



## Guideline for OSIR Publication

Articles submitted to OSIR should be between 1200 and 2200 words. Target audience is Asian public health practitioners, and those who understand basic epidemiologic methods.

**Abstract** is non-structured abstract and may not exceed 200 words in length. This word count does not include the title, author list, information in the heading and key words.

### (1). Title (Suggested length: no more than 75 characters)

Your title may either describe the study or pose a question expressing your primary objective. Please include:

- Disease or event
- Time occurred
- Place occurred

### (2). Introduction (Suggested length: 150 – 300 words)

This section describes *why* you conducted your study.

#### 1) Context

- General information about the significance of the disease
- Occurrence of disease in region
- Surveillance data or other information on disease burden and risk factors (susceptible population)
- Worldwide magnitude of disease (number of cases, rank on scale of morbidity/mortality)
  - \* Regional/National magnitude
  - \* Provincial magnitude
- Historical Perspective (disease trend, emerging or re-emerging)
- Typical demographics of cases
- Prevention and control strategies currently in use (i.e., vaccination, vector control, etc)
- Availability and type of diagnostic testing

#### 2) Biological Information (great detail is not necessary)

- Microbiology/pathophysiology
- Natural history of an infection
- Clinical presentation of infection
- Seasonality of the disease
- Mode of transmission
- Reservoirs

#### 3) Gap in Knowledge that Made this Work Necessary

- Information that is currently missing and the reason you needed to conduct your study.

#### 4) Objective(s)

- Verification of an outbreak
- Determination of disease's etiology
- Risk factors of the disease
- Determination/effectiveness of control measures
- Route of transmission
- Cite evidence that supports, refutes, or questions related hypotheses
- Describe natural history of disease

### (3). Methods (Suggested length: 350 – 500 words)

This section describes *how* you conducted your study. A comprehensive methods section would provide enough information to allow someone in a similar situation to replicate exactly what you did.

#### 1) Location and Timeframe

- Map of the province and country
- Urban vs. rural setting
- Population of study area
- Unique characteristics of population and geography
- Duration of the study and dates of initiation, completion, other relevant dates
- Time of year

#### 2) Study Population

- Case definition
- How were cases identified and recruited?

#### 3) Study Design

- Descriptive
- Case-control
- Cohort
- Cross-sectional
- Ecologic

#### 4) Data Collection

- Data source and survey instrument
- Type of interview
- Biological/chemical samples
- Environmental samples

#### 5) Analysis

- Type of analysis
- Statistical tests and software program
- Significance level

#### (4). Results (Suggested length: 250 – 550 words)

This section describes *what* your study found. Key results from the analyses which support the conclusion should be reported. We strongly encourage using graphics to display your findings; even more so than you would in a peer-reviewed journal.

##### 1) Graphics/Tables

- Graphics and tables should be simple, clear-cut and easily understandable
- Avoid pie charts and 3-D graphics
- For more information: Edward Tufte's books, <[http://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte/books\\_visex](http://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte/books_visex)>.

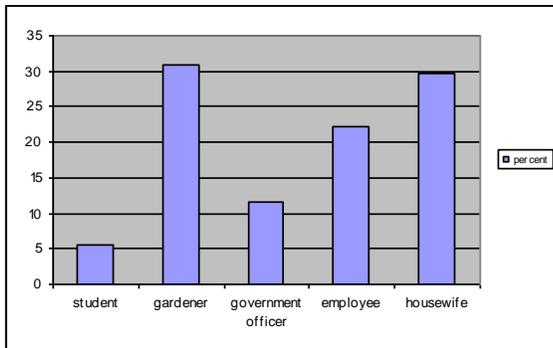


Figure 1. Draft

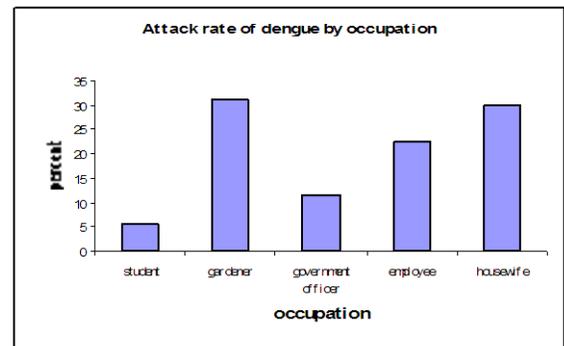


Figure 2. Edited

##### 2) Response Rate

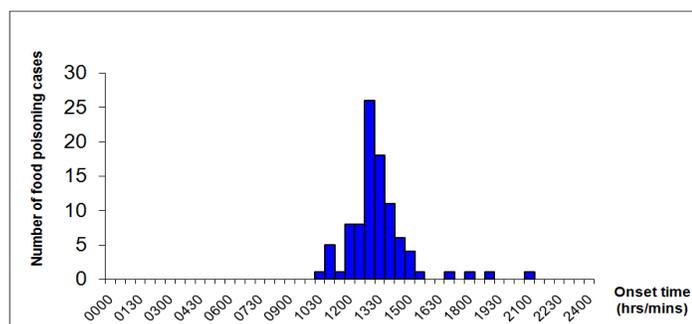
- Were you able to obtain information from most of your cases?
- Define denominator

##### 3) Characteristics of Cases/Sample Population

- Describe by person, place and time

##### 4) Epi Curve

- CDC Guidance on creating Epi Curve: <[http://www.cdc.gov/cogh/dgphcd/modules/MiniModules/Epidemic\\_Curve/page01.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/cogh/dgphcd/modules/MiniModules/Epidemic_Curve/page01.htm)>



##### 5) Primary Outcome

- Findings of the primary analysis you proposed in your methods section, and findings that address the objective of your work
- Univariate and/or multivariate analyses

- Measures of association, descriptive analyses and 95% confidence intervals, and significance level

#### **6) Lab Results**

- Type of sample
- Lab test used
- Reference level
- Sensitivity and specificity of lab tests
- Reference for lab method

#### **7) Further Analysis**

- Secondary analysis
- Environmental result

#### **(5). Discussion (Suggested length: 300 – 500 words)**

This section explains the findings of your study. All of your findings should not repeat here - just refer to them as needed to discuss them.

- Summarize the key findings
- Compare findings with literature. Agree or disagree?
- If disagree, explain why
- Limitations
- Significance of findings

#### **(6). Public Health Action and Recommendations (Suggested length: 150 – 350 words)**

- This is where practical information is provided to your readers and where your work can have the greatest impact on controlling disease.
- Data must support the action and recommendation.
- Follow up

#### **(7). References**

- Vancouver style
- Guidance on Vancouver style: <<http://www.library.uq.edu.au/training/citation/vancouv.pdf>>