

Supplementary Table 1 Quality assessment of included studies using methodological index for nonrandomized studies criteria

Ref.	Clearly stated aim	Inclusion of consecutive patients	Prospective collection of data	Endpoints appropriate to the aim of the study	Unbiased assessment of the study endpoint	Follow-up period appropriate to the aim of the study	Loss to follow up less than 5%	Prospective calculation of the study size	An adequate control group	Contemporary groups	Baseline equivalence of groups	Adequate statistical analyses	Total score
<i>Zou et al</i> [51]	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	1	2	19/24
<i>Pinyopornpanish et al</i> [50]	2	2	1	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	1	2	18/24
<i>German et al</i> [49]	2	2	1	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	1	2	18/24
<i>Lee et al</i> [48]	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	0	-	-	-	-	12/16

