

# Role of Manuscript Assessor

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# Introduction

- Purpose of appraisal
- Role of manuscript assessor
- The review for specific articles
- Appraisal questions
  - The standard appraisal questions
  - Questions in appraising original article
  - Questions in appraising review paper



# Purpose of appraisal

1. Keep an eye on the results through the review.
2. Induce development in medicine by transmitting good and new knowledge to the readers.
3. As journal itself, improve the quality by publishing only the good articles.



# Role of manuscript assessor(1)

1. Check the quality, level, importance, practical use, interest of the article.
2. Check social soundness.
3. Check originality and creativeness to convey new information.
4. Check the suitability for the journal.
5. Check the risk of generalizing recommendations.



# Role of manuscript assessor(2)

6. Check the possibility of multiple publication or plagiarism.
7. Review the manuscript and describe the strengths and weaknesses.
8. Inquire into the possibility changing the manuscript to “review paper” or “letter to editor”.



# Role of manuscript assessor(3)

9. Check if the manuscript is clear, easy to the readers.
10. Check if the manuscript is appropriate in length, is grammatically correct, and reduced abbreviations in minimum.
11. Check the uniformity of the materials.
12. Check if reference and index is in formal way.



# The review for specific articles



# 1. Title, and Author

- Is the manuscript *title* of interest and does it reflect the content and trust of the paper?
- How many *authors' names* are on the manuscript?





## 2. Abstract

- The most important part of the manuscript.
- Should state clearly why the study was done, what the results were, and what conclusions were reached.



# 3. Introduction

- Should allow the reviewer to understand why the study was performed, what the gap in knowledge was and why.
- Should be a succinct argument for the paper and some justification, by referring to other related work.
- Is there really the gap in knowledge that the authors claim?



# 4. Method

- The presentation, validation, and extrapolation of the *methods* chosen have to be presented in such a way that they are clear, likely to be correct, and can be repeated elsewhere.
- Needs the number of subjects of tests performed are of sufficient magnitude or accuracy to give the result statistical power.



## 4. Method(2)

- Satisfied that there was **no selection bias** and that **randomization** (if present) was correct.
- Should be a statement that an **ethical committee has approved the study**.
- Must summarize the **statistical tests** chosen.



# 5. Results

- Should clearly summarize the relevant data.
- Should ensure that the presentation of the results is clear, logical, and contains all correct  $p$  values.
- All figures and tables should stand on their own.



# 6. Discussion

- Should clearly summarize the results, contain a critique of the methods used, comparison with other work in the field, have clear conclusion, and, pose questions for further work.
- A good reviewer can decide what is relevant and what can be deleted.



# 7. Reference

- Should look through the references to ensure that the **important papers** in the field are listed and to check spellings of names.
- Can advise on **the style** if necessary.



## **Box 13.2 Important points to remember**

- The title and number of authors are appropriate.
- Is the manuscript submitted in the style of the journal?
- Does the abstract succinctly explain the aims, methods, and results, and have a clear conclusion?
- The introduction should explain why the study was done, with some appropriate references to relevant literature.
- The methods section should be clear, contain validatory data, and be reproducible elsewhere. The methods of enrolling subjects should be free from any potential bias. The statistics should be comprehensible and the study sufficiently large for statistical power.
- Results should avoid repetition in text, tables, and figures.
- The discussion should summarise the main findings, criticise methods used, relate to other data in the literature, and form effective conclusions.
- The discussion can usually be shortened.
- Reviewers should separate major criticisms and suggestions for revision from minor errors, changes, and other textual amendments.
- The report should not include a recommendation for acceptance or rejection.
- Correction of language and rearrangement of text as necessary are of great help to the editorial team.



# Appraisal questions

- The standard appraisal questions
- Questions in appraising original article
  - Clinical trial
  - Cohort study
  - Case–control study
  - Survey
- Questions in appraising review paper



# The standard appraisal questions

- Are the **aims clearly** stated?
- Was the **sample size** justified?
- Are the **measurements** likely to be **valid and reliable**?
- Are the **statistical methods** described?
- Did **untoward events** occur during the study?



