

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW (OF THERAPY) WORKSHEET

Citation:

Are the results of this systematic review valid?

Is this a systematic review of randomised trials?	
Does it include a methods section that describes: a) finding and including all relevant trials? b) assessing their individual validity?	
Were the results consistent from study to study?	
Were the individual patient data used in the analysis (or aggregate data)?	

Are the valid results of this systematic review important?

Translating odds ratios to NNTs:

The numbers in the body of the tables are the NNTs for the corresponding odds ratio at that particular patient's expected event rate (PEER).

1. When the odds ratio (OR) < 1

This table applies when a bad outcome is prevented by therapy.

		OR < 1				
		0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5
Patient's expected event rate (PEER)	0.05	2.09 ^a	104	69	52	41 ^b
	0.10	110	54	36	27	21
	0.20	61	30	20	14	11
	0.30	46	22	14	10	8
	0.40	40	19	12	9	7
	0.50	38	18	11	8	6
	0.70	44	20	13	9	6
	0.90	101 ^c	46	27	18	12 ^d

^a The relative risk reduction (RRR) here is 10%

^b The RRR here is 49%

^c For any OR, NNT is lowest when PEER = 0.50

^d The RRR here is 9%

2. When the odds ratio (OR) > 1

This table applies both when a good outcome is increased by therapy and when a side-effect is caused by therapy.

		OR > 1				
		1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5
Patient's expected event rate (PEER)	0.05	212	106	71	54	43
	0.10	112	57	38	29	23
	0.20	64	33	22	17	14
	0.30	49	25	17	13	11
	0.40	43	23	16	12	10
	0.50	42	22	15	12	10
	0.70	51	27	19	15	13
	0.90	121	66	47	38	32

Can you apply this valid, important evidence from a systematic review in caring for your patient?

Do these results apply to our patient?	
Is your patient so different from those in the study that its results cannot apply?	
Is the treatment feasible in your setting?	
What are your patient's potential benefits and harms from the therapy?	
<i>Method I:</i> In the OR tables above, find the intersection of the closest odds ratio from the systematic review and your patient's expected event rate (PEER)	
<i>Method II:</i> To calculate the NNT from any OR and PEER: $NNT = \frac{1 - \{PEER \times (1 - OR)\}}{(1 - PEER) \times PEER \times (1 - OR)}$	
Are your patient's values and preferences satisfied by the regimen and its consequences?	
Do you and you patient have a clear assessment of their values and preferences?	
Are they met by this regimen and its consequences?	

Should you believe apparent qualitative differences in the efficacy of therapy in some subgroups of patients?—Only if you can say ‘yes’ to all of the following:

Do they really make biologic and clinical sense?	
Is the qualitative difference both clinically (beneficial for some but useless or harmful for others) and statistically significant?	
Was this difference hypothesised before the study began (rather than the product of dredging the data), and has it been confirmed in other, independent studies?	
Was this one of just a few subgroup analyses carried out in this study?	

Additional notes: