

Plagiarism, and uncited AI use, even when merely suspected, must be reported.

Titles

- Titles should be specific, informative, and ≤140 characters long (including spaces and punctuation).
- Titles should not announce the results of the study and should not be in the form of a question.
- Include the disease or condition under study and key terms to increase discoverability when readers use electronic search engines.
- Titles may include widely-accepted abbreviations.

Abstract

- The word limit for structured abstracts is about 350 words
- Minimum 50 words
- Detailed on the methods and results of the study.
- Does not include information in the abstract that is not in the paper. Everything stated needs to be expanded on.
- Refers to the list of widely accepted abbreviations that may be used without clarification in the abstract.

Introduction

- The introduction should provide the context for the study: what is known about the topic, what are the gaps in knowledge, and what this study sets out to do. State the thesis.
- The introduction should be concise and focused.

Background and Objectives

- The background should describe what is known on the topic and what gaps the study aims to address.
- Explicitly state the main research question and the primary objective and key secondary objectives, or the a priori hypothesis that is being tested.

Method [empirical studies]

- Describe the key elements of the study design (randomized clinical trial, cohort study, etc.).
- The number of participants in the study should go in the Results section and not here.
- Does not include “I think” or any language relating to the experimenter. Passive voice is used to describe study,

Results

- Describe how many participants were enrolled in the study and provide their key summary clinical and demographic characteristics.
- The focus of this section must be on the primary outcome. Provide absolute numbers, estimates of effect size/association, and corresponding measures of uncertainty (e.g., 95% CIs). **Do not report p-values by themselves.**

Closing

- Summarize the main finding of the primary outcome and focus only on those conclusions that are supported by the data presented in the study.
- Include a sentence highlighting the clinical, research, policy, or public health implications of the study. **Do not make inferences that are not supported by the data in the study.**
- Closing should not bring up new points, or data not already mentioned in previous sections of paper

Images and References

- Citations in alphabetical order match the image number, in numerical order
- 4 ≤ 12 References [at least 4 need to be from peer reviewed sources]
- Citations in APA