The EBM revolution –
Empowering GP supervisors to teach EBM to their registrars

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Why

- The RACGP Curriculum on Critical Thinking and Research: the barriers to and enablers of its delivery and implementation at the RTP level - Emily Farrell Poster Presentation GP 10
  - Telephone survey of directors of training from 18 RTPs on their research and critical thinking teaching
    - Workshop or peer learning activity
      - 46% had 1 session
      - 39% had 2-4 sessions
      - 8% had >4 sessions
    - 48% RTPs had compulsory research or EBM project
Aims of the EBM Project

• To appropriately cover the RACGP and ACCRM Research and Critical Thinking curriculums
• To improve the knowledge of registrars and supervisors regarding EBM
• To increase the confidence of supervisors in discussing issues relating to EBM with their registrars
• To increase the confidence of supervisors in the teaching of EBM to their registrars
• To encourage supervisors to involve discussion around evidence in their face-to-face teaching sessions of other topics
• To influence the culture of teaching within our RTP to embrace EBM training
The EBM program

Supervisor EBM workshops

2 face-to-face Brisbane
4 Webinars

Academic registrars - Train the Trainer EBM workshop

Non-academic registrar EBM workshop

EBM assignment

Registrar – Supervisor
EBM assignment discussion session

Registrar submits completed assignment and signed discussion sheet
Evaluation of the Supervisor EBM Workshops
Do you think that your registrar should be taught EBM?

N = 55

- 98% Yes
- 2% Pre-test
- No
- No response
Do you believe teaching EBM to your registrar is part of your role?

N = 55

- Yes: 89%
- Yes & No: 5%
- No: 4%

Pre-test
Rate your level of interest in EBM? (scale 1= very low & 5= very high interest)

N = 55

Pre-test  Post-test

1 0 0
2 2 1
3 21 8
Between 3 & 4 0 1
4 22 29
5 9 16
No response 1 0
Rate your level of confidence in your ability to apply EBM to your clinical work? (scale 1 = no confidence & 5 = very confident)

N = 55
How confident are you in discussing issues relating to EBM with your registrar? (scale 1 = no confidence & 5 = very confident)

N = 55
How confident are you in teaching your registrar EBM? (scale 1 = no confidence & 5 = very confident)
Q 3 How confident are you in discussing issues relating to EBM with your registrar? &
Q 4 How confident are you in teaching your registrar EBM?

N = 53
Supervisor comments

- Very useful workshop, this EBM stuff is a lot easier than I thought it would be and I would now feel confident in discussing EBM in my teaching of registrars
- I will discuss the PICO approach and do PubMed searches with my registrar, as well as have him report to me on how his EBM project is going and encourage him through the steps
Supervisor comments

• The problem as I see it would be the time and difficulty in actually getting the full articles. I was disappointed that we were unable to answer the bisphosphonates question. But I suspect that is because that specific research has not been done. Which is what I thought was the answer before we started the exercise. So I suspect doing EBM would be time consuming and frustrating.
Supervisor comments

• I don't think we should be slaves to EBM. Show me where there is a double blind cross over trial regarding the efficacy of parachute usage! Ethics committees understandably have hesitations re certain types of research in pregnancy, breastfeeding, small children etc. There are limitations to what can be studied as well as limitations to what has already been researched. There is both art and science in clinical practice.
Conclusions from the Evaluations

• Supervisors believe that teaching EBM to the registrars should be part of their role in 89% cases

• 2-3 hour workshops on the 4 steps of EBM
  • Increase the supervisor’s interest in EBM
  • Increase the supervisor’s confidence in
    – Applying EBM to their clinical work
    – Discussing EBM with their registrar (in 70%)
    – Teaching EBM to their registrar (in 75%)
The future

• Continue EBM program as per 2012
• Virtual journal clubs via blackboard corporate
THANK YOU
SUPERVISORS