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"Making evidence-based healthcare functional in Africa"



Systematic reviews of diagnostic test accuracy: Reporting guidelines and critical appraisal

Facilitator

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Objectives

By the end of this session, participants should:

- 1. Understand the steps of a systematic review of diagnostic test accuracy (DTA)
- 2. Know the key differences between DTA and intervention reviews
- 3. Know the reporting guideline for DTA reviews; the PRISMA- DTA
- 4. Know the principles of critically appraising a DTA review

Brief description of content

This is an introductory workshop focusing on principles of DTA reviews including the required reporting guidelines and required steps in critical appraisal. It targets those interested in conducting DTA reviews or using DTA reviews to make decisions about the use of tests. Accurately identifying people with disease in a population is important in guiding appropriate management. DTA reviews summarize findings of primary studies evaluating the accuracy of a diagnostic test and are used to make recommendations and guidelines about the use of tests. Poor reporting and understanding of DTA reviews can lead decision makers to make unclear or incorrect recommendations leading to poor diagnostic and treatment practices and ultimately compromising health outcomes.



