

## **‘Health Science Expanding the Boundaries’**

### **Abstract Guidelines 2023**

#### **Invitation to Participate**

The Research & Education Foundation (REF) at Sligo University Hospital invites abstract submissions to be considered as poster for the Poster Exhibition and to present at either the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Multidisciplinary Health Research (MHR) Conference or 2<sup>nd</sup> Early Stage Health Researcher (ESHR) Forum.

#### **Abstract Submission**

Authors submitting abstracts for review should read the guidelines carefully and ensure they are adhered to. Each abstract should include a short introduction/ background summary that is understandable to the readers who do not know the full research or practice and its context. The abstract should be structured with appropriate headings and allowance will be made for these headings in the word count. Please note that word count will be checked and abstracts that do not adhere to these guidelines will be rejected.

#### **Structure of Abstract**

- a Title, Authors and Affiliations
- b Introduction/ Background
- c Aim and objective/s of the study
- d Method (must include: research design, sample, analysis and ethical approval<sup>1</sup>)
- e Results/ Preliminary Results (Findings must be included & be relevant to the aims & objectives)
- f Challenges/ Limitations<sup>2</sup>
- g Impact/ Research Significance<sup>2</sup>
- h Conclusions and implications

<sup>1</sup> Ethical approval must be referred to in every abstract.

<sup>2</sup> Please ensure that this is addressed in the abstract.

#### **Abstract Submission Guidelines**

- Title of abstract: no more than 25 words.
- Author/ Co-Author’s names: in the order of forename (given name), initial (optional) and surname, without degree, etc., should appear below the title. Do not use an initial for your given name e.g. John S Jones not JS Jones.
- Affiliations namely the institute / hospital name (not abbreviated) and location (city, country) should be listed next.
- The recommended abstract length is between 385 and 500 words, excluding the title, authors’ names/ affiliations and references.
- Tables, figures and footnotes are **not** allowed.

- The abstract should not include more than 10 references. If references are included, they should follow IJIC reference style (Vancouver) – See [www.ijic.org](http://www.ijic.org).
- Use the section headings as suggested in the application form.
- The text of the abstract must include data with a clear description of results and conclusions. All abbreviations must be clearly defined. Statistical methods must be clearly indicated.
- Since abstracts of early stage health researcher (ESHR) can also refer to work-in-progress, not all headings may apply, e.g. ESHRs may not have preliminary results to share yet, but are encouraged to highlight key challenges.
- The submitting author will be responsible for all aspects of its content including assuring that all authors are in agreement with data submission and the required approvals are in place.
- Abstracts must be submitted in word format (.doc or .docx) using the 'Abstract Submission Form'.
- Please name your abstract as 2023SURNAMEKEYWORD or similar to allow identification.

Researchers may submit more than one abstract for review.

The abstract submitter will receive an email message confirming the receipt of the abstract. Please notify your co-authors that the confirmation was received.

After review all accepted abstract submitters will receive notification for either poster presentation only or in addition also an invitation for oral presentation at either event.

### **Content of Abstract**

By submitting to this conference the authors hereby affirm that the work submitted is theirs, original and recent. Disclosures for ALL authors/ co-authors is required within the submission form as well as their department, institution, city, country, etc. The submitting author will be responsible for assuring that all authors are in agreement with abstract/ data submission & the required approvals are in place. Your abstract must state clearly that ethical approval was obtained or justification as to why it was not necessary.

### **Requirements for Authorship**

Authors listed in the abstract should conform to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) recommendations for authorship:

- 1 Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- 2 Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- 3 Final approval of the version to be submitted; AND
- 4 Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

The author order indicates the magnitude of contribution, with the first author adding the most value and the last author representing the most senior, predominantly supervisory role.

Those whose contributions do not qualify for or justify authorship should be acknowledged individually or together as a group under 'Contributorship' (e.g. 'Clinical Investigators' or 'Participating Investigators'), and their contributions should be specified (e.g., 'served as scientific advisors', 'critically reviewed the study proposal', 'collected data', 'provided and cared for study patients', 'participated in writing or technical editing of the manuscript').

See: [Defining the Role of Authors and Contributors](#); International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE).

### **Deadlines**

- The closing date for submitting abstracts **extended to Wednesday October 4th**.
- Announcements of accepted abstracts will be sent by Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- Posters in pdf- format must be received by Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.
- Printed posters must be dropped off by Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 in SUH Library, Level 6.

### **Instructions to Presenters**

If your abstract is awarded an ORAL PRESENTATION then the 1st author will be asked to deliver an oral presentation. Complete instructions for speaker and their presentation will be provided upon notification of abstract acceptance.

If your abstract is awarded a POSTER PRESENTATION, poster boards will be at the meeting and are A0 preferable portrait format. Printed posters must be dropped of by Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 in SUH Library, Level 6. The Research & Education Foundation Medal is awarded to the best poster presented in Category I by a doctor or medical student and in Category II by a nursing, midwifery, health and social care professional or undergraduate student.

### **How to submit**

Send completed Abstract Submission Form to [office@ref-sligo.ie](mailto:office@ref-sligo.ie) using in the email subject line 'ESHR Forum – abstract title' or 'Research Conference - abstract title' by **Wednesday October 4th**.

### **Further information**

All information on the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Multidisciplinary Health Research Conference and 2<sup>nd</sup> Early Stage Health Researcher Forum will be made available on the website [ref-sligo.ie](http://ref-sligo.ie). If you have any queries please send email to [office@ref-sligo.ie](mailto:office@ref-sligo.ie).

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION CLOSES: Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> 2023 **extended to Wednesday October 4th**

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION IS OPEN NOW.

**Abstract Submission Form:** click [here](#) or request from [office@ref-sligo.ie](mailto:office@ref-sligo.ie).