

How to write Discussion

The discussion and conclusion section is somehow the counterpart to the introduction since this section should lead the reader from narrow and/or very specific results to more general conclusions. Generally, this section includes:

- Presentation of background information as well as recapitulation of the research aims of the present study.
- Brief summary of the results, whereas the focus lies on discussing and not recapitulating the results.
- Comparison of results with previously published studies.
- Conclusions or hypotheses drawn from the results, with summary of evidence for each conclusion.
- Proposed follow-up research questions.

Something that is often not adequately dealt with is a discussion about the significance of the results; a good place for doing so is the end of the discussion section.