**APPENDIX C**

**Appraisal Guide:**

**Conclusions of a Systematic Review with Narrative Synthesis**

APA Formatted Citation:

Answer Here:

**Synopsis**

1. What organizations or persons produced the systematic review (SR)?

Answer Here:

1. How many persons were involved in conducting the review?

Answer Here:

1. What topic or question did the SR address?

Answer Here:

1. How were potential research reports identified?

Answer Here:

1. What determined if a study was included in the analysis?

Answer Here:

1. How many studies were included in the reveiw?

Answer Here:

1. What research designs were used in the studies?

Answer Here:

1. What were the consistent and important across-studies conclusions?

Answer Here:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Credibility**  | **Yes** | **No** | **Not Clear** |
| Was the topic clearly defined?  |  |  |  |
| Was the search for studies and other evidence comprehensive and unbiased?  |  |  |  |
| Was the screening of citations for Inclusion based on explicit criteria?  |  |  |  |
| \*Were the included studies assessed for quality? |  |  |  |
| Were the design characteristics and findings of the included studies displayed or discussed in sufficient detail?  |  |  |  |
| \*Was there a true integration (i.e., synthesis) of the findings- not merely reporting of findings from each study individually?  |  |  |  |
| \*Did the reviewers explore why differences in findings might have occurred?  |  |  |  |
| Did the reviewers distinguish between conclusions based on consistent findings from several good studies and those based on inferior evidence (number or quality)?  |  |  |  |

Which conclusions were supported by consistent findings from two or more good or high-quality studies? List

Answer Here:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **All** | **Some** | **No** |
| **ARE THE CONSLUSIONS CREDIBLE?**  |  |  |  |
| **Clinical Significance** | **Yes** | **No** | **Not Clear** |
| \*Across studies, is the size of the treatment or the strength of the association found or the meaningfulness of qualitative findings strong enough to make a difference in patient outcomes or experiences of care?  |  |  |  |
| Are the conclusions relevant to the care the nurse gives?  |  |  |  |
|  | **All** | **Some** | **No** |
| **ARE THE CONCLUSIONS CLINICALLY** **SIGNIFICANT?**  |  |  |  |
| **Applicability** |  |  |  |
| Does the SR address a problem, situation, or decision we are addressing in our setting?  |  |  |  |
| Are the patients in the studies or a subgroup of patients in the studies similar to those we see?  |  |  |  |

What changes, additions, training or purchases would be needed to implement and sustain a clinical protocol based on these conclusions? Specify

Answer Here:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Yes** | **No** | **Not Clear** |
| Is what we will have to do to implement the new protocol realistically achievable by us (resources, capability, commitment)?  |  |  |  |

How will we know if our patients are benefiting from our new protocol? Specify

Answer Here:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **All** | **Some** | **No** |
| **ARE THESE CONCLUSIONS APPLICABLE TO OUR SETTING?**  |  |  |  |
| **SHOULD WE PROCEED TO DESIGN A PROTOCO INCORPORATING THESE CONCLUSIONS?** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Comments

Answer Here: