Welcome and Introductions

• Abstract Writing Workshop Members
  – Jorge Alvarez, RN, 6 East
  – Angela Nguyen, RN, 4W
  – Linda Nawa, RN, 5W
  – Louisa Verma, MLIS, Health Sciences Library
• Dr. Linda Searle-Leach, Director Nursing Research and Innovation
• Lulu Rosales, Director Nursing Excellence
Getting to Know You

• Name
• Department
• Experience with abstract writing
• Topic of interest (Project) for your abstract
• Do you have an idea of where you would submit to?
• What would you like to get out of this workshop?

Acknowledgements

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EBP/NRC
Council Members:
Rita Nathan
Janell Lehman-Lerille
Linda Nawa
Lulu Rosales
Vanessa Prendiz
Lillian Lee
Objectives

• Define an abstract and the purpose of an abstract
• Identify the key Elements of an Abstract
• Identify useful resources for abstract writing
• Identify steps to writing an abstract
• Identify the do’s and don’ts of abstract writing
• Participate in an individual and group exercise to draft an abstract

Definition of Abstract

• A summary of research or a project
• A highlight of essential points
• Includes outcomes and recommendations

(Happell, 2007)
Types of Abstracts

**Informational**
- Includes purpose, methods, scope, results, conclusions and recommendations

**Descriptive**
- Includes purpose, methods and scope
- Does not include results, conclusions and recommendations

Purpose of Abstract

- Enables the conference committee to make a decision about the presentation you are submitting

- The committee will review the abstract for content and the applicability of the content to
  - the conference theme and purpose
  - conference audience

- Author should set the scene and capture the reader’s interest
Abstract Writing Resources

- Review abstracts from previous conferences
- Read articles on abstract writing (found in NRC):
  - “Ten steps to developing an abstract for conferences”
  - “Hitting the target! A no tears approach to writing an abstract for a conference presentation”
- HH Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS)
- Nursing Research Center on HH Share Point
- Health Sciences Library
- Dr Linda Searle Leach
- Magnet Cost Center 872005/Lulu Rosales

Nursing Research Center

- Features and resources
  - Library Resources (searches)
  - Abstracts/Posters/Publications
  - Completed nursing projects
  - Conferences and Professional Organizations
  - Who to contact
- How to find it on SharePoint
  - http://huntingtonhospital.libguides.com/nrc
The Huntington Process for Abstracts

- Identify which conference or journal to submit your abstract based on the topic
- Identify abstract deadline
- Reach out to Dr. Linda Searle-Leach and meet with her to begin an outline for abstract
- Dr. Linda Searle-Leach will also connect you to other useful resources and individuals within the organization to provide additional support

Key Elements of an Abstract

- Abstract components should be CLEAR, FOCUSED and EASILY UNDERSTOOD.

- It should include sentences about each element of the research/project:
  - Purpose/Goal
  - Methods
  - Results/Outcomes
  - Conclusions/implications for practice
Getting Started with a Draft

- First draft - focus on content
  - not grammar, spelling, or formatting
- Be intentional about finding time to write
- **Be fearless** –
  - don’t be intimidated by thoughts of rejection
- Remember –
  - multiple rewrites, reorganizing, deleting, are part of the process
  - Utilize the Abstract Worksheet
Do's of Abstract Writing

• Choose an appropriate conference for submission
• Allow enough time for abstract writing (3-6 months)
• Determine your preference of presentation (oral or poster)
• Follow all requirements (font, abstract structure, word limit, etc)
• Ask colleague to proofread

Don’ts of Abstract Writing

• Overuse abbreviations
• Use too many references within the text of the abstract
• Provide too little information so reader is unable to grasp the presentation
• Exceed maximum number of words
• Too much background not enough statistics
Scholarly Writing Tips

• Use active voice vs passive voice
• Be accurate, clear, and concise

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H50ktdKlcnU

The Structure of a Clinical Abstract

• Why? – the reasoning behind introducing program or intervention
• Where?– Setting? Type of client? Who does it cater to?
• How?– process used to introduce the new initiative? Training? Education? Challenges?
• What? – what outcomes have been observed? Findings? Feedback?
• What now? – Implications for practice? Lessons learned?
The Structure Simplified

• First 1 or 2 sentences should provide short, sharp description of importance of topic
• The setting, population, needs identified should be described
• The process for implementation
• A description of observed outcomes
• Implications for nursing practice
• Lessons Learned

Individual Activity:
Bedside Handover Article

Original Article
Nurses’ Perceived Barriers to Bedside Handover and Their Implication for Clinical Practice

Georgia Tollans, RN, PhD + Jennifer A. Whitty, PhD, BPharm (Hons), Grad Dip Clin Pharm + Tracey Bucknell, RN, PhD + Wendy Chaboyer, RN, PhD

ABSTRACT
ABSTRACT

Background and Rationale: Bedside handover during the change of shift allows nurses to visualize patients and facilitate patient participation, both purported to improve patient safety. But, bedside handover does not always occur and when it does, it may not involve the patient.

