

Orthopaedic Journal Club - Goals and Objectives

1. Stimulate residents to read the current literature

- a. Foster good reading habits
- b. Identify the best sources for reading
- c. Identify knowledge gaps
- d. Learn how to search the literature to identify the latest information

2. Increase resident knowledge of study design and statistics:

- a. Understand different types of studies
- b. Learn to identify questions and pose hypothesis
- c. Critically analyze the methods and results of studies
- d. Understand enough basic statistics to critically read the literature
- e. Identify study strengths and weaknesses

3. Ensure residents understand the hierarchy of evidence:

- a. Understand the concept of levels of evidence and distinguish between them
- b. Learn how evidence can be synthesized using systematic reviews, meta-analysis and guidelines
- c. Learn how evidence must be combined with clinical experience and patient preferences to optimally treat patients

4. Encourage residents to incorporate new knowledge and evidence into practice:

- a. Know the current literature
- b. Search the literature to answer specific patient care questions
- c. Use the best evidence to guide patient care decisions
- d. Learn how and when to use evidence to change practice

5. Use a simple self-assessment tool that will increase the visibility of journal club as a learning activity, identify resident progress in achieving these goals and objectives through an academic year and throughout their years in residency, and demonstrate resident competence at the end of training in these areas of practice based learning.

Journal Club Practice Based Learning Competency Self-Assessment Tool

Resident: _____
PGY level: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Residents should self-assess their familiarity on a scale of 1-5 in each of the categories with the journal club concepts.

Reads the current literature

Includes some or all of the following: reads journals, identifies knowledge gaps and searches the literature to fill them, reads to stay abreast of new knowledge.

1. None – does not read or reads only textbooks, reviews or synthesized information
2.
3. Reads current literature but sporadic not consistent
4.
5. Reads in a disciplined fashion as a routine, searches the literature to identify new information, identifies and fills knowledge gaps with the best information

Knowledge of study design and statistics

Includes some or all of the following: study design and methodology, posing questions and hypothesis, analysis of methods and results, statistics, identifying study weaknesses and strengths.

1. None – does not understand the basics of scientific studies
2.
3. Understands the basics but has difficulty applying it to specific studies
4.
5. Understands and applies the concepts. At the level of a skilled reviewer for a major journal

Hierarchy of evidence

Includes some or all of the following: levels of evidence, reviews of evidence, meta-analysis, guidelines.

1. Not familiar with this term
2.
3. Familiar but uncertain of definitions
4.
5. Knows the terms and concepts and how to incorporate the best evidence with clinical judgment and patient preferences

Incorporates new knowledge and evidence into practice

Includes some or all of the following in patient care decisions: knowledge of current literature, literature searches on specific patient care questions, the best evidence from the literature, changes practice based on new evidence.

1. Never
2.
3. Considers this but seldom follows through
4.
5. Regularly uses the literature and searches for new knowledge to improve patient care