

Combined Sections Meeting Abstract Publication Rates

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PURPOSE: Conference poster and platform presentations contribute to research within the scientific and medical community. Publication following conference presentation is important to further disseminate findings. The study purpose was to determine publication rate of Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) Orthopedic and Sports platform and poster presentations for the year 2010. A publication rate above 50% would be acceptable, while below 50% would be unacceptable.

MATERIALS/METHODS: 2010 CSM poster and platform presentations were retrieved from The Journal of Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy. Authors and titles were searched in both Google Scholar and PubMed (MEDLINE). If the same abstract title or similar authors and methods was found, the abstract was considered published. If not found it was considered unpublished. A 50% publication rate was operationally defined as acceptable. Descriptive statistics were used.

RESULTS: All abstracts were published at a rate of lower than 50%. Orthopedic platform abstracts were published at 26.9% while posters at 12.7%. Sports poster abstracts were published 23.1% of the time, while platforms at 21.4%. The average length of time from CSM to publication was over 17 months for all categories. Sports platform abstracts had the longest time to publication at 22.8 months, followed by Orthopedic poster abstracts at 18.7 months. Orthopedic platform and Sports poster abstracts both had a 17.3-month timeframe to publication.

CONCLUSIONS: The hypothesis of a publication rate below 50% being deemed unacceptable was found. Researchers can use this information to determine submission preference. CSM may require a more selective poster and platform presentation selection criteria.