

Appendix 35: Guidelines for Completing Placement Related Critically Appraised Topic



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Guidelines for Completing Critically Appraised Topic

It is not mandatory that each student complete a Critically Appraised Topic on placement but the completion of this learning activity can assist the student in demonstrating their understanding and application of the Occupational Therapy Process/Theory to Practice as outlined in the Practice Education Competency Based Assessment Form.

This learning activity is most suitable for 3rd and 4th year students but can be adapted to meet the learning needs of other years where indicated.

Suggested format/content for Critically Appraised Topic as follows:

HEADING	COMMENT
CLINICAL SCENARIO	A brief summary of the issue/question in practice that initiated the search for evidence.
METHOD OF SEARCHING FOR THE EVIDENCE	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Search strategy: search terms, databases, sites and resources searched, limits applied, inclusion/exclusion criteria2. Results of search: number of studies located, the reference for each study, study design and their level of evidence3. Justification for study selection of each of the study.
CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF EACH PIECE OF EVIDENCE LOCATED	Accurate appraisal of the pieces of evidence (refer to objective of study, methodology, results, conclusion and limitations of the study).
SYNTHESIS OF THE EVIDENCE	Compare/contrast the pieces of evidence, limitations of the synthesised evidence including possible dearth of available evidence.
IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE	Recommendations for current and future occupational therapy practice, reference to clinical scenario.
CLINICAL BOTTOM LINE	Summation of how this evidence applies to clinical practice

