

GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION



Theme: *Evidence that Connects: Advancing Nursing Research for a Changing World*

Please read through each section carefully prior to completing your abstract submission. If you have further questions, please email abstracts@sigmanursing.org.

General Information

- This is our new abstract and grant application system, and it does not integrate with our other Sigma systems. You will need to create a new profile before submitting. To make the process easier, we recommend using the same login information as your Sigma portal account.
- Peer reviewers will be using a rubric to review and grade each abstract submission. See the conference rubric for more information. The rubric for Sigma's International Nursing Research Congress has been updated for 2027 abstract submissions.
- Completed work or projects may be submitted for oral podium presentation, poster, or PechaKucha presentations. If the work or project is not yet complete at the time of submission, the abstract may only be submitted as a poster or PechaKucha presentation.
- If successfully reviewed, final abstract acceptance will be conditional upon the presenting author having a paid registration for the event.
- Presenters assume all costs related to travel, accommodations, and other expenses related to their presentation.
- The primary presenting author should be listed first in the order of authors. **All communication will be directed to the primary presenting author only.**
- *Please remember to include any and all members of your team or anyone who you may wish to give credit to for the work you are submitting under the section entitled "Additional Authors". **Once the abstract submission deadline has passed, you may not be able to add authors/presenters to the abstract.***
- Abstracts, presentation slides, and author information will be uploaded to the Sigma Repository with the author's permission.
- Sigma is committed to worldwide collaboration. Please include global implications as relevant to your work

Submission Process

- Abstracts and references should only be submitted in English.
- Sigma will not accept or review abstracts in which generative artificial intelligence tools, such as ChatGPT, were used to create or substantially develop the scientific content, including the research question, methodology, analysis, results, or conclusions. Authors remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, and integrity of all submitted content. The use of AI tools for limited language editing, grammar, or readability may be permitted, provided the tool does not generate or alter the scientific substance of the abstract.

- All abstract components have a maximum length of 5,000 characters. The title, presenter information, and references **should not be included** in the body of the abstract. In-text citations, however, are appropriate. These citations will be included in the overall word count. Full references are required in the Reference field.
- The use of a word processing program, rather than the submission form, is recommended for composing the abstract. Please check spelling, character count, and conformation to the guidelines prior to copying the abstract onto the submission form.
- All abstract and presentation materials must be in compliance with international copyright laws.
- Abstract title, abstract, and presentation focus should be original (not previously published or presented). We recognize that a study, project, or work may yield multiple findings and subsequently several original publications or presentations. To be eligible to present, submissions must contain an original title, abstract text, and subsequent presentation content (i.e., different view, perspective, or focus).
- **Submission Due Date:** Submit all abstracts no later than 11:59 p.m. (2359) Eastern Time on **13 September 2026**.
- An email with your abstract ID and abstract title will be emailed to you after your email is submitted to the system. The email will include the submitter's User ID. Please keep this email for reference.
- An individual may submit more than one abstract; however, if successfully reviewed, **only one oral podium, one poster, and one PechaKucha submission will be accepted for presentation**.
- Abstract submissions that are incomplete after the submission deadline will not be eligible for presentation and will no longer be accessible by the authors.
- **Email confirmation** of completed abstract submissions will be sent to the primary presenting author **only** upon receipt of the completed submission.
- **Email notification of abstract acceptance** will be sent to the presenting author only by the **end of October 2026**.
- The intent to present form is required to maintain the submission as part of the presentation schedule. Only the primary presenting author is required to complete this form. The authors' failure to return the **"intent to present"** information by the designated deadline will disqualify the abstract from presentation.
- Presentations must be uploaded by the identified deadline. No audiovisual (A/V) capability will be available for any presentation that is not uploaded by the deadline.

Submission Guidelines

Prior to starting your abstract submission, you must fill out contact information about the submitter.

- Contact Information
 - Complete all required fields which are denoted with an asterisk (*).
 - Name
 - First/Given Name
 - Last/Family Name
 - Email (Please enter an email address that you have access to and check frequently as all communication related to your abstract submission will be sent via email.
 - Institution
 - Department
 - Type in the department in which you are affiliated. Example: Department of Nursing Research
 - Professional Title
 - Degree Credentials

- Type in your credential abbreviations. Example: MSN, RN, RN-BC
- The preferred order is:
 - Highest earned degree
 - Licensure
 - National certifications
- Sigma does not list degrees in progress.
- Do not put professor or master's in this textbox.
- Phone
- Biography
 - Please provide a brief author summary specific to your professional background. This would be read aloud prior to the session or printed in brochures or marketing materials and should be written in third person. This should include what you would want your audience to know about you that relates to the educational content you are about to provide.

