**Research Literacy**

National Midwifery Institute, Inc.

Study Group Coursework

*Syllabus*

Description:

This module explores basic concepts around how midwives and student midwives conduct research, how to find the research you’re looking for, and how to analyze the value of a study in how it relates to your curiosity or research question. It includes recommended reading materials in print and online, and asks students to complete short answer questions for assessment, long answer questions for deeper reflection, and learning activities/projects to deepen your hands-on direct application of key concepts.

Learning Objectives:

* Understand to principles of research ,
* Understand evidenced-based practice,
* Understand critical interpretation of professional literature and findings
* Identify types of research
* Understand appropriate integration of research into midwifery practice

Learning Activities:

* Research and read appropriate study sources, seeking out additional study sources where needed
* Complete short answer questions in attached module document for assessment
* Complete long answer questions for deeper reflection in attached module document for assessment
* Complete learning activities listed in attached module document for assessment
  + Practice using research databases
  + Summarize a literature search
* Submit work to Study Group Course Coordinator
* Reflect on feedback from Study Group Course Coordinator and re-submit work as needed

Study Sources (print):

The following texts are recommended for completion of this module. Use them to cross reference and build a more comprehensive understanding.

Using keywords from the Learning Objectives, search the index. Read those pages listed, and read the chapter in which they are found. Establish a context for the information so that you understand how other topics are related. In addition, read the chapter headings in the Table of Contents, and flip through each text to familiarize yourself with the content of chapters. As you work through Study Group modules, you will eventually read each text in its entirety.

* Introduction to Research for Midwives, Rees

Study Sources (online):

See NMI website **Research Literacy** module web resources section for current online study sources for this module.

Related Modules:

* All Modules

Submitting Module for Assessment:

Study Group modules are accepted electronically in PDF format *only*. We encourage you to submit modules as you complete them throughout each quarter of enrollment.

Please e-mail your completed Study Group module to:

Study Group Course Work Instructor nmistudygroup@nationalmidwiferyinstitute.com

Once your module has been e-mailed to us, you will receive an e-mail confirmation that we have received it. Study Group modules are reviewed and returned in digital format as PDF documents. Modules can take up to 1 month from submission to be reviewed and returned to you. We will return your module as an e-mail attachment. Each module includes an Evaluation Sheet at the end of the pdf. The module’s page on the student portal also includes a link to a fillable online module evaluation sheet. Please take the time to fill out the module evaluation sheet and return it to us for each module, it helps us to improve our course work.

Please follow these formatting guidelines when submitting modules:

* Your first initial and last name in title of PDF, along with name of module. Example: “ERyanFirstStage.pdf”
* Title of module on the document’s front page
* Your name on the document’s front page
* Provide the text of each question, followed by a blank line and then your thoughtful answer (without the question, you have commentary without context)
* Blank line between the answer for a question and the next question: question, blank line, answer, blank line, question, blank line, answer…
* Please leave margin space for our comments!
* Don’t use script or cursive writing style text
* Font size not smaller than 12
* Credit sources of direct quotes

Completion Requirements and Feedback:

In order to complete this module for graduation purposes from National Midwifery Institute you must review all resources, complete the attached short answer questions for assessment, long answer questions for deeper reflection, and learning activities/projects, and submit them as detailed above. Upon return to you, your coursework may have feedback or ask for additional information or exploration on certain topics. Your work will be evaluated n the following Rubric (pasted below). You must achieve a minimum score of **7.5** in order to move on to your next module, though we encourage all students to strive for a **10.**

|  | **Level 1**  **(0 Points)**  **Not Adequate** | **Level 2**  **(1 Point) Developing Adequacy** | **Level 3**  **(1.5 points)**  **Meets Basic Expectations** | **Level 3**  **(2 points) Exceeds Expectations** | **Student Score** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Completion of module prompts and elements** | -Module not completed | -Major Elements of module are missing | -All aspects of module elements present, with some minor questions unanswered or missing | -All aspects of module elements present and answered completely |  |
| **Demonstrates Comprehension of module content and concepts** | - Lack of comprehension | - Responses are unclear and do not reflect basic comprehension of module concepts | - Responses are clear and reflect basic comprehension of module content and concepts | - Responses are clear, well written, and reflect in-depth comprehension of module content and concepts. Added subpoints and additional reflections demonstrate a deeper knowledge and curiosity. |  |
| **Analysis** | - Key terms not defined | -Inaccurate definitions of key items  -Limited connections made between evidence, subtopics and clinical experience | -Accurate definitions of key items  -Connections made between evidence, subtopics and clinical experience -Incorporation of original ideas and incorporates some clinical experience  in responses where possible | - Accurate definitions of key items  -Strong connections made between evidence, subtopics and clinical experience |  |
| **Evidence** | - No research evidence used | -Research not used  -Research not clearly connected to questions asked in module | -Research is present but limited -Research presented is weak or not relevant to communities served by midwives | -Research is abundant -Research is compelling and relevant to communities served by midwives |  |
| **Engagement with Learning Resources** | -Evident study sources were not utilized | -Evident study sources were partially utilized | -Evident that study sources were fully utilized | -Evident that study sources were fully utilized and independent research was undertaken -Full incorporation of original ideas, personal analysis and incorporates relevant clinical experience in all areas possible |  |

