

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

| Item No                             | Recommendation  | Reported on Page Number/Line Number | Reported on Section/Paragraph |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Reporting of Background</b>      |   |                                     |                               |
| 1                                   | Problem definition  | Page2-3/Line58-82                   | Introduction/Paragraph1       |
| 2                                   | Hypothesis statement  | Page2-3/Line58-82                   | Introduction/Paragraph1       |
| 3                                   | Description of Study Outcome(s)   | Page2-3/Line58-82                   | Introduction/Paragraph1       |
| 4                                   | Type of exposure or intervention used   | Page2-3/Line58-82                   | Introduction/Paragraph1       |
| 5                                   | Type of study design used   | Page2-3/Line58-82                   | Introduction/Paragraph1       |
| 6                                   | Study population  | Page2-3/Line58-82                   | Introduction/Paragraph1       |
| <b>Reporting of Search Strategy</b> |   |                                     |                               |
| 7                                   | Qualifications of searchers (eg, librarians and investigators)                          | Page3/Line86-100                    | Methods/Paragraph1            |
| 8                                   | Search strategy, including time period included in the synthesis and keywords           | Page3/Line86-100                    | Methods/Paragraph1            |
| 9                                   | Effort to include all available studies, including contact with authors                 | Page3/Line86-100                    | Methods/Paragraph1            |
| 10                                  | Databases and registries searched   | Page3/Line86-100                    | Methods/Paragraph1            |
| 11                                  | Search software used, name and version, including special features used (eg, explosion) | Page3/Line86-100                    | Methods/Paragraph1            |
| 12                                  | Use of hand searching (eg, reference lists of obtained articles)                        | Page3/Line86-100                    | Methods/Paragraph1            |
| 13                                  | List of citations located and those excluded, including justification                   | Page4/Line103-115                   | Methods/Paragraph2            |
| 14                                  | Method for addressing articles published in languages other than English                | Page4/Line103-115                   | Methods/Paragraph2            |
| 15                                  | Method of handling abstracts and unpublished studies                                    | Page4/Line103-115                   | Methods/Paragraph2            |
| 16                                  | Description of any contact with authors   | N/A                                 | N/A                           |

| <b>Reporting of Methods</b>     |  |                      |                         |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 17                              | Description of relevance or appropriateness of studies assembled for assessing the hypothesis to be tested   | Page4/Line118-129    | Methods/Paragraph3      |
| 18                              | Rationale for the selection and coding of data (eg, sound clinical principles or convenience)  | Page4/Line118-129    | Methods/Paragraph3      |
| 19                              | Documentation of how data were classified and coded (eg, multiple raters, blinding, and interrater reliability)  | Page4/Line118-129    | Methods/Paragraph3      |
| 20                              | Assessment of confounding (eg, comparability of cases and controls in studies where appropriate)   | Page4/Line118-129    | Methods/Paragraph3      |
| 21                              | Assessment of study quality, including blinding of quality assessors; stratification or regression on possible predictors of study results   | Page4/Line118-129    | Methods/Paragraph3      |
| 22                              | Assessment of heterogeneity  | Page4/Line118-129    | Methods/Paragraph3      |
| 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 | Page4-5/Line132-145  | Methods/Paragraph4      |
| 24                              | Provision of appropriate tables and graphics   | Page4-5/Line132-145  | Methods/Paragraph4      |
| <b>Reporting of Results</b>     |  |                      |                         |
| 25                              | Graphic summarizing individual study estimates and overall estimate  | Page5/Line150-165    | Results/Paragraph1-2    |
| 26                              | Table giving descriptive information for each study included   | Page5-6/Line168-204  | Results/Paragraph3-7    |
| 27                              | Results of sensitivity testing (eg, subgroup analysis)   | Page7/Line207-211    | Results/Paragraph8      |
| 28                              | Indication of statistical uncertainty of findings  | Page7/Line214-220    | Results/Paragraph9      |
| <b>Reporting of Discussion</b>  |  |                      |                         |
| 29                              | Quantitative assessment of bias (eg, publication bias)   | Page7-9/Line223-288  | Discussion/Paragraph1-4 |
| 30                              | Justification for exclusion (eg, exclusion of non-English-language citations)  | Page9-10/Line290-305 | Discussion/Paragraph5   |
| 31                              | Assessment of quality of included studies  | Page7-10/Line223-305 | Discussion/Paragraph1-5 |
| <b>Reporting of Conclusions</b> |  |                      |                         |
| 32                              | Consideration of alternative explanations for observed results   | Page10/Line308-315   | Conclusion/Paragraph1   |
| 33                              | Generalization of the conclusions (ie, appropriate for the data presented and within the domain of the literature review)  | Page10/Line308-315   | Conclusion/Paragraph1   |
| 34                              | Guidelines for future research   | Page10/Line308-315   | Conclusion/Paragraph1   |
| 35                              | Disclosure of funding source   | N/A                  | N/A                     |

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\*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copyediting and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.