



Based on the "Users' Guides to the Medical Literature: A Manual for Evidence-Based Clinical Practice", this worksheet can serve as an aid to the critical appraisal of an article about differential diagnosis.

Appraiser:

Date:

Citation:

Study Question:

Are the results valid?

✓x? Did the investigators enroll the right patients? Was the patient sample representative of those with the clinical problem?

✓x? Was the definitive diagnostic standard appropriate? Was the diagnostic process credible?

✓x? For initially undiagnosed patients, was follow-up sufficiently long and complete?

What are the results?

✓x? What were the diagnoses and their probabilities?

✓x? How precise are the estimates of disease probability?



How can I apply the results to patient care?

✓x? **Are the study patients similar to those in my own practice?**

✓x? **Is it unlikely that the disease possibilities or probabilities have changed since this evidence was gathered?**

Additional Comments: