****Academy of Nutrition and DieteticsEvidence Analysis Library® Worksheet Template andQuality Criteria Checklist: Review Articles**

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| --- | --- |
| Citation |  |
| Study Design |  |
| Class |  |
| Quality Rating | + (Positive)  - (Negative)  ⦸ (Neutral) |
| Research Purpose |  |
| Inclusion Criteria |  |
| Exclusion Criteria |  |
| Description of Study Protocol | Recruitment:  Design:  Blinding used (if applicable):  Intervention (if applicable):  Statistical Analysis: |
| Data Collection Summary | Timing of Measurements:  Dependent Variables:  Independent Variables:  Control Variables: |
| Description of Actual Data Sample | Initial:       (      Males       Females)  Attrition (final N):  Age:  Ethnicity:  Other relevant demographics:  Anthropometrics:  Location: |
| Summary of Results | Key Findings:  Other Findings: |
| Author Conclusion |  |
| Reviewer Comments |  |
| Funding Source |  |

**Quality Criteria Checklist: Review Articles**

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| **Symbols Used** | **Explanation** |
| **+** | **Positive –** Indicates that the report has clearly addressed issues of inclusion/exclusion, bias, generalizability, and data collection and analysis |
| **--** | **Negative –** Indicates that these issues have not been adequately addressed. |
| **⦸** | **Neutral** – indicates that the report is neither exceptionally strong nor exceptionally week |

Select a rating from the   
drop-down menu 🡫

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| --- | --- |
| **Relevance Questions** | |
| 1. Will the answer if true, have a direct bearing on the health of patients? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Is the outcome or topic something that patients/clients/population groups would care about? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Is the problem addressed in the review one that is relevant to dietetics practice? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Will the information, if true, require a change in practice? | Select a Rating |
| ***If the answers to all of the above relevance questions are “Yes,” the report is eligible for designation with a plus (+) on the Evidence Quality Worksheet, depending on answers to the following validity questions.*** | |
| **Validity Questions** | |
| 1. Was the question for the review clearly focused and appropriate? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Was the search strategy used to locate relevant studies comprehensive? Were the databases searched and the search terms used described? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Were explicit methods used to select studies to include in the review? Were inclusion/exclusion criteria specified and appropriate? Were selection methods unbiased? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Was there an appraisal of the quality and validity of studies included in the review? Were appraisal methods specified, appropriate, and reproducible? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Were specific treatments/interventions/exposures described? Were treatments similar enough to be combined? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Was the outcome of interest clearly indicated? Were other potential harms and benefits considered? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Were processes for data abstraction, synthesis, and analysis described? Were they applied consistently across studies and groups? Was there appropriate use of qualitative and/or quantitative synthesis? Was variation in findings among studies analyzed? Were heterogeneity issued considered? If data from studies were aggregated for meta-analysis, was the procedure described? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Are the results clearly presented in narrative and/or quantitative terms? If summary statistics are used, are levels of significance and/or confidence intervals included? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Are conclusions supported by results with biases and limitations taken into consideration? Are limitations of the review identified and discussed? | Select a Rating |
| 1. Was bias due to the review’s funding or sponsorship unlikely? | Select a Rating |
| **MINUS/NEGATIVE (-)**  *If most (six or more) of the answers to the above validity questions are “No,” the review should be designated with a minus (-) symbol on the Evidence Quality Worksheet.* | |
| **NEUTRAL (∅)**  *If the answer to any of the first four validity questions (1-4) is “No,” but other criteria indicate strengths, the review should be designated with a neutral* (∅) *symbol on the Evidence Worksheet.* | |
| **PLUS/POSITIVE (+)**  *If most of the answers to the above validity questions are “Yes” (must include criteria 1, 2, 3, and 4), the report should be designated with a plus symbol (+) on the Evidence Worksheet.* | |