

Major Methodological Issues
In Interpreting Reviews and Guidelines
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Interpreting Meta-analyses/Reviews/Surveys

Replicability vs statistical significance vs magnitude of effect
Studies weighted by sample size, not rigor, sample, etc
Using best vs all studies, published vs unpublished studies
Yes/No answer vs quantifies effects vs identifies factors/subgroups
Factors/subgroups based on cross-study comparison which often is confounded
Surveys of tx seekers vs self-quitters
Modified Hill criteria for causality

Interpreting Guidelines

Who is target (provider vs administrator)
How comprehensive
Criteria for recommendation: meta-analysis, studies, opinion
Grade certainty of recommendations
Credibility/bias of authors
Important changes since publication
Includes assessment, treatment, monitoring
Ease of implementation
Stepped care vs tx matching algorithm
Ranking treatments