Aim: To explore and understand barriers nurses perceive in undertaking bedside handover.

Methods: A cross-sectional survey was administered to 200 nurses working on medical wards, recruited from two Australian hospitals, one private and one public. As part of the survey, there was one open-ended question asking about perceived barriers to bedside handover. Content analysis was used to analyze data. Barriers were assessed using a determinant framework.

Results: The open-ended question was answered by 176 (88%) participants. Three categories were identified. First, censoring the message showed nurses were concerned about patients and third-parties hearing sensitive information. In the second category, disrupting the communication flow, nurses perceived patients, family members, other nurses and external sources, interrupted the flow of handover and increased its duration. Finally, inhibiting characteristics demonstrated that individual patient and nurse views or capabilities hindered bedside handover. Barriers to bedside handover were determined to relate to individual nurse factors, patient factors, social, political and legal factors, and guideline factors.

Linking Evidence to Action: Suggestions for enhancing bedside handover include debunking nurses’ misconceptions, reflecting on nurses’ viewpoints, using active educational approaches, and promotion of legal requirements to heighten nurses’ confidence dealing with sensitive information. Regular patient rounding, and standardized handover may enable patient involvement in handover. Finally, reviewing the local context to ensure organizational processes support bedside handover is recommended.

4 Mistakes Commonly Made in Preparing an Abstract

• Overdoing the context, with not enough attention to details, purpose and implications

• Overdoing the details, purpose or implications without enough attention to context

• Failure to acknowledge the implications or importance of the content

• Failure to articulate what will be covered in the presentation
Overdoing the Context

- Giving considerable attention to the program, service or intervention but not emphasizing the characteristics or what led to the initiative or how it has met a need.

*It leaves you asking...how did it start? what were the outcomes? What’s next for this program?*

Overdoing the Details

- Cutting straight to the proposed content but not providing a context (program, service, intervention).

*It leaves you asking...What issues led to introducing this role/program? What are characteristics that led to recognizing need for this role/program? What are outcomes? What are the implications?*
Failure to Acknowledge Implications or Importance

• We know what it’s about but are not told why its important

*It leaves you asking...were the outcomes favorable? Unfavorable? What has been learned?*

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Failure to Articulate What Will Be Covered in the Presentation

• Contains detailed information and history of program, process evaluation and main findings. But fails to explain what the presentation will cover

• “This presentation will...”
Some Final Tips

- Make sure to adhere to guidelines
- Proof read!!
- Note word limit and special requirements

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Group Activity

- Utilize the structure for the March 9 Nursing Research Conference and fill out an abstract worksheet
Your Abstract was Accepted!!
Now What?

• Poster development will be done individually or in groups
• NRC resources on poster development
• “Designing Conference Posters in Powerpoint”
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iV6o5cuJM9A&feature=youtu.be

Useful Links

• HH Nursing Research Center website
  – http://huntingtonhospital.libguides.com/nrc
  • Abstracts, Posters & Publishing
  • Conferences & Professional Organizations
  • Completed Nursing Projects (examples)
• Designing Conference Posters in PowerPoint
  – Video Tutorial: https://youtu.be/iV6o5cuJM9A
• U. of Maryland Writing Center Videos:
  – How to Write an Abstract: Writing Style: https://youtu.be/H50ktdKlcnU
• Beware of Nominalizations
  – https://youtu.be/dNIkHtMgcPQ
• Avoiding Wordiness
  – https://youtu.be/LjbATp9tDww
Quiz

My best resource for abstract writing is:
   a) Unit PFC
   b) Unit manager
   c) Chief nurse executive
   d) Clinical nurse specialist (CNS)

Quiz

Which of the following is not part of the abstract framework?
   a) Purpose
   b) Design
   c) Method
   d) Results
   e) Research Proposal
Quiz

It’s Ok if I use more words in the abstract than allowed.
   a) True
   b) False

Quiz

Which of these is a “don’t” of abstract writing?
   a) Choose an appropriate conference for submission
   b) Allow enough time for abstract writing (4-6 months)
   c) Determine your preference of presentation (oral or poster)
   d) Too much background not enough statistics