



The Henry Ford Neurosurgical Training Program has embraced the concepts of Evidence-Based Practice by implementing a new Journal Club that is structured around a recognized format for critical appraisal of the medical literature. Once a month, the topics of randomized controlled trials, prognostic studies, case-control studies (such as those for causation), cross-sectional studies (such as used in assessing diagnostic tests) or clinical findings are studied in rotation. Every month, two articles pertaining to neurosurgical issues are discussed under the leadership of two of the residents designated ahead of time. After a thorough discussion, the group decides whether to accept the conclusions or recommendations in the article based upon methodological rigor, and whether it is applicable to their everyday care of patients. Besides creating an atmosphere of knowledgeable criticism among the residents regarding the literature, this exercise sets the stage for implementation of their own research with subsequent appropriate publication.

Along with the structured Journal Club, the residents have a new focus on an organized approach to research during their training. Every month, they meet with the new Clinical Research Consultant to the Department – Dr. Beverly C. Walters, a neurosurgeon and clinical epidemiologist. Using a targeted outline, the residents meet to discuss all of their ongoing projects, including the topic area, the faculty who are mentoring them, and the details of their progress through the steps necessary for reaching their publication goal. These include:

- Statement of the clinical question being addressed by the study
- Articulating the specific research question
- Searching the appropriate medical literature
- Creating a bibliography in citation management software
- Deciding on the study design
- Creating a database for data collection (if appropriate)
- Seeking Institutional Review Board approval
- Gathering the data
- Submitting the findings to statistical analysis
- Writing the manuscript and receiving faculty approval for submission
- Submitting and publishing the manuscript

## RECENT RESIDENT PUBLICATIONS

In the course of implementing the program, resident productivity has increased exponentially. Having a specific person to whom they are responsible for the development and progress of their research plans is helpful in overcoming inertia and promoting momentum in the research process. The Journal Club helps to set the expectations for excellence in clinical research and generally to set a higher bar for academic achievement.

Over the past year, the neurosurgical residents at Henry Ford have presented their research at several national and regional meetings, and many manuscripts have been submitted for review. Some recent resident publications include:

Pabaney AH, Robin AM, Schwalb JM. [New technique for open placement of paddle-type spinal cord stimulator electrode in presence of epidural scar Tissue Neuromodulation.](#) 2014 Apr 11. doi: 10.1111/ner.12174. [Epub ahead of print]

Robin AM, Kalkanis SN, Rock J, Lee I, Rosenblum ML. [Through the patient's eyes: an emphasis on patient-centered values in operative decision making in the management of malignant glioma.](#) J Neurooncol. 2014 Jun 25. [Epub ahead of print]

Robin AM, Walbert T, Mikkelsen T, Kalkanis SN, Rock J, Lee I, Rosenblum ML

[Through the patient's eyes: the value of a comprehensive brain tumor center.](#) J Neurooncol. 2014 Jul 16. [Epub ahead of print]

Mazaris P, Hong X, Altshuler D, Schultz L, Poisson LM, Jain R, Mikkelsen T, Rosenblum M, Kalkanis S. [Key determinants of short-term and long-term glioblastoma survival: a 14-year retrospective study of patients from the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center at Henry Ford Hospital.](#) Clin Neurol Neurosurg. 2014 May;120:103-12. doi: 10.1016/j.clineuro.2014.03.001. Epub 2014 Mar 12.

Greiner HM, Horn PS, Arya R, Holland K, Turner M, Alsaïdi MH, Leach JL, Mangano FT. [Acute postoperative seizures and long-term outcome following pediatric epilepsy surgery.](#) Seizure. 2014 Jun;23(6):483-6. doi: 10.1016/j.seizure.2014.02.010. Epub 2014 Feb 28.

Ali R, Yang LJ, Henning PT. [Posterior interosseus nerve palsy resulting from inflammatory myofibroblastic pseudotumor: case presentation.](#) PM R. 2014 Jul;6(7):659-61. doi: 10.1016/j.pmrj.2013.12.016. Epub 2014 Jan 31.

Basheer A, Jain R, Anton T, Rock J. [Bilateral iliopsoas hematoma: Case report and literature review.](#) Surg Neurol Int. 2013 Sep 20;4:121. doi: 10.4103/2152-7806.118561. eCollection 2013.