Call for Abstracts
Third Annual Central Florida Research Symposium
Hosted by Lakeland Regional Health

Lakeland Regional Health invites you to submit an abstract in research, project, methodology and/or theory development/conceptual format to be considered for podium or poster presentation at the 2025 Inaugural Central Florida Research Symposium, which will be held at Lakeland Regional Health, Lakeland, FL on April 24th, 2025. All abstracts, not to exceed 500 words, are to be submitted using LRH's abstract submission process using the Qualtrics link below.

Abstract submissions must be received by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on **Thursday, February 27th, 2025**. Absolutely no extensions will be granted.

The Program Committee will schedule papers in podium or poster sessions and will assign the times of such. Notifications will be sent in early March 2025, regarding if your abstract has been accepted for a poster or podium presentation. All presenters are required to register for the conference and attend in person unless otherwise arranged. If the primary author of an abstract is unable to attend the conference, the author should make arrangements for another individual to present the paper or poster, and that individual must register for the conference. The conference registration form is available using the link below. Please note: if you are submitting an abstract, you must also register for the conference in order to attend.

DEFINITIONS

Podium Session
A podium session consists of presentations of *completed* research, *completed* projects, or *completed* methodology papers and/or theory development/conceptual papers. Research results or project outcomes must be described in these abstracts. Research which is not completed at the time of abstract submission will not be considered for a podium presentation.

Poster Session
A poster session is a visual display of *completed or in-progress* work. In-progress work is only eligible for poster presentation. A poster slot will be allocated as one poster for each abstract, regardless of size/scope of the research.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

General Eligibility:
All completed or in-progress research abstracts will be considered, regardless of prior presentation at regional, national, or international conferences. Recently published (or accepted for publication) research will also be considered, provided the submitting author complies with copyright and permission laws as applicable.

Lakeland Regional Health

For this conference, "recently published" research is defined as work published within 12 months before the submission deadline. Research published or accepted for publication before this cutoff may be eligible for poster presentations, depending on space and topic relevance, but will not be considered for podium presentations.

Abstracts must be completed by the submission deadline to be eligible for podium presentations. Abstracts with statements like "results will be presented" or "data will be analyzed" will be considered for **poster presentation only.**

In-progress research is eligible only for poster presentations and must include evidence that data collection is in progress.

Case Reports/Series will not be eligible for podium presentations. A limited number of Case Report/Series abstracts may be accepted for poster presentations, and they will be evaluated using distinct criteria. These abstracts are not eligible for awards or honors. Submitters are encouraged to consider the new **Proposed Research** category detailed below.

Categories and Submission Instructions

1. Research Abstracts (Completed Studies)

Research abstracts highlight completed studies, including traditional research, instrument development, systematic reviews, scoping reviews, meta-analyses, and meta-syntheses.

Submission Content:

1. **Title**: A concise and descriptive title.
2. **Purpose/Aims**: State the primary objectives or questions addressed by the research.
3. **Rationale/Background**: Provide a brief review of the problem being addressed, the significance of the study, and its potential contribution to the field.
4. **Methods**: Describe the study design, population/sample, data collection methods, and analysis. Emphasize rigor and adherence to ethical standards where applicable.

5. **Results**: Present key findings, including data and statistical analyses (if applicable). Highlight significant outcomes that support the study's objectives.
6. **Implications**: Discuss how the findings translate into practice, impact policy, or inform future research.
7. **Keywords**: Provide 3–5 keywords that reflect the focus of the study.

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2. Theory Development/Conceptual Abstracts

These abstracts emphasize the development of new theoretical frameworks or concepts and their application in research or practice.

Submission Content:

1. **Title**
2. **Purpose/Aims**: Clearly articulate the goals or objectives of the theoretical development.
3. **Theory/Concept Description**: Provide a detailed explanation of the proposed theory or concept, including its components, structure, and foundational principles.
4. **Relevance to Practice or Research**: Discuss the potential application of the theory or concept to clinical practice, research, or education. Include examples or scenarios to illustrate its utility.
5. **Conclusions**: Summarize the anticipated impact and relevance of the theory or concept, with recommendations for implementation or further exploration.
6. **Keywords**

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3. Methodological Abstracts

This category focuses on innovative research methods, new uses of existing methods, or critiques of methodological applications in research.

Submission Content:

1. **Title**
2. **Purpose/Aims**: Define the methodological issue or innovation being addressed.
3. **Description of the Method**: Explain the methodology in detail, including its design, implementation, and how it advances current practices.
4. **Application to Research Problems**: Discuss how the method addresses a specific research challenge or enhances data collection, analysis, or interpretation.
5. **Conclusions and Implications**: Provide a clear summary of the utility of the method, including its limitations and recommendations for broader application in research.
6. **Keywords**

4. Project Papers (QI, EBP, EPM)

These abstracts focus on activities that translate evidence to practice or generate practice-based evidence, often within a single organization or system.

Submission Content:

1. **Title**
2. **Purpose/Aims**: Define the objectives or goals of the project.
3. **Rationale/Background**: Provide context, including the problem being addressed and why the initiative is important.
4. **Description of the Undertaking**: Explain the project's framework, methodology, or approach. Describe how the change or improvement was measured, and the tools or metrics used.
5. **Findings/Outcomes**: Highlight the results achieved, whether qualitative or quantitative. Discuss the significance of these findings within the organization.
6. **Conclusions and Next Steps**: Summarize the project's implications for policy, practice, and future research. Include recommendations for broader implementation or follow-up projects.
7. **Keywords**

5. Case Reports/Case Series

These abstracts showcase unique clinical cases, including diagnostic challenges, innovative treatment approaches, or uncommon conditions with significant implications for clinical practice.

Submission Content:

1. **Introduction/Background**: Provide context and relevance of the case(s).
2. **Clinical Case Description**: Describe the patient(s), diagnostic process, treatment provided, and follow-up. Include relevant clinical data and imaging where appropriate.
3. **Lessons Learned/Conclusions**: Emphasize the key learning points, their applicability to practice, and broader clinical implications.
4. **Keywords**

6. Proposed Research (New for 2025)**

This category is for abstracts describing research studies that are in the planning or conceptual phase and have not yet started.

Submission Content:

1. **Title**
2. **Background and Significance**: Provide an overview of the problem or knowledge gap the proposed research aims to address. Clearly articulate why this study is important and its potential impact on practice, policy, or theory.
3. **Research Objectives**: Define the primary aims or research questions, emphasizing their alignment with the identified problem or gap.
4. **Proposed Methods**: Describe the intended study design, population/sample, data collection plans, and analytical strategies. Provide enough detail to demonstrate feasibility and rigor.
5. **Anticipated Contributions**: Discuss the potential contributions of the proposed research to the field. Highlight its relevance to practice, theoretical advancement, or methodological innovation.
6. **Potential Challenges and Mitigation Strategies**: Briefly address foreseeable barriers (e.g., funding, recruitment) and how these challenges might be managed.
7. **Keywords**

**This category is eligible for special awards, distinctions, and honors to recognize innovative thinking and research potential.

Selection Criteria

Submissions will be evaluated on:

- **General:** Clarity, logical flow, and significance of the work to the discipline.
- **Category-Specific:** Alignment with the detailed submission criteria for each category.

We look forward to your submissions and showcasing the best in healthcare research and practice.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please submit abstracts to the Qualtrics link provided below (Section "Links for Symposium"). All completed and eligible submissions received by **11:59 PM Eastern time on Thursday, February**

27th, 2025 will be reviewed by the Program Committee and qualified volunteers. Selection of abstracts for presentation at the annual conference will be based upon scientific merit.

