E-learning versus workshops to teach critical appraisal to health professionals: a randomised controlled equivalence study

Submission date	Recruitment status	Prospectively registered
29/09/2006	No longer recruiting	☐ Protocol
Registration date	Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan
29/09/2006	Completed	Results
Last Edited	Condition category	Individual participant data
27/01/2015	Other	Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Contact details

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

N0123176431

Study information

Scientific Title

E-learning versus workshops to teach critical appraisal to health professionals: a randomised controlled equivalence study

Study objectives

To evaluate the effectiveness of teaching research methods and critical appraisal skills to health professionals in an on-line format compared to face to face teaching in small group workshops. It is expected that each intervention will be equally effective, so the hypotheses which is being tested by the study is that there will be between-group differences in learning of at least 10 percentage points. It is an equivalence study.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Study design

Randomised controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Other

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Critical appraisal skills

Interventions

52 participants (26 e-learning and 26 workshops). Finding time to attend workshops has been an issue, so flexibility of e-learning will be assessed. Workshop group have 6 face-to-face workshops offering experience in research methods and e-learning group will have 3 on-line lessons on research methods, access via virtual learning environment (VLE): participants asked an initial questionnaire prior to either workshop or e-learning and sent questionnaire 1 month after participation to assess change in knowledge, skills and behaviour.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)

Differences between the groups in knowledge, skills and behaviour following the learning.

Key secondary outcome(s))

Changes in learning from baseline for each group, establishing the effectiveness of each method.

Completion date

31/07/2008

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

Any health professional at UHL Trust who has an interest in and/or a need for developing their knowledge of research methods and skills in critical appraisal.

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

Not provided at time of registration

Date of first enrolment

14/12/2005

Date of final enrolment

31/07/2008

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre University Hospitals of Leicester

Leicester United Kingdom LE1 4PW

Sponsor information

Organisation

Record Provided by the NHSTCT Register - 2006 Update - Department of Health

Funder(s)

Funder type

Hospital/treatment centre

Funder Name

University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (UK)

Funder Name

Department Research Funds

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type Details Date created Date added Peer reviewed? Patient-facing?

Participant information sheet Participant information sheet 11/11/2025 11/11/2025 No Yes