

Online supplementary material appendix 3:

Modified Downs and Black quality assessment tool

		Report	Babi et al. (2018)		
			Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed
Reporting					
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		0		
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0		
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		N/A	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		0		
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		0		

12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			N/A
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>			0	Assumption of normality
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE				8/15	

		Report	Buckler & Higgins (2000)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		0		
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		0		
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0		
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>		0		
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		0		
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		N/A – Did not finish the race	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1			
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>			0	
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>			0	Aim – methods - results
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			N/A
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>			0	
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		5/15			

		Report	Costa et al. (2016)			
Reporting			Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>		1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>		1			
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?			0	Both significant and non-significant	
External validity			Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>			0		
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>				0	

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		11/15			

		Report	Dawadi et al. (2020)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0		
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1		N/A for descriptive/nominal data	
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		N/A	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		0		
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>	1			
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>	1			

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			N/A
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			N/A
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		12/15			

		Report	Garcia-Malinis et al. (2020)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0	Participants from race – do not describe eligibility criteria	
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		N/A** Check how the N/A will be considered (i.e., lower total score, or as “1”)	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1			
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		0		Not clear if they invited all participants from race.
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>		0		

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			N/A*
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>		0		
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		10/15			

		Report	Gonzales-Lazaro et al. (2021)			
Reporting			Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>			0	Third reviewer: WvM. Unclear description of de nominator. The injury rate is expressed per 1000h of running and per 1000 participants. However, they report in the text about 28 injured participants. Unclear if these participants have sustained multiple injuries, or not. So unclear what exactly is meant by the MSK injury rate of 1.6 injuries/1000h and 5.9 injuries/1000 runners	
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>		1		N/A	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		1		N/A – No statistics	
External validity			Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		1			
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited?				0	6167/4831. No validation

	<i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>				
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	<i>If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>			0	Third reviewer. WvM: no sign of data dredging. Unclear to me if I should now answer with a 1 or a 0. However, the results presented are based on the a priori set purpose of the study.
17	<i>In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	<i>Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	<i>Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>		0		
26	<i>Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>			0	Third reviewer: WvM. The paper is very unclear about this. They state that the design is retrospective. Yet, it is totally unclear at what time point the Q's were sent to the participants? Immediately after the race? Etc.? Given the retrospective design assessing loss to FU is not applicable. At best one could assess non-response to the Q. THEREFORE, UNABLE TO DETERMINE
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed

27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		9/15			

		Report	Graham et al. (2012)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		0	Brief mention – not clear the different domains. BRUMS scale not even referenced.	
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0		
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		N/A	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		0		
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the</i>			0	Doesn't say that all were recruited

	<i>proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>				
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	Not reported %, nor validation of sample.
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			N/A
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>			0	
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			No losses
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	NR
TOTAL SCORE		8/15			

		Report	Graham et al. (2021)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0		
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		No losses	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1			
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		0		Convenience sample
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited?			0	Not reported

	<i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>				
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			Assumed ok (non-parametric used) – small sample size
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			Reported in methods
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			No losses
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	NR
TOTAL SCORE		11/15			

		Report	Hespanhol et al. (2017)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>	1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		2.2%	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1		N/A - descriptive	
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		0		convenience
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>		0		Statistical analysis performed and not described
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>		0		At least 6 months, but corrected by differences.
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>			0	Not reported
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			2.2%
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.		0		Please refer to page 373 in the Discussion. “...the sample size calculation suggested a cohort of 152 participants.”
TOTAL SCORE		9/15			

		Report	Hoffman & Stuempfle (2015)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>	1		All from the race	
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1			
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1			
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>	1			All from the race
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	No information about those that did not respond

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		13/15			

		Article	Krabak et al. (2011)			
Reporting			Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>		1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>		1			
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?			0	No p-values reported	
External validity			Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		1			All participants from race were invited
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>				0	% reported but no validation of sample was conducted

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		12/15			

		Report	Malliaropoulos et al. (2015)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1		Questionnaire	
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>	1		Criteria of active participation in trail races	
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		No losses	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1			
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		0		
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>		0		

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>		0		
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		0		“For the categorical variables that have more than two categories one-way ANOVA was performed”. Maybe I’m interpreting this wrong (after seeing the results reported in tables). Third reviewer: WvM. In my opinion the tests were appropriate. However, there was no correction for multiple testing. So I would still rate this with a 0. Also: the paper is very confusing: when exactly were the data collected? What is their definition of prevalence? Was there a priori sufficient power to do all these tests?
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		10/15			

		Report	Matos et al. (2020) A		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		0	Third reviewer. WvM: in the introduction it is stated: 'Therefore, the aim of this research is to characterize trail running injuries in a cohort of male and female Portuguese recreational trail running athletes.' However; from this statement it is unclear what the main outcome of the study is. Also, the methods section does not provide a statement on a main outcome .	
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0	Characteristics of the sample reported but no inclusion/exclusion criteria.	
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		No losses	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1			
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the</i>			0	No description of how they were selected or recruited

	<i>proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>				
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	Authors report that the sample is representative (% estimated) but no validation...
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>			0	Third reviewer. WvM. As the main outcome has not been defined this construct can only be rated ‘0’. Nevertheless the method to calculate the rate/1000 h. seems appropriate, but a calculation of the 95% CI is lacking. So, ‘0’ it should be.
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			N/A
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	Authors state sample size is sufficient but no power analysis was conducted

