With the constant changes in health care delivery and the demands of quality patient care, the professional nurse must continue to stay abreast of the current evidence-based practices (EBP) in the provision of care. Keeping up with new knowledge can be a difficult task, especially if the staff nurses feel that resources are limited or there is just no time to assess research evidence while meeting patient demands. The formation of a nursing unit journal club is one way of connecting research to practice.

The journal club in our unit was first implemented at the start of this year. Among the objectives of the club are to improve nursing knowledge of current research findings, foster the application of clinical research, and best practice models to nursing practice, and help the participants enhance the development of systematic critiquing, critical appraisal and evaluative skills.

The initial meeting discussed some of the guidelines and the objectives. It was agreed that whoever was assigned to bring the article would have to send it out by e-mail and post copies at strategic areas of the unit so that the staff will have a chance to review it. An article review tool was developed that helps the staff in the appraisal of the article. Since its inception, the staff have developed a heightened awareness in the critiquing process. It is the intentions of this club that it will generate new ideas in developing research projects that are focused on perianesthesia nursing.