

Supplementary table: Quality assessment checklist

Quality Assessment Questions	Score
Was the study population-based? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Were all subjects recruited from a considerably high risk group of people (familial BCCs)? <i>Yes = 0, no = 1, not determined = 0</i>	
Were consecutive subjects taken? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Were the cutaneous marker/s assessed or assessable during clinical examination by interviewers for the purpose of the study, or were self-reported by the patients themselves? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Was the interviewer/examiner (if observer recorded) or the participants (if self-reported) blind to whether the subject has/has had BCC or not at skin examination time? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i> (<i>only in case-control studies</i>)	
Were control subjects representative of case subjects? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i> (<i>only in case-control studies</i>)	
Were study subjects in case-control studies recruited over the same period of time? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i> (<i>only in case-control studies</i>)	
Were the loss of follow-up in cohort studies, and non-response rate in case-control studies less than %30? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Were all cases confirmed using robust and reliable methods (e.g. histopathology, tumour registry etc)? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Were the cutaneous makers in cases and controls and in cohorts assessed by identical methods? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Were cases and controls, and all subjects in cohort studies selected by identical methods? <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Was there any adjustment, matching or stratification for:	
Age: <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Sex: <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Skin colour or phototype: <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Time spent outdoors (sun exposure): <i>Yes = 1, no = 0, not determined = 0</i>	
Does the study use only a part of data to show the association between cutaneous makers and BCC (data dredging)? <i>Yes = 0, no = 1, not determined = 0</i>	
Total score	