

It is the responsibility of each practitioner to ensure that they are aware of relevant developments in clinical care and also ensure that their practice conforms to the highest standards of practice possible. An awareness of the evidence base behind current practice and a need to audit one's own practice is vital for the physician training in Emergency Medicine.

CC21 Evidence and guidelines

To progressively develop the ability to make the optimal use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of patients		
To progressively develop the ability to construct evidence-based guidelines in relation to medical practise		
Knowledge	Assessment Methods	GMP Domains
Understand the application of statistics in scientific medical practice	E, C	1
Understand the advantages and disadvantages of different study methodologies (randomised controlled trials, case controlled cohort etc)	E, C	1
Understand the principles of critical appraisal	C	1
Understand levels of evidence and quality of evidence	E, C	1
Understand the role and limitations of evidence in the development of clinical guidelines	E, C	1
Understand the advantages and disadvantages of guidelines	C	1
Understand the processes that result in nationally applicable guidelines (e.g. NICE and SIGN)	C	1
Skills		
Ability to search the medical literature including use of PubMed, Medline, Cochrane reviews and the internet	C	1
Appraise retrieved evidence to address a clinical question	C	1
Apply conclusions from critical appraisal into clinical care	E, C	1
Identify the limitations of research	C	1
Contribute to the construction, review and updating of local (and national) guidelines of good practice using the	C	1

principles of evidence-based medicine			
Behaviours			
Keep up to date with national reviews and guidelines of practice (e.g. NICE and SIGN)		E, C	1
Aim for best clinical practice (clinical effectiveness) at all times, responding to evidence-based medicine		ACAT, C, Mi	1
Recognise the occasional need to practise outside clinical guidelines		ACAT, C, Mi	1
Encourage discussion amongst colleagues on evidence-based practice		ACAT, C, Mi, M	1
Level Descriptor			
1	Participate in departmental or other local journal club Critically review an article to identify the level of evidence		
2	Lead in a departmental or other local journal club Undertake a literature review in relation to a clinical problem or topic		
3	Produce a review article on a clinical topic, having reviewed and appraised the relevant literature		
4	Perform a systematic review of the medical literature Contribute to the development of local or national clinical guidelines		
Emergency department context			
1	Presents a recent article with critical appraisal at a departmental teaching or audit meeting or incorporates critique into audit presentation		
2	Completes a BestBET including the formulation of three-part question, search and review		
3	Completes a draft CTR Completes an evidence-based guideline in the ED**		
4	Successfully completes a CTR		

Leadership	Specialty trainees should demonstrate competence in all elements of domains, with some evidence in setting direction
Demonstrating personal qualities	Applies national guidelines and specifically refers to them when giving advice to trainees ** Documents clearly in notes any variance from guidelines
Working with others	Directs trainees to guidelines and resources for best evidence Sets up journal club or critical appraisal practice group in hospital or region ***
Managing the service	Ensures guidelines are available on the shop floor via computers, proforma, posters or other means *
Improving services	Seeks out new guidelines and works on modification for department Takes NICE or other guideline, evaluates applicability and feasibility in department and introduces, creating business plan if required **
Setting direction	Undertakes review of guidelines matching departmental library to national library or CEM website *** Accepts CEM guidelines and implements