

- D1. Was the research question or objective in this paper clearly stated and appropriate?
- D2. Was the study population clearly specified and defined?
- D3. Did the authors include a sample size justification?
- D4. Were controls selected or recruited from the same or similar population that gave rise to the cases (including the same timeframe)?
- D5. Were the definitions, inclusion and exclusion criteria, algorithms or processes used to identify or select cases and controls valid, reliable, and implemented consistently across all study participants?
- D6. Were the cases clearly defined and differentiated from controls?
- D7. If less than 100 percent of eligible cases and/or controls were selected for the study, were the cases and/or controls randomly selected from those eligible?
- D8. Was there use of concurrent controls?
- D9. Were the investigators able to confirm that the exposure/risk occurred prior to the development of the condition or event that defined a participant as a case?
- D10. Were the measures of exposure/risk clearly defined, valid, reliable, and implemented consistently (including the same time period) across all study participants?
- D11. Were the assessors of exposure/risk blinded to the case or control status of participants?
- D12. Were key potential confounding variables measured and adjusted statistically in the analyses? If matching was used, did the investigators account for matching during study analysis?