

## Superego Cafe online course: [www.criticalappraisal.com](http://www.criticalappraisal.com)

Checklist - Aetiology: 3 pages, updated 04 March 2008.

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### Critical appraisal of aetiological studies

[CAxxx refers to the online presentation that will help you answer the question]

#### Methodology

<b>Was there a clearly defined group of subjects?</b>	CA130
<b>Except for the exposure/outcome studied, were the groups similar to each other?</b>	CA140, CA170
<b>Did the exposure precede the outcome?</b>	CA118
<b>Was the follow-up of the subjects complete and of sufficient duration?</b>	CA300 CA340
<b>Were the exposures/clinical outcomes measured in the same way in both groups?</b>	CA140 CA180

## Results

Complete this 2x2 table (CA350)		Disease status		Totals
		positive	negative	
Exposure to aetiological factor	positive	a	b	a+b
	negative	c	d	c+d
Totals		a+c	b+d	a+b+c+d

<b>What is the relative risk or odds ratio?</b>	CA370
<b>What is the confidence limit of the estimate of risk?</b>	CA330
<b>Is there a dose-response curve?</b>	
<b>Does the association make biological sense?</b>	CA150

## Applicability

<b>Are your patients similar to the target population?</b>	CA130
<b>Are the risk factor(s) similar to those experienced in your population?</b>	CA130
<b>What are your patients' risks of the adverse outcome (number needed to harm)?</b>	CA370
<b>Should exposure to the risk factor(s) be stopped or minimized?</b>	CA370

If you are presenting this critical appraisal of an aetiological study to an audience, please download the PowerPoint template that accompanies [CA610](#).