Supplementary file 5: Risk of bias assessment outcome.

Author	1. Was the study"s target population **a close representation** of the national population in relation to relevant variables, e.g. age, sex, occupation?	2. Was the sampling frame a **true or close representation** of the target population?	3. Was some form of **random selection** used to select the sample, OR, was a census undertaken?	4. Was the likelihood of **non-response bias minimal?**	5. Were data collected **directly from the subjects** (as opposed to a proxy)?	6. Was an acceptable case definition used in the study?	7. Was the study instrument that measured the parameter of interest (e.g. prevalence of low back pain) shown to have **reliability and validity (if necessary)?**	8. Was the **same mode of data collection** used for all subjects?	9. Was the **length of the shortest prevalence period** for the parameter of interest appropriate?	10. Were the numerator(s) and denominato r(s) for the parameter of interest appropriate?	***11. Summary item on the overall risk of study bias: - 2x high: High - 1x high + 1x unclear: High - Rest of combinations: low***
Badgery-Parker et al., 2019 [15]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Bouck et al., 2019 [39]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Chalmers et al., 2019 [16]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Charlesworth et al., 2016 [35]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Chmiel et al., 2015 [19]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Unclear	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Choi et al., 2011 [40]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Colla et al., 2014 [27]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Colla et al., 2018 [36]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Doukky et al., 2016 [41]	High	High	Low	N.A.	High	Unclear	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Drangsholt et al., 2019 [42]	High	High	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Farghaly et al., 2006 [43]	Low	Unclear	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Feng, et al., 2016 [44]	High	Low	Low	N.A.	High	High	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Flaherty et al., 2018 [38]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Ganguli et al., 2019 [45]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Gidwani et al., 2016 [46]	High	High	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Gill et al., 2017 [47]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Gold et al., 2016 [37]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low

Hajati et al., 2018 [48]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Kool et al., 2020 [18]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Kovacs et al., 2013 [20]	Low	Unclear	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Lalude et al., 2014 [49]	Unclear	Low	Low	N.A.	High	High	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Lehnert et al., 2010 [50]	High	Unclear	Low	N.A.	High	High	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Mafi et al., 2017 [17]	Low	Unclear	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Martin et al., 2012 [51]	High	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Unclear	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
McAlister et al. 2018 [52]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Morden et al., 2014 [53]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Mou et al., 2017 [54]	High	Low	Low	N.A.	High	High	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Pendrith et al., 2017 [55]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Petruzziello et al., 2012 [21]	Unclear/high	Low	Low	N.A.	High	High	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Schwartz et al., 2014 [13]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Scott et al., 2014 [56]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Sharp et al., 2015 [57]	High	Low	Low	N.A.	High	High	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	High
Sheffield et al., 2013 [58]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Sprenger et al., 2016 [59]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low
Xu et al., 2013 [8]	Low	Low	Low	N.A.	High	Low	N.A.	Low	N.A.	Low	Low