

CRITICAL REVIEW FORM: Therapy II**Citations:**

Alan Bensoussan, Nick J. Talley, Michael Hing, Robert Menzies, Anna Guo, Meng Ngu. Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Chinese Herbal Medicine – A Randomized Controlled Trial. *JAMA*, 1998;280 (18): 1585-1598.

Guide		Comments
I	How serious was the risk of bias?	
1	Did experimental and control groups start with the similar prognosis?	
1 a	Were patients randomized?	
1b	Was randomization concealed?	
1c	Were patients similar at baseline with respect to prognostic factors?	
2	Was prognostic balance maintained as the study progressed?	
	To what extent was the study blinded?	
3	Were groups prognostically balanced at the study's completion?	
3a	Was follow-up complete?	
3b	Were patients analyzed in the groups to which they were randomized?	
3c	Was the trial stopped early?	

II	What are the Results?	
1	How large was the treatment effect?	
2	How precise was the estimate of the treatment effect?	
III	How can I apply the results to my patient care?	
1	Were the study patients similar to my patient?	
2	Were all patient- important outcomes considered?	
3	Are the likely benefits worth the potential harms and costs?	