

## Appendix B: Summary of evidence assessment framework

Categories of evidence	Criteria	Rationale
Strong+++	a) At least five studies with low or moderate overall risk of bias AND b) Findings from evidence available are considered to be consistent	- Findings are reliable based on a large number of good quality studies - Overall, the conclusions are drawn from credible and reliable evidence
Moderate++	a) At least five studies with low or moderate risk of bias but inconsistent in their findings OR b) two to four studies with low or moderate risk of bias and the findings from evidence available are considered to be consistent	- Findings are based on more than one good quality studies -Overall, the conclusions are drawn from credible and reliable evidence but there are some deficiencies
Limited +	a) Two to four studies with low or moderate risk of bias and the findings from evidence available are considered to be inconsistent OR c) A single study from low risk of bias	-Findings are reliable but unconfirmed -Consistency of the findings across a body of evidence cannot be determined.
Insufficient -	a) A single study from medium or high risk of bias study OR b) Evidence only available from high risk of bias studies	-Overall conclusions cannot be drawn