Appendix 1 Procedure followed when collecting data for grading test accuracy evidence

|  |
| --- |
| **Objective** |
| * Prepare a repository of all information needed to grade the evidence included in a guideline
 |
| **Description** |
| 1. For each evaluated test and clinical condition, use the template below for pulling together all necessary information.
2. Each information summary should containing following information:
 |
|  | **STUDY DESIGN** |  0 | Cross-sectional (cohort type accuracy study) |  |
| -1 | Cohort & case-control type studies  |
| -2 | Case-control type accuracy study |
|  | **RISK OF BIAS** |  0 | Most of the pooled effect provided by studies ”A”, with low risk of bias |  |
|  | -1 | Most of the pooled effect provided by studies “B” or “C” without a substantial proportion (i.e. < 40%) from studies “C” |  |
|  | -2 | Most of the pooled effect provided by studies “B” or “C” with a substantial proportion (i.e. > 40%) from studies “C” |  |
|  | **INDIRECTNESS** |  0 | All of domains in QUADAS-2 tool (Applicability part) assessed as “low or unclear concern over applicability” |  |
| -1 | At least one of domains in QUADAS-2 tool (Applicability part) assessed as “high concern over applicability” |
| -2 | More than one of domains in QUADAS-2 tool (Applicability part) assessed as “high concern over applicability” |
| **INCONSISTENCY** |  0 | Confidence intervals of estimates from individual studies are overlapping |  |
| -1 | Not overlapping confidence intervals of estimates from individual studies and visible heterogeneity between estimates |
| -2 | Great between-study variation and not overlapping confidence intervals |
|  | **IMPRECISION** |  0 |  Narrow confidence interval of pooled estimate |  |
|  | -1 | Wide confidence interval of pooled estimate |  |
|  | -2 | Very wide confidence interval of pooled estimate (i.e. confidence interval extending more than 50%) |  |
|  | **PUBLICATION BIAS** | n/a | Existing tests that use standard errors of odds ratios are likely to be seriously misleading if applied to meta-analyses of test accuracy. The effective sample size funnel plot and associated regression test of asymmetry should be used to detect publication bias and other sample size related effects (1) |  |

1. Deeks JJ, Macaskill P, Irwig L. The performance of tests of publication bias and other sample size effects in systematic reviews of diagnostic test accuracy was assessed. Journal of clinical epidemiology. 2005;58(9):882-93.