

Title	The effect of moderate gestational alcohol consumption during pregnancy on speech and language outcomes in children: a systematic review
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Publication date	2014-01-02
Original Citation	O'Keefe L. M., Greene R. A. and Kearney P. M. (2014) 'The effect of moderate gestational alcohol consumption during pregnancy on speech and language outcomes in children: a systematic review'. Systematic Reviews, 3(1), pp. 1-11. <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/2046-4053-3-1">http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/2046-4053-3-1</a>
Type of publication	Article (peer-reviewed)
Link to publisher's version	10.1186/2046-4053-3-1
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Download date	2023-10-01 23:11:10
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### Bias Classification Tool – Quality Assessment

Bias	NR	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High
<b>Selection</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Consecutive unselected population <input type="checkbox"/> Sample selected from general population rather than a select group <input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility criteria explained <input type="checkbox"/> Rational for case and control selection explained <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up or assessment time explained	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample selected from large population but selection criteria not defined <input type="checkbox"/> A select group of population (based on race, ethnicity, residence, etc.) studied	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample selection ambiguous but sample may be representative <input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility criteria not explained <input type="checkbox"/> Rationale for cases and controls not explained <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up or assessment time not explained	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample selection ambiguous and sample likely not representative <input type="checkbox"/> Comparative groups differ in baseline characteristics <input type="checkbox"/> A very select population studied making it difficult to generalise findings
<b>Exposure</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct questioning (interview) or completion of survey by mother at the time of exposure or close to the time of exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Direct measurement of exposure (laboratory) <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure from the chart	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment of exposure from a dataset <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect assessment (postal survey, mailed questionnaire) <input type="checkbox"/> Recall <1 year after birth	<input type="checkbox"/> Recall 1-5 years after birth <input type="checkbox"/> Extrapolating data from population exposure sample (with some assumptions) and not direct assessment at any time	<input type="checkbox"/> Recall >5 years after birth <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect method of assessment (obtaining data from others and not from mother or father)
<b>Outcome</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment from hospital record, birth certificate or from direct questioning of mothers about outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment from administrative database	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment from “close-ended” questions (Did you have a stillbirth or miscarriage?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment from non-validated sources or generic estimate from overall population
<b>Confounding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessed for common confounders	<input type="checkbox"/> Only certain confounders assessed	<input type="checkbox"/> Not assessed for confounders	
<b>Analytical</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Analyses appropriate for type of sample (if matched: paired t test, McNemar) <input type="checkbox"/> Analytical method accounted for sampling strategy in cross-sectional study <input type="checkbox"/> Sample size calculation performed and adequate sample studied	<input type="checkbox"/> Analyses not accounting for common statistical adjustment (e.g. multiple analyses e.g. Bonferroni) when appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Sample size calculation not performed, but all available eligible patients studied <input type="checkbox"/> Sample size calculated and reasons for not meeting sample size given	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample size estimation unclear or only sub-sample of eligible patients studied	<input type="checkbox"/> Analyses inappropriate for type of sample/study
<b>Attrition</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> None or <10% attrition and reasons for loss of follow-up explained <input type="checkbox"/> All subjects from initiation of study to final outcome assessment were accounted for	<input type="checkbox"/> <10% attrition AND reasons for loss of follow-up not explained <input type="checkbox"/> 11-20% attrition, reasons for loss of follow-up explained	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-20% attrition but reasons for loss of follow-up not explained <input type="checkbox"/> >20% attrition but reasons for loss of follow-up explained <input type="checkbox"/> All subjects from initiation of study to final outcome assessment not accounted for	<input type="checkbox"/> >20% attrition, reasons for loss of follow-up not explained