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Impact of research methodology workshop on ability to solve research issues

Muhammad Irfanullah Siddiqui¹ and Asim Awan²

Umm Al-Qura University, KSA

²Hamdard University, Pakistan

Background: Conducting research involves many issues including selection of appropriate study design, application of proper sampling technique and adequate sample size, data collection procedure, data presentation and application of test of significance. Research methodology workshop may play important role in understanding these concepts for fostering research in the country.

Objective: This research was conducted to compare the pre and post workshop knowledge of the participants regarding study design, sampling technique, sample size estimation, summarization, presentation and analysis of data for future application in practical research.

Materials & Methods: This multicenter study was conducted in 12 major cities of Pakistan. A total of 300 consultants were selected randomly from various medical colleges. All the participants were given a pretest before starting the workshop and then again after all the session but before the certificate distribution. The consultants were trained for two days for the concepts like criteria for selecting research topic, study design, sampling technique, application of test of significance etc.

Results: A total of 270 participants filled both pre and posttest. There were 15 questions related to various issues in research including measurement of risk, summarization and presentation of data and application of test of significance etc and a highly significant difference was observed between mean score 4.3 and 9.8 respectively for pre and post test with p value less than 0.000. Significance differences were also observed for other variables e.g., study design, sampling technique, data analysis etc. However no significant difference observed for data presentation.

Conclusion: It is concluded that research methodology workshops are useful in improving the knowledge of the participants and can foster the research in country if conducted regularly in the teaching institutions.

Biography

Muhammad Irfanullah Siddiqui is a full Professor of Community Medicine and Public Health, Umm Al-Qura University, KSA. He has served as the Chairman, Department of Community Health Sciences of Hamdard, Baqai and Bahria universities. He was the first Vice Principal of Bahria University and Dean of Faculty of Health Sciences, Baqai University. He is an Editor and Reviewer of journals of academic excellence. He has completed his MBBS degree from Dow Medical College and did MPH, MCPS, FCPS and MPhil in the field of Community Medicine and earned various awards in the field of education. He is also a Visiting Professor at Karachi University, Aga Khan University, Ziauddin University, Dow University of Health Sciences, Institute of Business Management and many other institute of international repute. He was invited by Oxford Brooks University, England to deliver a talk on primary health care to its faculty and postgraduate students. He has conducted more than 200 research methodology workshops at national and international level.

irfan7255@yahoo.com
irfan7255@gmail.com

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