

Checklist for systematic reviews*

		Yes	Partial	No
1	Is the specific purpose (question to be answered) stated?			
<i>Comment</i>				
2	Are the comparison groups clearly stated?			
<i>Comment</i>				
3	Are the sources and search methods used to find evidence (primary studies) on the questions to be answered stated?			
<i>Comment</i>				
4	Is the search strategy for evidence reasonably comprehensive?			
<i>Comment</i>				
5	Are explicit criteria used for deciding which studies to include in the review?			
<i>Comment</i>				
6	Is bias in the selection of articles likely to be avoided?			
<i>Comment</i>				
7	Are the reasons for excluding studies from the review reported?			
<i>Comment</i>				
8	Are the criteria used for assessing the quality of the studies reported?			
<i>Comment</i>				
9	Is the quality of all the studies to be reviewed assessed using appropriate criteria?			
<i>Comment</i>				
10	Are the methods used to combine the findings of the relevant studies reported?			
<i>Comment</i>				
11	Are the methods used to combine the findings of the relevant studies appropriate to the questions to be answered by the review?			
<i>Comment</i>				