THE PRACTICE OF EVIDENCE BASED LABORATORY MEDICINE AMONG WORLDWIDE MEDICAL LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS: COMPETENCIES AND NEED OF TRAINING

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BACKGROUND

AIM

This study aimed to evaluate the perceived competencies and needs regarding the practice of EBM/EBLM among medical laboratory professionals.

METHODS

A self-completed questionnaire was designed by the EBLM Committee of the Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine (SEQC-ML) and adapted to English by the EBLM Committee of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC).

The questionnaire consisted of six (6) sections with a total of thirty-six (36) questions:

A. Socio-demographic Data  
B. Training in EBM  
C. Access to EBM Material (last year)  
D. Perceptions about Self Competency  
E. Interest in receiving continuing education  
F. Comments and Suggestions.

Timeline:

January-February 2016 – Pilot study performed at the Mútua Terrassa University Hospital, by personal request of participation. November-December 2016 - January – February 2017 - The questionnaire was posted on the SEQC-ML Society’s website through Google Drive. April 2017 - The questionnaire was administered via SurveyMonkey® and mailed to all Presidents and Representatives of IFCC National Societies.

Variables were scored on a scale of 1 to 10. Data analysis was performed using IBM SPSS.

The study was performed in accordance with the Ethics Research Committee.

RESULTS

Figure 1. Survey participation: 50 countries and 560 respondents.

Figure 2. Socio-demographic Data

Figure 3. Training in EBM

Figure 4. Access to EBM resources

Figure 5. Perceptions about self-competency

Figure 6. Interest in continuing education on EBM

Figure 7. Attitude towards EBM and previous training

Figure 8. Attitude towards EBM and gender

Figure 9. Attitude towards EBM and age

Figure 10. Attitude towards EBM and years of experience

CONCLUSIONS

Laboratory professionals were very interested in EBLM, especially in access to CPGs and other EBLM materials. They also considered EBLM as necessary in their daily practice, even with multiple difficulties implicated while applying it. The findings of this survey will help to plan future training on EBLM for laboratory professionals.

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