

Evidence-based Family Medicine Curriculum
University of Ottawa

WORKSHEET FOR CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF A DIAGNOSTIC TEST ARTICLE

Citation: Author(s): _____

Short title: _____

Yr/ Vol/ Pgs: _____

| GUIDE | ASSESSMENT |
|---|--|
| A. ARE THE STUDY RESULTS VALID? | |
| 1. Was there an independent "blind" comparison with a reference standard? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |
| 2. Did the patient sample include an appropriate spectrum of patients to whom the diagnostic test will be applied in clinical practice? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |
| 3. Did the results of the test being evaluated influence the decision to perform the reference standard? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |
| 4. Were the methods for performing the test described in sufficient detail to permit replication? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |

| B. WHAT WERE THE RESULTS? | |
|---|--|
| 1. Are likelihood ratios for the test results presented or data necessary for their calculation provided? | |

| C. WILL THE RESULTS HELP ME IN CARING FOR MY PATIENTS? | |
|---|--|
| 1. Will the reproductibility of the test result and its interpretation be satisfactory in my setting? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |
| 2. Are the results applicable to my patient? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |
| 3. Will the results change my management? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |
| 4. Will patients be better off as a result of the test? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell |

| CONCLUSIONS: | | | |
|--|-----|----|------------|
| The Study Results Are Valid. | YES | NO | CAN'T TELL |
| Results Will Help in Caring For Patient. | YES | NO | CAN'T TELL |