

### COMMENTARY 8 Open Access

# **Evidence Based Medicine: Understanding Symptoms, Treatment and Causes**

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# **Description**

Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) revolutionized the approach to healthcare by emphasizing the integration of clinical expertise, patient values, and the best available evidence from research to guide medical decision-making. This study discusses about the core principles of EBM, its application in understanding symptoms, treatment modalities, and the underlying causes of medical conditions.

## Understanding evidence based medicine

Evidence based medicine is a systematic approach that integrates clinical expertise, patient values, and the latest research evidence to optimize patient care. It involves the conscientious, explicit, and judicious use of the current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individual patients. The principles of EBM encompass:

**Research evidence:** Meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, cohort studies and systematic reviews form the backbone of evidence in EBM. Grading systems help assess the quality of evidence and its applicability to patient care.

**Clinical expertise:** Clinicians utilize their expertise, including knowledge of patient preferences, individual variability, and diagnostic skills, in tandem with evidence.

**Patient values and preferences:** Recognizing patient autonomy and preferences is crucial in tailoring evidence-based care to individual needs.

### **Symptoms**

Interpreting evidence for diagnosis symptoms serve as the gateway to diagnosing medical conditions. EBM involves a systematic approach to understanding symptoms:

**Evidence based diagnosis:** EBM guides clinicians in selecting appropriate diagnostic tests based on their accuracy, reliability, and relevance to the patient's condition. Tools like diagnostic algorithms help in narrowing down potential diagnoses.

Symptom based treatments: Evidence based guidelines dictate treatment strategies based on specific symptoms. For instance, pain management protocols vary depending on the underlying cause and severity of pain, considering both pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions. The signs of evidence based medicine are characterized by specific attributes and practices that distinguish it from other approaches in healthcare. Unsubstantiated treatments or interventions lacking empirical evidence are discouraged in favour of evidence based approaches.

Recognizing these signs within clinical settings indicates a commitment to the principles and practices of evidence based medicine, fostering improved patient outcomes through the application of the best available evidence in healthcare decision-making.

### **Treatment**

Evidence based interventions plays a pivotal role in determining the most effective treatments:

**Efficacy of Interventions:** Analyzing research evidence helps evaluate the efficacy and safety of various treatment modalities. Clinical guidelines are formulated based on this evidence to provide standardized treatment protocols.

**Personalized medicine:** EBM acknowledges the need for personalized treatment plans, considering patient-specific factors and genetic variations to optimize outcomes.

**Integrative approaches:** Complementary and alternative therapies are assessed through an evidence-based

lens to determine their role in treatment plans.

### **Causes**

Understanding the causes of medical conditions is fundamental to effective management. Epidemiological Evidence Epidemiological studies aid in identifying risk factors and causative agents for diseases. EBM employs these findings to devise preventive strategies and public health interventions. Pathophysiological insights understanding the underlying mechanisms of diseases through evidence-based research facilitates the development of targeted treatments. Despite its numerous advantages, EBM faces challenges such as information overload, biases in available evidence, and difficulties in translating evidence into practice. Continual advancements in research

methodologies, technology, and data analytics aim to address these challenges, paving the way for a more refined and adaptable EBM framework. Evidence based medicine is the cornerstone of modern healthcare, guiding clinicians in providing the best possible care to patients. By integrating clinical expertise, patient values, and the latest research evidence, EBM facilitates informed decision-making across symptom interpretation, treatment selection, and understanding the causes of medical conditions. As the field continues to evolve, the ongoing pursuit of high-quality evidence and its application in clinical practice remains paramount in advancing healthcare globally.