**University of Utah Internal Medicine Journal Club Template:**

Updated: Brian Locke 8/29/2019

**Cohort Study:**  An observational study where a group of individuals (the cohort) are followed after either being exposed (or not) to some factor of interest (e.g. a test, a treatment, an event). Cohort studies exploring prognosis may follow a well-defined population, with no explicit exposure.

Goal: “Our aim [is] to distill an article down to its core while systematically reviewing its validity and telling a compelling story” Similar to case presentations, “the goal is to communicate the

essential information [..] in a mostly standardized format that is easily digested by the listener”

“Improving journal club presentations, or, I can present that paper in under 10 minutes” DOI: [10.1136/ebm.12.3.66-a](https://doi.org/10.1136/ebm.12.3.66-a)

Article Title

Study question: (prognosis, test performance, response to treatment, side effects from exposure/treatment? Why is this question important?)

Retrospective or Prospective? (Could/should this have been investigated with another study design, e.g. RCT?)

Patients included: (How do they separate patients into groups (e.g. exposed v comparison)? Were they enrolled early in the course of disease, aka inception cohort? Do they represent the underlying population? Where was the study done, if relevant?)

Exposure/Variable of interest:

If subgroups are different in ways that may influence the likelihood of the outcome (aka confounding), did the study authors adjust for this? How?

Outcomes: (Especially primary outcomes. Blinded assessment? Objective? Appropriate duration of followup?)

What are the Results? (including effect size, precision in the estimate. Loss to follow-up?)

Critique: (Are there threats to the internal validity (such as bias, counfounding, chance) or external validity, aka generalizability?)

Can I apply the results to my patient? How?