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A GENRE-FOCUSED ANALYSIS OF SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS IN THE FIELD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

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ABSTRACT. ***A Genre-Focused Analysis of Scientific Abstracts in the Field of Veterinary Medicine*.** This paper explores genre analysis and its reflection on the discourse surrounding ESP texts while identifying prevalent rhetorical structures in scientific abstracts. Objectivity, formality, and precision remain the key features of academic writing, accounting for it being a reliable source for learning and understanding. In the world of research and scientific communication, paper abstracts represent the quintessential excerpts that guide readers through the debated topic, its relevance, and main findings, arousing (or not) professional interest and curiosity. Hence, researchers must understand the structure of the rhetorical moves and organisation regarding this first text frontier. The present study explored the move-step framework in a corpus comprising 90 scientific paper abstracts from six prestigious journals indexed by Clarivate Analytics in the field of veterinary medicine, focusing on the most common patterns employed. The results revealed that the most commonly used rhetoric pattern, almost canonical for the texture of scientific writing, follows Hyland's five-move pattern - Introduction [I]-Purpose [P]-Method [M]-Results [R], followed by Conclusions/Discussions [C], which complements some of the abstracts. Although the study identified nuances, most research article abstracts pay tribute to the I-P-M-R move-step structure, scientific rigor, and a constant

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search for highlighting the most relevant data. Furthermore, an enduring, almost predictable concern for the importance of Results [R] detaches itself as one of this paper's findings. Limitations and possible avenues for future research are highlighted to ensure that the selected abstract structure effectively enhances the study's visibility.

Keywords: *scientific abstract, contrastive analysis, five-move model, genre analysis, veterinary medicine science*

REZUMAT. ***O analiză de gen a rezumatelor articolelor ştiinţifice din domeniul ştiinţelor medicale veterinare***. Lucrarea de faţă explorează analiza de gen şi modul în care aceasta se reflectă asupra analizei discursului şi a textului în ESP, cu un accent deosebit pe modelele retorice frecvent întâlnite în rezumatele articolelor ştiinţifice. Obiectivitatea, caracterul formal, acurateţea rămân trăsăturile cheie ale stilului academic, ceea ce explică faptul că acesta este o sursă autentică de învăţare şi cunoaştere. În lumea cercetării şi a comunicării ştiinţifice, rezumatele studiilor ştiinţifice sunt acele fragmente care îi călăuzesc pe cititori prin tema dezbătută, vorbind despre relevanţa şi principalele rezultate ale acesteia, stârnind, astfel, (sau nu) interes şi curiozitate profesională. Prin urmare, este extrem de important ca cercetătorii să aibă o bună înţelegere a structurii şi organizării acestei prime frontiere a textului ştiinţific. Prezentul studiu a analizat structura unităţilor retorice în cadrul unui corpus alcătuit din 90 de rezumate preluate din articole academice din şase publicaţii indexate în baza de date Clarivate-Analytics, cu factor ridicat de impact din domeniul medicinei veterinare, punând accentul pe cele mai frecvente modele utilizate. Rezultatele au arătat că cel mai des folosit model, aproape canonic pentru textura scrierii ştiinţifice se construieşte pe matriţa Introducere [I]- Scop [S]-Metodă [M]-Rezultat [R], urmat şi completat, în unele dintre rezumate, de Concluzii/Discuţii [C]. Cu toate acestea, deşi studiul identifică nuanţe, majoritatea rezumatelor articolelor ştiinţifice vor respecta tiparul Introducere-Scop-Metodă-Rezultat; rigoarea ştiinţifică şi căutarea constantă a evidenţierii celor mai relevante date explică modul în care cea mai mare parte a membrilor comunităţii academice folosesc limbajul, gândindu-şi structura lucrărilor şi a rezumatelor. Mai mult, o preocupare constantă, aproape previzibilă, pentru importanţa rezultatelor [R] se detaşează ca una dintre constatările acestei lucrări. Sunt prezentate limitări, precum şi câteva sugestii pentru cercetări viitoare.

