

LUCOM Research Day

ABSTRACT AUTHOR GUIDELINES

LUCOM Research Day is a scholarly forum designed to provide medical trainees with an opportunity to develop and practice the fundamental skills of scientific communication and data dissemination.

At a glance

Recommended abstract-body limit	400 words
Submission language	English
Figures, tables, and images	Do not include in the abstract
Presenter	Must be a listed author
Formatting	Use the common structure below with text in Arial 10-pt font
Proposal submissions	Results are not required; present planned methods and anticipated impact

1. General Submission Requirements

Recommended Submission Elements

Element	Required content
Title	Concise, specific, and aligned with the work.
Authors	Full names, credentials when applicable (Ph.D., B.S., etc), trainee status (OMS1, PGY1, etc), and highlight presenting-author with an asterisk.
Affiliations	Institution, department or program, city, and state.
Abstract body	Use the common structure in Section 3 and remain within the stated limit.
Regulatory status	Address IRB or IACUC status explicitly in the Methods section, as applicable. If neither applies, state “Not applicable.”

2. Submission Categories

A. Completed Works

Basic Science Research: Laboratory, mechanistic, translational, animal, cellular, molecular, physiological, anatomical, microbiological, or pharmacological investigations.

Clinical Research: Prospective or retrospective studies, clinical trials, observational studies, outcomes research, epidemiology, health-services research, and clinically focused quality-improvement work.

Case Report: A de-identified clinical case or related series illustrating an unusual presentation, diagnostic challenge, intervention, outcome, or educational lesson.

Scholarly Project: Curriculum development, simulation, teaching innovations, needs assessments, learner surveys, educational interventions, and program evaluation.

Systematic Review: Systematic reviews, scoping reviews, evidence syntheses, and meta-analyses using an explicit, reproducible search and selection method.

B. Proposals

Research Proposal: A well-developed scholarly project that has not yet produced final results. The abstract must demonstrate a meaningful question, feasible design, defined outcomes, and anticipated impact.

3. Abstract Structure and Recommended Section Lengths

All completed-work categories use the same five-part structure. The recommendations below are sentence-based guides rather than rigid limits; authors should remain within the 400-word abstract-body limit.

Completed Works Categories

Required components: Background | Objective or Hypothesis | Methods | Results | Conclusions.

Section headings (Background, Hypothesis, etc.) are not to be included in the abstract body when submitting abstracts using the abstract submission form.

Section	Recommended length	Content expectations
Background	2–3 sentences	Establish the problem, context, and specific knowledge or practice gap. Include only information needed to justify the study.
Objective or Hypothesis	1 sentence	State one focused objective, research question, or testable hypothesis that aligns with the methods and results.
Methods	3–5 sentences	Identify the design, setting, participants/specimens/data sources, procedures or interventions, primary measures, and analysis. The final Methods sentence must explicitly state IRB or IACUC status , as applicable, including approval, exemption, determination that review was not required, pending status when appropriate, or “Not applicable.”
Results	3–5 sentences	Report verified findings that answer the objective. Include sample size and relevant numerical results, effect estimates, uncertainty, and exact p values when appropriate.
Conclusions	1–2 sentences	State the evidence-supported interpretation and practical, scientific,

		clinical, or educational significance without overgeneralizing.
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Proposals Category

Required components: Background and Significance | Objective, Research Question, or Hypothesis | Proposed Methods | Planned Analysis and Outcomes | Anticipated Impact

Section headings (Background, Hypothesis, etc.) are not to be included in the abstract body when submitting abstracts using the abstract submission form.

Section	Recommended length	Content expectations
Background and Significance	2–3 sentences	Define the need, context, and gap that justify the proposed work.
Objective, Research Question, or Hypothesis	1 sentence	State one focused objective, question, or testable hypothesis.
Proposed Methods	3–5 sentences	Describe the planned design, setting, population/model/data source, procedures, outcomes, and feasibility. Explicitly state anticipated or current IRB or IACUC status , as applicable, including whether approval will be required, has been obtained, is pending, is exempt, or is not applicable.
Planned Analysis and Outcomes	2–3 sentences	Identify the primary outcome(s), planned analysis, and how success will be measured. Do not invent or predict data.
Anticipated Impact	1–2 sentences	Describe the expected scholarly, clinical, educational, or community contribution without presenting anticipated results as established findings.

4. Writing and Data-Presentation Standards

Title

- Make the title specific enough to identify the topic and design without reproducing the conclusion.
- Avoid undefined abbreviations, rhetorical claims, and promotional wording.

Background and Objective

- Use only the background needed to establish the knowledge gap or problem.
- State one primary objective, question, or hypothesis that aligns with the methods and conclusion.

Methods

- Name the study design, setting, participants or specimens, intervention or exposure, outcomes, and analysis.
- Explicitly state IRB or IACUC status in the Methods section, as applicable. If neither applies, state “Not applicable.”
- For proposals, use future tense for planned work and distinguish completed steps from planned steps.

Results

- Report the answer to the stated objective using verified data.

- Give numerical findings rather than only saying results were significant or improved.
- Do not state “results will be discussed.” If final results are unavailable, submit under Proposal or clearly identify verified interim findings.

Conclusions

- Base conclusions only on findings reported in the abstract.
- State practical, scientific, clinical, or educational meaning without overgeneralizing.
- For proposals, describe anticipated impact, not predicted results.

5. Ethics, Integrity, and Privacy

- The Methods section must specifically address IRB or IACUC status, as applicable. Human-subjects work should identify approval, exemption, or an institutional determination that review was not required. Animal work should identify IACUC approval. Proposals should state whether review is required, obtained, pending, exempt, or not applicable.
- Do not include names, dates, initials, images, locations, or combinations of details that could identify a patient or participant.
- Obtain appropriate consent for case reports and clinical images according to institutional policy and the intended dissemination venue.
- All authors should satisfy accepted authorship expectations, approve the submitted version, and be accountable for their contributions.
- Disclose financial relationships, funding, proprietary interests, or conflicts through the submission process when requested.
- Do not fabricate, falsify, selectively omit, or manipulate information. Maintain source data and documentation sufficient to support claims.
- If generative AI tools are used, authors remain fully responsible for accuracy, originality, confidentiality, citations, and compliance with institutional policy. Do not enter protected, confidential, or unpublished information into nonapproved systems.