

**Instructions:** Place the cursor on the first row cell to see explanations. Highlight area to be sorted including column headings (B2:S28). Click on Sort function in Data menu. Choose desired heading and observe pattern of results when sorted by study feature.

**Test numbers or rates**

| Study             | Year | Country    | Setting | Intervention  | Reminders | Education | Feedback | Decision tools | Funding | Guidelines | Single | Just TFTs | Design | Outcome                    |
|-------------------|------|------------|---------|---|-----------|-----------|----------|----------------|---------|------------|--------|-----------|--------|----------------------------|
| Adlan 2011        | 2011 | UK         | Hosp    | Guidelines  | N         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | S      | Y         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Baker 2003        | 2003 | UK         | PC      | Education and guidelines                            | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | N         | RCT    | Numbers/rate               |
| Berwick 1986      | 1986 | USA        | PC      | Feedback on cost                                    | N         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | CS     | Numbers/rate               |
| Berwick 1986      | 1986 | USA        | PC      | Feedback on yield                                   | N         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | CS     | Numbers/rate               |
| Berwick 1986      | 1986 | USA        | PC      | Education (test specific)                           | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | CS     | Numbers/rate               |
| Berwick 1986      | 1986 | USA        | PC      | Feedback on cost                                    | N         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | CS     | CV                         |
| Berwick 1986      | 1986 | USA        | PC      | Feedback on yield                                   | N         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | CS     | CV                         |
| Berwick 1986      | 1986 | USA        | PC      | Education (test specific)                           | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | CS     | CV                         |
| Chu 2013          | 2013 | Australia  | Hosp    | Guidelines  | N         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | S      | N         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Cipullo 1996      | 1996 | USA        | Hosp    | Guidelines  | N         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | S      | N         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Daucourt 2003     | 2003 | France     | Hosp    | Pocket memory card                                  | Y         | N         | N        | N              | N       | N          | S      | Y         | RCT    | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Daucourt 2003     | 2003 | France     | Hosp    | Request form redesign                               | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | N          | S      | Y         | RCT    | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Daucourt 2003     | 2003 | France     | Hosp    | Memory pocket card and request form redesign        | Y         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | N          | M      | Y         | RCT    | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Dowling 1989      | 1989 | USA        | PC      | Education and feedback                              | N         | Y         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | M      | N         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Dowling 1989      | 1989 | USA        | PC      | Education and feedback                              | N         | Y         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | M      | N         | BA     | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Emerson 2001      | 2001 | USA        | PC      | Request form redesign                               | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | N          | S      | N         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Emerson 2001      | 2001 | USA        | PC      | Request form redesign                               | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | N          | S      | N         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| Feldkamp 1996     | 1996 | USA        | Hosp    | Guidelines  | N         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | S      | Y         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Feldkamp 1996     | 1996 | USA        | Hosp    | Guidelines  | N         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | S      | Y         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| Gama 1991         | 1991 | UK         | Hosp    | Feedback  | N         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | CS     | Numbers/rate               |
| Grivell 1981      | 1981 | Australia  | Hosp    | Feedback  | N         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Hardwick 1982     | 1982 | Canada     | PC      | Funding policy and guidelines                       | N         | N         | N        | N              | Y       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Hardwick 1982     | 1982 | Canada     | PC      | Funding policy and guidelines                       | N         | N         | N        | N              | Y       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| Hardwick 1982     | 1982 | Canada     | PC      | Funding policy and guidelines                       | N         | N         | N        | N              | Y       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Expenditure                |
| Larson 1999       | 1999 | Sweden     | PC      | Education   | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | N          | M      | N         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| Mindemark 2009    | 2009 | Sweden     | PC      | Education   | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | N          | M      | N         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| Horn 2014         | 2014 | USA        | PC      | Display of cost of the tests being ordered          | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | N          | M      | N         | ITS    | Numbers/rate               |
| Nightingale 1994  | 1994 | UK         | Hosp    | Education and feedback and protocol management sys  | N         | Y         | Y        | Y              | N       | N          | M      | N         | BA     | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Rhyne 1979        | 1979 | USA        | PC      | Education and guidelines                            | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Rhyne 1979        | 1979 | USA        | PC      | Education and guidelines                            | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Schectman 1991    | 1991 | USA        | PC      | Educational memorandum                              | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | N          | S      | Y         | CS     | Numbers/rate               |
| Schectman 1991    | 1991 | USA        | PC      | Educational memorandum                              | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | N          | S      | Y         | CS     | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Schectman 1991    | 1991 | USA        | PC      | Reminders   | Y         | N         | N        | N              | N       | N          | S      | Y         | CS     | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Schectman 1991    | 1991 | USA        | PC      | Feedback and reminders                              | Y         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | M      | Y         | CS     | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Stuart 2002       | 2002 | Australia  | Hosp    | Education and feedback and guidelines               | N         | Y         | Y        | N              | N       | Y          | S      | N         | BA     | Expenditure                |
| Thomas 2006       | 2006 | UK         | PC      | Feedback  | N         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | RCT    | Numbers/rate               |
| Thomas 2006       | 2006 | UK         | PC      | Reminders   | Y         | N         | N        | N              | N       | N          | S      | N         | RCT    | Numbers/rate               |
| Thomas 2006       | 2006 | UK         | PC      | Feedback and reminders                              | Y         | N         | Y        | N              | N       | N          | M      | N         | RCT    | Numbers/rate               |
| Tierney 1988      | 1988 | USA        | PC      | Display of computer-generated probability estimates | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | N          | S      | N         | RCT    | Expenditure                |
| Tomlin 2011       | 2011 | NZ         | PC      | Education and feedback and guidelines               | N         | Y         | Y        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | CS     | Numbers/rate               |
| Tomlin 2011       | 2011 | NZ         | PC      | Education and feedback and guidelines               | N         | Y         | Y        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | CS     | Expenditure                |
| Tomlin 2011       | 2011 | NZ         | PC      | Education and feedback and guidelines               | N         | Y         | Y        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | CS     | Pattern                    |
| Toubert 2000      | 2000 | France     | Hosp    | Guidelines and reminders                            | Y         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Toubert 2000      | 2000 | France     | Hosp    | Guidelines and reminders                            | Y         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Appropriateness/compliance |
| Toubert 2000      | 2000 | France     | Hosp    | Guidelines and reminders                            | Y         | N         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| van Gend 1996     | 1996 | The Nether | PC      | Request form redesign and feedback                  | N         | N         | Y        | Y              | N       | N          | M      | N         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| van Walraven 1998 | 1998 | Canada     | PC      | Guidelines and funding policy                       | N         | N         | N        | N              | Y       | Y          | M      | N         | ITS    | Numbers/rate               |
| van Walraven 1998 | 1998 | Canada     | PC      | Guidelines and request form redesign                | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | Y          | M      | N         | ITS    | Numbers/rate               |
| Vidal-Treca 2003  | 2003 | France     | Hosp    | Education and guidelines and request form redesign  | N         | Y         | N        | Y              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Vidal-Treca 2003  | 2003 | France     | Hosp    | Education and guidelines and request form redesign  | N         | Y         | N        | Y              | N       | Y          | M      | Y         | BA     | Pattern                    |
| Willis 2013       | 2013 | UK         | Hosp    | Education and guidelines                            | N         | Y         | N        | N              | N       | Y          | M      | N         | BA     | Numbers/rate               |
| Wong 1983         | 1983 | USA        | Hosp    | Guidelines and request form redesign                | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | Y          | M      | N         | CS     | Numbers/rate               |
| Wong 1983         | 1983 | USA        | Hosp    | Guidelines and request form redesign                | N         | N         | N        | Y              | N       | Y          | M      | N         | CS     | Pattern                    |

