

Clinical pearls

Despite the advent of [evidence based medicine](#), clinical [pearls](#), verbal and published, remain a popular and important part of medical [education](#).

The purpose of a study was to establish a definition of a clinical pearl and to determine criteria for an educationally sound clinical pearl.

METHODS: The authors searched the Medline database for material dealing with clinical pearls, examined and discussed the information found, and formulated a consensus opinion regarding the definition and criteria.

RESULTS: Clinical pearls are best defined as small bits of free standing, clinically relevant information based on experience or observation. They are part of the vast domain of experience-based medicine, and can be helpful in dealing with clinical problems for which controlled data do not exist.

While there are no universally accepted criteria for preparing or evaluating a clinical pearl, we propose some rational guidelines for both ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Lorin MI, Palazzi DL, Turner TL, Ward MA. What is a clinical pearl and what is its role in medical education? Med Teach. 2008;30(9-10):870-4. doi: 10.1080/01421590802144286. PubMed PMID: 18821165.

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