Cuvinte-cheie: *rezumat articol ştiinţific, analiza contrastivă, modelul celor cinci paşi, analiza de gen, domeniul ştiinţific al medicinei veterinare*

1. Introduction

If the story of veterinary medicine began unfolding its narrative in the region of Mesopotamia with Urlugaledinna, the man regarded as the "father of veterinarians", nowadays it is the voice of so many gifted professionals that continues to write its epos; like all arts and crafts, the science of animal healing has amply evolved since 3000 BC, as have its chronicles. We intend to approach some specific textual patterns of the expert-to-expert communicative matrix from a gender-based perspective within the current context of international scientific communication, where "over 3 million research articles are published annually" (Glasman-Deal 2021, 265). The linguistic code represents the fabric of academic writing, as well as the extensive use of English as a global communication tool in recent decades underlines the fact that scholars from all over the world have acknowledged it as the language of information dissemination. In the Tower of Babel of the XXI century, English has managed to silence the quarrels of the wise, focusing not so much on what language to use in order to write their stories as on how to best write them down. It is well known that English, the dominant communication tool in a global world, when circumscribed to scientific rigour and academic epic, has developed its own specific rhetoric. Scholars have to master a set of rules that operate as symbolic keys that unlock the truths behind scientific experiments and encode the story that travels with them, offering both authors and readers a clear understanding of the implicit code. Expert-to-expert communication patterns imply the use of highly specialized textual patterns whose hermeneutics must be perfectly mastered by all those who approach them with a curious mind and a keen inquisitive eye. Embarking upon such a special voyage requires a sound knowledge of the map and its symbols, especially when it comes to scientists and researchers who are non-native English speakers; knowing and understanding the linguistic patterns circumscribed to academic communication is essential for all those who decide to journey through its labyrinthine construct. Robinson (1991, 25) argues that the "author's purpose is explained with reference to the wider professional culture to which the author belongs." Hence, texts are not limited to being codes of scholarly idioms but also large webbings that bring readers and authors together within a shared professional culture.

Nevertheless, when using the term labyrinthine, we are not referring to how the information is organised and cemented but to its density of meaning and contextual synergy. The same rigour that applies to any process of critical thinking reflects itself in the way in which writers build the scaffolding of scientific communicative matrixes, paying special attention to the information distribution; this allows readers to identify relevant details and scan through

the text smoothly in search of clues and innovative data. In this sense, the architecture of any textual pattern that approaches scientific topics has to offer an almost canonical blueprint of its structure, thus fostering its readability and enhancing its visibility. In other words, in an expert-to-expert communicative pattern, deciphering the message depends not only on the hermeneutics of the text but also on its rhetorical features and structure. Following Swales (1990, 9), our analysis describes the structure of expert-to-expert genres in a corpus of ninety veterinary medicine research article abstracts from six high-impact Clarivate-Analytics-indexed journals in the field of veterinary medicine, with a focus on identifying the matrix of the most common patterns employed. Within the economy of any research paper, abstracts are high-stake texts that offer a clear radiography of the entire paper as a cohesive rhetorical unit valued for its synthetic nature not only by other fellow experts that approach it but even by a non-specialised audience that visits it.

Regardless of their addressees, research paper abstracts offer information on the purpose of the academic pursuit, the methodology used to investigate it, the final and most relevant results, and an optional view of the possible implications. If, from a structural perspective, abstracts may be regarded as peripheral, they function as pivotal elements in the overall communication context, being, in more cases than one, the only open-access fragment of the paper offered in most online repositories, offering an invaluable insight into the alchemy of the study. This may also account for the academic interest in the topic (Basturkmen 2012; Bhatia 1993; Dudley-Evans 1986, 1993; Kanoksilapatham 2005; Santos 1996; Swales 1981, 1990, 2004), as abstracts are the first textual gate that provide readers with an overall account related to the paper as a logical narrative structure.

As Swales indicated, abstracts have to develop some textual patterns and forms in order to outline the context of research and guide readers along its paths, marked by distinct moves and steps. According to professor Swales the move is “a discoursal or rhetorical unit that performs a coherent communicative function in a written or spoken discourse” (2004, 228), whereas steps build these larger units into an articulate discourse template, defining themselves as sub-structures derivative of each and every move. Pho (2009, 17) argues that “each move has its own communicative purpose, which, together with other moves, contributes to the general communicative purpose of the text," and Dos Santos describes the move “as a genre stage that has a particular, minor communicative purpose to fulfil, which in turn serves the major communicative purpose of the genre” (1996, 485) and considers that individual steps are “lower level text units that provide a detailed perspective on the options open to the writer in setting out the moves” (Dudley-Evans & St John

