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TIPS

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How to Write Abstracts for Health Research Articles ?

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IMPORTANCE OF ABSTRACT

Abstract writing is very important, because good abstract is one of the determining factors for the passing of an article submission to scientific journals, proceedings, and other publication media. In this journal (Health Notions) it is also explicitly communicated in the menu of "Author guidelines" that specifically for research articles, abstracts must be included⁽¹⁾.

Abstracts of a health research article seem simple, but it is often found that the abstracts written turned out to not be able to represent the contents of the paper as a whole. Abstracts from a health research article seem simple, but it is often found that the abstracts written turned out to not be able to represent the contents of the paper as a whole. Therefore, tips on abstract writing are important, especially for beginner writers.

HOW TO WRITE ABSTRACT ?

Abstract is a brief and concise description of the statement of the problems, hypothesis, research design, determination of sample size, sampling design and techniques, the subjects, the research instrument, validation of the research instruments, data gathering procedure, data processing method, statistical treatment, findings, conclusions and recommendations^{(2),(3)}.

Refers to Zulueta & Costales (2003)⁽²⁾, the abstract gives the reader a panoramic view of the research paper, hence, the reader has to decide whether to read the whole research paper or not because an abstract is not a part of a paper and neither numbered nor counted as page. The abstract is the summary of the major ideas of research paper^{(1),(2)}. It must present:

- 1) Research problem: in paragraph form, not copied exactly from the problem statement of the paper)
- 2) Research process or research methodology
- 3) Findings or results
- 4) Conclusions
- 5) Recommendations: cite only the major ones.

Apart from the content aspect, aspects of the writing system must also be considered, including the following: 1) use no more than one page (single-spacing), 2) written in 300 words (maximum), 3) Observe the following conventions: reflect accurately the purpose and content of paper, explain briefly the central issue or problem of paper, summarize the paper's most important points, mention the major source used, state your conclusions clearly, be coherent so that it is easy to read, remain objective in its point of view.

REFERENCES

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