

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF NURSING LEADERSHIP

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWING RESEARCH ARTICLES Quantitative Designs

The following are questions the reviewer may wish to ask as s/he reads the article. It is not necessary to address each question in the written review, but if some sections are done particularly well or some are missing or scant in their treatment, these should be described in the review.

Please maintain a constructive tone throughout the review and where possible, suggest how weak sections might be strengthened.

Focus of the Study

- Are the research questions/purposes/objectives clear?
- Is the topic relevant to and significant for nursing?

State of Knowledge/Literature Review

- Is the review of existing research comprehensive, relevant, concise?
- Are there important studies missing that could alter the questions being asked?
- Are the studies critiqued (design, sampling, analysis, interpretation) or just described?

Theoretical Framework

- Is a theoretical/conceptual framework included? Is one necessary?
- Is the framework clear, relevant and linked to the study variables, measures and interpretation of the findings?

Research Design

- Is the design clear & appropriate for the questions/purposes of the study?
- Are the variables clearly defined?
- If an intervention is involved, is it clearly described and the dosage received by the participants included?
- Is the sample described? Is it appropriate for the questions/purposes? Was a power analysis done?
- Are the measures clearly described, justified, reliable, valid and when appropriate, responsive?
- Are the data collection methods appropriate?

Data Analysis and Results

- Are the results clearly presented? Are they linked to the questions/purposes?

- Are the statistical analyses clear and appropriate for the type of data collected?

Interpretation and Conclusions

- Are the questions answered/purposes addressed?
- Are the interpretations sensible given the data analysis and theoretical framework?
- Do the conclusions complement the interpretations?
- Is the contribution to nursing made clear?

Writing and Overall Presentation

- Is the report well organized and clearly written?
- Are all the charts, figures, tables necessary? Would the report benefit from additional tables, charts etc. to display the data?
- Is the overall report written in an interesting and readable fashion? How might it be improved?

RECOMMENDATIONS

Publish as is (may require minor editing) _____

Minor revisions then publish _____

Major revisions, resubmit and reconsider* _____

Do not publish _____

REPORT TO AUTHOR

Please provide written comments for the author on this sheet.

REPORT TO EDITOR

Please provide any written comments for the editor **only** on this sheet. These will not be provided to the author. It is not necessary to use this sheet if all the comments can be provided to the author.

