

Poster preparation guidelines

These guidelines are intended to ensure ease of reading and enhance understanding of the content of a poster. Feedback is invited during the poster session.

Poster communications are primarily a tool to allow authors to discuss their research with others. They should contain enough information, together with that in the abstract, to give readers a good overall understanding of the research. Authors should follow recommendations on font and text size closely. Choice of colours, etc, is up to the authors but legibility is paramount – colour clashes (e.g. green text on red background) must be avoided.

The poster should have a banner heading that spans its full width and include title, authors and institutions. The title, which must closely match that submitted in the abstract, must be easy to read from a distance of several metres. It should be in **bold sans serif font** (e.g. Arial) with 96pt characters. The names of authors and institution(s) should be in the same font but smaller (e.g. 72pt). Institutional crests/logos may be included in the banner; sponsor's crest can be shown in either the banner or the Acknowledgements.

To ensure clarity, the poster background must be a solid colour (including white) and must not include a pattern or image. The sections should be arranged vertically, not horizontally, so readers can progress in columns from left to right.

The main body of the poster should include relevant headings such as Summary, Introduction, Materials and Methods/Experimental Procedures, Results, Discussion, References and Acknowledgements. The headings should be in bold sans serif font (e.g. Arial) with 48pt characters. All text in the poster, including figure legends, should be sans serif font (e.g. Arial) with 28pt characters. Use of diagrams to illustrate methods/procedures is encouraged, especially where this reduces the text. It is recommended that no more than six figures or tables are displayed, that graphs contain no more than three curves and tables no more than 30 values.

The overall dimensions of posters will depend on the size of the display boards available at each meeting, but generally the standard poster boards used in meetings organized by the BPS measure 2.m high x 1.0m wide (portrait). We suggest making your poster no larger than 90cm wide x 120cm high (or A0 portrait). The entire poster may be printed as a single sheet or as a banner plus the appropriate number of A3/A4 sheets corresponding to the same overall size.