

— NORTH AMERICAN —
FORUM
— ON —
FAMILY PLANNING

CALL FOR SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS 2018

October 20–22, 2018 ■ New Orleans, Louisiana

The *North American Forum on Family Planning* (the *Forum*) is produced jointly by Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), the Society of Family Planning (SFP), and the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP). The *Forum* is the premier scientific and educational family planning conference, and is focused on advancing access to safe, convenient, and high-quality family planning care. At this annual convening, approximately 1,500 medical and social scientists, clinical providers and staff, and other partners share and debate research and clinical practice recommendations, provide trainings on best clinical practice, and form new and exciting collaborations.

Abstract call

This call is for scientific abstracts. We are seeking abstracts from a range of disciplines that share the latest and best science in the field of family planning.

Scientific abstracts are presented in either oral or poster form.

- Oral abstracts are allotted 10 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for discussion.
- Posters are displayed throughout the conference and presenters share their posters with attendees during the poster reception.

All selected abstracts will be published in the October 2018 issue of *Contraception: An International Reproductive Health Journal*.

Review process and criteria

The *Forum* Scientific Abstract Committee reviews all abstracts. The committee consists of 75–80 clinicians and scholars who represent a board array of disciplines. The Scientific Abstract Committee will use the following review criteria to select approximately 20 abstracts for oral presentation and approximately 100 abstracts for poster presentations:

- **Originality:** Were novel concepts or approaches used? Does the abstract challenge existing paradigms or develop new methodologies or technologies?

Abstract submission and review timeline

- Wednesday, March 7, 2018: Abstract submissions open
- **Wednesday, April 11, 2018 (11:59 PM ET): Abstract submissions close**
- June, 2018: Acceptance notification

- **Scientific importance:** Does the abstract address an important problem? How was scientific knowledge advanced? What will be the effect of the results on the concepts or methods that drive the field? Are the results and conclusions strong enough to influence how clinicians/researchers “act”; understand the basic mechanisms of health/disease; or provide health services or trainee education, conduct future research, or impact public policy?
- **Quality of research design and data analysis:** Is the study design clearly described?
- **Conclusions:** Are conclusions clearly stated? How well are the conclusions justified by the data? Are conclusions correct but overstated for the strength of the study?
- **Quality of presentation:** Is the abstract clearly written and understandable?

Abstract submission guidelines

All abstracts must be submitted using the [online submission form](#) and must meet the following requirements:

- Abstracts must be based on original research or evaluation data. Research with incomplete data is unlikely to be selected unless the data are substantial. Literature reviews and program descriptions will not be accepted.
- Abstracts must not have been previously published (including e-publications) or presented at a scientific meeting. Work previously presented at internal hospital, university, or organizational meetings will be considered, but authors should disclose this at the time of submission.
- Research funded with commercial grant support will be considered for presentation, but ACCME regulations prohibit presentations by employees of commercial entities during accredited sessions.
- All activities involving human subjects or vertebrate animals must be approved by an appropriate institutional review board (IRB) or equivalent.
- If an abstract is selected for submission, the corresponding author will not be permitted to change the abstract content but will verify the title, author names, and first author affiliation.

Formatting requirements:

- The title should be concise and clearly convey the subject of the abstract.
- Capitalize only the first word of the title and any proper nouns or acronyms.
- The submission must include the following sections:
 - Objectives
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Conclusions
- The abstract must not exceed 250 words (excluding the title, authors, affiliations, and section headings).
- No individual section may exceed 200 words.
- Trade names should not be used.
- Tables, graphs, and charts are not permitted.

Awards

Awards are given for both oral and poster presentations.

- Presenters of oral abstracts are eligible for the Outstanding Researcher or Outstanding Researcher-in-Training (a fellow, resident, medical student, or graduate student) awards.
- Presenters of poster abstracts are eligible to receive first, second or third place awards as well as the award for best clinical translation.

