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**BLACK RAVEN  
JOURNAL CLUB**

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# About us

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The Black Raven Journal Club is an engaging and intellectually stimulating forum, created with the aim of fostering rigorous discussions and critical analysis of scientific papers. This academic initiative serves as a platform for students, researchers, and faculty members to come together and explore the latest developments in various fields of medicinal sciences.

The name "Black Raven Journal Club" was carefully chosen to reflect the club's commitment to delving into the depths of knowledge, much like the raven's reputation for intelligence. The symbolism of the black raven represents the quest for wisdom and the exploration of uncharted territories in science.

The Black Raven Journal Club was conceptualised by Dr. Mehul Hitesh Sadadiwala and founded by Fathmath Shajaa Jihaad, Poorna Gayan Wattaladeniya & Dr. Grishma Rajendrakumar Patel

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### **Diverse Membership:**

The club prides itself on its diverse membership, encompassing students from various academic disciplines, faculty members from different departments, and even external experts in specialized fields. This diversity ensures a wide spectrum of perspectives during discussions.

### **Monthly Meetings:**

The club gathers monthly, providing ample time for participants to delve into a selected scientific paper. Each meeting is an intellectually stimulating experience where members engage in thought-provoking discussions, dissecting the research methodology, results, and implications of the chosen paper.

### **Paper Selection:**

The selection of papers is a meticulous process, undertaken by the club's organizing committee. Papers chosen for discussion are not limited to a particular field but span across the entire spectrum of scientific disciplines, ensuring that members are exposed to a wide range of topics.

### **Inclusive Environment:**

The Black Raven Journal Club fosters an inclusive and respectful environment, where every member's viewpoint is valued. Participants are encouraged to ask questions, challenge assumptions, and provide constructive feedback, thereby promoting a culture of intellectual curiosity and growth.

### **Expert Guest Speakers:**

Occasionally, the club invites guest speakers who are experts in their respective fields to present and discuss their research. These sessions provide members with the unique opportunity to interact directly with renowned scientists and gain insights into cutting-edge research.

### **Critical Analysis:**

A hallmark of the club's discussions is the critical analysis of scientific papers. Members are encouraged to assess the validity of research methods, scrutinize statistical analyses, and evaluate the impact and relevance of the findings.



## **Networking Opportunities:**

Beyond academic enrichment, the Black Raven Journal Club also offers valuable networking opportunities. Participants have the chance to connect with peers who share their passion for scientific exploration, potentially leading to collaborations on research projects.

## **Online Presence:**

To enhance accessibility and reach, the club maintains an online presence through a dedicated website and social media platforms. This allows interested individuals to stay updated on upcoming meetings, access resources, and engage in discussions remotely.

## **Contribution to Scientific Advancement:**

Ultimately, the Black Raven Journal Club plays a significant role in contributing to the university's academic environment by fostering a culture of scientific inquiry, critical thinking, and knowledge dissemination.

*In summary, the Black Raven Journal Club stands as a beacon of intellectual curiosity and scholarly engagement within our university. It serves as a testament to the institution's commitment to nurturing a vibrant academic community that continually seeks to expand the boundaries of knowledge through rigorous analysis and discussion of scientific research.*





## Journal club

- It is a vital and core activity of any Research / Academic institution.
- Scholars gather to discuss critically evaluate the contents of a scientific/ research articles published in a journal Journal club held once in a week

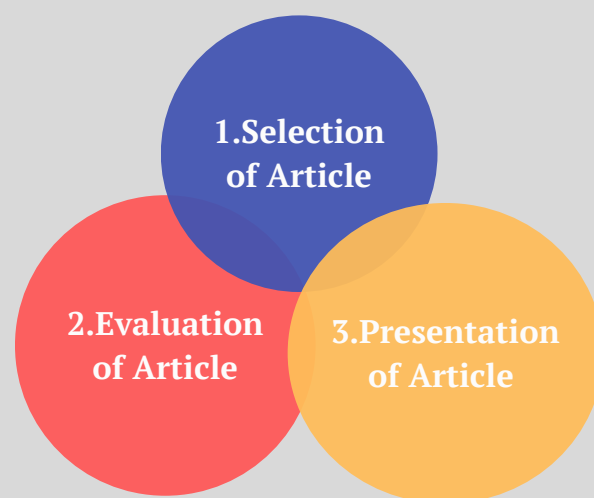
## Goals

- Keeping up-to-date with literature & promoting evidence-based practice
- Teaching research methodology, clinical epidemiology, and statistics
- Providing opportunities for training in clinical decision making/gaining critical appraisal skills.
- Informing guidelines development
- Fulfilling a social role of having regular contacts with colleagues and have social interaction

## Aim of Journal Club

- To improve the knowledge of research methodology & biostatistics
- To provide improvement for clinical practice by latest research findings
- To develop abilities to critically analyze the research article.
- Help people to learn and improve their critical appraisal skills
- Stimulate debate, and improve understanding of current topics
- Encourage use of research & promote social contact
- Encourage evidence based medicinal product
- Provide continuing medical education
- Promote awareness of research skills
- How to publish the research article
- Keep abreast with new literature

## Guidelines



# 1. Selection of Article

- The article ought to present genuine clinical research, regardless of the outcome.
- Generally, articles that include editorial comments from esteemed research institutions or are authored by respected individuals merit consideration.
- It is advisable to refrain from including review articles, retrospective studies, and articles sponsored by the industry.
- Ideally, the journal should possess an impact factor, be subjected to peer review, and be indexed with both national and global reach.
- Authorization from the faculty is required.



