**Supplemental Table 1. Quality Assessment for Cohort Studies Using the Newcastle–Ottawa Quality Assessment Scale** *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Selection</th>
<th>Comparability</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Representativeness of the exposed cohort</td>
<td>Selection of the non-exposed cohort</td>
<td>Ascertainment of exposure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bashir et al. (15)</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birks et al. (16)</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bogaev et al. (17)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boyle et al. (18)</td>
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<td>Hsich et al. (19)</td>
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<td>Morris et al. (20)</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sherazi et al. (21)</td>
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<td>Tsiouris et al. (22)</td>
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<td>Meeteren et al. (23)</td>
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<td>Weymann et al. (24)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* A study can be awarded a maximum of one point for each numbered item within the selection and outcome categories. A maximum of two points can be given for comparability.

† Selection: Representativeness of exposed cohort: ✔ given if the cohort was representative of the average patient with advanced heart failure in the community; Selection of non-exposed cohort: ✔ given if the non-exposed cohort (male sex) was drawn from the same community as the exposed cohort; Exposure ascertainment: ✔ given if obtained from secure record (hospital chart); Outcome of interest not present at start of study: ✔ given if outcome not present in baseline characteristics.

‡ Comparability: ✔ given if cohort was roughly comparable in baseline characteristics; additional ✔ if propensity score matching or multivariate analysis was performed.

x Outcome: Assessment of outcome: ✔ given if independent blind assessment or record linkage; Enough follow-up: ✔ given if follow-up was long enough for outcomes to occur (>6months). Adequacy of follow-up of cohorts: ✔ given if complete follow-up and all participants accounted for or if loss to follow-up was small and unlikely to introduce bias (follow-up rate >90% or description provided of those lost).