



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

**Course title:** PUBH7650 Evidence Based Health Care

**Course coordinator:** [Dr Sanjoti Parekh](#)

**Mode:** External

**Course introduction:**

This course is a plan defining for the Master of Health Studies (Clinical Epidemiology) and is offered as an elective in a number of other programs. Evidence-based health care involves integrating the best available research evidence with clinical expertise and patient values in order to guide decision making in health care. Students learn to: ask answerable clinical questions; find the most relevant and highest quality evidence; critically appraise this evidence and; apply and adapt the evidence to varied situations.

**Course aims:**

The course aims to provide students with a solid foundation in understanding the design, interpretation and applicability of clinical research. The study designs considered include randomised controlled trials, cohort and case-control studies, diagnostic studies and prognostic studies. The skills obtained will aid the process of lifelong, self-directed, problem-based learning needed to deal with clinical and other healthcare issues.

**Course content:**

Specific topics include:

- An introduction to evidence-based health care
- Study types
- Searching the literature
- Critically appraising evidence for an intervention
- Judging the importance of evidence about an intervention
- Critically appraising a systematic review of a health care intervention
- Diagnostic accuracy
- Critically appraising evidence for a diagnostic test
- Critically appraising evidence for a prognostic test or risk factor
- Critically appraising evidence about harm or aetiology
- Critically appraising evidence about screening
- Putting evidence into practice

**Method of assessment:**

Three written assignments

**Recommended text:**

Straus, S Richardson WS Glaziou P & Haynes RB (2005) *Evidence-based Medicine. how to practice and Teach EBM* (3rd ed.) Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone

**Required resources:**

**Study guide:** This contains the week-by-week learning material for each topic along with the full text of the required readings and practical exercises.

**Online Blackboard site:** This provides an interactive environment for students and teachers. Reliable and regular access to the Internet is required.

**Further details** are provided in the [Course Profile](#):

[http://www.uq.edu.au/study/course.html?course\\_code=PUBH7650](http://www.uq.edu.au/study/course.html?course_code=PUBH7650)