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Value and Ongoing Quality Improvement of the Journal Club in IM Residency

Kang Zhang, MD | Cody Howdeshell, MD

¹Providence Internal Medicine Residency

Purpose/Background

- Assess the value of the Internal Medicine Residency Journal Club per peer opinion
- Identify areas of improvement
- Implement changes based on response

The Journal Club at Internal Medicine Residency Spokane was restructured during the academic year 2021-2022.

Restructured curriculum

- Resident and faculty each present a pre-appraised journal article from High Impact Journals. (examples below)
 - New England Journal of Medicine
 - Annals of Internal Medicine
 - Journal of Hospital Medicine
- Faculty present a core "evidence-based medicine" concept
 24 core-concepts are presented over 2-years (examples below)
 - Confidence Intervals
 - ROC/AUC/Cohen's Kappa
 - Composite Outcome/Subgroup Analysis

Sample Monthly Schedule

Date	Resident Presenter	Faculty Presenter	EBM Pearl
November	ADVOR	EMPA-	Stewart
20, 2022	(NEJM)	KIDNEY	Power /
		(NEJM)	Type II Error

Results

Data was collected by a survey with 57% response rate.

Using a Likert scale from 1-5 to assess the value of different categories (1 = least helpful and 5 = most helpful)

The consensus regarding the continuation of the Journal Club was a resounding "yes." 82.35%

Results (Cont.)

The presentation of the journal article presented by residents and faculty was found to be helpful. Average: 3.94.

Evidence-Based Medicine pearl was found to be helpful. Average: 4.23.

Suggested Areas of Improvement:

The most common themes for improvement were the following

- 1. Continue to focus on pertinent studies that would be practice-changing.
- 2. More resident participation

Conclusions

Residents responded favorably to the new journal club format 3.94 (Likert Scale 1-5). This may be due to the emphasis on presentation of already critical-appraised articles without having to interpret the intricacy of data analysis that can be intimidating.

Additionally, residents appreciated the faculty presentation along with EBM Pearls.

Finally, residents continue to voice the need for clinically relevant / practice changing journals in internal medicine that will be further implemented.

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