

CRITICAL REVIEW CHECKLIST

Heading	Questions to be asked	Yes	No	Don't Know
Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the title concise? • Is the title informative? • Does the title clearly indicate the research? • Does the title clearly indicate the research approach used? 			
Author(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the author(s) have appropriate academic qualifications? • Does the author(s) have appropriate professional qualifications and experience? 			
Abstract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there an abstract included? • Does the abstract identify the research problem? • Does the abstract state the hypotheses (if appropriate)? • Does the abstract outline the methodology? • Does the abstract give details of the sample subjects? • Does the abstract report major findings? 			
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the problem clearly identified? • Is a rationale for the study stated? • Are limitations of the study clearly stated? 			
Literature Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the literature review up-to-date? • Does the literature review identify the underlying theoretical framework(s)? • Does the literature review present a balanced evaluation of material both supporting and challenging the position being proposed? • Does the literature clearly identify the need for the research proposed? • Are important references omitted? 			
Hypothesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the study use an experimental approach? • Is the hypothesis capable of testing? • Is the hypothesis unambiguous? 			
Operational definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are all terms used in the research question/ problem clearly defined? 			
Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the methodology section clearly state the research approach to be used? • Is the method appropriate to the research problem? • Are the strengths and weaknesses of the approach chosen stated? 			

Subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the subjects clearly identified? 			
Sample Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the sample selection approach congruent with the method to be used? • Is the sample size clearly stated? 			
Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are any data collection procedures adequately described? • Has the validity and reliability of any instruments been clearly stated? 			
Ethical considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the study involves human subjects has the study ethical committee approval? • Is informed consent sought? • Is confidentiality assured? • Is anonymity guaranteed? 			
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are results presented clearly? • Are the results internally consistent? • Is sufficient detail given to enable the reader to judge how much confidence can be placed in the findings? • Does graphic material enhance clarity of the results being presented? 			
Data analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the approach appropriate to the type of data collected? • Is any statistical analysis correctly performed? • Is there sufficient analysis to determine whether 'significant differences' are not attributable to variations in other relevant variables? • Is complete information (test value, df, and p) reported? 			
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the discussion balanced? • Does the discussion draw upon previous research? • Are the weaknesses of the study acknowledged? • Are clinical implications discussed? 			
Conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are conclusions supported by the results obtained? • Are the implications of the study identified? 			
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the recommendations suggest further areas for research? • Do the recommendations identify how any weaknesses in the study design could be avoided in future research? 			