Combined Evidence Pyramid

Hierarchy of Evidence Pyramid

- Meta-analysis
- Systematic Review
- RCTs
- Controlled Trials without Randomization
- Cohort Studies, Case Control
- Cross Sectional Studies, Case Studies

6S Pyramid

- Systems
- Summaries
- Synopses of Syntheses
- Syntheses
- Synopses of Studies
- Studies

Computerized Decision Support Software
(Electronic Medical Records informed by evidence: in development)

Practice Guidelines
(RNAC guidelines, UpToDate, Dynamed Plus, TRIP)

Pre-appraised Guidelines and Study of Synthesis
(BMJ Journals)

Systematic Reviews
(Joanna Briggs Institute EBP Database, Cochrane Library, TRIPS & other databases)

Evidence-based Abstract Journals
(Trip - with evidence based synopses limit)

Primary Research
(Medline, CINAHL, psyCINFO, Scopus, Google Scholar, etc.)

Background Resources, Expert Opinions & (Narrative) Review Articles – Textbooks (Library catalogue), UpToDate, Google Scholar & other databases

Critical Appraisal & Synthesis
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Evidence</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Systems</strong>&lt;br&gt;Secondary - has been critically appraised</td>
<td>Clinical information system&lt;br&gt;- Computerized decision support systems</td>
<td>Integrated with patient records&lt;br&gt;- Not readily available</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summaries</strong>&lt;br&gt;Secondary - has been critically appraised</td>
<td>Point of Care Tools&lt;br&gt;- Regularly updated clinical guidelines that integrate EB Info about specific clinical problems</td>
<td>Best Practice Guidelines - Registered Nurses Association of Ontario&lt;br&gt;- UpToDate <em>(foreground question)</em>&lt;br&gt;- DynaMed Plus</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Synopses of Syntheses</strong>&lt;br&gt;Secondary - has been critically appraised</td>
<td>Summarize information found in systematic reviews</td>
<td>BMJ Journals&lt;br&gt;- Ortho Evidence</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Syntheses</strong>&lt;br&gt;Secondary - has not been critically appraised</td>
<td>Systematic Reviews&lt;br&gt;- Scoping Reviews&lt;br&gt;- Methodology section present</td>
<td>Cochrane Library&lt;br&gt;- TRIPS&lt;br&gt;- CINAHL, Medline, PsychINFO, Scopus, Google Scholar, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Synopses of Studies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Secondary - has been critically appraised</td>
<td>Summarize evidence from high quality studies&lt;br&gt;- Methodology section present</td>
<td>Evidence – Based Abstract Journals&lt;br&gt;- Evidence – Based Nursing&lt;br&gt;- Cancer Treatment Reviews</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Studies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Primary – original</td>
<td>Qualitative/Quantitative/Mixed Methods&lt;br&gt;- Methodology section present</td>
<td>CINAHL, Medline. PsychINFO, Scopus, Google Scholar, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expert opinion - not a study</strong></td>
<td>No methodology section present</td>
<td>CINAHL, Medline. PsychINFO, Scopus, Google Scholar, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Narrative Reviews - not a study</strong></td>
<td>No methodology section present</td>
<td>CINAHL, Medline. PsychINFO, Scopus, Google Scholar, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Background Resources</strong></td>
<td>Textbooks&lt;br&gt;- UpToDate <em>(background question)</em></td>
<td>Library Catalogue&lt;br&gt;- Google Scholar&lt;br&gt;- UpToDate</td>
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