

Guidance for how abstracts will be reviewed

Item	Poor	Average	Very good	Score
Originality	0-3 Topic already exhausted	4-7 On going topic, some questions answered; some unanswered	8-10 Original not studied before, or fresh look at previously addressed questions	
Clinical relevance	0-3 No value	4-7 Some value	8-10 Real need and totally unaddressed territory	
Study type	0-3 Small audit/ case series <50 cases (non-consecutive or not stated)	4-7 Large audit or case control/cohort study (e.g. >50 cases)	8-10 RCT following consort standards	
Study design	0-1 Inappropriate for aim/objective. No hypothesis or power calculation.	2-3 Poor for aim and objectives. Some validated outcome measures. Weak hypothesis and power calculation	4-5 Appropriate for aim and objectives. Validated outcome measures. Sound hypothesis and appropriate power calculation.	
Conclusions	0-1 Irrelevant to study	2-3 Poorly substantiated	4-5 Accurate and well substantiated	