

SERVIZIO SANITARIO REGIONALE
EMILIA-ROMAGNA
Azienda Unità Sanitaria Locale di Bologna



ESMO YO BREAKFAST

How to write a good review article

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Writing a review article

A review article
represents the
beginning as well as the
coronation of the
career of a successful
physician



Writing a review article

WHY?



Writing a review article

WHY?

- Publish or Perish
- Wish to move the first steps
- Achieve visibility in the scientific community

Writing a review article

Independently
from the reason
you have to give
a message



Writing a review article

Independently

**A review article is not a list
of data!!**

a message



The message

- Hit gaps of knowledge
- Discuss controversies
- Put evidences into a context

The message

- Hit gaps of knowledge
- Discuss controversies
- Put evidences into a context



(clinically) relevant messages

The audience



The audience

1) Keep in contact

2) Hit the target

- All the oncologists

- Only the experts of a field

The audience

All the oncologists

»Most difficult

»Synthetic

»Comprehensive



Mastery knowledge of the topic

The audience

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

REVIEW ARTICLE

DRUG THERAPY

EGFR Antagonists in Cancer Treatment

Fortunato Ciardiello, M.D., Ph.D., and Giampaolo Tortora, M.D., Ph.D.

The audience

Only the experts of a field

» Easier

» Descriptive



But don't miss the message

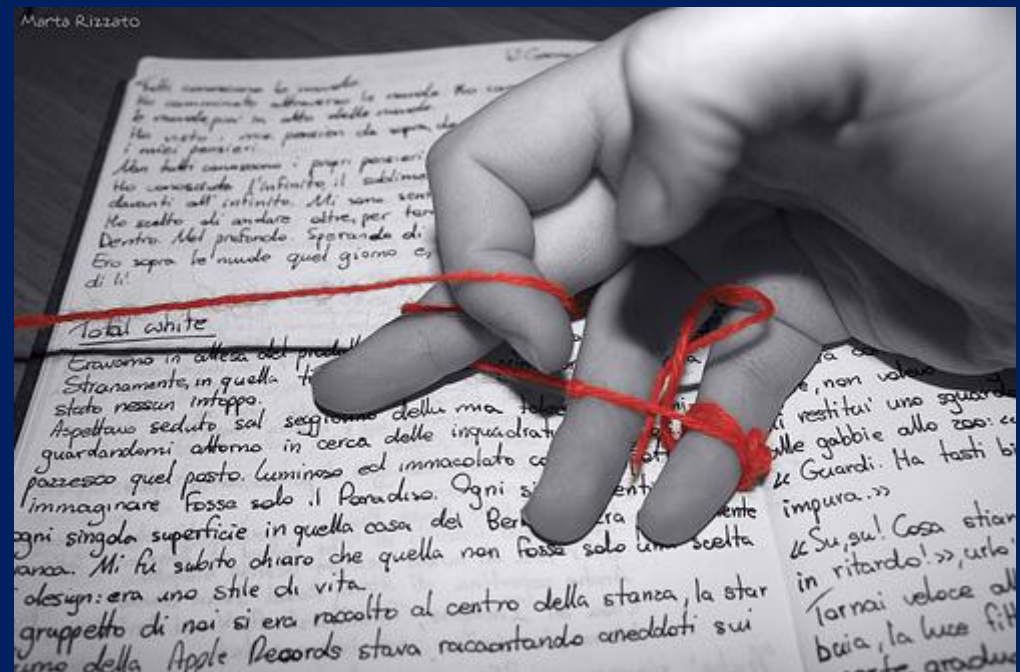
The audience

In any case you
have to guide
your audience
through your
review



The audience

...beside a main
theme



The source of data

Where to find
the data?



