

RAPID CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW/META ANALYSIS OF QUANTITATIVE STUDIES

PROJECT DESCRIPTION/LEVEL OF STUDY

Project title:

Date:

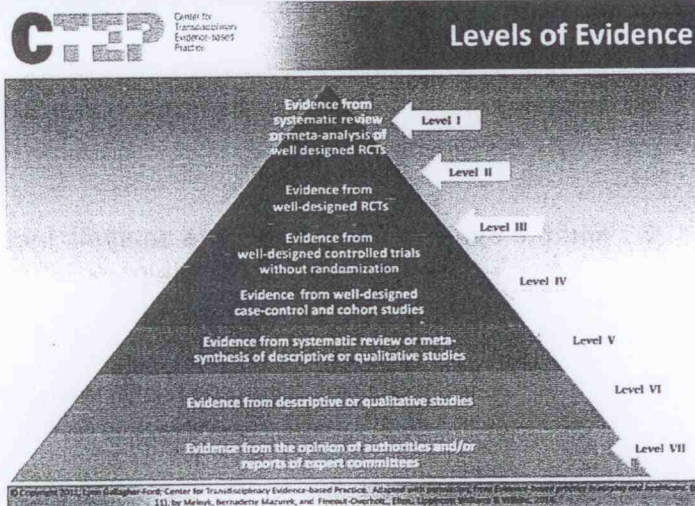
Reviewer(s) name(s):

Article citation (APA):

PICOT Question:

Indicate the level of the study you are appraising:

What is your recommendation for article use in body of evidence?



GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF STUDY

OVERVIEW

1. Purpose of study, including research question(s) or hypotheses
2. Design/Method
3. Sample/Setting

QUALITY OF STUDY

VALIDITY: Are the results of this study valid?

1. Did the systematic review /meta analysis address a focused clinical question?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- What was the focused clinical question?
- Comments:

2. Was the search for relevant studies detailed and exhaustive?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Comments:

3. Did the systematic review/meta analysis include RCTs?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Was criteria used to select articles for inclusion? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- What were the criteria for inclusion?
 - Random assignment to treatment groups? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - Analyzed in assigned groups? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - Complete follow-up of subjects? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - Blind? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - Double-blind? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Comments:

4. Did the systematic review/meta analysis include non-RCTs?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Was criteria used to select articles for inclusion? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- What were the criteria for inclusion?
 - Analyzed in assigned groups? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - Complete follow-up of subjects? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - Blind? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - Double-blind? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Comments:

5. Were the included studies appraised to be high quality by the authors?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Comments:

6. Were the methods consistent from study to study?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Were the populations in the included studies comparable?
- Were the outcomes, interventions, and exposures measured the same way in the groups being compared in the included studies?
- Comments:

7. Were the results consistent across the included studies?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Comments:

8. Was there freedom from conflict of interest?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Sponsor/funding agency: _____
- Investigators: _____
- Comments:

9. Is the date range of the cited literature current?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- What date ranges were included? _____ to _____
 - If older literature was included, why was it included?
- Comments:

RELIABILITY: Are these valid study results important?

10. What were the main results of the systematic review/meta analysis?

- What was the effect size?
 - Individual studies: _____
 - Summary statistic: _____
- For the summary statistic:
 - Was the precision of the intervention reported? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - How was the precision reported?
 - Confidence Intervals _____
 - Standard Deviations _____
 - How precise was the intervention/treatment?
 - Narrow? _____ Wide? _____
- Comments:

11. Were the results clinically significant?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Were the following reported: NNT _____, NNH _____, OR _____, RR _____?
- Comments:

12. Were the results statistically significant?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- P value _____?
- Comments:

13. Were potential confounders identified?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Were the potential confounders discussed in relationship to the results?
- Comments:

14. Were adverse events identified?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Comments:

APPLICABILITY/TRANSFERABILITY: Can I apply these valid, important study results?

15. Can the results be applied to my population of interest?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- Is the treatment feasible in my care setting?
- Do the outcomes apply to my population of interest?
- Are the likely benefits worth the potential harm and costs?
- Are the subjects/participants in this study similar to my population of interest?
- Were all clinically important outcomes considered?
- Comments:

16. Would you use the study/article in your practice to make a difference in outcomes?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

- If yes, why would you do this?
- If yes, how would you do this?
- If no, why would you not include the results to make a difference?
- Comments:

STRENGTH OF STUDY

Level of study: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII (Circle one)

Quality of study: High | Medium | Low (Circle one)

STRENGTH = LEVEL + QUALITY

What is the strength of the study?

What is your recommendation for article inclusion in the body of evidence to answer your question?

Additional Comments: