

WORKSHEET FOR THE CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF AN ARTICLE ABOUT A *DIAGNOSTIC TEST*

(A) Are the Results of the study valid?

Citation: _____

GUIDE	COMMENTS
Primary Guides	
<p>1. Was there an independent, blind, comparison with reference standard?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	
<p>2. Did the patient sample include an appropriate spectrum of patients to whom the diagnostic test will be applied in clinical practice?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	
Secondary Guides	
<p>3. Did the results of the test being evaluated influence the decision to perform the reference standard?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	<p>("Verification bias" or "work-up bias")</p>
<p>4. Were the methods for performing the test described in sufficient detail to permit replication?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	<p>(Preparation of the patient? Performance of the test? Analysis and interpretation of its results?)</p>

(B) What are the results and will they help me in caring for my patients?

GUIDE	COMMENTS
What are the results?	
<p>1. Are the likelihood ratios for the test results presented or data necessary for their calculation included?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	<p>(Pretest probability? Likelihood ratios? Sensitivity and specificity?)</p>
Will the results help me in caring for my patients?	
<p>2. Will the reproducibility of the test results and it's interpretation be satisfactory in my setting?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	
<p>3. Are the results applicable to my patients?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	
<p>4. Will the results change my management?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	
<p>5. Will patients be better off as a result of the test?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Can't tell</p>	
<p>Conclusion:</p>	