The source of data

- Info about:
- past data
 - present data
 - future data

The source of data

Info about: - past data

» Pubmed

» FDA, EMA reports

The source of data

Info about: - present data

» International
meetings

» Companies' releases

The source of data

Info about: - future data

» www.clinicaltrials.gov

The review

Has to be a
harmonious body

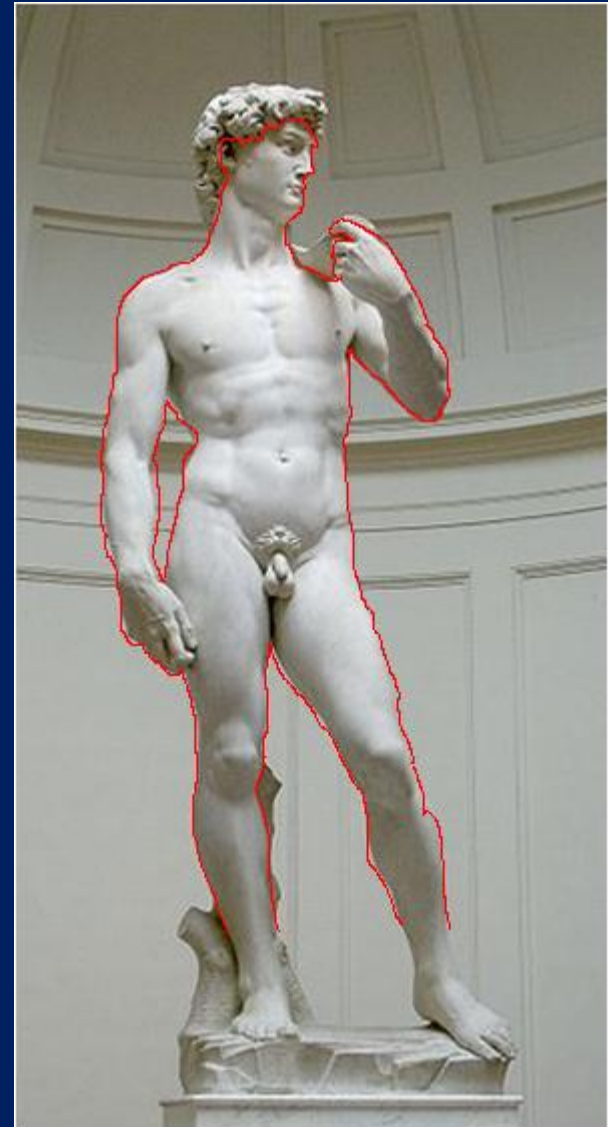


The review

The skin



The title



The review

The title should be:

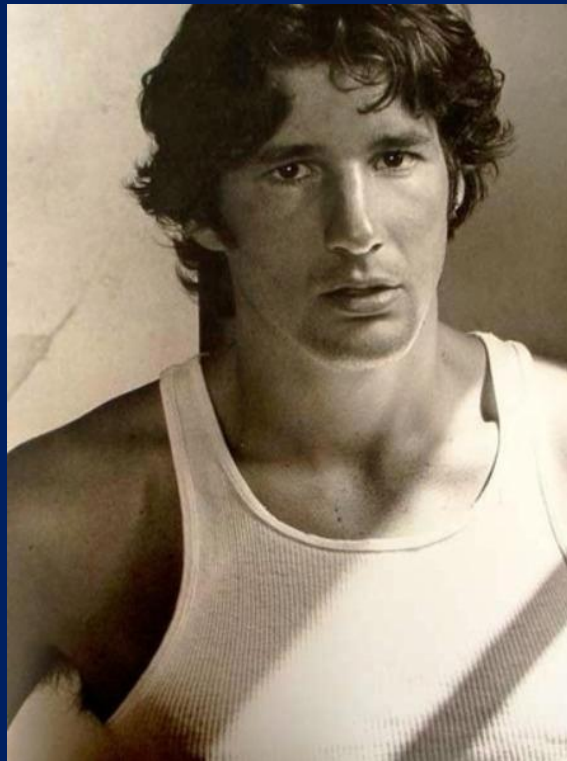
- clear



The review

The title should be:

