

# Tips for PowerPoint Presentations

PSI class, 2014

Suggestions for putting together your journal club and research proposal presentations to have clear, readable, and professional slides, to maximize our ability to understand the research.

- Content → what to put in the slides
- Slides → how the slides look
- Presentation

# Journal club content

- **Introduction**

- It is OK to use supporting info and figures from the internet
- State the authors' hypothesis, purpose, or goal

- **Methods**

- Spend minimal time describing the techniques
- Simplify. Do not tell us the experimental details

- **Results**

- **DO present some or all of the figures** (depending on time)

- **Critique**

- Very important! Tell us what was good or bad about the paper  
**Did the results support the hypothesis?**

# Text

- **Font size should be 20 point or larger** ← 24pt
  - If you can't fit it all on one slide, use a second slide ← 20pt
- **Do not use paragraphs of text or lots of abbreviations**
- **DO use bullet points to tell us the major ideas**

## **What NOT to do → this paragraph is not readable**

Chemotherapy (CTx) is central to the current treatment modality for primary human brain tumors, but despite high-dose and intensive treatment regimens there has been little improvement in patient outcome. The development of tumor chemoresistance has been proposed as a major contributor to this lack of response. While there have been some improvements in our understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying brain tumor drug resistance over the past decade, the contribution of glutathione (GSH) and the GSH-related enzymes to drug resistance in brain tumors have been largely overlooked. GSH constitutes a major antioxidant defense system in the brain and together with the GSH related enzymes plays an important role in protecting cells against free radical damage and dictating tumor cell response to adjuvant cancer therapies, including irradiation and chemotherapy. Glutamate cysteine ligase (GCL), glutathione synthetase (GS), glutathione peroxidase (GPx), glutathione reductase (GR), glutathione-S-transferases (GST), and GSH complex export transporters (GS-X pumps) are major components of the GSH-dependent enzyme system that function in a dynamic cascade to maintain redox homeostasis. In many tumors, the GSH system is often dysregulated, resulting in a more drug resistant phenotype. This is commonly associated with GST-mediated GSH conjugation of various anticancer agents leading to the formation of less toxic GSH–drug complexes, which can be readily exported from the cell...Blah blah blah.

# Font

- **Do not use odd or “interesting” fonts**  
Hard to read and may not show up on our computer
- **Do not use all caps**
- **DO use a basic text font**  
**Calibri, Arial, Helvetica, Times**

**What NOT to do** → none of these examples is readable

*Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) are the most aggressive brain tumors and remain a challenge for oncologists. New therapies are urgently needed.*

*fibronectin is overexpressed in glioblastoma versus normal brain and belongs to the cluster of genes associated with a more malignant phenotype.*

**THROUGH THE USE OF NON-PEPTIDIC A5B1 INTEGRIN ANTAGONISTS AND GBM CELL LINES, WE SHOWED THAT A5B1 INTEGRIN MAY BE A THERAPEUTIC TARGET FOR THESE TUMORS.**

# Contrast and Color

## What NOT to do



Low contrast



Too bright



Distracting



My pet peeve

← Red/black and red/green →  
Cannot be seen by colorblind people



My pet peeve

- **DO use high contrast lettering**

**Black on light background or white/light colors on dark background**



This is OK



This is OK

# Animation

**NO**

**Animation is unprofessional, wastes time, and is nauseating to people prone to motion sickness**

**Keep it to a minimum**

# Tables

- Most tables are too hard to read and explain as slides
- Instead, show important results as bullet points

