Abstract Preparation Best Practices

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How to Write an Abstract: General

• Summary of content that will be presented via poster
  – Concise (200- to 300-word limit)
  – Accurate (general, but reflective of study content)
  – Unbiased (academic writing style)

• Avoid quotations

• Avoid too much detail (e.g., lit review, procedures, detailed statistics)
How to Write an Abstract: Considerations

• Abstract works in conjunction with title
  – General → specific

• Word limits
  – Unique to each conference; typically 300 words or less
  – Title word limit: ~12
  – GRF abstract word limit: 300

• Keywords
  – For indexing and planning by organizers
  – For searching by attendees (e.g., convention program)
## Project Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Type</th>
<th>Degree of Completion</th>
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<tr>
<td>Literature review</td>
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How to Write an Abstract: Content (Literature Review)

• Problem under investigation
• Literature inclusion and exclusion criteria
• Population(s) in included literature
• Conclusions/implications/applications
  – Themes
  – Current state (and limitations) of knowledge
  – Suggestions for practice and/or future empirical studies
Review

The association between Internet addiction and psychiatric disorder: A review of the literature

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Social anxiety
Hostility

ABSTRACT

Internet addiction is a newly emergent disorder. It has been found to be associated with a variety of psychiatric disorders. Information about such coexisting psychiatric disorders is essential to understand the mechanism of Internet addiction. In this review, we have recruited articles mentioning coexisting psychiatric disorders of Internet addiction from the PubMed database as at November 3, 2009. We describe the updated results for such disorders of Internet addiction, which include substance use disorder, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, depression, hostility, and social anxiety disorder. We also provide discussion for possible mechanisms accounting for the coexistence of psychiatric disorders and Internet addiction. The review might suggest that combined psychiatric disorders mentioned above should be evaluated and treated to prevent their deteriorating effect on the prognosis of Internet addiction. On the other hand, Internet addiction should be paid more attention to when treating people with these coexisting psychiatric disorders of Internet addiction. Additionally, we also suggest future necessary research directions that could provide further important information for the understanding of this issue.

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How to Write an Abstract: Content (Theory-Oriented)

• Principles on which theory(theories) is(are) based

• How theory works
  – Phenomena/problems accounted for
  – Sketch connections to actual data

• Conclusions
  – Pros (e.g., utility) and cons (e.g., anomalies)
  – Suggestions for advancement of theory and potential empirical tests of theory
  – Suggestions for practice
A conceptual and methodological critique of internet addiction research: Towards a model of compensatory internet use

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Internet addiction
Compulsive internet use
Problematic internet use
Compensatory internet use
Motivations for internet use

ABSTRACT

Internet addiction is a rapidly growing field of research, receiving attention from researchers, journalists and policy makers. Despite much empirical data being collected and analyzed clear results and conclusions are surprisingly absent. This paper argues that conceptual issues and methodological shortcoming surrounding internet addiction research have made theoretical development difficult. An alternative model termed compensatory internet use is presented in an attempt to properly theorize the frequent assumption that people go online to escape real life issues or alleviate dysphoric moods and that this sometimes leads to negative outcomes. An empirical approach to studying compensatory internet use is suggested by combining the psychological literature on internet addiction with research on motivations for internet use. The theoretical argument is that by understanding how motivations mediate the relationship between psychosocial well-being and internet addiction, we can draw conclusions about how online activities may compensate for psychosocial problems. This could help explain why some people keep spending so much time online despite experiencing negative outcomes. There is also a methodological argument suggesting that in order to accomplish this, research needs to move away from a focus on direct effects models and consider mediation and interaction effects between psychosocial well-being and motivations in the context of internet addiction. This is key to further exploring the notion of internet use as a coping strategy: a proposition often mentioned but rarely investigated.
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How to Write an Abstract: Content (Case Study)

• Subject and relevant characteristics
• Problem illustrated by case example
• Treatment used in case study
• Pertinent outcome(s)
• Implications for practice and/or theory
Internet addiction disorder and problematic use of Google Glass™ in patient treated at a residential substance abuse treatment program

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HIGHLIGHTS

• This is the first reported case of internet addiction disorder involving the problematic use of Google Glass™.
• Excessive and problematic uses of Google Glass™ are associated with involuntary movements to the temple area and short-term memory problems.
• Frustration and irritability are related to withdrawing from excessive use of Google Glass™ in our patient.

ARTICLE INFO

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Keywords:
Internet addiction disorder
Problematic use of Google Glass
SARP

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Internet addiction disorder (IAD) is characterized by the problematic use of online video games, computer use, and mobile handheld devices. While not officially a clinical diagnosis according to the most recent version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), individuals with IAD manifest severe emotional, social, and mental dysfunction in multiple areas of daily activities due to their problematic use of technology and the internet.

Method: We report a 31 year-old man who exhibited problematic use of Google Glass™. The patient has a history of a mood disorder most consistent with a substance induced hypomania overlaying a depressive disorder, anxiety disorder with characteristics of social phobia and obsessive compulsive disorder, and severe alcohol and tobacco use disorders.

Results: During his residential treatment program at the Navy’s Substance Abuse and Recovery Program (SARP) for alcohol use disorder, it was noted that the patient exhibited significant frustration and irritability related to not being able to use his Google Glass™. The patient exhibited a notable, nearly involuntary movement of the right hand up to his temple area and tapping it with his forefinger. He reported that if he had been prevented from wearing the device while at work, he would become extremely irritable and argumentative.

Conclusions: Over the course of his 35-day residential treatment, the patient noted a reduction in irritability, reduction in motor movements to his temple to turn on the device, and improvements in his short-term memory and clarity of thought processes. He continued to intermittently experience dreams as if looking through the device. To our knowledge, this is the first reported case of IAD involving problematic use of Google Glass™.

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How to Write an Abstract: Content (Empirical Study)

• Problem under investigation
• Sample size and pertinent demographics
• Method
• Results
• Conclusion/implications/applications
Exploring the effects of demographic factors, Internet usage and personality traits on Internet addiction in a sample of Italian university students

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Article history:

Keywords:
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Internet usage
University students
Big Five
Personality traits

ABSTRACT

Despite increasing interest in Internet addiction disorder, especially among high school students, few investigations have been oriented towards exploring the potential risks associated with an overuse of the Internet for the university population. A sample of 190 Italian university students was selected to investigate the effects of demographic profile, Internet usage and the Big Five personality traits on Internet addiction. Results indicated that none of the enrolled students showed a high level of addiction, although moderate behavioural disorder was found. The multiple linear regression findings displayed that males were more inclined to use the Internet than females, and some students’ behaviours were predictors of Internet addiction. Moreover, personality traits such as Agreeableness and Extraversion were negatively related to Internet addiction, whereas Openness was positively associated. These results highlight that several factors may predispose university students to developing problematic behaviour connected with an excessive use of the Internet.

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GRF Submission Logistics

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  – My.thechicagoschool.edu ➔ Student Affairs ➔ Graduate Research Forum