GUIDE TO ABSTRACT WRITING

What is an Abstract?

An abstract is a summary of a research presentation, thesis, or conference presentation/workshop. Abstracts often are written for journal or conference submissions. The length varies based on requirements, but most abstracts average 150-250 words.

Steps for writing your abstract

PART 1 | Title

The title of your abstract is the first thing readers will see. Grab their attention with a concise summary of your presentation! Conference presentations often have different guidelines on title length. Be sure to check your conference guidelines before you get started. Presentations based on a manuscript may have the same title as the manuscript.

What are you trying to convey? What is the subject of your presentation/ discussion? What is the first thing that you want your readers to see/know?

PART 2 | Context and Purpose

Your abstract should highlight the context and purpose of your project. This part of your abstract should include what is already known about your topic. This section also should be based on current literature. However, do not include citations in your abstract. The purpose should briefly describe why your topic is important.

What is already known about your topic? Does your project address gaps in literature? What relevant project does it seek to address?

Equitas Health

GUIDE TO ABSTRACT WRITING

PART 3 | Methods

Explain how your presentation or discussion adds information to existing context. This section should include a brief overview of the parts of your presentation.

How did you complete your research? What steps will you use to share your information? What will your presentation encompass? How can a participant expect the presentation to be organized?

PART 4 | Findings and Implications

If your abstract is summarizing a research paper, it is important to place a brief summary of your results in this section. You may include one or two sentences on the implications of your findings. Implications should include the impact of your presentation/discussion insights on public health.

What knowledge are you adding to existing research? What is the main takeaway of your findings? What do your findings mean? Who do they impact?

Equitas Health