1998, 89). Hence, following the webbing of moves and steps, starting from Swales' pioneering work (1981,1990) on the structure of academic articles and adopting the five-move pattern of Ken Hyland (2004), we intend to build the outline of a rhetorical move structure analysis of scientific abstracts in the field of veterinary medicine. It was our intent to first identify and later acquaint readers, potential future paper writers themselves, with the most commonly employed communicative patterns as far as the architecture of scientific abstracts is concerned. Contrasting the outline of the communicative patterns of foreign academic journals with the only Romanian publication indexed in the Web of Science and dedicated to veterinary professionals revealed the fact that the latter did not follow the canonical five-move pattern, I-P-M-R-C. The majority of the abstracts built themselves upon an abridged three-move pattern, with (Move 1) - Introduction, (Move 2) - Purpose, and (Move 3) - Method as supporting pillars; (Move 4) - Results and (Move 5) - Conclusions came as optional choices in less than 50% of the analysed abstracts. However, the five-move pattern was used by Romanian authors when they published their research studies in foreign academic journals with strict editorial policy rules that follow a mandatory structure, namely (Move 1) – Introduction; (Move 2) – Purpose; (Move 3) - Method; (Move 4) – Result; and (Move 5) - Conclusion. Hence the importance and practical relevance of genre analysis that highlights, when correctly applied, the "crucial importance of rhetorical text structure" by establishing "common rhetorical patterns... in academic writing" (Hyland 1992, 23).

2. Concept of Genre

In recent decades many scholars have been seduced by the topic of genre analysis which they have all tried to define either as "the study of how language is used within a particular context. Genres differ in that each has a different goal and they are structured differently to achieve these goals" (Hyland 1992, 15), or as the:

> "analytical framework which reveals not only the utilizable form-function correlations but also contributes significantly to our understanding of the cognitive structuring of information in specific areas of language use, which may help the ESP practitioners to devise appropriate activities potentially significant for the achievement of desired communicative outcomes in specialised academic or occupation areas" Bhatia (1991, 154),

or, as "one individual's attempt to come to terms with a professional environment" (Swales 1990, 232).

Prior to all these interpretations, Fowler highlighted the importance of genre to any writer:

> "Far from inhibiting the author, genres are a positive support. They offer room, one might say, for him to write in - a habitation of mediated definiteness; a proportional neutral space; a literary matrix by which to order his experience during composition . . . Instead of a daunting void, they extend a provocatively definite invitation. The writer is invited to match experience and form in a specific yet undetermined way. ... Genre also offers a challenge by provoking a free spirit to transcend the limitations of previous examples" (Fowler 1982, 31).

and some years later it was Swales (1990, 1) who integrated it within a more complex pattern, recommending genre analysis "as a means of studying spoken and written discourse for applied ends." Professor Swales was the first linguist to author such an analysis, following his in-depth investigation of 48 scientific article introductions selected from various branches of science. The main outcome of this academic enterprise was the birth of "a genre-centred approach [that] offers a workable way of making sense of the myriad communicative events that occur in the contemporary English-speaking academy" (Swales 1990, 1). In expert-to-expert communication genre analysis, according to Swales (1990, 9), the main criterion that turns communicative events into textual patterns (genres) is the existence of a series of communicative purposes, since "discourse communities are socio-rhetorical networks that form in order to work towards sets of common goals" (1990, 9). Flowerdew (2011, 140) weaves the question of genre into the wider pattern of discourse communities when he states that "genres are staged, structured, communicative events, motivated by various communicative purposes, and performed by members of specific discourse communities". It is individuals who perform such communicative patterns, but it is discourse communities that genres ultimately belong to, as Swales clearly argued when he wrote that "genres belong to discourse communities, not to individuals, other kinds of grouping, or to wider speech communities" (1990, 9).

