STEM articles workshop
an NSF ADVANCE-LUC program

PM Kekenes-Huskey

[1]Department of Cell and Molecular Physiology,
Stritch School of Medicine,
Loyola University Chicago

September 28, 2023

Overview

Live copy: link (use at your own risk)

The Title and Abstract

The Title and Abstract

Overview

Focus and Goals

- Deconstruction of a paper: The abstract ($\approx$5 min)
  - We are all 'experts', but there is no one way
  - Focus on the canonical pieces, but also other considerations (submission, rebuttal, rejection, . . .)
- Open discussion on personal/best practices ($\approx$5 min)
  - Collecting new ideas
  - (will assemble a list for later dissemination)
- Goal setting ($\approx$5 min)
  - What will you attempt to accomplish today? [Put in zoom chat window]

The title and abstract

- Objective(s)
    - Primary: To succinctly summarize the study and its findings

The title and abstract

- Objective(s)
    - Primary: To succinctly summarize the study and its findings
    - Secondary: To advertise/capture the attention of a reader saddled with hundreds of hits
    - Secondary: To hint at snippets of information that can further the readers' interests and studies

The title and abstract

- Objective(s)
    - Primary: To succinctly summarize the study and its findings
    - Secondary: To advertise/capture the attention of a reader saddled with hundreds of hits
    - Secondary: To hint at snippets of information that can further the readers' interests and studies
    - Tertiary: To enable search engines (google scholar, web of science, pubmed) to group an article with its closely-related studies.
- The title attempts to hit all 4 points in 1 sentence

The title and abstract,con't

Purpose:

1. Rationale for why study was performed
2. Approach specifics of the study
3. Results from the approach
4. Impact of the study and its results

Adapted from https://www.wiley.com/network/researchers/
preparing-your-article/how-to-write-a-scientific-abstract

The title and abstract,con't

1. Rationale: Background into the problem and (generally) open questions(s)
2. Approach: High level detail (survey, wet lab experiment, specific tools)
3. Results: 2-3 main and unambiguous findings
4. Impact: How the 2-3 results advance the field or open new questions

The title and abstract

My framework

- I start my projects with a draft abstract (albeit without the results)
- Usually the last part of the paper I will finalize
- Keywords seem to be important for having paper show up in pubmed searches

The title and abstract

My framework

- I start my projects with a draft abstract (albeit without the results)
- Usually the last part of the paper I will finalize
- Keywords seem to be important for having paper show up in pubmed searches

Your tips

- ?

The title and abstract

My framework

- I start my projects with a draft abstract (albeit without the results)
- Usually the last part of the paper I will finalize
- Keywords seem to be important for having paper show up in pubmed searches

Your tips

- ?

Let's write!

- Don't forget to enter your goal in the chat box