# 2. Evaluation of the Article

- TITLE OF THE ARTICLE
- AUTHORS AND FUNDING
- SOURCE SHORT PREAMBLE ABOUT JOURNAL SELECTED
- ABSTRACT & KEY WORDS
- INTRODUCTION
- MATERIAL AND METHODS
- RESULTS
- DISCUSSION
- CONCLUSION
- REFERENCES



## 3. Presentation of Article

### 3.1 TITLE OF THE ARTICLE

- Simple and concise
- Variables to be specific
- Should contain independent and dependent variable
- May also reflect study design

### 3.2 AUTHORS AND FUNDING SOURCE

- Who are the authors? Are you acquainted with any of their previous scholarly contributions? Has their work consistently demonstrated reliability?
- The Institution/Organization to which the authors are affiliated and their respective professional titles, their contact number, and email address ought to be indicated.
- By whom was the study financed? This imparts initial insight into discerning the various predispositions to be vigilant for.

### 3.3 SHORT INTRODUCTION ABOUT JOURNAL SELECTED

- Organization of which institution
- Impact factor : if any
- Peer reviewed or not
- Indexed or not
- National/International

### Impact factor

- The JOURNAL CITATION REPORTS (JCR) furnishes a quantitative instrument for the purpose of ranking, evaluating, and categorizing various journals. The JCR impact factor, which is calculated yearly, is a proportion between the number of citations and the recent citable items publications.

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### 3.4 ABSTRACT & KEY WORDS

#### ABSTRACT

- The condensed version of the entire article, which includes the research design, objective, methodology, result, and conclusion, should be formatted in accordance with the guidelines provided by the journal.

#### KEY WORDS:

- As per the guidelines established by the journal, the majority of the content is derived from the title, thereby facilitating a simplified process of locating article.

### 3.5 INTRODUCTION

The following is a general introduction and context for the article, which includes :

- The research question is clearly presented, and the objective or purpose of the study is stated with clarity.
- The hypothesis is also clearly stated.

### 3.6 MATERIAL AND METHODS

- Study design
- Source of data, place of study, and duration of trial
- Whether GCP guidelines followed
- Inclusion/Enrollment criteria  
Exclusion criteria
- Sample size Treatment schedule (dose, form, mode of administration and duration)
- Laboratory investigations (diagnostic, safety)
- Criteria for assessment (subjective and objective parameters)
- Statistical analysis

### 3.7 STUDY DESIGN

- Randomized double blind controlled trial
- Open observational clinical
- Case series
- Cohort study (epidemiological)
- Case-control/Non-experimental
- Cross-sectional/Prevalence

### 3.8 RESULTS

- Demography data Clinical response (Subjective parameters)
- Scales/Scores/Indices (Semi objective parameters)
- Laboratory/Imaging tests (Objective parameters)
- Generally summarized in tables/graphs
- Consider both the statistical significance and the effect size-the magnitude of difference between the groups.

### 3.9 DISCUSSION

*Deals with the interpretation of results.*

- What is the meaning that can be derived from the study's results?
- What are the potential strengths, limitations, biases, or flaws of the study?
- Assess the probability that each bias has impacted the study's validity, and determine the direction in which it would influence the results.
- Establish a correlation between the current findings and previous studies that are relevant.

### 3.10 CONCLUSION

1. Was the objective of the study successfully accomplished?
2. Did it address the research question?
3. What are the primary and secondary outcomes of the study? In terms of the study's application, does the information prove beneficial to medical practice?
4. Does it propose ideas for future research?





# Enrollment

In order to ensure a productive and engaging environment for all participants, we have established some guidelines regarding seat allocation and attendance.

## 1. LIMITED SEATING:

To maintain an interactive and focused discussion, we have a limited number of seats available for each session of the Journal Club.

## 2. PRIORITY FOR SPECIALTY/DEPARTMENT:

Initially, priority for registration will be given to individuals who are directly affiliated with the specialty or department relevant to the journal being discussed. This is to ensure that those with a direct interest and expertise have the opportunity to participate.

## 3. VACANT SEATS:

Any remaining vacant seats will be made available to all members on a first-come, first-served basis. This ensures inclusivity and allows everyone a chance to participate.

## 4. REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE:

We encourage all interested participants to register their names in advance for each session. However, we emphasize the importance of commitment. Those who register but fail to show up without prior notice will be barred from participating in any future events of the Journal Club. This policy is in place to ensure that seats are allocated to those who genuinely intend to engage in the discussions.

We believe that these measures will help us create a vibrant and committed community of learners within our Journal Club. We look forward to your active participation and the exciting discussions that lie ahead.

## CONTACT INFORMATION



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[grsmu\\_science](https://www.instagram.com/grsmu_science)



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