

Participant information

Ahead of each session, you will receive the selected article along with the appropriate reporting guideline at least one week in advance. Each journal club is expected to last for three hours, including two small breaks. For those who are presenting, additional guidance is included later in this document.

The program for those participating, but not presenting:

Please conduct a critical reading of the article, identifying strengths and limitations, and noting the alignment with the reporting guideline. Complete the guideline's checklist, making note of where each point is addressed in the article. During the Journal Club, the presenting participants will provide a comprehensive overview of the article. This will include a brief summary, a discussion on strengths and limitations, a bias assessment, and an evaluation against the reporting guideline checklist. Active participation and engagement in the discussions are expected and encouraged. Please allow around four hours for preparing this process and remember to allot more time initially while you become familiar with the procedure.

The program for those who are presenting the article:

There will be two participants responsible for each presentation and you should work in pairs. As a presenter, you will be responsible for selecting a relevant article in the field of abdominal surgery and the corresponding reporting guideline. A week prior to the journal club, ensure that you have chosen a suitable article and the relevant reporting guideline, and share them with your fellow participants. Additionally, you will create a presentation on the article and facilitate discussions during the journal club under the guidance of a senior researcher. In the presentation's first part, you will review the article. In the second, you will lead a group discussion on the reporting guideline, with each participant addressing a point in turn. Your preparation should include the creation of a PowerPoint presentation encompassing:

- A summary of the article
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the methods (especially those not mentioned in the article)
- Critically analyze the work including methodology, validity, bias, etc.
- Evaluate the use of typical surgical outcome measures such as death, recurrence, reoperation, complications, quality of life, Carolina comfort scale, various pain scales, Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROM), etc.
- Conduct bias assessments with a relevant bias assessment tool (e.g. ROB-2, ROBINS-I, or the Newcastle Ottawa Scale)
- Discuss the importance of the work, why it is important (or not)
- Go through the relevant reporting guideline point by point to assess whether the article has included each point. This part of the presentation is a joint review of the reporting guideline and article, where all the other participants, in turn, should address one of the points.

Consider your presentation as an opportunity to practice teaching and presenting skills, and actively invite participant engagement in the discussions. This preparation process is expected to take approximately 15 hours, but it may take longer the first time.

If you have any questions, if something is difficult to understand, or you need guidance, please contact either Hugin Reistrup or Jason Joe Baker, who are senior researchers at the research unit.

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Jason Joe Baker, MD, PhD, PostDoc
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Course description

Journal Club in Abdominal Surgery

Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences

Place:	Center for Perioperative Optimization, Department of Surgery, Herlev Hospital, Borgmester Ib Juuls Vej 1, 2730 Herlev
Start date:	February and August
Scheme group note:	Last Thursday of the month at 09:00 AM-12:00 PM (including 2 x 15-minute breaks). Changes may occur.
Number of days	8 days with Journal Club meetings and 4 days of group work
ECTS	5.4 (estimation based on the PhD school's Calculation of ECTS for PhD courses)
Contact person:	Jacob Rosenberg, MD, professor Email address: jacob.rosenberg@regionh.dk
Enrolment Handling/Course Organizer:	Jason Joe Baker, MD, postdoc Email address: Jason.joe.baker@regionh.dk
Announcement:	https://www.herlevhospital.dk/afdelinger-og-klinikker/Afdeling-for-Mave-Tarm-og-Leversygdomme/forskning/Sider/Center-for-Perioperativ-Optimering.aspx
Written language:	Danish or English
Teaching language:	Danish or English
Grading scale:	Passed / Not passed
Schedule:	A student should participate in 8 Journal Clubs of 3 hours each and make a minimum of 2 presentations which each includes 2 days of group work. Excused absences are allowed for 1 Journal Club in case of illness or unforeseen events.
Criteria for exam assessment:	In order to pass, the participant needs to select, read, understand, and present relevant literature within the field of abdominal surgery and the relevant reporting guideline. The participant must also actively engage in the scientific discussions of the presented papers and conduct two presentations.

Course workload:	<u>Course workload category</u>	<u>Hours</u>
	Journal club meetings:	24.00
	Group work:	30.00
	<u>Other preparation:</u>	<u>24.00</u>
	<u>Sum:</u>	<u>78.00</u>

Aim and content

This journal club is suited for PhD students who are conducting research within abdominal surgery. The main purpose of the journal club is to learn how to use and gain knowledge of the different studies' reporting guidelines, and also to keep up to date with scientific literature and recent advances within the community. In addition to this, students will also learn to read, analyze, evaluate, present, and discuss the science.

Formal requirements

There is no formal requirement for participating in the course.

Learning outcomes

A student who has met the objectives of the course will be able to:

- Find relevant scientific literature
- Read a scientific article
- Critically analyze the article such as methodology, validity, and bias
- Evaluate strengths and weaknesses of the methods
- Conduct bias assessments, such as with ROB-2 or Newcastle Ottawa Scale
- Summarize an article
- Present an article
- Discuss the importance of the work
- Engage in scientific and group discussion
- Relate the work to their own research
- Evaluate the use of typical surgical outcome measures such as death, recurrence, reoperation, complications, quality of life, Carolina comfort scale, various pain scales, Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROM), etc.
- Discuss the importance of research in this field for clinical practice and public health
- Use reporting guidelines within various study types. It is expected that the student will be familiar with at least six different study designs and reporting guidelines, such as CONSORT, PRISMA, CARE, RECORD, STROBE, COREQ, STARD, SQUIRE, SPIRIT, etc.

Literature

The teaching material consists of relevant literature that is typically published recently in international journals and the relevant reporting guidelines for the specific study types. The teaching material is distributed to all members of the course one week prior to the presentation and discussion.

Target group

PhD students within the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences.

Teaching and learning methods

For each journal club, the participant will receive a new scientific research article on abdominal surgery, the reporting guideline for the type of study, and standard documents of what to prepare. The participants are required to critically read the article, evaluate strengths and limitations, and compare it to the reporting guidelines checklist, point by point. All participants will be required to prepare this. However, the participants will take turns presenting the study and leading the journal club under the supervision of a senior researcher. The presenting participants are also required to find the article, relevant reporting guideline, and bias assessment for the type of study. The presenting participants will be required to create a PowerPoint presentation presenting the study, evaluate outcome measures, strengths and limitations, conduct a bias assessment, and evaluate the study according to the relevant reporting guideline. The presenting participants will lead the discussion in the journal club and ensure that all course participants are included in the discussion.

Remarks

To pass the course, the student must follow the course for at least one year. Every six months, there are four journal clubs.