

**Model for Critical Appraisal of Studies**  
**Roe B (1993) Undertaking a critical review of the literature *Nurse Researcher***  
**1(1): 38-9**

<p><b>1. Is there an introduction?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it inform you of what the research problem is and why it is important?</li> <li>• Is the research problem – clearly and concisely stated? – can it be answered with empirical evidence?</li> </ul>	<p><b>6. Research methods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the methods clear?</li> <li>• Are the methods used appropriate for the research question?</li> <li>• How were they developed?</li> <li>• Were the methods and feasibility of the study tested in a pilot study?</li> <li>• Was the reliability of the methods and data collected addressed?</li> <li>• How were the data managed?</li> <li>• Was a statistical analysis (if relevant to the design) carried out?</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. The literature review. Is it –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive, up to date?</li> <li>• Logical and critically evaluates the literature?</li> </ul>	<p><b>7. Results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are they clear and complete?</li> <li>• Are they comprehensively reported in relation to the methods described?</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Are there hypotheses, objectives or aims?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are they clear and relevant?</li> </ul>	<p><b>8. Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the discussion interpret the findings in relation to published research the methods used?</li> <li>• Does the discussion relate the findings to the research questions and objectives or hypotheses?</li> <li>• Are the limitations of the research methods discussed in relation to the findings or the research carried out?</li> <li>• Can the findings be generalised to other populations?</li> <li>• Is further research identified? Are the implications for practice discussed?</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Research design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the research design adequately described?</li> <li>• Is it the best design for the research question?</li> <li>• Does it have validity?</li> <li>• Are ethical considerations presented?</li> </ul>	<p><b>9. Conclusions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the recommendations clear, concise and relate to the findings and research aims or objectives?</li> <li>• What are the recommendations for clinical practice?</li> <li>• Are recommendations for further research made?</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Sample</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How chosen?</li> <li>• Any bias?</li> <li>• Size?</li> <li>• Characteristics?</li> <li>• Are inclusion and exclusion criteria included?</li> <li>• Are ethical considerations and consent included?</li> </ul>	<p><b>10. References</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are references accurate, comprehensive and correctly written?</li> </ul> <p><b>11. Other aspects of the paper</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the title clear and indicative of what was studies?</li> <li>• Is the summary or abstract – of adequate length? – clearly restates the research problems? – restates the important findings?</li> <li>• Is the overall paper/report – clear? – detailed? – well written without jargon? – pleasant to read?</li> </ul>