



## Tips on Preparing a Poster Presentation

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July 29-31, 2021 – Virtual National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students

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### Creating a Successful Poster

#### Plan

- Size: art file must be submitted as a **PDF sized 48 inches x 36 inches** (horizontal or vertical orientation accepted)
- Text: carefully consider the amount of copy and font type/size; **basic fonts highly recommended**
- Images and graphics: use charts, images, and/or graphics to illustrate data and add visual interest
- Spacing: keep text and images at least ½ inch from the edge

#### Assemble

- PowerPoint or Publisher software
- Proof, edit, re-proof, re-edit
- Save final version as PDF for submission

### Selecting Poster Content

Describe all parts of the research, educational program, or community service project, including why it did or did not work.

- Background
- Project or program description/research design
- Objectives/purpose
- Methodology
- Results/evaluation
- Conclusions/discussion
- Future plans
- References

Present a clinical scenario with discussion of an actual patient presentation or review current evidence-based recommendations for a clinical topic.

#### Clinical case presentation

- Introduction
- Case description
- Discussion of current practice guidelines for management of the patient
- Conclusions

#### Evidence-based review

- Evidence summary
- Recommendations from others
- Clinical commentary

## Poster Construction Tips

Be consistent

- Keep margins consistent
- Keep line spacing consistent
- Keep color, style, and thickness of borders the same
- Keep shading consistent

Limit text

- Goal: 20% text, 40% graphics, 40% space

Make sure ideas flow from panel to panel logically (consider numbering panels)

Use charts and graphs to illustrate data (avoid large tables of raw data)

Use high resolution photographs (web images often don't translate well)

Pick 2-3 fonts

- **Basic fonts highly recommended**
  - Examples: Arial, Bookman Old Style, Garamond, Tahoma, Verdana
- Additional suggestions
  - Headings: Bold, Centered
  - Body Text: Black, Justified
  - Labels: Black, Aligned Left or Justified

Pick 2-3 colors

- Consider school or institutional colors
- Use the same principles for contrast that you might use for a PowerPoint presentation

Test readability

- Suggested font sizes (will vary some depending on font type)
  - Title of poster: 96-120 pt
  - Author(s) and institution: 60-80 pt
  - Headings: 60-72 pt
  - Body Text: 32-48 pt
  - Labels: 24-32 pt
- Do not use all capital letters