

CASP

Selection Criteria and Completion

Aim: to identify studies used in the briefing which are appropriate for critical appraisal.

Examples are taken from the forthcoming "Helping parents with a Learning Disability to Parent Effectively" briefing.

Step 1: Inclusion / Exclusion Criteria

Inclusion criteria

Items included in the briefing will be appraised if they are one of the following:

- Primary or secondary research*
- The paper is reporting a study conducted by the authors
- The paper is the full / only published report of the study

*These encompass the following:

RCTs {eg. Llewellyn 02}

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses {eg. Hur 97}

Qualitative studies (interviews, focus groups) {eg. Llewellyn 99; Kroese 02}

Surveys / questionnaires {eg. Feldman 02, Kroese 02; Feldman 99}

Case-control and cohort studies {eg. McGaw 02}

Exclusion criteria

Items included in the briefing will not be appraised if they are one of the following:

- Books {eg. Booth & Booth 98; Dearden & Becker 98}
- Reports longer than 40 pages {eg. Olsen 03; Goodinge 00}
- Summaries or discussions of reports / research {eg. Becker et al 01; Booth & Booth 99}
- Brief commentary / case study articles in practitioner journals (eg. Community Care, Nursing Times)
- Audits {eg. McBrien 02; Woodhouse 01}
- Legislation, Guidance, protocol or pathway documents {eg. many of the documents in the Organisation, Policy Community and Practitioner Knowledge sections}
- Commentaries / discussion pieces {Newman 02}

NOTE: The items selected for appraisal are keyworded as "\$\$CASP" in Reference Manager

Chris Carroll 7 October 2004

Step 2: Critical Appraisal Tools

When the relevant papers have been selected, the type of study design used in each study must be identified and the relevant tools used.

The following link provides the CASP tools for the following types of study design:

<http://www.phru.nhs.uk/casp/appraisa.htm>

Randomized Controlled Trials

Reviews

Qualitative studies

Case Control studies

Cohort studies

Diagnostic Tests

Economic Evaluations

The tools are printed off and completed for each appraisal.

The following book provides CASP tools for the following types of study design:

Crombie I. K. (1997). The Pocket Guide to Critical Appraisal. A Handbook for Health Care Professionals. London, BMJ Publishing Group. ScHARR library: REF WB 141 (Poc).

Surveys / questionnaires

Reviews

Step 3: Critical Appraisals

When the tools have been completed the appraisal is written-up.

For typical examples of content, length (no longer than 1-side of A4) and format see the different critical appraisals completed for the forthcoming "Helping parents with a Learning Disability to Parent Effectively"