

Critical Appraisal Worksheet: Harm/Etiology Studies

Citation:			
SCREENING			
Why was the study done (what was the research question)?			
Was the study design appropriate?			
P – I – C – O the study			
VALIDITY			
Was there a clearly defined question?			
Were there clearly-defined, similar groups of patients?			
Were exposures and clinical outcomes measured the same way in both groups?			
Was the follow-up complete and long enough?			
Does the suggested causative link make sense?			
CLINICAL IMPORTANCE			
		Adverse Outcome	
		Present (case)	Absent (control)
Exposure	Yes	A	B
	No	C	D
In a cohort study:		Relative risk =	$\frac{A/(A+B)}{C/(C+D)}$
In a case-control study:		Odds ratio =	$\frac{A \times D}{B \times C}$

Adapted from: Heneghan, Carl and Badenoch, Douglas. *Evidence-based Medicine Toolkit, 2nd edition*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing; BMJ Books. 2006. p. 42.