ABSTRACT (5% of total score)
The major aspects of the work are summarized in a clear, concise way within the word limit. Information presented includes the overall purpose of the study. 2) the basic design of the study; 3) major findings; and, 4) a brief summary of interpretations and conclusions. Minimal technical jargon is used. The major aspects of the work are summarized within the word limit, typically in a concise way. Some information/sections may be not completely clear or redundant. Some technical jargon is used. The major aspects of the work are not clearly summarized. The abstract fails at communicating the objectives and findings of the study. Excess of technical jargon. Several grammatical errors and typos. The major aspects of the work are not clearly summarized. The abstract fails at communicating the objectives and findings of the study. Excess of technical jargon. Several grammatical errors and typos.

POSTER CONTENT (45% of total score)
Title & Introduction
Title and intro frame the problem in a compelling way. Title is appropriately formatted. Numerous citations are included and are appropriately placed. Title and intro frame the problem in an adequate way. Title format is largely correct. Includes some citations that are typically appropriately placed. Title poorly frames the problem. Title format has several errors. Includes few citations that are often inappropriately placed. Title does not frame the problem. Title format has many errors. Does not include citations.

Materials and Methods
Study design is clear and concise. Methods address the hypothesis. All appropriate techniques are effectively presented. All controls or comparative groups are included. Study design is generally clear and concise. Methods address the hypothesis. Most techniques are appropriate and effectively presented. Most controls or comparative groups are included. Study design is somewhat clear and concise. Methods do not directly address the hypothesis. Some techniques are inappropriate or effectively presented. Some controls or comparative groups are included. Study design is unclear. Methods do not address the hypothesis. Techniques are inappropriate, ineffective presented, or missing. Controls or comparative groups are not included.

Results & Discussion
Data are effectively presented and sufficient to address the hypothesis or goal of the project. Results and discussion are clear and concise. Majority of data are effectively presented and sufficient to address the hypothesis or goal of the project. Results and discussion are mostly clear and concise. Majority of data are adequately presented and sufficient to address the hypothesis or goal of the project. Results and discussion are somewhat unclear and concise. Data are inadequately presented and insufficient to address the hypothesis or goal of the project. Results and discussion are somewhat unclear and are not concise. Data are very poorly presented, insufficient to address the hypothesis or goal of the project; or missing. Results and discussion are very unclear and are not concise.

Significance
Significance is appropriate to the study and is effectively communicated. Effectively mention of broad impacts. Significance is somewhat appropriate to the study and is adequately communicated. Some mention of broad impacts. Significance is somewhat unclear and poorly communicated. Little mention of broad impacts. Significance is unclear and not provided or is not completely. No mention of broad impacts.

POSTER DESIGN (35% of total score)
Overall appearance

Organization
Organized similar to scientific paper: title, authors/affiliations, introduction, objectives, materials & methods, results, discussion, conclusions, and acknowledgments. Excellent organization. Effective use of space. No redundancies. One of these required elements is out of place. Well organized. Effective use of space. Minimum redundancies. Three or four of these elements are out of place. Poorly organized. Space poorly used. Some redundancies. No logical flow between elements. Totally disorganized. Very poor use of space. Much redundancies.

Text
Appropriate font selection and size: legible from 2-3 feet away with large fonts. Very easy to read. Consistent text hierarchy. Concise wording. Bullet lists are used to facilitate reading. Text content relates to figures, tables and photos. Appropriate font selection and size: mostly legible from 2-3 feet away with large fonts. Minor inconsistencies in text hierarchy. Most wording is concise. Bullet lists are used to facilitate reading. Text content mostly relates to figures, tables and photos. Appropriate font selection and size, but several sections are illegible from 2-3 feet away. Minor inconsistencies in text hierarchy. Most wording is concise. Bullet lists are used inconsistently to facilitate reading. Text content somewhat relates to figures, tables and photos. Improper font selection and size, but most sections are legible from 2-3 feet away. No inconsistencies in text hierarchy. Text is extremely wordy. Bullet lists are not used to facilitate reading. Text content rarely relates to figures, tables and photos. Poor font selection and size. Poster is illegible from 2-3 feet away. Text heavily redundant. Bullet lists are not used to facilitate reading. Text completely does not relate to figures, tables and photos.

Figures, tables and photos
Effective use of all figures, tables, and photos; well-coordinated with text. Effective use of all figures, tables, and photos; majority are well-coordinated with text. Effective use of most figures, tables, and photos; majority are well-coordinated with text. Poor use of many figures, tables and photos; majority are poorly coordinated with text. Figures and photos are blurry, illegible, unrelated, or lacking, and detract from the message. Figures and photos are blurry, illegible, unrelated, or lacking, and detract from the message.

Grammar and spelling
Perfect grammar and spelling; no errors. One or two errors found in body text; no errors in headings. Three or four errors found in body text; no errors in headings. Several errors found in body text; one or more errors found in headings. Major errors found throughout body text and headings.

POSTER PRESENTATION (15% of total score): Determined during live poster session
Ability to present research content
Author demonstrates high expertise; clearly and coherently explains the project to a general audience; offers thoughtful insight and discussion; engages the audience and provides a visually pleasing presentation. Author demonstrates high expertise; has few areas that are unclear to a general audience; offers some insight and discussion; engages the audience and provides a visually pleasing presentation. Author generally demonstrates expertise; may have some areas that are unclear to a general audience; may offer vague, incomplete discussion; engages the audience and provides a visually pleasing presentation. Author generally demonstrates expertise but may be lacking some insight; may offer vague, incomplete discussion; engages the audience and provides a visually pleasing presentation. Author does not demonstrate expertise or is clearly lacking knowledge in research area; questions may be unclear or do not make sense; provides an incomplete or incorrect answer or is altogether absent; does not engage the audience visually.

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