

How to Read a Conference Abstract

ABSTRACT P73 - A

THE PROSPECT OF SUPPORT SCROLLING: A CONTENT ANALYSIS ON TYPE 1 DIABETES ADVOCACY, TECHNOLOGY, AND SUPPORT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Cristian Iannicello¹, Andy Tannous², Kira Voelker³, Dana Albright³, Jessica Pater³, Jessica C Kichler¹

¹Department of Psychology, University of Windsor

²School of Social Work, University of Windsor

³Parkview Research Centre, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is marked by a deficiency in insulin secretion caused by an autoimmune destruction of the insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas. As a result, individuals typically follow a complex regimen of carbohydrate counting, checking blood glucose levels regularly, and calculating insulin doses daily. As such, it is imperative for these individuals to feel connected to and cared for by those around them. Therefore, the use of social media as a vehicle to connect individuals with T1D to interact with and support one another is groundbreaking. The main purpose of the proposed study is to investigate the potential positive aspects of social media for a community of individuals with T1D, such as the ability for these platforms to equalize access to current diabetes healthcare knowledge, including technology advances, so that people with T1D who experience support online are better able to advocate for their healthcare needs. The study uses archival data previously collected as part of a parent study (Type 1 Diabetes on Social Media: A thematic analysis of publicly posted content across social media platforms). Due to the amount of data collected, the technology and advocacy primary codes will undergo further qualitative examination through a secondary content analysis. The study aims to inform on the many layers of the T1D healthcare advocacy ecosystem as well as the potential role of social media networking in building self-management skills for those with chronic conditions, like T1D.

^ Here is an example of a conference abstract from the 2025 WE-SPARK Health Research Conference. This guide will break down each segment of the abstract to help you better understand how to interpret a conference abstract.

ABSTRACT P73 - A

^ **The first line of the abstract** indicates the poster number (i.e., P73) and the session number (i.e., Session A) where you will be able to find this poster. Posters will be viewable in both sessions, but the letter indicated on the abstract is the session in which the presenter will be with their poster.

**THE PROSPECT OF SUPPORT SCROLLING: A CONTENT ANALYSIS ON TYPE 1 DIABETES
ADVOCACY, TECHNOLOGY, AND SUPPORT ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

^ **This bolded capitalized line** indicates the title of the research project. This will be your first thing to note when making a list of posters you might be particularly interested in viewing.

Cristian Iannicello¹, Andy Tannous², Kira Voelker³, Dana Albright³, Jessica Pater³, Jessica C Kichler¹

¹Department of Psychology, University of Windsor

²School of Social Work, University of Windsor

³Parkview Research Centre, Fort Wayne, Indiana

^ **The listed names** represent all the authors of the project. These individuals aided in the conceptualization, data collection, analysis, and/or write-up of the project. Names are typically listed in order of contribution to the project, with the first author typically being the primary investigator and the final author typically being the individual's supervisor.

The bolded name represents the poster presenter. This is the individual you might encounter at this poster to discuss this project.

The numbers indicate author affiliation. For example, Cristian Iannicello has a "1", indicating they are from the Department of Psychology at the University of Windsor, whereas Andy Tannous has a "2", indicating they are from the School of Social Work at the University of Windsor.

The affiliated institutions listed correspond to these numbers, which can be found after each author's name.

Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is marked by a deficiency in insulin secretion caused by an autoimmune destruction of the insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas. As a result, individuals typically follow a complex regimen of carbohydrate counting, checking blood glucose levels regularly, and calculating insulin doses daily. As such, it is imperative for these individuals to feel connected to and cared for by those around them. Therefore, the use of social media as a vehicle to connect individuals with T1D to interact with and support one another is groundbreaking. The main purpose of the proposed study is to investigate the potential positive aspects of social media for a community of individuals with T1D, such as the ability for these platforms to equalize access to current diabetes healthcare knowledge, including technology advances, so that people with T1D who experience support online are better able to advocate for their healthcare needs. The study uses archival data previously collected as part of a parent study (Type 1 Diabetes on Social Media: A thematic analysis of publicly posted content across social media platforms). Due to the amount of data collected, the technology and advocacy primary codes will undergo further qualitative examination through a secondary content analysis. The study aims to inform on the many layers of the T1D healthcare advocacy ecosystem as well as the potential role of social media networking in building self-management skills for those with chronic conditions, like T1D.

^ **The body paragraph** describes the project itself. The following points will break down the body paragraph further.

Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is marked by a deficiency in insulin secretion caused by an autoimmune destruction of the insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas. As a result, individuals typically follow a complex regimen of carbohydrate counting, checking blood glucose levels regularly, and calculating insulin doses daily. As such, it is imperative for these individuals to feel

^ Generally, an abstract's body will begin with some general information about the topic(s) being studied.

checking blood glucose levels regularly, and calculating insulin doses daily. As such, it is imperative for these individuals to feel connected to and cared for by those around them. Therefore, the use of social media as a vehicle to connect individuals with T1D to interact with and support one another is groundbreaking. The main purpose of the proposed study is to investigate the

^ They will then outline the identified gap in the literature whereby it was deemed important to conduct this study.

T1D to interact with and support one another is groundbreaking. The main purpose of the proposed study is to investigate the potential positive aspects of social media for a community of individuals with T1D, such as the ability for these platforms to equalize access to current diabetes healthcare knowledge, including technology advances, so that people with T1D who experience support online are better able to advocate for their healthcare needs. The study uses archival data previously

^ Next will be the goal or purpose of the study, which will outline what the author(s) aimed to find by conducting their project. This section may include research questions or hypotheses, if space allows.

experience support online are better able to advocate for their healthcare needs. The study uses archival data previously collected as part of a parent study (Type 1 Diabetes on Social Media: A thematic analysis of publicly posted content across social media platforms). Due to the amount of data collected, the technology and advocacy primary codes will undergo further qualitative examination through a secondary content analysis. The study aims to inform on the many layers of the T1D

^ The abstract will then go on to discuss the methods used for data collection and analysis. This example also indicates further work will be conducted at a later date, but this component is not necessary for all abstracts.

qualitative examination through a secondary content analysis. The study aims to inform on the many layers of the T1D healthcare advocacy ecosystem as well as the potential role of social media networking in building self-management skills for those with chronic conditions, like T1D.

^ Finally, the abstract will end with what outcomes the author(s) hope will come from their project. This is similar to what might be found in a discussion/conclusion section of their poster.

Should you have any questions about an abstract that interests you after reading it fully, we recommend you discuss with the presenter on conference day! Asking questions is a great way to interact and begin getting involved in research.

Note: Abstract body formatting may not match this example exactly but should generally have similar elements.