

# EVIDENCE APPRAISAL OF A SINGLE STUDY

## – ALL DOMAINS: CASE REPORT –

Project / Topic of your Clinical Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date (mm/dd/yy): \_\_\_\_\_ Final Evidence Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Article Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ First Author: \_\_\_\_\_ Journal: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the article purpose/objectives assist in answering the clinical question?  Yes  No  Unknown

Comments:

What is the article purpose/objective?

\* **Bolded** questions represent the key criteria for each section.

\* Lettered questions (A., B., ...) provide additional information to better answer the bolded questions.

### BASIC ELEMENTS OF A CASE REPORT

1. Does the case report fit into one of the categories expected?  Yes  No  Unknown

Check the category that applies:

- New associations or variations in disease processes
- Findings that shed light on the possible pathogenesis of a disease or an adverse event
- Presentations, diagnoses, or management of new and emerging diseases
- Unreported or unusual side effects or adverse interactions involving medications or treatment
- Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease
- Unexpected association between diseases and symptoms
- Unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient
- Does not fit one of the categories expected for case reports

Comments:

2. Does the case report include a background of the disorder on which the case report focuses?  Yes  No  Unknown

Comments:

3. Does the case report include an up-to-date review of the previous cases in the field?  Yes  No  Unknown

Comments:

4. Does the case report include details relevant to the case?  Yes  No  Unknown

Check the details that apply:

- A description of the patient's demographic information
- Any relevant medical history of the patient or their family
- The patient's symptoms and signs
- Any tests that were carried out
- A description of issues (e.g., disorder/medication/treatments) of interventions
- The outcome of the case
- Details for all patients if more than one patient reported

Comments:

**EVIDENCE APPRAISAL OF A SINGLE STUDY**

**– ALL DOMAINS: CASE REPORT –**

- 5. Is the importance of the case explained?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- A. What can be learned from the case report?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- B. To whom will the case report be of interest?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- C. How will the case report advance our clinical knowledge?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- D. Other?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- 6. Was there freedom from conflict of interest?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*

---

---

**APPLICABILITY: CAN I APPLY THIS CASE REPORT INFORMATION?**

---

---

- 7. Can the information be applied to my population of interest?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- A. Were all patient important outcomes considered?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- B. Was the patient(s) in this case report similar to my population of interest?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- 8. Are your patient's values and preferences satisfied by the use of this information?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*
- 9. Would you include this case report in development of a recommendation?**  Yes  No  Unknown  
*Comments:*

---

---

**Additional Comments or Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

*\* Consider each "No" answer and the degree to which this limitation is a threat to the validity of the results, then check the appropriate box to assign the level of quality for this study/article.*

- THE EVIDENCE LEVEL IS:**  **Good Quality Case Report** (5a)  
 **Lesser Quality Case Report** (5b)  
 **Not Applicable**

**EVIDENCE APPRAISAL OF A SINGLE STUDY**  
**– ALL DOMAINS: CASE REPORT –**

**TABLE OF EVIDENCE LEVELS**

<b>DOMAIN OF CLINICAL QUESTION</b>	<b>TYPE OF STUDY / STUDY DESIGN</b>													
	<b>Systematic Review Meta-Analysis</b>	<b>Meta-Synthesis</b>	<b>RCT + CCT +</b>	<b>Qualitative Study</b>	<b>Cohort – Prospective</b>	<b>Cohort – Retrospective</b>	<b>Case – Control</b>	<b>Longitudinal (Before/After, Time Series)</b>	<b>Cross – Sectional</b>	<b>Psychometric Study</b>	<b>Epidemiology Descriptive Study Case Series</b>	<b>Quality Improvement</b>	<b>Economic Analysis Decision Analysis</b>	<b>Expert Opinion Case Reports Guidelines</b>
<b>All Domains</b>														<b>5a 5b</b>

Development for this appraisal form is based on:

1. Guyatt, G.; Rennie, D.; Evidence-Based Medicine Working Group.; and American Medical Association.: Users' guides to the medical literature : a manual for evidence-based clinical practice. *Users' guides to the medical literature : a manual for evidence-based clinical practice*: "JAMA & archives journals." Chicago, IL, 2002
2. Melnyk, B. M. and E. Fineout-Overholt (2005). Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: a guide to best practice. Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
3. Phillips, et al: Oxford Centre for Evidence-based Medicine Levels of Evidence, 2001. Last accessed Nov 14, 2007 from <http://www.cebm.net/index.aspx?o=1025>.
4. Fineout-Overholt and Johnston: Teaching EBP: asking searchable, answerable clinical questions. *Worldviews Evid Based Nurs*, 2(3): 157-60, 2005.
5. <http://www.jmedicalcasereports.com/jmedicalcasereports/about/submissions>