

Appendix B: Population Relatedness

Appendix B Table 5. Cardiac Surgery Rubric and Guide.

Cardiac Surgery	
Domain	Guide
Split sample Check	Split sample = Closely Related
Index Condition Match	No = Mismatch → Remove from sample
Recruitment Indication	
Inclusion Criteria	Partial match if no major clinical difference = Related
Exclusion Criteria	
Surgical Procedure	
1. Isolated CABG (%)	Partial match (+/- 30%) = Related
2. Valve + CABG (%)	
3. CHD-related procedure (%)	
3. Other procedures (%)	
Study Characteristics	
Enrollment Period	Partial match (<20 difference) = Related
Follow-up time	If only difference, 1) Cox model = Related 2) Derivation time short enough to be logistic regression vs. validation is longer = Distantly Related
Outcome	No match = not validation → Removed from sample

CABG indicates coronary artery bypass graft; CHD, congenital heart defect.