

Finding the Evidence: A Clinical Conversation

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INTRODUCTION

The informational and educational needs of the scholars who use the health sciences library is changing. A requirement for one certification of graduate education "to search, interpret, and evaluate the medical literature within the program specialty/discipline, including its application to individualized patient care."

Those not in graduate education programs also need to be able to find the evidence for professional practice.

In updating library instruction, this project will improve the learners' searching fluency, knowledge of available and appropriate resources and confidence to use these resources.

OBJECTIVES

The project will help the scholars:

- Form a strategy for finding the information
- Know the differences between the platforms and databases available for research
- Structure a query in a productive manner
- Recognize the types of publications in the literature and their differences
- Frame the search using Boolean terms for flexibility and precision
- Use filters to focus the search results
- Use features of Pub Med, such as clinical queries and single citation for precision searching
- Understand that the librarians are available for professional information consultations and support



METHODS

The first three groups (a convenience selection) to pilot the new workshops are approximately 60 scholars. They will participate in a 50-minute workshop on evidence-based practice (EBP), information resources, and how use them. They will take online pre- and post-tests that are identical in the 13 questions posed. Focus groups will provide qualitative data as well.

OUTCOMES

It is expected that the results will improve the engagement of the scholars and increase their confidence in their information seeking skills.

The goal is to have respondents report at least a 20% increase in correct responses about EBP and information resources.

The structure of the workshop will also promote critical thinking and teamwork.



DISCUSSION

In modeling the use of evidence-based resources as well as pre- and post-tests, this project will not only help instruct but show the benefits of this approach. If successful, the plan is to expand this workshop format to cover other topics, including health literacy, social determinants of health, cultural humility, affirming care for LGBTQIA+ people, motivational interviewing, shared-decision making, and engaged teamwork. An updated grand rounds lecture on clinical communication includes these ideas and processes is planned.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author gratefully acknowledges her fellow Pat Tietjen MD Teaching Academy Scholars, as well as

Robin Scatena
Beth West
Amanda Pomeroy
Amanda Wallace
Dawn Myles

The patrons she serves,
and her family.



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