

Supplementary table 2: Comparison of the CERQual components and the elements of GRADE

CERQual components for assessing confidence in the evidence for findings from syntheses of qualitative evidence	GRADE elements for assessing the certainty of evidence, by outcome, on the effectiveness of interventions [1]
Methodological limitations	Limitations in study design / risk of bias
Relevance	Indirectness
Coherence	Inconsistency
Adequacy of data	Imprecision
<i>Dissemination bias*</i>	Publication bias

* The inclusion of dissemination bias in CERQual is still under discussion – see Boxes 2 and 4

References

1. Balshem H, Helfand M, Schunemann HJ, Oxman AD, Kunz R, et al. (2011) GRADE guidelines: 3. Rating the quality of evidence. J Clin Epidemiol 64: 401-406.