Introductory and Further Thoughts:

*Currently “Evidence-Based Practice” is trend in medical care. As midwives, it behooves us to understand current research and evidence in midwifery, obstetrics, and global health, and how and when to ethically and effectively apply this research to our practice. We need to consider carefully how evidence can and should be used to create practice protocols for our client base. Protocols need to be specific to your population. For example, if a study was conducted in an obstetric setting using only people previously diagnosed with Preeclampsia, it could NOT be generalized information to apply to your entire client base as they do not all have this history. Research and evidence can be powerful or misleading and the difference is the knowledge of how to read and understand studies.*

*Before beginning this module be sure to watch the orientation video on the NMI website on how to best utilize MEDLINE Full Text, and utilize this resource, amongst other listed on the NMI module webpage, to conduct research for this module.*

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*Short Answer Questions*

Short Answer Questions:

1. Define the following terms:

1. Study
2. Research
3. Evidence
4. Evidence-Based
5. Qualitative
6. Quantitative

2. What are the 3 principles of ethical research?

3. What is the value of research in midwifery practice?

4. How might a midwife use research?

5. How may research inform the following circumstances in midwifery:

1. Informed choice discussions with clients
2. Writing practice protocols
3. Recommending a course of care or care plan to a client
4. Consults and discussions with interprofessional colleagues

6. For each of the following research types (numbered below), please provide:

1. A definition
2. An example of when it may be used in midwifery research/practice

You may also choose to reflect on any personal experiences you have interpreting the following kinds of research:

1. Peer-Reviewed Research
2. Literature Review
3. Retrospective Study
4. Prospective Study
5. Randomised Controlled Trial (RTC)
6. Case Study
7. Meta-Analysis
8. Systematic Review

7. Describe the following concepts in research and how they may apply to you, as a midwife, looking into research studies.

1. Bias
2. Control Groups
3. Patient Selection and Randomization
4. Analysis

8. How does the size of a study affect the interpretation of the results?

9. Describe how you properly format a citation of a source. Demonstrate at least two methods of listing a source in a bibliography, as well as citing in text.

10. When researching on a database like MEDLINE you will use MeSH (**Medical Subject Headings**). What are MeSH terms and how are they used?

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*Long Answer Questions for Deeper Reflection*

Questions Requiring Longer, More Thoughtful Answers:

11. How do you determine if a study is relevant to your client base?

12. What are your reflections on “evidence-based” practice and midwifery.

13. Explain how as a midwife you can ‘critique’ evidence. (include the 4 concepts as discussed in the recommended text)

14. How are ethics a part of research?

15. How do the principles of the midwifery model of care intersect with evidence based practice?

16. You are writing a practice protocol on amniotomy (AROM) for your personal practice and decide you’d like to take a look at up-to-date research on the topic to include in your guideline. What sorts of studies would you look for to be of most benefit?

17. You are writing a client handout on pregnancies that last beyond 40 weeks gestation and decide you’d like to take a look at up-to-date research on the topic to include in your guideline. What sorts of studies would you look for to be of most benefit?

18. You are interested in understanding health outcome disparities in your specific community and how they may be links to race. You decide you’d like to take a look at up-to-date research on the topic to include in your guideline. What sorts of studies would you look for to be of most benefit?

19. Your client heard a story on the morning news that a new study says all clients should be induced at 39 weeks gestation for the health and safety of their baby. They want to know what you think about this. How would you address their concerns? How would you provide alternative research?

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*Projects/Learning Activities*

Projects(send completed projects with the rest of your course work for this module)

20. Using MEDLINE look up a research topic of interest and answer the following questions

1. What did you look up? (exact wording please)
2. How many results did this produce?
3. Were you able to narrow this down?

21. Consider a research question or topic you have about midwifery or midwifery practice. Using the resources at your disposal, conduct research into your topic and write a 2-3 paragraph summary of what your discovered, with at least 4 proper citations and sources.