

## JOURNAL CLUB

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### INTRODUCTION

Literally a journal club is defined as “A group of individuals who meet regularly to critically evaluate recent articles in the academic literature, generally of some branch of science or philosophy. Journal clubs are usually organized around a defined subject in basic or applied research.”[1]

Individuals actively involved in medical education consider journal clubs vital in bridging the gap between medical education and clinical practice.[2] According to Eugene Lloyd, of Bristol University, “Journal clubs are a good way of introducing students to science as a dynamic experimental subject and to illustrate scientific reasoning.” They encourage students to evaluate experimental evidence instead of simply reproducing facts described in didactic lectures.

Having said that a journal club should not necessarily be a closed room discussion rather it can be discussed over a variety of platforms. A good medical magazine or journal could be one of them. Nowadays a new concept called “virtual journal club” has been in the talk which is a nice approach to expand our practice of evidence based medicine. Critical appraisal of any research article and to use the derived knowledge in day to day practice is the main motto.

Journal clubs are also an accessible way of supporting lifelong learning for medicos. They help us to keep up to date with relevant literature and give us the

confidence to formulate our own opinion on topics through critical analysis of the literature. Discussions and questions that may arise as a result can help us to understand scientific concepts and relate them to clinical practice, both essential to optimize patient care.

In a nutshell a journal club is needed to get the following points fulfilled:

- Learn about our own field
- Keep abreast of new developments in that particular field
- Foster informal discussion and interaction
- Help students develop presentation skills

This section is being dedicated to provide some evidence based medical knowledge to the emergency medicine people so that they can use that knowledge in their day to day life thus helping them to increase their clinical acumen. I hope readers enjoy this section.

### REFERENCES

1. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Journal\\_club](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Journal_club)
2. Kleinpell RM. Rediscovering the value of the journal club. *Am J Crit Care*. 2002; 11: 42.