

# PRAGMATIC RANDOMISED TRIALS WORKSHOPS



Presented by: Prof Merrick Zwarenstein



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**The WAHTN and the UWA School of Population and Global Health** invite you to attend one or both workshops being offered to expand your understanding of pragmatic trials.

These workshops focus on the concept of pragmatism in randomised controlled trials (RCTs), how this differs from explanatory trials and how to design and evaluate such pragmatic trials to maximise applicability in real-world practice settings.

**Workshops are designed for:** Researchers, clinical trials professionals, public health professionals, policy makes, statisticians, epidemiologists and clinicians who understand the basic theory or practice of RCT design.

## Biography



**Professor Merrick Zwarenstein** is an internationally-recognised primary care and health services researcher, who trained at the Karolinska Institute (Sweden), the London School of Hygiene (UK) and Witwatersrand University Medical School (South Africa). He has led international consortia enabling health services and policy researchers to focus on overcoming limitations with the use of randomised trials in support of policy decision making.

He has been the principal investigator for large multi-national randomised controlled trials with partners from over a dozen countries and has received funding through the European Union to promote the conduct and use of health systems research, especially pragmatic trials in healthcare decision making. He led the Canadian Health Services Research Network that developed a new guideline for the design of pragmatic trials, now forming part of the CONSORT statement.

Professor Zwarenstein has also developed advanced-level research methods short-courses focused on teaching the principles and application of Pragmatic Randomised Controlled Trials which he delivers around the world.

### WORKSHOP 1 (Introductory)

Title: **Introduction to Pragmatic Randomised Trials and the PRECIS 2 Tool**

Date: Monday 4 November 2019 (half-day)

Course pre-requisites: NONE

#### Subsidised Registration costs:

WAHTN Partners: \$100

Non-Partners: \$150

Students: \$85

### WORKSHOP 2 (3-day intensive short-course)

Title: **Designing Pragmatic RCTs**  
(limited places – see details overleaf)

Dates: Tues-Thurs 5-7 November 2019

Course prerequisites: understanding of basic theory or practice of RCTs

#### Subsidised Registration costs:

WAHTN Partners: \$400

Non-Partners: \$475

Students: \$325

**LOCATION:** Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research, 6 Verdun St, Nedlands WA

**REGISTER NOW:** <http://trybooking.com/BETSA>

## **STRUCTURE OF WORKSHOPS by Prof Merrick Zwarenstein**

The purpose of the workshops is to strengthen the randomised trial skills of the Western Australian research community

### **Workshop 1: Introduction to Pragmatic Randomised Trials and the PRECIS 2 Tool**

**Monday 4 November**

**Time:** 9am - 1pm (followed by lunch)

**Venue:** McCusker Auditorium, Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research

Provides an overview of a new approach to RCT thinking and an experience of appraising a RCT to assess its degree of pragmatism

**No course pre-requisites**

At the end of the workshop participants will be able to:

- Understand why pragmatic randomised trials are an important pillar of evaluating interventions for health;
- Understand the difference between internal and external validity;
- Use a new critical appraisal tool for trial design - PRECIS 2 tool

### **Workshop 2: Designing Pragmatic Randomised Controlled Trials: A Short-Course**

**Course pre-requisites:**

- understanding of basic theory or practice of randomised trial design;
- participants to bring an idea for a RCT they might wish to conduct/design now or in the future;
- teams are encouraged to attend.

**Style/size of participant group:** limited places; small group work.

**Venue:** Seminar Room G24, Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research (Nedlands)

**Time:** 9am – 4pm daily

**Tuesday 5 November (Day 1 of short-course)**

Topics: Introduction; The Research Question; Overview of evaluative research designs; Rationale for undertaking a Pragmatic RCT - internal and external validity

**Wednesday 6 November (Day 2 of short-course)**

Topics: Randomisation & Sample Size; Data Collection, Analysis & Interpretation  
Collecting data, understanding it and interpreting results - Primary, Secondary and Post-hoc Analyses

**Thursday 7 November (Day 3 of short-course)**

Topics: Ethics in Pragmatic Trials; Pragmatic Randomised Controlled Trials  
Complete Protocol exercise

Those enrolling in the 3-day short-course are encouraged to also attend the 1-day workshop, however, it is not a mandatory requirement for short-course enrolment.

**REGISTER NOW:** <http://trybooking.com/BETSA>

**Contact WAHTN:**

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<https://www.wahtn.org>