Good morning Class of 2024,

**BLUF**: Journal Clubs, which will be led by your class, start this block!  This is a 40 minute presentation in which you will critically appraise an article with assistance from your chosen mentor, followed by a presentation and discussion on the date listed in the table below.  Reference the attached guidelines and template before starting to work on your presentation, and review the zip file of old journal clubs to get an idea for how they have been structured in the past.  Make sure to send your article to Sam and I ([chief.resident@nccpeds.com](mailto:chief.resident@nccpeds.com)) NO LATER THAN two weeks prior to your presentation so I can send it out to the department ahead of time, in order to best facilitate a productive discussion.  Please bookmark this email for reference and review it in its entirety prior to your presentation.

//BREAK//

I hope you all are having a good start thus far to Block 5.  Not only is this an exciting block because autumn is finally in full swing, but it also marks the beginning of our department’s Journal Clubs, which will be led by your class!  Please see below for further information.

***Journal Club Guidelines***

Please carefully review the attached document for an explanation of the goals and objectives of Journal Club before you choose an article or start working on your presentation.  This includes the specific prompts that should be addressed during your presentations.  The attached “Critical Appraisal Article” is a brief paper that reviews how to critically appraise an article- this may be a helpful framework before you get started.

***Timing***

As you will find in the document, journal clubs take the place of lecture on your assigned date (i.e. 40 minute presentation, from 0810 – 0850).  The presenter should spend 30-35 minutes dissecting the article (using the seven prompts listed in the guidelines), followed by a 5-10 minute large group discussion about the applicability of the findings to clinical practice.

***Format***

We suggest using PowerPoint, both to address the prompts in the guidelines and also for use as a visual aid as you walk through the key tables and figures in your article.  Feel free to make the presentation your own!  Creativity is encouraged- use whichever format you like, as long as the prompts listed in the guidelines are addressed.  For a few examples that may serve as a helpful framework, find attached a suggested template for Journal Club, in addition to a zip file for Journal Clubs from years’ prior.

***Article Selection***

Interns are encouraged to choose an article that fits an area of clinical interest.  For assistance in choosing an article, please reach out to Ms. Michele Mason-Coles at [michele.l.mason-coles.civ@mail.mil](mailto:michele.l.mason-coles.civ@mail.mil).  Please send your article to Sam and I at [chief.resident@nccpeds.com](mailto:chief.resident@nccpeds.com) NO LATER THAN two weeks prior to your presentation, so I can disseminate it to the department and encourage the group to read it prior to your presentation.  We will also attach it to our Plan of the Week emails leading up to your presentation.

***Mentor Selection***

Everyone will work with a mentor of their choice for their journal club presentations- this is both to encourage discussion and assistance with critically appraising your chosen article, and also for assistance in structuring your presentations.  Please reach out to the person you would like to be your mentor 3-4 weeks prior to your scheduled date.  You are encouraged to reach out to ANY faculty that you would like to work with.  See below for a list of faculty with a wealth of expertise at critically appraising the literature who have agreed to serve as mentors- feel free to reach out to any of them to be your mentor:

* CAPT Gregory Gorman, Pediatric Nephrology, [gregory.gorman@usuhs.edu](mailto:gregory.gorman@usuhs.edu)
* Dr. Beth Hisle-Gorman, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, [elizabeth.hisle-gorman@usuhs.edu](mailto:elizabeth.hisle-gorman@usuhs.edu)
* Maj Nathan Kolasinski, Pediatric Gastroenterology, [nathan.t.kolasinski.mil@mail.mil](mailto:nathan.t.kolasinski.mil@mail.mil)
* Dr. Allison Malloy, Pediatric Infectious Disease, [allison.malloy@usuhs.edu](mailto:allison.malloy@usuhs.edu)
* CPT Emily Parsons, General Pediatrics, [emily.parsons@usuhs.edu](mailto:emily.parsons@usuhs.edu)
* MAJ JP Schacht, Genetics, [john.p.schacht.mil@mail.mil](mailto:john.p.schacht.mil@mail.mil)
* Maj Rich Zanetti, Pediatric Hematology-Oncology, [richard.c.zanetti.mil@mail.mil](mailto:richard.c.zanetti.mil@mail.mil)

Please note that your article does NOT have to align with the clinical specialty of your mentor.  If you have not identified a mentor within 2-3 weeks of your presentation, I will match you up with one of the mentors above.

***Schedule for Journal Club Presentations***

Please see below for the date that you have been assigned for your journal club.  I scheduled them for when each of you is on an outpatient rotation:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Block** | **Rotation** | **Date** |
| Emily Ferraro | 5 | Adolescent | Thursday, October 28, 2021 |
| Suhani Patel | 6 | Developmental Peds | Thursday, December 9, 2021 |
| Maggie Hasler | 7 | Adolescent | Thursday, January 6, 2022 |
| Noelle Molter | 8 | Developmental Peds | Thursday, February 3, 2022 |
| Alexis Ghersi | 9 | Orthopedics (Call Free) | Thursday, March 10, 2022 |
| Anthony Lucido | 10 | Adolescent | Thursday, March 31, 2022 |
| Taylor Meyers | 11 | Clinic (Call Free) | Thursday, April 28, 2022 |
| Bailey Howard | 12 | Adolescent | Thursday, May 26, 2022 |
| Marianna Caballero | 13 | Adolescent | Thursday, June 23, 2022 |

**Please contact me ASAP if you foresee a conflict with your scheduled date.**

I will check in with each of you individually prior to your date to check in and see how you are doing with selecting an article, identifying a mentor, and preparing your presentation.  Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.  Thank you!

V/R,

Leela Patel, MD

Capt, USAF, MC

Pediatric Chief Resident, National Capital Consortium

Staff Pediatrician, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Uniformed Services University