3. Methods and Procedures

3.1 Corpora

This paper uses Hyland's (2000) five-move pattern for scientific abstracts as the framework for analysing the moves in selected abstracts. The corpus used in the current study comprised 90 abstracts randomly compiled from six English-medium journals of Veterinary Medicine, namely Veterinary

Quarterly, United Kingdom (VQ), Frontiers in Veterinary Science, Switzerland (FVS), International Journal of Veterinary Science and Medicine (IJVSM), Australian Veterinary Journal (AVJ), Journal of Veterinary Medical Science Japan (JVM), and Bulletin of University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj Napoca – Veterinary Medicine, Romania (BUASVM), i.e. 15 abstracts from each six high-impact factor journals (except the Bulletin of University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine) as listed in the Journal Citation Reports published in 2022 by Clarivate Analytics. A total of 90 scientific abstracts (19,335 words) published within a time span of two years (2022-2024) were selected. All original scientific articles were written by veterinary professionals, including native and non-native English speakers. The word count of the scientific abstracts ranged from 91 to 485 words.

Table 1. Hyland's (2000) five-move model

Move	Function	Example
M1: Introduction	Sets the context for the paper and provides a rationale for the research or discussion.	"The Australian ruminant livestock industries are faced with the need to control parasitic infectious diseases that can seriously impact the health of animals." (AVJ)
M2: Purpose	Indicates purpose, thesis or hypothesis, outlines the intention behind the paper.	"The purpose of this study is to investigate whether adding alpha-lipoic acid (ALA) to ram semen can reduce oxidative stress and enhance spermatozoa quality during the liquid storage at 4°C. …" (FVS)
M3: Method	Provides information on design, procedures, assumptions, approach, data, etc.	"The genomic detection and its serotyping were done by RT-PCR and multiplex-PCR, respectively. Necropsy examination in all cases showed myocardial lesions resembling 'tigroid heart appearance'." (VQ)
M4: Results (Product)	Presents the key findings, the argument, or the outcomes achieved.	"The results suggest that the development of MUO in Chihuahuas may be associated with DLA class II genes." (JVMS)
M5: Conclusion	Interprets or expands the results beyond the paper's scope, draws conclusions, and highlights potential applications or broader implications.	"Both the reference product (Arnica gel) and the tested mixture showed anti-inflammatory action, but following the measurements, it could be concluded that the mixture was more effective in reducing oedema." (BUASVM)

Table 2. Summary of Key Features

Journal	Impact factor	No. of RAs	Word count
1. Veterinary Quarterly, UK	6.4 (2022)	15	3,659
2. Frontiers in Veterinary Science, Switzerland	3.2 (2022)	15	4,178
3. International Journal of Veterinary Science and Medicine	2.2 (2022)	15	3,179
4. Australian Veterinary Journal	1.1 (2022)	15	2,727
5. Journal of Veterinary Medical Science, Japan	1.105 (2021)	15	2,563
6. Bulletin of University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj Napoca – Veterinary Medicine	-	15	3,028
Total		90	19,335

Note. RA = research article.

3.2. Analytical Procedure

As illustrated in Table 1, the selected five-move structure articulates itself around the Introduction move which sets the context for the paper and fosters further research directions or discussion; the Purpose move emphasizes the purpose, hypothesis, providing a summary of the scope of the study; the Method move offers detail on paper structure and procedures; the Result presents the key findings and results; and finally the Conclusion (C) move analyses or extends the results to highlight broader implications. Thus, following Hyland's pattern, this paper aimed at identifying the moves within each of the analysed abstracts with a view to discovering the way in which, unless otherwise stated by editorial policies, veterinary professionals from different discourse communities chose to articulate the structure of their abstracts. The number of moves was computed manually based on the purpose of communication behind each move, with a view to identifying the pattern of relevance hidden behind the 'occurrence rate'. The study acquires a quantitative dimension, as the frequency rate of each move within the general outline of the selected scientific abstracts acts as litmus paper indicating whether a particular move is 'essential' or not. The reference point is the frequency of occurrence representation introduced by Kanoksilapatham (2005), who divides moves into three types: central, conventional, and optional. According to Kanoksilapatham (2005, 272), a move will be recognized as conventional if it occurs in "60% of the appropriate sections in the corpus," whereas if the frequency of a move is

below 60%, it is considered optional; a central move, on the other hand, occurs in 100% of the corpus. Considering the fact that the selected corpus of this study belongs to the field of hard sciences, a particular move is considered mandatory, or central, as Kanoksilapatham (2205, 272) refers to it when its presence in the text goes well beyond 70%.

