



**AMCHP2010 Annual Meeting
Preconference Data Skills
Training Workshop
March 6, 2010, 9am-12pm**

Getting the Word Out: Writing Strong Abstracts, Manuscripts and MCH EPI Issue Briefs

Background & Course Description

Writing clearly and precisely is critical to a successful communication in public health. Research results from epidemiological studies need clear communication to the intended audiences. Writing abstracts for journals and meeting the expectations of peer reviewers is a challenge—ensuring that all relevant aspects of good writing are covered in each section of a scientific article require a well developed skill. This course takes an active, participatory approach to help public health professionals learn how to communicate the findings of their research and investigations more effectively and expedite publication of their manuscripts and epidemiology briefs.

Training objectives

Upon completion of the training, the participants will be able to:

1. Write abstracts for conferences and journals that will meet the expectations of reviewers,
2. Determine when public health data are best suited for publication as a peer review journal article or as an "Epi Brief,"
3. Describe the purpose and organization of each section of a scientific article, and
4. Describe the potential challenges and strategies of overcoming writing strong abstracts.

Training methods & approaches

Working in small groups, participants spend much of their class time critiquing actual published and unpublished manuscripts, including their own, and solving a wide range of exercises that exemplify the real-world challenges that authors face. Free-form in-class discussions make it possible for class members to learn from one another's experiences.

Impact on State MCH/CSHCN programs

The training will enhance the skills needed by the state program staff to meet expectations of their work to inform programs and policy at their agencies. Different MCH system staff will be

able to share and understand the range of communicating outside and within their organizational and strategic partners in order to help guide their service delivery and improve health outcomes.

Prerequisites to participate: None

Trainer

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