

Evidence-Based Practice: What Does It Really Mean?



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Key Concepts

- I. Sources of knowledge that guide professional practices
 - Scientifically-based research
 - Experience and professional wisdom
 - Core values
 - Theory

- II. Defining evidence-based practice
 - A decision-making process that integrates the best available research evidence with family and professional wisdom and values (Buysse & Wesley, 2006)
 - Integration of professional wisdom with the best available empirical evidence in making decisions about how to deliver instruction (Whitehurst, 2006)
 - The integration of the best available research evidence with clinical expertise and patient values (Sackett et al., 2000)

- III. The 5-step process for evidence-based decision-making
 - Ask an answerable question
 - Track down the best available research
 - Appraise the relevance and quality of the research
 - Integrate the research evidence with wisdom and values
 - Evaluate

- IV. What is a Community of Practice?
 - A community of people with diverse expertise who engage in shared inquiry and learning

- V. Defining Features of a CoP
 - Diverse expertise
 - Shared purpose & goals
 - Observation, reflection, discussion
 - Documentation of findings
 - Sharing findings with a broader community of practitioners
 - Regeneration of members & activities



To access the powerpoint presentation, go to: <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~handouts/EBP>

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