

Master of Science (Surgical Research)

Criteria for thesis evaluation

In order to pass the defense, all criteria must be in “good” condition

In addition to all the following criteria, the final thesis must meet all the criteria of the graduate college in order to fulfill the graduation requirement.

A. Title	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
A1. The title summarizes main idea simply within 20 words.				
A2. The title is fully explanatory when standing alone.				
A3. Every word in the title serves a useful purpose.				
A4. There is no abbreviation in the title.				
B. Abstract				
B1. Abstract provides a brief, comprehensive summary of the thesis.				
B2. Abstract contains research problem, participants, methods, key findings, conclusion, and implications or applications.				
B3. Abstract does not contain information that does not appear in the thesis.				
B4. All abbreviations and acronyms used in the abstract are clearly defined.				
B5. The abstract contains only four or five important concepts, and findings. The most important information is presented first.				
B6. The abstract contains no more than 350 words.				
C. Table of content				
C1. All key sections have been listed in table of content (Introduction, literature review, method, results, discussion)				
C2. All pages are listed correctly.				
C3. List of tables includes all the tables shown in the thesis, with correct page numbers.				
C4. List of figures includes all the figures shown in the thesis, with correct page numbers.				
C5. List of abbreviations shows all abbreviations used in the thesis with correct spelling.				
D. Introduction				
D1. The introduction contains all critical parts: background, conceptual framework, research questions, purposes of the study, research hypothesis, scope of the study, significance of the study, definitions of key terms, ethical considerations				

D. Introduction	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
D2. The research question is good: feasible, clear, significance, ethical				
D3. The problem under investigation is relevant to surgery.				
D4. The conceptual framework being used is appropriate and up-to-date.				
D5. All critical ethical issues related to research questions have been addressed.				
E. Literature review				
E1. The literature review provides appropriate history of the problem being investigated in a concise manner.				
E2. The literature review contains all pertinent literature related to research problem. The review shows correct understanding of the concepts being investigated.				
E3. The literature review does not contain unimportant literature (i.e., the works that only tangentially related to the research problem).				
E4. Controversial issues have been addressed fairly. The literature review is written in an unbiased, professional manner.				
E5. All terms used in the literature review are consistent (i.e., does not use different words to show the same idea in different parts of literature review).				
E6. All key variables under investigation have been critically reviewed.				
E7. All test instruments (questionnaires/rating scale/MCQ/ etc.) being employed in the study have been critically reviewed.				
E8. All medical equipment and drugs being used in the study have been thoroughly reviewed.				
F. Methods				
F1. The samples being studied are appropriately selected and are described clearly.				
F2. In a comparison study, the procedure for group assignment is appropriate and has been described clearly.				
F3. In a study with incentives to participants, the incentives are appropriate and have been described clearly.				
F4. The sample size is appropriate.				
F5. In a study with subgroup analysis, characteristics of all subgroups have been described.				
F6. All research instruments, equipment, medical devices, drugs being used in the study have been clearly described.				

F. Methods	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
F7. Reliability indices (for instrument validation phase of the study) have been reported (e.g., internal consistency, interobserver).				
F8. The steps for conducting the study have been described clearly.				
F9. The procedure for data collection is completely described.				
F10. The intervention given to participants has been clearly described.				
F11. Variables that have been controlled in the study have been described.				
F12. If translation of research instruments is needed, the translation process is appropriate and has been explained.				
F13. Statistical analyses are appropriately employed.				
F14. All details of statistical analyses are described clearly.				
F15. Appropriate methods for evaluating basic assumptions for statistical analyses have been described.				
F16. Power analysis has been properly conducted.				
F17. If uncommonly used statistics (or statistical software) have been employed, sufficient detail of the analysis and proper reference citations have been shown.				
F18. The study has been conducted in a way that complied with ethical principles				
G. Results				
G1. All the research questions have been answered properly.				
G2. All the statistics are reported appropriately according to an international standard.				
G3. All statistical indices have been interpreted correctly.				
G4. The data have been reported in sufficient detail to justify the conclusion.				
G5. No discussion of the implications of the findings in the results section.				
G6. Tables and/or graphs have been used properly.				
G7. No repetition of the same data in multiple places.				
G8. All tables and figures have been mentioned in the text.				
G9. All basic assumptions of statistical analyses have been met. If certain assumptions have been violated, proper handling of the data and the limitations have been discussed.				
G10. Reliability indices (for the main intervention of the study) have been reported (e.g., internal consistency, interobserver).				
G11. All data have been reported in a fair, accurate, and responsible manner.				

H. Discussion	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
H1. Clear statement whether the research findings support the hypotheses has been made.				
H2. Theoretical consequences of the research findings have been discussed.				
H3. Discussion about similarities and differences between the findings of the study and pertinent studies in the field has been done.				
H4. No repetition of the same statement/message from prior sections with no new insight is done.				
H5. Limitations of the study are acknowledged.				
H6. Implications of the study to health professions education have been discussed, but without going beyond what the study warrants.				
H7. Appropriate suggestions for future research have been made.				
I. References				
I1. All the references being cited within the text appear in the reference list.				
I2. All the references in the reference list have been cited in the text of the thesis.				
I3. The reference citation style is conformed with Vancouver style.				
J. Appendices				
J1. All key materials of the study appear in the appendices: questionnaires, research instruments, sign-up sheet, informed consent forms, IRB approval letter, Permission to use an instrument.				
J2. Full credits of copyright holder have been made clear.				