

Continuing education for systematic reviews: a prospective longitudinal assessment of a workshop for librarians

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Table 1 Relationship between survey questions and concepts measured at pre-class, post-class, and follow-up

Survey section	Pre-class (Appendix A) 46 questions total	Post-class (Appendix B) 37 questions total	Follow-up (Appendix C) 48 questions total
Only measured at pre-class			
Work questions	Librarian characteristics (45–46)*		
Motivation question	Motivation for attending workshop (41)		
Measured at pre-class and follow-up			
Work questions	Job characteristics (42–44)		Job characteristics (2, 47, 48)
Institutional characteristics	Workplace type (1, 2)		Workplace type (4, 5)
Institutional characteristics	Workplace systematic review services (3–5)		Workplace systematic review service changes (6, 7, 8)
Institutional characteristics	Promotion of systematic review services (6, 7)		Promotion of systematic review services (10, 11)
Institutional characteristics	Administrator support for systematic review services (8, 9)		Administrator support for systematic review services (12, 13)
Institutional characteristics	Patron use of systematic review services (10–13)		Patron use of systematic review services (14, 15)
Institutional characteristics	Barriers to systematic review involvement (14)		Barriers to systematic review involvement (16)
Only measured at follow-up			
Work questions			Job title, place changes (1, 3)
Institutional characteristics			Contribution of workshop to workplace systematic review service changes (9)

Table 1 Relationship between survey questions and concepts measured at pre-class, post-class, and follow-up (continued)

Survey section	Pre-class (Appendix A) 46 questions total	Post-class (Appendix B) 37 questions total	Follow-up (Appendix C) 48 questions total
Actions measured at pre-class, intention measured at post-class, actions measured at follow-up			
Practice characteristics	Systematic review participation (15, 16)	Intention to participate in systematic reviews (1, 2)	Systematic review participation since workshop (17, 18)
Practice characteristics	Awareness and use of practices from systematic review standards (17, 18, 23, 27 28)	Intention to learn about and use standards (7-16)	Reading, use of systematic review standards since workshop (19, 20, 25, 33, 34)
Practice characteristics	Asked for, received authorship (19, 20)	Intention to seek authorship (17, 18)	Asked for, received authorship (21, 22)
Practice characteristics	Provision of systematic review consultations to patrons (21)	Intention to provide patron consultations on systematic reviews (3, 4)	Provision of systematic review consultations to patrons since workshop (23)
Practice characteristics	Respondent and colleague systematic review education participation (24, 25, 26)	Intention to participate in future systematic review education (21, 22)	Respondent and colleague systematic review education participation since workshop (28, 29, 30)
Practice characteristics		Intention to use and share workshop materials (19, 20, 23, 24)	Use, sharing of workshop materials since workshop (26, 27, 31, 32)
Same measures used at all time points			
Practice characteristics	Confidence in systematic review skills (22, 29)	Confidence in systematic review skills (5, 6, 25, 26)	Confidence in systematic review skills (24, 35)
Knowledge questions	Knowledge (30-40)	Knowledge (27-37)	Knowledge (36-46)

Numbers in parentheses refer to item numbers in the survey instruments.

Table 2 Overall and individual survey response rates

Overall response rate, pre-class to follow-up							
	Total invited pre-class	Completed follow-up	Follow-up incomplete but used	Opted out after completing pre class	Nonresponse for any survey	All responses used all three surveys	Overall response rate
Pre-class to follow-up	160	99	4	6	51	103	64%
Per survey response rate							
Survey	Invited	Completed	Incomplete, used	Incomplete, discarded	Nonresponse	Total responses used	Survey response rate
Pre-class	160*	137	3	1§	19	140	88%
Post-class	136†	121	2	0	13	123	88%
Follow-up	122‡	99	4	0	19	103	84%

* All class attendees from July 2012–April 2014 invited.

† Nonrespondents to pre-class survey and respondents who requested to opt out of future surveys were not invited for post-class survey.

‡ Non respondents to post-class survey and respondents who requested to opt out of future surveys were not invited to follow-up survey.

§ Answered only demographic questions.

