

Appendix A

Components of the Body of Evidence Statement Form used in the review

Component	A	B	C	D
	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Poor
Evidence base ¹	One of more level I studies with a low risk of bias or several level II studies with a low risk of bias	One or two level II studies with a low risk of bias or SR/several level III studies with a low risk of bias and confounding	One or two level III studies with a low risk of bias or level I or level II studies with a moderate risk of bias or confounding	Level IV studies or level III studies/SRs with a risk of bias and confounding
Consistency	All studies consistent	Most studies consistent and inconsistency can be explained	Some inconsistency, reflecting genuine uncertainty around question	Evidence is inconsistent
Population health impact	Very large	Moderate	Slight	Restricted
Generalisability	Evidence directly generalisable to target population	Evidence directly generalisable to target population with some caveats	Evidence not directly generalisable to the target population but could be sensibly applied	Evidence not directly generalisable to the target population and hard to judge whether it is sensible to apply
¹ Evidence base level: systematic review of prospective cohort studies (level I), prospective cohort study (level II), 'all or none' study (level III-1) retrospective cohort study (level III-2), case-control study (level III-3), cross-sectional study, or case series (level IV). ³¹				

Source: NHMRC³¹

Appendix B

Evidence Scale and Statement recommendations

Evidence statement rating	Description
A	Findings from the body of evidence can be trusted
B	Findings from the body of evidence can be trusted in most situations
C	The body of evidence provides some support but care should be taken in the interpretation of the findings
D	The body of evidence is weak and findings cannot be trusted

Source: NHMRC³¹