

# *JOURNAL CLUB RULES*

The Journal Club has several aims. One is to foster comfort and familiarity with critical reading of the psychiatric literature. Another is to discuss elements of research methodology (study design, statistical analysis, etc.) so that research findings can be better understood and put in clinical perspective. A final aim is to keep abreast of recent findings in the literature and to promote ongoing reading after residency completion.

To make the Journal Club experience most useful, a few rules should be observed.

- 1) The process of article selection should begin well before your scheduled presentation date. This will give you time to make a good choice.
- 2) Try and pick an article that interests you personally.
- 3) More recent articles, published in the last 4-5 years, are preferred. Try for shorter articles as they are more likely to be read by your busy colleagues.
- 4) Articles with clinical significance are preferred.
- 5) Preference should be given to data papers in peer reviewed Journals. Review papers, and basic science papers are often appropriate. If you are thinking of the latter please discuss with Dr. Lyketsos. Occasionally, you may wish to select a primary paper to present and also distribute related papers, reviews, or a short reference list.
- 6) In general, it is a good idea to discuss your options with Dr. Lyketsos, although this is not required. He is best reached by email ([kostas@jhmi.edu](mailto:kostas@jhmi.edu)).
- 7) Once you have chosen an article, place a copy in the mailbox of every resident at least **1 WEEK** before you are expected to present. Indicate your name and Journal Club date on the top. Be sure to provide copies to Drs. Lyketsos, Chisolm, and Lee by email. And, also to Dr. Swartz in her office.
- 8) When presenting the article, avoid going through it part by part simply reiterating what is in it. Rather try and summarize it around a coherent outline. Attached is a sample outline that you are asked to use to present your paper.

PLEASE remember: keeping up with the literature will be a critical aspect of your career. There is always something new to learn as the evidence base of our field is growing more rapidly than you realize. As a resident it is important that you develop a high degree of comfort with keeping up, reading and interpreting the literature.

# *ARTICLE SUMMARY*

Study aims and hypotheses:

Study type:

Study population:

Study group (by exposure, disease status, or treatment):

Comparison group (unexposed, comparison, or untreated):

Primary outcome variable:

Other outcome variables:

Co-variates, and control variables:

Data analyses:

Results:

Limitations and biases:

Conclusions and future directions: