



# Abstract Writing: What I Learned

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# Abstract Accepted at AACN's 2018 NTI Conference

of CRITICAL-CARE  
NURSES



A Community of Exceptional Nurses

November 3, 2017

Dear Carly,

**Congratulations from AACN and the NTI Program Planning Committee!** Your abstract has been selected for presentation at the National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition (NTI) May 20–24, 2018 in Boston, MA. A separate email notification will be sent for each abstract submission.

Title: **Meeting Patient and Family Education Needs Through Cultural Diversity and Health Literacy**

**Note:** Your title, session description or learning objectives may have changed slightly during pre-production editing – please review your abstract in the Abstract Portal.

Session Type: **Concurrent**

Level: **All Levels**



**It all started...**

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# Sharing/Networking

## Hand-washing campaign launched

The Nursing Research and Evidence-based Practice Council has launched the You Otter Wash Your Hands Campaign as an intervention for our first nursing research study at the Alaska Native Medical Center. All patients who are admitted between November 2005 through August 2006 will receive an Otter Card by the admitting RN that invites each patient and visitor to be a germ buster.

The best way to help stop the spread of germs from one person to another in the hospital is for everybody to wash their hands or use the alcohol lotion located on the wall of the hospital room. Staff who are giving patient care should wash or sanitize their hands before they touch the patient. Help us to be germ busters and remind staff and providers to wash or

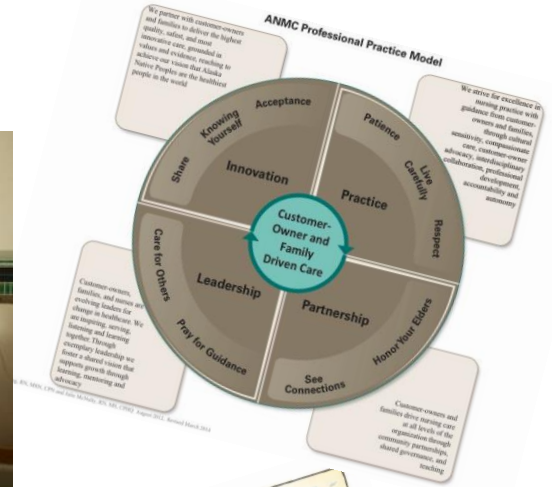
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The best way to help stop the spread of germs from one person to another in the hospital is for everybody to wash their hands or use the alcohol lotion located on the wall of the hospital room.

sanitize their hands before patient care. We appreciate Ahlin Amaon

for allowing us to use his Otter painting for the You Otter Wash Your Hands Campaign.



# Peer Feedback



# Initial Reaction



# Professional Aspirations





# Relevant Experiences

- Expertise
  - Proficient with culture, patient education, patient and family-centered care
- Presentations Given
  - Local hospital presentations (as a staff nurse and as a leader)
  - Statewide presentations
    - Alaska
    - Oregon
  - International Presentations
    - Thailand
- Abstract experience
  - Experience reviewing for AACN and NACNS
  - Last wrote one in 2012





# Initial Steps

Is what I have to say:

- New enough?
- Interesting enough?
- Important enough to present?

Does my organization have any requirements for me to notify them prior to submitting or presenting?

# Targeting the Right Conference

- Will the audience be interested?
- Does the topic fit in with the theme?
- Where will the information have the best impact?
- If presenting a project, will it be done in time for the abstract deadline?

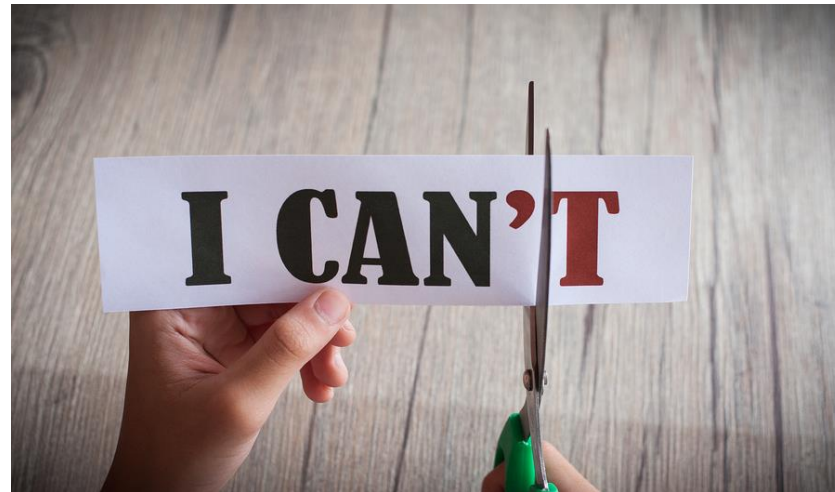


# Sample Conference Comparison

	AACN NTI	ANCC Magnet	Society of Pediatric Nurses	NACNS
Conference Size	5,000-6,000	5,000-7,000	400	600
Conference Month	May	October	April	March
Target Audience	Critical Care Nurses/Leaders	All nurses	Peds Nurses/ Leaders/Faculty	CNSs/Faculty all specialties
Abstracts Open	March 2018	Oct. 2018	April 2018	March 2018
Abstract Deadline	June 2018	Dec. 2018	June 2018	May 2018
Notification	Nov. 2018	Feb 2019	Sept. 2018	Unknown
Abstract Requirements Online?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Honorarium?	Yes	No	No	No
Travel covered?	Yes, most	No	No	No
Conf. Reg Paid?	Yes	No	No	No

# The Challenge

- Become familiar with abstract requirements for NTI.
- Develop an outline and submit an abstract in less than 7 days.



# Abstracts

- What did I already know about abstracts?
  - “Bare bones” of the presentation/project
  - Needs to meet the requirements set by the organization.

# Four Cs of Abstract Writing

- Complete
  - Covers major parts of the talk/project.
- Concise
  - Contain no excess words or unnecessary information.
- Clear
  - Is readable and well organized
- Cohesive
  - Flows smoothly between the parts



# Easy to Read Abstracts

- Define abbreviations before using them
- Use short, complete sentences
- Write only one thought per sentence
- Ensure abstract flows
- Avoid jargon
- Eliminate unnecessary words.

# Abstract Guidelines

- Each organization defines their abstract requirements.
  - Follow them!
  - Note:
    - Heading requirements
    - Word/character counts
    - Deadlines

# Finalizing an Abstract

- Seek out mentors
  - Professional Practice Directors, Magnet Directors, Clinical Nurse Specialists, etc.
- Identify reviewers
  - Provide them with the abstract requirements
- Revise based on feedback
  - Expect to do several revisions
  - Remember that feedback is good

# Other Abstract Pearls

- Abstracts are typically blinded for reviews.
- The criteria listed is often accounted for in scoring.
- Presenting on failures/learnings is just as important as successes.



# Why Abstracts Are Not Accepted

- Topic doesn't fit with conference
- Poor scientific content
- Submitted in wrong category or track
- Poorly constructed
- Data are too preliminary
- Topic is already well known/published or no contributing to the field
- Tough competition (especially larger conferences)

# Successful Abstracts

- Notification is normally occurs via email.
- Complete any paperwork necessary.
- Take note of any deadlines.
- Start allotting time to work on your presentation.
- Notify your leaders/organization.



Questions?



Thank You