

**Log of updates to the SciRAPepi tool, listed in order of most recent.**

Date	Tool version	Updates
January 2026	2.0	<p>The second version of the SciRAPepi tool was evaluated by experts in epidemiology and risk assessment and the following improvements made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• combining criteria from reporting quality and methodological quality sections as “reliability”,</li> <li>• removal of macros since they created technical issues,</li> <li>• removing the function to increase weight of individual criteria; this function enabled users to increase weight of some criteria that they consider more critical or important for specific study design,</li> <li>• change from interactive pie chart to bar chart visualizing the results of relevance,</li> <li>• removal of relevance item - generalisability of the study,</li> <li>• creation of separate sheets for different epidemiological study designs (cross-sectional, classical case-control, nested case-control, and cohort studies) and one comprehensive sheet containing all criteria and items,</li> <li>• removing the CATEGORY column,</li> <li>• using the term "% fulfilled criteria" instead of "SciRAP score" in the results section,</li> <li>• revision of the guidance for criteria that received inconsistent expert evaluations.</li> </ul> <p>For details, see Hlisníková et al. 2026.  <a href="https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.5c11558">doi: 10.1021/acs.est.5c11558</a></p> <p>The tool now consists of 33 criteria for evaluating reliability and 5 items for evaluating relevance.</p>
October 2023	1.0	<p>The first version of the SciRAPepi tool for evaluating observational epidemiological studies was unpublished and used for testing among experts in epidemiology and risk assessment to refine this tool.</p> <p>The SciRAPepi tool consists of 33 criteria for reporting quality, 21 criteria for methodological quality and 6 relevance items. Guidance for evaluation is available for all criteria and items. Evaluation is conducted using the SciRAPepi tool in Excel sheet. There is a possibility to increase weight of some criteria. Based on guidance and expertise, irrelevant criteria for specific study design of epidemiological studies (cross-sectional, case-control, nested case-control and cohort studies) can be excluded from the evaluation using the REMOVE option from selection. Several interactive functions in the Excel sheet rely on the macros developed by using Visual Basic for Applications.</p>