

Designing and evaluating surgical research:

A practical 'how to' guide

Research in surgery is challenging and requires multi-disciplinary collaboration with methodologists and clinicians to design and conduct high quality studies. The Bristol Surgical Trials Centre (BSTC) is a new initiative funded by the Royal College of Surgeons of England which aims to increase the number and quality of randomised trials in order to transform care for surgical patients. An important part of this is to provide inspiration and training for future surgeons.

The BSTC, led by surgeons and methodologists, will run a new course during 2013/14. Four separate training days will take place, helping trainees to understand study designs and appraise evidence, with a focus on randomised trials in surgery.

“The course will be educational, entertaining and productive – it is expected that engaged trainees will learn to understand evidence based surgery and participate in the creation of evidence by attending the tutorials, practical sessions and working with the team to complete systematic reviews to inform the design of new trials in surgery”

Professor Jane M Blazeby, Director of BSTC

The training days will be held on:

- Friday November 29th 2013
- Friday February 7th 2014
- Thursday April 10th 2014
- The final day of the programme will be the Severn Deanery Annual Research and Audit Prize Day on the 26th September 2014

Attendance is free - for queries and registration please contact us at

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