

RCN ViPERS Guidelines

Introduction: A ViPER (Moore, 2001) is a novel approach to research presentations for networking. It is an evaluation of Visual Presentation with Expert Review (ViPER). It promotes interaction and discussion rather than the routine didactic approach used in the majority of conference presentations. The following guidelines may be used to assist in the delivery of a successful ViPER.

1. A poster is developed and viewed by attendees prior to the session.
2. A4 copies of the poster to be circulated to attendees at the start of the presentation.
3. The presenter places the poster in the presentation room and using a maximum of 3 powerpoint slides and 5 minutes to summarise the poster. The summary may focus on the background, rationale, methodology, key findings and/or discursive key issues but not all issues/facts as presented in the poster.
4. An 'expert' or 'discussant' verbally highlights 3 – 5 key themes/issues for consideration of group discussion. The 'expert' or 'discussant' encourages debate and discussion with attendees and presenter.

The following are encouraged:

- The 'discussant' and the presenter should meet, review the poster and agreed discussion points prior to the session commencing, ideally a minimum of 24 hours prior to the ViPER.
- The 'discussant' to have a list of key themes/questions ready to stimulate debate and discussion, just in case attendees asked no questions.
- It is useful to consider 'lateral,' and/or topical issues as well as those presented in the poster and powerpoint slides.
- The use of open questions i.e. how, what, where are more likely to stimulate debate and/or discussion.

Moore, M. et al (2001), "A novel approach to research presentations for networks: an evaluation of Visual Presentation with Expert Review (ViPER)", Primary Health Care Research and Development, Vol. 2, pp 205-207.