

Reviewed Study: Robinson, H., MacDonald, B., Kerse, N., & Broadbent, E. (2013). The Psychosocial Effects of a Companion Robot: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 14(9), 661–667. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jamda.2013.02.007>

Cochrane Risk of Bias tool

Reviewing Study	Selection bias		Performance bias	Detection bias	Attrition bias	Reporting bias	Other bias
	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	
Abbott 2019	Low	Low	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Unclear	Unclear
Coll-Planas 2017	Low	Unclear			High		
Pu 2018	Low	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low

References

Abbott, R., Orr, N., McGill, P., Whear, R., Bethel, A., Garside, R., Stein, K., & Thompson-Coon, J. (2019). How do “robopets” impact the health and well-being of residents in care homes? A systematic review of qualitative and quantitative evidence. *International Journal of Older People Nursing*, 14(3). <https://doi.org/10.1111/opn.12239>

Coll-Planas, L., Nyqvist, F., Puig, T., Urrútia, G., Solà, I., & Monteserín, R. (2017). Social capital interventions targeting older people and their impact on health: A systematic review. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 71(7), 663–672. <https://doi.org/10.1136/jech-2016-208131>

Pu, L., Moyle, W., Jones, C., & Todorovic, M. (2019). The Effectiveness of Social Robots for Older Adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Studies. *The Gerontologist*, 59(1), e37–e51. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gny046>

Other Studies Using Different Tools

Poscia, A., Stojanovic, J., La Milia, D. I., Duplaga, M., Grysztar, M., Moscato, U., Onder, G., Collamati, A., Ricciardi, W., & Magnavita, N. (2018). Interventions targeting loneliness and social isolation among the older people: An update systematic review. *Experimental Gerontology*, 102, 133–144. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.exger.2017.11.017>

The Effective Public Health Practice Project (EPHPP) tool

Selection bias	Study design	Confounders	Blinding	Data collection methods	Withdrawals and drop-outs	OVERALL
MODERATE	STRONG	WEAK	WEAK	STRONG	STRONG	WEAK

Quan, N. G., Lohman, M. C., Resciniti, N. V., & Friedman, D. B. (2020). A systematic review of interventions for loneliness among older adults living in long-term care facilities. *Aging & Mental Health*, 24(12), 1945–1955.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2019.1673311>

	1. Was the study described as randomized, a randomized trial, a randomized clinical trial, or an RCT?	2. Was the method of randomization adequate (i.e., use of randomly generated assignment)?	3. Was the treatment allocation concealed (so that assignments could not be predicted)?	4. Were study participants and providers blinded to treatment group assignment?	5. Were the people assessing the outcomes blinded to the participants' group assignments?	6. Were the groups similar at baseline on important characteristics that could affect outcomes (e.g., demographics, risk factors, co-morbid conditions)?	7. Was the overall drop-out rate from the study at endpoint 20% or lower of the number allocated to treatment?	8. Was the differential drop-out rate (between treatment groups) at endpoint 15 percentage points or lower?	9. Was there high adherence to the intervention protocols for each treatment group?	10. Were other interventions avoided or similar in the groups (e.g., similar background treatments)?	11. Were outcomes assessed using valid and reliable measures, implemented consistently across all study participants?	12. Did the authors report that the sample size was sufficiently large to be able to detect a difference in the main outcome between groups with at least 80% power?	13. Were outcomes reported or subgroups analyzed prespecified (i.e., identified before analyses were conducted)?	14. Were all randomized participants analyzed in the group to which they were originally assigned, i.e., did they use an intention-to-treat analysis?	Quality Rating
Robinson et al., 2013	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Good