# The standard appraisal questions(2)

- Were the **basic data** adequately described?
- Do the **number** add up?
- Was the **statistical significance** assessed?
- What do the **main findings** mean?
- How are **null findings** interpreted?

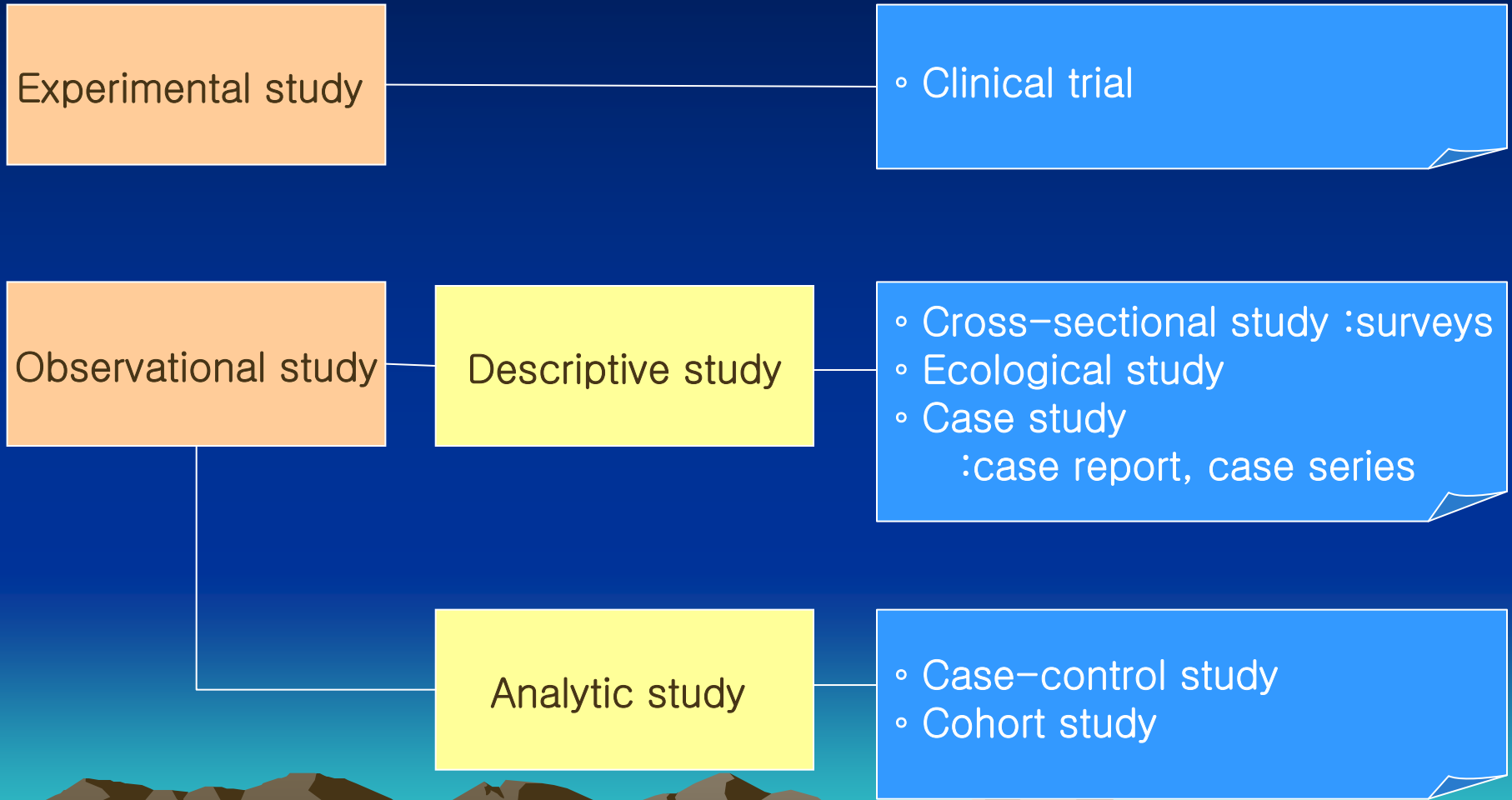


# The standard appraisal questions(3)

- Are **important effects** overlooked?
- How do the results **compare with previous reports?**
- **What implications** does the study have for your practice?



