



FIVE MUST-FOLLOW RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SYSTEMATIC REVIEWERS

Tested tips from the experts for **Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses**

KNOW YOUR ROLE

Systematic Reviews Can be Daunting Tasks

Are you a reviewer or part of the analysis team? Will you be doing the data extraction? The bias assessment? Knowing your role is especially important for new reviewers to ensure that you focus your efforts.

KNOW THE PROTOCOL

Read the Protocol in Detail Before Starting your Review

Make sure that all team members are using the same study protocol. This includes the librarian, the analysis team, and the reviewers. Knowing the protocol well can save you hours of time.

KEEP ORGANIZED

Reviews Can Explode in Size Rapidly

Often hundreds or thousands of paper will appear in the initial literature review. Keeping organized initially is mandatory. Make certain that the entire team is unified in the organization. Leverage online tools.

STANDARDIZE THE TOOLS

Standardized Tools for Data Collection are Critical

Reviewers should be involved in the design of the data collection tool when possible. This ensures that the tool captures all required information but also remains implementable. Pilot tools before use.

WORK WITH THE CONTENT EXPERT

Don't Be Afraid to Ask Questions

Speaking at the very beginning with the content expert is a fast and easy way to put the importance of the study and the expected outcome quickly into focus.

