



THLA Journal Club

Article Assessment Sheet

Feel free to use some, all or none of the questions below as prompts for your assessment of the articles we discuss in Journal Club. Did we miss anything important? Let us know!

Email: president@thla.ca

Question and Purpose

Was the question/issue clearly defined?

What is the purpose of the study? Did it provide new information or expand on existing information?

Is the study topic timely and relevant to health librarianship?

Method & Sampling

Did the author(s) choose the research method best suited to answer the question? Why or why not?

If a sample population was used, did it include an appropriate spectrum of patrons/users?

Were sufficient numbers of participants involved to justify the conclusions/recommendations of the study?

Did the author(s) make reasonable efforts to reduce or remove bias, according to the methods they used and the question they were trying to answer?

If objective measures could be used, were they?

Data Analysis

Was the data analyzed appropriately? Can you easily follow the logic used by the author(s)?

Does the author(s) address the creditability and usefulness of the data collected?

Findings

Are the findings presented within a context? Was existing literature on the topic related to the findings?

Are there gaps in the information/results reported? Did these gaps negate the findings or usefulness of the study?

Conclusions, Implications and Recommendations

Are the results relevant to health librarianship? If not, can you draw inferences from the results to suit your needs or those of your patrons?

Are practical, important recommendations made? How strong are they? Do you think they are justified by the data presented in the study?

Does the study raise further issues you would like to see investigated?

What did the author(s) do well? What would you do differently if you were conducting the study?
What is your overall opinion of the study?