

EBL Critical Appraisal Checklist		Yes (Y)	No (N)	Unclear (U)	N/A
Section A: Population	Is the study population representative of all users, actual and eligible, who might be included in the study?				
	Are inclusion and exclusion criteria definitively outlined?				
	Is the sample size large enough for sufficiently precise estimates?				
	Is the response rate large enough for sufficiently precise estimates?				
	Is the choice of population bias-free?				
	If a comparative study: Were participants randomized into groups? Were the groups comparable at baseline? If groups were not comparable at baseline, was incomparability addressed by the authors in the analysis?				
	Was informed consent obtained?				
	Section B: Data Collection	Are data collection methods clearly described?			
If a face-to-face survey, were inter-observer and intra-observer bias reduced?					
Is the data collection instrument validated?					
If based on regularly collected statistics, are the statistics free from subjectivity?					
Does the study measure the outcome at a time appropriate for capturing the intervention's effect?					
Is the instrument included in the publication?					
Are questions posed clearly enough to be able to elicit precise answers?					
Were those involved in data collection not involved in delivering a service to the target population?					
Section C: Study Design	Is the study type / methodology utilized appropriate?				
	Is there face validity?				
	Is the research methodology clearly stated at a level of detail that would allow its replication?				
	Was ethics approval obtained?				
	Are the outcomes clearly stated and discussed in relation to the data collection?				
Section D: Results	Are all the results clearly outlined?				
	Are confounding variables accounted for?				
	Do the conclusions accurately reflect the analysis?				
	Is subset analysis a minor, rather than a major, focus of the article?				
	Are suggestions provided for further areas to research?				
	Is there external validity?				
Calculation for section validity: (Y+N+U=T) If Y/T <75% or if N+U/T > 25% then you can safely conclude that the section identifies significant omissions and that the study's validity is questionable. It is important to look at the overall validity as well as section validity.		Calculation for overall validity: (Y+N+U=T) If Y/T ≥75% or if N+U/T ≤ 25% then you can safely conclude that the study is valid.			
Section A validity calculation: Section B validity calculation: Section C validity calculation: Section D validity calculation:		Overall validity calculation:			