

## Evaluating Published Research

		3	2	1		
Aspect						
<b>Internal (Primary)</b>	<b>Research methodology</b>	Solid research methods, appropriate for field	Questionable: partially unclear or inappropriate	Invalid or non-existent, opinion	<b>Internal (Primary)</b>	
	<b>Claims</b>	Supported by valid sources	Some questionable support	Unsupported, or supported by poor or questionable research		
	<b>Conclusions</b>	Based upon valid research	Only partially based on valid research	Not based on valid research		
<b>External (Secondary)</b>	<b>Citation Indexing</b>	well-cited by various databases	some citations	few or no citations	<b>External (Secondary)</b>	
	<b>Journal's Respect</b>	peer-reviewed journal, high impact in field	peer-reviewed, low impact or non peer-reviewed but decent impact	Not peer-reviewed, low impact		

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**Internal Evaluation:** Internal methods of evaluation are the primary way of evaluating published research. A thorough knowledge of research methods enables the reader to successfully evaluate the published research.

**External Evaluation:** External methods of evaluation are a secondary way to evaluate published research. These methods do not take precedence over the primary methods. However, external methods are a way to see how much of an impact an article has had in its field (via citation indexing). External methods can be used in cases when the reader is deciding between which published research to cite that have relatively similar internal validity.