

Additional file 2 to: Can it be checked? A cross-sectional meta-research audit of access to, and reporting in, machine learning studies of pharmaceutical manufacturing and quality control.
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Checklist: guidelines for reporting meta-epidemiological methodology research

Items are the reporting elements set out by Murad and Wang (Evid Based Med 2017;22:139-42), summarized in the author's words.

Section	Element	Where reported
Title	Identify the report as a meta-epidemiological study	Title (meta-research audit); Abstract, Methods (meta-epidemiological)
Abstract	Structured summary: context, hypothesis, methods, data sources, results, limitations, conclusions	Structured abstract (journal headings Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions)
Introduction	Rationale and objectives; state the hypothesis explicitly	Background; Methods, Design (descriptive study, no directional hypothesis)
Methods	A priori protocol	Methods, Design, protocol and reporting; Additional file 3
	Eligibility criteria, information sources, search, study selection	Methods, Eligibility; Information sources and search; Screening; Additional files 4 and 5
	Data collection process and data items, in detail sufficient for replication	Methods, Outcome 1; Outcome 2; Use of a large language model; prompts verbatim in Additional file 4
	Risk of bias in individual studies, where relevant	Not relevant to the question (reporting properties of papers)
	Summary measures, described in detail	Methods, Statistical analysis (proportions, Wilson CIs, odds ratio per year)
	Synthesis methods, assumptions, additional analyses (sensitivity, subgroup)	Methods, Outcome 1 (sensitivity analyses); Statistical analysis (venue class, year; Holm)

Section	Element	Where reported
Results	Study selection with flow diagram	Figure 1
	Characteristics of included studies	Results, The readable papers
	Results of the methodological analysis, with precision	Results; Table 2; Figures 2 and 3; Additional file 7
	Additional analyses	Results, Outcome 1 (sensitivity); Outcome 2 (venue class, year)
Discussion	Summary of evidence, limitations, conclusions	Discussion; Limitations; Conclusions
Funding	Sources of funding	Declarations, Funding