

Epidemiology 212: Publishing and Presenting Clinical Research

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This course will prepare you to:

- Create structured research abstracts for scientific conferences or for full-length manuscripts
- Create effective and engaging oral and poster research presentations
- Develop the introduction, methods, results, and discussion sections of research manuscripts
- Present clinical research data effectively in table and graphic form

This course will also prepare you to:

- Navigate the research manuscript submission and review process
- Communicate about research with public audiences (via press releases, perspective pieces)

This course focuses on:



- *Clinical* research (vs. basic science, health policy, medical economics, or medical anthropology)
- Researchers in training (e.g., 0 to 5 prior first-author original research publications)
- Communicating about research rather than improving the design or conduct of research
- Combining high standards in research reporting with practical concerns about career advancement

Additional instructors and speakers



Course instructor

- Carolyn Gibson, PhD

Guest lecturers

- Vivek Jain, MD
- Margot Kushel, MD
- Louise Aronson, MD

Journal editor panelists

- Sandy Feng, MD, PhD
- Deborah Grady, MD, MPH
- Christopher Hess, MD, PhD
- S. Andrew Josephson, MD
- Kanade Shinkai, MD, PhD
- Ellen Weber, MD

Module 1 (April 7)



Preparing Research Abstracts:

Few Words, Big Impact

Grace Under Fire: Oral and Poster

Research Presentations

Module 2 (April 21)



Good Beginnings: the Introduction
Section of a Research Manuscript

Nuts and Bolts: the Methods Section
of a Research Manuscript

Module 3 (May 5)



Research Results:
the Visual Display of Information
(guest lecturer: Vivek Jain, MD, MAS)
and
Good Endings: the Results and
Discussion Section of a Manuscript

Module 4 (May 19)



Running the Gauntlet: the Manuscript Review Process and Journal Editor-in-Chief and Deputy Editor Roundtable

- “What are common mistakes made by authors in preparing manuscripts that result in their papers not receiving the consideration they deserve?”
- “Is there an example of a paper that was turned down by your journal that you feel should have been accepted, or one accepted that you think should have been rejected?”
- "Aside from the reviewers' critiques, what other factors do you as a journal editor weigh in deciding whether to accept or reject a manuscript?"
- “Are there circumstances in which it may be appropriate for an author to appeal a rejection by a journal; if so, what are they, and how should authors go about this?”

Module 5 (June 2)

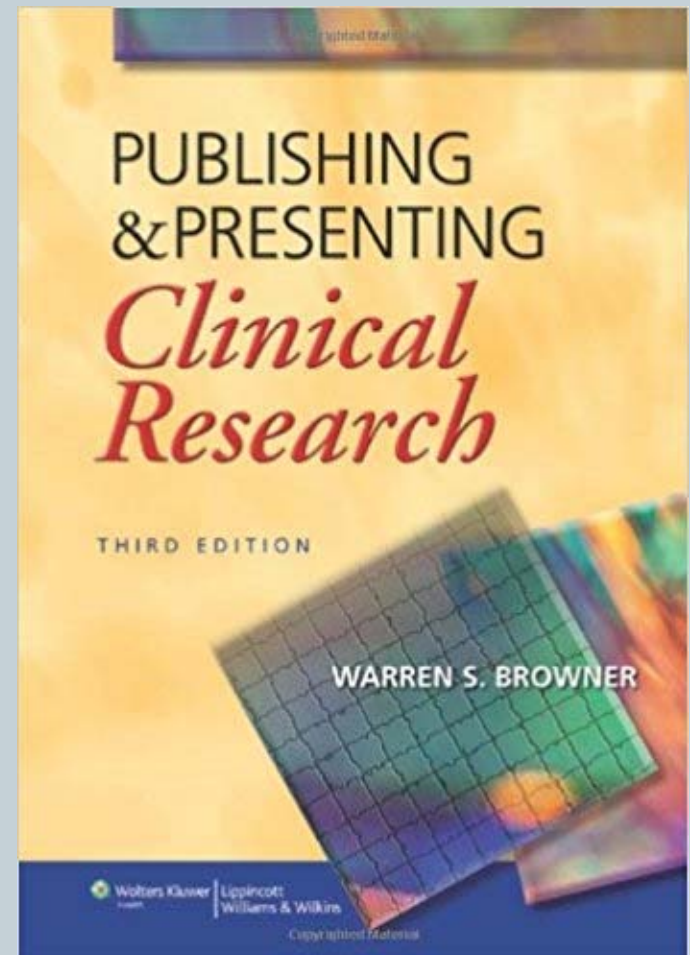


Being Newsworthy: Sharing Your Study
Results with the Lay Press
(guest speaker: Margot Kushel, MD)

Public Medical Writing: Communicating with
the Public, Policy Makers, & Funders
(guest speaker: Louise Aronson, MD)

Readings and Resources

- Browner WS. *Publishing and Presenting Clinical Research*. Baltimore: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, 3rd ed., 2012.
- Note that the 2nd edition of this text is substantively very similar to the 3rd edition
- Electronic version of this edition can be borrowed from the UCSF Library (one copy out at a time)



Course assignments (all due by noon on a Tuesday (April 21, May 5, or May 19))



- Two possible options for each assignment:
 - o Option 1: Submit a draft product arising from a research project you are conducting or have just completed
 - o Option 2: Edit a draft section of an alternate sample research manuscript posted on the course website

Note: You don't need to stick with the same option for all three assignments. Also, you can focus on different research projects for different assignments.

Assignment #1

(due by noon on Tuesday, April 21)



- Option #1: Submit a draft abstract based on a research study you are conducting or have just completed, prepared according to the guidelines of a meeting of a scientific society or peer-reviewed journal
- Option #2: Edit and improve a draft abstract based on an alternate study of a smoking cessation intervention (posted on the course website).

Upload onto the course website by noon on April 21.

Assignment #2

(due by noon on Tuesday, May 5)



- Option #1: Submit a draft introduction for a manuscript based on a research study you are conducting or have just completed.
- Option #2: Edit and improve the draft introduction for an alternate manuscript based on a study of a smoking cessation intervention for post-surgical patients.

Upload onto the course website by noon on May 5.

Assignment #3

(due by noon on Tuesday, May 19)



- Option #1: Submit a table and figure presenting data from your own research study in two different ways, along with text to explain and interpret the data.
- Option #2: Edit draft versions of the results section of an alternate manuscript about a study of a smoking cessation intervention for post-surgical patients.

Upload onto the course website by noon, May 19.

Assignment logistics and grading



Upload all assignments using the appropriate link on the course website (don't email them to instructors)

If you choose option 1, you will usually receive written feedback on within 2 weeks of uploading the assignment

If you choose option 2, a video demonstrating one editing approach will be posted soon after the assignment deadline.

Course grade (satisfactory/unsatisfactory) is based on timely submission of the required assignments

Questions?

Contact:

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- Carolyn Gibson at Carolyn.Gibson2@va.gov