

The Academy recommends the following organization and section headings for an oral paper or poster abstract, but you may supplement these sections with others of your own. Do not include author details in the body of your abstract.

Background: One or two sentences to set the context of your work and justification for why the project was necessary. Refer to published work, e.g. (Levenson, 2011). Full references go at the end of the abstract (see below). The aim should be clearly stated at the end of the background, not in the methods.

Methods: Describe what you did clearly and concisely. If applicable to your work, describe the study design (e.g. randomized controlled trial, cross-sectional survey, etc.); give subject details and how they were recruited; and explain what methods and statistical tests you used. There should be a statement about ethical approval if appropriate.

Results: Write two or three sentences on your main findings. Address the statistical significance of your data.

Discussion: Discuss your findings in a brief narrative, ideally of no more than five sentences. Explain the meaning of your results, or say how they compare with what you expected, or how they compare with other people's work.

Conclusion: Give your final conclusion(s) in as brief a narrative as possible. Avoid sweeping conclusions that cannot be supported by your findings.

References: In general, an abstract should need no more than 2 or 3 references. These should be cited in the text using the first author's name and year. At the end of the abstract, give the full reference for any publications, e.g.:

Betul O, Ipek M: Brain tumor presenting with psychiatric symptoms. J Neuropsychiatry Clin Neurosci 2011; 23:E43-E44.