

American Society for Reproductive Medicine 2021 Scientific Congress & Expo
The Baltimore Convention Center
Baltimore, Maryland
October 16-20, 2021

2021 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Submission of an abstract for presentation implies attendance of the presenting author at the 2021 Scientific Congress in Baltimore.

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Preparation Guidelines and Instructions

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The American Society for Reproductive Medicine Scientific Congress Committee invites you to participate in the 2021 Scientific Congress in Baltimore, Maryland, through the submission of scientific abstracts for consideration for presentation. **Due to current travel restrictions, all individuals who require a visa to enter the United States are urged to immediately obtain necessary papers to attend the meeting upon submission of the abstract.** A letter inviting any individual who wishes to attend may be obtained after registering for the Congress or via the Congress website on the Attendees page (<https://asrmcongress.org/attendees/>). This letter does not imply any financial support by ASRM.

Abstracts must be submitted electronically through the Online Abstract Submitter program, which will be available Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at the following Web address:

<https://asrm.confex.com/asrm/2021/cfp.cgi>

Final Date for Submission of Abstracts: Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time for domestic US submitters, which is 10:00 p.m. GMT for international submitters.

Note: **Any presenting author who fails to present an accepted abstract or have it presented by a co-author, or who withdraws an abstract after July 16, 2021, will not be allowed to serve as an author on an abstract considered for presentation at the ASRM Scientific Congress for the following two years.** If for any reason an abstract accepted for presentation (either oral or poster) cannot be presented, ASRM should be notified immediately via email abstracts@asrm.org with the abstract title and number and information about the withdrawal.

Changes from previous years:

1. **ASRM has updated the 5 headers in the Abstract Text section.** Read over the instructions for abstract submission below to see the new **required** headers.
2. **ASRM has recategorized the abstracts into new categories and sub-categories.** Please familiarize yourself with the new setup within the system, as this will impact how you submit.
3. **ALL author disclosures are required before abstract data can be input on an abstract.** No authors can be added after the abstract submission deadline.
4. **Study design** is now selected on the first step from a drop-down list of options.
5. Abstract submitters will be able to select if they prefer in-person and virtual or virtual-only options for presentation.
6. The last day to withdraw without penalty is **July 16, 2021**.

GENERAL ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES & REQUIREMENTS

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- All abstracts and video summaries must be submitted electronically via the abstract/video submission site by the deadline. Fax, email, and postal submissions will not be accepted. Late submissions will not be accepted.
- ***Submission of an abstract for consideration for presentation implies that the presenting author or a designated co-author will attend the meeting to present his/her work if accepted.***
- Submission of an abstract for consideration for presentation implies that the presenting author & associated co-authors have legal and ethical rights to submit and present this work. Plagiarism and submitting work that an author has no rights to, will result in an investigation and penalty.
- **Abstracts submitted to ASRM must contain original work**, not previously published, or presented at a meeting of another national or international scientific organization or submitted for publication at the time of this submission.

ABSTRACT FORMATTING AND CONTENT

- Abstracts must adequately describe the research performed so that the quality, originality, and completeness of the work can be evaluated. Only structured abstracts with the required 5 headings can be submitted. Failure to follow the proper format will disqualify the abstract for grading and consideration.
- Abbreviations used in abstracts must be defined. Abbreviations are permitted in titles if they immediately follow the term being abbreviated and are enclosed in parentheses. If used in the text, they should be defined at first mention if not already defined in the title.
- Where possible, generic names should be used for pharmaceuticals, biologics, and medical devices. The trade name of the particular product used in a study can be referenced. The trade name may be used if the product is the only one of its general type and use of the generic name would encumber the reader. Promotional language and logos may not be used.
- Do not identify individuals in the title or abstract body. Doing so will result in the abstract being disqualified.
- **Body text of the abstract are limited to a total of 2700 characters (spaces are not counted in character total), which may include one table. Authors may distribute the characters among these items as they choose.** Inclusion of a table will replace 320 characters (this is to off-set the amount of room tables use in publishing). **If a table is included, all characters in the table will be counted towards total characters allowed and the limit will drop from 2700 characters to 2380 characters.**
- Figures, images, and/or graphics are not permitted and will be deleted.

AUTHORSHIP

- When creating an abstract, list the presenting author first. If you need to change who is the presenting author, you can do so in the system until the Abstract Submission period is over (April 28, 2021). After the submission period, please have the current presenting author email abstracts@asrm.org to request a different co-author be named as the presenting author. **All author names should be included at the time of submission. ASRM is not responsible for missing or excluded names that the submitting author leaves off during the submission process.**
- A separate disclosure of commercial and financial relationships must be completed for **each individual author** through the Online Abstract Submitter program. An author on multiple abstracts need only complete one disclosure if they are submitted under the same email.
- **All author names should be included at the time of submission. ASRM is not responsible for missing, excluded, or misspelled names or affiliations that the submitting author leaves off or misspells during the submission**

process. All author names will be printed in the Abstract Supplement exactly how they are input into the system by the submitting author.

