Determine the Correct ROB

1. Different study designs (Case Control, Cohort, etc.) will use different versions of an RoB. Most RoBs will consist entirely of randomized controlled trials and/or cohort studies; however, different study designs may be included depending on the project. If necessary, discuss with the study coordinator (most likely John Pederson, jpederson@supedit.com) to determine which RoB should be used. Note that it is the responsibility of the QC reviewer to determine the correct RoB form.
2. Familiarize yourself with the different sections of the RoB you are using. Information on the different RoBs can be found in the Risk of Bias folder (https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/15YEls4OwRHwjVf0hvVLioIQJPXZj34jP) of the SME Manuscripts Team Drive. The common RoBs are, - Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) - Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses - Randomized Controlled Trial
   1. Cohort
   2. Case Control
   3. Diagnostic Accuracy
   4. Economic Evaluations
   5. NOTE: The instructions for the SIGN RoB are quite long (100+ pages!). The good news is that most of the information is not particularly relevant for the majority of SR/MAs. For quick reference, the most important sections to review are page #51 and pages #56-66. Other sections may be useful depending on the project.
3. modified Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (mNOS) - Cohort
   1. Case Control
4. Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) - Case Report
   1. Case Series
5. Cochrane - Randomized Trial
   1. Non-Randomized Study
6. Know which study designs you are including in the SR/MA. Be familiar with these study designs and choose the correct RoB template based on the studies included in the SR/MA.
7. Normally, two RoB reviewers will complete an RoB individually. Do not collaborate on one with your fellow reviewer because your RoB assessment would be biased.
8. An experienced QC reviewer should adjudicate results of the RoB and resolve any conflicts between RoB results from the independent reviewers.