

# Katie's Knowledge Translator

If yes to "should"  
go quickly to "how"

## Appraise

should this change my practice

Is the SOURCE CREDIBLE?

Is the EVIDENCE CREDIBLE?  
(see over also)

Were all options given a  
BALANCED and fair review?

Is the research focused  
on PATIENT-ORIENTED EFFECTS  
THAT MATTER?

Are the TREATMENT EFFECTS  
clinically important?

Are the results APPLICABLE TO  
REAL PRACTICE?

KNOWLEDGE BASE REVIEW:  
what's known, uncertain, and  
remaining unknown?

Is the treatment FEASIBLE  
AND AFFORDABLE?

## Apply

how should I change my practice

What do I NORMALLY DO?

What needs to  
CHANGE and HOW?

What are the BARRIERS  
to practice change?

WHAT CAN I DO by myself?

WHO do I need to work  
with to make the changes?

What TIPS AND TOOLS  
can I gather from others?

WHAT ADVICE do I need about  
common barriers and solutions?

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO RIGHT NOW  
to ensure the change begins?

When and how should I ASSESS MY  
PROGRESS?



The **Katie** Program

...because sometimes *knowledge* needs a *translator*

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# Katie's Appraisal Tool

## Who

- Were the people studied like the people I treat?
- Were the people in the different groups similar at baseline?

## Outcomes

- What do my patient's care most about?
- What was measured – biomarkers, surrogates, or clinical outcomes?

## Numbers

- What are the most important results?
- What is the usual rate of events, for example without treatment or with standard treatment?
- By how much does the intervention reduce pain, suffering, or the risk of negative outcomes?
- For unfamiliar measures, what is a clinically important change?
- What are the relative ( $\pm$ ) and absolute ( $-$ ) differences between treatment groups? What are the related NNTs and NNHs?
- For figures, was the y-axis truncated to imply a larger treatment effect?
- Are the treatment effects (good and bad) clinically important?

## Compared To

- What is being compared?
- Does it reflect standard clinical practice?
- Was it dosed right?
- What's the role of past or other current treatments?

## Believability

- What was the study's design?
- Could bias (selection, attrition, measurement, data handling, comparator, etc.) have influenced results?
- Were confounders present? How could they affect the results?

## Chance

- What is the p-value or confidence interval?
- Was the sample large or small?
- Is a clinically meaningful difference ruled in or out (or neither) by the confidence interval?

## Follow Up

- Was the duration of the study long enough to accurately assess the important benefits and risks of treatment?

## Drop-Outs

- How many people didn't finish the study?
- Why didn't they?
- What does this mean for my practice?
- How did this affect the results of the study?

## Risks

- How do the treatment options compare in terms of risks – adverse effects, overall tolerability, serious adverse effects, toxicity, and drug interactions.

## Missing

- What important questions are not answered by this study? What about by all studies?

## Worth

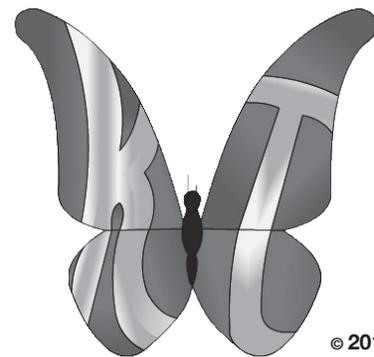
- Can my patients afford it?
- Do the advantages pay for themselves?

## Strength of Evidence

- What is the quality of the best available evidence?
- Are findings consistent across studies?
- Do studies show important treatment-related differences in clinically meaningful outcomes?

## Big Picture

- What are the key results, strengths, and limitations?
- What am I going to do with this information? (see over)



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Don't know? Just ask.

The *Katie* Program promotes dialogue between presenters and learners.

Many important questions need to be asked to be answered.

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