

Case-Control Studies

NEWCASTLE - OTTAWA QUALITY ASSESSMENT SCALE CASE CONTROL STUDIES

Selection

- 1) Is the case definition adequate?
 - a) Yes, with independent validation *
 - b) Yes, e.g., record linkage or based on self reports
 - c) No description
- 2) Representativeness of the cases
 - a) Consecutive or obviously representative series of cases *
 - b) Potential for selection biases or not stated
- 3) Selection of Controls
 - a) Community controls / Unaffected shoulder *
 - b) Hospital controls
 - c) No description

Comparability

- 1) Comparability of cases and controls on the basis of the design or analysis
 - a) Study controls for age OR tear size *
 - b) Study controls for any additional factor *
 - c.) None

Exposure

- 1) Ascertainment of exposure
 - a) Secure record (e.g., surgical records) *
 - b) Structured interview where blind to case/control status *
 - c) Interview not blinded to case/control status
 - d) Written self report or medical record only
 - e) No description
- 2) Same method of ascertainment for cases and controls
 - a) Yes *
 - b) No
- 3) Non-Response rate
 - a) Same rate for both groups *
 - b) Non respondents described
 - c) Rate different and no designation

TOTAL: _____ *

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.