The Hierarchy of Evidence

The Hierarchy of evidence is based on summaries from the National Health and Medical Research Council (2009), the Oxford Centre for Evidence-based Medicine Levels of Evidence (2011) and Melynyk and Fineout-Overholt (2011).

I Evidence obtained from a systematic review of all relevant randomised control trials.

II Evidence obtained from at least one well designed randomised control trial.

III Evidence obtained from well-designed controlled trials without randomisation.

IV Evidence obtained from well designed cohort studies, case control studies, interrupted time series with a control group, historically controlled studies, interrupted time series without a control group or with case- series

V Evidence obtained from systematic reviews of descriptive and qualitative studies

VI Evidence obtained from single descriptive and qualitative studies

VII Expert opinion from clinicians, authorities and/or reports of expert committees or based on physiology

Melynyk, B. & Fineout-Overholt, E. (2011). *Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice (2nd ed.).* Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

National Health and Medical Research Council (2009). *NHMRC levels of evidence and grades for recommendations for developers of guidelines* (2009). Australian Government: NHMRC. http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/_files_nhmrc/file/guidelines/evidence_statement_form.pdf

OCEBM Levels of Evidence Working Group Oxford (2011).*The Oxford 2011 Levels of Evidence*. Oxford Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine. http://www.cebm.net/index.aspx?o=1025

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Reference ***(include title, author, journal title, year of publication, volume and issue, pages)***	**Evidence level (I-VII)**	**Key findings, outcomes or recommendations**
Hegazy, R.A & Lotfy, W.N. (2007) The Value of Holter Monitoring In The Assessment of Pediatric Patients. Indian Pacing and Electrophysiology Journal, 7(4):204-214	V	Retrospective study of 1319 Holter records in pediatric patients, average age 6.7+/-4.1 yrs. The study aimed to determine the value of Holter monitoring in the diagnosis and management of paediatric patients. The findings showed that Holter monitors played a valuable role in in the assessment of high risk patients (post operative and cardiomyopathy), but in children with syncope and chest pain Holter monitors had a low yield.
24 Hour Ambulatory ECG (Holter) Monitoring, Melbourne Heart Care, internet webpage www.melbourenheartcare.com.au	VII	General description of what a Holter monitor is.
24 Hour Holter Monitor Diary, Monash Heart Monash Health, internet webpage www.monashheart.org.au	VII	Patient information on 24 hour Holter monitor diary
Holter Monitor, Victorian Cardiovascular Services, internet webpage www.vcscardiology.com.au	VII	General description of what a Holter monitor is.