



EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

Step by Step

Online-only content for “Critical Appraisal of the Evidence: Part I,” by Fineout-Overholt and colleagues in the *American Journal of Nursing*, July 2010, p. 47-52.

Evaluation Table Template

A. The column headings for the evaluation table. Copy and paste this header into a text document.

Author (Year)	Conceptual Framework	Design/ Method	Sample/ Setting	Major Variables Studied (and Their Definitions)	Measurement	Data Analysis	Findings	Appraisal: Worth to Practice

B. A description of each column’s content. Put the data extracted from the studies in the correct column.

(Put citation here.)	(Theoretical basis for study goes here.)	(Describe design and how study was carried out.)	(This column contains number and characteristics of patients; attrition rate and why.)	(List and define independent and dependent variables.)	(Here go scales used to measure outcome variables, including name and author of scale and data on validity and reliability.)	(Put statistics used to answer clinical question here; but don’t need to include all.)	(These are statistical or qualitative findings—there should be a finding for every statistical test in previous column.)	(Describe strengths and limitations of study; risk or harm if study intervention or findings are implemented; feasibility of use in your practice. Remember: level of evidence + quality of evidence = strength of evidence and confidence to act.)
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