

Writing a Manuscript for AMHP

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Disclosure Information
86th Annual Scientific Meeting
Frederick Bonato, PhD

I have no financial relationships to disclose.

I will not discuss off-label use and/or investigational use in my presentation.

Journal articles should be:

- concise communications on a topic
- of interest to a significant proportion of the readership
- scientific and data driven

A journal article should not be ...

- a thesis
- a technical report
- an advertisement
- a book chapter
- based solely on opinions- even if you are an expert

Types of Peer-Reviewed Papers

Research articles- Up to 6,000 words, 25-30 references.

Review articles- Up to 6,000 words, 150 references.

Short communications- Up to 3,000 words, 12 references, 4 figures/tables

Case reports- Up to 3,000 words, 12 references, 4 figures/tables

Commentaries- Up to 1,000 words, 10 references

Technical Notes: A type of Short Communication that describes a new device or novel technique.

Step #1

Read the

Instructions for Authors

All journals are different.

Step #2

If you have questions-

Contact Us

amhped@asma.org

We will answer any questions you may have.

Step #3

The writing-

Concise

Focus on AMHP readership

Keep in mind that education is our goal

Title

It should be focused and descriptive.

It should not more than 100 characters and spaces.

It should not be in the form of a question.

It should not be overly assertive.

No jargon or abbreviations.

Avoid national and organization names.

Abstract

Limit is 250 words.

Required headings: background, methods, results, and discussion. For a Case Report: background, case report, discussion.

A “mini-paper”

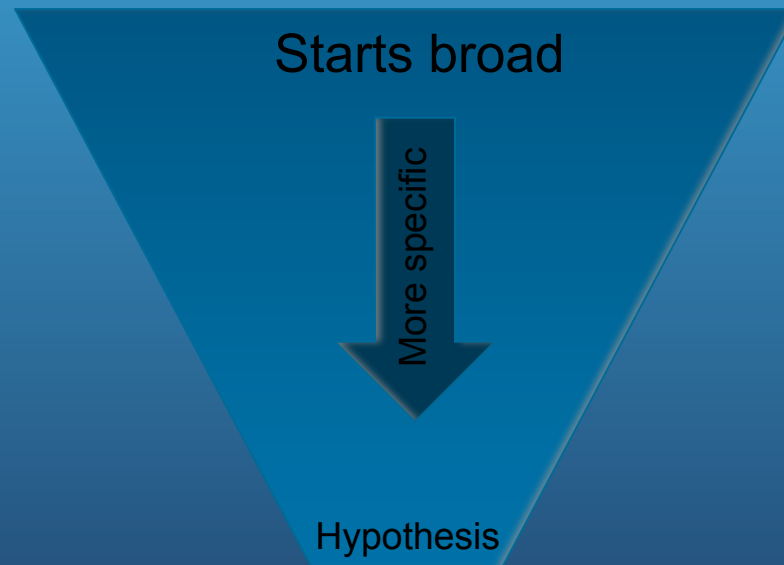
- Accurate
- Complete
- Includes descriptive numerical results (but not p-values)

Introduction

Starts broad- a research question- a rationale for the paper.

Address pertinent literature- good references (no more than three in a string).

Gets more specific toward the end and finishes with a hypothesis.



Methods

Standard subheading only: subjects, equipment, procedure, statistical analysis.

IRB statement is mandatory (if exempt, state why).

The golden rule: can a reader replicate the study?

Subjects

Equipment

Procedure

Statistical
Analysis

Results

Avoid subheadings.

Complete statistical statements (p-values alone are not enough).

Results should be in either the text, tables, or graphs, but only in one place.

Aim for clarity but be as concise as possible.

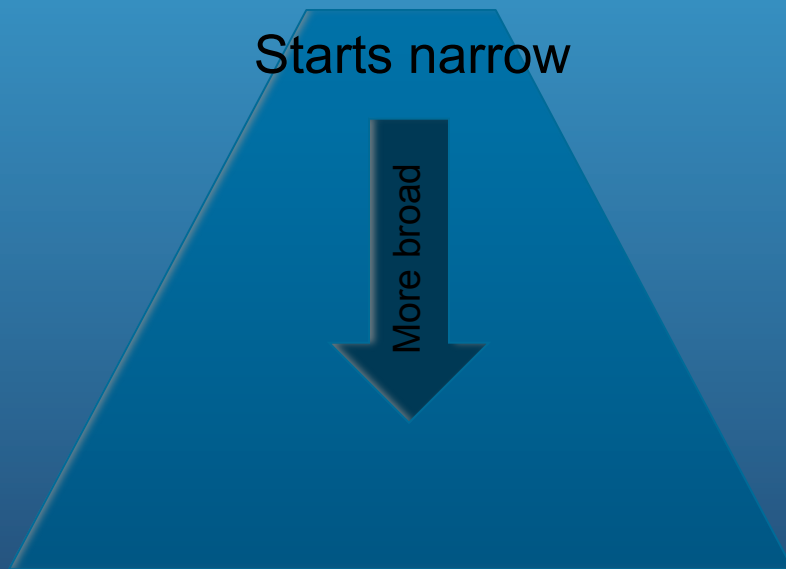
Refer to graphs in the text.

Discussion

Avoid subheadings.

Revisits pertinent literature (no more than three in a string) and discuss how your results compare.

Conclude conservatively, avoiding words such as 'proves' or 'confirms.'



Body of a Research Report

Starts broad

More specific

Hypothesis

Subjects

Equipment

Procedure

Statistical Analysis

Results

Starts narrow

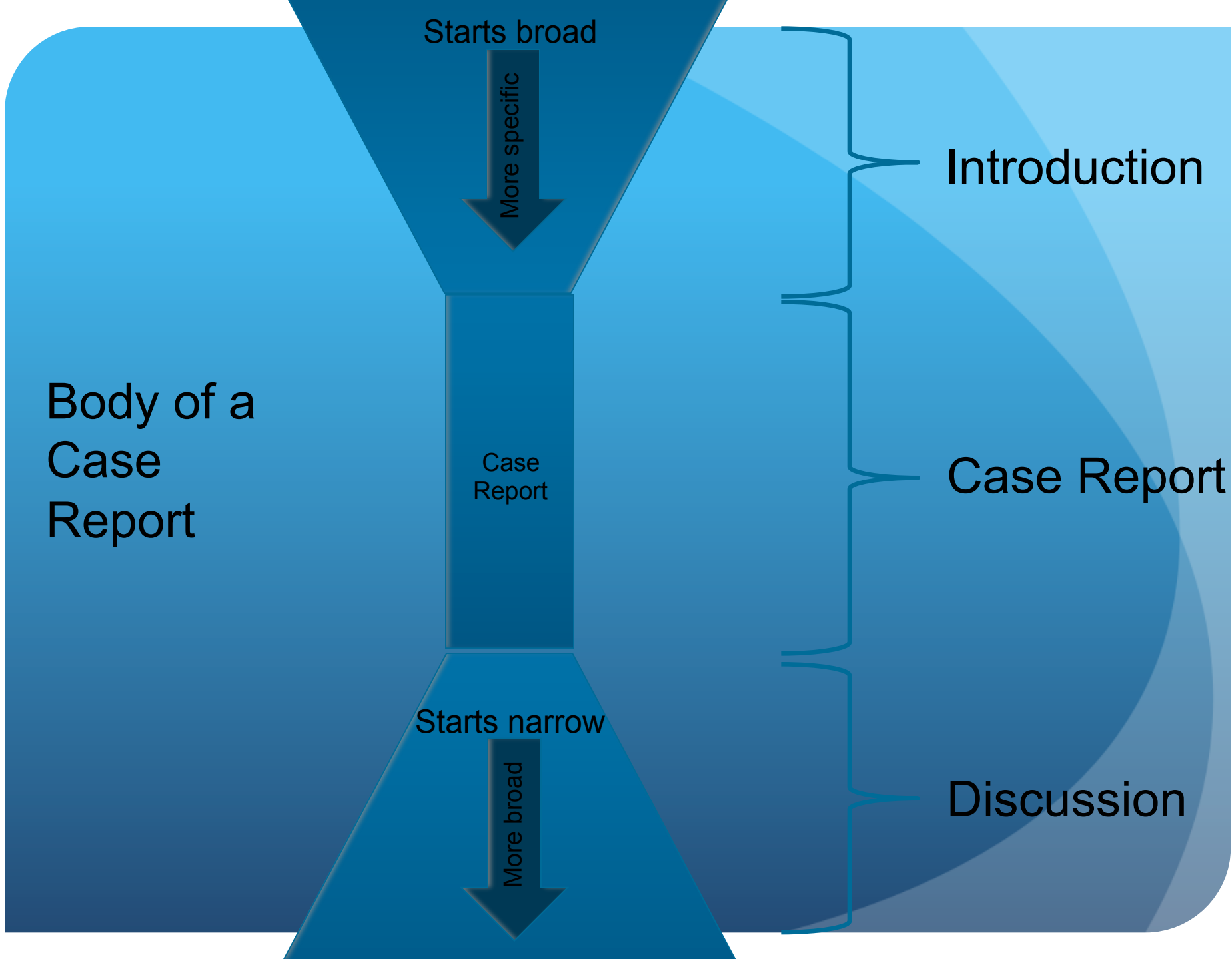
More broad

Introduction

Methods

Results

Discussion



References

AMHP uses a numbered reference system.

Consult the 'format for references' guide on our homepage (<https://www.editorialmanager.com/amhp/>).

All references should be readily obtainable by readers.

References should be alphabetized.

Selecting References

- Good:
 - Peer-reviewed journals
 - Reports that are widely available
 - Textbooks or reviews as necessary
- Not so good:
 - Abstracts
 - Obscure reports or proceedings
 - Personal communications

Tables

Limited to four.

Summarize numerical results and related statistics.

Show small but interesting changes in large numbers.

Avoid crowding with trivial results.

Rarely display individual data.

Avoid excess blank space.

Figures

Use graphs to show large changes or trends.

View at publication size (font size should be big enough to easily read).

Use error bars (indicate their meaning in the caption)

More than four incurs a charge.

Avoid photographs of equipment. Use a line drawing if needed.

Step #3

Submit manuscript, cover letter, and figures using Editorial Manager. You may suggest reviewers in your cover letter.

Use the checklist available on our homepage

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/amhp/>.

Once received, the manuscript is either declined (rare but it happens) or sent out for peer-review (typically two reviewers).

Step #4

Wait for a decision letter.

Three possibilities:

Accepted

Rejected

Revision requested- by far the most common decision for initial submissions.

Step #5

Revise and resubmit

(and repeat the process as needed)

Three possibilities *again*:

Accepted

Rejected

Revision requested- still the most common decision

Authorship

- List all qualified authors *and no one else.*
- Each must fulfill *three* requirements.
 1. *Intellectual contribution*
 2. *Role in writing or revising*
 3. *Ability to discuss details*

Ethical Issues

Data manipulation.

Recycled manuscripts.

Duplicate submissions (other journals)

Overblown title or abstract.

Falsifying documents.

Plagiarism.

Tips

Use simple language- direct and concise, active verbs, first person when needed.

Minimize jargon.

Present results in only one mode.

Ask colleagues to review your paper pre-submission.

Follow the Instructions for Authors very carefully.

If ESL, ask a native English speaker to review.

Questions