

**Modified Newcastle-Ottawa quality assessment scale
cohort studies**

No.	Criterion	Decision rule	Score (*=1, no*=0)
SELECTION			
1	Representativeness of the exposed cohort	a) Consecutive eligible participants were selected, participants were randomly selected, or all participants were invited to participate from the source population* b) Not satisfying requirements in part (a), or not stated.	
2	Selection of the non-exposed cohort	a) Selected from the same source population* b) Selected from a different source population c) No description	
3	Ascertainment of exposure	a) Structured injury data (e.g. record completed by medical staff)* b) Structured interview* c) Written self-report d) No description	
4	Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at the start of the study	a) Yes* b) No or not explicitly stated	
COMPARABILITY			
1	Comparability of cohorts on the basis of the design or analysis	a) Study controls for age* b) Study controls for birth weight* <i>Note:</i> Exposed and non-exposed individuals must be matched in the design and/or confounders must be adjusted for in the analysis. Alone statements of no differences between groups or that differences were not statistically significant are not sufficient.	
OUTCOME			
1	Assessment of outcome	a) Independent or blind assessment stated, or confirmation of the outcome by reference to secure records (e.g. imaging, structured injury data, etc.)* b) record linkage (e.g. identified through ICD codes on database records)* c) Self-report with no reference to original structured injury data or imaging d) No description	
2	Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur?	a) Yes (≥ 12 months)* b) No (< 3 months)	
3	Adequacy of follow up of cohorts	a) Complete follow up – all participants accounted for* b) Subjects lost to follow up unlikely to introduce bias ($< 20\%$ lost to follow up, or description provided of those lost*) c) Follow up rate $< 85\%$ and no description of those lost provided d) No statement	
SCORE			