

SMART CODING MANUAL FOR CROSS-SECTIONAL, COHORT, & QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL STUDIES

Total score for SMART is attributed to the following categories: very high risk of bias (0–3 points and/or no statistical analyses conducted), high risk of bias (4–6 points), and low risk of bias (7–10 points)

SELECTION

1) Sample Size Satisfactory (++)

- a) Satisfactory sample size (>100 units of analysis [e.g., trays, students, classrooms, schools]) AND three or more schools in the intervention condition (++)

OR

- b) Satisfactory sample size (>100 units of analysis [e.g., trays, students, classrooms, schools]) OR three or more schools in the intervention condition

OR

- c) No information provided or not satisfactory (<100 participants and fewer than three schools in the intervention condition).

COMPARABILITY

2) Comparison Group (+)

- a) An unexposed group serves as a comparison for the intervention condition (+)

OR

- b) No comparison group

3) Comparability of subjects based on design; confounding factors controlled (++)

- a) Comparability of subjects in different outcome groups (i.e., matched exposed and unexposed group) and analyses adjusted for relevant predictors/risk factors/confounders, including repeated measures, where appropriate (++)

OR

- b) Analyses adjusted for some but not all relevant confounders or statistical analyses did not account for repeated measures (+)

OR

- c) Information not provided or analyses not adjusted for relevant predictors/confounders/risk factors.

OUTCOME

4) Outcome measured at baseline (+)

- a) Baseline measurements collected (+)

OR

- b) No baseline assessments

5) Assessment of outcome (++)

- a) Objective assessment (e.g., direct measurement of plate waste) (++)

OR

- b) Validated non-objective measure (e.g., visual estimation of food intake or dietary recall) (+)
- c) Non-objective and non-validated measure (e.g., aggregate plate waste is not a valid approach).

6) Statistical Test (++)

- a) Statistical tests used to analyze the data clearly described and appropriate, measures of association presented include confidence intervals (CI) and/or probability level (*P* value) AND statistical tests account for clustering of observations, where appropriate (++)

OR

- b) Statistical tests used to analyze the data clearly described and appropriate, measures of association presented include CIs and/or *P* values, OR statistical tests account for clustering of observations, where appropriate

OR

- c) Statistical tests not appropriate, not described, or incomplete