

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW (of Therapy) WORKSHEET

Citation:

Are the results of this systematic review of therapy valid?	
Is it a systematic review of randomized trials of the treatment?	
Does it include a methods section that describes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding and including all the relevant trials? • Assessing their individual validity? 	
Were the results consistent from study to study?	
Were individual patient data used in the analysis or aggregate data? (may be important in meta-analysis)	

Are the valid results of this systematic review important?

What is the magnitude of the treatment effect?	
How precise is the treatment effect?	

Can you apply this valid, important evidence from a systematic review in caring for your patient?

Do these results apply to your patient?	
Is our patient so different from those in the systematic review that its results can't help you?	
Is the treatment feasible in our setting?	
What are our patient's potential benefits and harms from therapy?	
What are our patient's values and expectations for both the	

outcome we are trying to prevent and the treatment we are offering?	
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Should you believe apparent qualitative differences in the efficacy of therapy in some subgroups of patients? Only if you can say "yes" to all of the following:	
Do they really make biologic and clinical sense?	
Is the qualitative difference both clinically (beneficial for some but useless or harmful for others) and statistically significant?	
Was this difference hypothesised before the study began (rather than the product of dredging the data), and has it been confirmed in other, independent studies?	
Was this one of just a few subgroup analyses carried out in this study?	

Additional Notes: