Preparing Your Research Abstract for
EBP AND NURSING RESEARCH:
INFUSING INNOVATION TO TRANSFORM PRACTICE
March 24, 2016

Date to Remember: **November 28, 2016** is the **DEADLINE** for submitting abstracts. Abstracts will not be accepted after this date.

Review the Call for Abstracts for particulars of the online submission process

**Constructing Your Research Abstract**

All research abstracts must have the following headings:

1. **Introduction:** Use a problem statement approach
   - *Information is lacking about...*
   - *Despite the fact that...*
   - *Little is known about...*

2. **Purpose:** Describe your study in relation to the overall problem

3. **Methods:** Succinctly describe your study’s
   - Design
   - Setting
   - Sample
   - Procedure
   - Measures
   - Analysis

4. **Results:** What did your study show?
   - Use only information introduced in the Methods section.
   - This section is all fact - no interpretation.

5. **Conclusions/Implications:**
   - What does your study mean?
   - Were you able to support your hypothesis?
   - What is the next step?
   - How does this new knowledge inform nursing practice?
A Few Hints

Title: Say it convincingly!
- Descriptive – but <10 words
- Compelling – why should I read abstract?
- Accurate – limit to what is in abstract

Length: Say it succinctly!
- Abstract length ≤ 300 words. The “average” sentence has about 15 words; therefore, you have about 20 sentences to construct
  - Background: 1-2 sentences
  - Purpose: 1-2 sentences
  - Methods: 4-6 sentences
  - Results: 4-6 sentences
  - Discussion/Conclusion: 2-4 sentences

The Introduction and Purpose sections should be brief. Pace yourself for the Methods and Results sections, as this is where you will want to concentrate most of your word allowance.

Writing: Say it stylishly!
- Remember the 4 Cs of abstract writing
  - Complete — cover the major parts of the study
  - Concise — no excess wordiness or unnecessary information.
  - Clear — readable, well organized, and jargon free.
  - Cohesive — flows smoothly and logically to and from each part.

- Edit, edit, edit
  - Have a friend or mentor read you rough draft and offer suggestions
  - Don’t exceed specified length
  - Use abbreviations sparingly
  - Proofread carefully

Congratulate yourself for taking the initiative to write and submit an abstract for the Collaborative EBP and Nursing Research Day 2017!