

Evidence-based clinical practice is the current concept of combining patient needs and perceptions with the clinician's best judgment, clinical skills, practice and the most current research evidence to plan for clinical treatment. The website 'Evidence Based News' is located at <http://www.usc.edu/hsc/ebnet>. This website is designed to provide, both the clinician and the practitioner, the most current links and resources to scientific evidence on a variety of topics, as well as information on the basics of evidence-based decision making.

The homepage of the website contains news about evidence-based topics such as current sites providing information, current professional meetings and links to models for evidence-based decision making. The website is also a host to the Cochrane Collaboration. This collaboration is a non-profit, international organization dedicated to provide up-to-date information about readily available health care. This is accomplished through Collaborative Review Groups of health care professionals that volunteer to complete reviews on current research areas. Links to some of the pertinent reviews are provided on this website.

The website is divided into five sections including a home site and links to each area of the website. The sections include Basics, Education, Faculty Institute, Research and Geriatrics. Each section is further divided to provide specific information and links to resources.

The 'Basics' section of the website includes such areas as defining what evidence-based health care and evidence-based decision making entails. It also includes a copy of the grant proposal by the National Center for Dental Hygiene Research to fund an evidence-based model for developing and integrating evidence-based decision making into allied health curricula. Links to pertinent sites such as those for evidence-based learning centres, teaching methods and tools, along with reference sites are included in this section.

The 'Education' section of the website provides tutorials, case studies and teaching techniques and teaching resources to use in evidence-based methodology. This section is very extensive in that it lists links to numerous courses and educational opportunities to become familiar with and utilize an evidence-based approach to decision making, practice and/or teaching.

The 'Faculty institute' section provides information about evidence-based decision making/teaching workshops. This includes previously scheduled institutes, applications for hosting a workshop and post-institute information. Web links are also included that supplement evidence-based teaching.

The 'Research' section of the website provides links to quantitative and qualitative research. It also includes sections on research design and statistics as well as online databases. The final section, 'Geriatrics', provides online databases. In addition, it links tutorials, cases, and professional and consumer information about geriatrics.

This website is very easy to navigate and provides a wealth of information and resource materials on evidence-based decision making, clinical practice and teaching. The links that are provided in each section offer a central area for both the practitioner and the educator to locate the most relevant and useful information in order to structure an evidence-based approach in practice and teaching.

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