



UniversitätsKlinikum Heidelberg

Dr. Torsten Hoppe-Tichy  
Chief Pharmacist  
University Hospital of Heidelberg

## How to write an abstract

### The example of anti-infective drugs



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**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:  
NOTHING TO DISCLOSE**



## Examples of Research

- Drug Use Evaluation (DUE)
- Pharmacokinetic (PK)
- PK/PD (e.g. continuous infusions)
- Stability of infusions
- Safety (?)
- ... ..



## What is the motivation to prepare an abstract?

- Sharing important information
  - for the benefit of colleagues
  - for the benefit of patients

*It is not about participating at a congress or getting a travel grant!*



## Key question

# What is new?

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## Some examples

- Title vs. Purpose vs. Conclusion
  - Is this on line?
  - Is everything mentioned in Title and Purpose covered by the Conclusion?
  - Is this of interest for others?
- Are there any results in the abstract?
  - Preliminary data?

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## Title vs. Purpose vs. Conclusion

Prospective-multicentre pharmacist analysis about the use of daptomycin  
Background

Daptomycin is an antibacterial drug useful for complicated infections caused by gram positive. Lastly, it uses has increase with a questionable justify.

Purpose

To analyze the clinical use of daptomycin in a General Hospital and its relationship with the best evidence available.

. . . .

Conclusions

Daptomycin is a useful antibacterial drug, used mainly because its better profile against biofilm, frequently delivered on prosthetic devices. It used has been noted in spite of vancomycin.

- Prospective-multicenter in a (=one) General Hospital?
- Best evidence not discussed in background
- Conclusion is not answering the question (if) in purpose
  - Some minor answer in the results section



## Title vs. Purpose vs. Conclusion

A Five-year Economic Study and Analysis of Antimycotic Consumption in an Tertiary Hospital  
Background

Although antimycotic cost is high, the rational use of antimycotics is imperative in order to accomplish uppermost clinical outcomes with respect to effectual management of resources in a crisis era.

Purpose

To assess the cost and the evolution of antimycotic consumption during last five years.

. . . .

Conclusions

An increase in antimycotic use expressed in DDDs/100BD was detected. Though the antimycotic cost represented almost half of total antimicrobial expenditure a significant amount decline was observed.

- Antifungal consumption data
- No discussion on increase of DDD and decrease of costs
  - Any interventions?
  - Any changes in prices?
- What can I use for my hospital, what is new?



## Advice

- Sometimes we want to know („research“) if a drug works like in literature or is used in the labelled indication
- This will not always generate a paper/poster/presentation
- Key questions
  - What is new, what is my data adding to already published data?
  - Why do we think that something is special in some hospitals/patients?
  - What could be different to literature data?
  - Why is my data important for patients/hospitals?

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## Abstract wants results

The development of a gentamicin dose calculator with in-built prescribing and therapeutic dose monitoring advice

### Background

Gentamicin is an intravenous antibiotic used to treat gram negative organisms such as *E. coli*. Its narrow therapeutic index means the dose must be adjusted in obesity and in renal impairment, to avoid nephrotoxicity and ototoxicity. Dosing regimens vary depending on the condition being treated and patient age.

### Purpose

The tool aimed to:

- (i) Recommend a gentamicin starting dose, dosing frequency and serum monitoring schedule, thereby improving reliability and accuracy.
- (ii) Print out these recommendations for inclusion in the patient notes.
- (iii) Provide dose adjustment advice, if target serum levels were not achieved.

### Materials and Methods

The poster describes the multi-departmental, inter-hospital approach employed in this process, criteria employed in selecting a software company and the dual role of Pharmacy and computer engineering in tool design and validation.

### Results

The poster will exhibit key user interface screens employed by the gentamicin calculator tool. It will describe the challenges encountered and outline practical aspects including costs.

### Conclusions

The introduction of this tool simplified and standardised gentamicin use at our Hospital. Planned initiatives include its adaptation as a mobile phone application and its expansion to include other medications such as vancomycin.

- There has to be a result in the abstract
  - Sometimes preliminary results are accepted
- The “how did you do it” is of great interest

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## Just one problem to be solved in the future

- Someone is asking a question about safety of a virustatic combination therapy on Hep C
- Many hospital pharmacies are involved (multicenter approach)
- The combined data from all centers are the result
- BUT ...
  - more than 30 abstracts with single center results
  - sometimes  $n < 10$ , but conclusion is: „Safe“



## Questions from the SC

- Sometimes the SC does not want to reject an abstract
  - They want clarification or they want a „new“ abstract with minor changes
- If there is no answer in time the abstract is going to be rejected



## To write the perfect abstract be sure ...

- to ask the right question
- to answer the question
- to not generalize with low numbers
- to show relevant data only
- to conclude only the things you have studied

... cases, at a dose of  
400mg twice daily at  
83.87%; the remaining  
16.13% was treated ...

## Avoid to play the google translate game!

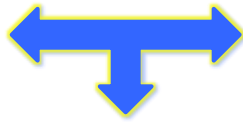


Zur Herstellung der gebrauchsfertigen Suspension wird die Flasche bis etwa 1/4 unter der Markierung mit Trinkwasser gefüllt, die Flasche verschlossen und gut geschüttelt. Nachdem sich der auftretende Schaum abgesetzt hat, wird die Flasche bis zur Markierung mit Trinkwasser aufgefüllt.

Um die bereit Suspension herzustellen, wird die Flasche zu ca. 1/4 unter die Marke mit Wasser gefüllt war, wurde die Flasche verschlossen und gut geschüttelt. Die Flasche nach der Schaum gesetzt hat auftretende bis zur Markierung mit Wasser gefüllt.

## Avoid to play the google translate game!

To prepare the ready-to-use suspension, the bottle is filled to about 1/4 below the mark with water, the bottle is closed and shaken well. After the occurring foam has settled, the bottle is filled to the mark with water.



Para preparar la suspensión lista para el uso, la botella se llena hasta aproximadamente 1/4 por debajo de la marca con agua, la botella se cierra y se agita bien. Después de la espuma occurring se ha asentado, la botella se llena hasta la marca con agua.

Para preparar la suspensión listo para su uso, la botella se llena hasta aproximadamente 1/4 bajo la marca con agua, la botella se cierra y se agita bien. A Monte Carlo después de que la espuma se ha asentado, la botella se llena hasta la marca con agua.

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