

HEALTH RESEARCH IN VANUATU PRESENTING RESULTS



WHAT ARE THE MAIN CONSIDERATIONS WHEN PRESENTING RESEARCH?

Aim

Oral presentations should “tell a story” and engage the audience by walking them through the topic in an interesting way. Think carefully about your audience and their pre-existing level of understanding of the topic. You should provide only as much background or detail as is needed within the time allowed to clearly communicate the main outcomes and implications of the work. Be careful not to get caught up in the details and go over time; if more information is needed by individuals they can follow up in the Q&A session or later.

Content

Presentations should include: a short introduction with relevant background information and the hypothesis; a brief description of the methods; results including essential tables and/or graphs; and, a discussion to interpret the results. It should end with acknowledgements.

Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • background information on the problem to be investigated • describes the current state of knowledge about the problem • concludes with a clearly stated study hypothesis and its experimental expectations
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes procedures used in testing the study hypothesis in sufficient detail that they can be repeated by others • includes essential information on materials, equipment, analytical and statistical procedures
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concise verbal description of the outcomes to accompany text, tables or figures • tables and figures should show legend, statistical results, experimental error and be accompanied by a clear explanation of what they summarize
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interpret results and outline conclusions • compare the results to those of other studies and give the general significance of the findings • present study limitations, sources of error, and plans for future work
Acknowledgements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list or mention those who have contributed, including supervisors, collaborators, supporting personnel and any sources of funding or in-kind contributions (materials, equipment)

Length

- The general rule is that about 1 minute is needed per slide.
- You should practice your presentation before the day to get the timing and delivery right.
- In general, it is viewed as unprofessional to go significantly over the time allotted. You may be cut off before completion or have to skip important content if you don't plan well and practice in advance.

Slides

- Use one slide per topic. It's okay to have simple slides with short text.
- Select a template at the beginning and keep it consistent throughout.
- Use readable font (eg. Arial, Tahoma, Verdana) for the body text.
- Make sure the text is big enough. Use minimum 36 point for title text and minimum 24 point for body text.
- Use bold, italic, color, size, or font for emphasis. Do not overdo it - use only 2 or 3 font types per slide.
- Avoid 'busy' slides and don't crowd the text. Be sure to leave a margin.
- Use images that support the meaning of the slides.
- All tables and graphs should include titles and legends. You can include bullet points or 1-2 sentences to emphasise the key points.
- Limit the use of slide effects and animations as it can be distracting.

Delivery

- Speak loudly and clearly.
- Be considerate of your audience. Speak at a pace that is slow enough for everyone to understand (especially if the audience is linguistically diverse).
- Avoid the use of jargon and acronyms unless these are broadly understood.
- Your slides are there as backup. Refer to them but do not read them word for word.
- Maintain eye contact with the audience. Do not talk to the screen.
- Be engaging and show your enthusiasm for the subject.
- **Plan and practice in advance – but be prepared for anything!**

YOUR CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

HOW YOU PLANNED IT:



HOW IT GOES:

