

GUIDE POUR UNE REVUE DE LA LITTÉRATURE

(club de lecture et etc.)

GENERAL IMPRESSION

- Significance of study: What is the message?
- Is the message new?
- Good guidance of the reader through the text?
- Language?
- Suitable for the journal in question

INTRODUCTION: WHY WAS THE INVESTIGATION DONE ?

- Background adequately but briefly explained?
- Hypothesis to be tested phrased out?

METHOD: WHAT WAS DONE?

- Protocol adequate to answer question?
- Patients: Description; Bias in selection; Exclusion criteria specified? (or if animal model - appropriate?)
- Controls: Adequate? Matched?
- Randomisation?
- Prospective study?
- Was compliance to treatment checked by independent method?
- Measurements: Adequate method, clearly described, not respective? Origin of materials indicated?
- Statistical treatment: Number of samples sufficient? The prerequisite for using a t-test or parametric regression (if $n < 40$) is a Gaussian distribution! Check that 2SD are x ; to not accept SEM for describing patient to patient etc. variability. (ct. Am. J. Med. 69, 8-9, 1980; Am. J. Dis. Child 136, 937-941, 1982). Check if bivariate regression is used in case x and y are subject to variance.

RESULTS: WHAT WAS FOUND?

- Do the results answer the question asked at the start?
- Quantitative data?
- Are there additional unforeseen observations which could stimulate further research?
- Are tables and figures with correct heading, helpful legend, and not redundant?
- Presentation of figures?
- What could be simplified?
- Do you suggest changes: from text into tables or the reverse?

DISCUSSION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN ?

- Strictly pertaining to the question asked or an epic review?
- Overdrawn conclusions? Unwarranted speculation?
- Are the conclusions logically developed and of interest to paediatrics?
- Are the references adequate and correct, up to date and not blown up?
- Are the keywords adequate?