

Supplementary table 1. Quality criteria used in evaluating the design and data analysis of studies on selenium and bladder cancer*.

	Nomura, 1987 (16)	Helzlsouer, 1989 (17)	Michaud, 2002 (20)	Zeegers, 2002 (21)	Michaud, 2005 (19)	Kellen, 2006 (18)	Wallace, 2009 (22)
Exposure was assessed at the individual level	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outcome was objectively confirmed using standard criteria and/or tests in $\geq 90\%$ of study participants	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Internal comparisons within study participants were presented	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Potential confounding risk factors in addition to age were controlled for	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Data were collected in a similar manner for all participants	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
The same exclusion criteria were applied to all participants	?	?	?	?	?	Y	?
The selection process for non-cases was described	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Samples were collected ≤ 24 h after onset of symptoms for all cases	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
The study was based on incident cases of disease	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Non-cases were persons who would have been excluded if they had cancer	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

* Quality criteria were adapted from Flores-Mateo et al. (10). Y – indicates the criterion was fulfilled; N – indicates the criterion was not fulfilled; ? – indicates it is unclear if the criterion was or was not fulfilled.