

Journal “Clubbing”

.. the social way to keep your skills clinically relevant

Online – 1.5 hours – Semester 1, 2022

Expressions of Interest Sought

Reading (including reading/critiquing journals) is often viewed as a solitary activity. Starting or joining a journal club can be a more social and effective way of reaping the benefits of reviewing/critiquing journal articles. Research has indicated a significant relationship between attending a journal club and an increase in clinicians’ knowledge, attitudes and changes to clinical practice. Journal clubs also come with the additional benefits of being

- a social way to prompt discussion with old or new friends or colleagues
- an easier approach to commit to systematic reading habits
- able to deepen participants appreciation and understanding of the research as they process and interpret the perspectives and opinions of their peers

From a dynamic team perspective, journal clubs create a safe environment to share ideas, build trust and create strong working relationships. They can enhance critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills. Journal clubs also help to maintain contemporary practice, as clinicians consolidate their confidence in applying the research evidence to support existing practice and to adopt new therapy strategies and pathways of clinical care.

Journal clubs are a widely used tool to promote evidence-based practice (EBP). Many traditional formats are not based on current research evidence and they can be difficult to organise and sustain. This workshop will introduce an evidence informed journal club format that can be widely used to help clinicians address important clinical questions. This workshop will describe practical strategies for conducting TREAT journal clubs and suggest ways for clinicians to develop and sustain a local journal club.

This online presentation is suitable for allied health professionals.

Workshop Objectives – the workshop will provide workshop participants with:

- an overview of the key components/principles of the TREAT journal club format, including:
 - formulating an answerable clinical question
 - using critical appraisal skills to apply research to local practice
- practical tips for introducing and implementing /sustain a journal club within their service
- strategies to keep clinical skills contemporary and relevant

Workshop Delivery

Participants will be expected to complete the workshop requirements via an integrated system of teaching, group discussion and individual exercises using Zoom. Participants will be responsible having access to internet facilities and webcam to ensure that they are able to download and view workshop content, as well as actively participate in the on line group discussions. Unfortunately, due to copyright, privacy and confidentiality concerns the ability to record this presentation is NOT an option.

Workshop Manuals

Participants will be mailed a hard copy of the workshop manual which will include presentation notes, covering the online presentation content as well as resources that can assist them establish/sustain a journal club.

About the Presenters



Dr Sharon Mickan - Professor of Healthcare Innovations - Bond University

Professor Sharon Mickan has created a rich career including clinical (occupational therapy), managerial (allied health) and academic (evidence-based practice, healthcare innovations) positions in Australian and international contexts. Professional development and lifelong learning have been core to her journey. She is currently focussing on facilitating mid-career professionals who are ready to be health leaders to navigate the research evidence, critically evaluate health systems and practices and implement clinical improvements. Her research interests are focussed on translating research evidence, implementing organisational improvement and building clinicians' research capacity and engagement.



Dr Rachel Wenke, Principal Research Fellow (Allied Health) Gold Coast Health

Dr Rachel Wenke has co-designed, implemented and evaluated a number of innovative initiatives to build research capacity for allied health professionals including evidence-informed journal clubs. Rachel also currently works as a Senior Speech Pathologist in the area of outpatient rehabilitation and has over 15 years of clinical experience spanning across private and public hospitals, education and private practice settings. She has a passion for helping health professionals build their confidence in becoming users, participants and leaders of research to optimise patient and service outcomes.

Expressions of Interest for this workshop are now being sought. Please contact Zi Mei Events on info@zimei.com.au or (07) 3358 3689 to register your interest.