

TTT Chairman

Objectives of Train the Trainers

Train the Trainers has been conceived as an educational workshop for adults who are already experienced teachers in their own environment. It brings together a faculty who has been selected because of their interest and enthusiasm as educators but who also have experience in modern educational techniques, along with participants who have been selected by their GI Society as experienced educators in their country.

As a faculty we aim to create an environment over the course of 4 days where active interchange will occur over the topics that have been selected in to different modules. Because much of what is achieved is dependent on the interaction between the faculty, who incidentally aim to act as facilitators rather than teachers, no two workshops or group sessions are the same, as the result is very much dependent on the interaction which occurs during the session.

The objectives of the workshop are listed below:

1. Introduce the concept of positive critiquing as a method of training adults. The methods for effective teaching of adults differ to that of children. Adults want to learn, and they want to learn quickly and efficiently. Positive critiquing brings out the best in each individual and also allows for input from both the teacher and the group with minimal embarrassment for the “student”.

2. Explore the issues on Credentialing for GI Physicians and Surgeons. The workshop provides a golden opportunity to consider what might be considered as ideal on a background of what is actually possible in a diverse world. Whilst we will not rewrite the credentialing guidelines of the countries we come from, discussion of what we, as expert teachers believe is necessary will underpin our subsequent teaching activities.

3. Delivering healthcare using the best available evidence has become the accepted way of practice in gastroenterology. “Evidence-based medicine” as a discipline has evolved since its initial introduction. In this module we explore the requirements for acquiring EBM data, the difficulties, limitations but ultimately why we should aim to achieve it.

4. Critical Appraisal of the Literature is something that we do but it is not taught in a systematic manner. Our epidemiology colleagues who have been largely responsible for the EBM movement have developed structured techniques for assessing the literature. The objective of the critical appraisal module is to introduce these structured techniques, which lead to a disciplined way of looking at published clinical data. What is surprising to those who see this for the first time is that one does not need to have an extensive knowledge in statistics in order to be able to read papers critically and decide whether the message is indeed one that can be adopted and used in your daily practice.

5. We all teach procedures. However how many of us, teach these in a structured format? Teaching a person how to do any procedure, whether it is to knit a cardigan or perform an endoscopic sphincterotomy, has certain common elements, which can be broken into defined steps. Using such a technique minimizes errors and eliminates

learning by “ones mistakes”. The objective of this module is to teach the teachers how to brake down any teaching exercise in to its component parts.

6. In teaching gastroenterology and in communication regarding research a number of techniques are used. The web is used to research the published literature; guidelines may be developed to assist in the management of gastrointestinal conditions; we publish in journals and present our data at conferences. Five modules are dedicated to exploring these widely used tools of communication.

7. Teaching and Research go “hand in hand” in most effective academic environments. For most of us, clinical research is our main interest. The structure for conduct of clinical research is similar to the requirements of Critical appraisal and EBM. The objective of this module is to bring these concepts together in order to give some guidelines on the conduct of effective clinical research.

8. A major objective of the workshop is to create an environment where colleagues from all over the world can meet, discuss, work and also play. We believe that as a world association WGO has a mission to bring gastroenterologists together for the advancement of our specialty that ultimately benefits the patients that we treat.

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