Critical Analysis of Article About Therapy or Prevention


Are the results of the study valid?

1. What was the intervention being tested?

2. Aside from the intervention were the two groups treated equally? How or how not?

3. What kind of blinding, if any, was used? Was the blinding, if any, appropriate given the nature of the intervention?

4. Who was the sample? What were the inclusion and exclusion criteria?

5. Were all patients who entered the trial properly accounted for and attributed at its conclusion? How or how not?

6. Was assignment of patients to treatment randomized?

7. If random assignment was used, did the randomization “work”, i.e., were the groups similar at the start of the trial? Support your answer.

What are the results?

8. Which study findings were statistically significant?

9. The study used an intent-to-treat analysis. What is a weakness of this type of analysis?

Will the results help me in caring for my patient?

10. Are the results in this study applicable to a “typical” patient seen in an ambulatory clinic in the setting where you currently work or have previously worked? Why or why not?