Finding articles quickly: 
Teaching tips

Teaching Evidence Based Medicine

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WARNING
This is NOT a searching workshop
Finding clinical information

Eczema

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Eczema (From Greek ἐκζηματική eczetikē, "to boil over") is a form of dermatitis. In England, an estimated 5,773,700, or about one in every nine people, have it. The term eczema is broadly applied to a range of persistent skin conditions characterized by one or more of these symptoms: redness, skin itchiness (pruritus), skin thickening or crusting, skin cracking, oozing, or bleeding. Areas of temporary skin discoloration may appear, and healing may result in scarring and may enlarge the rash. The word "eczema" comes from Greek words, that mean "to boil over." Dermatitis is the umbrella term to exactly the same skin condition. In some languages, dermatitis and "eczema" implies an acute condition and "eczema" is chronic. The two conditions
Why do this?

• Encourage participation at the start of a session
• Gives you an idea of their current knowledge?
• Learning point:
  – illustrates the variety of resources available
  – opportunity to point out the pros / cons of different resources
• If no one mentions Google – you need to work harder
• For non-clinicians use question from everyday life
  – planning a holiday, choosing a smartphone etc...

Clinical scenario:
Formulating search questions

• Real clinical cases
  – From clinical rounds / consultations
  – Journal clubs
  – Online video clips
• News stories
  – Newspapers, news web-sites
  – Blogs / twitter
  – Journal web-sites – In the news
E-cigarettes could 'save the lives of tens of thousands of smokers,' claim scientists

Inferno alert on exploding e-cigs: Charging devices now start one fire each week

E-cigarettes are 'less harmful than ordinary cigarettes': Healthcare professionals may recommend smokers use them instead of cigarettes

E-cigarettes 'DON'T help cancer patients stop smoking because they become more nicotine dependent'

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/ (Accessed 05/11/2014)

Questions
Why do this?

• Get people to think of searching as related to patient care
• Make searching relevant to day to day work
• Less threatening than starting off asking people to think of their own questions
• Get people thinking there may be more than 1 question to ask

Useful sources: Clinical scenarios

• News stories:
  – Behind the headlines [http://www.nhs.uk/News/Pages/NewsIndex.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/News/Pages/NewsIndex.aspx)
  – National / local news web-sites
• Video clips:
  – Youtube [http://www.youtube.com/](http://www.youtube.com/)
Search off

Find a quick answer

• Are electronic cigarettes safe and effective as a smoking cessation technique?

• Key search terms
  – Electronic cigarettes
  – Smoking cessation
Why do this?

- Get people out of the habit of using only 1 or 2 resources
- Opportunity to discuss pros / cons of different resources
- Introduce participants to point of care search tools e.g. research synopses & evidence syntheses
- Publicise what the organisation pays for

Useful resources: Free

1. TRIP [http://www.tripdatabase.com](http://www.tripdatabase.com)
3. Google [http://www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk)
4. GoogleScholar [http://scholar.google.co.uk](http://scholar.google.co.uk)
Useful resources: Subscription-based
http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

1. Cochrane Library (free in UK)
2. Point of care information tools
   1. Best Practice, Clinical Evidence, DynaMed, UpToDate...
3. Bibliographic databases
   1. CINAHL, Embase, Medline, PsycINFO, Scopus...
4. Electronic text-books

Formulating a search strategy

• P = Patient, Population, Problem
• I = Intervention
• C = Comparator, Control
• O = Outcomes
• S = Study type

Could also be PICOT, PECO, PECOT, PECOS, ECLIPSE, SPIDER….or none of the above
Are electronic cigarettes safe and effective as a smoking cessation technique?

Finding synonyms

SMOKER OR SMOKING OR TOBACCO USE OR NICOTINE DEPENDENCE

ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES OR E-CIGS OR ECIGS OR RELUCIGS

CESSATION OR QUITTING OR STOPPING OR SAFETY OR HARMS
Why do this?

• Getting people thinking about using and combining words
• People working together to balance out different language abilities and backgrounds
• Initial brainstorm on post-it notes/cards
  – Add/remove terms as you finalise strategy
• Take it from simple search to a systematic review search

Use MeSH to build a better Pubmed query: online tutorial

Why do this?

- Allows you to teach a mixed group using a blended learning approach
- Ideal for distance learning
- Self-paced learning allows participants to focus on what they want to know
- Introduce participants to resources they can use after the session to help them with searching

Useful online tutorials

- Finding the Evidence videos
- PubMed tutorials
- Cochrane Library
  [http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/HowtoUse.html](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/HowtoUse.html)
- YouTube – literature searching
  [http://www.youtube.com/](http://www.youtube.com/)
Questions & Comments

Searching tips:

• Think about different key words & phrases to describe your search terms
• Combine searches:
  – OR – broadens the search, used to combine synonyms e.g. “common cold” OR cough
  – AND – focuses the search, used to combine different concepts e.g. “common cold” AND “vitamin c”
  – * - truncation, use for words with multiple endings e.g. child* will search for child, children, childhood
• Use limits if available e.g. language, publication date, study type
• Use “” to search for phrases e.g. “common cold”