

Business Knowledge Series' pharmaceutical and healthcare courses deliver top-notch training

Program taps top healthcare experts to deliver topics of importance in the industry

Unlike other SAS training courses, where SAS software takes center stage, [Business Knowledge Series \(BKS\)](#) courses are unique, taking a big-picture approach. Using industry experts to share the latest business theory, methodology and best practices in a given field, the program boasts three pharmaceutical or healthcare courses that have proven to be a tremendous boon for professionals in the healthcare field.

"Thousands of SAS users work in the healthcare industry," said Herbert Kirk, vice president of SAS Education, "and there are few industries that need continuing education as consistently as they do. Our BKS healthcare curriculum taps into top thought leaders and visionaries in the field and delivers to our users the latest training on issues such as compliance and data management, critical issues that all healthcare organizations must contemplate."

Currently, the BKS program offers more than 15 regularly scheduled courses, with three that specifically address the pharmaceutical and healthcare fields: [Risk-Based Approach to Computer Compliance Focusing on Clinical Trials](#); [Healthcare Data and the SAS System](#); and the new course, [Error Proofing Healthcare](#).

Risk-Based Approach to Computer Compliance Focusing on Clinical Trials

For pharmaceutical companies, few tasks are more important than clinical trials. But one vital component of clinical trials – computer compliance – is often overlooked. SAS Education, in collaboration with [SEC Associates Inc.](#), addresses this crucial issue with this course.

As a leading provider of computer validation and compliance consulting for the regulated industries, SEC is the natural partner for developing a course to help companies analyze and prioritize computer systems used for their clinical trials.

"The development of this new course demonstrates SAS' continued commitment to providing the most up-to-date information and services to the pharmaceutical industry," said Kirk. "Our partnership with SEC allows companies to stay current with the ever-changing regulations in the field by ensuring their computer-related systems are in compliance."

The course demonstrates the processes and mechanisms that help organizations determine the extent of validation and system controls needed for regulatory compliance. Instructors [Keith Benze and Lisa Olson](#) of SEC emphasize understanding the regulations and applying risk factors to system implementation activities.

Healthcare Data and the SAS System

Data is perhaps the healthcare industry's greatest asset, but it can also be complex and tedious to use. This course serves as an introduction to the SAS System's capabilities to manage administrative healthcare data collected during the course of healthcare delivery. Presented by either [Marge Scerbo or Craig Dickstein](#), authors of a book with the same title as this course, this course focuses on the benefits

of using SAS software. It also teaches students how to understand the different types and uses of administrative healthcare data, reviews medical coding structures and provides strategies for combating the problems caused by complex data.

“This course provided a good overview of healthcare data, starting with the source forms that claim data arises from,” said Martin Porter, senior associate at HDMS Inc. “It gave good background information for someone new to the topic, backed up with examples that displayed the relative ease of implementing SAS solutions.”

Error Proofing Healthcare

The newest course in the program’s pharmaceutical and healthcare curriculum, this course helps students complete a Healthcare Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (HFMEA) that is specific to their organizations and to error-proof the failure modes that are specific to the proposed HFMEA.

The error-proofing model presented in this course comes from 20 years of experience in the Japanese healthcare industry. Presented by [Susan R. McLean](#), MSN RN, SRM Healthcare Solutions, the model is now being successfully implemented by American healthcare organizations.

“This course allows you to eliminate human error by changing your ‘work operations’ to fit human behavior,” said Prof. Takshi Nakajo, Chuo University, Tokyo. “Many organizations have already achieved sustainable results!”

Learn more about the [Business Knowledge Series](#) or any of these courses.