# Additional file 4: Summary of risk of bias in included studies

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Random sequence generation (selection bias)** | **Allocation concealment (selection bias)** | **Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)** | **Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)** | **Selective reporting (reporting bias)** | **Other bias** | **Overall risk of bias** |
| **Botha 2014** |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark | green plus | Low/ unclear |
| **Cai 2015** |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  green plus | Low/ unclear |
| **Chatterjee 2014** |  green plus |  green plus |  red minus 3 |  green plus |  green plus |  green plus | Low |
| **Ghadiri 2015** |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  red minus 3 |  green plus |  red minus 3 |  green plus | High |
| **Hegde 2012** |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  red minus 3 |  red minus 3 |  red minus 3 |  yellow q mark | High |
| **Li 2005** |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  red minus 3 |  red minus 3 |  yellow q mark |  green plus | High |
| **Ran 2015** |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark | red minus 3 |  yellow q mark | Low/ unclear |
| **Sharifi 2012** |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  red minus 3 |  red minus 3 |  yellow q mark |  red minus 3 | High |
| **Sungur 2011** |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  green plus | Low/ unclear |
| **Xiang 1994** |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  red minus 3 | Low/ unclear |
| **Zhang 1994** |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  yellow q mark |  green plus |  yellow q mark |  red minus 3 | Low/ unclear |