



REVIEWS AND META-ANALYSES CHECKLIST

How do you rate this paper? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1.0 OBJECTIVES AND HYPOTHESES

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| 1.1 Are the objectives of the study clearly stated? | |
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2.0 DESIGN

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| 2.1 Is the study design suitable for the objectives? | |
| 2.2 Were the search methods used to locate relevant studies comprehensive? | |
| 2.3 Was this the right sample to answer the objectives? | |
| 2.4 Is the study large enough to achieve its objectives? Have sample size estimates been performed? | |
| 2.5 Were all subjects accounted for? | |
| 2.6 Were all appropriate outcomes considered? | |
| 2.7 Has ethical approval been obtained if appropriate? | |

3.0 MEASUREMENT AND OBSERVATION

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| 3.1 | Is it clear what was measured, how it was measured and what the outcomes were? | |
| 3.2 | Were explicit methods used to determine which studies to include in the review? | |
| 3.3 | Was the selection of primary studies re-producible and free from bias? | |
| 3.4 | Was the methodologic quality of the primary studies assessed? | |
| 3.5 | Are the measurements valid? | |
| 3.6 | Are the measurements reliable? | |
| 3.7 | Are the measurements reproducible? | |

4.0 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

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| 4.1 | Are the basic data adequately described? | |
| 4.2 | Were the differences between studies adequately described? | |
| 4.3 | Are the results presented clearly, objectively and in sufficient detail to enable readers to make their own judgement? | |
| 4.4 | Are the results internally consistent, i.e. do the numbers add up properly? | |

5.0 ANALYSIS

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| 5.1 Were the results of primary studies combined appropriately? | |
| 5.2 Has a sensitivity analysis been performed? | |
| 5.3 Were all the important outcomes considered? | |
| 5.4 Are the data suitable for analysis? | |
| 5.5 Are the methods appropriate to the data? | |
| 5.6 Are any statistics correctly performed and interpreted? | |

6.0 DISCUSSION

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| 6.1 Are the results discussed in relation to existing knowledge on the subject and study objectives? | |
| 6.2 Is the discussion biased? | |

7.0 INTERPRETATION

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| 7.1 Are the authors' conclusions justified by the data? | |
| 7.2 What level of evidence has this paper presented? (using CEBM levels) | |
| 7.3 Does this paper help me answer my problem? | |

How do you rate this paper now? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

In addition, answer the following questions with regards to local practice.

8.0 IMPLEMENTATION

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| 8.1 Can any necessary change be implemented in practice? | |
| 8.2 What aids to implementation exist? | |
| 8.3 What barriers to implementation exist? | |