**Theme:** **Pragmatic Trials**

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| **Learning Objectives of Module** |
| Objective 1: To understand Pragmatic Trials and how they differ from Explanatory Trials  Objective 2: To learn different types of Pragmatic Trials  Objective 3: To apply Pragmatic Trials to your own research |

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| **Introduction to Pragmatic Trials**: There is often a concern as to whether or not clinical trials produce results that are applicable to everyday use. Pragmatic trials are thus used to define trials designed to test an intervention in broader routine practice. The research question investigated then becomes *whether an intervention actually works- in real life* as opposed to *if/how an intervention works.* Pragmatic trials can inform policy makers and health care providers who are interested in the comparative effectiveness of an intervention. As such, decision makers should be considered active partners in the design of pragmatic trials.  **Why are Pragmatic Trials important?**  There are GAPS in evidence based knowledge designed to meet the needs of decision makers. Pragmatic Clinical Trials (PCTs) are specifically designed to answer questions faced by decision makers. These trials have four characteristic features: 1) they select clinically relevant alternative interventions to compare, 2) they include a diverse population of study participants, 3) they recruit participants from heterogeneous practice settings, and 4) they collect data on a broad range of health outcomes. |

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| **Module Content** | |
| **Read:**  Section I: Pragmatic Trials  <http://www.crispebooks.org/workbook-18OF-1845R.html> | **20 minutes** |
| **Watch:** The importance of Pragmatic Clinical Trials  Russell Glasgow, PhD (at the end of section I under resources)  <https://youtu.be/Qk97ngp5U-0> | **22 minutes** |
| **Read:** Section V: Research Design  <http://www.crispebooks.org/Section-V-18OF-197OK.html> | **18 minutes** |

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| **Critical Thinking Questions** |
| **1.** How do you describe the differences between an explanatory trial and a pragmatic trial?  **2.** Think about your study. What trial is ideal- cluster randomization, stepped wedge, or effectiveness-implementation hybrid? Why? |

Resources:

**1. Pragmatic Trials: A workshop Handbook** [**http://www.crispebooks.org/workbook-18OF-1845R.html**](http://www.crispebooks.org/workbook-18OF-1845R.html)

**2**. Patsopoulos NA. **A pragmatic view on pragmatic trials**. *Dialogues Clin Neurosci*. 2011. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2702.2011.04021.x.

**3.** Rethinking Clinical Trials: A living textbook of Pragmatic Clinical Trials. An NIH Collaboratory <http://rethinkingclinicaltrials.org/>

4. Tunis SR, Stryer DB, Clancy CM. **Practical Clinical Trials: Increasing the Value of Clinical Research for Decision Making in Clinical and Health Policy**. *J Am Med Assoc*. 2003;290(12):1624-1632. doi:10.1001/jama.290.12.1624.