

How to Write a Scientific Paper

30 Jan - 1 Feb, 2017.

Awarded 18 EACCME points.

Endorsed by the RCPCH.

www.ithams.com/wasp

Venue: Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health.



All medicine and sciences graduates are expected to write papers, and publication lists are now vital portions of curriculum vitae.

How to Write a Scientific Paper is a unique course and as been successfully held in Malta in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2016, and each iteration has led to further tuning of the contents via feedback from attendees. The course is now being held for the first time in London. This is a very intensive three day event which attempts to facilitate all aspects of paper writing. The course is delivered by highly experience researchers and lecturers through formal lectures and interactive sessions. Core subjects include:

Preparing:

A compelling abstract.

An attractive poster.

An acceptable presentation.

How to lay out a paper.

Which journals to target.

The viewpoint of the journal editor.

Tackling editors.

Seeking material for publication.

A paper and a thesis - the difference

Excel® statistical analysis modules.

A practical hands-on Excel® module.

The statistics section is specifically designed to incrementally augment attendees' knowledge of statistics, step by step, from basics. This is done within Microsoft Excel®, a software environment which is not only ubiquitous, but familiar (to varying extents), to all. Attendees will be shown how to use Excel® to generate simple and even moderately complex statistical analyses, and how to present these results. They will also be given Excel® add-ins that carry out tasks that Excel® does not natively perform. All presentations will be made available to the delegates, as well as all Excel add-ins used during the course, and the papers which arose from these analyses.

Prof. Grech is well suited to imparting the stats lectures, having co-written the statistics chapter in *The Science of Paediatrics: MRCPCH Mastercourse*.

The afternoon of the last day of the course consists of a hands-on, interactive slot. In this session, attendees will be guided as to how to redo the analyses that were performed during the course, on their own laptops with their own Excel (laptops to be brought by attendees for their own use).

30/01/2017

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| 9:00 AM | Registration | |
| 9:30 AM | Introduction to WASP | Victor Grech |
| 9:45 AM | What can I publish - types of studies | Victor Grech |
| 10:15 AM | Which journals to target and why | Josanne Vassallo |
| 10:45 AM | Coffee | |
| 11:00 AM | Critical appraisal of existing research 1 | Josanne Vassallo |
| 11:30 AM | Stats 1: Data entry, validation, forms & pivot tables | Victor Grech |
| 12:00 PM | Critical appraisal of existing research 2 | Josanne Vassallo |
| 12:30 PM | Lunch | |
| 1:30 PM | Stats 2: Introduction to stats: descriptive/inferential. | Victor Grech |
| 2:00 PM | Editors' perspectives & dealing with editors | Josanne Vassallo |
| 2:30 PM | How not give a presentation | Victor Grech |
| 2:45 PM | Coffee | |
| 3:00 PM | Plagiarism and ethics of dealing with colleagues | Josanne Vassallo |
| 3:30 PM | Stats 3: T-tests, Z-test and ANOVA | Victor Grech |
| 4:00 PM | Preparing an abstract | Victor Grech |

31/01/2017

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| 9:00 AM | Review | Victor Grech |
| 9:15 AM | Stats 4: Contingency tables and relative risk | Victor Grech |
| 9:45 AM | Structuring a scientific paper | Charles Savona Ventura |
| 10:15 AM | Stats 5: Odds ratio, confidence int. for proportions | Victor Grech |
| 10:45 AM | Coffee | |
| 11:00 AM | Stats 6: Correlation, regression, multivariate analysis | Victor Grech |
| 11:30 AM | Preparing a thesis – the differences from a paper | Charles Savona Ventura |
| 12:00 PM | Stats 7: Metaanalysis | Victor Grech |
| 12:30 PM | Lunch | |
| 1:30 PM | Writing for the media | Charles Savona Ventura |
| 2:00 PM | Stats 8: Sample size, survival analysis, NNT | Victor Grech |
| 2:30 PM | How to give a presentation | Charles Savona Ventura |
| 3:00 PM | Coffee | |
| 3:15 PM | Dual axis coronary angiography – paper example | Victor Grech |
| 3:45 PM | Bogus journals, open access & APCs | Anne Marie Grima |
| 4:15 PM | Creating a custom spreadsheet | Victor Grech |

01/02/2017

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| 9:00 AM | Review | Victor Grech |
| 9:15 AM | Ethical approval | Anne Marie Grima |
| 9:45 AM | Writing a paper | Victor Grech |
| 10:15 AM | Data Protection | Anne Marie Grima |
| 10:45 AM | Coffee | |
| 11:00 AM | Recruitment and informed consent | Anne Marie Grima |
| 11:30 AM | Bibliographic software | Victor Grech |
| 12:00 PM | RefWorks | Victor Grech |
| 12:30 PM | Lunch | |
| 1:30 PM | Statistics Session using delegates' own laptops | Victor Grech |
| 2:30 PM | Coffee | |
| 2:45 PM | <i>Kleos apthiton</i> ... Statistics Session cont. | Victor Grech |

Registration: Early bird £390. £430 after 15th Dec 2016.

Registration is for all three days and includes lunch, coffee breaks.

Complimentary Wi-Fi is provided by the venue.

Refund policy: 85% of the registration fee will be refunded if the conference is advised by email 20 days prior to the commencement of the event (see information PDF on website). The organisers reserve the right to alter the order of the presentation or the speakers.

Only 50 places available

Faculty

Prof. V. Grech M.D., Ph.D. (Lond), Ph.D. (Malta), F.R.C.P.C.H., F.R.C.P.(UK), D.C.H.

Professor. Victor Grech graduated MD from the University of Malta Medical School in 1988. He specialized in paediatrics and took up paediatric cardiology at The Hospital for Sick Children at Great Ormond Street in London. While there, he commenced a Ph.D. entitled *Congenital Heart Disease in Malta*, and this was completed in 1998. His appointment with the Maltese Department of Health is as a consultant paediatrician with a special interest in paediatric cardiology. Prof. Grech has published extensively not only in paediatric cardiology but also in general paediatrics, other aspects of medicine and in the Humanities, particularly in the field of science fiction, and is an associate professor of paediatrics at the Malta Medical School. He completed a second Ph.D. with the English Department at the University of Malta in 2011 entitled *Infertility in Science Fiction*. He is also the creator and editor-in-chief of the journal *Images in Paediatric Cardiology* and is currently the editor of the *Malta Medical Journal*. He is reading for a dissertation in epidemiology involving international and global male:female ratios at birth.

Prof. Josanne Vassallo M.D., Ph.D., F.R.C.P., F.A.C.P., F.A.C.E.

Professor J. Vassallo is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London and a Specialist in Internal Medicine, Diabetes and Endocrinology (CSST). She is Professor of Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, University of Malta and Consultant Endocrinologist and Diabetologist at Mater Dei Hospital in Malta. Professor Vassallo completed her postgraduate training at University College London, UK, the Institute of Reproductive Medicine, University of Muenster, Germany and subsequently did a postdoctoral tri-institutional fellowship in Endocrinology at Cornell University Medical College, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre and Rockefeller University, New York, USA. In 1994 she joined the Division of Endocrinology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School and subsequently returned to Malta in 1995. She has been the recipient of a number of grants from different research councils including the Max Planck Forschungs Gemeinschaft, the Deutsche Forschungs Gemeinschaft, the Mellon Foundation, the Royal Society of Medicine, the University of Malta and the Mediterranean Group for the Study of Diabetes. Her main areas of research interest currently include genetics of pituitary tumorigenesis, neuroendocrinology and genetics of Diabetes Mellitus. Professor Vassallo has published her work in international peer reviewed journals and is a reviewer for a number of scientific journals. She has served on national and international committees and boards and for 11 years was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the Malta Medical Journal. She is a member of a number of European and American Endocrine and Diabetes Societies and in 2013 was elected President of the Mediterranean Group for the Study of Diabetes which has the remit of fostering research and disseminating knowledge regarding Diabetes in the Mediterranean.

Prof. Charles Savona Ventura M.D.(Melit.), D.Sc. Med.(Warsaw), Accr.C.O.G.(Leuven), F.R.C.O.G., F.R.C.P.I.

Professor Savona Ventura is Academic Head of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at the Faculty of Medicine & Surgery within the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at the Medical School, Mater Dei Hospital, Msida. He is also Director of the Centre for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Malta and a Professor within the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Malta. He graduated at the University of Malta and specialised at the Catholic University of Leuven, the National Research Institute for Mother and Child (Warsaw, Poland), the Cliniques Universitaires St. Raphael/Gasthuisberg (Leuven, Belgium) and the Royal Maternity Hospital (Belfast, N. Ireland).

Professor Savona Ventura has published extensively and has not only contributed to many book chapters but has also published several books and is a reviewer for a number of scientific journals. He has also served as Hospitalier & Historian, and now serves as Grand Prior to the Grand Priory of the Maltese Islands and Grand Archivist & Historian of the Order of the Military and Hospitalier Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem.

Research Interests: Reproductive epidemiology and diabetes & medical disorders in pregnancy. Maltese history with emphasis on medical history. Natural Sciences particularly in field of geology, herpetology and mammology.

Dr. Anne Marie Grima M.D., M.R.C.P.C.H. is a paediatric gastroenterology trainee at King's College Hospital and at Mater Dei Hospital in Malta.

Testimonials

The speakers presented sterling talks, no beating about the bush. This 3-day intensive course must become an annual appointment. MAF

Some short comments about the seminar: 1. Well organised. 2. Ideal for students. 3. Very informative. Thanking you once again for your initiative. DG

Great presentations. Very informative. The course was really great. PO

Just wanted to say thank you for a very helpful course on writing a scientific paper! Very well organised and very informative. I will definitely recommend it to colleagues. Thank you once again. KT

Informative and comprehensive, excellent speakers. Encouraged us new ones to venture in the field. Presence of a mix of professions in the audience enriched the experience. Thanks very much it was a great experience and I look forward to future courses organised both by yourself and MIME. GB

Thank you for a well organised and enjoyable seminar. AM

I would like to thank you for your organisation and leadership of the conference. It was truly an entirely positive experience. Please find some short comments: Targeted content, well-planned and executed. Excellent speakers, clear and relevant delivery. Exposure of medical students to such concepts at an earlier stage may be beneficial. EC

Eye-opener and inspirational! Intensive. Thanking you. AF

First of all thank you again for taking initiative in organising this event. The following is my feedback: Excellent pre-conference communication and resource pack. Strict time keeping. Interactive session with laptops. JV

Very informative talks. Lovely location and setting. Intense and tiring schedule. Good choice of speakers. Thanks for the lovely experience! RVB

The course was professionally prepared! The time allocated to lectures was perfect. Coffee and lunch break periods were adequate. Practical sessions with laptops was very useful! Lecturers addressed their points perfectly to be understandable by all. Thank you for this useful course and I hope there will be more similar courses in the coming future! Regards. MS

Sincere thanks for the seminar. As a final year PhD student, the presentations gave me a perfect insight of what is needed for successful publications. Keep it up - I will recommend such a seminar if it's repeated in the future. Well done. MC

The conference was very relevant to my needs. I will definitely encourage my colleagues to attend next year's conference especially those following post-graduate studies. Thank you for opening the conference to all professionals. The material covered is very scarce to find elsewhere especially if one is not a medical student/doctor or employed/studying with the University of Malta. VA

I found this course very well organised and extremely helpful. I will definitely recommend it to my colleagues. One suggestion I could make would be that maybe the course could be held in a more central location. Having said that, travelling a bit more for three days does not put one off from attending a course you would like to attend. EVZ

Carissimo Victor, Il programma è ben fatto, molto utile, pratico ...complimenti!!!! Un abbraccio forte! DN

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