Cincinnati Children's

Project/Topic of your Clinical Question: _____

Reviewer: _____ **Today's Date:** _____ **Final Evidence Level:** _____

Article Title: _____

Year: _____ **First Author:** _____ **Journal:** _____

__Note:__ Although an N-of-1 or single subject study is best evidence for that individual patient, a published report of an N-of-1 or single subject study is a case report.

Do the study aim/purpose/objectives and inclusion/exclusion criteria assist in answering your clinical question?   ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Unknown**

- Study Aim/Purpose/Objectives:

- Inclusion Criteria:

- Exclusion Criteria:

Is a case report congruent with the author's study aim/purpose/objectives above?   ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Unknown**
   Comments:

When reading the bolded questions, consider the bulleted questions to help answer the main question.

If you are uncertain of your skills in evidence evaluation, please consult a local evidence expert for assistance:
   CCHMC Evidence Experts: http://groups/ce/NewEBC/EBDMHelp.htm

Unfamiliar terms can be found in the LEGEND Glossary: http://groups/ce/NewEBC/EBCFiles/GLOSSARY-EBDM.pdf

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
   - ☐ Innovative approaches/interventions for treatment 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 issue 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 for each patient or for all patients *(if >1 patient reported)***:**
   ☐ A description of the patient's demographic information
   ☐ Any relevant medical history of the patient or their family
   ☐ The patient's signs and symptoms
   ☐ Any tests that were carried out
   ☐ A description of pertinent details *(e.g., disorder, medication, interventions/treatments, adverse events)*
   ☐ The outcome of the case
   Comments:

5. **Is the importance of the case explained?** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
   • What can be learned from the case report?
   • How will the case report advance our clinical knowledge?
   • Other?
   Comments:

6. **Was there freedom from conflict of interest?** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
   • Sponsor/Funding Agency or Investigators/Authors
   Comments:

APPLICABILITY: CAN I APPLY THIS CASE REPORT INFORMATION?

7. **Can the results be applied to my population of interest?** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
   • Is the setting of the case*(s)* applicable to my population of interest?
   • Do the patient outcomes apply to my population or question of interest?
   • Was the patient *(or were the patients)* in this report similar to my population of interest?
   Comments:

8. **Are my patient's and family's values and preferences satisfied by the knowledge gained from this report** *(such as outcomes considered)***?** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
   Comments:

Cincinnati Children's

9. **Would you include this report in development of a care recommendation?** ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Unknown**
   Comments:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR CONCLUSIONS ("TAKE-HOME POINTS"):

QUALITY LEVEL / EVIDENCE LEVEL

- *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.*
- *Consider an "Unknown" answer to one or more questions as a similar limitation to answering "No," if the information is not available in the article.*

THE EVIDENCE LEVEL IS:

☐ **Good Quality Case Report** [5a]
☐ **Lesser Quality Case Report** [5b]
☐ **Not Applicable**

	Table of Evidence Levels																			
	TYPE OF STUDY / STUDY DESIGN																			
DOMAIN OF CLINICAL QUESTION	Systematic Review Meta–Analysis	Meta–Synthesis	RCT [+]	CCT [+]	Psychometric Study	Qualitative Study	Cohort – Prospective	Cohort – Retrospective	Case – Control	Longitudinal (Before/After, Time Series)	Cross – Sectional	Descriptive Study Epidemiology Case Series	Quality Improvement (PDSA)	Mixed Methods Study	Decision Analysis Economic Analysis Computer Simulation	Guidelines	Case Reports N-of-1 Study	Bench Study	Published Expert Opinion	Local Consensus Published Abstracts
All Domains	1a 1b											4a 4b		2/3/4 a/b	5a 5b	5a 5b	5a 5b	5a 5b	5a 5b	5

[+] *RCT = Randomized Controlled Trial; CCT = Controlled Clinical Trial*

Development for this appraisal form is based on:
1. Fineout-Overholt and Johnston: Teaching EBP: asking searchable, answerable clinical questions. *Worldviews Evid Based Nurs,* 2(3): 157-60, 2005.
2. 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
3. Melnyk, B. M. and E. Fineout-Overholt (2005). Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: a guide to best practice. Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
4. 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.
5. http://www.jmedicalcasereports.com/jmedicalcasereports/about/submissions