

Methodological Evaluation of Observational REsearch (MORE)—Observational Studies of Incidence or Prevalence of Chronic Diseases

Instructions:

Please review the checklist and mark with X quality items that are not reported and flaws in external or internal validity if present.

Descriptive

Funding of study

Role of funding organization in data analysis and interpretations of the results

Conflict of interest

Ethical approval of the study

Aim of study

Not reported

Poor reporting

Included prevalence estimation without clear target population

Minor flaw

Included Incidence estimation without clear target population

Minor flaw

External Validity

Sampling of the subjects by the investigators

General population based

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Random sampling restricted to geographic area (minor flaw if the aim was to examine incidence/prevalence in the general population without place restrictions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Nongeneral population based sampling method

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Convenient	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Self selection	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Nongeneral population based sampling frame

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Medical records	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw
Insurance claims	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw
Work place	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw
Health care based (clinics, hospitals)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Assessment of sampling bias - failure to ensure that all members of the reference population have a known chance of selection in the sample

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
The authors did not assess sampling bias	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Estimate bias

Response rate in total sample (cut off of acceptable response rate depend on the target population)

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
<40 (or less than cut off specific for the target population) %	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Response rate in race subgroups (if applicable)

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
<40 (or less than cut off specific for the target population) %%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Response rate in other subgroups (if applicable)

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
<40 (or less than cut off specific for the target population) %	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Exclusion rate from the analysis

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
>10%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Exclusion rate in subgroups (if applicable)

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
>10%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Address Bias

Sampling bias is addressed in the analysis

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Not addressed in analysis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Subject flow (the acceptable ranges can be specific for the area of research)

Not applicable for study design	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Number screened not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Number eligible not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Number enrolled not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting

Internal Validity**Source of measure incidence/prevalence of chronic diseases**

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Proxy reported (collected for the study)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Obtained from medical records (mining of the data collected for health care purposes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Obtained from administrative database (mining of the data collected for health care purposes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Reference period (time of occurrence) if applicable

Reference period not relevant for the nature of the outcome	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reference period may be relevant but not included in definition of the outcome (define relevance specific for research question)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Reference period different from recommended and not justified	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Severity (degree of the symptoms of the chronic disease)

Severity is not relevant for the outcome	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Severity can be relevant but not assessed in the study	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Frequency of the symptoms of the chronic disease

Frequency is not relevant for the outcome	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Frequency can be relevant but not assessed in the study	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Validation of outcomes measurements

No information about validation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
The authors reported inter-methods validation (one method vs. another)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
The authors did not validate the methods to measure dependent variables (nonvalid methods were obtained)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major flaw

Reliability of the estimates (mark one best (*) and all applicable responses)

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Intra-observer variability is reported with subjective judgment of reliability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Inter-observer variability is reported with subjective judgment of reliability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Dependent variable (outcomes) in subpopulations (if applicable)

Measurements of the outcomes in subpopulations were not clarified	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Outcomes in subpopulations were measured differently (define in the protocol the major flaw in assessment of the variables in subpopulations in applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Reporting of prevalence

Not clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Point prevalence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Precision of estimate (error, 95% CI).

Omitted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
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Prevalence in total sample

Crude prevalence in total sample	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
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Prevalence in population subgroup if applicable

Stated as aim of the study but not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Crude prevalence in race groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Crude prevalence in gender groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Crude prevalence other subgroups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Reporting of Incidence: Incidence type

Not clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
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Precision of estimation (error, 95% CI)

Omitted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
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Incidence in total sample (mark one best (*) and all applicable responses)

Crude incidence in total sample	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
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Incidence in population subgroups if applicable

Stated in the aim of the study but not reported	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor reporting
Crude incidence in race groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Crude incidence in gender groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw
Crude incidence in other subgroups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor flaw

Quality Validity Report**(Access reports are generated based on responses above)**

Item	Decision
Manuscript: _____ Reviewer: _____	
External Validity	
Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/> Require reporting
Major flaws	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Require justification that flaws could not be avoided or bias cannot be reduced <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Reject manuscript
Minor flaws	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Require justification that flaws could not be avoided or bias cannot be reduced <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Reject manuscript

Internal Validity

Not reported	<input type="checkbox"/> Require reporting
Major flaws	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Require justification that flaws could not be avoided or bias cannot be reduced <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Reject manuscript
Minor flaws	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Require justification that flaws could not be avoided or bias cannot be reduced <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Reject manuscript