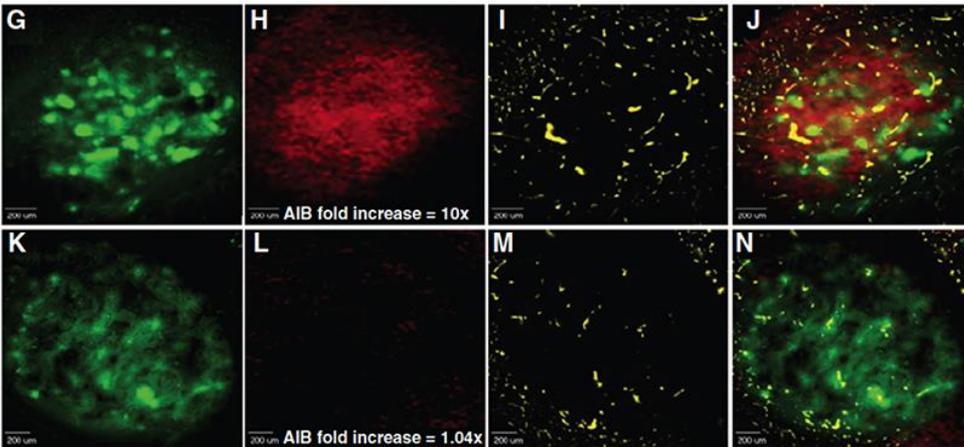
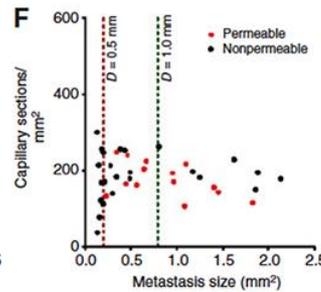
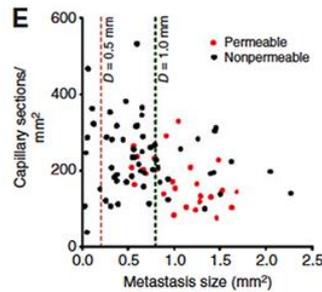
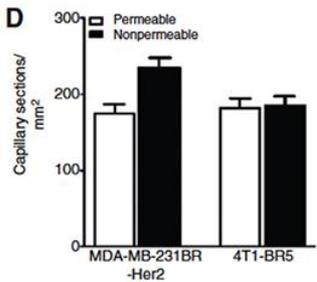
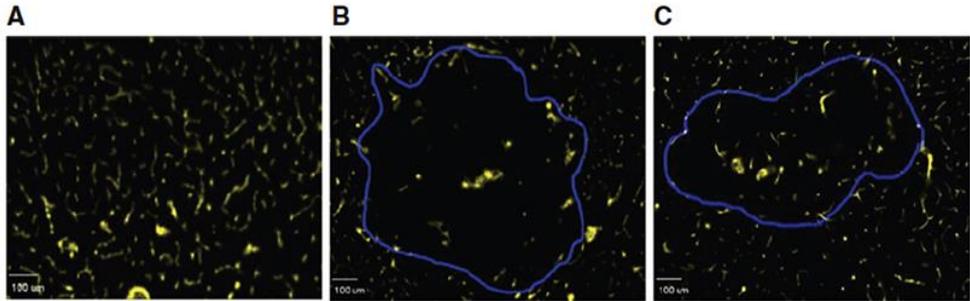
What NOT to do → avoid big blocks of numbers

Table 1. [<sup>14</sup>C]AIB QAR Influx Rate Constant ( $K_i$ ) Measures and DCE-MRI Parameter Estimates of the Influx Rate Constant ( $K^{trans}$ ), Efflux Rate Constant ( $k_{ep}$ ), Fractional Leakage Space Volume ( $v_e$ ), and Fractional Blood Volume ( $f_{bv}$ ) for 75%, 50%, and 25% Threshold ROI and ROI Areas for Central Tumor Slices.

Animal	Tumor Days	Threshold (%)	$K_i$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ )	Area ( $\text{mm}^2$ )	$K^{trans}$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ )	Area ( $\text{mm}^2$ )	Differential Ratio of Tumor Area	$k_{ep}$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ )	$v_e$	$f_{bv}$
1	9	25	0.0272	9.1	0.0420	9.9	0.088	0.443	0.096	0.03
		50	0.0306	7.3	0.0660	7.2	-0.014	0.546	0.123	0.02
		75	0.0346	5.4	0.0900	5.4	0.000	0.641	0.141	0.01
2	11	25	0.0208	24.3	0.0480	20.3	-0.165	0.321	0.150	0.04
		50	0.0254	15.6	0.0690	15.6	0.000	0.387	0.174	0.03
		75	0.0273	11.3	0.0900	11.2	-0.009	0.459	0.198	0.02
3	10	25	0.0126	11.6	0.0180	7.2	-0.379	0.174	0.096	0.03
		50	0.0172	3.8	0.0360	3.6	-0.053	0.268	0.132	0.04
		75	0.0185	2.6	0.0420	2.1	-0.192	0.283	0.144	0.04
4	10	25	0.0121	13.0	0.0240	11.1	-0.146	0.192	0.126	0.04
		50	0.0160	6.2	0.0420	6.2	0.000	0.249	0.168	0.03
		75	0.0171	3.9	0.0540	3.9	0.000	0.254	0.210	0.03
5	11	25	0.0055	9.9	0.0180	12.9	0.303	0.146	0.126	0.04
		50	0.0060	7.1	0.0270	7.1	0.000	0.168	0.162	0.05
		75	0.0072	3.5	0.0390	3.7	0.057	0.209	0.186	0.04

# Figures

What NOT to do → avoid tiny pictures



- If the figure is too small to read the text or see the graphs then cut it down or divide into multiple slides.
- Fluorescence is often hard to see as a slide
- Include title or bullet points to tell us what the figure is about  
not just “figure 1”

# Your presentation

- **Do NOT read the text**
- **Talk to the audience, not the screen**  
You might print off your pptx so you can look at it in your hands
- **Know the pronunciation and definition of all terms**  
We will call you on this
- **You have only 15 minutes**  
You may not be able to cover the entire paper  
You may not be able to show all the figures  
Leave time for questions