

**Supplementary appendix S7: Five-item study checklist to assess risk of bias in the included studies**

Study	(1) study setting, location and study period	(2) eligibility criteria and sources and methods of participant selection	(3) exposure definition and measurement	(4) study outcome definition and measurement	(5) main result and precision (e.g. 95% confidence interval)	No. of items with low risk of bias
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Blokland et al., 2016[18]	1	1	1	1	1	5
Engström et al., 1991[19]	1	0	0	0	0	1
Faude et al., 2005[20]	1	1	0	0	0	2
Gaulrapp et al., 2010[21]	1	1	0	1	0	3
Giza et al., 2005[22]	1	1	0	0	0	2
Hägglund et al., 2009[23]	1	1	1	1	1	5
Jacobson & Tegner, 2007[24]	1	1	0	1	0	3
Junge & Dvorak, 2007[28]	1	1	0	1	1	4
Larruskain et al., 2017[25]	1	1	1	1	1	5
Östenberg & Roos, 2000[26]	0	0	0	1	0	1
Tegnander et al., 2008[27]	1	1	1	1	0	4
Waldén et al., 2007[23]	1	1	1	1	1	5

The five items were based on the “Strengthening the reporting of observational studies in epidemiology” (STROBE) statement (von Elm et al., 2007), and have been used previously (Walden et al 2015). For each item the studies were assessed as having a low risk (1) or high risk (0) of bias. For all items, studies were assessed as having a high risk of bias if reporting was lacking or unclear.

- (1) *Unclear reporting on the level of play for included teams and / or players*
- (2) *Unclear eligibility criteria, unclear selection or biased selection of teams/players for inclusion (e.g. the best 15 players in a team), large dropout ( $\geq 25\%$ ) of teams or players during study*
- (3) *Unclear football exposure registration, or approximated exposure to football*
- (4) *Unclear injury definition, or uncertainty regarding accuracy of measurement of injuries*
- (5) *Unclear regarding number and/or rates of injury per 1000 hours, and precision estimate lacking*

No of items with low risk of bias; 1-2 items = high risk of bias, 3 items = moderate risk of bias, 4-5 items = low risk of bias