

Supplementary Table 3. Newcastle-Ottawa quality assessment scale (NOS) for the cross-sectional and longitudinal studies included in the meta-analysis.

| Author (Year) | Selection | Comparability | Exposure/Outcome |
|--|-----------|---------------|------------------|
| Cross-sectional studies (<i>n</i> = 8)* | | | |
| Stadlmayr A <i>et al.</i> (2011) | ***** | * | *** |
| Wong VW <i>et al.</i> (2011) | ***** | ** | *** |
| Lee T <i>et al.</i> (2016) | ***** | ** | *** |
| Ahn JS <i>et al.</i> (2017) | ***** | ** | *** |
| Pan S <i>et al.</i> (2017) | ***** | * | *** |
| Hwang ST <i>et al.</i> (2010) | ***** | * | ** |
| Chen QF <i>et al.</i> (2017) | ***** | * | ** |
| Lin XF <i>et al.</i> (2014) | ** | * | ** |
| Longitudinal studies (<i>n</i> = 3) | | | |
| Lee YI <i>et al.</i> (2012) | ** | * | * |
| Huang KW <i>et al.</i> (2013) | ***** | * | * |
| Yang YJ <i>et al.</i> (2017) | ***** | * | * |

Note: Comparability category: age, sex, BMI, smoking history, hypertension, diabetes mellitus or metabolic syndrome.
Green highlight = 9 stars or more. Yellow highlight = 7 or 8 stars. Red highlight = 6 stars or fewer.

*A NOS adapted for cross-sectional cohort studies was used.