

CRITERIALIST FOR THE METHODOLOGIC ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL
DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES

CRITERIA FOR STUDY VALIDITY

A1. Was a definition of a positive test result of the reference standard(s) stated? Please indicate the type of reference standard(s)

0 Arthrotomy yes/no

0 Arthroscopy yes/no

0 MRI yes/no

0 Other (please indicate)

0 Type of reference standard not indicated

A2. Was each reference standard applied to all subjects?

a. Yes

b. No (please explain briefly):

c. Not applicable (only one reference standard had been applied)

A3. Were the index test(s) and reference standard(s) measured independently (blind) of each other?

a. Index test(s) measured independently of reference standard(s) and reference standard(s) independently of index test(s)

b. Index test(s) measured independently of reference standard(s) but not vice versa

c. Reference standard(s) measured independently of index test(s) but not vice versa

d. Index test(s) and reference standard(s) not measured independently of each other

e. Unclear

A4. Was the choice of patients who were assessed by the reference standard(s) independent of the results of the index test(s)? (Avoidance of verification bias)

a. The reference standard(s) was (were) measured in consecutive patients (inception cohort) and thus independently of the index test's results.

b. The reference standard(s) was (were) measured in a random sample of patients who were positive or negative by the index test and the results were adjusted for different sample fractions in the statistical analysis.

c. The reference standard(s) was (were) measured in patients who were selected for assessment by the reference standard for various reasons (including the condition of interest).

d. The reference standard(s) was (were) measured in patients who were selected for assessment by the reference standard for the condition of interest.

e. The selection of patients for the assessment by the reference standard(s) was not independent of the index test's results or no adjustment was made for different sample fractions in the statistical analysis.

f. Unclear

A5. Study design:

a. Prospective (evidence of research planning)

b. Retrospective (no evidence of research planning)

c. Unclear

A6. Was a description included regarding missing data?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Not applicable (no missing values)

Notes / general remarks:

CRITERIA RELEVANT TO THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RESULTS

B. The clinical problem

B1. Source of the population involved in the study (setting): a. Primary care or non-referred patients

b. Secondary care (first level of referral)

c. Tertiary care (teaching hospitals)

d. Mixed population

e. Not specified/unclear B2. Spectrum of the condition in the "diseased" (according to the reference standard): a. Combined lesions

b. Only isolated lesion of interest c. Not specified/unclear B3. Spectrum of the condition in the "non-diseased" (according to the reference standard): a. Subjects with various other lesions of the knee. Subjects with an isolated lesion of one other knee structure c. Healthy subjects only d. Not specified/unclear B4. Were the inclusion and exclusion

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