
Directed Study Definitions/Types

Literature Review - A literature review is a compilation and analysis of published literature from journals, books, and conference proceedings. Its purpose is to determine the state-of-the-art or the state-of-the-science in an area.

Case Study Involving Human Subjects - If the procedures performed on the subjects involve routine measurements and treatments typical for a patient presenting with the given diagnosis, and the patient is not required to do anything that departs from normal routines for this diagnosis (i.e., activities involved in the research are those that the patient and practitioner would normally be involved in anyway), and is not part of an experiment, then the Residency Directed Study might be considered a *Case Study*.

Scientific Study - A Residency Directed Study that involves the development and testing of a hypothesis is a *Scientific Study*. This includes any study in which one or more of the following criteria are met: 1.) two or more samples or subjects are compared; 2.) before-and-after data are compared (other than a case study); 3.) outcomes are defined by measures of the extent to which “success” or “failure” occur (other than a case study); 4.) data obtained from experiments are evaluated in some manner, including comparison to theoretical predictions; 5.) data are taken from patient files for purposes of analysis (other than a case study); 6.) a scientific theory is examined or proposed; or 7.) a survey is administered and the results reported. Studies in which it is *planned* in advance that subjects will receive treatments involving the use of two or more different components or designs for the purpose of evaluating or comparing the components or designs is a Scientific Study.

Scientific Study Supervised by a Qualified Research Organization - If a Resident is conducting the research project to fulfill requirements for a masters or doctorate degree, or is undertaking the research project as part of a research effort under the supervision of a university, teaching or research hospital, clinic, or other qualified organization, and the activity is subject to review by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) for human subjects, or a research advisory committee, then the study qualifies as a *Scientific Study Supervised by a Qualified Research Organization*. In such cases, the project usually will have a Principal Investigator, who may be the Resident or someone who supervises the research project being undertaken by the Resident.

Other Study - There are a number of research topics which do not fit clearly into the above categories. Examples are the development of patient information booklets, the design of patient assessment forms, and various kinds of business studies. These are collectively grouped under *Other Study*.

