Abstracts: Writing for Acceptance

Beth Quatrara, DNP, RN, CMSRN, ACNS-BC
Director of the Nursing Research Mentorship Program
University of Virginia Health System
VO101
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• Complete the entire activity;
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Objectives

1. State 2 Elements of a Strong Abstract

2. Identify 3 Strategies for Developing a Strong Abstract
Abstract

A high-level summary

A brief but thorough report

A stand-alone communication
Plan Ahead

Don’t Rush
Map out a schedule: Weeks
Seek input
Share a draft
Rewrite
Creating the Right Fit

Innovative Projects

Audience Considerations

Conference

Themes

Section Headings
Title

Make it “catchy”
Be descriptive
Send a message
Coincide with conference theme
Keep the length in-check
Don’t incorporate it into the abstract
Titles

Too Short: Improving Supply Efficiency

Too Long: A Quality Improvement Project to Decentralize Needed Clinical Supplies and Relocate Them to Enhance Work Flow for Nursing Staff on Multiple Inpatient Units

Just Right: Make Haste, Not Waste: Bringing Supplies to the Clinicians
Use the Conference Template

Common Elements

Introduction

Problem Statement

Methods

Results

Conclusions
Introduction

Be brief
Background
Lay the groundwork
Create the tone

Why is this project important?
What is the larger perspective on the issue?
Problem Statement

A description of the issue requiring resolution

Used to evaluate the success of an outcome

May include more than one

May be termed as the goal or objective
Methods

The description of the work and the actions taken

What did you do?

How did you do it?
Results

Link to problem statement
Clear and concise
Speak to the outcome: Was the project beneficial?
Include the data
   decreased by $Y$
   increased by $X$
Provide timeframe when possible
Demonstrate consistency of the change
Conclusion

Emphasize the findings
Summary statement
Wrap it up
Clear Connection: An Example:

**Unclear**

**Problem Statement:**
The incidence of healthcare acquired infections is above the mean.

**Methods:**
A new documentation system was introduced. Staff were educated regarding best practices in clinical documentation.

**Results:**
Surgical site infections decreased 10% in May

**Clear**

**Problem Statement:**
The incidence of abdominal surgical site infections is above the CDC's *National Healthcare Safety Network* (NHSN) mean.

**Methods:**
A new electronic medical record system was introduced. The healthcare team built order sets to include essential elements of surgical site prevention care. All team members were educated to their specific role in the implementation of the order sets and the necessary documentation.

**Results:**
The incidence of abdominal surgical site infections are below the NHSN mean since introduction of the new order sets.
Follow the Guidelines

Read Carefully
Format
Word Count
Submission style
Author(s)
Copyright
Review points

Relevant
Innovative
Grammar including full sentences
Jargon, Acronyms and Abbreviations
Avoid first person and passive voice
Limit references
Factually accurate
Distinct linkages
Remove organizational name or vendor name
Internal Peer Review

Clarity
Smooth flow
Chronicity
Eliminate unnecessary words
Focus on essential elements
Applicable to a broad and unfamiliar audience
Edit

Incorporate feedback as appropriate
Review guidelines again
Re-read
…………..Ready to Submit
Congratulations

Your abstract is on its way!