Guidelines for Conference Abstracts

To accommodate several types of studies and case reports in conference abstracts we have drawn up the guidelines below. Our standard ones for research will not be appropriate for all abstracts. We suggest that conference abstracts should generally be structured as shown below, be about 300 words, use SI units, and include no figures, tables, or references. Any extra description can be included as an appendix. Abbreviations should be kept to a minimum and defined at first use. Please note that we cannot publish abstracts of work that has previously been published in full elsewhere.

Title of manuscript

· Should be descriptive and include the type of study—eg, a cross-sectional survey, a randomised controlled trial

Names and affiliations of authors

- Provide full names and affiliations (name of organisation, city, state if applicable, and country) for all authors
- Provide full postal (including post or zip code) and email addresses and title for corresponding author
- Indicate full professors
- Provide one degree or qualification for all authors

Background

- Context
- Why the study was done, in one or two sentences
- Aim
- · State specific aim/s or hypothesis, if appropriate

Methods

Study design

Indicate where the study was done—countries and how many centres/hospitals. What was the study design—eg, randomised controlled. If appropriate, provide information about randomisation, masking, and stratification (how were participants allocated to groups? Were participants, investigators, and those assessing outcomes masked to group assignment?)

Participants

Who were they? How were they recruited? How many were studied? Were they male or female, children or adults? What were the inclusion and exclusion criteria?

Interventions

If appropriate. For example, for drugs please provide rINN, doses, route, and schedule of administration

Analysis

- What were the primary outcomes; how did you decide on or calculate the number of individuals to be included in
 the study; what statistical tests did you use? If a randomised controlled trial, was the analysis per protocol or
 intention to treat, or something else?
- Details of ethics approval and patient consent. Was informed consent (written or verbal) obtained from the
 participants or their guardians? Who approved the study?
- If applicable, please provide registration number and name of trial register

Findings

- Provide number of participants assigned and analysed in each group
- Describe outcomes, data, and statistical tests if appropriate. For example, for randomised controlled trials, the actual numbers and percentages for the primary outcome/s, and estimated effect size (eg, odds ratio) and its precision (eg, 95% CI). Please report SD for mean values and IQR for medians, and give exact p values unless p<0.0001
- Any important adverse events/side-effects

Interpretation

- · General interpretation of the results and their significance
- · Outline limitations and strengths of the study

Funding

Source of funding (if none, say so)

www.thelancet.com

Contributors

Provide a statement outlining who contributed what to the study—eg, SC did the statistical analysis. HJ wrote the Abstract with input from SC. All authors have seen and approved the final version of the Abstract for publication

Conflicts of interest

Declare any conflict for all authors, if none then add "I/We declare that I/we have no conflicts of interest."

Acknowledgments

If appropriate, provide details. If you wish to thank or acknowledge any individuals for their work in relation to this Abstract, please provide signed statements from them agreeing to be cited in your Abstract

Please consult the following reporting guidelines, if appropriate to the design of your study:

- Reports of randomised trials must conform to <u>CONSORT 2010 guidelines</u> and should include a section describing randomisation and masking within the Methods section; see also <u>CONSORT for Abstracts</u>
- Cluster-randomised trials must be reported according to <u>CONSORT extended guidelines</u>
- Randomised trials that report harms must be described according to extended CONSORT guidelines
- Studies of diagnostic accuracy must be reported according to <u>STARD guidelines</u>
- Observational studies (cohort, case-control, or cross-sectional designs) must be reported according to the <u>STROBE statement</u>
- Genetic association studies must be reported according to <u>STREGA guidelines</u>
- Systematic reviews and meta-analyses must be reported according to PRISMA guidelines
- To find reporting guidelines see http://www.equator-network.org

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