

### How to Read a Research Article: Questions to Consider While Reading

When reading a research article, there are different questions you can ask yourself while reading different sections of the article. Figuring out the answers to these questions will help you better understand what you are reading as you are reading it. The questions are listed by article section. (Content courtesy of Vijay Vasudevan)

#### Introduction/Background

- Why is this study important for the study population?
- What is the study's research question/ purpose /hypothesis?

#### Methods

- Can someone else do what the researchers did?
- Who are the study participants?
- Do the methods make sense to answer the research question/purpose/hypothesis?

#### Results

- (If the study is quantitative) Are there significant findings?
  - If yes, how do the results relate to the research question/purpose/hypothesis?
- (If the study is qualitative) Does it provide more detail?
- How do the findings relate to one another?

#### Discussion

- Are the results generalizable?
- How do the results relate back to the research question/purpose/hypothesis?
- What are the study's limitations?