



Overview



- What is a literature review?
- How do literature reviews inform practice?
- What are different types of reviews?

2

Literature Reviews



- Literature reviews and reviewing the literature
- Widen the context
- Consolidate evidence to inform policy and practice

		Used For	What's Included?
Scoping	Describe breadth of literature, without assessing quality	When little is known about a topic	Any type of publication
Systematic	Rigorous synthesis to answer a specific practice question	Informing clinical practice	Quantitative research
Rapid	Faster evidence synthesis	Dealing with emergent issues	Quantitative studies, practice guidelines
Meta- Ethnography	Consolidate qualitative findings on a topic	Sharing what is known about an experience/cultu re	Qualitative research
Meta-Narrative or Realist	Assess broad ideas or mechanisms behind a phenomenon	How we got to be this way/ what is happening here	Varies- usually most publications
Integrative	Summarizes literature to provide a comprehensive understanding	What do we know about a phenomenon	Research and non- research publications

4

Systematic Reviews



- Exhaustive effort to produce definitive practice answers
- Often used to create practice guidelines or decision aids

Cochrane Library

Trusted evidence. Informed decisions. Better health.

5

Туре	Aim	Used For
Meta-analysis	Statistical synthesis	Combine results of quantitative trials that all answer the same question
Meta-synthesis (or meta-aggregation)	Thematic synthesis	Combine the themes of qualitative studies that address the same topic





7



- Intervention
- Outcome
- Comparison
- Find studies
- Extract data
- Create new understanding

8

