

1. APPROACH TO REVIEWING²

Is the synthesis a priori or iterative in method and aiming to aggregate‘facts’ or create a new interpretations of ways of understanding? Are the data numbers or words?

Nature of data and analysis in the review predominantly:

- i) A priori specified method of review or iterative approach (for e.g review question, bases for assessment of quality of studies, and/or framework for synthesis emerging during the review)
- ii) Numerical or narrative data
- iii) ‘Empirical’ or ‘conceptual’ data
- iv) Relatively homogeneous or heterogeneous data
- v) Numerical or narrative analysis of data in synthesis
- vi) Meta empirical or meta conceptual synthesis of data or both^{2, 3}

2. EXAMPLES OF APPROACHES TO REVIEWING

Statistical meta analysis	Meta ethnography
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review question? - A priori or iterative procedures of review - Numerical or narrative data - ‘Empirical’ or ‘conceptual’ data - Most concepts pre-specified or most concepts emergent - Relatively homogeneous or heterogeneous data - Numerical, narrative analysis or quantification of qualitative data in synthesis - Meta empirical or meta conceptual synthesis of data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review question? - A priori or iterative procedures of review - Numerical or narrative data - ‘Empirical’ or ‘conceptual’ data - Most concepts pre-specified or most concepts emergent - Relatively homogeneous or heterogeneous data - Numerical, narrative analysis or quantification of qualitative data in synthesis - Meta empirical or meta conceptual synthesis of data

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