

QMed Knowledge Foundation
Training programs

QMed Knowledge Foundation [www.qmedkf.org.in] is a registered Trust established in December 2007. Our prime objective being "Empowering the medical information user", training is one of our major activities.

Most health professionals face the following when searching for information:

- They get references, but not abstracts or full articles
- They get very important abstracts, but the original article is not in English
- They don't know how to find full articles
- A search activity takes away precious time

We conduct training programs for health professionals that will help them handle such issues, and get relevant medical literature with ease.

OUR INITIATIVES SO FAR:

Since April 2008, we have conducted about 20 programs on "PubMed Basics" training around 500 participants. Some were initiated by us, but most were in medical colleges / hospitals and companies, where we were invited to conduct the program. We also conducted one PubMed Advanced program. (*Details - Annexure 1*)

Duration

Our programs are of about 3 – 4 hours duration, depending on audience interaction

Costs

Organization type	Fee per head in Rupees		Minimum number of participants
	Employed professionals	Students	
Institutions in Mumbai*	300	300	20
Outside Mumbai**	500	500	30
Industry in Mumbai	1500	-	10
Industry outside Mumbai	1500	-	20

*Includes our conveyance cost and a print manual

**Includes our travel cost and a CD containing the course material

We also conduct programs that we initiate, where we charge Rs. 500/- per head for students, Rs. 1000/- for health professionals and Rs. 1500/- for industry personnel.

Payment – immediately after the program by cheque / DD favouring Quality Medical Knowledge Foundation

Please Note: We charge a Service tax @ 10.30%. Since there is insufficient clarity about the applicability of Service tax for our activities, we are applying for exemption for the same. If granted, we will refund the same, after getting refunds from the department.

Additional details:

- We recommend an ideal maximum of 30 – 35 participants.
- We need LCD projection facility and if possible broadband Internet access or a venue where Tata Indicom signals will be picked up.
- We carry our laptop and a USB modem as a back up for Internet connectivity.

**Annexure –1:
Programs conducted between April 2008 and Jan 2009**

Invited programs

- Grant Medical College, Mumbai
- Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai
- Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore
- Infertility Institute & Research Centre, Hyderabad
- Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences, Bengaluru (four sessions)
- Lotus College of Optometry, Mumbai (Basics and Advanced)
- INHS, Ashwini Hospital, Mumbai
- M.S. Ramaiah Medical College, Bengaluru
- Narayana Nethralaya, Bengaluru
- Seth GS Medical College & KEM Hospital, Parel, Mumbai
- Padmashree Dr. D Y Patil Medical College, Nerul, Navi Mumbai
- Hetero Healthcare
- Xrays Biocom

Programs we initiated & conducted at the following venues

- Hall of Quest, Nehru Planetarium, Worli, Mumbai
- Pikale Hospital, Mumbai
- NIRRH, Parel, Mumbai
- Parakh Hospital, Ghatkopar, Mumbai

Participants for our programs have consisted mainly of Faculty of medical colleges (including four Deans), PG students and Private practitioners, and also a small number of UG students, medical librarians and allied health professionals.

Brief note on the impact of the programs:

Indicative Assessments of pre and post workshop tests:

Test	Correct answers	Incorrect / Unsure answers
Pre workshop	35%	65%
Post workshop	75%	25%

Feedback:

More than 90% of the participants said that

- * The program exceeded or definitely met their expectations
- * It was very useful / useful
- * They would be able to do a much better literature search
- * They would recommend it to colleagues
- * They believe it should be a part of the PG curriculum

Specific feedback:

From a PG student:

"You made us realize that we were fools earlier. Henceforth I am sure I will be very good in searching for references".

From an ex-Dean of a medical college:

"We all enjoyed the programme so much so that as soon as we reached home we started opening PubMed. Thanks indeed for coming all the way. We will organize a bigger programme later. I feel the basic programme should be taught to every doctor."

Annexure – 2: Training programs by QMed

We have identified the need to conduct the following programs in order to achieve our objective - "Empowering the medical information user"

Searching PubMed – Basics

- Target audience – PG students, Academicians, Practitioners.
- Coverage – Basics of searching a database; brief theory about PubMed, using the Journal Database, Single Citation Matcher, MeSH database, Limits and Clipboard. How to do simple searches easily, quickly and effectively, how to find free articles

Searching PubMed – Advanced

- Target audience – PG students, Academicians, Practitioners - who have undergone our Basics program
- Coverage – MeSH – advanced usage; Batch citation matcher, Searching for Evidence; searching for Indian resources of the NIC; Using My NCBI to save searches and get email alerts and to learn about library filters.

Searching the literature for evidence

- Target Audience – PG Students, Academicians, Practitioners. Those who have undergone our PubMed programs will find this easier than those who have not.
- Coverage:
 - Understanding the need to search for Evidence
 - Various Evidence-based resources (like the Cochrane library, TRIP Database etc), their coverage and searching methods and how to retrieve secondary evidence from PubMed

The Internet – a Medical Information Resource

- Target audience – mainly MBBS students, but open to anyone interested
- Coverage – Various medical information resources – text-books, journals, reference sources and web-resources – how to understand their importance in print as well as electronic versions; how to evaluate and use them correctly

In the pipeline:

Critical appraisal of medical literature

- Target audience – PG Students / Academicians / Practitioners. While searching skills are not required for this, the skills learnt in this program are useful only if one has Evidence based articles in hand.
- Coverage – How to appraise Systematic reviews, Meta-analyses and articles of evidence covering treatment, diagnosis, etiology and prognosis.

Medical writing

- Target audience - PG Students / Academicians / Practitioners
- Coverage – What constitutes good medical writing, importance of each journal's requirements, writing accurate references, ethics in writing and several other nuances of writing.