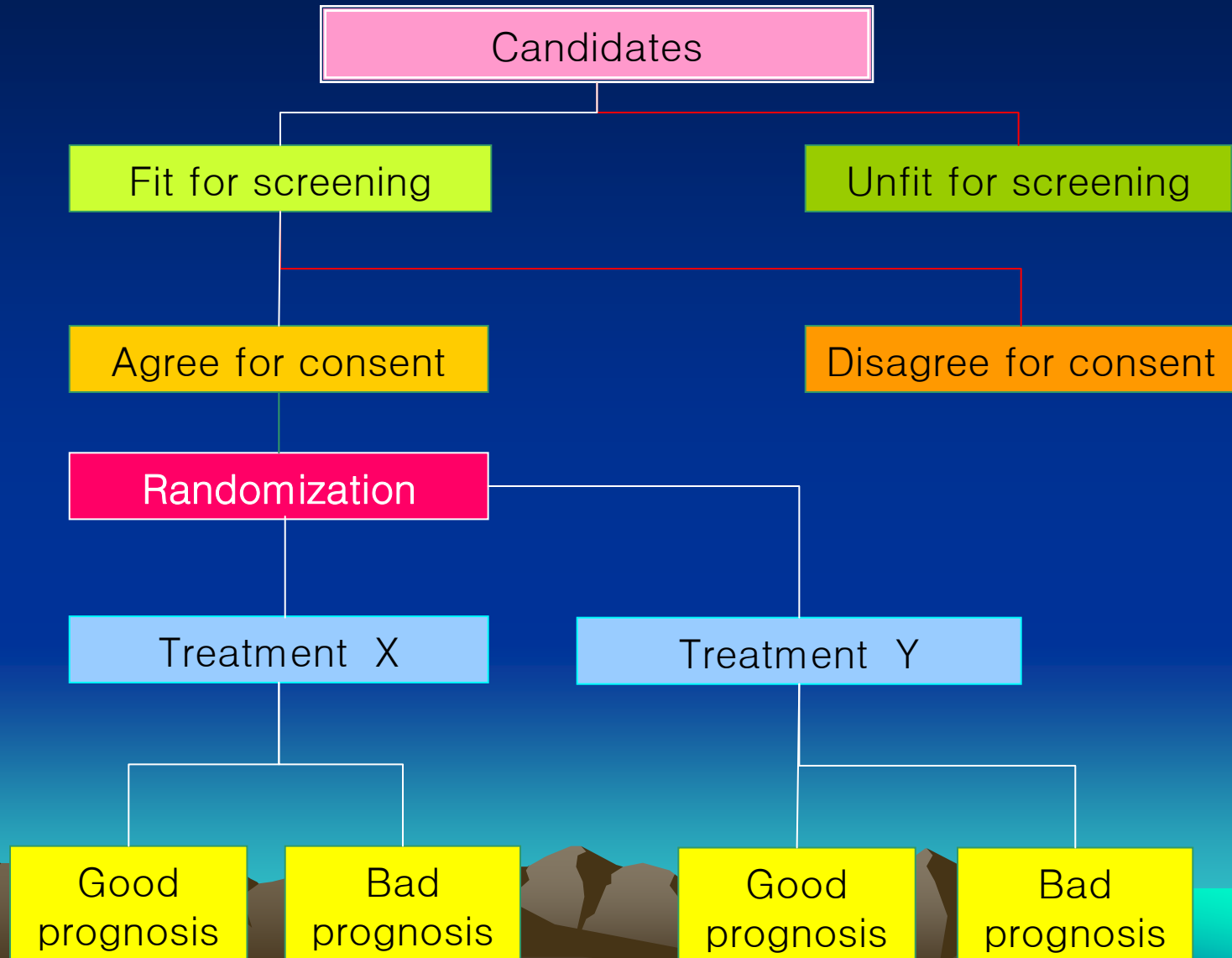
# Study design



# 1. Appraising clinical trials



# Randomized Clinical Trial



# The essential questions

- Were treatment **randomly allocated**?
- Were **all the patients** accounted for?
- Were **outcomes** assessed **blind**?





