

Identifying the Best Study

Type of Question	Suggested best type of Study
Therapy	RCT>cohort > case control > case series
Diagnosis	Prospective, blind comparison to a gold standard
Etiology/Harm	RCT > cohort > case control > case series
Prognosis	Cohort study > case control > case series
Prevention	RCT>cohort study > case control > case series
Clinical Exam	Prospective, blind comparison to gold standard
Cost	Economic analysis

Introduction to Evidence Based Medicine. 2004.