

Item 2.9: Synthesis methods

Specify the methods used to present and synthesize results.

<b>Title</b>	2.1	Title
<b>Open Science</b>	2.2	Funding
	2.3	Registration
<b>Background</b>	2.4	Objectives
<b>Methods</b>	2.5	Eligibility criteria
	2.6	Information sources
	2.7	Risk of bias
	2.8	Measurement properties
	<b>2.9</b>	<b>Synthesis methods</b>
<b>Results</b>	2.10	Included studies
	2.11	Synthesis of results
<b>Discussion</b>	2.12	Limitations of evidence
	2.13	Interpretation



**Tips for reporting this item:**

- Report the methods used to synthesize the results.
- If meta-analysis was done, specify the meta-analysis model.
- If the review was conducted following established guidance, methods used to assess risk of bias (item #2.7), rate the results of a measurement property (item #2.8), and synthesize the results (item #2.9) can be summarized into a general statement referring to that guidance (see last example).

**Examples:**

*“Data analysis and synthesis followed COSMIN methodology for reviews of outcome measurement instruments.”*

McGhie-Fraser Bet al. Persistent somatic symptom related stigmatisation by healthcare professionals: A systematic review of questionnaire measurement instruments. *J Psychosom Res*, 2023;111161. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychores.2023.111161>.

*“Extracted evidence was qualitatively synthesised and evaluated [...]”*

Carlton J & Powell PA. Measuring carer quality of life in Duchenne muscular dystrophy: a systematic review of the reliability and validity of self-report instruments using COSMIN. *Health Qual. Life Outcomes*. 2022;20(1):1-33. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12955-022-01964-4>.

*“Data extraction and quality assessment (including a risk of bias evaluation) of the included studies was undertaken [...] in accordance with COSMIN guidelines.”*

Kalle J et al. Quality of patient-and proxy-reported outcomes for children with impairment of the upper extremity: a systematic review using the COSMIN methodology. *Journal of Patient-Reported Outcomes*, 2022;6(1):1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41687-022-00469-4>.

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

From: Elsman 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).