

Best Teaching Methods in EBM

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Objectives of Small Group Session

- 1. Share ideas about teaching EBM
- 2. Arrive at a consensus of best teaching practices based on the literature *and* based on personal experiences.
- 3. Propose ideas to share with the larger group regarding an end product (ie, wiki, LISTSERV, blog, journal article)

Need to Differentiate Who are the Learners

- Medical students
- Residents
- Physicians
- Other allied health personnel

Need to Differentiate Objectives of an EBM Course

- Will the objectives be different among different Learner cohorts?
- Will the teaching of EBM be different depending on different Learner cohorts?
- How can we assess, measure, quantify objectives?

What are Different Teaching Options?

- Integrated course in didactic lecture format
- Small group interactive sessions (role playing, case discussions, etc)
- Mixed sessions of both didactic and interactive elements
- Teaching scripts or mini lessons based on clinical problem-solving

- Stand-alone course (large or small group)
- One-on-one teaching/training
- Integration of EBM into journal clubs—
having clinicians and students learning
together
- Distance learning (e-teaching)
- Videos or CDs

- How long should a course of study be?
Short-term or long-term?
One-shot or integrated into existing programs?

The course should take into consideration the Learner cohort, the available time, and other circumstances, as necessary.

Who Should Teach EBM?

- Physicians
- Epidemiologists/biostatisticians
- Librarians
- All of the above in some combination
- Other.... Who?

- Question: Should there be some sort of competency requirement for teachers of EBM?
- Question: Should there be some sort of credentialing necessary for one to teach EBM?
- Question: Should there be a Registry of teachers of EBM?

Should We Build on Existing Programs?

- The Cochrane Effective Practice and Organization of Care (EPOC) is an excellent clearing house for EBM-related information.
- “Tips for Teachers” from the EBM Teaching Tips Working Group. (www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/171/4/353)
- Society of General Internal Medicine EBM Task Force
- Other?

Group Suggestions

- Create an online repository or blog for teachers of EBM. Share case studies, ideas, innovative methods of teaching.
- Foster a team teaching approach with the clinician teacher as an important participant.
- “Better” integration of EBM into existing Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses.
- “Better” integration of EBM at conferences, Congresses, workshops, courses.

- Petition medical school and hospital administration to include EBM into the curriculum and clinical training programs.
- Consider issuing a certificate to Conference attendees.