Profile of evidence-based practice among respiratory therapists in Taiwan
Ya-Wen Chiu, Ken N Kuo, Yi-Hao Weng*, Chiehfeng Chen, Heng-Lien Lo
Taipei Medical University, Taiwan; *Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Taiwan

Introduction
Respiratory care is increasingly utilized, with the associated respiratory therapists (RTs) playing an important role in supporting related clinical services. However, the profile of evidence-based practice (EBP) among respiratory therapists (RTs) has not been explored yet.

Objectives
The current study was to investigate how RTs perceived the implementation of EBP.

Methods
A structured questionnaire survey was conducted in randomly selected 11 regional hospitals for a four-month period in 2011. The questions included items for measuring the perceptions toward EBP — including the awareness of, belief in, attitude toward, knowledge of, skill in, and barriers to EBN — were explored.

Results
A total of 50 questionnaires with complete answers were valid for analysis (return rate: 58.1%).

Conclusion
Our findings indicate that EBP is not widespread among RTs. We have identified important factors in relation to the implementation of EBP. The data provide valuable evidence in plotting strategies for disseminating EBP implementation.

- I am willing to support the implementation of EBN.
- I have sufficient knowledge to implement EBN principles.
- I possess enough skill to implement EBN principles.
- EBN is important for the improvement of care quality.

Convenient application kits
Capable designated personnel
time, due to heavy clinical load
skill in critical appraisal
skill in literature searching
library resources
foaming answerable questions
basic knowledge
space for use
clinical incorporation
organizational climate
support from superiors