

For information about Trans Care BC's Journal Club, or to register, email: [trans.edu@phsa.ca](mailto:trans.edu@phsa.ca)

Research appraisal tools provide structure for evaluating the strength and utility of a journal article. This tool has been designed to address issues unique to trans health research. We will use this framework and sample questions to guide discussion of the featured peer-reviewed article in Journal Club each month.

## Introduction

- What is the **purpose** of the research (e.g., research question)?
- What is already **known** about this topic?
- Is there a comprehensive **literature** review?

## Methods

- What **method** is used? Is the method appropriate to answer the research question(s)?
- Who are the **participants**? How were participants recruited? Is this a representative sample?
- How were **data collected**? Were the measures used appropriate?

## Ethics

- Was research ethics **approval** obtained (e.g., REB, IRB)?
- Was informed meaningful **consent** given, without coercion or undue influence\*?
- Were appropriate consent measures used for youth participants (if applicable)\*?
- How were **privacy** and **confidentiality** protected\*?

## Results

- What were the main **outcomes**?

## Discussion

- What **conclusions** are drawn? Are they stated clearly? Do they logically connect to the results?
- How do the results compare to those from **other studies**?
- What are the **strengths** and **limitations**?

## Trans Health Research Standards\*

- Is there evidence of meaningful **collaboration** with appropriate community stakeholders\*?
- Is the language **non-stigmatizing**\*?
- Is there evidence that the research has been **shared** with communities\*?
- Is the **diversity** of transgender diverse communities accurately and sensitively reflected\*?
- Does the research align with current **professional standards** (e.g., that refute conversion therapy)\*?

## Utility in Practice

- How can the information from this study be **applied** in practice?

\*Adams, N., Pearce, R., Veale, J., Radix, A., Castro, D., Sarkar, A., & Thom, K. C. (2017). Guidance and Ethical Considerations for Undertaking Transgender Health Research and Institutional Review Boards Adjudicating this Research. *Transgender health*, 2(1), 165–175. <https://doi.org/10.1089/trgh.2017.0012>