



RESEARCH ABSTRACTS

Submission Eligibility and Instructions

Objective:	<p>The objective of the American Osteopathic Association's (AOA) poster session/competition is to provide an opportunity for researchers, both new and mature, to disseminate their research to a broader audience.</p> <p>The Poster Session is an integral part of the Osteopathic Medical Conference & Exposition (OMED) experience. Investigators interested in participating will submit an abstract of their research project. The abstracts that are approved will be published on the <i>JAOA—The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association</i> website.</p> <p>The Poster Session will include a student poster competition. The poster competition is held in collaboration with the National Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA). Students must enter the competition at the time of their abstract submission.</p>
Guidelines:	See Page 3
Eligibility:	See Page 4
Deadline for Submission:	July 17, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. (CST)
Items Required:	Abstract (Online Submission Only) Signed Copyright Form
Submission Instructions:	See Page 4



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GUIDELINES

Abstracts must be a clinical, basic science or health services study and fall within one of the five AOA research focus areas:

1. Categories

- a. **Clinical:** These studies include controlled trials, observational, diagnostic test, or cost-effectiveness, and/or survey-based studies with a clear clinical application.
- b. **Basic Science:** These studies provide a general knowledge and the means of answering a large number of important practical problems. They could involve applying discoveries generated during research in the laboratory to the development of studies in humans. Explain how the research can benefit the overall House of Medicine which includes the Osteopathic profession.
- c. **Health Services:** These studies may investigate three major aspects of health care: access to care, the quality of the care, and its cost. This research should attempt to evaluate the effects and outcomes of the health care "system" on people's health.

2. Research Focus Areas

- a. **Chronic Diseases & Conditions:** Projects must examine the effect of osteopathic medicine on the prevention, diagnosis and/or treatment of chronic diseases and conditions and include elements of patient-centered care, quality of life, and patient satisfaction. The project should focus on a common chronic disease with high public health impact and for which "osteopathic" approaches can lead to improvements in patient outcomes and reduction in healthcare costs. (i.e.: obesity, cancer, diabetes, hypertension, and coronary artery disease)
- b. **Pain Management:** Projects must explore osteopathic approaches to chronic pain management that improve patient outcomes, enrich the quality of life, and demonstrate cost effectiveness. For example, projects may focus on low back pain, pain in obstetrics, and chronic pain experienced by at-risk or special populations.
- c. **Impact of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) & Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT):** Projects must seek to improve understanding of the consequences and impact of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) and Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT). A project should evaluate the benefits of OMM & OMT on validated and clinical outcomes or describe the underlying basic science of OMM & OMT and its impact on patient outcomes (including but not limited to the effect of cellular transport, somatic dysfunction, and interconnectivity of systems).
- d. **Musculoskeletal Injuries and Prevention:** Projects must examine the influence of osteopathic medicine on the management of musculoskeletal injuries and prevention that covers the spectrum from sport injuries in children to degenerative joint disease in adults. A project may evaluate the effect of osteopathic medicine on the mobility of populations affected by degenerative joint disease or measure the impact of osteopathic medicine in addressing the prevention and/or treatment of sports injuries in various populations (e.g., overuse injuries, improving strength and agility to avoid injury, somatic dysfunction, and recovery from post-concussion syndrome).
- e. **Osteopathic Philosophy:** Projects must assess the impact of osteopathic philosophy on physician training, patient health outcomes, quality of care and patient satisfaction. For example, a project may examine whether osteopathic philosophy and DO-patient engagement lead to better clinical outcomes and quality of care (with an emphasis on safety, cost-effectiveness, efficacy, and length of stay), or examine the measurable differences in the delivery of care and patient outcomes between osteopathic physicians and other healthcare providers (e.g., patient communication, types of examinations, patient function, efficiency, patient satisfaction, and costs).



ELIGIBILITY FOR POSTER SESSION

1. The abstract must be authored by:
 - a. At least one osteopathic physician, or faculty member from one of the colleges of osteopathic medicine; or
 - b. A faculty member at an international osteopathic college; or
 - c. A student at a recognized college of osteopathic medicine; or
 - d. Individuals in other areas of scientific research.
2. The abstract must be submitted through:
 - a. A medical organization or other AOA recognized organization; or
 - b. An international osteopathic school or organization.
3. Students interested in participating in the student poster competition must satisfy eligibility requirements 1 and 2 stated above as well as the following:
 - a. Be a member of National Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA);
 - b. Submit an abstract wherein the first author is a medical student at a college of osteopathic medicine at the time the research is conducted and the abstract is submitted; and
 - c. Indicate a the desire to enter into the student poster competition at the time that the abstract is submitted.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. The information presented in the abstract must be original, not a duplicate and not previously published in a peer-reviewed journal.
2. Abstract text is limited to 7500 characters including spaces.
3. Do not use abbreviations, unless spelled out first, acronyms, footnotes, or references in the abstract.
4. Abstracts should have a clearly stated:
 - a. Research Question(s)/Hypotheses (Please include, Specific Aims, if applicable)
 - b. Statement of significance. Osteopathic significance must be included.
 - c. Research Method (e.g., sampling, recruitment, participation, data collection, instruments)
 - d. Data Analysis
 - e. Results
 - f. Conclusion
 - g. Acknowledgment/Funding Source (if applicable)
5. The abstract should summarize what will be in the poster.
6. The first-named author should be the individual who conducted the majority of research. Co-authors should be listed in direct relation to the amount of research they contributed.
7. Where applicable, institutional review board (IRB) approval **must** be noted.
8. After the abstract has been submitted, revisions may be made until the deadline. An email should be sent to the AOA Research Manager in the Department of Research and Development who can provide access to the file. Abstract authors may not be added, deleted, or the order of the authors' names be revised after the deadline.

