

BEME review: Title: The effectiveness of test-enhanced learning in health professions education—a systematic review and meta-analysis

We have completed the following steps in the protocol:

Review questions, objectives, and key words
Literature search
Study selection
Data abstraction
Reproducibility of study inclusion and data abstraction
Assessment of study quality
Synthesis of extracted evidence

We are currently writing the manuscript.

Our initial inclusion procedure yielded 52 articles. But we reserved our detailed analysis for the 18 that had a control group of students who either studied the same material. This is really the only way to isolate the retrieval effect (test enhanced learning) from the rehearsal effect (looming assessments indirectly enhancing learning by driving study behavior).

The studies were too heterogeneous to justify a quantitative meta-analysis.

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