

ISN Online Writing Course

Cohosted by SLANH in Latin America

The course

This is an online course given by experts in the field of scientific writing to help physicians and researchers from a range of backgrounds and specialization in nephrology to improve their scientific writing skills, so they achieve the skills needed to publish their research work.

The selected participants from the region will receive hands-on and one to one mentoring from faculty on writing skills for their respective research work. The process of translating research projects into publications will receive sustained ongoing guidance from faculty after the course.

Purpose

Achieving and maintaining high standards in science writing is crucial to advancing research as much as sharing, testing and comparing new ideas and discoveries. This course is designed to incorporate:

- skills in conducting clinical research in nephrology - and getting the results published
- the art and science of manuscript writing and responding to reviewers

Format and timeline

The ISN Online Writing Course 2021 will be organized and held online like the following:

- 8, 15, 22 and 29 May
- 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM GMT -3
- 4 consecutive Saturdays May 2021
- 2,5-hour live session each Saturday

A strong and reliable internet connection and functioning devices (computer/laptop, webcam) are required to participate in this course.

Teaching method and content

During this course, talented investigators who are in the process of writing a manuscript are guided step-by-step to proficiently review and complete their manuscripts based on world-class methods.

The course consists of a series of didactic lectures, group activity, demonstrations and interactive discussions. It includes a process of critical analysis, constructive feedback and sharing of experiences in the field of research.

The participants should ideally come away with:

- The necessary knowledge base to succeed in publishing scientific papers in top international journals or to prepare a grant application
- An in-depth understanding of scientific peer-review publishing
- How to best present their work in general

- Inspiration and motivation to write but also to do more basic research and launch projects in their own countries
- A better basis for undertaking and/or setting up international collaborative efforts
- Ability to write cover letters, write reviews and evaluate the work of others
- Ability to plan and outline papers in an organized, systematic way, and to incorporate their colleagues' suggestions and observations.

Teachers/ Faculty

English-based tutorials will be delivered by a group of international expert scientists. Current faculty members are Marcello Tonelli (Canada), Neesh Pannu (USA), Arpana Iyengar (India) and Giovanni Strippoli (Italy). These teach the SWC and help to mentor the delegates.

Participants

A maximum of ten (10) participants from the Latin America region will be accepted for the ISN Online Writing Course. Seats are therefore limited.

The responsibility for stable internet connection and functioning devices (computer/laptop, webcam) remains with each participant. The ISN cannot be held liable for weak or unstable internet connection or malfunctioning devices during the course.

Eligibility criteria

The course is open to ISN members from the region who:

- speak and write English fluently
- are young scientists (age <40y)
- work predominantly in clinical research (i.e. health research requiring approval from a human ethics board) and basic research in a low and/or middle income country (as per World Bank status)
- can initiate research and conduct research
- have manuscript(s) published in a peer-reviewed journal, or who have other indicators of high potential in clinical research
- are demonstrably motivated to improve their scientific writing skills.

Application Process and Selection

Candidates need to apply via an [online form](#) by **31st March, 2021**. The application must include:

1. Filled in application form
2. CV (max. 4 pages, PDF or Word format only)
3. List of publications (max. 6 items)
4. Letter of reference from Institution/national society

The applications received will be reviewed and scored by the Clinical Research Committee who will make final decisions on eligibility as required.

The selection process is competitive to keep high-quality standards. To note that prior clinical research experience is mandatory. Learners with an active research project that can be used as the basis for participation in the SWC are more likely to be accepted.

Platform and Tools

A virtual meeting platform (Zoom) and document sharing software (Sharepoint) will be used to conduct this course.

Program

Day 1 – 8th May 2021

Time	Topic
11:30-11:45am	Welcome and Introduction
11:45am-12:15pm	Formulating the Research Question (Lecture)
12:15-1:30pm	Break out time for review of pre-assigned group activity
1:30-2:00pm	Important points to keep in mind while writing a scientific paper (Lecture)

Day 2 – 15th May 2021

Time	Topic
11:30am-12:00pm	Writing the Methods Section - Overview (Lecture)
12:00-1:00pm	Break out time on group assignments on “methods section”
1:00-2:00pm	Preparing to Submit Manuscript – Choosing a Journal (Lecture)
2:00-2:30pm	Literature search (demo)

Day 3 – 22nd May 2021

Time	Topic
11:30am-12:00pm	Key Aspects to ‘Writing the Results’ (Lecture)
12:00-1:00pm	Break out time for assignments on “Writing the Results”
1:00-1:30pm	Introduction section (Lecture)
1:30-2:00pm	Break out time for feedback on assignments for Introduction section

Day 4 – 29th May 2021

Time	Topic
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11:30am-12:00pm	Discussion section (Lecture)
12:00-12:30pm	Break out time for feedback on assignments for Discussion section
12:30-1:00pm	Abstract (lecture) and feedback on preassigned exercise
1:00-1:30pm	Brief guidance on response to Reviewers (Lecture)
1:30-1:45pm	Writing the Cover Letter (Lecture)
1:45-2:00pm	Closures

Contact for inquiries

For all inquiries, please contact the Course Coordinator via swc@theisn.org.