RESEARCH SERIES PART III

HOW TO CREATE A SCHOLARLY ABSTRACT

Abstract: the first impression readers and reviewers will see of your work, which follows a strict format directed by the conference or journal in which you are submitting

Presentation: the opportunity to share and showcase your research or scholarly project

ABSTRACT

Abstracts are a summary of your work written with your target audience in mind. Your abstract is your opportunity to share your work and illustrate why it is important and unique. Choose a conference/journal to submit to based on the call for abstracts or other written work. Be sure that your abstract matches the conference theme or major topics and uses words from the conference description.

SAMPLE FORMATTED ABSTRACT

1.

Using social media data to analyze patient satisfaction of health care facilities

2. **Aims:** New health care reforms have placed an emphasis on patient satisfaction, often assessed through surveys. Traditional surveys employ Likert scales and multiple choice responses to assess standardized questions, this limits the amount and type of data captured. Our analysis of patient satisfaction differs in that we analyzed open-ended patient comments captured through social media. We analyzed 771 google + reviews from nine different regions across the country to assess the major themes and quantify the primary area of concern for patients and family members.

3. **Methods:** 771 Google+ reviews of medical health care facilities were collected from 9 geographically different regions across the United States. The facilities ranged from large academic centers to single provider offices, and were staffed by a variety of providers from general practitioners to specialists. A thematic analysis was conducted using QSR NVivo 10 software to identify factors contributing to patient satisfaction. The initial codes were developed using measures found in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Patient Satisfaction Survey. In addition to the thematic review, an automated topic modeling analysis was conducted.

4. **Results:** Overall 771 reviews were coded for analysis. The majority of reviews contain a comment about the provider (41%) followed by aspects of getting care (37%) such as getting an appointment and time spent in the waiting room. Patients were also concerned about the facility itself (23%) and the outcome of the experience (19%).

5. **Conclusion**: Analysis of the data identified a number of additional topics that contribute to patient satisfaction not covered by the HRSA Patient Satisfaction Survey. Our preliminary results indicate that patients comment on aspects of their health care experience outside the typical health care questionnaire indicating that nurses and other providers should look beyond traditionally employed satisfaction surveys to capture patient satisfaction.

1. **Title:** Should be concise but intriguing. The title should achieve two goals: 1) provide an overview of your project, and 2) be engaging enough that the reader wants to know more.

2. **Aims:** Depending on where you are submitting, the first section is either Aims (Objective) or Introduction. In a few short words, describe the problem. You are essentially telling the reader how common the problem is and why your work is needed. In this section, emphasize why your research is important and what gap your research fills.

3. **Methods:** Offer a concise and specific overview of your research methods.

4. **Results:** Briefly describe your main findings that match your aim/objective.

5. **Conclusion:** Describe what the results mean in the larger context.

6. **Additional Sections:** You might be required to add a Clinical Implications section to describe how a clinician's practice would be adjusted based on your results. Another common heading/section is Future Implications or Next Steps. In Next Steps, include what research is needed to complement your work or mitigate the limitations of your work. At times, you will need Keywords. Keywords are four to six words that capture the essence of your work and will be used by others to retrieve your published work.

Helpful Hints: If you are submitting an abstract to multiple places, the phrasing should be different; after all, the goals of each conference are different and so is your target audience.

ABSTRACT CHECKLIST

- ✓ Adheres to formatting given by conference or journal
- ✓ Has the required headings and sections
- ✓ Falls within the word count
- ✓ Is concise
- ✓ Is engaging
- ✓ Is written in easy-to-understand language (avoids discipline-specific jargon)
- ✓ Uses past tense and active voice
- ✓ Is free of typos
- ✓ Targets a specific audience

REFERENCES

1. Akard TF, Hyden K, Gilmer, MJ. Nursing Research. In Ferrell B and Paice J. eds. Oxford Textbook of Palliative Nursing. 5th ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press; 2019: 855-860.