	page6–7/line198–203	methods/paragraph8
23	Description of statistical methods (eg, complete description of fixed or random effects models, justification of whether the chosen models account for predictors of study results, dose-response models, or cumulative meta-analysis) in sufficient detail to be replicated	page6–7/line193–207	methods/paragraph8
24	Provision of appropriate tables and graphics	page15–19/line454–484	resultes/figure, table

Reporting of Results

25	Graphic summarizing individual study estimates and overall estimate	page15/line454	results/figure1
26	Table giving descriptive information for each study included	page19/line484	results/table1
27	Results of sensitivity testing (eg, subgroup analysis)	N/A	N/A
28	Indication of statistical uncertainty of findings	page7–8/line212–260	results/paragraph1–4

Reporting of Discussion

29	Quantitative assessment of bias (eg, publication bias)	page8/line242–260	results/paragraph3–4
30	Justification for exclusion (eg, exclusion of non–English-language citations)	page7/line212–218	results/paragraph1
31	Assessment of quality of included studies	page7/line218	results/paragraph1/table1

Reporting of Conclusions

32	Consideration of alternative explanations for observed results	page9–10/line265–315	discussion/paragraph1–4
33	Generalization of the conclusions (ie, appropriate for the data presented and within the domain of the literature review)	page10/line319–330	conclusion/paragraph1
34	Guidelines for future research	page10/line319–330	conclusion/paragraph1
35	Disclosure of funding source	page11/line333	funding

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