		2	1	0
1 Recruitment	*a) Avoidance of selection bias*	· All patients from data base included, or random patient selection	· Convenience sample (e.g., inclusion of patients attending regular medical check ups only)	· Selection method not reported
	b) Avoidance of non-response bias	· Response rate: > 85%; no differences between responders and non-responders	· 85% > response rate > 65%; and/or significant differences between responders and non-responders	· Response rate < 65%; or response rate not reported
		Deduct 1 point, if description of non-responders is missing		
2 Design	*a) Course of measurement*		· Prospective design (i.e., prospective assessment of outcome parameters, prospective collection of medical data does not suffice)	· Retrospective design
	b) Informants		· Multi-informants (i.e., self and proxy)	· Single-informants
	c) Type of controls		· Healthy or chronically ill controls, and/ or reference or normative samples	· Cut off values; no statistical group comparison
3 Outcome assessment		· Standardized, validated instruments (CBCL, YSR)	· Non-validated instruments, yet psychometric properties reported	· Non-validated instruments, no psychometric evaluation
4 Confounding and effect modification		· statistical adjustment for basic medical and sociodemographic data (e.g., by means of multiple regression, analysis of covariance)	· basic medical and/ or socio-demographic data were considered (i.e., descriptive estimates)	· no information about medical or sociodemographic data