Study Clubs Are A Wonderful Thing & Come In Various Formats
Large, State Wide:

Columbine Periodontal Study Club

Colorado Prosthodontic Society
Large, State Wide:

Texas Gnathological Society
Smaller, Local Area:

Outside Speakers
Organizer, Not Mentor
Not Hands-On
Social Orientation
Mentored:

National / International

Local
National / International

Mentor has multiple groups

Likely to be Hands-On

Small Size

Well Motivated
National / International

Mentor has multiple groups

Likely to be Hands-On

Small Size

Well Motivated
Local
Mentor for one or more groups
Hands-On for sure
Small Size
Well Motivated
Local
Mentor for one or more groups
Hands-On for sure
Small Size
Well Motivated
Didactic Orientation

Single Subject: Can be relatively less complex such as direct gold or very complex.
Didactic Orientation

Single Subject: Can be very complex

Gnathology
Didactic Orientation

Single Subject: Can be very complex

Gnathology
Didactic Orientation

Single Subject: Can be very complex

Gnathology
Didactic Orientation

Multiple Subjects:
Can be anything the group wants to study

May be Mentor dependent

Limited Practice vs GP
Raza...Multiple Topics

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Excellence in General Dentistry

Have spent time on just about everything, including research and publishing a paper.
Usual Format

• First Hour Discussion – can be review of patient history, new materials or equipment, a didactic review or anything the members wish to bring up, such as pearls from other meetings they may have attended.
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• After 18 years we usually spend the remainder of the day treating patients. One person operates, the others critique, discuss options, make suggestions.
Patient Preparation

- The patient is advised of a study club format where treatment options will be discussed during the procedure. To our knowledge no patient has been uncomfortable with the critical discussion. In fact, it has been the opposite, with them expressing appreciation of the group effort.
Operator must wear a minimum of 3.5 X

The **depth of field** of the operator’s binoculars he must be equal to or less than the depth of field of the camera so that the camera image stays in focus.

**Andy Cooper** - High Q Marketing – 1-480-905-0664

Must ask for the Restorative Academy lens configuration to obtain high magnification.
Why Do Study Clubs
Combination of Factors

Attitude of the Mentor
Arrogance, however slight, simply does not work
Combination of Factors

Attitude of the Mentor
Arrogance, however slight, simply does not work.

Attitude of Members
“iffy” Dedication to Learning
More interested in Other Things than Excellence
Combination of Factors

Attitude of the Mentor
Arrogance, however slight, simply does not work.

Attitude of Members
“iffy” Dedication to Learning
More interested in
“Practice Management” than Excellence

Changing Subject Matter without Group Concurrence
MENTORS BEWARE
Compilation of Experience and Suggestions

Bill McHorris
Dick Tucker
Tom Cyr
Raza members
Rules For Starting a Study Club

• Members should be out of dental school for a few years. “Long enough to know there was more we needed to know, but not so long that we were set in our ways”

• Should have already demonstrated an interest in post-graduate education.
Rules For Starting a Study Club

• Group size must be small enough that the mentor can give attention to all and big enough that cost is not a significant burden. Tucker suggests 12 is ideal.

• Mentor must be paid. Indicates both respect and commitment. “If something doesn’t cost anything, it isn’t worth anything.” Monthly dues apply without exception – even if absent.
Rules For Starting a Study Club

• Attendance is mandatory. Require written reason for absence. Two lousy reasons and you’re out! Someone playing “catch-up” holds back the group.

• Members must understand that egos inhibit or prevent learning. “Check your ego at the door”.

Rules For Starting a Study Club

• Most study clubs have officers and keep minutes. The important thing is that responsibility rotates through the group. This again is an exercise in commitment.

• Members name the group, agree on format, decide frequency and hours, and set policy. Most take the 3 months of the summer off.
Rules For Starting a Study Club

• Usually the ego problem is of a defensive nature. One does not like to expose a lack of knowledge or skill.

• However, there can be a problem with an offensive ego. The ‘show-off’ can be very disruptive.
Rules For Maintaining a Study Club

• The mentor also checks his ego at the door. Respect must to go both ways.

• Criticize, but with compassion.

• Encourage group participation, ideas and innovation when solving problems.

• Mutual respect between members – camaraderie – is a good glue.
Rules For Maintaining a Study Club

- Members should feel free to express their own opinions.
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• Encourage sharing of knowledge. Everyone learns from the others, including the mentor.
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• Encourage sharing of knowledge. Everyone learns from the others, including the mentor.

• Most groups have an annual social event to include spouses. Time and expense requires family support.
Rules For Maintaining a Study Club

- For an operating type group the head mounted video camera is a HUGE advantage.
- Everyone can see exactly what the operator sees through his/her binoculars.
- There is a learning curve. Is a maximum test of the “no ego” concept.
Keep it alive

- Pass the torch
- Start more study clubs!
Rules For Starting and Maintaining a Study Club

Always, always leave ego in parking lot
Mentor should be paid
Attendance required
Members should be carefully chosen
Agree on basic subject matter
“Hands on” improves learning enormously
Use head-mounted camera
Rotate responsibility
Have fun !!!
Thank You