

POSTER PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Presentations should be based on original research completed and not previously reported in a research publication. Sound experimental design and interpretation is essential. All data must be in metric terms.

The poster board surface is a **Height: 4' (48") and Length: 5' (60")**. The top of the poster space should include the title, authors, and affiliations. The lettering for this section should be at least 1-inch high. Presenters must furnish their own tacks or push pins. Velcro may or may not work.

Preparing the poster:

- The same principles of simplicity and clarity apply to posters as well as slide presentations: a poster is a cross between an oral presentation and a printed paper.
- Your “story” should proceed logically, with headings indicating sections: Introduction, Objective(s), Materials and Methods, Results, Summary, and Conclusions.
- Use photos or flow charts to help your audience better visualize the materials and methods. Graphs and tables should have titles. On graphs, the axes should be named and the units quantified.
- Avoid excessive use of text.
- Conclusions should not just be summary statements but should provide the reader with your interpretation of the results.
- Have colleagues or peers review the poster for brevity and clarity, as well as accuracy.
- Proofread the poster before printing!

Characteristics of a Good Poster:

- 1) Text: short statements/paragraphs using bullet points
concise lists with pertinent details only
- 2) Color: text – darker color on light background; contrast is important
matting – darker or subdued colors instead of brilliant colors
colors – limit number used to avoid busyness and distraction
simple use can add emphasis
- 3) Text size: bold, large, block style; use capitals and lower case
title should be legible from 5-6 feet
text should be legible from 3-4 feet

A Sample of Poster Text

- 4) Layout: arrange poster sections from top to bottom, starting on the left side
sufficient blank space is important
use spaces to unify or separate sections
avoid too many small sections and narrow spaces
- 5) Illustration: make graphs and tables as simple as possible; focus on main ideas
color and size are important
photographs-matte finish is better than glossy; photos are beneficial
only if they are large and clear

Presentation

- Set up the poster well in advance of the presentation time.
- Arrive promptly for your scheduled presentation time.

Suggestions from Authors Who Have Made Poster Presentations

- A short, legible "Introduction" and "Summary" or "Conclusions" are helpful.
- Keep text and figure legends short, but do not omit them.
- Simple use of color can add emphasis
- Use large print-at least 3/8-inch high. Shade block letter when possible.
- Roll poster materials and insert in a large mailing tube for ease of transportation to meeting.