



GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING ABSTRACTS

Format:

In order to ensure that your uploaded abstract qualifies for poster presentation, it is required that the uploaded abstract should not exceed 250 words. This word limit excludes the title, authors and affiliations.

Clearly define all concepts and abbreviations at first use. To be acceptable, abstracts shall contain a concise statement of the research. No tables and figures are allowed in the abstract.

Page Layout:

- Use 11 point Arial font
- Margins: Left, right, top and bottom 1.5"
- Line spacing should be single
- Alignment should be center for the title, names and institutions
- Alignment should be full justified for the introductory paragraph and body's text

It is recommended that the author follow the structured format below:

Title: Use a short and concise title that indicates the content of the abstract. Capitalize the first letter of each word except prepositions, articles, and species names. Species names should be spelled out at first use. Italicize scientific names of organisms (example: *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*).

Authors/Affiliations (not included in 250 word limit):

Authors' names should be entered using initial(s) for the first and middle names followed by the full last name, with presenting author underlined

Background: State the problem under investigation or a hypothesis.

Methods: Explain the experimental methods used.

Results: List the essential results obtained in summary form, with enough quantitative data to permit evaluation by reviewers.

Conclusion: Summarize the findings. It is unacceptable to use statements such as "the results will be discussed".

Notification: Notification of acceptance of abstract will be sent to the presenting author by 16th August, 2009. Guidelines and format for preparing the poster presentation will be sent along with the notification.

The accepted abstracts will be posted in the website and will appear in the proceedings of symposium (souvenir) as well. The symposium secretariat reserves the right to edit the abstracts.

Sample Abstract: Please scroll down to next page for a sample abstract.

SAMPLE ABSTRACT

Etiology of Parasitic Diarrhoea among Persons with HIV Disease in Tropical Southern India

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BACKGROUND: Diarrhoea is one of the greatest causes of morbidity and mortality among HIV infected patients. Parasites play a major role in the etiology of acute and chronic diarrhoea in HIV patients and opportunistic coccidian parasites account for most of the aetiology in tropical India.

METHODS: Between August 2002 and December 2006, 257 diarrhoeal stool specimens from HIV seropositive individuals attending YRG clinic, Chennai were examined for intestinal parasites and enteric coccidian parasites by direct microscopy and modified acid-fast staining method.

RESULTS: Parasitic aetiology was observed in 92(35.8%) cases. *Isospora belli* (25.3%) was the most common parasite followed by *Entamoeba histolyticadispar* (3.1%), *Cryptosporidium* spp. (2.7%), *Giardia intestinalis* (1.6%) and *Strongyloides stercoralis* (1.2%). Opportunistic enteric parasites were detected from 72(28%) specimens and conventional parasites from 15(5.8%) specimens as single aetiological agent. An interesting trend of significant increase in the positivity of *I. belli* and decline in the positivity of *Cryptosporidium* spp. was observed during the study period.

CONCLUSION: The study emphasizes the significance of coccidian parasites in the aetiology of diarrhoea in HIV patients. In spite of trimethoprim–sulphamethoxazole (TMP-SMX) prophylaxis for *Pneumocystis jiroveci* pneumonia, a relatively high *I. belli* positivity was observed, which raises the question of possible emergence of TMP-SMX resistance. The results of the study also call for the need for improving the personal hygiene and sanitation in the study population.