

LPOCH Resident Journal Club Guidelines

Objectives for this educational experience

1. Understand the key components of a successful journal club presentation.
2. Model how to use the evidence based approach to formulate a clinical question and identify an applicable journal article to answer the question
3. Facilitate a discussion of the critical appraisal of a journal article.
4. To facilitate a discussion regarding the impact of the journal article on your clinical practice (i.e. Does the article change your practice and if so how?)

Structure

- During the first week of your teaching senior rotation identify several clinical question you have encountered in residency and choose one to answer.
- Identify a relevant journal article to answer the question.
 - Much of the pediatric literature is not randomized controlled trials, it is ok and often more educational to present a well-designed prospective or retrospective observational study.
 - **Consider meeting with Clinical Librarian- Nicole Capdaret-Arest (nicoleca@stanford.edu)** who can assist with the literature search.
- Use a critical appraisal tool assess the article
 - Identify the hypothesis/question posed by the study, sample size, independent and dependent variables, confounding, etc.
 - Identify components of the methods that allow/prevent bias.
 - “The Users’ Guide to the Medical Literature” and other resources that describe how to analyze various types of articles.
- **Consider meeting with relevant expert clinician who may have additional insights on the topic and/or invite him/her to the journal club** (for example, if you are presenting an article on TB screening, involve an ID doctor).
- **Consider meeting with Dr. Jenny Frankovich (jfranko@stanford.edu) to discuss methods/analysis/statistics and further explore potential confounding/biases.**
- One week ahead of time, please email your article(s) to your co-residents, the chief residents, and Becky Blankenburg.

Presentation

- Start with the case (or similar case) that led to the clinical question
- Describe your literature search and why you thought your article provided the best evidence to answer the clinical question
 - i.e. it was the only RTC/prospective study, it was the largest study, it was the most recent study, etc
- Provide useful background on the topic
 - What was already known on the topic, what controversy does the study hope to resolve
- Facilitate discussion of the article itself
 - You can present the article in the same order as the critical appraisal worksheets
 - Hypothesis => Methods => Results => Critiques
- Facilitate discussion of when/how the evidence should be applied to our patients

Feedback

- Meet with Chief resident to receive feedback.
- Self-reflect, analyze, and improve one’s own abilities to lead successful journal clubs in the future.