

QUALITATIVE METHODS MODULE

Goal

At the completion of this unit the participant will be able to determine whether an article that purports (or dismisses) to understand the reasons for pattern of practice has drawn conclusions that are both valid (true) and applicable (sensible and feasible) in your own clinical practice.

Instructional Objectives

At the completion of this session you will be able;

1. To distinguish qualitative from quantitative research
2. To assess the validity of an article about a qualitative study.
3. To determine the applicability of a qualitative study to a particular situation.

Reference

Giacomini M, Cook DJ, Chapter 13.5 Advanced topics in Applying the Results of Therapy Trial Qualitative Research. In Guyatt G, Roman Jaeschke, Mark Wilson, Victor Montori, and Scott Richardson. What is evidence-based medicine. In Guyatt G, Rennie D, Meade MO, Cook DJ. Users' Guides to the Medical Literature: A Manual for Evidence-based Clinical Practice. 3rd ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2015.

Recommended

1. McKibbon A, Wyer P, Jaeschke R, Hunt D, Chapter 4 Finding the Evidence.

Problem Based Educational Strategy

1. Read the Clinical Scenario.
2. Compose a well-built clinical (foreground) question about the clinical problem.
3. Complete a literature search using the headings from your well-built clinical question, and bring the results to the session.
4. Read the EBCP Manual reference articles.
5. Complete the attached EBCP Worksheet.
6. Determine whether the result of this qualitative research would change your approach to the patient.

Clinical Scenario

Steve Bendecott and Sara Collision are the parents of Tanner a 5 year old male with metastatic neuroblastoma. He has been admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit with a disseminated fungal infection and progressive disease. The pediatric residents have asked if you could discuss end-of-life issues with them, specifically so they can help Tanner's parents.

You compose a well built clinical question in your head, and promise the pediatric residents you will review the issue with them later in the afternoon. In your office you complete a literature search and retrieve the following article.

What will you tell the postgraduate trainees?

Reference

Meyer EC, Ritholz MD, Burns JP, Truog RD. Improving the Quality of End-of-Life Care in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit: Parents' Priorities and Recommendations. *Pediatric* 2006; 117: 649-657.