**Asking questions, finding and assessing evidence**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Student:** |  |

Instruction: write your answers in empty cells – there is no restriction for textual entry.   
Detailed instructions are available in a separated document.  
Instructions for a search strategy are on the second page of this document.

Send the document to [ibz@mefst.hr](mailto:ibz@mefst.hr) by 8 October 2014.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Clinical questions:** |  |
| **PICO:** |  |
| **P**atient |  |
| **I**ntervention |  |
| **C**omparison |  |
| **O**utcome |  |
| Type of study |  |
| **Keywords and their combination (search strategy)** |  |
|  |
| **Database 1 & No. of retrieved articles:** |  |
| **Retrieved articles (add rows if needed):** |  |
|  |
| **Database 2 & No. of retrieved articles:** |  |
| **Retrieved articles (add rows if needed):** |  |
|  |
| **Database 1 & No. of retrieved articles:** |  |
| **Retrieved articles (add rows if needed):** |  |
|  |

**C:\Users\Ana\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\IKNE8LBO\MC900322699[1].wmf**Search strategy**:**

**Cochrane Library – The Cochrane Database of Systematic Review**

**PubMed Clinical Queries**

**Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE)**

**PubMed – general search**

**Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL)**

**You found a systematic review**

No systematic review

**You found a systematic review**

No systematic review

**You found RCT**

No RCT

**You found RCT or other study type**

No studies

Warning! This is the area of low quality studies

C:\Users\Ana\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\IKNE8LBO\MC900322699[1].wmfC:\Users\Ana\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\IKNE8LBO\MC900322699[1].wmfC:\Users\Ana\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\IKNE8LBO\MC900322699[1].wmfC:\Users\Ana\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\41SSYEO0\MC900078790[1].wmf

When you choose the most relevant article, critically assess it using the appropriate guideline. Delete the form you did not use.

**Critical assessment of an article about therapy**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Clinical question:** |  |
| **Article (Authors. Title. Journal Year; Volume:pages.)** |  |

**Assessment:**

**Methods**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Design – RCT / controlled not randomized / cohort / case series / case report / prospective vs. retrospective |  |
| Setting – type of hospital / location |  |
| Patient Population – number / inclusion criteria / exclusion criteria,  screening/enrollment methods, number screened vs number enrolled |  |
| Intervention / Control |  |
| Blinding |  |
| Analysis – models, intention-to-treat? |  |
| Outcomes – primary and secondary |  |
| Follow-up – duration / completeness, accounting of patients |  |

**Validity**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Randomized? Randomization list concealed? |  |
| Treatment groups similar at baseline? |  |
| Patients starting trial accounted for at conclusion? |  |
| Patients analyzed in groups to which they were randomized? |  |
| Patients and clinicians blinded to treatment? |  |
| Groups treated similarly outside of intervention? |  |
| Do the study population characteristics describe your patient? |  |

**Results**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For primary outcomes – timepoint of reporting, RRR, ARR, NNT (all with confidence intervals if possible) |  |
| For secondary outcomes – same as data for primary outcomes to the extent that available |  |
| Compliance with Therapies |  |
| Adverse Effects |  |

**Comments**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths and Weaknesses of Study (internal and external validity) |  |
| Study in context of other available literature and/or current standard-of care |  |
| How will this study affect your management of the putative patient? |  |
| Next steps for further study of this problem |  |

**Critical assessment of a systematic review/metaanalysis**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Clinical question:** |  |
| **Article (Authors. Title. Journal Year; Volume:pages.)** |  |

**Assessment:**

**Methods**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Study Sources – Medline, Cochrane, Bibliographies, Authors contacted, etc. |  |
| Design of studies included –  RCT / controlled not randomized / cohort / case series / case report / prospective vs. retrospective |  |
| Study inclusion / exclusion criteria |  |
| Number of studies screened vs. accepted |  |
| Patient Population – total number / inclusion criteria / exclusion criteria,  screening/enrollment methods, number screened vs number enrolled |  |
| Description of therapy / diagnostic test / exposure being assessed |  |
| Analysis – description of data synthesis, statistical models, measures of heterogeneity |  |
| Outcomes – primary and secondary |  |
| Follow-up – duration / completeness, accounting of patients |  |

**Validity**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Was a focused clinical question addressed? |  |
| Were study inclusion criteria appropriate? |  |
| What is the likelihood that an relevant study which would change the overview’s conclusion was omitted? |  |
| Was the validity of the included studies assessed with reproducible standards? |  |
| What was the degree of heterogeneity between included studies? |  |
| Was follow-up of sufficient duration? Were all patients accounted for and analyzed? |  |
| Do the study population characteristics describe your patient? |  |

**Results**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Was meta-analysis performed? |  |
| What are the results of the overview? |  |
| How precise are the results? |  |

**Comments**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths and Weaknesses of Study (internal and external validity) |  |
| Study in context of other available literature and/or current standard-of care |  |
| Are the overview results comprehensive and homogeneous enough to influence patient care? |  |
| Next steps for further study of this problem |  |
| Pathophysiological considerations |  |