Resources to support Critical Appraisal

Step by step checklists from leading sites

The Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) provides straightforward checklists which guide you step by step through the questions you need to ask to appraise a study.

Good points: Covers a variety of study types including checklists for qualitative and cohort studies.

The Centre for Evidence Based Medicine (CEBM) based at the University of Oxford, provides a nice and brief introduction to critical appraisal as well as worksheets that like the CASP checklists guide you step by step through the questions you need to ask when appraising a paper.

- Good points: Tells you where in the articles to look for the information. Great explanation of what ‘asking a focused question’ really means in practice.
- Not so helpful: Only a limited number of high end study types covered, you may not find one for the article you’re reading.

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