Study Check List
Modified from (Mann 2003)

The following is a check list of key points that need to be taken into consideration regardless of the chosen study design.

**Study Purpose**
☐ Is the study aim clearly stated?

**Sample/Population**
☐ Is the source of the sample/population stated?
☐ Is the sample size justified?
☐ Are the entry criteria and exclusions stated and justified?
☐ Are the number of study subjects lost to follow up stated and explanations given?

**Control Group**
☐ Is the control group is easily identifiable?
☐ The source of the controls is explained- are they from the same population as the sample?
☐ Are the controls matched or randomised-to minimise bias and confounding?

**Quality of measurements and outcomes**
☐ Validity- are the measurements used regarded as valid by other investigators?
☐ Reproducibility- can the results be repeated or is there a reason to suspect they may be a "one off"?
☐ Quality control- has the methodology been rigorously adhered to?

**Completeness**
☐ Deaths?
☐ Missing data- how much are unavailable and why?

**Distorting influences**
☐ Extraneous treatments- Are there interventions that may have affected some but not all of the subjects?
☐ Confounding factors- Are there other variables that might influence the results?
☐ Appropriate analysis- Have appropriate statistical tests been used?

**Validity**
All studies should be internally valid. That is, the conclusions can be logically drawn from the results produced by an appropriate methodology. For a study to be regarded as valid it must be shown that it has indeed demonstrated what it says it has. A study that is not internally valid should not be published because the findings cannot be accepted.

The question of external validity related to the value of the results of the study to other populations—that is, the generalisability of the results. For example, a study showing that 80% of the Swedish population has blond hair, might be used to make a sensible prediction of the incidence of blond hair in other Scandinavian countries, but would be invalid if applied to most other populations.