PEER REVIEW PROCESS

1. Abstracts that do not meet the eligibility criteria will be rejected.
2. Abstracts that do not document IRB approval, if applicable, will be rejected.



3. 2-3 peer reviewers will review each abstract. The reviewers will score the abstracts using a scale of 1.0 through 5.0 (1.0 being poor and 5.0 being excellent).
4. Scores will be averaged. Abstracts receiving a score of 3.0 or better will be accepted. Abstracts receiving a score of less than 3.0 will be rejected.
5. Review Criteria:
 - a. **Originality and Innovation**
 - b. **Research Question(s)/Hypotheses**
 - i. Is the research question strong, logical and clear?
 - ii. Does the abstract contain relevant background information and provide a clear connection to previous literature?
 - iii. Is the project's goal clearly stated, concise, and provide relevance (clinical significance) beyond the project?
 - c. **Research Methods (i.e.; sampling, recruitment, participation, data collection, instruments)**
 - i. If applicable, does the abstract provide a thorough explanation of the chosen methods?
 - ii. If applicable, are controls and/or comparative groups clearly discussed and included?
 - d. **Data Analysis**
 - i. Was the appropriate statistical and/or logical techniques used to evaluate the data applied?
 - ii. Are the data high quality?
 - iii. Are the data sufficient to address the research question(s)?
 - iv. Are the analyses clear, thorough and logical?
 - e. **Results**
 - i. Does the abstract provide reasonable results that are strongly supported by evidence and tied directly to the research question(s)?
 - f. **Conclusion**
 - i. Does the abstract discuss relevance in a wider context (future research opportunities)?
 - ii. Does the abstract discuss any limitations of the study?

ACCEPTED ABSTRACTS

1. Abstract decision letters will be sent via email to the first author.
NOTE: Abstracts not accepted for presentation are not published and will not be disclosed outside of AOA and the peer review committee.
2. **All decisions of the abstract review committee are final. The abstract review committee will not consider requests for appeals.**
3. **All abstracts will receive anonymous feedback from the reviewer.**
4. The first author or their designee must register to attend the OMED and must remit the appropriate registration fee.
5. A signed "assignment of copyright" form is required. The form is emailed or faxed after the submission of an abstract. Secure all signatures and electronic mail or fax to:
Department of Research Development
American Osteopathic Association
Fax: (312) 202-8306
Email: research@osteopathic.org
6. Accepted abstracts will be published in the JAOA.



NOTE: The JAOA will not publish an abstract without an “assignment of copyright form” which lists all the signatures from all the authors listed on the abstract.

7. If an emergency arises and the presenter is unable to attend, he/she must notify the AOA Department of Research and Development in writing before the research conference that he/she will be withdrawing the abstract or naming a substitute presenter.
8. Primary responsibility for compliance with any disclosure or nondisclosure requirements resides solely with researchers and/or research sponsors.
9. If an author’s/presenter’s work will be published in a major peer-reviewed medical journal concurrent with the timing of OMED, it is the responsibility of the abstract author/presenter to notify the JAOA of the publication name and date as soon as possible. The JAOA to work with the publication to coordinate embargo of the material.

COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT

1. In submitting an abstract, the author transfers to the American Osteopathic Association the copyright and all other rights in the material comprising the abstract if the abstract is accepted. Co-authors reserve the following: a) all proprietary rights other than copyright, such as patent rights; and b) the right to use all or part of the abstract in future works of their own. The American Osteopathic Association, as the holder of the copyright on the accepted abstract, reserves all rights of reproduction, distribution, performance, display, and the right to create derivative works in both print and digital formats.
2. Signing the copyright for an abstract does not prevent authors from using the abstract in an article and signing the copyright for that article, including its abstract.
3. Also, if authors wish to reprint their abstract elsewhere, they can easily obtain reprint permission to do so from the JAOA.

TIPS

1. The abstract should summarize what will be on the poster.
2. The first-named author should be the individual who conducted the majority of research. Co-authors should be listed in direct relation to the amount of research they contributed.
3. Abstracts that appear to be replicate versions of a single study will be rejected.
4. Abstracts are not eligible for consideration if the manuscript of the abstract has been presented at a U.S. National or international meeting held in North America before the OMED.
5. Please review and proofread your abstract carefully to avoid errors before submitting your abstract.
 - i. If an abstract has numerous typographical and other errors, the peer reviewer will reject the abstract, and you will **not** be given another opportunity to resubmit it.
 - ii. *If the author finds any grammatical errors before the review, the abstract may be withdrawn, or if the abstract is accepted and the author discovers errors, then the author or his/her designee may address the errors during the presentation.*
6. Online registration to OMED is available at www.osteopathic.org under “Events” and “OMED”.
7. It is strongly recommended that you procure all signatures on the copyright form and submit the signed form as early in the process as possible.