TOTAL SCORE	9/15
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		Report	Matos et al. (2020) B			
Reporting			Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>		1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>		1		Assumed no losses	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		1			
External validity			Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the</i>				0	No mention of recruitment strategy

	<i>proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>				
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	Not reported
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	No power analysis
TOTAL SCORE		12/15			

		Report	McGowan & Hoffman (2015)			
Reporting			Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>			0	Not clear how the encounter form was developed or what variables included.	
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>			0	Third reviewer. Not clear in the methods... see end of second paragraph. WvM. I agree to rate this with '0', as there is no description in the text. The tables are, however, such that some information can be derived on subjects characteristics, but insufficient. So, '0'.	
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>		1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>		1			
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		1			
External validity			Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the</i>				0	

	<i>proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>				
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	Not clear if all participants from race agreed to participate
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>			0	No mention of normality
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>			0	
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	No power analysis
TOTAL SCORE		8/15			

		Report	Scheer & Murray (2011)		
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		0	No, but probably because of the study design	
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		0	ditto	
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1		N/A	
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?	1		N/A	
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>	1			All runners from race invited
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited?			0	

	<i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>				
Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			N/A
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			N/A
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>			0	
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	No inferential statistics...
TOTAL SCORE		10/15			

		Report Scheer et al. (2014)			
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>	1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1			
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		0		
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>	1			All runners from race
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	% identified but not validated

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		12/15			

		Report		Vernillo et al. (2016)	
Reporting		Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?	1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>	1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>	1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>	1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>	1			
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		0		
External validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>	1			All runners invited
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>			0	% that responded but no validation information

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>			0	
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>	1			medical records.
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	
TOTAL SCORE		11/15			

		Report	Viljoen et al. (2021)			
Reporting			Yes=1	No=0	Comment if needed	
1	Is the hypothesis/aim/objective of the study clearly described?		1			
2	Are the main outcomes to be measured clearly described in the Introduction or Methods section? <i>If the main outcomes are first mentioned in the Results section, the question should be answered no</i>		1			
3	Are the characteristics of the patients included in the study clearly described? <i>In cohort studies and trials, inclusion and/or exclusion criteria should be given. In case-control studies, a case-definition and the source for controls should be given</i>		1			
6	Are the main findings of the study clearly described? <i>Simple outcome data (including denominators and numerators) should be reported for all major findings so that the reader can check the major analyses and conclusions. (This question does not cover statistical tests which are considered below).</i>		1			
7	Does the study provide estimates of the random variability in the data for the main outcomes? <i>In non-normally distributed data the interquartile range of results should be reported. In normally distributed data the standard error, standard deviation or confidence intervals should be reported. If the distribution of the data is not described, it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>		1			
9	Have the characteristics of patients lost to follow-up been described? <i>This should be answered yes where there were no losses to follow-up or where losses to follow-up were so small that findings would be unaffected by their inclusion. This should be answered no where a study does not report the number of patients lost to follow-up.</i>		1			
10	Have actual probability values been reported (e.g. 0.035 rather than <0.05) for the main outcomes except where the probability value is less than 0.001?		1			
External validity			Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
11	Were the subjects asked to participate in the study representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The study must identify the source population for patients and describe how the patients were selected. Patients would be representative if they comprised the entire source population, an unselected sample of consecutive patients, or a random sample. Random sampling is only feasible where a list of all members of the relevant population exists. Where a study does not report the proportion of the source population from which the patients are derived, the question should be answered as unable to determine.</i>		1			
12	Were those subjects who were prepared to participate representative of the entire population from which they were recruited? <i>The proportion of those asked who agreed should be stated. Validation that the sample was representative would include demonstrating that the distribution of the main confounding factors was the same in the study sample and the source population.</i>				0	Stated by authors that not possible

Internal validity		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
16	If any of the results of the study were based on “data dredging”, was this made clear? <i>Any analyses that had not been planned at the outset of the study should be clearly indicated. If no retrospective unplanned subgroup analyses were reported, then answer yes.</i>	1			
17	In trials and cohort studies, do the analyses adjust for different lengths of follow-up of patients, or in case-control studies, is the time period between the intervention and outcome the same for cases and controls? <i>Where follow-up was the same for all study patients the answer should be yes. If different lengths of follow-up were adjusted for by, for example, survival analysis the answer should be yes. Studies where differences in follow-up are ignored should be answered no.</i>	1			
18	Were the statistical tests used to assess the main outcomes appropriate? <i>The statistical techniques used must be appropriate to the data. For example nonparametric methods should be used for small sample sizes. Where little statistical analysis has been undertaken but where there is no evidence of bias, the question should be answered yes. If the distribution of the data (normal or not) is not described it must be assumed that the estimates used were appropriate and the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
20	Were the main outcome measures used accurate (valid and reliable)? <i>For studies where the outcome measures are clearly described, the question should be answered yes. For studies which refer to other work or that demonstrates the outcome measures are accurate, the question should be answered as yes.</i>			0	Self-reported
26	Were losses of patients to follow-up taken into account? <i>If the numbers of patients lost to follow-up are not reported, the question should be answered as unable to determine. If the proportion lost to follow-up was too small to affect the main findings, the question should be answered yes.</i>	1			
Power		Yes=1	No=0	Unable to determine =0	Comment if needed
27	Did the study have sufficient power to detect a clinically important effect where the probability value for a difference being due to chance is less than 5%? Sample sizes have been calculated to detect a difference of x% and y%.			0	No power
TOTAL SCORE		12/15			