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| journal club guide |

### Guidelines

Journal Club is held every 2 months during registrar teaching. Three registrars are required to present an original research article each session according to the Critical Appraisal Worksheets. (Articles will usually be therapy, diagnosis, decision rule or overview, but others are possible.)

#### Email the Worksheet to the Journal Club moderator one week before JC

The moderator will guide the presenter on any outstanding issues or questions. The four types of worksheets:

1. Therapy: intervention studies or randomised clinical trials of a new treatment compared to a control to determine effectiveness
2. Diagnosis: a test or clinical findings are compared to a reference (gold) standard to determine accuracy
3. Decision rule: a decision rule is derived or validated to help guide investigative or management pathways
4. Overview – a formal review or meta-analysis of a series of studies, either therapy or diagnosis

#### Lead a 20-minute presentation and discussion at JC

1. **Provide a 60-second summary of the study** (1 minute) – at most 4 sentences: (1) background and objectives; (2) methods; (3) results; (4) conclusions. Keep it brief, everyone should have read the papers in advance
2. Give your scores out of 5 for methodology and for usefulness (30 seconds) – do this before your appraisal to give the audience a sense of where you are headed
3. Comprehensive review of critical appraisal worksheet (9 minutes) – do each question, and in order.
4. Ask specific senior registrars some of the appraisal questions – stick to the standard appraisal questions
5. Summarize the key relevant papers (5 minutes) – cite by author, date and journal; discuss how the JC paper fits into the context of existing papers; be a mini-expert on the topic

#### Provide moderator with the Bottom Line summary one day after the JC

2 scores out of 5, plus 2 sentences:

* 1st sentence identifies how the study was done and what it found
* 2nd sentence summarises the group’s take on the methodology and usefulness