The body of your abstract must not exceed 500 words. All individuals involved in the study must be listed in the Authors section of the submission form. If the study was supported in full or in part by a grant, include the grant number and granting organization in the funding section on the Title page. <u>References are discouraged.</u>

LINKS FOR SYMPOSIUM

Please use the links below to submit completed abstracts and register to attend the conference. **If you submit an abstract, but do not register for the conference, your abstract will not be accepted.** Any individual that plans to attend the conference must register at the link below, even if they are not presenting.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: [2025 Abstract Submission Portal](#)

ACCEPTED SUBMISSION POSTER UPLOAD: [2025 Accepted Poster Submission Portal](#)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: [2025 Central FL Research Symposium Registration](#)

Top 9 Reasons Abstracts Are Not Accepted

The Committee has identified the Top 9 Reasons why research or project abstracts are not accepted. The Committee hopes this document will assist authors as they develop their abstracts.

1. Title does not summarize content
Sometimes clever titles or direct quotes from research participants are used in place of informative titles. It's best if the title conveys the overall point of the abstract. The reviewer should know from the title what to expect from the rest of the abstract, without surprises or unfulfilled expectations. A surprised or confused reviewer will result in a poor score.

2. Research question or purpose is not clear or is not congruent with methods

Is the question you pose clear? If so, can it be answered with the methods you propose? If not, the lack of congruence will be a problem. State clearly the research question, what was done, who was in the sample, and how the data were analyzed.

3. Methods are not aligned with results

Be sure the methods produce the answers you report in the results section. If you submit a poster abstract of research still in progress, you do not need to report final results, but you do need to explain your methods and can include interim findings.

4. Results section fails to report results

Podium presentations require results to be available at the time of abstract submission. The expectation is that the results should be explained so that the reviewer can interpret and understand what you found. A statement like "Results will be presented" is not acceptable, and should be replaced with numeric results (and significance values) or qualitative findings appropriate to the methodology. The methods and results should comprise the greatest part of the abstract. If you have extra space, expand the methods and results sections. Note: Poster presentations do not require results.

5. Importance or significance of the topic to healthcare is underdeveloped

If general clinicians cannot appreciate the significance of your topic to their professional work, your abstract needs help. Ask yourself, "What about my abstract is important for healthcare?" Be sure you connect your topic with your audience.

6. Conclusions are not supported by the data

The abstract reviewer will compare the conclusions you identify to the data presented in the results. Over- or under-interpretation of the results is best avoided. Conclusions should be aligned with the original purpose of the abstract. Compare your conclusions to your purpose, title, and methods to be certain the links between these abstract sections are logical and explicit. Avoid using words such as "should," "prove," and "must" as more than one investigation is required to prove or establish linkage strong enough to justify these terms.

7. Implications for clinical research, practice, or education are not supported by results

The clinical audience will want to know how to use your findings. Guidance about the usefulness of your work is necessary in the abstract. It is assumed by abstract reviewers that future research is needed in most areas and that replication of results is wise before any single set of findings are widely adopted. There is no need to state those kinds of implications unless you have an explicit recommendation. Instead, focus on what you learned and what you would like other healthcare providers to know in order to enhance research methods, provide better care, change policy, or improve the education of future clinicians.

8. Grammatical errors and writing problems

If your abstract is not easily understood by the reviewers due to grammar or writing issues, your submission will be rejected. Simply having a colleague proofread your abstract will help identify writing problems. Grammar issues, such as changes in tense, incomplete sentences, or poor word

choice can be remedied with some pre-submission peer or mentor feedback. Another method that may help identify problems is to read your abstract aloud to yourself; this technique will frequently catch errors not apparent when reading.

9. Jargon is confusing or undefined
An abstract (Abs.) rarely needs to use abbreviations (AB). AB is confusing, sometimes unfamiliar to reviewers, and often unnecessary. For example, in a 250-word Abs., AB may be used only a few times. Usually a space-saving ploy, AB can be eliminated from your Abs. if you write a better, tighter Abs. Similarly, some words are meaning-laden words-of-the-moment that have cropped up in science, yet are seldom uniformly understood by abstract reviewers from a variety of specialties. Technical, theoretical, and contemporary jargon will require a brief conceptual and/or operation definition in your abstract.