4. Results and discussion

The results of this study showed that the Introduction move, the Purpose move, the Method move, and the Result move were the four units that appeared in more than 70% of the selected abstracts, which means that the only optional move is the Conclusion move. Furthermore, according to the analysed corpus, the frequency of the Introduction move is only five percentage points below the Method move, which entitles us to consider it a central move within the structure of papers on veterinary medicine-related topics. Hence, the most commonly used move structures in scientific abstracts in the field of veterinary medicine are Introduction (75%), Purpose (97%), Method (96%) and Result (98%). These findings, as shown in Table 3, are only in partial accordance with Hyland (2000) and Santos (1996), with Introduction being the fourth central element in scientific abstracts in the field of veterinary medicine. The former claimed that the top three most frequent moves in scientific abstracts are Purpose, Method, and Result, although he himself mentioned that there is a growing tendency to position the Introduction move in the webbing of this discourse microstructural unit. Just as Hyland suggested, the least used move is the Implications/Suggestions step, optional by means of frequency, as it only appeared in 24 out of the 90 surveyed research article abstracts, accounting for 26%.

Table 3. Frequency of Move-Step Structure

Move	Move 1 Introduction	Move 2 Purpose	Move 3 Method	Move 4 Results	Move 5 Conclusion	Step 1 Implications/ Suggestions (optional)
Nº	68	84	87	89	46	24
Move to total abstracts ratio	75.55%	93.33%	96.66%	98.88%	51.00%	26.66%

Introduction move is, according to our findings, a central move as its frequency surpassed 70% of the analysed scientific abstracts.

> 1. "Meerkats (Suricata suricatta) are endemic carnivores of southern Africa and, although currently listed as 'least concern' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) red list, there is evidence of a significant decrease in wild populations mainly attributed to effects of climate change. Little is known about diseases associated with mortality in captive meerkats" (*Veterinary Quarterly*, 2023).
> 2. "Ram spermatozoa inevitably produce a large number of reactive oxygen species (ROS) during liquid storage, leading to oxidative stress and a decline of spermatozoa quality. Therefore, it is particularly important to add exogenous antioxidants during the process of semen liquid preservation" (*Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, 2024).

This underscores the importance of this move in the field of veterinary medicine, where background information helps readers put things into perspective, allowing them to gain a better understanding of the paper topic. Although central, as the Introduction prepares for the final significance of the research endeavour, this move is not compulsory, provided the editorial policy of the academic journal does not specify otherwise. One interesting detail was to discover that when Romanian authors publish their studies in foreign journals, they tend to open their abstracts with an introductory line, which will no longer be a central unit in the structure of abstracts published in national academic journals, though they are also written in English.

Purpose move 2 is the third of the three most important moves identified by Hyland as being the landmarks of any abstract structure, since it was employed by 84 out of the total 90 articles.

> 3. "In this study, we aimed to develop a method based on high-throughput sequencing of S. cruzi genome and transcriptome that specifically and quantitatively detects the S. cruzi acetyl-CoA synthetase gene (ScACS)" (*Journal of Veterinary Medical Science*, 2023).
> 4. "The main aim of this study was to describe the hair cortisol concentration (HCC) variability between individuals within a batch, between farms and between batches within a farm. The secondary aim was to determine how the number of sampled pigs influences the characterization of HCC within a batch" (*Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, 2024).

The results of this study align with Professor Hyland's research, which states that the Purpose move ranks among the top three most frequent moves in scientific abstracts, alongside the Method and Result moves.

Method move 3 is the second most important of Professor Hyland's triad (P-M-R), as its occurrence was 96.66% of the analysed research article abstracts. This is to be expected as scholars in the field of hard-sciences place a

significant emphasis on the Methods move that reflects itself upon the Results move as the accommodating research matrix. There are instances in which authors combined the Method move with the Result move in a single sentence, as demonstrated in the following example: "Phylogenetic analysis showed that the sequenced novel BFDV genomes clustered in a distinct subclade with other BFDVs isolated from Australian cockatoos" (*Australian Veterinary Journal*, 2023).

