Supplemental Study Quality Assessment

Multicenter trial (generalizable)

Study hypothesis explicitly stated

Sample size calculation provided

Explicit statement of minimally important clinical difference.

Rationale (prior studies/preliminary findings) provided as the basis for MCID/sample size calculations

Protocol used to determine hospital discharge when LOS is an outcome

Protocol to determine the need for surgery

Findings from surgery if it was done

Explicit reporting of study dropouts

Explicit reporting of missing data

Procedures used to handle missing data