

## **PAIN Reports Journal Club**

*The PAIN Reports Journal Club (PRJC) encourages trainees in pain research to comment on a recently published article to enhance readers' understanding by evaluating it critically, placing it in context, and suggesting further lines of inquiry.*

### **Author Requirements**

To submit a PRJC manuscript, the author must be a current student, postdoctoral fellow, or medical resident. Multiple authorship is allowed. Trainees are encouraged to ask their mentors' assistance in writing the document, but authorship is restricted solely to trainees.

### **Target Article Requirements**

PRJC submissions are based on a single recent target article that has been published within the past three months (at the time of submission) either in *PAIN Reports* or another journal. Authors should not submit a manuscript to PRJC if another manuscript examining the same or an overlapping set of target articles is currently under review, recently published, (within the last year), or in press elsewhere. Target articles should not originate from the author's current or former laboratory. PRJC submissions related to articles published in *PAIN Reports* are especially encouraged.

### **Content and Format**

Submissions are limited to 1,500 words, exclusive of the reference list and any figure legends. Color figures are encouraged. The figure should not, in whole or in part, reproduce material from other sources.

The title page should include the names, affiliations, and contact information for all authors. Submissions should give the full citation for the target article on the title page. Four keywords should be provided for indexing purposes. Brief acknowledgments, to be placed on the title page, are allowed.

Authors should provide a short unstructured abstract of up to 75 words that clearly and concisely articulates the scientific context and rationale for the study. Strive for an evenhanded and constructive critique. The purpose of PRJC is not merely to summarize recent research but rather to enhance the reader's understanding of it. As such, it is useful to consider possible alternative explanations for the conclusion of the target article. If the paper highlights an ongoing scientific dispute, it is worthwhile to explain the dispute and the role of the new study. Beyond summarizing the target article, successful submissions will evaluate it critically, place it in context, and suggest further lines of inquiry. A brief discussion of future questions and avenues for research prompted by the work is also useful.

While it is reasonable to briefly present your own theoretical ideas that are prompted by the target article, these should be clearly indicated as such and should constitute no more than a single paragraph. PRJC is not intended to be a venue for extensive explication of one's own theoretical ideas.

Authors are encouraged to add an audio or video clip describing the content of their submission.

### **Review Procedures**

Submissions will be evaluated for scientific accuracy, logic, clarity, and general interest. Decisions on PRJC submissions cannot be appealed. Because of the expedited character of this activity, we do not regularly provide detailed reviews of articles that are not accepted for publication. Authors of the target article, when published in *PAIN Reports*, will be invited to respond to published submissions.

### **Submission Instructions**

PRJC manuscripts should be submitted through the [PAIN Reports website](#). Submission is free of charge; no article processing fee will be required. Reprints, if requested, will be billed at the normal rate. Pre-submission inquiries to the *PAIN Reports* Editor-in-Chief ([eicpainreports@iasp-pain.org](mailto:eicpainreports@iasp-pain.org)) are strongly encouraged to help ensure that a target article or mini-review topic is appropriate and timely and that the topic has not been covered by another submission.