

Quality assessment item	Krasnick 1996 ¹⁰	Shaker 2007 ⁹	Desai and Carroll 2009 ⁸
Study design			
(1) The research question is stated	Yes	Yes	Yes
(2) The economic importance of the research question is stated	No	No	Yes
(3) The viewpoint(s) of the analysis is clearly stated and justified	No	No	No
(4) The rationale for choosing the alternative programmes or interventions compared is stated	No	No	No
(5) The alternatives being compared are clearly described	Yes	No	No
(6) The form of economic evaluation used is stated	No	Yes	Yes
(7) The choice of form of economic evaluation is justified in relation to the questions addressed	No	Yes	No
Data collection			
(8) The source(s) of effectiveness estimates used are stated	Yes	Yes	No
(9) Details of the design and results of effectiveness study are given (if based on a single study)	No	Unclear	No
(10) Details of the method of synthesis or meta-analysis of estimates are given (if based on an overview of a number of effectiveness studies)	No	No	No
(11) The primary outcome measure(s) for the economic evaluation is clearly stated	Yes	Yes	No
(12) Methods to value health states and other benefits are stated	No	Yes	No
(13) Details of the subjects from whom valuations were obtained are given	Yes	No	No
(14) Productivity changes (if included) are reported separately	No	No	No
(15) The relevance of productivity changes to the study question is discussed	No	No	No
(16) Quantities of resources are reported separately from their unit costs	Yes	No	No
(17) Methods for the estimation of quantities and unit costs are described	No	No	No
(18) Currency and price data are recorded	Yes	Yes	No
(19) Details of currency of price adjustments for inflation or currency conversion are given	No	No	No
(20) Details of any model used are given	No	Yes	No
(21) The choice of model used and the key parameters on which it is based are justified	No	No	No

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<i>Analysis and interpretation of results</i>			
(22) Time horizon of costs and benefits is stated	No	Yes	No
(23) The discount rate(s) is stated	No	Yes	No
(24) The choice of rate(s) is justified	No	Yes	No
(25) An explanation is given if costs or benefits are not discounted	No	No	No
(26) Details of statistical tests and CIs are given for stochastic data	No	No	No
(27) The approach to sensitivity analysis is given	No	Yes	No
(28) The choice of variables for sensitivity analysis is justified	No	Yes	No
(29) The ranges over which the variables are varied are stated	No	Yes	No
(30) Relevant alternatives are compared	Yes	Yes	No
(31) Incremental analysis is reported	No	Yes	No
(32) Major outcomes are presented in a disaggregated as well as aggregated form	Yes	No	No
(33) The answer to the study question is given	Yes	Yes	Yes
(34) Conclusions follow from the data reported	Yes	Yes	Yes
(35) Conclusions are accompanied by the appropriate caveats	No	No	No