

COMPARED TO WHAT?!?

If truth claims tell you something is better or worse...ask compared to what?



Can you determine if there is a comparison/control group?



No

- case reports/case series do not have a comparison.

Patients can improve over time with or without intervention



Yes

- experimental studies
 - placebo or sham (negative control)
 - current intervention (positive control)
- observational studies
 - comparable populations

If there is no comparison/control, you really cannot say something is better or worse!