# The detailed questions

- Design
  - Are the aims clearly stated?
  - Was the sample size justified?
  - Are the measurements likely to be valid and reliable?
  - Could the choice of subjects influence the size of treatment effects?
  - Were there ambiguities in the description of the treatment and its administration?
  - Are the statistical methods described?
  - Could lack of blinding introduce bias?
  - Are the outcomes clinically relevant?



- Conduct
  - How was the randomization carried out?
  - Did untoward events occur during the study?
- Analysis
  - Were the treatment groups comparable at baseline?
  - Were results analyzed by intention to treat?
  - Was the statistical significance assessed?
  - Were the basic data adequately described?
  - Do the numbers add up?
  - Were side-effects reported?



- Interpretation

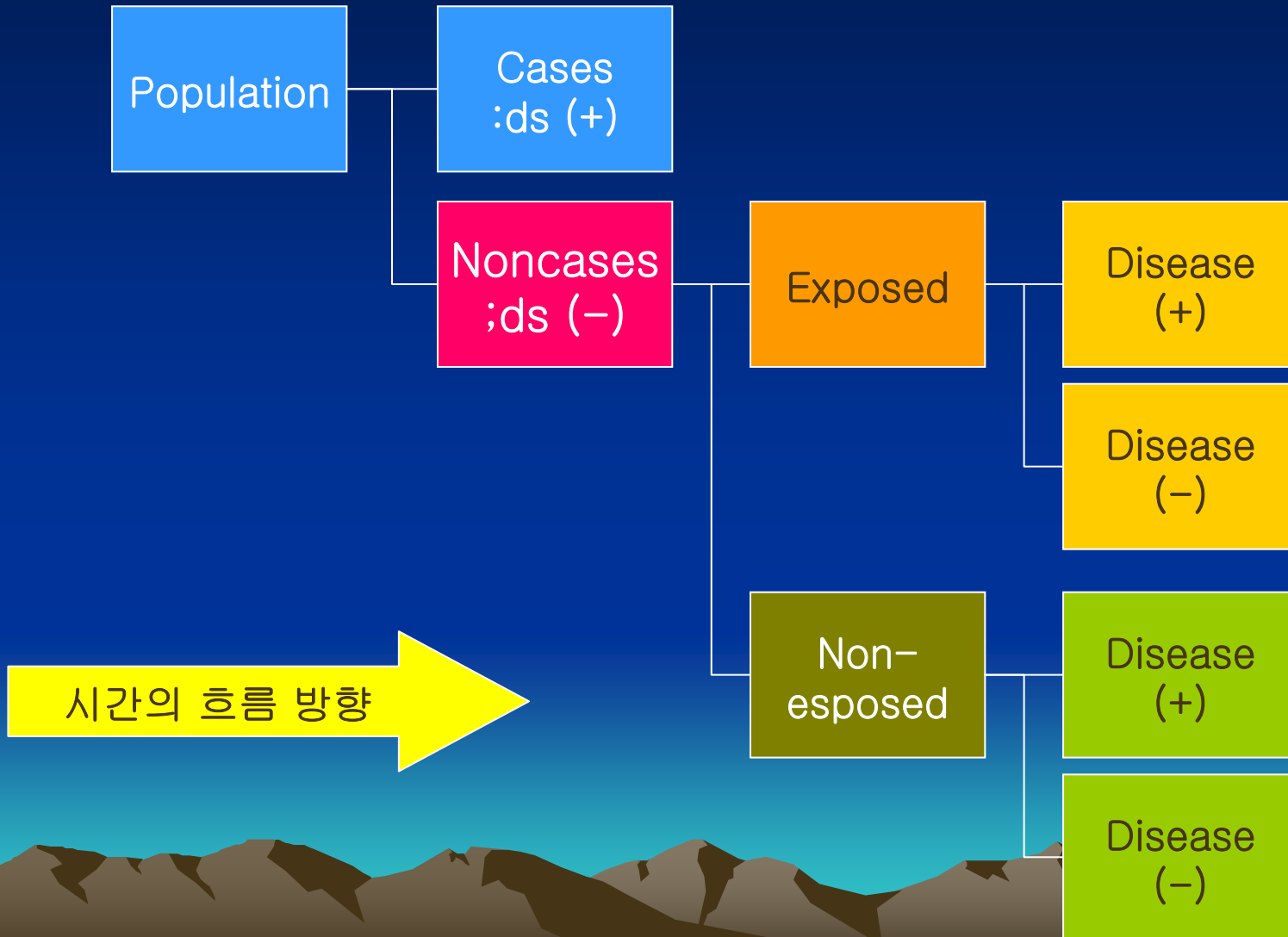
- What do the **main findings** mean?
- How are **null findings** interpreted?
- Are **important effects overlooked**?
- How do the results **compare** with previous reports?
- What **implications** does the study have for your practice?



