

**“Information Survival Skills”: a medical school elective**

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**Table 2**  
 Outline of the five sessions for “Information Survival Skills”

|                                                                     | <b>Objectives</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Activities</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Resources</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| Session One: The State of Information                               | Objective 1: briefly explain two key elements of the publishing process<br>Objective 2: describe the rationale for open access sources                                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introduction and overview</li> <li>▪ Pretest</li> <li>▪ Student discussion on how an article gets published (the publishing process), peer review, copyright</li> <li>▪ Discussion of open access movement</li> </ul>                                                                                | Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC), Sherpa/Romeo; instructions to authors; ethics and professionalism; BioMed Central, Public Library of Science (PLoS); Lobo Vault, University of New Mexico’s (UNM’s) institutional repository |
| Session Two: Identifying Information & Selecting the Right Resource | Objective 1: construct a clinical question using the patient/problem, intervention, comparison, outcome (PICO) method<br>Objective 2: evaluate information resources<br>Objective 3: create a RefWorks account and set up a test folder | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clicker questions: Boolean, identifying best resource</li> <li>▪ Formulating a question using PICO format</li> <li>▪ Search PubMed: share strategy with group</li> <li>▪ My NCBI: set up account and save searches and set up alert</li> <li>▪ Set up account and test folder in RefWorks</li> </ul> | Handout: criteria for evaluating websites; PubMed help sheet; RefWorks help sheets; saving searches and setting up alerts help sheet                                                                                                                        |
| Session Three: Information Everywhere!                              | Objective 1: list three barriers to practicing evidence-based medicine (EBM)<br>Objective 2: create EBM search strategies using PubMed Clinical Queries<br>Objective 3: demonstrate the ability to search the Cochrane resource         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EBM discussion: student understanding and perspectives</li> <li>▪ Formulate research question from scenario using PICO method</li> <li>▪ Hands-on activity and discussion: evaluate various databases</li> </ul>                                                                                     | How to read a medical article: users’ guide and <i>BMJ</i> series; library databases: Web of Science, images, videos, e-books, interlibrary loan (ILL)                                                                                                      |

|                                                      | <b>Objectives</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Activities</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Resources</b>                                                                   |
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| Session Four: What You and Your Patients Are Reading | Objective 1: identify four key elements for evaluating the quality of health websites<br>Objective 2: describe at least two challenges related to providing health information to a lay person<br>Objective 3: create a bibliography using RefWorks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Instructions to patients in various languages</li> <li>▪ View health literacy video and discussion</li> <li>▪ Hands-on exercise with MedlinePlus</li> <li>▪ Scenario: find patient education for your deaf patient with diabetes</li> <li>▪ Using RefWorks, create a bibliography</li> </ul> | MedlinePlus bookmarks; UNM Hospital Patient and Family Education Committee website |
| Session Five: Managing & Presenting Your Information | Objective 1: demonstrate oral communication skills using resources discussed in this PIM                                                                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Students give 5-minute presentations on resource presented during the elective to answer a learning issue or address a patient care issue</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                         | Evaluation rubric for presentations: posttest assessment                           |