

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

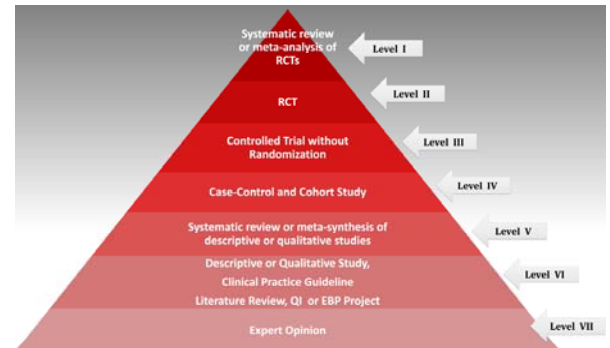
PROJECT DESCRIPTION/LEVEL OF STUDY

Project title:

Date:

Reviewer(s) name(s):

PICOT Question:



Article citation (APA):

Indicate the level of the study you are appraising:

Recommendation for article inclusion in the body of evidence to answer your question:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF STUDY

OVERVIEW

1. Purpose of study, including research question(s) or hypotheses:
2. Design/Method:
3. Sample:
4. 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?

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

Yes No Unknown

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

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

5. Were the included studies appraised to be high quality

Yes No Unknown

by the authors?

6. Were the methods consistent from study to study?

Yes No Unknown

- Were the populations in the included studies comparable? Yes No
- Were the outcomes, interventions, and exposures measured the same way in the groups being compared in the included studies? Yes No

7. Were the results consistent across the included studies?

Yes No Unknown

8. Was there freedom from conflict of interest?

Yes No Unknown

- Sponsor/funding agency
- Investigators

9. Was 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?

RELIABILITY: Are these valid study results important?

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

- For each individual study:
 - Statistical Significance (*p* value) _____
 - Confidence Interval and/or Standard Deviations _____
 - How precise was the intervention/treatment?
 - Narrow? Wide? _____
 - Effect size _____
- For the summary statistic:
 - Statistical significance (*z* statistic): _____
 - Were the studies heterogeneous? Yes No
 - Confidence Interval: _____
 - Effect size: _____
 - Did it favor the intervention? Yes No

- Did it favor the control? Yes No

11. Were the results clinically significant?

Yes No Unknown

- Were the following reported: NNT, NNH, OR, RR? Yes No

12. Were potential confounders identified?

Yes No Unknown

- Were the potential confounders discussed in relationship to the results? Yes No

13. Were adverse events identified?

Yes No Unknown

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

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

Yes No Unknown

- Is the treatment feasible in my care setting? Yes No
- Do the outcomes apply to my population of interest? Yes No
- Are the likely benefits worth the potential harm and costs? Yes No
- Are the subjects/participants in this study similar to my population of interest? Yes No
- Were all clinically important outcomes considered? Yes No

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

Yes No Unknown

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

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?

- Include this article in the body of evidence (place article on evaluation & synthesis tables)
- Do NOT include this article in the body of evidence

Additional Comments: