

Did You Know?

- √ A key study found that between 16 to 68% of the information in abstracts cannot be verified in the body of the article text—in 6 leading medical journals!!!
- √ That “case series” is often so compelling (and so little understood) that the majority of doctors, pharmacists, and other health care professionals fail a simple question on our pre-test and then are surprised to find the outcome of their answer is that they prescribed an antibiotic for a viral illness!
- √ That Relative Risk Reduction always overstates benefit? RRR alone doesn't give you any meaningful information because there's no baseline there! And yet doctors and other health care professionals are seriously influenced by these results

Using the Medical Literature:
A Simplified Approach - can
be of significant help to you.



UCSD PACE Program

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*Using the
Medical
Literature: A
Simplified
Approach*

*2008 Course Dates
T.B.A.*

Cost: \$1,250

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Using the Medical Literature: A Simplified Approach

This program is for physicians and other health care professionals who read medical literature. The program is designed to assist the participant in accessing medical literature and evaluating the quality of published journal articles. The participant will learn simplified methods for critical appraisal - without sacrificing rigor!

The participant will learn a helpful appraisal tool that is being implemented in multiple organizations for many purposes - critical appraisal, teaching, journal clubs and evidence-based work groups.

Some published articles may be misleading and/or the authors' conclusions can be overstated. This two-day intensive CME Critical Appraisal program is designed to help health care professionals successfully and critically appraise the quality and value of the medical literature

A highly experiential program, Using the Medical Literature: A Simplified Approach utilizes small group skill- and confidence-building sessions along with personalized and didactic instruction.

Objectives: Course participants will learn simplified, yet tested and rigorous ways of evaluating the medical literature. This knowledge can assist participants in improving care and better utilizing resources. Attendees will be able to -

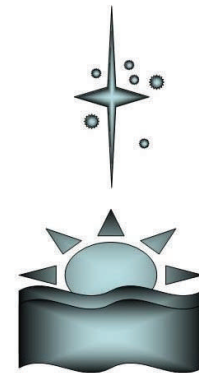
1. Summarize common problems with medical literature and clinical research
2. Describe why Evidence-based Medicine is important for health care quality
3. Use critical appraisal tools to identify problems with published studies in the medical literature

Topics include:

- Uses of the medical literature
- Problems and pitfalls of the medical literature and research
- Introduction to evidence-based medicine
- Critical appraisal - simplified steps and efficiencies
- Anatomy of an article - tips for reading
- About study methodologies
 - Problems with case series
 - RCTs versus observational studies
- Issues in critical appraisal - case studies
- A simplified approach to evaluating studies for validity
- How big is the difference: understanding estimates of effect
- Evaluating benefit
- Evidence evaluation tools
- Participant exercises in critical appraisal
- Case-based illustrations in critical appraisal
- Introduction to evidence-based resources
- Tips for easily searching the medical literature - primary and secondary sources
- Introduction to systematic review evaluation

- Evaluation tools for guidelines and clinical improvement content
- Participant exercise calculating outcomes
- Number-needed-to-treat exercise
- Participant exercise evaluating a study

The University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, Office of Continuing Medical Education designates Using the Medical Literature: A Simplified Approach for 15 hours of Category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award.



This course was created in conjunction with Delfini Group, LLC, a company that offers evidence-based consults, medical education seminars, training and tools. For more information go to www.delfini.org