## Exercise 3.1 Thinking about your audience

Use the following Review Choice Decision Tool worksheet (see Table 3.2) to plan where your review is located. Discuss your choice with your team or supervisor.

**Table 3.2** Strategies for conducting an evidence synthesis

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| **Which type of data have I got?** |
| **Quantitative** | **Qualitative** | **Quantitative and qualitative** |
| **Are outcomes reported in a comparable format?** | **Is the review objective validation or generation of a theory?** | **Is the review objective validation or generation of a theory?** |
| **No** | **Yes** | **Generation** | **Validation** | **No/Not sure** | **Generation** | **Validation** | **No/Not sure** |
| Use narrative synthesis and tabular presentation | Consider using meta-analysis | Consider meta-ethnography or grounded theory approaches | Consider framework synthesis× | Consider narrative synthesis or thematic synthesis | Consider critical interpretive synthesis, meta-narrative/logic models | Consider realist synthesis/Bayesian meta-synthesis | Consider narrative synthesis/thematic synthesis |
| My Review (Mark with X) I am planning to conduct a systematic review on the attitudes of staff in nursing homes towards different leadership styles. Data will be specifically qualitative. The area of leadership styles is well theorised and logic models exist showing a causative relationship between leadership and morale and outcomes such as quality of care and improved staff satisfaction. |
| Comments: The existence of potential frameworks also extends the possibility of subsequently conducting a comparable effectiveness review and therefore bringing together quantitative and qualitative data within a common framework.  |