REVIEW OF "HOW TO DO A RESEARCH PROJECT" BY THE SOCIETY FOR GYNECOLOGIC SURGEONS RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Reviewer 1

- "I reviewed about 60% of the online course. At first I thought there was a lot of information on the slides and a little hard to get through, but then as I continued to click through it, it became easier to read. Overall, I thought it was great and very informative. I wish it had more visual aids because it can get dry, but the information and examples are great. I enjoyed it and honestly think it would help me to really review the entire course before my oral boards (and not just skim through it like I did this morning). I think it would be helpful for the fellows, but they would need dedicated time to complete the module. Maybe on a research month? Overall I think it would be a valuable learning resource for fellows, especially in programs that do not have structured research lectures."

Reviewer 2

- "Overall, I think it would be an inexpensive way to get a practical review most appropriate for resident-level learning. However, it is not in a depth that fellows might need to pass, say, the oral exam later in their career or during a thesis defense."

Reviewer 3

Strengths

- Walks through in a very practical way, from study concept to manuscript writing

- Covers in more detail important topics that most "stats" courses blow over a bit, like the IRB application process, how data is collected and recorded, and how good surveys are designed

    o Even covers some technology and tools you can use in data collection, like REDCap and SurveyMonkey

- Modules are short and broken up well

- DEPTH of material seems most appropriate for residents and might teach fellows what they would need to pass written exam (not sure about oral exam)

    o Covers some very basic tests used for comparisons (ANOVA, t-test, chi-square)

    o Covers well the concept of incidence, prevalence, and difference between OR and RR

    o Covers well the concept of multiple comparisons, which many stats courses do not address

Limitations

- Slides are just slides (no sound or narration that I can see)

- Slides can come across as dry (simple colors, limited use of tables/pictures, with dry language)

- Bullets are quite long, and although the modules are quick there is a lot of "reading" per slide

- While the statistics portion was to the DEPTH of knowledge that is appropriate, it was not always presented in a very accessible or easy way.

  - Some book authors and lecturers manage to do this better (engaging audience, creating mnemonics, etc)

- Some concerns about depth of knowledge presented

  - There is not really much on psychometrics, although there is a basic module on how to design a good survey, and psychometrics is a huge part of becoming a good researcher in an elective surgery profession (MIGS, Urogyn)

  - Although a module discusses confounding, there isn't anything about types of tests that correct for confounding.

  - There is limited discussion of the concept of parametric and non-parametric data, and about what tests are used to handle each

  - There is no discussion of following one group over time, and tests that would be used for this (paired t-test, McNemar's, etc)