

Checklist for Evaluation of a Quantitative Manuscript

Score	Description
5 = Excellent	The element is present, consistent with the standard described in the guidelines, and is of a remarkable/outstanding quality.
4 = Good	The element is present and consistent with the standard described in the guidelines.
3 = Satisfactory	The element is present and may be used even though it may not completely follow the standard described in the guidelines.
2 = Poor	The element is present but flawed or of poor quality.
1 = Absent	The element is absent from the report.
N/A = not applicable	The element is not relevant to this study.

Category	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Comments
Author Line	Authors and affiliations correctly formatted?							
Abstract	Abstract is clear, concise and in IMRAD format?							
Introduction	Gives a brief description of the problem and describes the current burden or situation?							
	Includes the gaps in the current knowledge?							
	Gives the relevance, public health importance and justification of the study?							
	Includes study objectives or the hypothesis that will be tested?							
	Documents all facts with references?							

Category	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Comments
Methods	States study design and time period?							
	Give study site and setting?							
	Lists case definitions and defines any terms that reader must understand or differentiate?							
	Describes participants and inclusion and exclusion criteria?							
	Describes data collection tools and process in sufficient detail to replicate the study? If standardized procedures or tools, provide reference?							
	Describes variables measured and how measurements were carried out?							
	Describes how the data were analyzed?							
Results	Explains the results of the study in simple terms?							
	Describes data from the tables/figures and links the information, for example, 'Cases and controls did not differ in baseline characteristics (Table 1)'?							
	Statements are supported with							

Category	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Comments
	data: 'Incidence is X%' vs 'Incidence is high'?							
	Provides total numbers along with %, P-values, CI, OR, or any other statistical analysis?							
	Does not repeat methods or include interpretations?							
Discussion	The first paragraph links study results to the study objectives?							
	Focuses on each result by comparing and contrasting with other relevant studies?							
	Discussed possible causes/consequences of the results?							
	Interprets results based on what it means in the context of public health?							
	Explains limitations of study?							
	Gives precise and specific conclusions?							
	Makes practical recommendations?							
	Suggests ideas for further research?							
Acknowledgments	Gives information about funding or donors?							
	Lists people who helped develop manuscript who							

Category	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Comments
	are not on the co-author line?							
References	Lists the numbered references in the order in which they appear in the text?							
	The number of references is adequate for the content of paper?							
	The references are related to the information cited and are current?							
Tables & Figures	Each table and figure has a stand-alone title?							
	The numbers coincide with those provided in the result section text?							
	Gives total numbers along with % and the rows of tables are totaled?							
	Consolidated tables – for example, prevalence is shown by gender & age?							
	Footnotes are used in standard format (*, †, ‡, §)?							
Title of paper	Title is brief and reflects the true content of the study?							
Format & Clarity	Uses correct spelling, punctuation and grammar?							
	The writing is clear and concise?							

Category	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Comments
	There a logical sequence and cohesiveness in all sections?							
	Work is original and there's no evidence of plagiarism?							
	Information is not repeated in any section using the exact words?							
	The article is written in paragraph form, and does not use bullets?							
	Spells out acronyms first before they are used throughout document?							
	Does not exceed the specific targeted journal word limit?							