

## **Summary**

### **Tactic to Assess Critical Appraisal**

*Purpose:* This assessment method examined students' ability to detect research study flaws and then use this information in their responses to clinical problems.<sup>1</sup>

*Method:* First-year medical students participated in a course designed to teach critical appraisal skills. Over a 12 week period, students randomly received either "turkey" (modified) or "gold" (unchanged) journal articles for a total of six articles each. Various methodological flaws had been implanted into six "turkey" articles. A clinical problem was generated for each article. Prior to studying the article, students were asked to indicate the extent to which they agreed with suggested interventions for the problem, their responses were viewed as baseline knowledge of the clinical problem. After reading the articles, students were asked to identify flaws in the articles and to again indicate the extent to which they agreed with suggested interventions for the problem.

#### Reference

1. Neville AJ, Reiter HI, Eva KW, Norman GR. Critical appraisal turkey shoot: linking critical appraisal to clinical decision making. *Acad Med* 2000;75:S87-S89.