

TIPS & TRICKS FOR A TOP ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Dear submitting author,

These tips and tricks are designed to help you prepare a well-written abstract that meets the criteria for the EUROSPINE annual meeting. They should be read alongside the EUROSPINE abstract submission guidelines.

Content and Format

An abstract is a concise summary of a research paper or entire thesis. The content should be clear and logical. Your abstract should include the following sections.

1. Title:

The title needs to be dynamic and conclusive (it sells your submission). The title should be brief, interesting and describe the scope, content and focus of what you want to present.

2. Background/ introduction:

Briefly state what was done and concluded.

3. Purpose of the study:

Why was your project undertaken? What is the scope of the project? What is the main argument, thesis or claim?

4. Materials and Methods:

What was your study group, how were your data collected and managed?

5. Results:

What did you find/ discover? An abstract of a scientific work may include specific data that indicates the results of the project.

6. Conclusion:

How does this work add to the body of knowledge on the topic? Are there any practical or theoretical applications from your findings or implications for future research?

General Advice

- Before you start, be clear what aspect of your work you want to present. What will the audience find most interesting?
- The abstract is a first impression, so make it appealing

DOs	DON'Ts
Be concise; use short sentences	Unclear figures or tables
Keep language correct, simple and clear	Poorly described methods
Use scientific, professional language making sure your information is easy to understand by a diverse audience	Results without numbers
Avoid abbreviations and jargon - remember abbreviations are not universal	Spelling and grammar mistakes
Ensure that there is a logical and coherent flow to the abstract	Overstatement in conclusions
Review what you have written	Disproportion of sections
Submit before the deadline	Hypothesis not stated

Are you Ready to Submit?

Carefully proofread your final copy before submitting and make sure you really are ready by answering the following questions:

- Are all of your co-authors on board?
- Did you carefully follow instructions to the submitter addressed in the abstract submission guidelines?
- Will the title capture the interest of a potential congress delegate?
- Does the title describe the subject being written about?
- Is the abstract well written in terms of language, grammar and spelling?
- Does the abstract say what the presentation is about?
- Does the abstract clearly state the subject of your project?
- Does the abstract say how the research project was accomplished?
- Does the abstract indicate what was discovered?
- Does the abstract give a condensed summary of the findings?