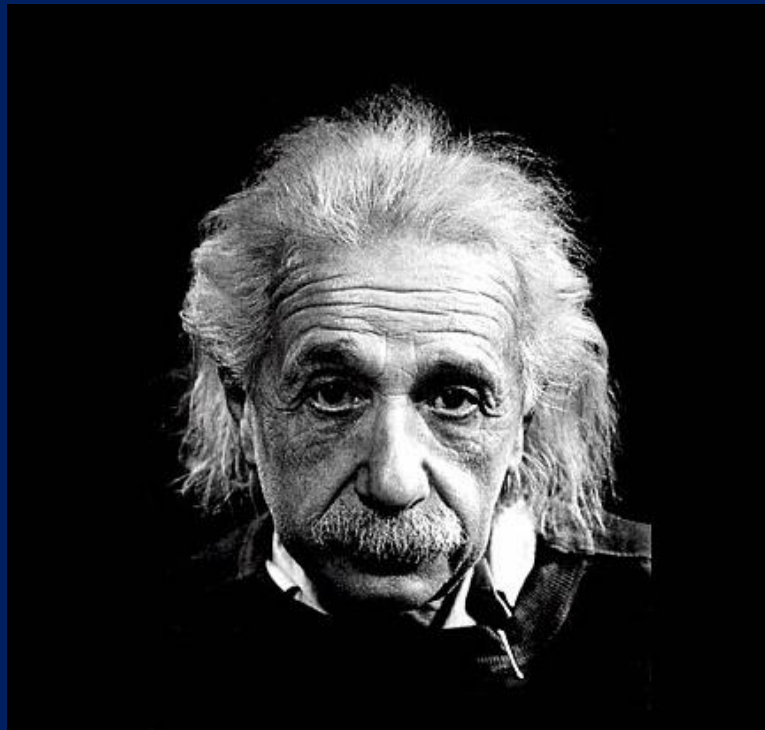
- clear
- sexy



The review

The title should be:

- clear
- sexy
- consistent



The review

Don't forget that title and conclusions are a continuum and have to go in the same direction



The review

Don't forget that title and

...which is not so obvious



The review

VOLUME 30 · NUMBER 28 · OCTOBER 1 2012

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

REVIEW ARTICLE

Discordance Between Conclusions Stated in the Abstract and Conclusions in the Article: Analysis of Published Randomized Controlled Trials of Systemic Therapy in Lung Cancer

Abdullah K. Altwaigi, Christopher M. Booth, Wilma M. Hopman, and Tara D. Baetz

Discordance in 10% of cases!!

