

Supplementary Table 2. Risk assessment of publication bias for the included articles

Criteria	Mericske-Stern 1990 ⁴⁴	Mericske-Stern et al. 1994 ⁴⁵	Chung et al. 2006 ³³	Bouri et al. 2008 ²⁹	Zigdon and Machtei 2008 ⁵⁰	Adibrad et al. 2009 ²³	Kim et al. 2009 ⁴¹	Schrott et al. 2009 ⁴⁸	Crespi et al. 2010 ³⁴	Boynuegri et al. 2012 ³⁰	Esper et al. 2012 ³⁵
Study type	CS	LG	CS	CS	CS	CS	CS	LG	LG	LG	CS
Representative of general population	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Allocation concealment method	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Examiner masked	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Calibration (intra/inter-examiner)	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
Defined inclusions/exclusions	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Correction for confounding factors	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Appropriate statistics methods	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
All patients accounted for at the end of study	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Analysis accounts for patient losses	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Y	NA	NA	NA
Estimated potential risk of bias	High	High	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	High	High	Moderate	High	High

CS=Cross-sectional; LG=Longitudinal; NA=Not applicable; Y: Yes; N: Not specified/unclear