

Dear colleagues,

The widespread use and controversial nature of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) have led to a great need for clinical research in this field. Although a number of CAM research institutions have been established in a variety of countries to date, there is still a lack of opportunities for research training in Europe.

We are pleased to announce the fourth Summer School on Research Methods in Complementary and Alternative Medicine, which will be held in September 2010 (course language English). Made possible by the generous support of the Robert Bosch Foundation, the course will provide participants with the skills necessary to both critically appraise clinical research and to plan and perform their own study projects. Another important aim of the Summer School is to foster international networking among participants.

The Summer School will take place in a well-equipped and comfortable 4-star Seminar hotel located on the shores of beautiful Lake Templin in Potsdam. The hotel is easy to reach by public transportation or car from either of Berlin's two international airports. We're looking forward to welcoming you to these idyllic surroundings and working together with you in a programme that promises to be both informative and inspiring.

Claudia Witt and Klaus Linde

Organizer

Claudia Witt, MD, MBA
Institute for Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics
Charité University Medical Center Berlin

Klaus Linde, MD
Institute of General Practice
Technische Universität München

Information and applications

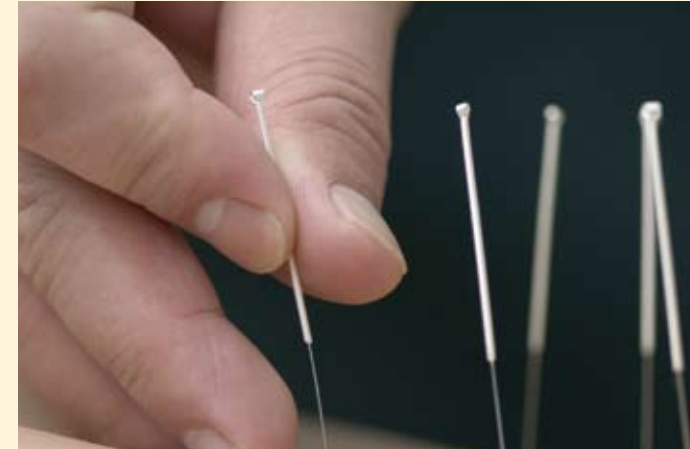
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Application forms available at
www.charite.de/epidemiologie/english/ag_witt_news.html

Please e-mail or fax the application form, a short curriculum vitae, and a recommendation letter (if available) to Klaus Linde by June 13, 2010. Participants will be selected based on the order in which their applications are received, the above-mentioned eligibility criteria, and a review of professional qualifications.

Course location

Seminaris Seehotel Postdam
An der Pirschheide 40
14471 Potsdam
Germany
www.seminaris.com



Research Methods in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)

An International Summer School
sponsored by the Robert Bosch Stiftung

September 15-19, 2010, Seminaris Hotel Potsdam
(near Berlin), Germany



Institute for Social
Medicine, Epidemiology
and Health Economics
(Director: Prof. Dr. Stefan
N. Willich, MPH, MBA)



Institute of General Practice
(Director: Prof. Dr. Antonius
Schneider)



Schedule

Wednesday, September 15

15:00 • Course start

Thursday, September 16

9:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 17:30 • Course

Friday, September 17

9:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 17:30 • Course
19:30 – 21:00 • Working groups

Saturday, September 18

9:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 – 17:30 • Course
19:30 – 21:00 • Guest lecture by
Charlotte Paterson, MD

Sunday, September 19

9:00 – 12:30 • Course

Teaching/learning methods

- lectures
- group work
- presentations by participants
- exercises

Learning targets

After the course participants should

- know which types of studies are best suited to which research questions
- be able to design a study on efficacy or effectiveness taking into account specific problems in CAM
- understand the statistical findings of clinical studies, and be able to perform simple sample-size calculations and basic statistical analyses
- have basic knowledge of a variety of study designs

Course language

English

Certificate

All participants will receive a detailed certificate of participation listing the subject matter of the course.

Fee

The course fee of 400€ is available to persons employed by universities/publicly funded institutes or charities, and covers

- tuition
- 4 nights accommodation in a single room
- breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Subject matter

- Study designs: randomised controlled trials, observational studies, single-case studies, economic research, meta-analyses
- Specific methodological issues: selection, randomisation, choice of controls, blinding, and outcome measurement
- Study planning
- Study management
- Collecting and entering data
- Statistics: descriptive and inferential statistics, sample-size calculation
- Presentation of participants' projects

Number of participants

Maximum of 18

Course instructors

- Claudia Witt MD, MBA (Berlin)
- Klaus Linde MD (Munich)
- Charlotte Paterson MD (Exeter)

Eligibility criteria

- Active participation in the entire course
- Academic degree in medicine, psychology, biology, or related fields
- Current involvement or interest in clinical research in CAM

A letter of recommendation from an experienced CAM researcher is a plus.