

Table 2: Understanding AAOS guideline language

Strength	Overall Quality of Evidence	Description of Evidence
Strong	Good	Level I evidence from more than one study with consistent findings for recommending for or against the intervention or diagnostic.
Moderate	Fair	Level II or III evidence from more than one study with consistent findings, or Level I evidence from a single study for recommending for or against the intervention or diagnostic.
Weak	Poor	Level IV or V evidence from more than one study with consistent findings, or Level II or III evidence from a single study for recommending for or against the intervention or diagnostic.
Inconclusive	No evidence or conflicting evidence	The evidence is insufficient or conflicting and does not allow a recommendation for or against the intervention or diagnostic.
Consensus	No evidence	There is no supporting evidence. In the absence of reliable evidence, the work group is making a recommendation based on their clinical opinion and considering the known harms and benefits associated with the treatment.