

Supplementary Information

Title: The reporting of study limitations and hedging in articles with and without causal diagrams

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File S1 Details of the search strategies

Table S1 Hedge terms and context rules

File S2 Causal models

Figure S1 Study limitations and potential biases reported by the authors.

Table S2 Sensitivity analysis

File S3 Examples of the reporting of study limitations for each bias category

File S1 Details of the search strategies

	Pubmed Central
1	Directed acyclic graph*[ARTICLE] OR directed acyclic graph*[CAPT]
2	Causal network*[ARTICLE] OR Causal network*[CAPT]
3	Causal diagram*[ARTICLE] OR causal diagram* [CAPT]
4	DAG[CAPT] AND causal [CAPT]
5	Causal graph*[ARTICLE] OR causal graph*[CAPT]
6	Causal bayesian network*[ARTICLE] OR Causal bayesian network*[CAPT]
7	Structural causal model* [ARTICLE] OR structural causal model* [CAPT]
8	Causal path diagram* [All Fields]
9	Causal model diagram* [All Fields]
10	1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 6 OR 7
11	"2000/01/01"[PDAT]: "2020/12/31"[PDAT]
12	10 AND 11
13	"Gene ontology"[MeSH Terms] OR Gene ontology[Text Word] OR "Algorithms"[Title] OR "Natural Language Processing"[Mesh]
14	12 NOT 13
	Medline (via PubMed)
1	Directed acyclic graph*[All Fields]
2	Causal network*[All Fields]
3	Causal diagram*[All Fields]
4	Causal graph*[All Fields]
5	Structural causal model*[All Fields]
6	(causal[All Fields] AND path diagram*[All Fields])
7	1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 6
8	"2000/01/01"[PDAT]: "2020/12/31"[PDAT]
9	7 AND 8
10	"Gene ontology"[MeSH Terms] OR Gene ontology[Text Word] OR "Algorithms"[Title] OR "Natural Language Processing"[Mesh]
11	9 NOT 10
	Web of Science
1	TS=(directed NEAR/1 acyclic NEAR/1 graph*)
2	TS=(causal NEAR/1 diagram*)
3	TS=(causal NEAR/1 network*)

4	TS=(structural NEAR/1 causal NEAR/1 model*)
5	TS=(graphical NEAR/1 causal NEAR/1 model*)
6	TS=(causal NEAR/0 DAG)
7	1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 6
8	PY=2000-2020
9	Document Types: Review OR Book OR Meeting OR Editorial OR Letter OR News OR Patent OR Clinical Trial OR Correction
10	7 AND 8
11	10 NOT 9
12	TS=(Gene ontology OR Natural Language Processing) OR TI= Algorithms
13	11 NOT 12