

SASBT Abstract Writing Series

The A-FINER Research Question

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Why Do Research/Abstracts?

- Fame
- Fortune
- Knowledge
- Interest
- Satisfaction



We love research!

And we love going to congress
😊



What is research (congress abstract)? and how does it differ from:

- * Operational reports
- * Educational reports / presentations

OPERATIONAL REPORT

- Feedback on operational processes
- Provide updates / progress reports on projects
- Identifies problems and proposes solutions
- May makes recommendations

EDUCATIONAL REPORT/PRESENTATION

- Gives detailed information on a specific topic
- Usually relevant to business area
- Not usually directly applicable, but
- May result in recommendations to change / improve current operational processes

SCIENTIFIC REPORT/ABSTRACT

- Not operational,
- May have element of education, but is not an educational report

So, what is it????

A WAY OF GETTING TO CONGRESS???

BUT SERIOUSLY...

SCIENTIFIC REPORT/ABSTRACT

Reports on

- A relevant
- Scientific question
- Answered by analysing data
- From which certain conclusions are drawn

4 KEY ELEMENTS

- **Relevance (*Introduction*)**
 - Essentially the background
 - Explains why this is an important question
- **Question (*Methods*)**
 - What is the question that is being answered
 - Must be “FINER”
 - How did you do it?
- **Data (*Results*)**
 - Counted something
 - Which can be summarised / analysed
- **Conclusion (*Discussion*)**
 - Gives meaning to the results of your question

FIRST STEP

- SIMPLE: GET A QUESTION 😊
- BUT IT MUST BE A GOOD QUESTION
- SO... WHAT IS A GOOD QUESTION????

FIRST STEP

Actionable – actually be able to do it

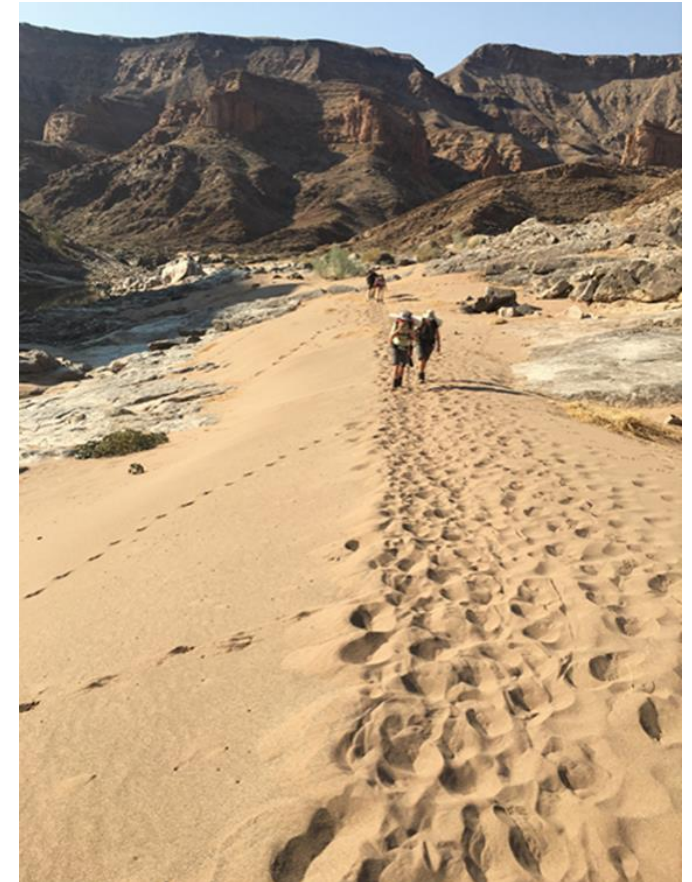
Feasible – within resource constraints

Interesting – otherwise it is boring 😊

Novel – something new, but rarely brand new

Ethical – absolute requirement

Relevant – otherwise nobody will give a damn



Let's hear some of your questions...

Some luck draws up for grabs for the brave souls willing to share their questions 😊

FIRST STEP

- Descriptive Question
 - What is the prevalence of allo-antibodies in SANBS?
- Comparison Question
 - How does allo-antibodies differ between Zones?
- Influence / association question
 - How has implementing a new testing reagent/platform changed the profile?
- Before-After Question
 - How has a training intervention changed the detection of all-antibodies?

CLASSIC RESEARCH QUESTION:

In a population of X is Y (predictor)
associated with Z (Outcome)

In a population of SANB recipients(X), is
type of test (y) associated with (Z)
allo-antibody detection

BUT WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT????

YOU MUST BE ABLE TO COUNT **X,Y AND Z FOR YOUR RESULTS
SECTION**

TO COUNT IT, YOU MUST BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY IT

TO IDENTIFY YOU MUST HAVE DEFINED IT

LET'S REVISIT SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS...

CLASSIC RESEARCH QUESTION:

In a population of X is Y (predictor)
associated with Z (Outcome)

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS??

THANK YOU!

