**Table S1.** Assessment of methodological quality of the included studies

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Sample origin | Sample size | Blood collection procedure | Control of preanalytical conditions | Blood collection tube | Control of temperature | Type of centrifugation | Control of stirring | Control of light exposure | Control of evaporation | Sample storage until analysis | Analyzer | Method | Metrological quality | Repetition of analysis | Confidence interval | Significance of differences | **Overall judgement** |
| Dong, 2024 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | **14** |
| Bosse, 2024 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | **17** |
| Nandakumar, 2020 2020 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | **15** |
| Chakera, 2017 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | **14** |
| Wu, 2017 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | **15** |
| Christensen, 2016 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | **12** |
| Mechanic, 2013 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **14** |
| Casati, 2013 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | **13** |
| Oddoze, 2012 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **12** |
| Reisch, 2007 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | **13** |
| Ellis, 2003 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | **9** |
| Diver, 1994 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **6** |
| Lambert, 1985 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **6** |

Studies were classified into four quality grades based on the total score: excellent, acceptable (green color), doubtful (orange), and unacceptable (red).