Table 1. Mapping of validity questions of QCC and NOS to Cochrane's risk of bias domains

Risk of Bias Domain	QCC individual question	NOS individual questions (cohort studies)
Selection	Was the selection of study subjects/patients free from bias?	Representativeness of the exposed cohort
	Were study groups comparable? (If cohort study or cross-sectional study, were groups comparable on important confounding factors and/or were preexisting differences accounted for by using appropriate adjustments in statistical analysis?)	Selection of the non exposed cohort
		Demonstration that outcome of interest was not present at start of study
		Comparability of cohorts on the basis of the design or analysis
Attrition	Was method of handling withdrawals described?	Adequacy of follow up of cohorts
Performance	Was blinding used to prevent introduction of bias? (In cohort study or cross-sectional study, were measurements of outcomes and risk factors blinded?)	Ascertainment of exposure
	Were intervention/ therapeutic regimens/exposure factor or procedure and any comparison(s) described in detail? Were intervening factors described?	
Detection	Were outcomes clearly defined and the measurements valid and reliable?	Was follow-up long enough for outcomes to occur
	Was the statistical analysis appropriate for the study design and type of outcome indicators?	Assessment of outcome
Reporting	Was the research question clearly stated?	
	Are conclusions supported by results with biases and limitations taken into consideration?	