



Submission Guidelines for Student Writing Contest

SUMMARY EVIDENCE RESEARCH

Critically appraised topics (CATs), Systematic reviews, Meta-analyses, Literature reviews

1. GENERAL FORMAT

- a. 12-point font is used
- b. Only original PDF format will be accepted (a scanned PDF will not be accepted)
- c. Arial or Times New Roman font is used
- d. 1" margins on all four sides are used
- e. Do not right justify the pages
- f. Begin page numbering on the abstract page with page 1 and number each page thereafter consecutively
- g. Follow the current AMA Manual of Style for the entire manuscript, references, tables, and figures
- h. If including tables, figures, or pictures, each must be on a separate page and follow the references
- i. No headers or footers are allowed on any page of the submission
- j. Continuous line numbers are used
- k. Title is limited to a 16-word maximum

2. ABSTRACT

- a. Structured abstract must include sections based on the requirements for the type of manuscript identified below
- b. 100-300 word limit depending on the type of manuscript identified below
- c. A minimum of 3 keywords are included that do not appear in the title
- d. A succinct review of the research performed is included

3. CONTENT

- a. **Critically Appraised Topic** – introduction with a well-defined clinical scenario, focused clinical question (PICO/PIO clearly identified), search strategy, evidence quality assessment, results of search with PRISMA flow chart, results of evidence quality assessment, clinical bottom line and strength of recommendation, and implication for practice, education, or future research.
- b. **Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis** – intro (problem overview, patient characteristics to justify PICO/PIO question), methods (search strategy, inclusion/exclusion criteria with PRISMA flow chart, assessment of methodological quality, and data analysis), results (a meta-analysis is performed if appropriate or stated why a MA could not be performed), discussion (summary review and put in the context of existing literature), and conclusion (implication for practice, education, or future research).
- c. **Literature Review** – introduction with well-defined purpose/objective of the review, body (including review of multiple categories/subheadings of the topic), and conclusion (implication for practice, education, or future research).

4. **TABLES/FIGURES** are included and support the manuscript's objective and reader's understanding.

5. OVERALL SUBJECTIVE EVALUATION

- a. The manuscript is free of spelling, punctuation, & grammatical errors
- b. The manuscript has a logical presentation and flow using appropriate subheadings
- c. Language is professional, scientific, appropriate given the audience (medical terminology is used), and demonstrates a level of sophistication without bias or discrimination
- d. References are used appropriately to support statements