



Critical Appraisal of an Overview

1. METHODS	
<p>1.1 Is the question clear?</p> <p>a) What is the population?</p> <p>b) What is the exposure/intervention?</p> <p>c) What is/are the outcome(s)?</p>	
<p>1.2 Is the search thorough?</p> <p>a) Bibliographic database; years covered?</p> <p>b) References in relevant articles?</p> <p>c) Grey literature (unpublished research reports etc.)?</p>	
<p>1.3 Is the validity of included studies adequately assessed?</p> <p>a) Are the inclusion criteria appropriate?</p> <p>b) Has methodological quality been assessed?</p> <p>c) Is assessment reproducible, blind?</p> <p>d) Was missing information obtained from investigators?</p> <p>e) Is publication bias an issue?</p>	



Critical Appraisal of an Overview (continued)

2. RESULTS	
<p>2.1 Effect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) On what scale is the effect measured? e.g., odds ratio b) How big is the overall effect? 	
<p>2.2 Consistency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Are the results consistent between studies? b) How sensitive are the results to changes in the way the review is done? 	
<p>2.3 Precision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Does the lower confidence limit include clinically relevant effects? b) Does the upper confidence limit exclude clinically relevant effects? 	
3. INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS	
<p>3.1 Are subgroup analyses interpreted cautiously?</p>	
<p>3.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Can the conclusions and data be generalised to other settings? b) Is NNT (numbers needed to treat) stated or able to be calculated? 	
<p>3.3 Are recommendations linked to the strength of the evidence?</p>	