

**CRITICAL REVIEW FORM: HARM UNIT**

**Citation:**

Risk of vertebrobasilar stroke and chiropractic care: results of a population-based case-control and case-crossover study. Spine (Phila Pa 1976). 2008; 33 S176-83 Cassidy JD, et al.

<b>Guide</b>		<b>Comments</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Are the results of the study valid?</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Did the experimental and control groups begin the study with similar prognosis?</b>	
1a	Did the investigators demonstrate similarity in all known determinants of outcome?	
1b	Did they adjust for differences in analysis?	
1c	Were exposed patients equally likely to be identified in the two groups?	
<b>2</b>	<b>Did experimental and control groups retain a similar prognosis after the study started?</b>	
2a	Were the outcomes measured in the same way in the groups being compared?	
2b	Was follow-up time sufficiently complete?	
<b>II</b>	<b>What are the results</b>	
1	How strong is the association between exposure and outcome? How precise is the estimate of risk?	

<b>III</b>	<b>How can I apply the results to patient care?</b>	
1	Were the patients similar to the patient under consideration in my practice?	
2	Was the duration of follow-up adequate?	
3	What was the magnitude of risk?	
4	Should I attempt to stop the exposure?	