



## DECISION RULES CHECKLIST

How do you rate this paper? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

### 1.0 OBJECTIVES AND HYPOTHESES

1.1 Are the objectives of the study clearly stated?	
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### 2.0 DESIGN

2.1 Is the study design suitable for the objectives?	
2.2 Who/what was studied?	
2.3 Was this the right sample to answer the objectives?	
2.4 Is the study large enough to achieve its objectives? Have sample size estimates been performed?	
2.5 Were all subjects accounted for?	
<b>2.6 Were all potential predictors included during derivation?</b>	
2.7 Were all appropriate outcomes considered?	
2.8 Has ethical approval been obtained if appropriate?	
<b>2.9 Has the decision rule been validated?</b>	
<b>2.10 Are the derivation and validation data set independent?</b>	

### 3.0 MEASUREMENT AND OBSERVATION

3.1	Is it clear what was measured, how it was measured and what the outcomes were?	
3.2	Are the measurements valid?	
3.3	Are the measurements reliable?	
3.4	Are the measurements reproducible?	

### 4.0 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

4.1	Are the basic data adequately described?	
4.2	Are the results presented clearly, objectively and in sufficient detail to enable readers to make their own judgement?	
4.3	Are the results internally consistent, i.e. do the numbers add up properly?	

### 5.0 ANALYSIS

5.1	Are the data suitable for analysis?	
5.2	Are the methods appropriate to the data?	
5.3	Are any statistics correctly performed and interpreted?	

6.0 DISCUSSION

6.1 Are the results discussed in relation to existing knowledge on the subject and study objectives?	
6.2 Is the discussion biased?	

7.0 INTERPRETATION

7.1 Are the authors' conclusions justified by the data?	
7.2 What level of evidence has this paper presented? (using CEBM levels)	
7.3 Does this paper help me answer my problem?	

How do you rate this paper now? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

In addition, answer the following questions with regards to local practice.

8.0 IMPLEMENTATION

8.1 Can any necessary change be implemented in practice?	
8.2 What aids to implementation exist?	
8.3 What barriers to implementation exist?	