

Critical Appraisal of a Case Report

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Introduction

An initial difficulty for the characterization of case studies lies in the fact that different methodologies adopted in the same clinical setting. The case study can be defined as an operating system a limited or a case, obtained by means of a detailed data collection, involving multiple sources of information (history, physical examination,

laboratory testing, imaging and treatment). It is a study depth of a unit, group or individual, in its complexity and in its own dynamism, providing relevant information for clinical decision making [1-9]. The Table 1 shows the checklists needed to make a critical analysis of a case study article.

Appraisal questions
Did the study address a clearly focused question/issue?
Is the study design appropriate for answering the research question?
Was the study well defined protocol?
Are both the setting and the subject's representative with regard to the population to which the findings will be referred?
Is the researcher's perspective clearly described and taken into account?
Are the methods for collecting data clearly described?
Are the methods for analysing the data likely to be valid and reliable? Are quality control measures used?
Was the analysis repeated by more than one researcher to ensure reliability?
Are the results credible, and if so, are they relevant for practice? Are results easy to understand?
It was clinically relevant outcomes?
Are the conclusions drawn justified by the results?
Are the findings of the study transferable to other settings?

Table 1: Critical appraisal of a case report.

The discussion of clinical cases is an important tool in learning and improvement of clinical reasoning, the use of this critical evaluation of case reported can improve the scientific quality of such article. It is important for readers to recognize the advantages and disadvantages of case series.

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