Modified Newcastle-Ottawa Quality Assessment Scale

Note: A study can be awarded a maximum of one star for each numbered item within the Selection and Outcome categories. A maximum of two stars can be given for Comparability

Selection

1) Representativeness of the exposed cohort
   a) truly representative of the average parturient population (regional or national) *
   b) somewhat representative of the average parturient population (multi- or single-centre study but without exclusion criteria*)
   c) selected group of users eg nurses, volunteers
   d) no description of the derivation of the cohort

2) Selection of the non exposed cohort
   a) drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort *
   b) drawn from a different source
   c) no description of the derivation of the non exposed cohort

3) Ascertainment of birth record
   a) secure record (eg clinical records) *
   b) structured interview *
   c) written self report
   d) no description

Comparability

1) Comparability of cohorts on the basis of the design or analysis
   a) study controls for maternal BMI *
   b) study controls for SES *

Outcome

1) Assessment of outcome
   a) independent blind assessment *
   b) record linkage *
   c) self report
   d) non-blind assessment
   e) no description

2A - For cohort studies) Adequacy of follow up of cohorts
   a) complete follow up - all subjects accounted for *
   b) subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias (>80% follow up), or description provided of those lost *
   c) follow up rate <80% and no description of those lost
   d) no statement

OR 2B - For case control studies) Non-Response rate
   a) same rate for both groups *
   b) non respondents described
   c) rate different and no designation

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