# 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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| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Equine umbilical cord mesenchymal stem cells demonstrate safety and efficacy in the treatment of canine osteoarthritis: a randomized placebo-controlled trial** |
| **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. |  |
| **Where was the research carried out?** |  |
| **Did the study meet regulatory and ethical standards** |  |
| **Are there any potential sources of bias?**  Who is paying for the study? Is there any reason to think that there may be any sources of bias in the study? |  |
| **Is there a specific research question or hypothesis?** |  |
| **Why do you want to review this paper?** |  |
| **What methods did the researchers use?** |  |
| **Is this methodology appropriate to the objectives or question?** |  |
| **Is the study design described clearly enough to enable you to follow what was done?** |  |
| **Are number and type of patients included in this study clearly described?** |  |
| **Are these patients relevant to your practice, if not what differences need to be considered?** |  |
| **Were the methods of blinding and randomisation clearly described?** |  |
| **Were the groups similar at the start of the trial?** |  |
| **What data were collected to assess outcomes?**  **At what time points were these data collected?** |  |
| **Are the results of the study clearly described?** |  |
| **What counted as a treatment success for orthopaedic assessment, gait analysis and owner questionnaire?** |  |
| **What was the primary efficacy outcome (endpoint) that was reported.**  **Is this the most appropriate outcome to measure?** |  |
| **How was the safety of the product assessed during this study?** |  |
| **How many and what type of adverse events were reported?** |  |
| **Are all patients accounted for in the analysis?**  **What impact could this have on the results of the study?** |  |
| **Owners were asked to complete a long term follow up questionnaire.**  **How accurate do you think these results will be?** |  |
| **What are the limitations of the study?** |  |
| **Do the findings support or alter your current knowledge?** |  |
| **Can the results be applied to your practice?**  **Do the findings provide sufficient evidence for us to consider changing your current practice?** |  |
| **Having read the paper are there any other sources of information you need to access before changing practice?** |  |

**References**

*Advice & Guidance: FAQs – Routine veterinary practice and clinical veterinary research*. [Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons] [online] Available from: [https://www.rcvs.org.uk/setting-standards/advice-and-guidance/faqs--routine-veterinary-practice-and-clinical-veterinary/](https://www.rcvs.org.uk/setting-standards/advice-and-guidance/faqs--routine-veterinary-practice-and-clinical-veterinary/%20) [Accessed 15 March 2024]

*Guidance: Animal Test Certificates - Guidance on Animal Test Certificates (ATCs) required to carry out the field trial of a veterinary medicine in animals (clinical trial) in the UK*. [Veterinary Medicines Directorate] [online] Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-test-certificates> [Accessed 15 March 2024]