

Table 2: Methodological quality appraisal of selected systematic reviews using the AMSTAR tool

Domains of methodological quality	Aos et al. 2006	Bilby et al. 2006	Brook-Gordon et al. 2006	Hanson et al. 2002	Hanson et al. 2009	Polizzi et al. 1999	Schmucker & Losel 2008	White et al. 2000
1. Was an a priori design provided?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2. Was there duplicate study selection and data extraction?	No	C/A	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
3. Was a comprehensive literature search performed?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
4. Was the status of publication (i.e., grey literature) used as an inclusion criterion?	Yes	No	C/A	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
5. Was a list of studies (included and excluded) provided?	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
6. Were the characteristics of the included studies provided?	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7. Was the scientific quality of the included studies assessed and documented?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
8. Was the scientific quality of the included studies used appropriately in formulating conclusions?	C/A	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
9. Were the methods used to combine the findings of studies appropriate?	Yes	N/A	C/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
10. Was the likelihood of publication bias assessed?	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
11. Was the conflict of interest stated?	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Total score (rating)	4/11	2/11	7/11	5/11	10/11	5/11	8/11	10/11

AMSTAR - Assessment of Multiple Systematic Reviews; C/A – cannot answer; N/A – not applicable