

## **VALIDITY THEORY FOR ASSESSMENT IN MEDICAL EDUCATION**

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### **Aim of the Workshop**

The aim of this workshop is to provide participants with the tools they will need to develop a structured validity argument for their assessments. Development of a validity argument requires constructing a chain of evidence leading from the collection of examinee performance data to the interpretations and decisions that are made based on the test results. The presenters will use the framework proposed by Michael Kane which draws attention to the important links in the chain of evidence but allows the specifics of the argument to vary with the assessment context.

### **Format and Framework of Presentations**

The presentations will provide a brief history of the theory and practice of establishing test validity and introduce the concept of validity as a structured argument. Examples across the continuum of medical education and across a range of assessment purposes will be considered; examples of assessment purposes include assessment of basic sciences for medical students, assessment of communication skills for residents, and assessment of professionalism in practicing physicians.

### **Format and Framework of Discussion**

The presenters will solicit examples of assessments that are of interest to audience members. Using group discussion, the presenters will guide participants through the process of planning and evaluating the validity argument for these examples. Examples will be selected to represent a range of assessment contexts.