



Description: Understanding the levels of evidence and how to appraise the strength and quality of evidence in a timely way is crucial. It is important to consider how you will search and review evidence as well as share resources with your colleagues. Always speak to your librarian or an experienced research colleague if you need more help with this step!

Learning Objectives

1. Apply a strategy for searching and identifying evidence.
2. Understand the levels of evidence and how to appraise the strength and quality of evidence.

Online PD suite content:

Webinar 1: Rapid Review, how to find the best available evidence – an introduction? (4.59mins)

Webinar 2: Critical appraisal and systematic reviews (22.11 mins)

Webinar 3: Accessing information from the academic literature... (7.42mins)



Champion Tip! Many sites have access to library services. Make a time to meet with your librarian to find out how they can help your department. They might be able to direct you to 'effective literature searching' courses, or you could invite them to help run a PD session for your department

Champion discussion tips/questions:



(10mins)

1. Ask participants to discuss what evidence based guidelines are used in their areas
 - a. Consider who developed the guideline?
 - b. What year it was released?
 - c. Does everyone working in the area agree with the guideline?
 - d. Has new evidence or literature been released since the guideline came out?



(30mins)

2) Watch the webinars "Rapid review, how to find the best available evidence" and "Critical appraisal and systematic reviews" (ensure your team have read the paper provided prior to watching webinar 2)



(30mins)

2. Choose an article or guideline to critically appraise in small groups or with your department
 - a. Select an article
 - b. Select the critical appraisal tool
 - c. Ask participants to work through the critical appraisal tool
 - d. Ask participants to present their appraisal back to the group to discuss

** having an experienced researcher or librarian for this session would be ideal



(10-20mins)

3. Types of evidence – does all evidence have to come from published literature?
 - a. Ask participants to discuss what other sources of evidence could be considered in the absence of published literature and share with the group



4. Use the TRIP database to search using the PICO format. Compare results to that of PubMed Clinical Queries and other databases. The key is for the participants is to find a method of searching they feel comfortable with.