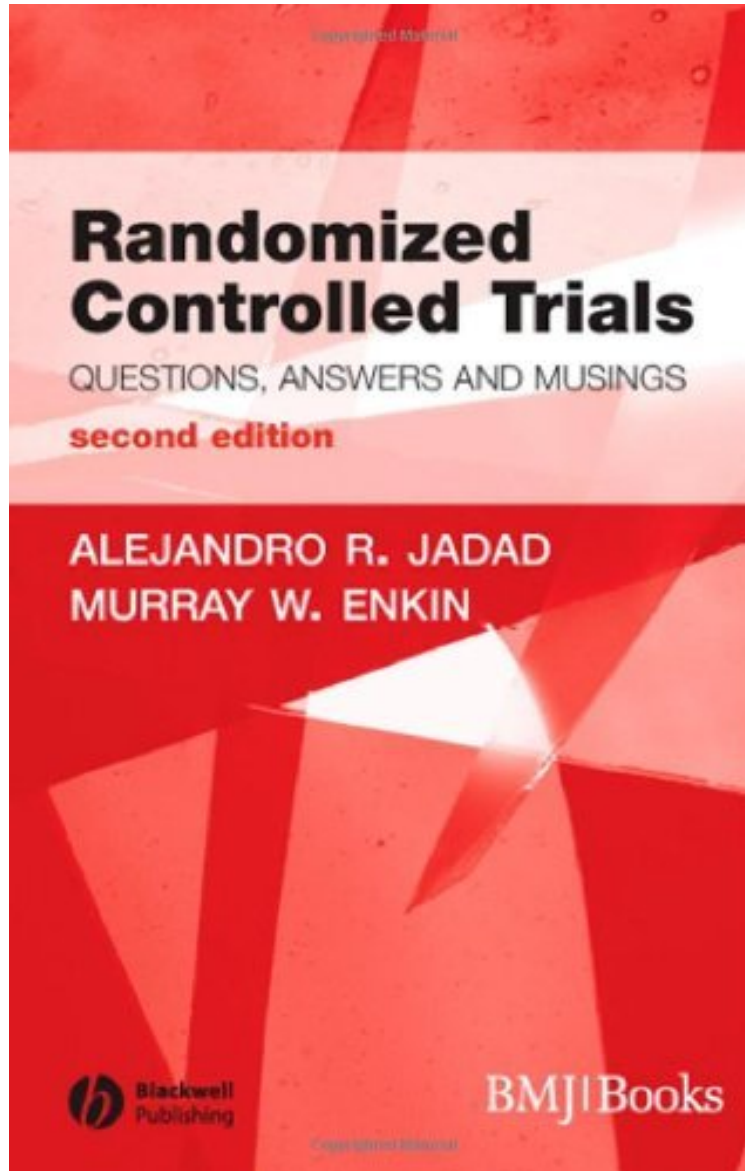


Randomized Controlled Trials: Questions, Answers and Musings

Alejandro R. Jadad, Murray W. Enkin

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Alejandro R. Jadad, Murray W. Enkin : Randomized Controlled Trials: Questions, Answers and Musings before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Randomized Controlled Trials: Questions, Answers and Musings:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A slim gem
By Customer
Jadad and Enkin have written a must read about RCTs that is rarely read. I first found this in a older edition in the life sciences of a major university and it had almost never been checked out. Randomized Controlled Trials are very important for medical progress but very few

people ever move beyond the platitude of muttering 'RCTs are the gold standard'. This dense short book explains in detail why such a superficial view is damaging to understanding. Read this and you will know more about RCTs and medical research than most.

