

# Introduction

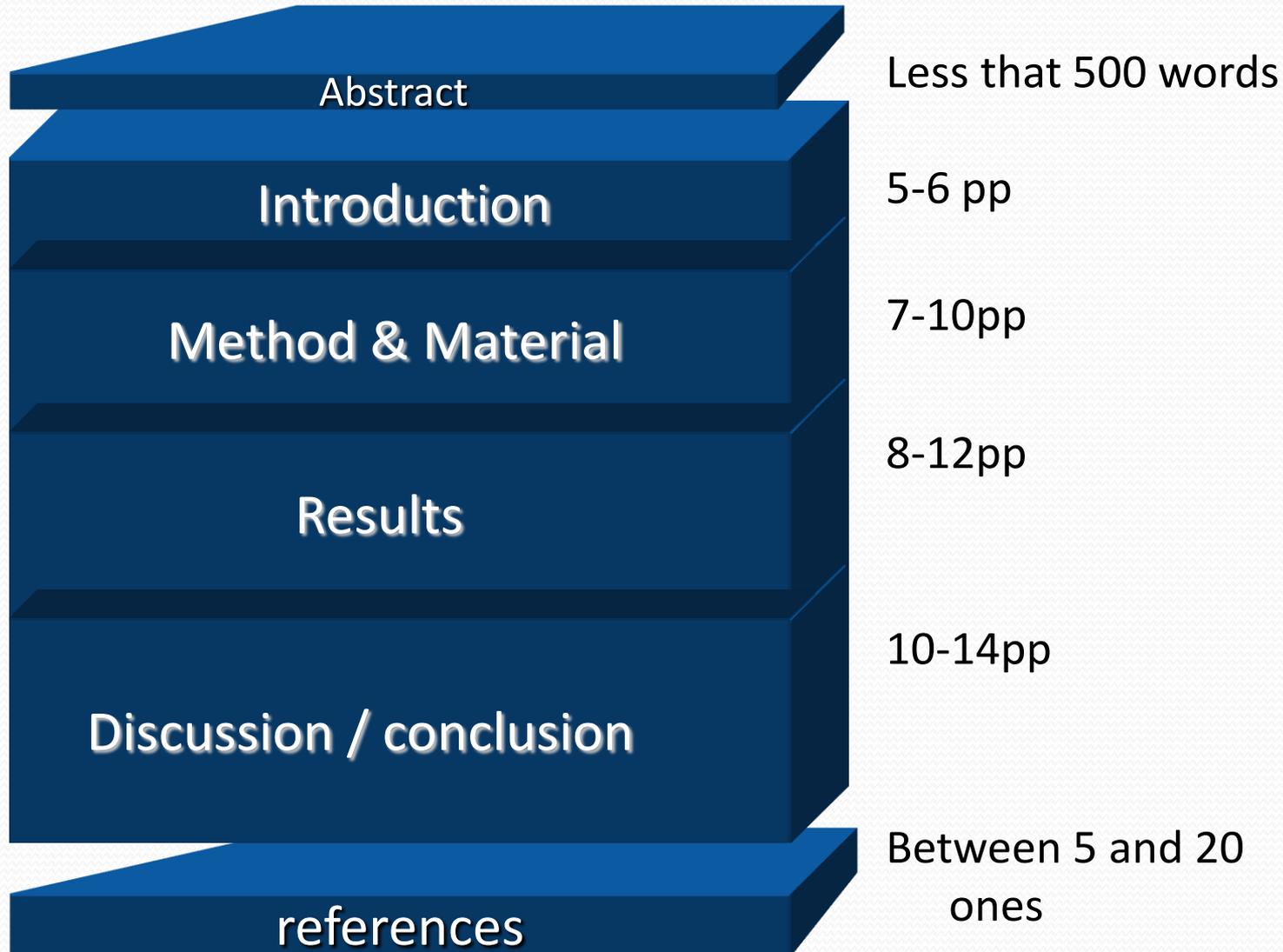
**Ali Akbar Haghdoost**

Research Center for Modeling in Health, Institute of  
Futures Studies in Health, Kerman University of  
Medical Sciences

# Key Roles of Introduction

- Introduction, the best justification of your study
- Why should I read your article?
  - Is the topic controversial?
  - Is the topic new?
  - The quality of prior similar works are not satisfactory?

# Anatomy of a Research Paper



# The Introduction...

- States **the problem** and, especially, the **consequences of the problem** – the state-of-affairs before your investigation
- Tell the reader **what is known**

# The Introduction...

- States a specific “unknown” that is crucial to solving the problem
- Tells the reader how we can help to solve the problem by learning more about the specific unknown
- States the purpose of your research
- Shows why your research is important

# The Introduction (cont.)

- Leads the reader to your **specific research question**
- Tell the reader **briefly how you answered** your research question, allowing readers to skip over the Methods section

# A Word About Research Questions

- The last paragraph of the introduction should state the research question as clear as possible
- Formulating a clear and concise research question seems to pose a major problem for many authors.
  - Do not be afraid of writing your research question as a **question**
  - Be **direct and state** a creditable question without empty words
  - State a **hypothesis** that you test

# Things to Avoid in the Introduction

- Reviewing the literature extensively
- Arguing against other's results
- Unrelated paragraphs
- Discussion about controversies
- Speculation
- Typical phrases at the beginning

*Recent advances in...*

*The last few years have been...*

A polar bear is lying on its side on a pile of snow. The bear's fur is a mix of white and light brown. The background is a rough, brown, textured wall. The ground is paved with large, irregular stones. The text "Thank you!" is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Thank you!