



- 1.1 Are the elements of the review question clear?
- 2.1 Is there an a-priori method protocol document?
- 3.1. Is the approach to searching clearly defined systematic and transparent?
  - 3.2. Is the search comprehensive?
  - 4.1. Are eligibility criteria clearly defined?
- 4.2. Are eligibility criteria consistently applied to all potentially relevant articles and studies found during the search?
  - 4.3. Are eligibility decisions transparently reported?
  - 5.1. Does the review critically appraise each study?
  - 5.2. During critical appraisal was an effort made to minimise subjectivity?
    - 6.1. Is the method of data extraction fully documented?
      - 6.2. Are the extracted data reported for each study?
- 6.3. Were extracted data cross checked by more than one reviewer?
  - 7.1. Is the choice of synthesis approach appropriate?
  - 7.2. Is a statistical estimate of pooled effect provided together with measure of variance and heterogeneity among studies?
  - 7.3 Is variability in the study findings investigated and discussed?
    - 8.1 Have the authors considered limitations in the synthesis?