

Birth Defects and Development Journal Club Rules

1. Journal club is open to all individuals (faculty, students and staff). All participating individuals are expected to present on a periodic basis.
2. Articles for journal club should be:
 - a. related to the topics of birth defects and development,
 - b. recent original research (within 2 months) or historically important articles
 - c. of broad interest

Good selections for journal club presentations include articles within your area of expertise that are generally relevant to the broader journal club audience and where your expertise will help others, and articles relevant to your research that are outside of your expertise, where the expertise of others may help to place the article in context. When in doubt, check with your advisor, laboratory director or the journal club coordinator. In general, review articles are not appropriate for journal club.

3. Articles must be in English, but can be selected from any journal and from any scientific discipline.
4. Articles should be selected and forwarded to the journal club coordinator at least one week prior to the scheduled presentation date. Information regarding presentation requirements (overhead, computer/projector) should also be provided to the coordinator at that time.
5. Journal club presentations are intended to be informal. A small number of overheads (available from the journal club coordinator) or Powerpoint slides may be presented. Formal presentations that require extensive preparation time are strongly discouraged!
6. Presentations should include:
 - a. review of relevant background information and rationale for the investigations described in the article
 - b. summary of the methods, results and conclusions from the article
 - c. points for discussion

In general, plan for approximately 30 minutes of presentation time and 30 minutes of discussion. However, journal club is intended to be an informal forum where the presentation and discussion go back and forth.

7. Presenters responsibilities:
 - a. On the day of your presentation arrive promptly and be prepared to start on time
 - b. Make copies of any materials, other than the primary article, which are required for the presentation (additional articles, notes etc.)
 - c. Notify the coordinator if you are unable to present and, if time permits, arrange for an alternate speaker to take your place.