

Grade Criteria and levels

- A** **Strong** research-based evidence, at least one randomised controlled trial, drawn from high quality scientific studies coming to similar conclusions. Evidence levels Ia, Ib.
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- B** **Moderate** research-based evidence drawn from well controlled studies. Evidence levels IIa, IIb, III.
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- C** **Limited** research-based evidence drawn from expert reports. Evidence level IV.
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- D** **No** scientific evidence.
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Notes:

- Ia = randomised controlled trials
Ib = at least one randomised controlled trial
IIa = at least one well-designed controlled study without randomisation
IIb = at least one other type of well-designed quasi-experimental study
III = well-designed non-experimental descriptive studies
IV = expert committee reports or opinions and/or clinical experience of respected authorities
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