

Evidence-based Family Medicine Curriculum  
University of Ottawa

**WORKSHEET FOR CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF A THERAPY ARTICLE**

Citation: Author(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Short title: \_\_\_\_\_

Yr/ Vol/ Pgs: \_\_\_\_\_

GUIDE	ASSESSMENT
<b>A. ARE THE STUDY RESULTS VALID?</b>	
1. Was the assignment of patients to treatment groups truly randomized?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell
2. Were all patients who entered the study accounted for appropriately at the end? i) Is the number randomized the same as in results? (Try a best case/ worse case scenario.) ii) Were patients analysed in the groups they were allocated to at the start of the study?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell
3. Were patients, physicians, and those doing the assessments "blind" to treatment?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell
4. Was similarity between groups documented? i) Table of baseline characteristics? ii) Were differences controlled for in the analysis?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell
5. Aside from the intervention, were the groups treated in the same way?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell

<b>B. WHAT WERE THE RESULTS?</b>	
1. How large was the treatment effect?	
2. How precise was the estimate of the treatment effect?	

<b>C. CAN RESULTS BE APPLIED TO THE PATIENT-BASED QUESTION?</b>	
1. Can the results be applied to my patient (care)? i) Are study patients similar to your patient?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell
2. Were all clinically important outcomes reported? i) Were the most important outcomes used? ii) Were quality of life outcomes used? Assessment of adverse effects?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell
3. Are the likely treatment benefits greater than the potential harms and costs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell

<b>CONCLUSIONS:</b>			
The Study Results Are Valid.	YES	NO	CAN'T TELL
Results Will Help in Caring For Patient.	YES	NO	CAN'T TELL