

Table 4. Results of the quality assessment of the studies included in the meta-analysis.

First author	Spectrum of the patients	Consecutive recruitment of the patients	Ascertainment of the gold standard regardless of the index test results	Blind comparison of the index test and reference standard	Enough explanation of the index test to permit replication	2011 Oxford center for evidence based medicine level of evidence (http://www.cebm.net)
Yamaga et al ²¹	Adult patients with recurrent MTC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Tran et al ²²	Adult patients with MTC	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	3
Ozkan et al ²³	Adult patients with recurrent or metastatic MTC	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	3
Traub-Weidinger et al ²⁴	Adult patients with MTC	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	3
Treglia et al ²⁵	Adult patients with recurrent MTC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Naswa et al ²⁶	Adult patients with recurrent MTC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Lapinska et al ²⁷	Adult patients with MTC	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	3
Palyga et al ²⁸	Adult patients with disseminated MTC	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	3
Conry et al ²⁹	Adult patients with recurrent MTC	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	3

N/A: not available; MTC: medullary thyroid carcinoma.