

Newcastle Ottawa Scale -Cohort Studies

1. Is this a Cohort study?

Yes (continue)

No (STOP) (specify type of study)

2. Representativeness of the exposed cohort

Truly representative of the average in the community* (please describe the average cohort)

Somewhat representative of the average in the community* (please describe the average cohort)

Selected group of users eg. nurses, volunteers

No description of the derivation of the cohort

3. Selection of the non-exposed cohort

Drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort*

Drawn from a different source

No description of the derivation of the non-exposed cohort

4. Ascertainment of exposure

Secure record (eg. surgical records)*

Structured interview*

Written self-report

No description

5. Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study

Yes*

No

6. Comparability of cohorts on the basis of the design or analysis

Study controls for (select the most important factor)*:

Study controls for any additional factor* (This criteria could be modified to indicate specific control for a second important factor.)

No relevant adjustments for confounding

7. Assessment of outcome

Independent blind assessment*

Record linkage*

Self report

No description

8. Was follow up long enough for outcomes to occur

Yes (select an adequate follow up period for outcome of interest)*

No

9. Adequacy of follow up of cohorts

Complete follow up- all subjects accounted for*

Subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias (small number lost) (report an adequate %)*

Follow up rate and no description of those lost (report an adequate %)

No statement

10. Were potential confounders measured and adequately addressed in the analysis?

Yes

No

Unclear

11. Was the statistical analysis described?

Yes

No

Unclear

12. Did the authors mention missing data in manuscript?

Yes

No