21 PRISMA — systematic reviews & meta-analyses

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PRISMA — *Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses* — covers systematic reviews and meta-analyses. The 27-item checklist and flow diagram are at https://www.prisma-statement.org/. The templates below cover pairwise and network meta-analysis methods.

This page contains **25 method-specific templates**. Each is a skeleton with placeholders in italics; the prose is written so you can paste it into a manuscript and replace only the bracketed values.

21.0.1 Bivariate SROC Curves

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Bivariate SROC Curves** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Bivariate SROC Curves yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `bivariate-sroc` — For Reviewers

21.0.2 Converting Between Effect Sizes

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Converting Between Effect Sizes** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Converting Between Effect Sizes yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `effect-size-conversion` — For Reviewers

21.0.3 Cumulative Meta-Analysis

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Cumulative Meta-Analysis** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Cumulative Meta-Analysis yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `cumulative-meta-analysis` — For Reviewers

21.0.4 Egger's Test for Funnel Asymmetry

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Egger's Test for Funnel Asymmetry** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Egger's Test for Funnel Asymmetry yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `egger-test` — For Reviewers

21.0.5 Fixed-Effect vs. Random-Effects Meta-Analysis

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Fixed-Effect vs. Random-Effects Meta-Analysis** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Fixed-Effect vs. Random-Effects Meta-Analysis yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `fixed-vs-random-effects` — For Reviewers

21.0.6 Forest Plots in Meta-Analysis

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Forest Plots in Meta-Analysis** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use $\alpha = 0.05$; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Forest Plots in Meta-Analysis yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `forest-plot-meta` — For Reviewers

21.0.7 Funnel Plots

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Funnel Plots** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use $\alpha = 0.05$; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Funnel Plots yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `funnel-plot-meta` — For Reviewers

21.0.8 Individual Participant Data Meta-Analysis

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Individual Participant Data Meta-Analysis** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use $\alpha = 0.05$; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Individual Participant Data Meta-Analysis yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `ipd-meta-analysis` — For Reviewers

21.0.9 Leave-One-Out Meta-Analysis

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Leave-One-Out Meta-Analysis** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Leave-One-Out Meta-Analysis yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `leave-one-out` — For Reviewers

21.0.10 Meta-Analysis of Diagnostic Accuracy

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Meta-Analysis of Diagnostic Accuracy** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Meta-Analysis of Diagnostic Accuracy yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `diagnostic-test-meta` — For Reviewers

21.0.11 Meta-Regression

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

[N=] participants/observations were analysed using **Meta-Regression** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

Meta-Regression yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `meta-regression` — For Reviewers

21.0.12 Network Meta-Analysis: Introduction

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

[N=] participants/observations were analysed using **Network Meta-Analysis: Introduction** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

Network Meta-Analysis: Introduction yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `network-meta-analysis-intro` — For Reviewers

21.0.13 NMA Consistency and Inconsistency

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

[N=] participants/observations were analysed using **NMA Consistency and Inconsistency** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

NMA Consistency and Inconsistency yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `nma-consistency` — For Reviewers

21.0.14 NMA League Tables

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **NMA League Tables** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> NMA League Tables yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `nma-league-tables` — For Reviewers

21.0.15 Pooling Correlation Coefficients

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Pooling Correlation Coefficients** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Pooling Correlation Coefficients yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `correlation-pooling` — For Reviewers

21.0.16 Pooling Log-Odds Ratios

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Pooling Log-Odds Ratios** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Pooling Log-Odds Ratios yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `log-odds-ratio-pooling` — For Reviewers

21.0.17 Pooling Risk Ratios

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Pooling Risk Ratios** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Pooling Risk Ratios yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `risk-ratio-pooling` — For Reviewers

21.0.18 Prediction Intervals in Meta-Analysis

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Prediction Intervals in Meta-Analysis** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Prediction Intervals in Meta-Analysis yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `prediction-interval-meta` — For Reviewers

21.0.19 Quantifying Heterogeneity: Q and I^2

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Quantifying Heterogeneity: Q and I^2** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Quantifying Heterogeneity: Q and I^2 yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `heterogeneity-q-i2` — For Reviewers

21.0.20 Selection Models for Publication Bias

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Selection Models for Publication Bias** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Selection Models for Publication Bias yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `selection-models-bias` — For Reviewers

21.0.21 Standardised Mean Difference: Hedges' g

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Standardised Mean Difference: Hedges' g** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Standardised Mean Difference: Hedges' g yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `smd-hedges-g` — For Reviewers

21.0.22 Subgroup Meta-Analysis

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Subgroup Meta-Analysis** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Subgroup Meta-Analysis yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `subgroup-meta-analysis` — For Reviewers

21.0.23 SUCRA Rankings

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **SUCRA Rankings** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> SUCRA Rankings yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `nma-sucra` — For Reviewers

21.0.24 Tau-Squared Estimation

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Tau-Squared Estimation** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Tau-Squared Estimation yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `tau-squared-estimation` — For Reviewers

21.0.25 Trim-and-Fill

Methods paragraph (copy-paste, fill in italics):

> *[N=]* participants/observations were analysed using **Trim-and-Fill** as implemented in *[package vX.Y]* in R *[vX.Y]*. Assumptions were checked: *[list checks performed]*. *[Effect size with 95% confidence interval reported as the primary outcome]*. Two-sided p-values use *α = 0.05*; *[multiple-comparison adjustment if any]*.

Results paragraph (copy-paste):

> Trim-and-Fill yielded *[estimate]* (95% CI *[lower, upper]*, p = *[value]*). *[Diagnostic / assumption summary]*. *[Sensitivity analysis result]*.

Reviewer checklist for this method. → `trim-and-fill` — For Reviewers