Disclosures

- You must complete a relevant financial relationship disclosure form.
- Do you have a relevant financial relationship or perceived relevant financial relationship based on information provided on the screen? Respond yes or no.
 - If response is yes, additional information will appear for you to complete related to all commercial interests and the nature of the relationship.
 - If response is no, no additional information is needed.

Participant Agreement Form

- This is the standard form that should be completed by the presenting author only. Please read the Participant Agreement Form in its entirety.
 - Based on past questions staff have received, the statement regarding original work applies only if the submitted title and abstract differ from what has been previously published or presented.
- Read the Participant Form in its entirety.
 - Once read, please sign to agree by entering your name, credentials and the date.

A *complete* presentation submission for a standard abstract submission includes the following:

Step 1: Submission type

- **Presentation Type**

Select correct corresponding information related to your work from the dropdown menu options.

- Select the type of submission:
 - Abstract submission
 - Symposium submission
 - Workshop submission

Step 2: Title/Body

- **Title (Maximum of 100 characters)**

- **Abstract Text**

- There is a character limit of 5,000 characters.
- We suggest that abstracts be developed in a word processing program before accessing the online submission form. Use the spell check and character count features of your word processor to check the text of the abstract before submitting it.
- Sigma does not require specific headers for abstract text submissions. If using headings, please make them clearly discernable for the peer-reviewers by bolding or underlining the section header.
- Abstracts should include a purpose statement that is clear and aligns with other content of the abstract text.
 - The abstract should be logical and provide substantial details supporting the overall abstract topic. The abstract should be fully developed and clearly articulates the implications for the nursing profession.
- Please remove all references to the title and author information in the abstract text before completing the submission.
- Authors should review the information submitted very carefully for spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors. Edits to the abstract content cannot be made after the submission deadline.

- **Abstract Summary**

- The abstract summary should be a brief summary of the abstract text. This should not exceed more than 500 characters.
- This could be used for promotional materials such as marketing materials if the abstract

is accepted. This should be short and compelling to describe what participants should expect by attending your presentation.

- **References**
 - Provide a minimum of one scholarly reference (e.g., science journal articles, nursing journal articles, books). A minimum of one scholarly reference is needed to complete this step; however, to obtain a high score in this grading category, we recommend 3-5
 - Use a clear, consistent format (i.e. APA, Harvard, MLA, numerical, etc.)
 - References should be recent and/or appropriate for the abstract (references should be no older than five years, unless they are a seminal work).

Step 3: Presentation Information

- If the work is completed, you can choose from the following types of presentations:
 - Oral/Podium
 - Poster
 - PechaKucha
 - No preference
- If the work is ongoing, you can choose from the following types of presentations:
 - Poster
 - PechaKucha
- Select the Subject matter of your abstract:
 - Academic
 - Non-academic Education/Professional Development
 - Patient
 - Patient Families
 - Clinical
 - Other
- Select a keyword that describes the best category for your abstract.
 - Academic-Clinical Partnership
 - Acute Care
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Coaching
 - Competence
 - Continuing Education
 - Cultural Exchange programs/study abroad
 - Curriculum Development
 - DEI/BIPOC
 - Ethics
 - Faculty Development
 - Global Leadership
 - Health Equity or Social Determinants of Health
 - History
 - Hospice/Palliative/End-of-Life
 - Implementation Science
 - Instrument/Tool/Development
 - Interprofessional Initiatives
 - Interprofessional/Interdisciplinary

- Incivility
- Long-term care
- Mentoring/coaching
- Parish Based Care
- Policy/Advocacy
- Precepting
- Primary Care
- Public/Community Health
- Simulation
- Stress/Coping
- Sub-Acute Care
- Succession Planning
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Teaching/Learning Strategies
- Testing Strategies
- Theory
- Transition to practice/onboarding
- Virtual Learning
- Workforce
- None of these
 - If you select none of these, please provide a keyword to best describe your abstract
- Select the session that best suits your abstract submission:
 - Research
 - Evidence Based and Transitional Science
- Select the setting of your work:
 - Rural
 - Suburban
 - Urban/City/Metropolitan
 - State
 - National
 - Global
 - None of the above
- Select if this submission aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). If so:
 - Indicate the number of individuals impacted
 - Select the SDG that this submission correlates with

Scheduling Conflicts

Due to the high volume of presentations, we are unable to accommodate general scheduling preferences. However, if you require a specific date due to a religious observance or another documented accommodation, please indicate that below, and we will make every effort to honor your request.

- You must check you agree with the Terms of Use.
- Hit Submit Form.
- You should get a confirmation page that says Success! You can check on your status any time by logging into your submittable account. You will also get a confirmation email after you submit.
- For any questions, please contact abstracts@sigmanursing.org