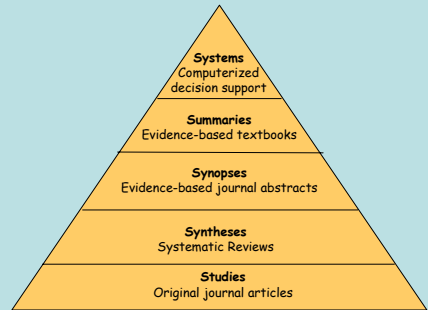


# EBM Tool-Picking Made Easy

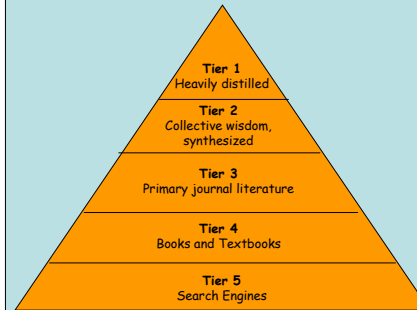
Simplifying the tiers of evidence helps students choose the best information tools for their clinical questions

Our "tierful" story begins...



Adapted from: Brian Haynes, R Evid Based Med 2006;11:162-164

We tried the Haynes pyramid...  
But students found it too theoretical...



...so librarians simplified the tiers, but  
it was still hard to use "on the run"

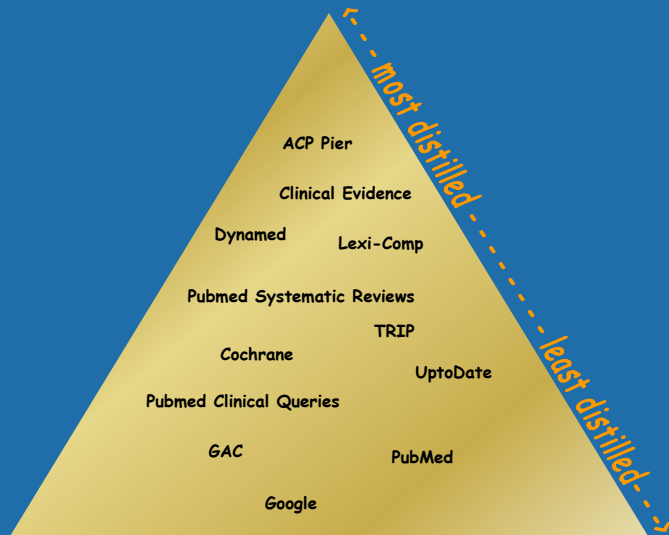
Back to the drawing board!



We decided to:

- Simplify & clarify the tiers more
- Group resources for "real world" common clinical question groups
- Simplify the tool-picking process, even for novices

Solution: The "TIERLESS" Pyramid ... + 3 "mini" pyramids



We created a single pyramid with all information tools strategically positioned from most distilled to least distilled



For teaching, we created 3 "mini-pyramids", sub-groups of tools for 3 common types of questions, to help students quickly match questions to tools

How we tested the tierless pyramid

- Pre-residency, international medical graduates
- Lower levels of computing/search skills than other clerkship students
- If it works here, it should work *anywhere*
- The test - answer common primary care questions
  1. Pick the mini-pyramid
  2. Pick the tool
  3. Search the tool to test your choice



The "No-More-Tiers" Advantage

- ✓ Easy and fast to teach
- ✓ Can be introduced early in medical education
- ✓ Mini-pyramids help students pick the best tool quickly *without needing to know how the tool works*
- ✓ Easy to identify most/least distilled tools, and pick the one that's right for your question

