Supplementary Table 2. Methodological quality of the excluded studies.   
Critical appraisal ratings of excluded studies evaluated with the ASHA’s levels-of-evidence (ASHA’s LOE) scheme (Mullen 2007). Based on the quality score studies awarded with one or no points were classified as weak, and were excluded from the review.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Study** | **Study Design** | **Assessor Blinded** | **Random Sample** | **Groups / Participants Comparable** | **Valid Primary Outcome Measure(s)\*** | **Significance Reported or Calculable** | **Precision Reported or Calculable** | **Total Quality Score** |
| Simoes & Schochat, 2010 | Cross-sectional study | No | No | No | Reasonable | **Yes** | No | 1/7 |

*Note.*

\*At the criterion “Valid primary outcome measures” three answer options were possible, namely: Yes, Reasonable, and No. Al other criterion had two possible outcomes, Yes or No. Boldface indicates highest level of quality in each category.