

Critical Appraisal Worksheet: Diagnostic Test Studies

Citation:			
SCREENING			
Why was the study done (what was the research question)?			
Was the study design appropriate?			
P – I – C – O the study			
VALIDITY			
Was there a clearly defined question?			
Was the presence or absence of the target disorder confirmed with a reference standard?			
Was the comparison to the reference standard independent from and blind to the study test results?			
Was the test evaluated on an appropriate spectrum of patients?			
Was the reference standard applied to all patients?			
CLINICAL IMPORTANCE			
		Target Disorder	
		Present	Absent
Test Result	Positive	A	B
	Negative	C	D
Sensitivity = $\frac{A}{A + C}$		Specificity = $\frac{D}{B + D}$	
Likelihood ratio + (positive result) = $\frac{\text{sensitivity}}{1 - \text{specificity}}$		Likelihood ratio - (negative result) = $\frac{1 - \text{sensitivity}}{\text{specificity}}$	

Adapted from: Heneghan, Carl and Badenoch, Douglas. *Evidence-based Medicine Toolkit, 2nd edition*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing; BMJ Books. 2006. p. 34.