

### ***What do we mean by “Evidence Informed Practice”?***

There are many terms that are synonymous with **evidence informed practice**, including evidence based medicine, evidence based practice, and evidence informed decision making.

Through focus groups with students, faculty, administrators, and alumni of Northwestern, the term “evidence informed practice” was selected for most closely reflecting our **philosophy at Northwestern**:

*Evidence*: high quality research is the most reliable, least biased way of “knowing”

*Informed*: clinical decisions are rarely dictated by evidence; rather, evidence is a tool that can guide a clinician to better decision making

*Practice*: the art of clinical care is the skilled judgment of a clinician to consider a variety of factors when determining a patients’ course of care

Evidence informed practice is foundational to **sound judgment** in clinical decision making.