# Journal club checklist

This checklist provides an outline that you can use to guide your discussion of any article in your journal club. Further advise and tools to use when critically appraising papers can be found in the [EBVM Resources page](https://knowledge.rcvs.org.uk/evidence-based-veterinary-medicine/ebvm-resources/tools-guidelines-and-checklists/).

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|  | **Antibiotic therapy in dogs and cats in general practise in the United Kingdom before referral.  *Journal of Small Animal Practice*** | **What drives antimicrobial prescribing for companion animals? A mixed-methods study of UK veterinary clinics.  *Preventive Veterinary Medicine*** |
| **What are the aims or objectives of the study?**  A clearly stated aim or objective will make it easier for you to assess whether the research has been appropriately designed to meet these aims. |  |  |
| **What methods did the researchers use?** |  |  |
| **Is the study design described clearly enough to enable you to follow what was done?** |  |  |
| **Are the number and type of patients or participants and the timeframes used to collect data clearly described?** |  |  |
| **Is the data collected clearly described?** |  |  |
| **Do you think that the methodology and data collected are appropriate to meet the aims of the study?**  **If not, what are the limitations?** |  |  |
| **Is the analysis of data clearly described?** |  |  |
| **What are the main results of the study?**  Both studies report a number of findings so it may be helpful consider the results under each subheading. |  |  |
| **Against what criteria do the papers judge antimicrobial prescribing, and how do these compare?** |  |  |
| **Are you aware of any other antimicrobial usage guidelines?** |  | |
| **What are the similarities and differences between the two papers?** |  |  |
| **Do the results answer the research questions?** |  |  |
| **If a similar study was conducted in your practice, do you think the results would be similar or different to those found in the study?** |  |  |
| **Having read the papers do you think that there are changes you should make in your practice?** |  | |
| **Are there any other sources of information you need to access before changing practice?** |  | |

**References**

BSAVA/SAMSoc (2018) PROTECT ME [BSAVA] [online] Available from: <https://www.bsavalibrary.com/content/chapter/10.22233/9781910443644.chap6_1> [Accessed 20 July 2023]

World Health Organization (2018) *Critically important antimicrobials for human medicine : 6th revision* [WHO] [Online] Available from: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241515528> [Accessed 20 July 2023]

RUMA. *HP-CIA’s – ‘last resort’ antibiotics* [RUMA] [Online] Available from: <https://www.ruma.org.uk/hp-cias/> [Accessed 20 July 2023]

Buckland. E.L. et al. (2016) Characterisation of antimicrobial usage in cats and dogs attending UK primary care companion animal veterinary practices. *Veterinary Record*, 179 (19), p. 489. <https://doi.org/10.1136/vr.103830>.