Supplementary Table 2. Newcastle-Ottawa quality assessment scale for observational studies

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Study reference (author, year) | Selection | Comparability | Outcome/Exposure |
| Gupta, 2005 (15) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \*\*\* |
| Wen, 2005 (16) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \*\*\* |
| Lan, 2007 (17) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \*\*\* |
| Lin, 2008 (18) | \*\*\* | \*\* | \*\*\* |
| Yen, 2008 (19) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \*\* |
| Tseng, 2008 (20) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Heck, 2012 (21) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Tung, 2004 (22) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \*\* |
| Tseng, 2010 (23) | \*\*\* | \* | \* |
| Chang, 2006 (24) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Lin, 2006 (25) | \*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Ho, 2007 (26) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Lin, 2009 (27) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Hsu, 2010 (28) | \*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Chung, 2006 (29) | \*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Guh, 2006 (30) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \* |
| Yen, 2006 (31) | \*\*\*\* | \*\* | \* |