



# Implementation and Evaluation of a Journal Club for Acuity Adaptable Units

Jennifer Kitchens, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CVRN; Margie Hull M.Ed., MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CDE  
Janet S. Fulton, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, ANEF, FAAN

## Journal Club Survey Results

### PURPOSE

- To evaluate a Journal Club conducted for staff assigned to acuity adaptable units at a large, urban safety-net hospital.

### PROBLEM

- As technology and research expands, evidence-based practice (EBP) has become essential to deliver high-quality care.
- Journal Clubs are one strategy to disseminate EBP/research to interprofessional disciplines.

### INTERVENTION

- Journal Club is advertised in advance and held monthly at the same time and location.
- It is facilitated by two Clinical Nurse Specialists.
- One month prior, the feature article is disseminated and topics are determined by practice priorities and staff recommendations.
- Guest discussants provide provocative and in-depth discussion of a selected article.
- CNE credits are provided to nurses.
- The objectives were evaluated using a 15-item survey administered to participants, and survey items were scored using a 4-point Likert Scale with 1=strongly disagree and 4=strongly agree.

SURVEY ITEM	MEAN SCORE
1. I am satisfied with the process used to conduct Journal Club	3.8
2. The program objectives were met	3.9
3. The presenters are effective	3.8
4. Journal Club is an effective teaching-learning strategy	3.9
5. The physical environment is conducive to learning	3.9
6. The article(s) selected were relevant to my practice	3.9
7. I apply the EBP information from Journal Club into my practice	3.7
8. Holding the Journal Club after the unit council increases the likelihood I will attend	3.4
9. The delivery of Journal Club makes attendance enjoyable	3.7
10. My overall knowledge about EBP/research has increased	3.7
11. Attending Journal Club is good use of my time	3.7
12. The Journal Club is advertised in a timely manner	3.6
13. The Journal Club discussions are scholarly	3.7
14. The Journal Club promotes collegiality among nursing staff	3.7
15. My knowledge has increased because members are inter-disciplinary	3.6

### RESULTS

- Across 18 months, mean attendance per Journal Club was 8 with a range of 4 to 10.
- Ten different participants completed an evaluation survey with overall mean survey score 3.75 out of 4.
- Survey responses were positive for each item.
- Staff attendees from specialty practices included diabetes, cardiovascular, palliative care, wound management, pain management, surgery, infection control, pharmacy, mental health, quality monitoring and case management.

### DISCUSSION

- The Journal Club was an effective teaching-learning strategy to promote interprofessional use of EBP/research.
- A Journal Club is one strategy that may promote diffusion of evidence-based practice/research and interprofessional collaboration.

### REFERENCES

- Billingsley, L., Rice, K., Bennett, M. et al. (2013). Using a multiuser virtual environment to facilitate nursing journal clubs. *Clinical Nurse Specialist, May/June, 146-154.*
- Campbell-Fleming, J., Catania, K., Courtney, L. et al. (2009). Promoting evidence-based practice through a traveling journal club. *Clinical Nurse Specialist, 21(1), 16-20.*
- Duffy, M., Thompson, D., Hobbs et al. (2011). Evidence-based nursing leadership: evaluation of a joint academic-service journal club. *JONA, 41(10), 422-427.*
- Westlake, C., Albert, N., Rice, K. et al. (2015). Nursing journal clubs and the Clinical Nurse Specialist. *Clinical Nurse Specialist, January/February, E1-E10.*