

Supplemental Material 5

Table 1. Missing methodological elements of the Critical Appraisal Checklist for cross-sectional studies (N=47)

Unfulfilled criteria of the Critical Appraisal Checklist	No.	References
Criteria for inclusion in the sample clearly defined	24	(1–14,14–23)
Was the exposure measured in a valid and reliable way?	N/A	N/A
Objective, standard criteria used for measurement of the condition	8	(9,12–14,18,21,24,25)
Confounding factors identified	10	(4,5,13,14,14,16,22,24,26–28)
Strategies to deal with confounding factors stated	21	(1,2,4,5,8,9,12–14,16,18,20–24,26–31)
Outcomes measured in a valid and reliable way	4	(2,14,18,24)
Appropriate statistical analysis used	21	(1,2,4,9,12–14,16–18,20–27,31–33)

Table 2. Missing methodological elements of the Critical Appraisal Checklist for longitudinal studies (N=14)

Missing methodological elements of the Critical Appraisal Checklist	No.	References
Were the two groups similar and recruited from the same population?	/	/
Were the exposures measured similarly to assign people to both exposed and unexposed groups?	N/A	N/A
Was the exposure measured in a valid and reliable way?	N/A	N/A
Confounding factors identified	6	(34–39)
Strategies to deal with confounding factors stated	6	(34–39)
Strategies to address incomplete follow-up utilized unclear	3	(35,38,40)
Were the groups/participants free of the outcome at the start of the study (or at the moment of exposure)?	N/A	N/A
Were the outcomes measured in a valid and reliable way?	/	/
Was the follow up time reported and sufficient to be long enough for outcomes to occur?	/	/
Was follow up complete, and if not, were the reasons to loss to follow up described and explored?	/	/
Was appropriate statistical analysis used?	/	/