

## Critical Appraisal

An engaging and practical overview of what is required to understand and appraise journal articles with confidence.

### e-Learning module

[Critically Appraising the evidence base](#) covers concepts you need to know when appraising a paper. Use your [NHS OpenAthens account](#) to access the modules.

#### Modules:

- Introduction to critical appraisal
- Introduction to equity considerations in critical appraisal
- Introduction to critical appraisal of randomised controlled trials
- Introduction to interpreting results for critical appraisal
- Introduction to critical appraisal of systematic reviews
- Introduction to critical appraisal of qualitative studies
- Introduction to critical appraisal of diagnostic and screening tests
- Introduction to critical appraisal tools

### Group (face to face)

Critical Appraisal training delivers an engaging and practical overview of what is required to understand and appraise clinical papers with confidence.

When a literature search is carried out, finding relevant results is only half the story. Not all published research is of equal value or rigor. In order to practice effective evidence-based healthcare, it is necessary to critically appraise any piece of research that you intend to use. These training sessions will include videos and quizzes and time for group discussion looking critically at a piece of research. For the second session, the article will be circulated in advance via email, (to be read before the session).

#### Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the role of critical appraisal to support evidence-based practice
- Know the basic components which make up the critical appraisal process
- Gain knowledge of the questions that need to be asked of research
- Understand the relative importance of these various factors

## Session 1

- Consider the role of critical appraisal in healthcare
- Look at some stats such as p-value and statistical/clinical significance
- Consider impact factor and different research methodologies e.g. systematic reviews and cohort studies
- Reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of a cohort study

**Duration:** 1 hour and 30 minutes

### Targeted Audience:

Session 1 is suitable for those new to critical appraisal or those who want a refresher.

## Session 2

- Look at systematic reviews – their strengths and potential weaknesses
- Consideration of different types of bias
- Closely read a paper and discuss its strengths and weaknesses

**Duration:** 1 hour and 30 minutes

### Targeted Audience:

Session 2 is suitable for those new to critical appraisal or those who want a refresher. The latter part of the session will take the format of a journal club giving attendees the opportunity to discuss a piece of recent research with others interested in practicing their critical appraisal.

To arrange tailored training fill out the [Training Request Form](#) and select the teaching session(s) you wish to attend.