Table 3. Librarian characteristics, pre-class survey

Librarian characteristics	n	(%)
Job type (n=137)		
User services	108	(79%)
Management	12	(9%)
Other	17	(12%)
Years as a librarian (n=137)		
0-10	80	(58%)
11-20	29	(21%)
21-30	18	(13%)
31-40	10	(7%)
Degrees earned		
Master's of library science (MLS) (n=140)		
Yes	131	(94%)
No	9	(6%)
MLS plus subject masters (n=140)		
Yes	33	(24%)
No	98	(70%)
Missing	9	(6%)
MLS plus professional degree (n=140)		
Yes	5	(4%)
No	126	(90%)
Missing	9	(6%)

Table 4. Workplace characteristics, pre-class survey

Workplace characteristics	n	(%)
Type of organization (n=140)		
Health sciences library	94	(67%)
Academic library	15	(11%)
Hospital library	15	(11%)
Government library	9	(6%)
Other	7	(5%)
Librarians in workplace doing searches (n=140)		
1-5	75	(54%)
6-10	57	(41%)
11-15	8	(6%)
Library has a formal systematic review service? (n=140)		
Yes	38	(27%)
No, but plan to implement	44	(31%)
No, and no plans to implement	47	(34%)
Missing	11	(8%)

Table 5. Behavioral changes from pre-class to follow-up

	Pre-class (n varies)			Follow-up (n varies)			Z-test statistic	p-value
	n	Positive responses	(%)	n	Positive responses	(%)		
Did systematic review searching*	140	80	(58%)	103	65	(63%)	Z=-0.87	p=0.384
Sought peer review of own search*	80	29	(36%)	65	31	(48%)	Z=-1.39	p=0.164
Searched grey literature*	79	39	(49%)	64	34	(53%)	Z=-0.45	p=0.655
Asked for authorship*	80	27	(34%)	65	37	(57%)	Z=-2.79	p=0.005
Did peer review of another's search*	139	13	(9%)	103	17	(17%)	Z=-1.66	p=0.098
Read Institute of Medicine report*	135	39	(29%)	102	69	(68%)	Z=-5.93	p<0.0001
			Means			Means	Paired t-test statistic	p-value
Used guidelines (PRISMA)†	119		2.38	84		1.64	t=5.16	p<0.0001

* Test of proportion (Z-test) used.

† Paired t-test used. Likert scale data, response options: strongly agree=1, agree=2, neutral=3, disagree=4, strongly disagree=5.

Table 6. Reported and intended systematic review educational activities, pre-class, post-class, and follow-up

	Pre-class (n=140)		Post-class intention (n=123)		Follow-up (n=103)		Z-test statistic, pre-class to follow-up*	p-value, pre-class to follow-up
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)		
Attend systematic review trainings	52	(37%)	81	(66%)	30	(29%)	Z=1.34	p=0.178
Take curricular class	23	(16%)	—	—	10	(10%)	Z=1.51	p=0.131
Library staff in house education	86	(61%)	—	—	44	(43%)	Z=2.89	p=0.004
Use HSLs class materials	—	—	123	(100%)	96	(93%)	—	
Share HSLs class materials with colleagues	—	—	116	(94%)	86	(83%)	—	

Test of proportion (Z-test) used.



Table 7. Staff systematic review education activities in the workplace, pre-class and follow-up

Educational activity	Pre-class (n=86)		Follow-up (n=44)	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
Attended local workshops	44	(51%)	12	(27%)
One on one mentoring	34	(40%)	22	(50%)
Journal club	21	(24%)	10	(23%)
Other group study activity	12	(14%)	5	(11%)
Invited speakers	11	(13%)	5	(11%)
HSLs workshop*	5	(6%)	2	(5%)
Other workshops*	3	(3%)	1	(2%)
Webinars*	3	(3%)	1	(2%)
Information sharing*	2	(2%)	3	(7%)
Books*	1	(1%)	0	—
Learn by doing*	1	(1%)	0	—
Audited classes*	1	(1%)	0	—
Library systematic review service activities*	0	—	1	(2%)
Systematic review email discussion list participation*	0	—	1	(2%)

Only respondents who indicated one or more activities are included in this table. Multiple answers possible.

* Indicates write in response submitted under “other” category.

Table 8 Pre-class existence of formal systematic review service, plans for future service, and changes at follow-up

Pre-class SR services	Yes		No		Missing*			
	n	(%)	n	%	n	(%)		
Existing SR service? (n=129)*	38	(29%)	91	(71%)	11	(9%)		
If no, is one planned? (n=91)	44	(48%)	47	(52%)	—	—		
Follow-up SR service changes	Yes		No		Don't know		Not applicable, already had one	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Were changes made to SR services? (n=103)	32	(31%)	66	(64%)	5	(5%)	—	—
If yes, was a formal SR service added? (n=32)	20	(63%)	9	(28%)	—	—	3	(9%)

* Missing all from one cohort due to error in survey question skip set up.