

supplemental Table 2. Summary of extensional definitions

No.	First author or Institution/ Year	Discipline	Original content [#]
1	Miettinen 1998	Health Sciences	Medical evidence, it has been argued, subdivides into two categories, one for the specific medical evidence from the patient, the other for the general evidence that reflects upon the physician's past experience, views, and values.[1]
2	Kitson 1998	Health Sciences	With the accepted definition of evidence as the combination of research, clinical expertise, and patient choice.[2]
3	Strategic Policy Making Team Cabinet Office 1999	Social Sciences	The raw ingredient of evidence is information. Good quality policy making depends on high quality information, derived from a variety of sources – expert knowledge; existing domestic and international research; existing statistics; stakeholder consultation; evaluation of previous policies; new research, if appropriate; or secondary sources, including the internet. Evidence can also include analysis of the outcome of consultation, costings of policy options and the results of economic or statistical modelling. To be as effective as possible, evidence needs to be provided by, and/or be interpreted by, experts in the field working closely with policy makers. This expertise includes economists and statisticians, employed and on a service-wide basis by the Government Economic Service etc, and social researchers, doctors and other scientists employed by departments.[3]
4	Mulrow 2001	Health Sciences	Medical research; Society's values; Particulars of patient situations such Patients' readiness to accept and as course and severity of illness, con-adherence to recommended current mental and physical disease, diagnostic, therapeutic, and/or education, beliefs, social resources, monitoring strategies and finances; Medical providers' experiences, beliefs; Health care systems' rules, resources, and skills and financing.[4]
5	Rycroft-Malone 2004	Nursing	These evidence bases are named according to their source: research; clinical experience; patients; clients and carers; local context and environment.[5]
6	Brownson 2009	Public Health	Research such as scientific literature in systematic reviews; scientific literature in one or more journal articles; public health surveillance data; program evaluations; qualitative data (community members, other stakeholders); media/marketing data; word of mouth; personal experience.[6]
7	Brownson 2009	Public Health	Medical evidence includes not only research but characteristics of the patient, a patient's readiness to undergo a therapy, and society's values.[6]

8	Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs 2013	Social Sciences	It can take many forms: research, analysis of stakeholder opinion, economic and statistical modelling, public perceptions and beliefs, anecdotal evidence, and cost/benefit analyses; as well as a judgement of the quality of the methods that are used to gather and synthesis the information.[7]
9	The Center for High Impact Philanthropy 2014	Social Sciences	What does a broader definition of evidence look like in practice? For us, 'evidence-based' means accessing the best available information from three different sources, or circles of evidence: Philanthropic Evaluation Evidence Chart Research or scientific evidence, such as the results of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and statistical models designed to prove cause and effect; Field experience such as the practical knowledge of beneficiaries and program providers. These insights help explain how programs work in real-world conditions, when human behavior and implementation challenges come into play; Informed opinion such as the views of policymakers or other stakeholders whose perspectives provide context for evaluation results and field experience.[8]
10	Djulbegovic 2015	Health Sciences	The unsystematic observations of individual clinicians constitute a source of evidence, a patients' report of feeling tiredness or pain would represent a second source of evidence, physiologic experiments constitute another source, and clinical trial results constitute a fourth.[9]
11	Ma 2015	Social Sciences	More broadly, evidence can be understood to include not only research/survey, quantitative/statistical data, qualitative data and analytical conclusions, but also economic, attitude, behavioral and anecdotal evidence, as well as the knowledge and skills of experts and non-professionals, as well as advocacy, judgment, insight/experience, history, analogy, local knowledge, and culture.[10]
12	Global Commission on Evidence 2021	Social Sciences	Evidence is typically encountered in decision-making in eight different forms: Behavioural/implementation research; Qualitative insights; Evaluation; Evidence synthesis; Modeling; Technology assessment/cost-effectiveness analysis; Data analytics; Guidelines.[11]

(#) Definitions were taken verbatim; then the original was in Chinese it was directly translated into English.

References

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