[Title]

Journal Club – [Date]

Goals of Journal Club

- Practice reading research articles via a systematic approach
- Recognize strengths and weaknesses of research designs
- Recognize forms of bias within scientific inquiries
- Review statistical terms and their clinical application
- Apply research to clinical practice

How It Works

Read the journal article before didactics.

2: Choose a popsicle stick.

Answer discussion questions as your popsicle stick color is called.

Answer ABFM National Journal Club questions for KSA credit (recommended)

eF's g ARTED



1. INTRODUCTION

Read the title aloud.

Name the author.

Name the institution(s).

How was the study funded?

Are there conflicts of interest?



2. PRIMARY QUESTION

What is the question this study was designed to answer?

Were there any other clinical questions they were curious about?

Why is this important?



3. DESIGN

What is the design of the study? Was it blinded?

Review

[Experimental Design]

[include visual representation of design here]

Examples of Experimental Designs:

- Randomized control trial
- Systematic review
- Meta-analysis
- Network meta-analysis
- Cohort Study
- Case-Controlled Study
- Cross-Sectional Study
- Case Report

[Explanation of experimental design]

Pros:

- [advantage]
- [advantage]

Cons:

- [disadvantage]
- [disadvantage]

[include reference link]



TRUTH OR DARE



4. SUBJECTS

Who was in the study?
Who was included or excluded?
How many subjects were there?
How many excluded?

Does the selection of subjects suggest that the results will be generalizable to other patients?



5. INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

What treatment/experimental groups were there?



6. OUTCOME VARIABLES / DEPENDENT VARIABLES

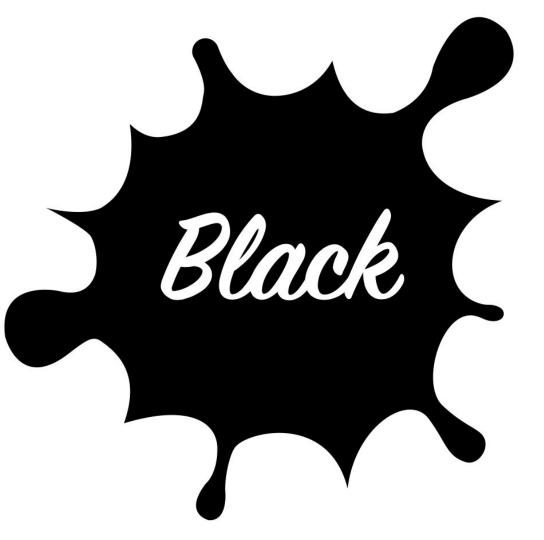
What was the study designed to measure? What outcomes were they looking for?

What are the clinically significant phenomena the investigators are trying to predict/prevent/treat (ie presence/absence of disease, measure of symptom burden, survival time)? Are these disease-oriented or patient-oriented?

How are these variables measured? What units did they use to measure? (ie subjective scale, clinician judging clinical improvement, objective criteria)



TRUTH OR DARE



7. RESULTS

What were the results/outcomes?

Were they statistically significant?

What tables/graphs did they use to demonstrate results?

What statistics did they use to analyze data?

Review

[statistics concept]

[description/explanation]

Benefits:

- [list of advantages, use]

Examples of statistics concepts:

- Odds ratio
- Intention to treat
- Specificity
- Sensitivity
- Confidence intervals
- Statistical significance

[explanation of how this statistics principle applies to the chosen journal article]

and/or

[visual representation]

[reference]



8. CONCLUSIONS

What do the authors think the results mean?

How did they interpret the results?



9. VALIDITY

Identify any biases or flaws. How significant are they?

Are the results statistically significant?

Are the results clinically significant?

Types of Bias

Selection Bias	Classification Bias	Confounding Bias	Lead Time Bias	Publication Bias	Recall Bias
the study population does not reflect a representative sample of the target population external validity is questionable Minimized by proper randomization	results from improper, inadequate, or ambiguous recording of individual factors—either exposure or outcome variables blinding prevents differential classification bias Major risk in observational studies	spurious association made between the outcome and a factor that is not itself causally related to the outcome, and occurs if the factor is associated with a range of other characteristics that do increase the outcome risk	related to a study assessing the impact of a screening test on survival	studies with significant results are more easily published than those with negative (ie, nonsignificant) findings	increased likelihood that those with the outcome will recall and report exposures compared to those without the outcome



TRUTH OR DARE



10. SUMMARY

Summarize the study question and significance in 2 sentences.



11. CLINICAL RELEVANCE

Does this study change your clinical practice?
Did you learn anything new?

Can you extrapolate the findings to our patients at Firelands Health or Family Health Services?



12. THINKING FORWARD

What studies might follow this?

What clinical questions remain?





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Question 1 of 4

Q: [insert ABFM question #1]

A:

B:

C:

Question 2 of 4

Q: [insert ABFM question #2]

A:

B:

C:

Question 3 of 4

Q: [insert ABFM question #3]

A:

B:

C:

Question 4 of 4

Q: [insert ABFM question #4]

A:

B:

C: