

Guidelines for Preparing an Academic Abstract

Trainees, including **undergraduate and graduate students, and post-doctoral/clinical fellows** are invited to submit an abstract (**250-word max**) for the 2026 Maternal & Child Health Trainee Research Day. To optimize the quality of your submission trainees are encouraged to complete the below checklist:

- ☐ The abstract is written so that a scientist who knows nothing about your field will be able to easily follow the scientific argument and findings.
- ☐ Your primary research advisor has reviewed the abstract.
- ☐ Introduction is brief and covers the purpose/rationale for the research.
- ☐ Introduction includes an explicit statement of the research hypothesis and/or objective.
- ☐ Methods describe all the *planned* techniques and analysis plan that has been/will be carried out.
- ☐ Methods are restricted to those needed to test hypothesis.
- ☐ Results: For those without results, anticipated results can be presented (i.e., we expect to find that variable X is associated with variable Y).
- ☐ If results are available, report data – including descriptive statistics, observations (present/absent) and numerical data (e.g., mean +/- SD) or a relative difference (e.g., 1.7 fold difference) between group comparisons.
- ☐ Conclusion summarizes what the study results will contribute to the field.
- ☐ Conclusion is fully within the scope of the project.
- ☐ Conclusion specifically addresses the hypothesis being tested (i.e., results support or do not support the hypothesis).

