August 2012

Introductory Pharmacy Prescriber Questions

1. Q: Evidence Based Practice is based on what principles?

A: 1. Individual Clinical Experience

1. Best Available Evidence: published studies

3. Patient Preferences and Values

1. Q: What are PICO Clinical Questions?

A: 1. P = patient, characteristics of patient or target disorder

2. I = intervention, what is to be done for the patient

3. C = comparators, relevant alternative interventions

4. O = outcome, clinical outcome of interest to Dr and Pt

1. Q: What are the trial design options for PICO therapy questions?

A: 1. RCT: randomized controlled trial.

2. SR: systematic review process to identify, synthesize and evaluate the available literature.

3. MA: meta-analysis is a statistical process for quantitatively estimating the net benefit / risk from the results of the included studies.

1. Q: What is a P-Value?

A: 1. Statistical probability of an outcome.

2. A number that represents the % chance an outcome was dt chance alone.

1. Q: What is a confidence interval?

A: 1. Quantifies the uncertainty in a measurement.

2. ie. (95% CI 2 to 4) means that there is a 95% certainty that the true measurement lies between 2 and 4.

1. Q: What is a relative risk reduction (RRR)?

A: RRR = rate A minus rate B, divided by rate A

1. Q: What is an absolute risk reduction (ARR)?

A: ARR = rate A minus rate B

1. Q: What is a number needed to treat (NNT)?

A: NNT = 1 divided by the ARR

1. Q: What is a number needed to harm (NNH)?

A: NNH = 1 divided by the ARI absolute risk increase

ie. Risk increased from 20% to 30%, NNH = 1 divided by 0.10 = 10

1. Q: What is an odds ratio?

A: 1. The likelihood of harm resulting from an exposure.

2. Calculated as the number of events divided by the number of non-events.

3. ie. 51 events versus 49 non-events out of 100 = an odds ratio of 1.04.