Reading Articles about Therapy: Goals

At the end of this session, participants should be able to:

1. Describe the different types of study designs that can be used to answer a question about therapy
2. Identify 5 questions to ask to appraise the validity of a therapy trial and explain the importance of each
3. Describe the difference between dichotomous and continuous outcomes and the different statistical methods used to demonstrate the impact of each
4. Describe the difference between a clinical outcome and a physiologic (surrogate) outcome
5. Calculate a relative risk, relative risk reduction (RRR), absolute risk reduction (ARR) and a number needed to treat (NNT) and describe the potential pitfalls of using a RRR.
6. Identify 2 questions to determine if you can apply results of a therapy trial to your patient