

Department of Public Health's English Journal Club: a semester has passed.

Academic journal articles provide essential information for modern medical practice. Thus, journal clubs exist at medical universities around the world. At a typical journal club meeting, one member presents a journal article, and others share in the discussion. From April this year, under the supervision of Professor Yasumura, head of the department of Public Health, we have introduced English Journal club in our department which comprises teaching staff, graduate students and a public health nurse. We speak English and use richly illustrated PowerPoint slides to enhance comprehension. We insist that presenters present in English and we freely offer linguistic and stylistic guidance prior to presentation. We also allow presenters to speak a little Japanese when needed mostly during discussion.

After almost a semester we can say that the results are very satisfying and encouraging. Presenters are working very hard to meet the challenge; their skills are being reinforced and refined. We hope to keep going and practice as much as possible. We believe this momentum will contribute to the long running success of our journal club and made it a lively, relevant, and fun way to simultaneously explore academic journal articles and improve presenters' English skill.

Aya Goto, associate Professor

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