

Guide for Appraisal of Review Articles

Aspects to consider

Title	Does it effectively reflect the study conducted? Is it short and clear? Is it free of acronyms and abbreviations?
Abstract and Keywords	Is it structured in Introduction (including objective(s)), Methods, Results, and Conclusion?
	Does it accurately describe the methodology and include the main results and conclusions?
	Do the English and Portuguese abstracts have similar content?
	Do keywords reflect the content of the article?
Introduction	Does the “Introduction” describe the state of the art and outlines the relevance of the study?
	Is the study “Objective” or “Hypothesis” clearly stated?
Material and Methods	Is the methodology for selecting articles to be included in the review well defined and replicable?
	Are the sources accessed for the selection of articles to be included in the review clearly identified?
	Are the inclusion/exclusion criteria of the articles included in the review clearly defined?
	Are the units of analysis described the ones that best characterize the problem under study?

Results, tables and figures	Are study results presented in an organized and logical sequence throughout the text? The use of (sub) titles is desirable.
	Are results in tables repeated in the text? Results in the text should only emphasize or summarize relevant findings and not unnecessarily duplicate the content of tables and figures.
	Are all tables and figures self-explanatory?
	Do all tables and figures have a clear legend appropriate to their content?
Discussion	Are the main results effectively discussed based on the reference literature and/or compared with other studies?
	Are inferences properly substantiated?
	Are the study's methodological and practical limitations discussed?
	Are "Conclusions" clear and supported by results?
References	Are references well organized and cited according to the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals (http://www.icmje.org)?
	Are references up-to-date and of appropriate quality? (Consider the adequacy of sources and their concordance with the information in the text)
Global requirements	Does the article follow the structure indicated in the Guide for Authors? (Consider the existence of clearly identifiable sections, presented in an appropriate and logical order: Title, Abstract, Text, Acknowledgements, References, Tables and Figures)
	Is the terminology used accurate and technically correct?
	Is the language clear and does it capture the reader's interest?
	Do you identify plagiarism, fraud, or duplicate publication?