

Appendix 2. Risk of bias analysis using MINORS criteria.

Authors	Comparative	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9 ^a	Q10 ^a	Q11 ^a	Q12 ^a	Score
Camp ¹¹	Y	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	17
Camp ¹²	Y	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	17
Chan ¹³	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	13
Cheng ¹⁴	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	18
Garrison ¹⁵	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	16
Hamano ¹⁶	Y	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	2	2	2	1	2	18
Harding ¹⁷	N	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	9
Ishigaki ¹⁸	N	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	8
Kim ¹⁹	Y	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	17
Laudner ⁸	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	14
McCulloch ²⁰	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	18
Oliver ²¹	N	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	8
Oliver ²²	N	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	8
Picha ²³	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	14
Plummer ²⁴	N	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	10
Robb ⁴	Y	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	17
Saito ²⁵	Y	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	15
Sakata ⁹	Y	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	20
Sauers ²⁶	Y	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	15
Sekiguchi ²⁷	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	16
Takeuchi ²⁸	N	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	8
Yanagisawa ²⁹	N	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	8
Zeppieri ³⁰	N	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	11

* NA denotes that the study was not comparative in nature and thus not subject to the final four questions of the assessment.