The review

The body



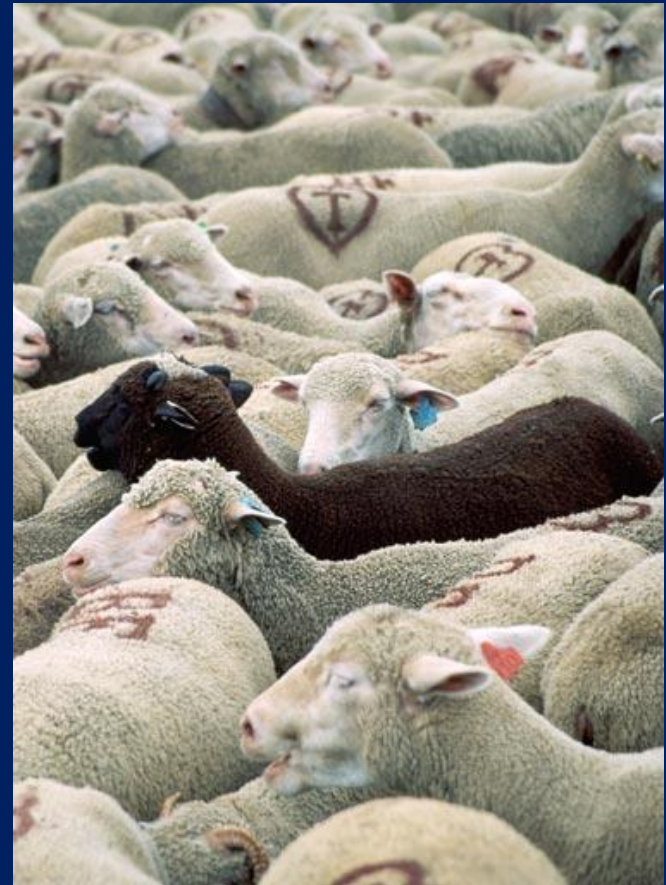
The amount of
knowledge



The review

The amount of knowledge

- Provide context



The review

The amount of knowledge

- Provide context
- Not a labyrinth of data



The review

The amount of knowledge

- Provide context
- Not a labyrinth of data
 - Hierarchy!



The review

The amount of knowledge

-Hierarchy!

»Based on : type of trial, number of patients, biases, endpoints

The review

The amount of knowledge

- Provide context
- Not a fractal of data
- Weigh up the data



The review

The amount of knowledge

- Critical revision of:
 - » Evidences
 - » Pitfalls /limitations
 - » Endpoints



The review

The head



The discussion



The review

The discussion

- Have a point of view
- Recall briefly the main info/issues
- Perspectives

The review

But the most important:

Your message

has to be clear across all the
review manuscript

The review

But the most important:

has to be all the



The review

Do not forget!

- Tables:
 - Clear
 - Immediate
 - Easy to read

The review

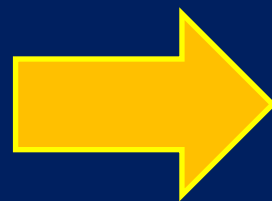
Do not forget!

- Tables:

- Clear

- Immediate

- Easy to read



Good chances to
see your tables in
some ASCO 2013
educational
presentations

The other side



The other side

Think as an editor

Reviews are the flagships of a
journal

The other side

Think as an editor

- They ask you to be:
 - Clear
 - Consistent
 - Immediate
 - Unbiased
 - Up to date

Finally

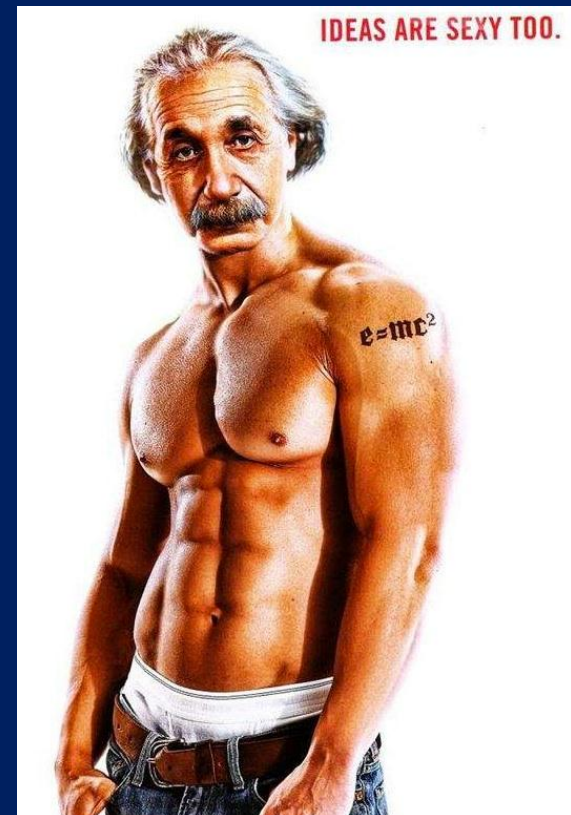
Think as a reader

- He asks you to be:

Finally

Think as a reader

- He asks you to be:



Finally

Think as a reader

After your review article:



Finally

Think as a reader

After your review article:

- » More information (EBM)
- » More awareness
- » Perspectives

Finally

Think as a reader

After your review article:



Thank you!

