

What is a Systematic Review?

- Systematic review is a **focused literature review**
 - Synthesis of **all relevant documents** for a particular research question
- Guide clinical decisions and inform policy
 - **Cornerstone** of evidence based medicine
- Must adhere to strict guidelines and protocol (for reproducibility)

Importance of Systematic Reviews

- Medical professionals (e.g. clinicians or doctors) rely on evidence based medicine to **make recommendations** for diagnosis and treatment
- Systematic reviews inform evidence based medicine
 - They provide a (hopefully) unbiased synthesis of all relevant clinical literature