

	Study									For all criteria:	
	Esperanza	Gespic	Kiltz	SCQM	SPACE	Wallis	Desir	ESPAC			
General										Low risk of bias	+
Funding	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	?		Minor risk of bias	+/-
Role of funding organization	+	?	+	+	?	?	?	?		Major risk of bias	-
Conflict of interest	+	+/-	+	+/-	+	?	+	+		Poor reporting	?
Ethical approval	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
Aim of study: included differences between AS/nr-axSpA	+	+	+	+/-	+	+	+/-	+			
Study design (retrospective = possible bias)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
Total	low	low	low	low	low	low	low	low			
External validity											
Sampling of subjects	+/-	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	+	+			
Nongeneral population based sampling method	+/-	+/-	+	+	+/-	+/-	+	+			
Nongeneral population based sampling frame	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	+/-	+	+			
Assessment of sampling bias	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?			
Response rate in total sample (% missing)	+	?	+	?	+	?	+	?			
Exclusion rate from the analysis	+	?	?	+	+	?	+	?			
Address sampling bias	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-			
Subject flow	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?			
Total	low	high	low	low	low	high	low	intermed			
Internal validity											
Source of measure of prevalence	?	?	?	+	+	?	?	?			
Validation	?	?	?	+	+	?	?	?			
Reliability of the estimates	+/-	?	?	+	?	?	?	?			
Outcome measured differently in AS and in nr-axSpA	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
Precision of estimate (95% CI, <i>p</i> -value)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
Prevalence in AS and in nr-axSpA	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
Total	low	intermed	intermed	low	low	intermed	intermed	intermed			