



Tips and Tricks For Scientific Presentations

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I respectfully acknowledge that I live and work on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations

- How many of you have been at a conference or presentation and seen a slide that looks like this?
- Bright blue background, tiny yellow font, very hard to read.
- Slides like this seem to be a common theme among conferences I attend.
- Unfortunately, seeing slides like this automatically makes me wish that I had just stayed in bed.
- The presenter could be speaking on the most interesting content in the world, but with slides like this, I find it really really hard to focus on the message because I am busy trying to read the tiny font and decipher the complicated figure.
- It also doesn't really help that everything that is being said is also written word for word on the slide.
- If your slides look like this, please don't take this as a personal attack - I just think that, we can and should do better.

1. Write your script



What is your take home message?



Who is your audience?



How are you framing your story?

Middle

Provide **highlights** of what you did

Beginning

Why should the audience **care**?



End

What do you want people to **remember**?

2. Prepare your slides



Take a break from PowerPoint templates

Why bad PowerPoint presentations
are dangerous

Bulleted ideas \neq
a coherent progression of thoughts

The Washington Post: PowerPoint should be banned. This PowerPoint presentation explains why.

Increase **the font size**

Can you incorporate a visual?

Barriers to shared healthcare decision making:



**Healthcare system
organizational factors**



**Decision making
factors**



**Individual capacity
to participate**

Legare et al. (2008)
Joseph-Williams et al. (2014)

Using bullet points?

- 3-5 points
- Strong contrast between text and background
- **ALL CAPS IS HARD TO READ**

Do your slides feel consistent?



Overview

- 01 Background on post-TB health
- 02 Research questions and objectives
- 03 Proposed methodology
- 04 Questions



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There are an estimated
155,000,000
TB survivors alive globally



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Research objectives:



- 1 Determine if there is an increase in health service utilization in the post-TB period
- 2 Define distinct trajectories of TB survivors based on their health service utilization patterns
- 3 Identify and describe potential interventions that may help mitigate post-TB morbidity in TB survivors
- 4 Identify healthcare provider knowledge, beliefs, and experiences of barriers and facilitators to post-TB care

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Data source

Linked administrative data from
ProData BC on all foreign-born
residents to BC between 1985 to 2019.



Study population

All people diagnosed with incident
& primary TB in BC matched to non-
TB controls.



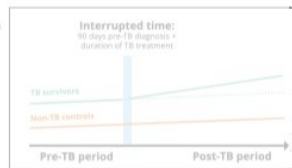
Primary outcome

Physician visits, hospitalizations,
and non-TB-related prescription
fills.



Statistical analysis

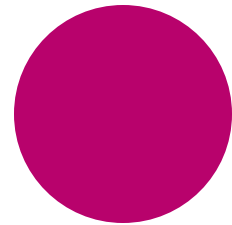
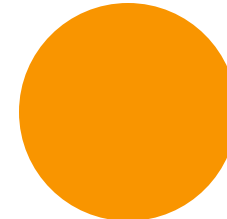
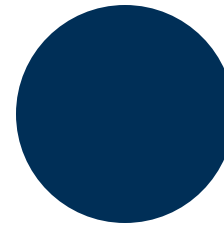
Interrupted time series analysis
with concurrent controls.



**Does TB lead to an increase in
health service utilization?**



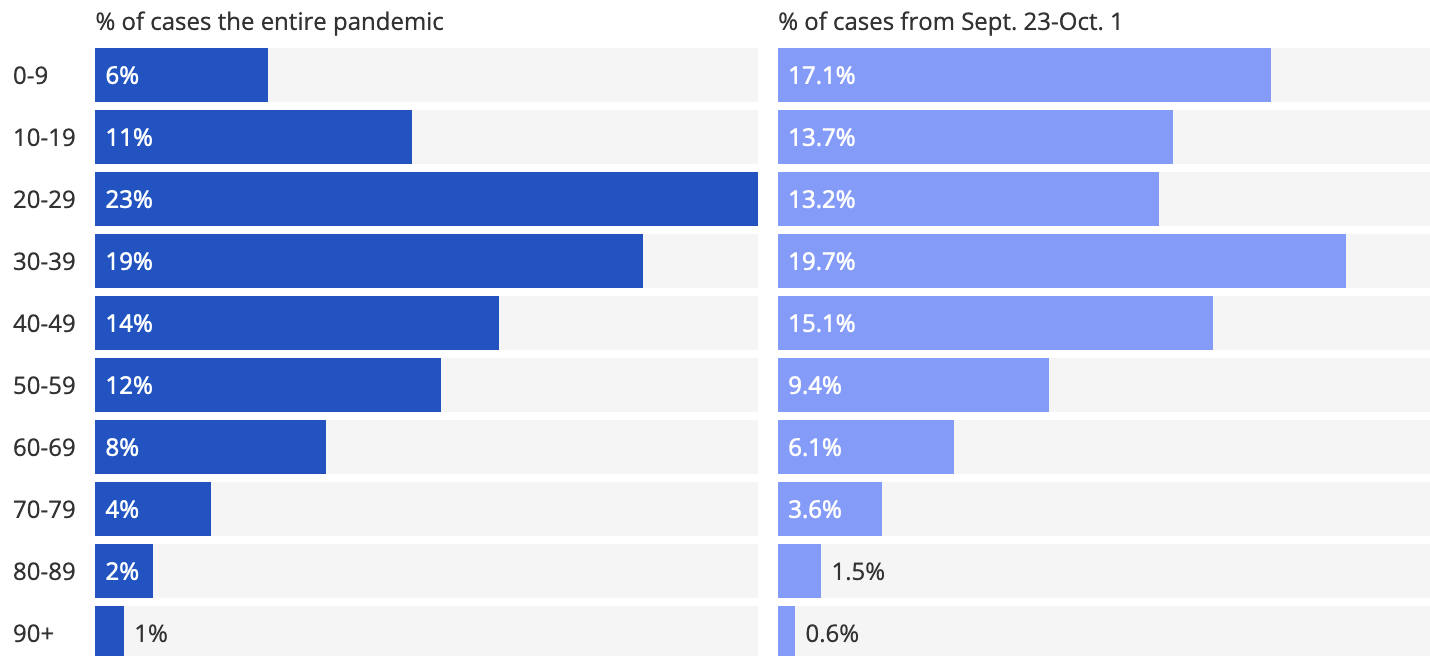
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**Transitioning from one
topic to another?**

