**Critical Appraisal Template: THERAPY**

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| **ARE THE RESULTS VALID?** | |
| Did this trial answer a clearly focused question? |  |
| **INTERVENTION**  What was the intervention?  What was the control? |  |
| **OUTCOMES**  What was the primary outcome?  What secondary outcomes did they assess? |  |
| **RANDOMIZATION**  Was the assignment of patients to treatment randomized?  How was randomization done? Is this method likely to be effective?  How was allocation concealed (such that investigators would be unable to predict to which group the next patient will be randomized)? |  |
| **BLINDING**  Who was blinded to the treatment being received:  Patients?  Caregivers?  Investigators? |  |
| **PROGNOSTIC BALANCE**  Were the groups similar at the start of the trial (Table 1)?  Are all the pertinent features of the patient population presented?  If there are differences between the two groups, in what direction would this bias the study?  If there are any differences between the two groups, were these adjusted for in analysis? |  |
| Aside from the experimental intervention, were the groups treated equally?  Any other co-interventions?  Any concerns for differential adherence? |  |
| Were patients analyzed in the groups to which they were randomized (intention-to-treat analysis)? |  |
| Were all patients who entered the trial accounted for at its conclusion? (CONSORT flow diagram)  How many patients were lost to follow-up and why?  How did study consider patients' data who were lost to follow-up (if available)? |  |
| Was the trial stopped early? Were the preset stopping criteria made clear? Was it reasonable to stop early? |  |
| **WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?** | |
| How large was the treatment effect?  What was the RRR and ARR? |  |
| How precise was the estimate of the treatment effect (Confidence Intervals)?  Were all clinically important outcomes considered?  If surrogate or composite outcomes were used, are they reasonable? |  |
| **HOW CAN I APPLY THIS TO THE CARE OF MY PATIENT(S)?** | |
| Can the results be applied to my patient care?  Are the patients similar in terms of demographics, severity of disease, comorbidity, other prognostic factors?  Are there compelling reasons why the results should not be applied? |  |
| Are the likely treatment benefits worth the potential harms and costs? Is this treatment available to my patients? |  |