**Page ID**: **#.# Literature Consultation**

# Primary Content

**Title**

Enter the **Title** of the **Method** here (REQUIRED).

**Literature Consultation**

**Description -- i.e., What it is:**

Enter the **Description** here (REQUIRED).

A methodical review of applicable publications (e.g., books, research articles, relevant blog posts, usability evaluations, conference abstracts, and private sector reports) on a selected topic. The resulting report evaluates and summarizes available published data (including gaps) as a basis for future investigation.

A literature consultation contrasts with a formal literature review (or systemic review), which is an established academic process that can take months. A formal literature review will typically involve complex inclusion/exclusion criteria and require multiple reviewers to assure the review is comprehensive.

A literature consultation is compressed into a shorter time period (from two weeks to a month), with less rigorous search and documentation requirements. A literature consultation is notan informal search, annotated bibliography, or collection of summaries of reviewed materials. It is an organized and structured approach to exploring available knowledge — including gray literature (information produced outside of traditional commercial or academic publishing) — on a topic of interest.

**Recommended Uses**

Enter the **Recommended Use** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* To understand the operational environment — e.g., factors that might impact workflow in a targeted context of use.

**Limitations**

Enter the **Limitations** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* A literature consultation is time intensive, if strictly observed.
* The lag between conclusion of work and its publication can introduce delays in current state of knowledge in a field.
* It can be difficult to determine reliability given varied publication standards. For example, peer-reviewed research articles will have strict standards that are not applied with all sources.
* The best results require access to libraries and/or databases for many of the journal articles, which is not always readily obtained.

**Outcomes**

Enter the **Outcomes** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* A report that includes the objectives and focus questions, methodological details (e.g., search terms, searched databases, and articles reviewed, etc.), and a written discussion that synthesizes the data for an integrated viewpoint on the topic.

**Required Skills and Expertise**

Enter the **Required Skills** **and Expertise** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* Method can be leveraged with minimal training and practice.

**How to Proceed**

If there are no details, insert TBD.

* **How-To Guide.** Review step-by-step instructions on how to conduct a literature consultation and access tools and instruments to support your evaluation.
* **Schedule a Consult.** Connect with a usability specialist for support on your project.

[BEGIN: How to Do It]

**Introduction**

Enter the **Introduction** here (REQUIRED).

N/A

**Procedure**

Enter the **Steps** here. (Required).

N/A

**Tools**

If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* N/A

[END: How to Do It]

**Author**

Enter the **REFERENCES** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* Human Factors Engineering (HFE), Office of Health Informatics, Veterans Health Administration

**Sources**

Enter the **REFERENCES** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* N/A

**References**

Enter the **REFERENCES** here. If there are no details, insert N/A or TBD.

* N/A