How are you presenting your findings?

COVID-19 cases in the 4th wave in B.C. now shifting more to young people



Does your table fit in the slide?

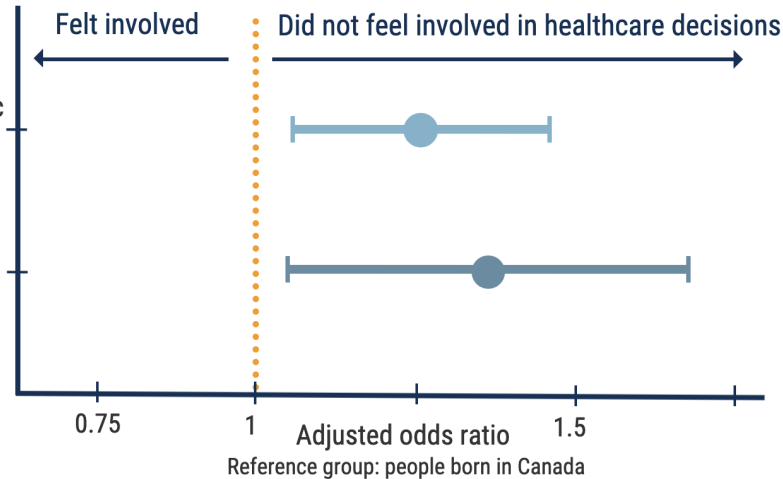
	Canadian born	Born outside of Canada
	<i>n sample (% population)</i>	<i>n sample (% population)</i>
N	53,633	9,681
Did not feel involved in healthcare decisions	3535 (6.6)	838 (9.1)
Immigrated within 0-9 years		1,865 (25.3)
Visible minority	1,437 (7.3)	4,840 (64.5)
Post-secondary education level	32,777 (57.1)	6,872 (67.5)
Annual income less than \$20,000	4,853 (6.6)	858 (8.1)
Three or more chronic conditions	20,614 (25.8)	3,113 (22.3)
Has family doctor	48,905 (84.2)	8,798 (81.8)
English or French spoken at home	53,433 (98.8)	7,290 (67.0)

Do you want to highlight a main finding?

Primary analysis results remained consistent in a propensity score matched sensitivity analysis

Primary analysis:
survey weighted logistic
regression
aOR 1.26 (95% CI 1.06, 1.49)

Sensitivity analysis:
propensity score
matched
aOR 1.33 (95% CI 1.04, 1.69)

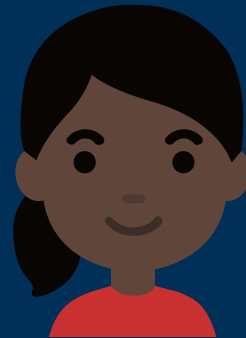


*Models adjusted for age, sex, education level, income, language, regular physician, perceived health status, number of chronic conditions, and region of Canada and used survey design features

3. Giving your talk



Don't forget to practice!





What is your key message?
Who is your audience?



Simple and cohesive
Increase font size



Practice
Have fun!



Thank you!



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Resources:

- Canva* - presentation templates, graphics: <https://www.canva.com/>
- Venngage* - presentation templates, graphics: <https://venngage.com/>
- Colors - colour palate generator: <https://colors.co/>
- LucidChart* - make flowcharts: <https://www.lucidchart.com/pages/>
- Grammarly - check spelling and grammar: <https://app.grammarly.com/>

- Cedric Scherer - ggplot tutorial: <https://www.cedricscherer.com/>
- Ted Talks - examples of great presentations: <https://www.ted.com/>
- Slideology - Nancy Duarte is the designer who assembled Al Gore's Inconvenient Truth talk: <https://www.duarte.com/books/slideology/>
- Washington Post - why power points should be banned: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2015/05/26/powerpoint-should-be-banned-this-powerpoint-presentation-explains-why/>
- Useful tip of how to present information and different presentation styles: <https://www.presentationzen.com/>
- TedTalks tips for a better slide deck: <https://blog.ted.com/10-tips-for-better-slide-decks/>

* Limited free versions, check to see if your institution offers access or discounts