

# Analysis of oral Papers Presented at an International CME- A Descriptive Study.

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## Abstract

**Introduction:** Scientific oral paper presentations are rapidly gaining popularity as a method of communicating research work at conferences. They are one of the best means of scientific communication. University curriculum has made oral paper presentation as mandatory for the post graduate students.

**Objective:** To analyse and categorise the topics chosen for presentation by residents and faculty at International CME held at Goa Medical College.

**Methodology:** Descriptive analysis was done on 141 oral papers presented. The data was obtained from the abstract book of the CME. Based on title and contents, papers were categorised into six major groups. Research design and type of study were also noted. The results expressed in numerals and as percentage and analysed.

**Results:** 141 oral papers were presented of which majority(84.39%) were presented by post graduate students. Lady Pathologist presenting paper were three times more in number compared to men. Histopathology was the most common speciality chosen(36.87%) and least common was Haematology(9.21%).

**Conclusion:** Histopathology was the scientific field of interest probably due to easy availability of materials for research. An increasing tendency in research work involving molecular pathology was observed.

**Key words:** oral papers, Post graduate students, Histopathology.

## Introduction

Oral presentation of a research paper is one of the best platforms where nonverbal cues are combined with effective verbal skills adding a broader aspect to our communication. It allows individual to present their thoughts and views confidently in front of a live audience.

Oral presentations of scientific work are rapidly gaining popularity as a method of presentation at academic meetings and conferences. They are a means of scientific communication. It involves sharing and communicating experiences in a clear and short way within the scientific community. Oral presentation promotes active discussions and enables

interactions with experienced faculty which can lead to further research, encourage future collaborations and provide valuable insight regarding the subject matter.<sup>1</sup>

A common saying is that “we remember 10% what we read, 20% of what we hear, 30% of what we see and 50% of what we see and hear”. Paper presentation forms an important factor to shape a successful scientific career and an essential part of communicating with the scientific fraternity.<sup>2</sup>

University curriculum has made it mandatory for all postgraduates to present at least one oral paper. Apart from fulfilling this objective, paper presentation gives students an idea about how to communicate their research topic and findings effectively.<sup>3</sup>

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The Present study aims at analysing the type of scientific study or research undertaken by pathology residents and faculty attending “International CME In Pathology, Histopathology, and Cytopathology” conducted in Goa Medical college, based on the topics chosen for oral paper presentation.

**Methodology**

This is a descriptive study undertaken to analyse the scientific field of interest of Pathologists based on the topics chosen for oral paper presentation at the annual International CME in Pathology, Histopathology and Cytopathology, organised by Indian Academy of Cytologists, Goa chapter and International Academy of cytology at Goa Medical College. Data for the study was obtained from the conference abstract book.

Based on the title of the paper and contents they were grouped in to five major categories viz Histopathology,

Cytology, Hematology, clinical Pathology and molecular studies. Research design, type of study gender of the presenter were noted along with whether the presenter was a faculty or postgraduate.

**Result**

Delegates of the CME were students perusing either MD Pathology/DNB Pathology or faculty of Pathology department and Pathologists working in various private and corporate sectors attending the conference.

Total oral papers presented were (n=141) with a M:F of 1:3. Majority of the papers 119(84.39%) were presented by postgraduate(PG) students. With a PG/faculty ratio of 5.4:1.

Delegates of the conference hailed from different parts of India. Karnataka and Gujarat ranked highest in the number of paper presented, 26.9% and 21.27% respectively Table I.

Table I: Demographic profile

Sex		Occupation		Geographical location(%)	
Male	Female	Student	Faculty		
36(25.7%)	104(74.28%)	119(84.39%)	22(15.60%)	Karnatka- 38	(26.9%)
				Gujarat- 30	(21.2%)
				Madhya Pradesh-14	( 9.92%)
				Rajasthan- 12	(8.5%)
				Maharastra- 10	(7.09%)
				Uttarkhand- 5	(3.54%)
				Haryana- 4	(2.83%)
				Tamil Nadu- 4	( 2.83%)
				Chattisghad- 3	(2.12%)
				Delhi- 3	(2.12%)
				Assam- 2	(1.4%)
				Uttar Pradesh- 2	(1.4%)
				Andhra Pradesh- 2	(1.4%)
				Unknown- 6	(4.04%)
n=141		n=141		n= 141	

The overall strategy chosen for the study ie research design varied. 50(35.46%) constituted experimental study involving a diagnostic method . Other research designs were as shown in

Table II: Research design

Research design(type of study)	No of studies (%)	
Retrospective study	20	(14.13%)
Clinic Pathological study	23	(1.31%)
Comparative study	23	(16.31%)
Diagnostic Method/Experimental study	50	(35.46%)
Descriptive method	25	(17.73%)
	n= 141	

Histopathology was the field of research in 52(36.87%), followed by Cytology 39(27.65%). Hematology was the least common field 13(9.21%)

Table -III: Scientific field of interest

Scientific field of interest	No of studies (%)	
Histopathology	52	(36.87%)
Cytopathology	39	(27.65%)
Hematology	13	(9.21%)
Molecular Pathology	21	(14.89%)
Clinical Pathology	16	(11.34%)
	N=141	

**Discussion**

Presenting either poster or oral paper at conferences is one of the important task by Medical Council of India for students persuing their post graduation in various

that helps in improvement of the work.

In this study Postgraduate students present oral paper were five times more compared to faculty. Medical Council of India criteria appears to be the reason for post graduates out numbering faculty in presentation of oral papers.

Presentation at conferences has additional advantages too. It helps to build scientific network, scientific collaboration, recognition in the field of study which may helps in getting job opportunities, placements etc. Critiquing or feed back on the research work presented

disciplines of medicine. It is also an opportunity for present research activities in front of learned people and people from the same discipline. This not only helps to get critical evaluation of work, peer review

will boost the research methodology. Women Pathologist Presenting paper were more than men(M:F 1:3). The reason for the same may be multifactorial but in recent past representation of women in the field of Pathology has increased(Deville et al,2015).

Histopathology(36.87%) was the most common subspecialty chosen which probably represents the scientific field of interest and also the availability of material for research. This is similar to the study of research pattern of Postgraduate dissertation in Pathology.<sup>4</sup>

Table IV: Comparative Analysis

Manjula et al (2012)			Present study (2017)	
Sample Size				
Histopathology-	30	(28%)	Histopathology-	52 (36.8%)
Cytology-	39	(27.6%)	Cytology-	12 (11.2%)
Hematology -	13	(9.2%)	Hematology-	12 (11.2%)
ClinicalPathology-	16	(11.3%)	ClinicalPathology-	9 (8.4%)
MolecularPathology-	21	(14.89%)	MolecularPathology-	1 (0.9%)
n=107			n=141	

There is an increasing tendency in research wok involving molecular pathology compared to 2012.<sup>4</sup> As molecular pathology is becoming an integral part of routine diagnostic pathology especially in Oncology, where it is used to study not only etiopathogenesis but for diagnosis, prognosis and therapy. Pathology curriculum is also incorporates molecular pathology education for pathology training programmes.

**Refereances**

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