

Minnesota Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting and Symposium

MATA Student Free Communications

MATA Student Research Abstract Proposal Guidelines

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DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: See MATA website for this year's deadline.

Abstracts will be submitted via the MATA website.

Instructions for Submission of Abstracts and Process for Review of all Submissions:

Please read all instructions before preparing the abstract. Individuals may submit more than one abstract, but no individual may be the primary (presenting) author on more than one paper. The first author must be a student member within the MATA. Each student submission must have a certified member sponsor who is a member of the MATA. All abstracts will undergo blind review. Accepted abstracts will be selected to present a poster at the MATA Annual Meeting & Symposium. Students will be expected to be present at the poster session for a minimum of one hour during the Annual Meeting and Symposium. The presentation times typically coincide with exhibitor breaks. The poster can be a maximum of 3' x 4'.

Instructions for Preparing Original Research Abstracts for Free Communications:

1. Provide all information requested on the online Abstract Author Information Form.
2. Top, bottom, right, and left margins of the body of the abstract (in a Microsoft Word file) should be set at 1.5" using the standard 8.5" x 11" format. Use Arial, Calibri, or Helvetica font no smaller than 12pt. Provide the title of the paper or project starting at the left margin. Clinical case report/series titles should not contain information that may reveal the identity of the individual. An example of a proper title for a clinical case report is "Chronic Shoulder Pain in a Collegiate Wrestler".
3. On the next line, indent 3 spaces and provide the names of all authors, with the author who will make the presentation listed first. Enter the last name, then initials (without periods), followed by a comma, and continue the same format for all secondary authors (if any), ending with a colon.
4. On the same line following the colon, indicate the name of the institution (including the city and state) where the research was conducted.
5. Double space and begin entering the body of the abstract flush left in a single paragraph with no indentions. **The text of the body must be structured** (i.e., with the bolded headings as indicated below). Do not justify the right margin. Do not include tables, figures, or references. Abbreviations should be defined for the reader before use, except for the approved abbreviations (see below). The body of abstracts for original research must not exceed 475 words and clinical case reports must not exceed 600 words.
6. Abstracts fall into one of the following 7 categories; the author is responsible for determining the most applicable category for structuring their abstract. Abstracts should be prepared with the appropriate running headers within a single paragraph.

Acceptable Abbreviations:

ACL Anterior Cruciate Ligament

ADL Activities of Daily Living

AROM Active Range of Motion

BESS Balance Error Scoring System

BOC Board of Certification

CAATE Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education

CAI Chronic Ankle Instability

CNS Central Nervous System

CT Computed Tomography

DVT Deep Vein Thrombosis

EMG Electromyography

FMS Functional Movement Screen

HRQL Health Related Quality of Life

LCL Lateral Collateral Ligament

LESS Landing Error Scoring System

MCL Medial Collateral Ligament

MRI Magnetic Resonance Imaging

NWB Non-Weight Bearing

PCL Posterior Cruciate Ligament

PFP Patellofemoral Pain

ROM Range of Motion

RROM Resistive Range of Motion

SEBT Star Excursion Balance Test/Scoring System

For Basic Research (e.g. experimental, epidemiological)

Context: This section should be no more than two sentences summarizing the rationale for the study.

Objective: Provide a clear purpose statement establishing a need for the study. **Design:** Explain in concise terms the type of study, please refer to [Hertel J, 2010, Keep It Simple-Study Design editorial](#).

Setting: Identify where the research was conducted (e.g. laboratory setting, three CAATE accredited ATPs). Provide validity and reliability information on any novel instrumentation. Describe the underlying target population.

Patients or Other Participants: Describe the final subject pool and criteria for selection.

Interventions: Describe the interventions used in the study and clearly describe the independent variables.

Main Outcome Measures: Describe the dependent measures and instrumentation utilized, data analysis procedures, statistical tests and significance level.

Results: Provide the data that supports the stated aims and objectives. Comparative reports must include

descriptive data (e.g., proportions, means, rates, odds ratios or correlations), accompanying measures of dispersion (e.g., ranges, standard deviations or confidence intervals) and inferential statistical data.

Conclusions: The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported. **Clinical**

Applications: Include practical applications of information to improve patient care. **Word Count:** 475 word limit

For Survey Research

Context: This section should be no longer than two sentences summarizing the rationale for the study.

Objective: Provide a clear purpose statement establishing a need for the study. **Design:** Explain in concise terms the type of study, please refer to [Hertel J, 2010, Keep It Simple-Study Design editorial](#).