## 2. Appraising cohort studies



# Cohort study



# The essential questions

- **Who exactly** has been studied?
- was a **control group** used?  
**Should** one have been used?
- How adequate was **the follow-up**?



# The detailed questions

- Design
  - Are the aims clearly stated?
  - Is the design appropriate to the stated aims?
  - Was the sample size justified?
  - Are the measurements likely to be valid and reliable?
  - Was the exposure/intervention accurately measured?
  - Were relevant outcome measures ignored?
  - Are the statistical methods described?



- Conduct
  - Did untoward events occur during the study?
- Analysis
  - Did the analysis allow for the passage of time?
  - Do the numbers add up?
  - Were the basic data adequately described?
  - Was the statistical significance assessed?





- Interpretation

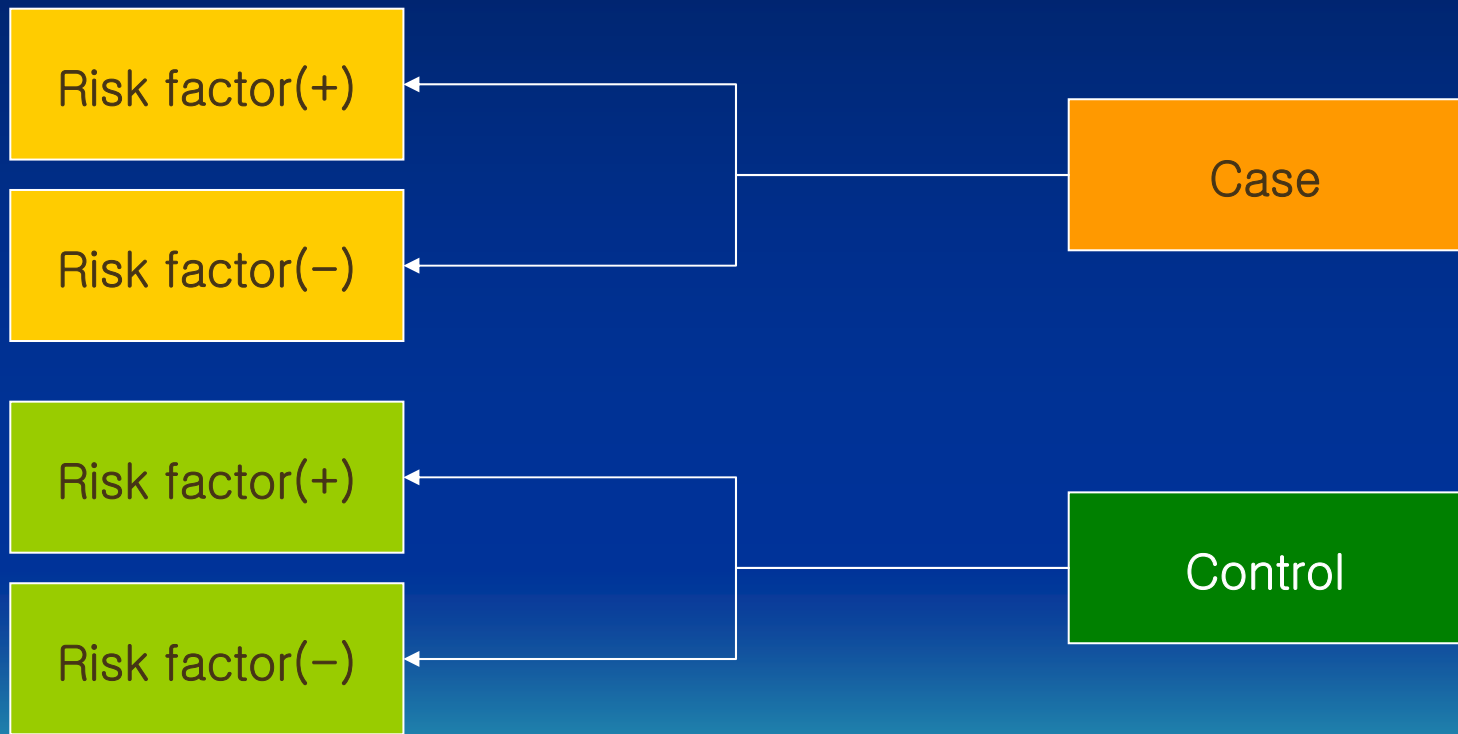
- What do the main findings mean?
- **What else might influence the observed outcome?**
- How are null findings interpreted?
- Are important effects overlooked?
- How do the results compare with previous reports?
- What implications does the study have for your practice?



