

Item 30d: Discussion - Implications

Discuss implications of the results for practice, policy, and future research.

Title	1	Title
Abstract	2	See tip sheets for Abstracts
Summary	3	Plain language summary
Open Science	4	Registration and protocol <i>a. Registration information</i> <i>b. Accession of protocol</i> <i>c. Protocol amendments</i>
	5	Support
	6	Competing interests
	7	Availability of data and other materials
Introduction	8	Rationale
	9	Objectives
Methods	10	Followed guidelines
	11	Eligibility criteria
	12	Information sources
	13	Search strategy
	14	Selection process
	15	Data collection process
	16	Data items
	17	Study risk of bias assessment
	18	Measurement properties
	19	Synthesis methods <i>a. Eligibility processes</i> <i>b. Methods for synthesis</i> <i>c. Causes of inconsistency</i> <i>d. Sensitivity analyses</i>
	20	Certainty assessment
Results	21	Formulating recommendations
	22	Study selection <i>a. Results of search and selection</i> <i>b. Excluded reports with reasons</i>
	23	OMI characteristics <i>a. Characteristics of OMIs</i> <i>b. Interpretability aspects of OMIs</i> <i>c. Feasibility aspects of OMIs</i>
	24	Study characteristics
	25	Risk of bias in studies
	26	Results of individual studies
	27	Results of syntheses <i>a. Results of syntheses conducted</i> <i>b. Results of causes of inconsistency</i> <i>c. Results of sensitivity analyses</i>
	28	Certainty of evidence
	29	Recommendations
Discussion	30	<b>Discussion</b> <i>a. Interpretation of results</i> <i>b. Limitations of evidence</i> <i>c. Limitations of review processes</i> <b>d. Implications</b>

**Tips for reporting this item:**

- Discuss implications of the results for practice and policy.
- Make explicit recommendations for future research.

**Examples:**

*“In the present review, only six studies described the PROM [patient-reported outcome measure] development process and this was only briefly presented. It is hard to tell whether the PROM development process had not been properly carried out or was just not reported. Detailed information about the PROMs development process should be described in future research.”*

Fan Y et al. Patient-reported outcome measures for masticatory function in adults: a systematic review. *BMC Oral Health*, 2021;21:1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12903-021-01949-7>.

*“Our review suggests that licensure OSCEs [Objective Structured Clinical Examinations] for national professional program graduates have not been justified by formal research studies or by international practice standards. From a policy perspective this means that licensure OSCEs for national graduates could be discontinued to reduce the burden on new graduates entering the profession while maintaining public protection. However, while the usefulness of the OSCE appears limited from the current results, the undue burden is not as certain and should be evaluated. Furthermore, the value for international graduates requires further investigation. The evidence is more supportive of the use of OSCEs during professional training and yet the evidence has many gaps. Further research on their measurement properties, how they are best constructed, how they should be distributed across the curriculum, optimal methods of scoring and interpretation, their uses as formative and summative assessment, rater effects, and relationships to performance in clinical settings are all avenues of needed investigation.”*

Bobos P et al. A systematic review and meta-analysis of measurement properties of objective structured clinical examinations used in physical therapy licensure and a structured review of licensure practices in countries with well-developed regulation systems. *PloS One*, 2021;16(8):e0255696. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0255696>.

See the [E&E](#) for more examples.

From: Elsmann EBM, Mokkink LB, Terwee CB, Beaton D, Gagnier JJ, Tricco AC, et al. Guideline for reporting systematic reviews of outcome measurement instruments (OMIs): PRISMA-COSMIN for OMIs 2024. *J Clin Epidemiol*, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2024.111422>.

More resources are available at [www.prisma-cosmin.ca](http://www.prisma-cosmin.ca).