

Preparing Abstracts for ACVP

Student Chapter Committee

How Abstracts Are Used

- Literature search key words
- PubMed/Journal: Will this paper answer your question?
- Meetings: Attendees sort through hundreds of abstracts to choose specific posters to visit
- Extracted (abstracted) from the full paper for separate publication

How To Write Your Abstract

- Short summary, **stands alone**
 - 250-300 words (see specific requirement of your meeting)
- Research objectives and justification
 - *What was the **hypothesis**? Why?*
 - *What is new about this study?*
- Basic methods used
 - *Sample type, test type*
- Summary of results/conclusions
 - *Twitter the “punch line” of project*

Abstract No-No's

- “Results will be discussed”
 - If you don't have results, you don't have a conclusion(s).
- Inclusion of figures or citations
- Listing yourself as only author
- Exceeding the word limit

The Title

Your title should be descriptive but not overly wordy. Review the titles below and see which one is most useful.

1. Controlling APEC (*In what species? With what materials?*)
2. Investigations into the effects of several selected natural plant compounds with antimicrobial activity on the growth rate of avian pathogenic *Escherichia coli* (APEC) *in vivo* in the chicken intestine (*Will anyone read this all the way through?*)
3. Plant compounds inhibit the growth of avian pathogenic *Escherichia coli in vivo* (*Perfect!*)

List All Contributors To Your Project

- Your name
- Your mentor's name (PI)
 - Be sure that your senior pathologist/mentor knows you plan to submit an abstract
 - Be sure you have your mentor's permission to present the data
- Other significant contributors (Co-PI's; anyone who contributed to the scientific project)
- Institution, College/Department affiliation
- **Do not send an abstract with only your name as author—it will not be accepted.**

Finishing Details

- Abstract, Title, Affiliations: 300 word maximum
- Be concise
 - “at this point in time” = “now”
 - “a long period of time” = “a long time”
 - “red in color” = “red”
- Be consistent
 - Figure, figure, Fig., fig., *Figure*, **Figure**, etc.
- Check grammar, spelling, names
 - Take care in using spellchecker
 - “The amount of antibiotic used was not sadistically different.”
 - It is possible to misspell “Public Health” ...’nuff said...