Abstract
Neonatal jaundice may cause the lifelong sequelae of central nerve system developmental disorders. However, the results are inconsistent. 2016 newborns with neonatal jaundice and 8064 age-/gender-matched (1:4) controls were enrolled during 1999–2000. Participants of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and other developmental disorders that occurred during the follow-up were identified. Newborns with neonatal jaundice had increased risks of developing ASD (hazard ratio [HR]: 1.75, 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.05–2.90), any developmental delay (HR: 1.27, 95% CI: 1.02–1.58), and developmental speech or language disorder (HR: 1.41, 95% CI: 1.11–1.79). Newborn exposure to hyperbilirubinemia was related to the increased risk of developing ASD, any developmental delay, and developmental speech or language disorder in later life.