

evidence informed

Health Care Practice Workshop

what is evidence-informed health care practice?

Evidence-informed health care practice (EIHC practice) is an approach to nursing practice in which the nurse is aware of the research evidence relevant to her/his clinical practice, and the strength of that evidence.

why is evidence important?

Daily, nurses confront questions about the interpretation of diagnostic tests, the harm associated with exposure to an agent, the prognosis of a disease in a specific patient, the effectiveness of a preventive or therapeutic intervention, and the costs and consequences of many other clinical decisions. The effective use of evidence in practice requires nurses, managers, and policy makers to assess the validity of study results and the extent to which these results are applicable to specific clinical issues.

Members of the Canadian Centre for Evidence Based Nursing in the School of Nursing at McMaster University who are trained in nursing, evidence-informed practice and knowledge transfer and uptake, have developed an intensive, hands-on workshop to assist in the critical appraisal of clinical data and nursing and biomedical literature.

workshop objectives

- To help participants advance their skills in the critical appraisal of research literature
- To help participants learn how to teach EIHC practice using a variety of educational models

workshop format

The workshop is offered as a one week intensive course. Participants will be learning in small groups led by nursing faculty from McMaster University and other institutions. The workshop will consist of small and large group sessions, individual study time and opportunities for workshop participants to work with a trained librarian to practice literature searching skills, as well as to lead teaching sessions.

workshop participants

Some course participants will come with a basic understanding of the principles of critical appraisal and EIHC practice. These individuals will be as interested in deepening their understanding of these principles as they are in learning new teaching strategies. Other participants will have extensive experience and a deep understanding of the principles, and will be coming to advance their teaching skills. Still others will have intermediate skills. To accommodate everyone's needs, we will try to create a number of groups with different emphases.

workshop materials

Prior to the workshop, participants will receive educational materials that include literature on teaching critical appraisal and EIHC practice, the small group learning format, and a set of clinical problems. We expect participants to familiarize themselves with this material in advance of the workshop and bring clinical scenarios and teaching challenges with them.

travel, facilities and accommodation

The workshop will be held in McMaster University's Medical and Health Sciences Centres. Upon confirmation of a definite placement in the workshop from the EIHC practice office a Workshop Planning Guide will be provided with general information regarding specifics of the workshop, accommodation and travel. Travel and accommodation arrangements are the responsibility of the confirmed registrant. Modest accommodation is available on campus. Other accommodations are available in city hotels, 10-30 minutes away by foot, bus or car.

potential tutorial groups might include

Advanced Practice Nurse – participants in this group are advanced practice nurses, educators, administrators, and policy makers seeking to expand and further develop their evidence-informed practice skills related to the development, implementation, and evaluation of advanced practice nursing (APN) roles. The PEPPA Framework provides the foundation for this workshop to examine and critically appraise research literature related to key stages of APN role development, implementation, and evaluation.

Faculty – participants in this group are faculty members in schools of nursing who are interested in learning more about critical appraisal skills, knowledge transfer and uptake, and/or evidence-informed decision-making.

General Nursing – participants in this group are nurses from any clinical area in nursing interested in learning more about critical appraisal skills and/or transferring research into decision-making and practice.

Gerontology – participants in this group will include advanced practice nurses, educators, RNs, and managers who are interested in developing skills in critical appraisal and knowledge transfer related to aspects of gerontological nursing, such as falls management, dementia care, and pain management.

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Oncology – participants in this group are specialized nurses, advanced practice nurses, educators, and managers working with a variety of individuals at risk for or affected by cancer across a broad range of practice settings. Interested participants are those seeking to expand and further develop their evidence-informed practice skills related to the critical appraisal of oncology nursing and related cancer literature.

Public Health – participants in this group currently work in a public health setting and are potentially involved in transferring research evidence either to others in the organization or into the decision-making process itself.