

VA Male OP QUADAS Quality Review Form

FINAL 10-13-06

Article ID: _____ Reviewer: _____

First Author: _____
(Last Name Only)

Study Number:
____ of ____ Description: _____
(Enter '1 of 1' if only one) (if more than one study)

1. Was the spectrum of patients representative of the patients who will receive the test in practice?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if based on information reported from study's authors, you believe the spectrum of patients included in the study is representative of those in whom the test will be used in practice. Judgment should be based on both method of recruitment and the characteristics of those recruited. Score 'no' if you think the population studied does not fit into what was specified as acceptable. Score 'no' if studies recruit a group of healthy controls and a group known to have the target disorder.

2. Were selection criteria clearly described?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if you think all relevant information regarding how participants were selected for inclusion has been provided. Score 'no' if study selection criteria are not clearly reported.

3. Is the reference standard likely to correctly classify the target condition?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if you believe the reference standard is likely to correctly classify the target condition or is the best method available. Score 'no' if you do not think the reference standard was likely to have correctly classified the target condition.

4. Is the time period between reference standard and index test short enough to be reasonably sure that the target condition did not change between the two tests?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: For conditions that progress rapidly, should be scored 'yes' if delay between performance of index and ref test if very short. If condition is chronic, longer delay periods may be appropriate. You will have to determine what is 'short enough.' Score 'no' if you think performance of index test and reference standard was sufficiently long that disease status may have changed between the performance of the two tests.

5. Did the whole sample or a random selection of the sample, receive verification using a reference standard?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if it is clear that all patients or a random selection of patient who received index test went on to receive verification of disease status using reference standard. Score 'no' if some patients did not receive verification of disease status and selection of patient to receive reference standard was not random.

6. Did patients receive the same reference standard regardless of the index test result?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if it is clear that patients received verification of their true disease status using the same reference standard. Score 'no' if some patients received verification using a different reference standard.

VA Male OP QUADAS Quality Review Form

7. Was the reference standard independent of the index test (i.e. the index test did not form part of the reference standard)?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if it is clear from the study that the index test did not form part of the reference standard. Score 'no' if it appears that the index test formed part of the reference standard.

8. Was the execution of the index test described in sufficient detail to permit replication of the test?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: SEE # 9

9. Was the execution of the reference standard described in sufficient detail to permit its replication?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if study reports sufficient details or citations to permit replication of the index test and reference standard. Score as 'no' in other cases.

10. Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: SEE # 11

11. Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index test?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if study clearly states that the test results (index or reference standard) were interpreted blind to the results of the other test. Score 'no' if it does not appear that test results were interpreted blind to results of the other test.

12. Were the same clinical data available when test results were interpreted as would be available when the test is used in practice?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if clinical data would normally be available when the test is interpreted in practice and similar data were available when interpreting the index test in the study and when clinical data would not be available in practice and these data were not available when the index test results were interpreted. Score 'no' if this is not the case.

13. Were uninterrupted/intermediate test results reported?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if it is clear that all test results, including uninterrupted/indeterminate/intermediate results are reported. Score 'no' if you think that such results occurred but have not been reported.

14. Were withdrawals from the study explained?

(CIRCLE ONE)

Yes 1
No 2
Unclear 3

*How to score: Score 'yes' if it is clear what happened to all patients who entered the study, for example if a flow diagram of study participants is reported. Score 'no' if it appears that some of the participants who entered the study did not completed the study (i.e. did not receive both the index test and reference standard and these patients were not accounted for).