

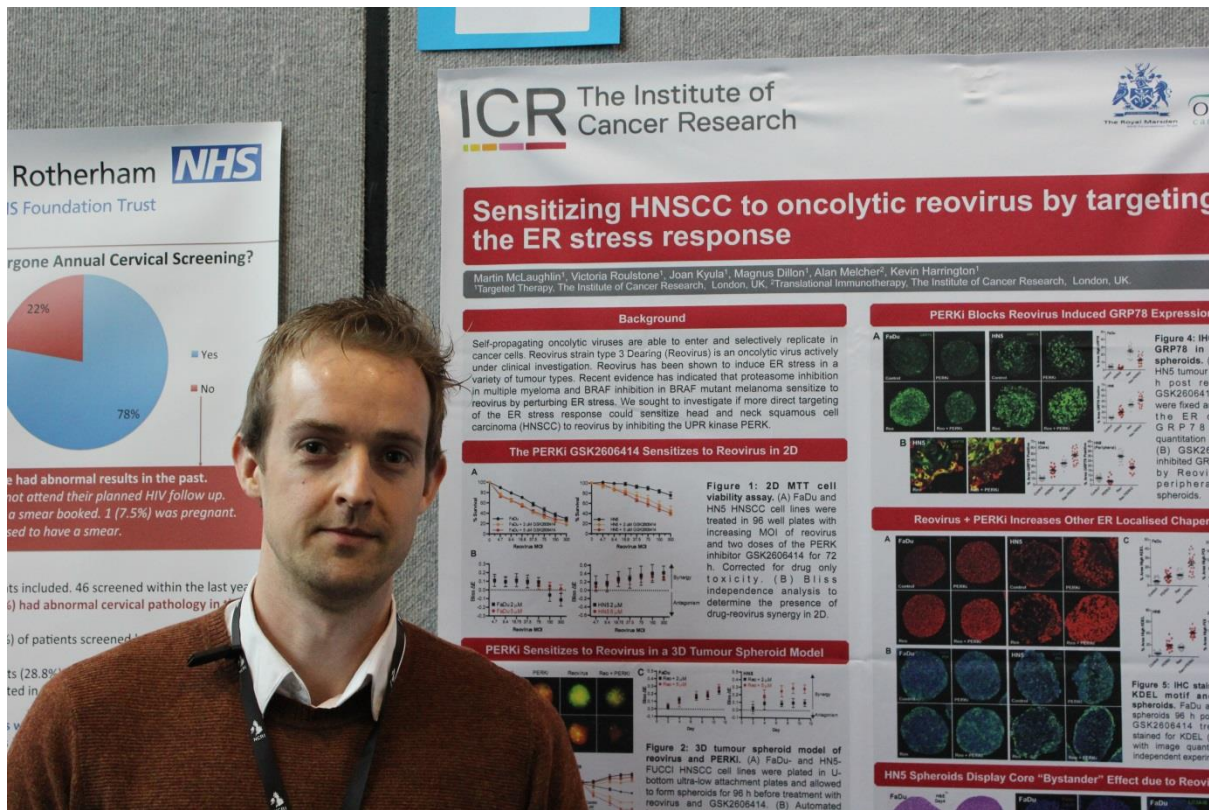
Guide to writing up your experiment



Scientists at the ICR need to share their work, and explain it to others.

One way to share your experiments and research is to create posters to present your scientific work to other scientists at conferences and meetings. Creating a poster lets people see at a glance how you planned your research, and the results of what you have found out.

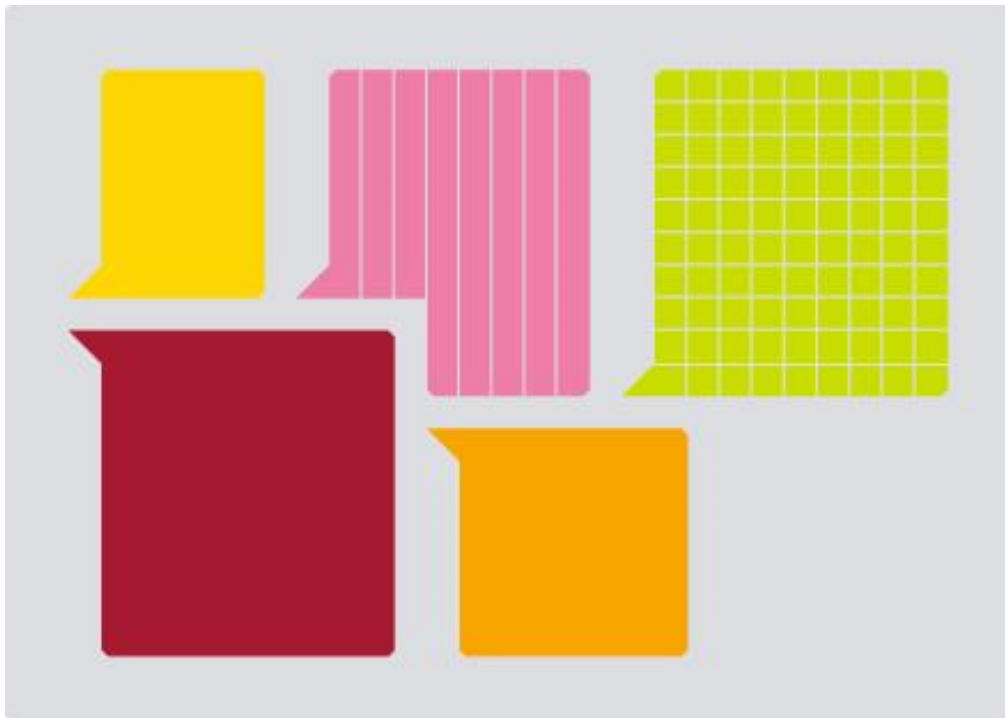
Here's an example of ICR researcher Martin McLaughlin presenting his research at a conference:



Posters often include pictures, graphs, and writing about research. We're hoping that you can create a poster describing your experiment, and using some graphs and images to show your results.

What makes a good poster?

- It should be clear and easy to read
- There shouldn't be too much text
- It should use graphics, colours, and layout to draw the eye
- It should be understandable to people who haven't done your project



Structure

Your poster should include:

- A catchy title
- A summary of what you are trying to achieve
- An introduction to your hypothesis
- A short section describing your experiment, and why it was new and exciting
- Your results in graphical form

- Some thoughts about what your results mean
- Suggestions for ways to expand this project in future.

Title

Make it clear what you were trying to discover.

Hypothesis

What were you trying to test?

Your experiment

You need to describe your experimental method in a clear way. Why did you do it this way? Why did you think the result would prove your hypothesis?

Tables and graphs

Tables are useful because they let you show your raw data – you could include a table of data from your notebook, if you have space. However, you may not need to.

Graphs are useful because they can show your data in a visual way, and reveal connections you might not be able to spot. We would advise you to include at least one graph of your data.

You can use a line graph to show a trend over time

Interpreting your results

Remind the reader of your hypothesis and the results that you found.

Then make some suggestions about what these results might mean.

To do this, try to find a pattern in your data – your graphs will help with this. Then draw a conclusion from this pattern. You can also suggest limitations that might have affected your experiment.

Construct a possible explanation for what you have seen.

Suggestions for expansion

Think about other experiments you could do and how they could support your hypothesis and confirm your results, building on what you've already seen.