



# Critical appraisal of a scientific article

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### Introduction



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### Background

- Betanien Deaconal University College, Norway, wanted in 2004/2005 to strengthen evidencebased practice (EBP) in education
- Nurses use only a limited amount of scientific evidence to secure good health care

### Goals

 The aim with this course is that the students should be able to search, read and critically appraise the research



### Methods



#### Sample

Students in the 2nd year education in nursing participated in this program

#### Intervention

- Construction of a manual in how to critically appraise a scientific article
- Train the students in steps 1, 2 and 3 in EBP
  - Formulate an answerable question
  - Search
  - Critically appraise the research
- Two scientific articles were delivered to the students
- The research process and a manual in how to appraise an article, were used as methods in evaluating the articles
- Group exam
- Evaluation of the course
  - Structured questionnaire



# Methods; Organization



- Organization
  - 1 day for each part of the research process were utilized
  - Structure:
    - 2 3 hours of teaching in the actual part of the research process
    - Group work where the group appraised the articles in the actual part of the research process, for example sample
    - Interactive plenum discussions
- 2 days were spent in training the students in how to track down the best evidence



# Results

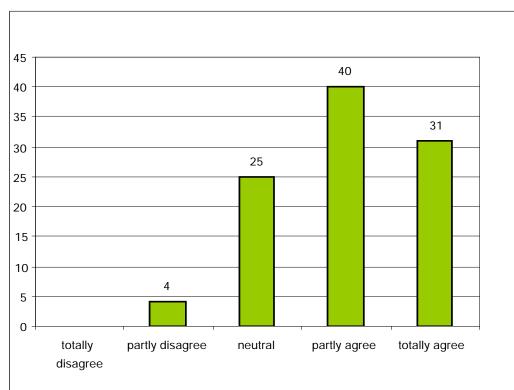


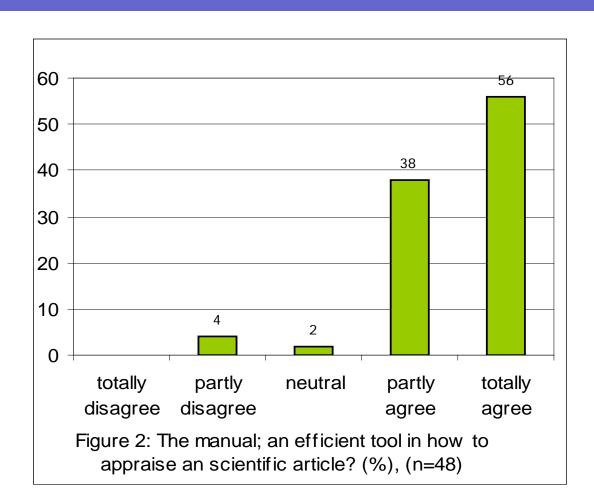
Figure 1: The teaching methods; organized to promote efficient teaching? (%), (n=48)



# Results



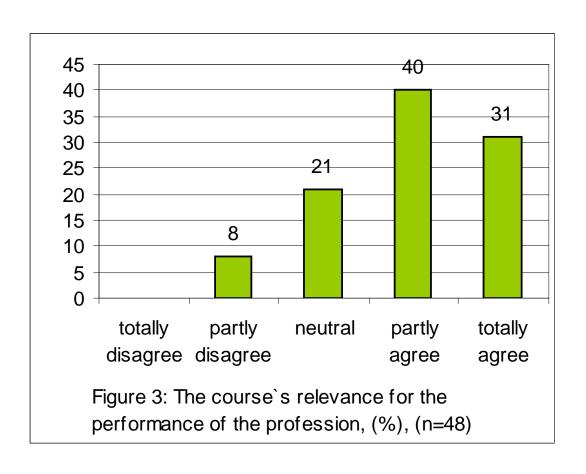
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# Results







## Conclusion



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- The results from the evaluation show that most of the students reported that teaching in steps 1, 2 and 3 in EBP was useful in critical appraisal of a scientific article. The results from the exam supported this
- The manual was an important tool in this process
- Students participating in the lecture, group work and plenum discussion was high
- Knowledge about scientific methods and use will make the students able to read, appraise and use scientific results in their nursing practice
- This can promote evidence-based nursing and contribute to quality improvement in the health care system