> 5. "Traditional methods for testing cCPR, including enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), have some drawbacks, such as a long time for diagnosis and the requirement of well-equipped laboratories. Therefore, there is a need for a rapid and precise diagnostic test for cCRP at point-of-care" (*International Journal of Veterinary Science and Medicine*, 2023).
> 6. "Blood and faecal samples were collected simultaneously from sheep from a private farm. Faecal samples were examined by the successive washings method for evidence of trematode eggs, and serum samples were evaluated with the RxDaytona+ automatic multiparametric analyser for evidence of alkaline phosphatase (AP), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), gamma-glutamyl transferase (GGT), total protein and albumin" (*Bulletin of University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj Napoca – Veterinary Medicine*, 2023).

The findings of this study have not only identified that the Method move recommends itself as a pillar of any academic paper in the field of veterinary medicine, but they have also signalled its significant quantitative quota, as most authors would write at least two sentences on the topic, as the standard basic unit for the Method move.

In close connection with the previous move comes the Result move, the top most commonly used move in the 90 veterinary medicine scientific abstracts, as it was employed by 89 of the total 90 studied authors/articles (98.88%, Table 3). The predominant occurrence of the Result move in the rhetorical structure of veterinary medicine scientific abstracts is consistent with the very nature of scientific research, which is committed to identifying solutions and valid strategies to problems and challenges.

> 7. "From the results, left atrial (LA) strain and strain rate from 2D-STE were significantly decreased in cats with cardiogenic ATE ($P < 0.001$), but there was no significant difference in non-cardiogenic ATE compared with normal cats. From the correlation test, the use of left atrial strain during the reservoir phase (LASr) could represent the overall LA deformation. The intra- and inter-observer coefficient of variation of LASr was less than 15%. The logistic regression revealed that the LASr value of less than 11% was a significant factor for the occurrence of ATE (odd ratio = 189.0, $P < 0.001$)" (*International Journal of Veterinary Science and Medicine*, 2023).

8. "Results showed absence of coinfection in Australian samples from Greater Sydney region belonging either to A. caninum or Uncinaria stenocephala, while New Zealand samples were a mixture of A. caninum and U. stenocephala. The amplified isotype-1 β-tubulin sequences exhibited susceptibility to benzimidazole drugs. Rare mutations were identified in A. caninum and U. stenocephala sequences, representing a small percentage of reads" (*Australian Veterinary Journal*, 2023).

The findings also underlined that the move is either integrated within the preceding move (Methods) – "FhKT1.1 showed the most promising diagnostic indicators, exhibiting high precision and low cross-reactivity, and thus potential for standardized production. The results of our study demonstrated that the application of FhKT1.1 is a valuable tool for early-stage diagnosis of F. hepatica in sheep" (*International Journal of Veterinary Science and Medicine*, 2023) or with the forthcoming one (Conclusion) in some research article abstracts – "The results suggest that use of these criteria for the simplified ADD method may lead to appropriate antimicrobial choice and consequently the appropriate use of antimicrobials in clinical practice" (*Journal of Veterinary Medical Science*, 2023).

Conclusion move 5, even in the field of hard sciences, does not seem to be a central move, and the frequency rate identified in this study proves that only half of the analysed research article abstracts accommodated some final thoughts regarding the overall academic construct. Thus, the fifth move turns out to be the only optional one in the field of veterinary medical sciences, as its occurrence fell below 70%.

9. "In conclusion, the results of this study confirm that the combination of endometrial cytology with the microbiological examination of uterine discharges seems to be a good method for the diagnosis of subclinical endometritis, and provides an update of information about the microbiota present in the uterus of dairy cows after parturition, the state of its resistance to antibiotics and the effect on reproductive performance" (*Bulletin of University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj Napoca – Veterinary Medicine*, 2023).

10. "In conclusion, 300 mg/kg dietary EGCG showed protection effects on the laying ducks reared in high temperature by improving the immune and antioxidant capacities, which contributed to the increase of laying performance of ducks. The potential mechanism could be that EGCG modulate the synthesis of key metabolites and associated metabolic pathways" (*Veterinary Quarterly*, 2023).

The Conclusion move sometimes includes an extra optional final step that talks about possible suggestions, foreseeing future implications of research; it has, as expected, the lowest frequency rate of all five moves, with only 24 out of the total 90 abstracts including it.

> 11."To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of a detailed analysis of the genomic information of a V. vulnificus isolated from the Indian subcontinent and provides evidence that raises public health concerns about the safety of seafood" (*Veterinary Quarterly*, 2023).
> 12. "Thus, this assay will be useful for future studies of S. cruzi pathogenesis in cattle and for the surveillance of infected animals, thereby easing public health concerns" (*Journal of Veterinary Medical Science*, 2023).

