Hierarchy of Evidence and Corresponding Databases

Filtered Information
- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
- Topic Reviews in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE)
- NHS Economic Evaluation Database
- Cochrane Methodology Register
- ACP Journal Club

Unfiltered Information
- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials
- PubMed
- National Guideline Clearinghouse
- Health Technology Assessment
- PubMed
Hierarchy of Evidence and PubMed Search Strategies

- Search for meta-analysis using the publication type limit.
- Search for systematic review using the subset limit.
- Search for randomized controlled trials using the publication type limit.
- Search for cohort studies as a MeSH term. Longitudinal studies, follow-up studies, and prospective studies will be included unless the Do Not Explode function is used.
- Search for case control study as a MeSH term. Retrospective studies included unless Do Not Explode is used.
- Search for case report using the publication type limit.
- Search for practice guideline using the publication type limit.
- Search for animal research using the animal limit. Search for in-vitro research using in vitro as a publication type limit.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Category</th>
<th>Suggested Best Method of Investigation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Therapy</td>
<td>RCT &gt; cohort &gt; case control &gt; case series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diagnosis</td>
<td>prospective, blind comparison to a gold standard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Etiology/Harm</td>
<td>RCT &gt; cohort &gt; case control &gt; case series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prognosis</td>
<td>cohort &gt; case control &gt; case series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>RCT &gt; cohort &gt; case control &gt; case series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Exam</td>
<td>prospective, blind comparison to a gold standard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Economic Analysis</td>
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</tbody>
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