**CRITERION** | **Excellent 4** | **Good 3** | **Fair 2** | **Needs Extensive Improvement 1**
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**Content** | The abstract presents issues of immediate relevance to and importance for dental education, with evidence based on current best practices or emerging pedagogy. | The abstract focuses on issues and evidence that are based on current best practices in dental education. | The abstract is related to dental education, but contains few elements that are relevant to best practices in dental education. | The abstract does not clearly indicate its importance and relevance to best practices in dental education. |
**Clarity** | The title, objectives, methods, results and conclusion are clear and very well described. | The title, objectives, methods, results and conclusion are generally well described. | The title, objectives, methods, results and conclusion findings are unclear. | The title, objectives, methods, results and conclusion are incomplete and unclear. |
**Format** | The abstract clearly describes research purpose, methods, appropriate analysis of data and an accurate, meaningful and concise conclusion. | The abstract is adequately presented in terms of rationale, objectives, methods, appropriate data analysis and conclusion. | The abstract describes research in dental education, but does not clearly describe the rationale, objectives, methods, data analysis or conclusion. | The abstract does not provide evidence of sound research and/or scientific methodology which substantiates the conclusion. |
**Professional Writing and Protection of Participants** | The abstract is clearly written and provides evidence of IRB approval (including Exempt status), if required. | The abstract requires some editing and provides evidence of IRB approval (including Exempt status), if required. | The abstract requires considerable editing, and/or evidence of IRB approval (including Exempt status), if required, is unclear. | The abstract is incomplete, unclear or lacks evidence of IRB approval (including Exempt status), if required. |
**Contribution** | The study will make a significant contribution to multiple areas and aspects of dental education. | The study will make a contribution that will be of interest to areas and aspects of dental education. | The study will make a limited contribution that will be of interest to some areas and aspects of dental education. | The study does not identify its contributions to areas and aspects of dental education. |