By deciding to close their research presentation by offering a series of possible suggestions for future lines of inquiry, authors bridge their own research endeavour to the wider webbing of the entire academic community, in a symbolic common quest for answers and new ideas.

Table 4 shows the distribution of move patterns in six academic journals in the field of veterinary medicine that were analysed in this paper. The hard core of the analysis reveals the constant concern of authors to focus on data about some background information; the purpose, method, and results of research; and their distribution within the texture of the abstract varies among journals. I-P-M-R-C is the most frequently used move pattern in two of the analysed publications, Frontiers in Veterinary Science and Veterinary Quarterly, with 80% and 85%, respectively, with the lowest value of merely 5% in the Journal of Veterinary Medical Science; the International Journal of Veterinary Science and Medicine keeps a balanced ratio (45%) in between the I-P-M-R and the I-P-M-R-C move patterns, whilst the highest ratio (60%) of the I-P-M-R move pattern is displayed by the abstracts cropped from the Australian Veterinary Journal. Surprisingly, when Romanian authors publish their studies in national journals, they tend to refer less frequently to both the Introduction, and the Conclusion move within one single move pattern (15%). It seems that the triad that is used by most Romanian veterinary professionals when drafting their research article abstracts is the one indicated by Hyland (2000), namely Purpose-Method-Result, which means that they seem to prefer to present the purpose of the research, followed by the method and results of their essays.

Table 4. Distribution of move patterns across corpora

Move patterns	VQ	FVS	IJVSM	AVJ	JVMS	BUASVM
P-M-R	0	0	5%	5%	35%	45%
I-P-M-R	10%	10%	45%	60%	45%	35%
P-M-R-C	5%	10%	5%	5%	15%	5%
I-P-M-R-C	85%	80%	45%	30%	5%	15%
I-M-P-R	0	0	0	0	0	0
I-P-M	0	0	0	0	0	0
I-M-R	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note. Veterinary Quarterly (VQ); Frontiers in Veterinary Science (FVS); International Journal of Veterinary Science and Medicine (IJVSM); Australian Veterinary Journal (AVJ); Journal of Veterinary Medical Science Japan (JVMS); Bulletin of University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj Napoca – Veterinary Medicine, Romania (BUASVM).
P-M-R = Purpose-Method-Result; I-P-M-R = Introduction-Purpose-Method-Result;
P-M-R-C = Purpose-Method-Result-Conclusion; I-P-M-R-C = Introduction-Purpose-Method-Result-Conclusion; I-M-P-R = Introduction-Method-Purpose-Result; I-P-M = Introduction-Purpose-Method; I-M-R = Introduction-Method-Result.

5. Conclusion

The current paper was designed to look into the move-step structure of 90 veterinary medicine research article abstracts from six high-impact Clarivate-Analytics-indexed journals in the field of veterinary medicine, with a focus on the most common patterns employed. The study employed Hyland's (2000) five-move pattern for scientific abstracts as the move analysis framework for analysing the selected abstracts. Abstracts, as high-stakes text units, are by far the most visible parts of any research paper, responsible for its future visibility, and hence authors have to pay particular attention when writing them, especially since "writing guidelines are sometimes inconsistent or confusing" (Glasman-Deal 2021, 265).

Results from this research could be highly beneficial, particularly for authors who are non-native English speakers, as they have to write their academic papers in English and submit them to publications with a global readership. The results indicated the presence of the I-P-M-R move pattern in the majority of the analysed texts, a situation consistent with the hard-science nature of the topic approached, indebted to clarity, precision, and attention to details. Although the present study acknowledges its limitations rooted in the random, somewhat limited selection of texts, it was written with the intention of raising the awareness of future writers, non-native English-speaking scholars,

of the move-up structure, which, once mastered and applied, could increase the acceptance rate of prestigious journals for future publication. The identified move structure guide for scientific abstracts in veterinary medicine may serve as virtual radiography for neophyte science authors. Future studies can extend the research as well as the academic writing assistance implicitly by investigating the move patterns length with a view to offering a comprehensive understanding of the way in which abstracts can enhance the visibility of scientific papers.

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