



Critical Evaluation of Research Articles

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Basic Considerations



Who is/are the author(s)?

Where are they from?
Which country?



Has the study been funded?

If so, who has funded it?
Are there any potential conflicts of interest present due to funding sources?

Basic Considerations



When was the article published?

Is it 'old' or 'new'?

Is it reporting a 'classic study'?

Proposing a new theory/model?



What journal is the article published in?

Impact factor, prestige

Key Questions: Research Rationale



What is the main argument?

Is the theoretical underpinning clear?



What is the key evidence that has been used to support the argument?

What concepts / constructs are being explored and what literature has been used to support the rationale of the study?



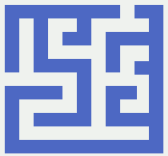
When was the evidence produced?

How up to date is it?
Is it still relevant?



Is the evidence presented logically, in a way that develops the argument, and clearly leads to the hypotheses/conclusion?

Key Questions: Data Collection and Discussion of Findings

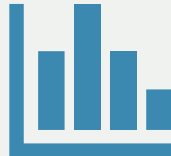


Is the methodology clear?

Is there missing information that is crucial to the topic?

Is the procedure logical?

Could the study be easily replicated based upon the level of detail provided?



Are the results explained well?



Are strengths and limitations of the research considered?

Are suggestions for future research relevant and supported?