# 3. Appraising case-control study



# Case-control study



# The essential questions

- How were **the cases** obtained?
- Is the **control group** appropriate?
- Were data collected **the same way** for **cases and controls**?



# The detailed questions

- Design
  - Are the aims clearly stated?
  - Is the method appropriate to aims?
  - Was the sample size justified?
  - Are the measurements likely to be valid and reliable?
  - Are the statistical methods described?



- Conduct
  - Did untoward events occur during the study?
- Analysis
  - Were the basic data adequately described?
  - Do the numbers add up?
  - Was there data-dredging?
  - Was the statistical significance assessed?



- Interpretation
  - What do the main findings mean?
  - Where are the biases?
  - **Could there be confounding?**
  - How are null findings interpreted?
  - Are important effects overlooked?
  - How do the results compare with previous reports?
  - What implications does the study have for your practice?



# 4. Appraising surveys





# The essential questions

- **Who** was studied?
- **How** was the **sample** obtained?
- What was the **response rate**?



# The detailed questions

- Design
  - Are the aims clearly stated?
  - Is the design appropriate to the stated objectives?
  - Was the sample size justified?
  - Are the measurements likely to be valid and reliable?
  - Are the statistical methods described?
  - Is there a suggestion of haste?

- Conduct
  - Did untoward events occur during the study?
- Analysis
  - Were the basic data adequately described?
  - Do the numbers add up?
  - Was the statistical significance assessed?
  - Were the findings serendipitous?



- Interpretation

- What do the main findings mean?
- How could selection bias arise?
- How are null findings interpreted?
- Are important effects overlooked?
- Can the results be generalized?
- How do the results compare with previous reports?
- What implications does the study have for your practice?



# 5. Appraising review papers & meta-analyses



# The essential questions

- How were the papers identified?
- How was the quality of papers assessed?
- How were the results summarized?



# The detailed questions

- Design
  - Are the topic well defined?
  - Are the statistical methods described?
- Conduct
  - Were the detailed study designs reviewed?
  - Was missing information sought?



- Analysis

- Were the basic data adequately described?
- Was publication bias taken into account?
- Was heterogeneity of effect investigated?





- Interpretation

- What do the main findings mean?

- Are there other findings which merit attention?

- Are the conclusion justified?

- How do the results compare with previous reports?

- What implications does the study have for your practice?



## 예방의학회지 심사규정 중 심사위원 관련사항

제2조(적용) 투고된 모든 원저에 대하여 그 분야 전문가 2인 이상의 상호심사를 원칙으로 한다. 그러나 편집위원회에서 위촉한 종설, hot topic, 논평, 논단 또는 단신의 경우에는 이를 생략할 수 있다.

