

Critical Appraisal Worksheet: Systematic Review/Meta-analysis

Citation:	
SCREENING	
1. Why was the study done (what was the research question)? <i>(P – I – C – O the study)</i>	
VALIDITY	
2. Is it a systematic review of high-quality studies which are relevant to your question? <i>(Did it identify the population, interventions, and outcomes studied?)</i>	
3. Does it describe a comprehensive search for all relevant studies? <i>(Did they search all relevant databases? use an appropriate search strategy? seek personal contact with experts? include unpublished and non-English studies?)</i>	
4. Were the criteria for study inclusion pre-determined and clearly stated?	
5. Did the authors adequately assess the quality of the included studies?	
CLINICAL IMPORTANCE	
6. What were the results of the review? <i>(Are the results of all included studies clearly displayed? Are the results similar from study to study? Is there a clinical bottom line? If the study results combined, was it appropriate to do so?)</i>	
7. How precise are the results? <i>(What is the confidence interval? p-value?)</i>	
8. Did the interpretation of the review's results accurately reflect the results themselves? Are the results generalizable?	

Based on: Clegg, Andrew, Hewitson, Paul, and Milne, Ruairidh. *Explicit and reproducible: how to assess the quality of the evidence in a systematic review.* **StudentBMJ.** 8:24. Feb. 2000 AND Heneghan, Carl and Badenoch, Douglas. **Evidence-based Medicine Toolkit, 2nd edition.** Oxford: Blackwell Publishing; BMJ Books. 2006. p. 27.