| Direction | Large effect | Not chance | Notes  |
|-----------|--------------|------------|--|
| +         | +            | +          | % admissions offered TFT   |
| +         | -            | -          | Per 1000 registered patients   |
| +         | -            | NR         | Per 100 encounters   |
| -         | +            | NR         | Per 100 encounters   |
| +         | -            | NR         | Per 100 encounters   |
| +         | +            | NR         | Per 100 encounters   |
| +         | +            | NR         | Per 100 encounters   |
| -         | -            | NR         | Per 100 encounters   |
| +         | +            | +          | Per 100 ED visits  |
| +         | -            | NR         | Per discharge  |
| +         | -            | -          | Proportion of TFTs ordered in accordance with the guidelines   |
| +         | +            | +          | Proportion of TFTs ordered in accordance with the guidelines   |
| +         | -            | +          | Proportion of TFTs ordered in accordance with the guidelines   |
| +         | -            | +          | Per patient visit  |
| +         | +            | +          | Per patient visit  |
| +         | NR           | +          |  |
| +         | +            | NR         | Sought to shift to TSH and cascade   |
| +         | -            | NR         | Per 1000 patients  |
| +         | +            | NR         | Sought to shift to TSH and TSH-based algorithm   |
| +         | +            | +          | Per outpatient visit   |
| -         | +            | NR         |  |
| +         | -            | NR         | Population-based study   |
| +         | -            | NR         | Population-based study   |
| +         | +            | NR         | Population-based study   |
| +         | -            | +          | Sought to shift to TSH; and reduce ordering of TT3 and FT4 relative to TSH. Summary based on TSH/all TFTs ratios |
| -         | -            | +          | Sought to shift to TSH; and reduce ordering of TT3 and FT4 relative to TSH. Summary based on TSH/all TFTs ratios |
| +         | -            | -          | Per 1000 visits  |
| +         | +            | NR         | % patients requiring a particular investigation according to protocol who were actually tested                   |
| +         | +            | +          | Per 100 encounters   |
| +         | -            | -          | % "high" and "low" indications   |
| +         | -            | +          | Per patient  |
| +         | +            | +          | Compliance with TSH-only strategy  |
| +         | -            | +          | Compliance with TSH-only strategy  |
| +         | -            | +          | Compliance with TSH-only strategy  |
| +         | +            | +          | Mean cost per patient  |
| +         | -            | +          | Per 10000 registered patients  |
| +         | -            | +          | Per 10000 registered patients  |
| +         | -            | +          | Per 10000 registered patients  |
| +         | -            | -          | Charges per scheduled visit (in USA\$)   |
| +         | +            | +          | Per year per GP  |
| +         | -            | NR         |  |
| +         | +            | +          | Sought to shift to TSH. Summary based on % TFTs TSH alone  |
| +         | +            | NR         |  |
| +         | +            | +          | % appropriate  |
| +         | +            | NR         | Sought to shift to TSH. Summary based on % TFTs TSH alone  |
| +         | +            | NR         | Sought to shift away from TT4. Summary based on FT4:TSH ratio  |
| +         | +            | +          | Summary based on decrease in the proportion of FT4 and T3RU  |
| +         | -            | +          | Summary based on decrease in TSH utilisation   |
| +         | -            | NR         | Summary based on the total number of TFTs  |
| +         | -            | NR         | Sought to shift to TSH. Summary based on the proportion of FT3 and TSH   |
| +         | +            | +          | Per admission  |
| +         | +            | NR         |  |
| +         | +            | NR         | Sought to decrease ordering of "complete" thyroid panel to more selective use of individual tests                |