

Review of: "Impact of medical, surgical and expectant management on spontaneous miscarriage/abortion on first trimester: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized, controlled trials"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

1. Study question:

The objective is not properly mentioned. It is very important that the objective of a meta-analysis and the question being addressed must be explicitly stated and may include primary and secondary objectives. The question at the focus of a meta-analysis should not have already been answered satisfactorily by the results of multiple well-conducted randomized trials.

- 1. Literature Search
- A. What attempts have been made at collecting unpublished data?
- B. Have you used structured data abstraction form
- C. What reasonable limitations placed on search (ie, English language)
- 1. Data abstraction:
- A. Explicit inclusion /exclusion criteria not properly defined.
- B. Number of studies excluded and reason for exclusion
- 1. What efforts have been done to assess for the publication bias?
- 2. How you checked the internal and external validity?
- 3. Conclusion:

Conclusion should be robust enough. Results from a meta-analysis may be used to determine the appropriate sample size of a future trial, develop data for economic studies such as cost-effectiveness analyses, or demonstrate the association between an exposure and disease. Frequently, the results of a meta-analysis are used to highlight the weaknesses of previous studies and to recommend how to improve the design of future trials.