

Purpose

The purpose of a journal club is to combine research and clinical practice through critical review of medical literature. Furthermore, it is a means to apply evidence based medicine to clinical questions and helps to develop critical appraisal skills. It may also serve as a forum to generate additional publications through opportunities such as further research or letters to the editor.

Format

1. Introduction
 - a. Explain the clinical question that may have influenced the article chosen. Sometimes, the article may have been pre-selected by faculty.
 - b. Who wrote the paper? Conflicts of interest?
 - c. Who funded the study?
2. Hypothesis and PICO
 - a. What is the research question?
 - b. PICO
 - i. Population
 - ii. Intervention
 - iii. Control
 - iv. Outcome
3. Study Design
 - a. Is the study design appropriate for the question asked and subject under investigation?
 - b. What type of study?
 - i. Randomized controlled trial, case control, met-analysis, etc
 - c. Can results be translated to the general population?
 - d. If applicable, how are the participants randomized?
 - e. How has bias been addressed?
 - f. Is the inclusion and exclusion criteria clearly defined?
 - g. Was follow up complete and consistent and were outcome measures appropriate?
 - h. Is the study sufficiently powered?
4. Results
 - a. Statistical significance
 - b. Do the graphs clearly represent the data in the text
5. Discussion and Interpretation
 - a. What are the strengths and weakness of the study?
 - b. What is the clinical significance?
 - c. What are the limitations of the study?
6. Clinical Context
 - a. How might it change your practice?

Requirements

JOURNAL CLUB

1. A formal powerpoint presentation is not required but may be useful to highlight some key points of discussion (tables, graphs, summary, etc).
2. Please ensure all attendees have a copy of the article. Sending an electronic version by email or having printed copies available on the day of presentation is acceptable.