
How can clinical trialists serve the needs of clinicians and patients more effectively?

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HOW CAN CLINICAL TRIALISTS SERVE THE NEEDS OF PATIENTS BETTER?



BIOGRAPHY

Hilda Bastian develops evidence-based health information for consumers and patients at the German Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG). She is the editor of IQWiG's website, Informed Health Online/Gesundheitsinformation.de. Prior to this, Ms Bastian was a health consumer advocate in Australia for many years, and actively involved in the Cochrane Collaboration, involving consumers, developing consumer health information, and assessing evidence on communication.

ABSTRACT

This presentation will focus on patients' needs in three groups:

Trialists need to be inspired by patients' needs and questions, and understand patients' experiences more deeply. Trialists could work more closely with consumer advocates and qualitative researchers – and with allied professionals who are in close contact with patients. More patients' questions would be answered if trialists avoided relying on short-term outcomes, looked for and reported adverse effects better, and if they worked with patients to develop validated measures that make meta-analysis on patient-relevant outcomes possible.

Trialists need to inform potential participants effectively, not just meet minimal requirements of ethics committees. Increasing numbers of patients might be looking for trials to join – trialists need to make their trials easy to find. The participants in trials need to be kept informed throughout and acknowledged in every report.

Trialists could serve more patients by involving more colleagues in their trials, so that the enthusiasm and interest in doing trials spread further.

RELEVANT COMPETING INTERESTS

None declared

CONTACT DETAILS

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