

Departmental Seminar

Systematic Review for Evaluating Interventions: An Introduction

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | February 8, 2018 (Thursday)

Rm 813, 8/F, The Jockey Club Tower | Centennial Campus | The University of Hong Kong



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Abstract

A systematic review attempts to identify, appraise and synthesize all the empirical evidence that meets pre-specified eligibility criteria to answer a given research question. Researchers conducting systematic reviews use explicit methods aimed at minimizing bias, in order to produce more reliable findings that can be used to inform decision making. Systematic reviews on interventions assess the benefits and harms of interventions used in healthcare, including mental health interventions. Systematic reviews should base their findings on the results of studies that meet certain quality criteria, since the most reliable studies will provide the best evidence for making decisions about different types of interventions. Authors of systematic reviews apply methods which reduce the impact of bias across different parts of the review process, including: (1) identification of relevant studies from a number of different sources (including unpublished sources); (2) selection of studies for inclusion and evaluation of their strengths and limitations on the basis of clear, predefined criteria; (3) systematic collection of data; (4) appropriate synthesis of data. These methods will be described in detail, using examples in mental health.

~All are Welcome~

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