



## Quality Medical Knowledge Foundation Brief Introduction

Quality Medical (QMed) Knowledge Foundation is involved with a very niche area of medical education and research.

Our long term Vision is to help create better professionals out of today's health sciences students

### How do we plan to do this?

The changes that we are working to introduce in the health sciences education, research and practice are best done if we focus on students, because what they learn as students becomes a part of their professional activity. We also need to train faculty and practitioners, it is not enough to train students.

Health sciences students, include medical student and those studying dentistry, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and allied courses

### What does QMed do?

At QMed, we train all health sciences students, teachers, and professionals to

- Get *relevant* information from the multiple resources on the Internet
- Reference correctly in their medical writing
- Use their library resources optimally
- Find the right evidence for patient care

We do these through lectures, workshops and ELearning courses

*There is an information overload on the World Wide Web today. Most people are confident about searching online. Alarming few actually know how to.*

### What will be the outcome?

1. Medical students and professionals will save significant time in online searching. This allows them to give more time to their patients and to themselves
2. The skills they learn help them do better for their patients and for medical research
3. Budgets spent on libraries will have much better Return on Investments

### What made us start this?

As a former medical librarian, our Founder discovered that in India there is an acute lacuna in training for health sciences students in the area we are working on. These lacunae should have ideally been worked upon by bodies like the Medical Council of India and the ICMR, but has been neglected. Ideally, what we teach should be a part of the curriculum, but that is still not the case.

## **Has this need been clearly established?**

Since the Foundation's inception in end 2007, we have delivered around 400 lectures and conducted around 230 workshops on the topic of "Searching medical literature" and "Reference Management". More than 95% of workshop participants have told us that these skills need to be included in the curriculum.

## **Why do we need funds?**

We believe that our E-Learning programs will help us reach become more self-sustenance by mid-2020. Till then we need funds for:

1. Creating all planned ELearning courses, regularly updating them and providing the help needed to all registered participants
2. Our IT infrastructure
3. Other program costs –lectures, workshops and Friends of QMed.
4. Awareness promotion activities - participation in lectures, conferences and events

## **Recognition:**

- Our founder Ms. Vasumathi Sriganesh has been recognized by the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences as a faculty for research methodology workshops, and as a Specialty Speaker by the Maharashtra Medical Council
- She is a faculty in International programs in India organized by MECOR (by the American Thoracic Society), The Union (IUATLD) and FAIMER (by the ECFMG)
- She is accepted as a member of the Academy of Health Professions Educators, established to improve the standards and quality of health professions education in India
- In 2013 she won the 'International Clinical Librarian Conference Evidence into Practice Award' set up to honour a practising librarian or informationist who has made outstanding contributions to bringing evidence into practice in the field of healthcare. More information in this [blog post](http://clinicallibrarian.blogspot.com/2013/06/international-clinical-librarian.html):  
<http://clinicallibrarian.blogspot.com/2013/06/international-clinical-librarian.html>