



hosted by



Scientific Writing Course

Hosted by and jointly supported by the **Kenya Renal Association (KRA)**

The course

The ISN Scientific Writing Course (SWC) is a 2,5-days course given by experts in the field of scientific writing to help physicians and researchers from a range of backgrounds and specialization in nephrology to improve their scientific writing skills, so they achieve the skills needed to publish their research work. The selected participants will receive hands-on and one to one mentoring from faculty on writing skills for their respective research work. The process of translating research projects into publications will receive sustained ongoing guidance from faculty after the course.

Purpose

Achieving and maintaining high standards in science writing is crucial to advancing research as much as sharing, testing and comparing new ideas and discoveries. This course is designed to incorporate:

- The participants' skills in conducting clinical research in nephrology - and getting the results published
- The art and science of manuscript writing and responding to reviewers

Venue and schedule

The ISN Scientific Writing Course (SWC) 2025 co-hosted and jointly supported by the Kenya Renal Association (KRA) will be organized and held as the following:

- Venue: Pride Inn Convention Centre, Shanzu, Mombasa, Kenya
- From 6 to 8 October, 2025.

A computer/laptop is required to participate in this course.

Teaching method and content

During this course, talented investigators who are in the process of writing a manuscript are guided step-by-step to proficiently review and complete their manuscripts based on world-class methods.

The course consists of a series of didactic lectures, group activity, demonstrations and discussions. It includes a process of critical analysis, constructive feedback and sharing of experiences in the field of research.

The participants should ideally come away with:

- The necessary knowledge base to succeed in publishing scientific papers in top international journals or to prepare a grant application
- An in-depth understanding of scientific peer-review publishing
- How to best present their work in general

- Inspiration and motivation to write but also to do more basic research and launch projects in their own countries
- A better basis for undertaking and/or setting up international collaborative efforts
- Ability to write cover letters, write reviews and evaluate the work of others
- Ability to plan and outline papers in an organized, systematic way, and to incorporate their colleagues' suggestions and observations.

Teachers/ Faculty

English-based tutorials will be delivered by the following international expert scientists:

- Professor Marcello Tonelli (Canada)
- Professor Nees Pannu (Canada)
- Professor Giovanni Strippoli (Italy)

A local faculty member will also contribute to the course.

Participants

A maximum of fifteen (15) participants will be accepted for the ISN Scientific Writing Course. Seats are therefore limited.

The responsibility for functioning computer/laptop remains with each participant. The ISN cannot be held liable for weak or unstable internet connection or malfunctioning devices during the course.

Eligibility criteria

The course is open to [ISN members](#) who:

- speak and write English fluently
- are early-career professionals (age <40y)
- work predominantly in clinical research (i.e. health research requiring approval from a human ethics board)
- have prior experience in basic research
- have manuscript(s) published in a peer-reviewed journal, or have other indicators of high potential in clinical research
- have an active research project/manuscript
- are demonstrably motivated to improve their scientific writing skills.

Application Process and Selection

Candidates need to apply via the online portal [here](#) by **June 20, 2025**. The application must include:

1. Application form filled out (fully in English)
2. CV (max. 4 pages, PDF or Word format only, fully in English)
3. List of publications (max. 6 items)

4. Presentation of the active research project/manuscript to be finalized during the course
5. Research manuscript to be finalized during the course (PDF or Word format only, in English)
6. Letter of reference from Institution/national society (in English).

The applications received will be reviewed and scored by the faculty members, ISN Clinical Research and Young Nephrologists Committees, and KRA. The faculty members and the Clinical Research Committee will make final decisions on eligibility as required.

The selection process is competitive to keep high-quality standards.

To note that:

- **Prior clinical research experience** and an **active research project/manuscript** that can be used as the basis for participation will receive priority consideration.
- Applications not including documents in English or proof of an active research paper/manuscript may not be considered.
- All the information and documents collected from applicants are strictly confidential and to be used internally and for review purposes only.
- **No fee** will be charged to the selected participants.
- **ISN membership is required to apply. A 50% discount on the membership fee is available by using code 50ISN25 -> [Join/renew your ISN membership now](#)**
- ISN membership grants access to the [ISN Academy](#). Below a list of relevant educational resources hosted at the ISN Academy to help you prepare for the course:
 - [ISN YNC Curriculum: Basics of Statistics for a Successful Start in Clinical Research](#)
 - [ISN Webinar: Mixed Methods Research in Kidney Care](#)
 - [Introduction to Qualitative Health Research](#)
 - [ISN YNC Webinar: Understanding Basic Concepts of Clinical Research for Literature Appraisal: What Every Nephrologist Should Know](#)
- **A contribution toward travel** will be granted to selected participants from low-, lower-middle- and upper-middle-income countries
- **Accommodation will be provided** to selected participants from low-, lower-middle- and upper-middle-income countries
- **A completion certificate** will be issued to participants at the end of the course
- **Selected participants may continue to** receive one-on-one mentoring on their papers from the faculty members after the course.

Program

The tentative program is as follows:

Day 1 – Monday, October 6, 2025

	Topic
SESSION 1:	
	Welcome and Introduction
	Formulating the Research Question

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk and group-based exercise
	Tea break
	Scientific paper writing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the key sections of a paper Important points to keep in mind
SESSION 2:	
	Writing the Methods Section <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview Overview of commonly used statistical tests
	Lunch
	Literature Search methods – short lecture
SESSION 3:	
	Participants to revise and update their Methods section
	Writing the Methods section – group activity
	Tea break
	Literature search and referencing – group activity
	Writing the Methods section – group activity
	Participants to revise and update their papers for the next day
	Free evening

Day 2 – Tuesday, October 7, 2025

	Topic
SESSION 1:	
	Writing the Results section (including tables and figures)
	Participants to revise their own Results section
	Tea break
	Writing the Results section – group activity
SESSION 2:	
	Key aspects of writing the Discussion – overview
	Participants to revise their own Discussion section
	Writing the Discussion- group activity
	Lunch
SESSION 3:	
	Artificial Intelligence in scientific writing
	Introduction section – overview
	Participants to revise their own Introduction section
	Writing the Introduction-group activity

	Tea break
	Preparing to submit the manuscript and choosing a journal
	Participants to revise their own cover letter
	Writing the cover letter – group activity
	Participants to revise their own Introduction or cover letter
	Dinner

Day 3 – Wednesday, October 8, 2025

	Topic
SESSION 1:	
	Abstract – overview
	Writing an abstract for the paper – presentations
	Addressing reviewers’ comments
	Tea break
SESSION 2:	
	Preparing for resubmission - overview
	Writing a response to reviewers – group exercise
	Discussing participants’ own papers
	Closure and departures

The final program will be shared in due time.

[Contact for inquiries](#)

For all inquiries, please contact the Course Coordinator via swc@theisn.org.