제3조(심사위원의 선정) 투고된 원고의 주요 내용을 편집위원장이 편집위원들에게 알리고, 편집위원들이 적절하다고 추천한 심사위원들 중에서 편집위원장이 심사위원을 선정한다. 선정된 원고별 심사위원의 명단은 편집위원회 외부로는 공개하지 않는다. 선정된 심사위원이 3주 이내에 심사결과를 회신할 수 없는 경우 편집위원장은 심사위원을 교체할 수 있다.



제5조(1차심사) 1차심사의 결과는 다음과 같이 7가지로 구분한다.

- ① 현 상태로 수정 없이 게재 가능
- ② 일부 자구수정 후 게재 가능
- ③ 지적 사항에 따른 내용 수정 후 편집위원회 실무진에서 확인 후 게재 가능
- ④ 지적 사항에 따른 내용 수정 후 심사자에게 수정 내용 확인 요망
- ⑤ 지적 사항에 따른 내용 수정 후 게재 여부 재심사
- ⑥ 게재불가
- ⑦ 기타

제7조(2차심사) 1차 심사결과 제5조 ④항 내지 ⑤항에 해당되는 경우에 심사소견에 대한 투고자에 대한 투고자의 의견서를 붙여 2차심사를 의뢰한다. 단 제5조 ③항의 경우에는 편집위원장이 필요하다고 판단하면 2차심사를 의뢰할 수 있다. 2차심사결과도 1차심사결과와 같이 7가지로 구분한다.



# 대한암학회지 논문심사지침서

## 1. 심사할 때 고려할 내용입니다.

1. 제목이 논문의 내용을 정확히 대변합니까?
2. 중심단어의 내용이 적절합니까?
3. 서론에서 논문의 목적을 잘 설명하였습니까?
4. 연구방법이 충분히 과학적인 근거를 갖고 있습니까?
5. 임상시험인 경우 동의서와 임상시험심사위원회의 승인에 대한 언급을 하였습니까?
6. 결과는 논리적으로 기술되어 있습니까?
7. 원문과 표에 중복되어 결과가 기술되어 있지 않습니까?
8. 대상환자 수(표본수)가 충분합니까?
9. 표와 그림의 설명이 원문을 보지 않고 이해할 수 있도록 충분합니까?
10. 결론은 알맞게 기술되었습니까?
11. 참고문헌의 숫자와 기술방법은 적절합니까?
12. 표준약어를 사용하였습니까?
13. 기호나 측정단위는 적절합니까?

II. 다음 5항목을 상중하로 심사하여 주시기 바랍니다.

상            중            하

- |                               |                          |                          |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. 독창성이 있습니까?                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. 사용한 방법이 결론을 유도하기에 적절하였습니까? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. 통계처리는 맞게 하였습니까?            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. 결과의 신빙성이 있습니까?             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. 대한암학회지에 게재할 가치가 있습니까?      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



# 서울대학교병원연구계획서 심사 및 평가 결과서

평 가 항 목		배 분 율
연구목적		20 %
연구배경 및 필요성		25 %
연구방법	실험조사설계	15 %
	실험조사방법	15 %
연구수행능력		20 %
연구비 산정의 합리성		5 %
합 계		100 %

등급	A (90이상-100)	B (80이상-90미만)	C (70이상-80미만)	D (60이상-70미만)	E (50이상-60미만)
점수					

# 한국암연구재단\_학술상심사 평가표

구 분	점 수				
	5 최우수	4 우수	3 보통	2 미흡	1 불량
1. 창의성 연구의 내용 및 방법이 창의적인가?					
2. 연구목적에 부합된 내용여부 제시한 연구목적에 적합한 내용인가?					
3. 연구방법의 타당성 목적수행에 적합한 방법을 사용하였는가?					
4. 연구결과의 정리 연구결과를 과학적이고 논리적으로 정리, 분석하였는가?					
5. 결론 목적을 위한 결과가 정당하였고 유도한 것이 과학적이고 논리적인가?					
6. 학계의 공헌도 연구결과가 학계에 어느정도 공헌할 것인가?					
7. 종합평가 의견					

Thankyou

