OAPA Poster Session Guidelines

The Ohio Association of Physician Assistants recognizes the importance of promoting research in the PA profession. In response to this demand, we are pleased to present a platform to display the work of our members and students. Please read all the guidelines before submitting your abstract.

General Poster Information

The poster session will occur on Saturday September 17th, 2016 during the OAPA Annual Fall Conference in Dublin, OH. Research categories will include original research projects, clinical research projects, PA education, and professional outreach and advocacy. There will be a student category and a professional category.

**Original**: study findings or other research projects

**Clinical:** clinical research and case studies or clinical reviews

**Education**: PA and medical student education

**Professional Outreach and Advocacy:** projects/programs promoting the profession or serving patient and communities that are not clinical or research-based

General Requirements

All abstracts must be submitted by a PA or PA student who can claim authorship for the project which includes involvement in the conception and design, analysis and interpretation of the data, drafting the article or revising it critically for intellectual content **OR** final approval of the version to be published. This does not include providing encouragement, physical facilities, financial support, critiques or editorial contributions.

Posters previously presented at other organizations’ poster sessions are welcome.

The presenter is responsible for expenses associated with the submission, preparation and presentation of posters.

Authors will be required to be present with their posters for discussion during display hours on Saturday September 17th. They are encouraged to attend and participate in the conference.

Abstract Submission and Formatting Guidelines

Abstracts must be submitted electronically through an online process. Contact OAPA for the link for submission. All abstracts must be received by Friday August 5th, 2016 by 5:00 PM (EST).

Abstracts

Original research abstracts must include the following sections

**Purpose**- brief statement explaining why the research was conducted (recommend one sentence)

**Methodology**- materials, methodology and any analytical procedures applied (recommend two sentences)

**Results**- presented in sufficient detail to support the conclusions (NOTE: Students- if results are not yet available, must include detailed report/anticipated date of obtaining results.)

**Conclusions**- include the authors’ opinion about the meaning of the study

After completing the online submission form, attach the abstract by one of the following methods:

* Type the abstract into the space provided
* Copy and paste the abstract from a word processing program
* Attach a Microsoft Office Word document to the form

The abstract text **should not excess 500 words** (not including the title or author information).

Titles should be brief and clearly indicate the abstract’s content. Capitalize the first letter of each word, except prepositions. No abbreviations should be used in the title.

Only standard abbreviations will be accepted. Special or unusual abbreviations should be placed in parentheses after the full word appears the first time. Arabic numerals should be used to indicate numbers, except when used in the beginning of a paragraph. Nonproprietary (generic) names of drugs should be used.

Do not include tables, graphs, algorithms, pictures or references in the abstract. Abstracts that include these will not be accepted.

Accepted abstracts will be printed as submitted. **Changes to abstracts will not be accepted after online submission.** Abstracts should be **edited and carefully reviewed prior to submission**. A common reason abstracts are not accepted is significant typographical or grammatical errors.

The submitting author will receive all correspondence via e-mail from OAPA.

**Poster Guidelines**
Posters should be no more than 4’ x 8’ (48” X 96”) and no less than 3’ x 4’ (36” X 48”). The poster should include grommets for hanging if possible.

Posters must include a title, author or authors’ names, abstract, purpose, methodology, results and conclusions. All subtitles and texts should be readable from two to three feet away. Avoid the use of script fonts that are difficult to read. The poster should have the title placed at the top with the authors’ names and affiliations (optional) beneath it. The title should match that submitted with the abstract.

The poster should also include a copy of the abstract and expanded sections of the purpose, methodology, results and conclusions as appropriate to the type of abstract. All illustrations (graphs, pictures, figures, tables) should be large enough for easy observation.

Matte finish on graphs or pictures gives better visibility due to reduction of glare. All figures and tables should have brief captions.

Authors are responsible for the transportation of their posters. Roll poster materials in a large mailing tube or place in a large portfolio for travel.

Notification

Decisions regarding acceptance will be made by August 31, 2016. Authors of accepted abstracts are required to make their own travel arrangements to present and discuss their research at the presentation.