

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

### 1. Background and rationale for study (0-2 points)

- Is the problem clearly described and of high public health importance?

### 2. Methods (0-8 points)

- Are epidemiologic comparisons clearly stated?
- Are critical definitions clearly stated or obvious (for example, case, principal exposure)?
- Do the selected methods correspond with the nature of study and study questions?
- Is a clear and easy-to-follow sequence of methods presented?
- Are essential methods described with precision and avoid undefined terms or jargon?
- Overall methods: where they appropriate and adequately described?  
Data Analysis/Statistics: where they appropriate and adequately described (p-values, confidence limits, etc.)
- Originality: was the study/investigation cutting edge/novel approach?

### 3. Results (0-2)

- Are the results relevant to the problem and reported in sufficient detail?

### 4. Recommendations (0-2)

- Are the recommendations clear, feasible and supported by the results?

### 5. Impact (0-4)

- Will this study/investigation produce a change in practice or policy?
- Was an effect on the health of the population at risk demonstrated or reported?

### 6. Overall Impression (0-6)

- Is the writing clear and brief?
- Is there a logical sequence and cohesiveness among all abstract sections?
- Are proper and simple terms used to describe methods and discuss findings