

The Establishment of Evidence Based Medicine Ireland (EBMI)

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Objectives

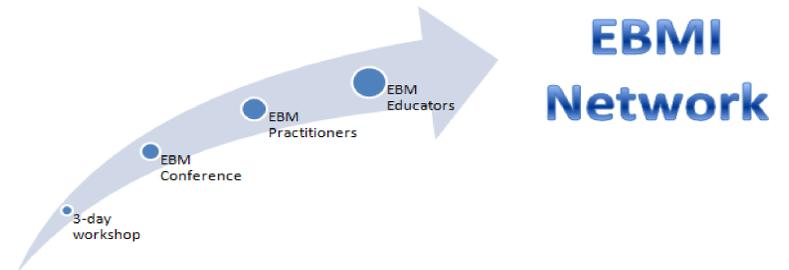
To establish a hub for evidence based medicine in Ireland (EBMI) and to promote evidence based practice throughout the healthcare system in Ireland with the ultimate goal of improving patient outcomes

Background

The EBM movement was established over twenty years ago. It originated in both Oxford and McMaster university in Canada with the unifying force in both being Dr David Sackett. Whilst the approach to putting evidence into practice has grown throughout the world its adoption in Ireland has been somewhat fragmented and its practice is still often seen as a paradigm shift. There are practitioners throughout Ireland but no unifying network to connect the practitioners, educators and students of EBM

Methods

- To create hub for EBM in Ireland (EBMI)
- To establish a network of EBM practitioners
- To establish a network of EBM educators
- To identify a core curriculum for EBM for undergraduate and post-graduate health professionals in Ireland
- To create international links and access to world class experts in EBM



Results

Goals for 2017:

To deliver a three day workshop on EBM in collaboration with the CEBM in November 2017. This will establish a network of both EBM practitioners and educators in Ireland.

Baseline research on current education and training in EBM in Ireland has been carried out to bench mark against international standards and to set a national core curriculum for EBM for undergraduate and postgraduate healthcare professionals .

Limits

This project requires ongoing commitment from those involved.

This change project also relies on a cultural acceptance within the health services executive in Ireland to support and promote the use of evidence based practice.

This initiative requires funding for training and education of key personnel in EBM. It is currently supported by the Naji foundation and it will require sustained funding to achieve its long term objectives.

Conclusions

This project will address the current lack of standardised EBM education, training and practice in Ireland at all levels. The value to the target group of healthcare professionals is – availability of training in Ireland, accessibility in terms of cost and convenience, delivery from experts in the field, training alongside a multidisciplinary group of health professionals working in the Irish health system and building a future network of EBM advocates.

There will be a focus on quality, sustainability, identifying change agents and on implementation of evidence into practice. The establishment of EBMI will commence with the development of a network of practitioners and educators identified through the EBM workshop. EBMI will provide a hub for evidence based research, education, collaboration and dissemination and will maintain strong links with the international EBM community.