

## Abstract guidelines

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**Abstract text (maximum 500 words, this includes ONE table or figure).**

**Title:** Use an initial capital letter only for the first word and for proper nouns. Generally, abbreviations should not be used.

**NB:** *In order for BSPGHAN abstract reviewers to select abstracts according to their merits, uninfluenced by the authors' or institutions' identities, it is essential that no mention of an author or institution should be identifiable with the TITLE OR IN THE TEXT. Abstracts will be seen by all reviewers blinded to the authors and institutions(s) of origin.*

**Authors:** Authors' names should be typed in lower case, except for initials and the first letter of each surname. Each author's initials should be given before their surname.

**Text:** Do not use subheadings such as Methods, Results and Conclusions. **Remember** not to include the names of the units/institutions concerned. Instead, identify units/institutions as follows:

- hospital A v hospital B
- A major centre v a peripheral centre
- specialised centre v no specialised centre
- urban v rural practice
- type of ward v other ward.

*This list is not exclusive.*

You may identify whether the institution or unit resides in a particular country, e.g. Scotland. You will, of course, be able to identify authors, units and institutions on your poster or in your oral presentation.

**Reference Format:** References should be cited in the text by Arabic numerals, numbered in the order in which they are cited. The reference section should be at the end of the abstract text. The Vancouver style of referencing should be used (sample format given below). Only the first 3 authors' names should be provided. Abbreviate any journal titles according to the List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus (available from the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, USA, DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 91-267; ISSN 0093-3821). 'Unpublished data' and 'personal communications' do not qualify as references and should be placed in parentheses in the text. **Accuracy of reference data is the responsibility of the author.**

**Sample References:**

*Article in a journal*

1. Cummings J H, MacFarlane G T. Role of intestinal bacteria in nutrient metabolism. *Clin Nutr* 1997; 16: 3-11.

*Book*

1. McLaren D S, Meguid M M. Nutrition and its disorders, 4th edn. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone, 1988.

*Chapter in a book*

1. Goodwin S C, Liu S. Radiologic techniques for enteral access. In: Rombeau J L, Rolandelli R H, Eds. Enteral and tube feeding, 3rd edn. Philadelphia: W B Saunders, 1997: 193-206.

*Website*

**Tables:** Tables must be prepared in true table format (i.e. without the use of tabs or spaces to align the columns) and must be aligned in the text in an upright orientation (not sideways). The tables should be numbered in Arabic numerals and have a brief specific title. Data presented in tables must be logically and clearly organized. Tables should be self-explanatory and should supplement, not duplicate, the text. SI units must be clearly indicated for all variables, preferably as part of the column heading.

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