Introduction: A ViPER (Moore, 2001) is a novel approach to presentations for networking & sharing of projects. It is an evaluation of Visual Presentation with Expert Review (ViPER). It promotes interaction and discussion rather than the routine didactic approach used in the majority of conference presentations.

The following guidelines may be used to assist in the delivery of a successful ViPER.

1. Two presenters plan and present the ViPER – the lead author and their chosen expert colleague.

2. A poster is developed and displayed by delegates prior to the session in accordance with conference guidelines and dimensions.

3. A4 copies of the poster are to be circulated to delegates attending at the start of the presentation.

4. The presenter uses a maximum of 3 PowerPoint slides and 5 minutes to summarise the poster. The summary may focus on the background, rationale, methodology, key findings and/or discursive key issues but not all issues/facts as presented in the poster.

5. An ‘expert’ or ‘discussant’ verbally highlights 3 – 5 key themes/issues for consideration of group discussion over 5 minutes. The ‘expert’ or ‘discussant’ encourages debate and discussion with attendees and presenter over the final 10 minutes.

The following are encouraged:

- The ‘discussant’ and the presenter should meet, review the poster and agree discussion points prior to the session commencing, ideally as part of the abstract but it can be ahead of the conference and at least a minimum of 24 hours prior to the ViPER.

- The ‘discussant’ to have a list of points - key themes/questions ready to stimulate debate and discussion, just in case attendees asked no questions.

- It is useful to consider ‘lateral,’ and/or topical issues as well as those presented in the poster and PowerPoint slides.

- The use of open questions i.e. how, what, where are more likely to stimulate debate and/or discussion.

Adapted from ViPER guidelines from the RCN Research Society – by CLC January 2011