LEVELS OF EVIDENCE (QUANTITATIVE)

Usefulness for cause and effect decision-making

Systematic review or meta-analysis of all relevant randomized controlled trials (RCTs)

Evidence-based clinical practice guidelines based on systematicreviews of RCTs

Evidence obtained from at least one well-designed RCT

Evidence obtained from well-designed controlled trials without randomization, and from well-designed case-control and cohort studies

Evidence from systematic reviews of descriptive and qualitative studies

Evidence from a single descriptive or qualitative study

Evidence from the opinion of authorities and /or reports of expert committees

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