# MOOSE (Meta-analyses of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) Checklist

| Item No | Recommendation | Reported on Page Number/Line Number | Reported on Section/Paragraph |
|---------|----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| **Reporting of Background** | | | |
| 1 | Problem definition | Page3/Line1-3 | Background/Paragraph1 |
| 2 | Hypothesis statement | Page4/Line2-3 | Background/Paragraph2 |
| 3 | Description of Study Outcome(s) | Page4/Line18-21 | Background/Paragraph4 |
| 4 | Type of exposure or intervention used | Page4/Line18-21 | Background/Paragraph4 |
| 5 | Type of study design used | Page7/Line11-13 | Results/Paragraph2 |
| 6 | Study population | Page5/Line12-13 | Methods/Paragraph2 |
| **Reporting of Search Strategy** | | | |
| 7 | Qualifications of searchers (eg, librarians and investigators) | N/A | N/A |
| 8 | Search strategy, including time period included in the synthesis and keywords | Page4/Line27-Page5/Line3 | Methods/Paragraph1 |
| 9 | Effort to include all available studies, including contact with authors | N/A | N/A |
| 10 | Databases and registries searched | Page4/Line29-30 | Methods/Paragraph1 |
| 11 | Search software used, name and version, including special features used (eg, explosion) | N/A | N/A |
| 12 | Use of hand searching (eg, reference lists of obtained articles) | Page5/Line5-22 | Methods/Paragraph2-3 |
| 13 | List of citations located and those excluded, including justification | Page5/Line5-22 | Methods/Paragraph2-3 |
| 14 | Method for addressing articles published in languages other than English | N/A | N/A |
| 15 | Method of handling abstracts and unpublished studies | Page5/Line21 | Methods/Paragraph3 |
| 16 | Description of any contact with authors | N/A | N/A |
| No. | Description                                                                 | Page/Line | Section       |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 17  | Description of relevance or appropriateness of studies assembled for assessing the hypothesis to be tested | 4/18-21   | Background/Paragraph 4  |
| 18  | Rationale for the selection and coding of data (e.g., sound clinical principles or convenience) | 5/28-6/1   | Methods/Paragraph 5  |
| 19  | Documentation of how data were classified and coded (e.g., multiple raters, blinding, and interrater reliability) | 5/23-26   | Methods/Paragraph 4  |
| 20  | Assessment of confounding (e.g., comparability of cases and controls in studies where appropriate) | 6/7-8     | Methods/Paragraph 6  |
| 21  | Assessment of study quality, including blinding of quality assessors; stratification or regression on possible predictors of study results | 6/3-16    | Methods/Paragraph 6-7 |
| 22  | Assessment of heterogeneity                                                  | 6/23-24   | Methods/Paragraph 8  |
| 23  | Description of statistical methods (e.g., complete description of fixed or random effects models, justification of whether the chosen models account for predictors of study results, dose-response models, or cumulative meta-analysis) in sufficient detail to be replicated | 6/24-27   | Methods/Paragraph 8  |
| 24  | Provision of appropriate tables and graphics                                 | 18/3      | Figure 1       |
| 25  | Graphic summarizing individual study estimates and overall estimate           | 19/7-11   | Figure 3       |
| 26  | Table giving descriptive information for each study included                 | 24-27     | Table 1        |
| 27  | Results of sensitivity testing (e.g., subgroup analysis)                     | 29        | Table 3        |
| 28  | Indication of statistical uncertainty of findings                            | N/A       | N/A            |
| 29  | Quantitative assessment of bias (e.g., publication bias)                     | 7/24-27   | Results/Paragraph 4 |
| 30  | Justification for exclusion (e.g., exclusion of non-English-language citations) | 5/16-22   | Methods/Paragraph 3  |
| 31  | Assessment of quality of included studies                                    | 7/23-24   | Results/Paragraph 4 |
| 32  | Consideration of alternative explanations for observed results               | 10/14-15  | Discussion/Paragraph 4 |
| 33  | Generalization of the conclusions (i.e., appropriate for the data presented and within the domain of the literature review) | 10/15-16 | Discussion/Paragraph 4 |
| 34  | Guidelines for future research                                               | N/A       | N/A            |
| 35  | Disclosure of funding source                                                 | 10/18-19  | Acknowledgments/Paragraph 4 |
From: Stroup DF, Berlin JA, Morton SC, et al., for the Meta-analysis Of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (MOOSE) Group. Meta-analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology. A Proposal for Reporting. JAMA. 2000;283(15):2008-2012. doi: 10.1001/jama.283.15.2008.

Article information: https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/atm-22-173

*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copyediting and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.