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|  | **Evidence Level** | **Types of Evidence** |
| **Research Evidence**  **(Appendix E)** | **Level I** | * Experimental study, randomized controlled trial (RCT) * Explanatory mixed methods design that includes only a Level I quaNtitative study * Systematic review of RCTs, with or without meta-analysis |
| **Level II** | * Quasi-experimental study * Explanatory mixed methods design that includes only a Level II quaNtitative study * Systematic review of a combination of RCTs and quasi-experimental studies, or quasi-experimental studies only, with or without meta-analysis |
| **Level III** | * Nonexperimental study * Systematic review of a combination of RCTs, quasi-experimental and nonexperimental studies, or nonexperimental studies only, with or without meta-analysis. * Exploratory, convergent, or multiphasic mixed methods studies * Explanatory mixed methods design that includes only a Level III quaNtitative study * QuaLitative study * Systematic review of quaLitative studies with or without meta-synthesis |
| **Nonresearch Evidence**  **(Appendix F)** | **Level IV** | Opinion of respected authorities and/or nationally recognized expert committees or consensus panels based on scientific evidence. Includes:   * Clinical practice guidelines * Consensus panels/position statements |
| **Level V** | Based on experiential and non-research evidence. Includes:   * Scoping reviews * Integrative reviews * Literature reviews * Quality improvement, program or financial evaluation * Case reports * Opinion of nationally recognized expert(s) based on experiential evidence |

Note: Refer to the appropriate Evidence Appraisal Tool (Research [Appendix E] or Nonresearch [Appendix F]) to determine quality ratings.