**Supplementary Table 1.** Newcastle-Ottawa scale for assessment of quality of included studies – case control studies (each asterisk represents if individual criterion within the subsection was fulfilled). N/A: not applicable; MHD: maintenance hemodialysis

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Quality assessment criteria** | **Acceptable (★)** | **D’Agata****2020** | **Eui Oh****2013** | **Huang****2014** | **Morfin****2018** | **Predrag****2016** | **Wei****2015** |
| Is the case definition adequate?  | Yes, with independent validation  | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Representative-ness of cases | Consecutive or obviously representative series of cases | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Selection of controls | Hospital controls  | ★ | ★ | ★  | ★  | ★  | ★  |
| Definition of controls  | Not requiring MHD  | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | No  |
| Study controls for patient factors | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Ascertainment of exposure?  | Yes | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Same method of ascertainment of cases/controls?  | Yes | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Non-response rate | Same rate for both groups  | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Overall Quality score (maximum = 7)  | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6  |