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Network Meta-analysis for Evidence Synthesis in Intensive and Critical Care: Advanced Topics and Future Perspectives

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Introduction

Clinical decision-making depends on a balanced judgment between the resources, tasks, skills and values, which in several times depends on external factors that cannot be easily controlled. Network meta-analysis is used to include all methods of synthesis that is extensive evidence, indirect comparison set, the comparison treatment mixture, and processing multiple meta-analysis [1-13] (Table 1).

The future of network meta-analysis depends on the process of conducting a valid and effective systematic review, as well as the successful implementation of decision makers. This can provide new solutions to complex problems, from the evidence available to guide a more accurate clinical practice.

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Table 1 Describes the advanced topics and future perspectives of the network meta-analysis in intensive and critical care.

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Network meta-analysis in intensive and critical care	
Advanced Topics	Future Perspectives
Incorporating moderators: network meta-regression	
Appraising between-study heterogeneity	
Appraising inconsistency between direct and indirect estimates	Moving from evidence synthesis to action
Appraising small study effects and publication bias	The future of network meta-analysis: toward accessibility
Combining multiple effect estimates: multivariate network meta-analysis	and integration
Moving from study-level to patient-level data: individual patient network meta-analysis	
State of the art reporting of network meta-analyses	

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