Setting: Identify where the research was conducted (e.g. laboratory setting, three CAATE accredited ATPs. **Patients or Other Participants:** Describe the final subject pool and response rates. **Interventions:** Describe the independent variables, including essential pieces of the experimental methods, the mode of survey administration (e.g., in-person interview, telephone, self-administered, online or computer-assisted), details of the survey development (formative research or pre-testing for new instruments), execution and data collection process, and instruments utilized. Provide validity and reliability information for all instruments. **Main Outcome Measures:** Describe the dependent variable(s), manipulation of data, statistical tests and significance level. **Results:** Provide the data that supports the stated aims and objectives. Reports must include descriptive data (e.g., proportions, means, rates, odds ratios or correlations), accompanying measures of dispersion (e.g., ranges, standard deviations or confidence intervals) and inferential statistical data. **Conclusions:** The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported. **Practical Applications:** Include practical applications of information to improve patient care, enhance athletic training education, etc. **Word Count:** 475 word limit

For Qualitative Research

Context: This section should be no longer than two sentences summarizing the rationale for the study. **Objective:** Provide a concise statement of the objective(s) or question(s) that the study addresses. **Design:** Explain in concise terms the type of study, please refer to [Hertel J, 2010, Keep It Simple-Study Design editorial](#). **Setting:** Describe where the study was conducted so readers understand the context of the findings. **Patients or Other Participants:** Identify and describe the population, sampling procedures. **Data Collection and Analysis:** Explain the data collection and analysis procedures and explain the strategies used to verify the findings. **Results:** Identify and explain the themes that emerged from the study as well as any descriptive information that provides an explanation of the findings. **Conclusions:** State the main findings and the implications for practice. **Practical Applications:** Include practical applications of information to improve patient care, enhance athletic training education, etc. **Word Count:** 475 word limit

For Critically Appraised Topics

Clinical Scenario: Write a sentence or two providing a clinical scenario or general introduction for the need to evaluate the evidence pertaining to a particular clinical question. **Focused Clinical Question:** Provide an explicit statement of the question with reference to participants, interventions, comparisons, and outcomes (PICO). **Search Strategy:** Clearly describe the search strategy of peer-reviewed evidence including criteria for inclusion/exclusion, search strategy (databases used, hand search, etc.), search terms (combination of terms), and number of possible pieces of evidence. **Evidence Quality Assessment:** Describe the method used to appraise the evidence including the number of evaluators and how consensus may have been achieved (if applicable). Recommended methods include PEDro based on the CONSORT statement (www.pedro.org.au/), QUADAS scale based on the STARD statement (www.quadas.org), and STROBE (www.strobestatement.org/?id=available-checklists). **Results and Summary of Search:** Provide a synthesis of the findings and a summary of the key findings. Also review the strengths and weaknesses of the evidence used to answer the clinical question. **Clinical Bottom Line:** Clearly indicate the answer to the clinical question and include the strength of the recommendation. **Implications:** Indicate how the findings should be used in clinical practice and the implications for use of the findings. **Word Count:** 475 word limit

For Meta-Analysis Research & Systematic Reviews

Context: Write a sentence or two summarizing the rationale for the study, providing a reason for the study question. **Objective:** State the precise objective(s) or question(s) addressed in the report, including a priori hypotheses if applicable. **Data Sources:** Identify how relevant research papers were identified – include databases and timeframe, key words and search limits. **Study Selection:** Describe the processes through which studies were selected for inclusion for further analysis. **Data Extraction:** Identify the number of investigators, the descriptive and measurement data obtained and if and how the quality of study methods was evaluated. **Data Synthesis:** Describe how the data were organized, the statistical procedures applied (during assessment of heterogeneity) and the results (e.g., effect sizes, odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals) of the analysis. **Conclusions:** Summarize or emphasize the new and important findings of the study and relate implications of the findings for future research and/or for clinical practice and offer an indication as to the strength of the evidence provided. **Practical Applications:** Include practical applications of information to improve patient care, enhance athletic training education, etc. **Word Count:** 475 word limit

For Clinical Case Report

Background: Include the individual's age, sex, sport, pertinent aspects of their medical history, a brief history of their complaint and physical findings from the examination. List the signs and symptoms included as part of the evaluation process that leads to the Differential Diagnosis. You may include a timeline of the condition's development. **Differential Diagnosis:** List all possible injuries or conditions based on history and physical findings. Include all possible diagnoses. **Treatment:** Include the physician's evaluation, results of diagnostic imaging and laboratory results, final diagnosis of the injury or condition and the treatment and clinical course followed. Pertinent and unique details should be included, as well as the final outcome. **Uniqueness:** Briefly describe the uniqueness of this case. **Conclusions:** The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported and should concisely describe the most pertinent points of your clinical case. **Clinical Application:** State how these findings can be used in a clinical setting. **Word Count:** 600 word limit

For Clinical Case Series

Background: Describe important aspects of the subject pool (e.g. age, sex, sport, levels of experience, etc.). Describe their complaints, mechanism of injury, initial clinical examination, diagnostic imaging, lab tests, and their commonality (examples: characteristic, injury, postural/gait abnormality, pathology, mechanism of injury). It is encouraged to present information as a group or average (proportions). **Treatment:** The clinical course followed should be clearly detailed. Time frame should be provided and averaged if possible. Relevant and unique details should be included. Specific outcome variables in which all patients within the series were evaluated for should be listed. The final outcome of these variables should be provided in respect to their common characteristic. **Results:** The unique subsequent treatment, prevention program, specific rehab program, special/diagnostic test, outcomes, or predisposing factors, that all subjects experienced is explained. Use of percentages is encouraged. **Uniqueness:** Briefly describe the uniqueness of these cases. **Conclusions:** The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported and should concisely describe the most pertinent points of your clinical cases. Avoid statements of cause and effect since these are observational reports. **Clinical Application:** State how these findings can be used in a clinical setting. **Word Count:** 600 word limit