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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Author, year** | **Main outcomes / Patient characteristics / Interventions described** | **Distribution of confounders described** | **Study groups from same population** | **Losses to followup accounted for** | **Adequate adjustment for confounding** | **Overall study quality\*** | **Pharmaceutical support / Company involvement in design, conduct or reporting** |
| Alemzadeh, 2002200 | Yes / Yes / Yes | No | UTD | UTD | No | Poor | No / NA |
| Levine, 2002198 | Yes / Yes / Yes | Yes | Yes | UTD | Yes | Fair | No / NA |
| Saha, 1998197 | Yes / Yes / Yes | No | Yes | UTD | UTD | Poor | No / NA |
| Thayu, 2010199 | Yes / Yes / UTD | Yes | UTD | Yes | Yes | Fair | No / NA |

Abbreviations: NA = not applicable; UTD = unable to determine  
\*Overall study quality: Good indicates all "YES" responses in reporting, selection bias, and confounding domains of questionnaire. Fair indicates mostly "YES" for Reporting and all "YES" for Selection Bias and Confounding bias. Poor indicates at least 1 "NO" or "Unable to determine" for selection or confounding bias.