

Table 2 Assessing risk of bias in cross-sectional studies using the quality assessment tool (14) modified by (15)

Study	A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	Quality score
Bashour & Mamaree 2003 (31)	1	U	1	0	1	1	U	1	1	1	7
Ekinci et al. 2014 (17)	1	U	U	U	1	1	U	1	1	1	6
Masjidi et al. 2007 (26)	0	1	0	U	1	1	U	1	1	1	6
Mirsaeidi et al. 2007 (27)	1	0	0	U	1	1	0	1	1	1	6
Okur et al. 2006 (29)	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	6
Okutan et al. 2005 (30)	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	7
Shahriyar et al. 2012 (33)	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	5
Shamaei et al. 2009 (28)	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	7
Nasehi et al. 2012 (32)	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Yilmaz et al. 2001(34)	U	U	U	U	1	1	U	1	1	1	5

External validity: A1 = representative of the target population; A2 = appropriate recruitment of the participants; A3 = appropriate sampling frame; A4 = minimal non-response bias.

Internal validity: B1 = data collected directly from the subjects (as opposed to a proxy); B2 = acceptable case definition; B3 = valid and reliable study instrument; B4 = same mode of data collection used for all subjects; B5 = appropriate shortest prevalence period for the parameter of interest; B6 = appropriate numerator(s) and denominator(s) for the parameter of interest.

1: study met the criteria; 0: study did not meet the criteria; U: response was unclear.

Quality score: 0–5 high risk of bias; 6–8 moderate risk of bias; > 8 low risk of bias.