Critical Appraisal of the Spine Literature
11 January 2018, Toulouse, France
EVENT SUMMARY
The 2018 *Critical Appraisal of the Spine Literature* course took place in Toulouse, France on 11 January 2018. This is the third time that the course is organised in partnership with IFEC ([Institut Franco-Européen de Chiropraxie](#)) and hosted at the IFEC locale in Toulouse.

There were 15 participants of which 10 were faculty and students from IFEC Toulouse and France.

5 countries worldwide were represented: Germany (n=1), Switzerland (n=1), United Kingdom (n=1) and we had one participant from the Syrian Arab Republic, currently located in the United Arab Emirates. Most students came from France (n=11).

Specialties represented were clinician or student chiropractors (n=12), one of which also a veterinary chiropractor, a neurosurgeon, an orthopaedic spine surgeon and a representative from the implant industry.

The morning was dedicated to lectures delivered by world-class faculty and covering introduction to critical appraisal of the literature, randomised controlled trials and cohort studies.
Most of the afternoon was dedicated to workshops. Participants were divided in small working groups and were tasked to do a critical appraisal of an article, based on the recommendations, tips and tools they were given during the morning sessions.

Groups reconvened and debated their findings with the faculty.

When asked to comment on the course, a participant said “The speakers were very clear, the examples were appropriate and I feel like I come out of this course with a lot of tools to know if a study can be useful for me”

Once again, the coffee breaks were provided by the association Kheir d’Afrik, presided by Philippe Pretelat, chiropractor and IFEC Toulouse Care Centre Director. The aim of the association is to provide chiropractic care in regions where access to care is scarce. Although the association is still quite young, already 9 missions were carried out by 4 generations of IFEC students.

Our thanks to Kheir d’Afrik volunteers who treated us with their fresh, tasty home-made cakes and pastries!

We also wish to express our gratitude to our 3 faculty members for animating high quality interactive sessions throughout the course and the IFEC team for their unwavering help and professionalism in organising this course.

The next Critical Appraisal of the Spine Literature course will take place on 20 June during EUROSPINE Education Week 2018 in Strasbourg, France.