



THE AMERICAN ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

## **Journal Club Practice Based Learning Goals/Objectives and Self-Assessment Tool**

### **Tool # 4**

#### ***AOA/CORD Assessment Tools Subcommittee***

Conducting a regularly scheduled journal club is required by the Orthopaedic Residency Review Committee and is in the common program requirements for all ACGME accredited Graduate Medical Education. A journal club stimulates residents to read the current literature, helps them to learn to analyze scientific research, and teaches concepts of lifelong learning. These important learning activities are part of the Practice Based Learning (PBL) competency domain.

All important learning activities should have goals and objectives, and, ideally a pre-test and a post-test. A critical self-assessment by the learner before a learning activity identifies knowledge gaps and stimulates appropriately focused learning. A post-test demonstrates learning and the degree to which a learning activity has accomplished its goals and objectives. Having residents self-assess their own knowledge and confidence is an important learning activity, particularly when it is associated with PBL.

The Journal Club Practice Based Learning Self-Assessment Tool provides goals and objectives for an orthopedic journal club learning activity and a self-assessment test associated with these goals and objectives.

#### **Tool Origin and Modification:**

- a. The tool was developed by one of the committee members for use with a restructured journal club.
- b. It is suitable for use with a wide range of journal club styles.

#### **Committee Experience:**

- a. Use of the goals and objectives and the self-assessment identifies to the residents that the journal club is a learning activity.
- b. It is a simple tool well received by the residents.
- c. It is easy to use and the data is easy to analyze and track.
- d. An example of the data obtained from the residents in one program for the self-assessment tool obtained at the beginning and the end of the academic year is shown below.

#### **Recommended Use of the Tool:**

- a. This tool is very straight forward.

- b. It can be administered at the beginning of a new academic year and at the end of a year, or one or more times during the year based on Program Director Preference.
- c. Additional goals and objectives and self-assessment questions can easily be added.
- d. It is compatible with electronic distribution.
- e. The goals and objectives should be distributed to faculty participating in the journal club.
- f. Sharing the data with the residents further emphasizes the learning activity nature of journal club.