Research Posters – Handy Hints
Posters templates

Consider the groups involved.

Be mindful of logo use.

Use the correct template.
Before starting

Consider your audience: their interests and/or academic level

Allow enough time. A good poster takes time to plan and produce

Know the presentation requirements including: dimensions, fixing, mandatory content, requirement of handouts

Know the evaluation criteria for both the abstract (if required) and the Poster

Consider different methods of production.

Ensure all authors are aware and consenting!
Title

“Catchy” and informative

1 – 2 lines

Title case

Centred

Non-serif font (eg Tahoma, Arial)

Largest font size on poster (generally use full width of poster) at least 96 point for titles
Affiliations

Title case

Centred

Non-serif font (eg Tahoma, Arial)

Font size: 1/2 - 2/3 of that for title

Authors generally in bold and may be the first line below title, by themselves

Use superscript numerals to identify multiple affiliations
Section headings

Section headings (Introduction, Methods, etc.) in font about same size as authors/affiliations.

30 – 36 point

Can be bold.

Same font style as Title/Authors/Affiliations (sans serif)
Main text

Main text should be readable from 1.5-3.0m (this is the smallest font)

18 – 24 point for text

Text font: with serifs (e.g. Times New Roman)

Consistent spacing

Be brief. Use figures (and tables) to reduce number of words to a max 1000 words
Figure and table legends

Same font size as text

Can use sans serif font

To an “informed reader” figures and tables, with their legends, should be able to convey their main point(s) without reading everything else
Conclusions

Restate hypothesis in brief and indicate if supported

Summarise main findings

Relate findings to work of others

State relevance

Next steps?
References, acknowledgements, further information

References – standard format (can omit paper titles), be sparse (maximum of 5)

Acknowledgements – only if necessary

Further information – optional, can give an email or web address
Common mistakes

Too much

Over-powering use of colours/ inappropriate colours

Flow of sections not obvious
Chart Colours

The following slides contain sample charts provided by Alfred Health to ensure consistency in the presentation of charts.
Sample Charts

Column Graph

Doughnut graph

Colours

Line graph

Pie graph

Area graph

Part of Alfred Health
Sample Chart with text

First level
Second level
• Third level
Fourth level
• Fifth level
Sixth level
Sample Chart

Column Graph

Chart