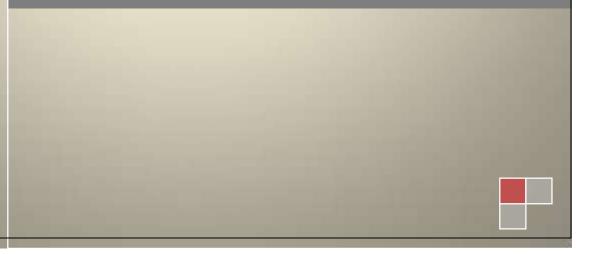# Research-Based Learning Writing a Mini review Guide

Libyan International Medical University
Faculty of Pharmacy
PharmD Program
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Research-Based Learning

Writing a Mini review

Guide

A mini review provides a concise, focused review of the literature related toa question of current interest. It is short and usually relatively easy to read. Writing a mini review is a good way to organize your thoughts and summarize the knowledge you have obtained about a particular topic that you have acquired from reading the literature.

Structure of the mini review:

- **Word range:** 1500- 2500 (not including the title, authors, abstract,keywords, tables and references)
- **Title:** should be:
    - Attractive
    - Informative
    - Specific
    - Not too long/ too short
- **Authors:**
    - The authors' names and institutional affiliation should be **double-spaced** from the title and **centered below the title**.
- **Abstract:**
    - Word range 100-250.
    - Non-structured abstract.
    - Do not use abbreviations.
    - Do not cite references.
    - This should be a summary of the review including the purpose of conducting the review and the main findings.
- **Keywords:**
    - Use 3-8 keywords representing the main content of thearticle.

- **Body of the Minireview:**

- Stick to the principles of academic writing.
- **Introduction:**
  - A single introductory paragraph provides necessary background/context for the reader. Should indicate or hint at why the chosen topic is important.
- **Body:**
  - Divide up the minireview into 3-5 topics/sections, eachwith its own subheading (in bold).
  - Each subheading should be followed by 1-3 paragraphs.
  - Ideally each paragraph should have a topic sentence andshould be written clearly but concisely.
- **Conclusion:**
  - One well-developed paragraph.
  - Should be concise and to the point.
  - Should clearly state the main conclusions and include an explanation of their relevance or importance to the field.
- **Figures/tables:** (up to 2)
- **References:**
  - Referencing style:
    - Use Vancouver referencing system (numerical system)
  - References number:
    - 10 to 40 references.
  - Use major references.
  - Use more recent references (~85% of references should be ≤ 5years medical topics and ≤ 8 years for non-medical).
  - Types of references that can be used:
    - Original Articles.
    - Review Articles: Good starting point.
    - Conference Proceedings.
    - Government and Corporate Reports.
    - Thesis and Dissertations: Limited Use.
    - Textbooks: can be a good starting point