Randomized controlled trials are one of the most powerful and revolutionary tools of research. This book is a convenient and accessible description of the underlying principles and practice of randomized controlled trials and their role in clinical decision-making. Structured in a jargon-free question-and-answer format, each chapter provides concise and understandable information on a different aspect of randomized controlled trials, from the basics of trial design and terminology to the interpretation of results and their use in driving evidence-based medicine. The authors end each chapter with their musings, going beyond the evidence or citations, and sometimes even beyond orthodox correctness to share their thoughts and concerns about different aspects of randomized controlled trials, and their role within the health system. Updated to include insights from the last decade, this second edition challenges over-reliance on randomized controlled trials by debating their strengths and limitations and discussing their optimal use in modern healthcare. It also includes a new and increasingly relevant chapter on the ethics of randomized trials. World renowned writers and thinkers Drs Jadad and Enkin bring you this invaluable book for busy health professionals who wish to understand the theory of randomized controlled trials and their influence on clinical, research or policy decisions.

"This well written book is both concise and comprehensive. This is the sort of book that students will appreciate when they first learn about clinical trials the busy health professional will use as a quick reference guide the lay person will understand and the experienced investigator will benefit from because it will challenge and defy current paradigms." (HerbalGram, February 2009) "The most useful, important, relevant, thoughtful, and thought-provoking books about medical research hellip; .The readers of this new book may feel a little confused or tired or worried about aspects of clinical trials, but they are sure to find a great deal of help and support at the same time. Congratulationsdash;as alwaysdash;to Alejandro Jadad and the unstoppable Murray Enkin." (Birth, September 2008) From the Back Cover Randomized controlled trials are one of the most powerful and revolutionary tools of research. This book is a convenient and accessible description of the underlying principles and practice of randomized controlled trials and their role in clinical decision-making. Structured in a jargon-free question-and-answer format, each chapter provides concise and understandable information on a different aspect of randomized controlled trials, from the basics of trial design and terminology to the interpretation of results and their use in driving evidence-based medicine. The authors end each chapter with their musings, going beyond the evidence or citations, and sometimes even beyond orthodox correctness to share their thoughts and concerns about different aspects of randomized controlled trials, and their role within the health system. Updated to include insights from the last decade, this second edition challenges over-reliance on randomized controlled trials by debating their strengths and limitations and discussing their optimal use in modern healthcare. It also includes a new and increasingly relevant chapter on the ethics of randomized trials. World renowned writers and thinkers Drs Jadad and Enkin bring you this invaluable book for busy health professionals who wish to understand the theory of randomized controlled trials and their influence on clinical, research or policy decisions. About the Author The combined biography of Drs Jadad and Enkin: There is a 40-year difference in age between us and we come from vastly different backgrounds. Nevertheless, during more than a decade we have recognized the extent to which our paths and thinking have converged. We first noticed this in Oxford with our mutual interest in systematic reviews and confirmed it at McMaster University as we became painfully aware of the pitfalls of over reliance on quantitative evidence and its limited influence on health care. During the past 5 years, our focus has been more on the value of rhetoric, information and communication technologies, complex systems and the importance of effective communication in the health system. Over the years, we have grown together in our understanding, have worked together on a variety of projects, and mutually reinforced our views on clinical evidence. We are happy to share our expanding vision of randomized trials in this new edition of the book. Alejandro R Jadad MD, DPhil, FRCPC Alex Jadad's work helps improve health and wellness for all, through innovative uses of information and communication technologies. He is a physician, researcher, educator and public advocate. He obtained a doctoral degree from Oxford University for work on meta-analysis of clinical trials, and was the founding Director of the McMaster Evidence-based Practice Centre. He developed "The Jadad Scale" (the most widely used tool to assess clinical trial quality in the world); the Centre for Global eHealth Innovation; and a virtual platform for global collaboration, and to enable the public to shape the health system and society, worldwide. Murray W Enkin MD, FRCSC, FCOG, DSc. (hon), LLD (hon) Murray Enkin is Professor Emeritus, Departments of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, in the Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University. He has been a rural family doctor, obstetrician/gynecologist, and health care researcher, and is a co-author of three books, including *Effective Care in Pregnancy and Childbirth*, regarded as one of the most influential books in medicine and one of the foundational pillars of evidence-based decision-making. Dr. Enkin is concerned about the risks associated with over reliance on quantitative evidence and its influence on health care, a view shared by Dr.

Jadad.