- Submitting authors can return to abstracts for editing at any time before the abstract submission end date (April 28, 2021) by clicking on the link provided in your email (you will be required to create a login and password, validated in your email) or via the link on the right side of [this page](#). Additionally, each co-author has access to correct their name, degree, and affiliation information when they complete their online disclosure.
- **No edits can be made to the abstract text, authors, or other content once the ASRM Abstract Submission period has ended (April 28, 2021).**

ABSTRACT EMBARGO AND PUBLICATION

- **ABSTRACT EMBARGO: ASRM asks that authors maintain an embargo on information in the abstracts, along with any additional information that will be presented at the Congress, until the day and time scheduled for presentation at the Congress,** with the exception of certain abstracts that are included in ASRM's press releases for the Scientific Congress- these will usually have an embargo set a few hours earlier than the scheduled presentation time. For more information regarding what may be released publicly before the Congress, or how to comply with the embargo, please contact publicaffairs@asrm.org.
- All accepted abstracts are published in the *Fertility & Sterility* Abstract Supplement online at www.fertstert.org as a supplemental issue, in September each year.

HUMAN SUBJECTS

- Abstracts or videos regarding human reproductive cloning will not be considered or accepted.
- Research involving human subjects or human materials must have been approved or exempted by the appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) with jurisdiction or equivalent.

NOTIFICATIONS

- Notifications regarding acceptance/rejection will be emailed to the **presenting author** beginning no later than June 28, 2021 to the email address listed in the Online Abstract Submitter.
- If you do not receive notification of the status of your abstract by July 12, 2021, call Technical Support at +1 (401) 334-0220 or email technical support at asrm@confex.com.
- All decisions by the Scientific Congress Committee and ASRM are final. **Dates and times of presentations cannot be changed.**
- The primary/presenting author is considered by ASRM the main point of contact for each abstract. This author is responsible for keeping their email contact information up to date within the abstract system. If the presenting author fails to provide a working email, to check their email or spam filters for notifications, or to respond to ASRM directives via email notifications that result in their presentation not being presented, that is considered a failure to present and the abstract will face the ASRM penalty regarding failure to present. Requests for changes to emails on file can be made to: abstracts@asrm.org.

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE AND PENALTY

- Last date to withdraw abstracts accepted for presentation without incurring a penalty: **July 16, 2021.**
- **Penalty: Any presenting author who fails to present an accepted abstract or have it presented by a co-author, or who withdraws an abstract after July 16, 2021, will not be allowed to serve as an author on an abstract considered for presentation at the ASRM Scientific Congress for the following two years.** ASRM reserves the right to impose additional penalties on other parties (including corporate and other sponsors of research projects) for improper withdrawal of abstracts. Exceptions will be considered if the ASRM is given

prompt notification for extreme, unforeseen circumstances. To withdraw an abstract or notify ASRM of non-presentation, the primary author should email abstracts@asrm.org with the abstract title and number and information about the withdrawal.

ABSTRACT AWARDS

For an abstract to be considered for any award, one author must be a member of ASRM in good standing. An abstract may receive more than one award. ASRM prize awards will be announced and the recipients will be recognized during the Awards/Closing Ceremony, Wednesday, October 20, 2021.

Scientific Congress Prize Papers (Oral presentations):

Candidates for two Scientific Congress Prizes will be selected by the Scientific Congress Committee from all abstracts submitted to the meeting regardless of designation of group for initial review. These oral presentations will be judged at the meeting and selection will be determined by the Scientific Congress Prize Paper Committee. The presenters of the two Scientific Congress Prize papers will each be awarded \$1,000.00.

Scientific Congress Prize Posters:

Posters must be mounted on the correct, numbered boards on Sunday afternoon, October 18th, between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. or Monday morning, October 19th, between 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and must be left in place for the entire meeting. Posters will be judged by the Scientific Congress Prize Poster Committee for prize awards. The awards are:

- First Prize: \$500.00
- Second Prize: \$300.00
- Third Prize: \$200.00

Resident In-Training Award:

This award will recognize the presenter of an exceptional abstract who is currently a resident in training in the field of obstetrics and gynecology or urology. Applicants who wish their abstract to be considered for this award must check the "Resident In-Training Award" check box in the Online Abstract Submitter. The awardee will receive:

- \$500.00
- One-year free ASRM membership
- Free registration for ASRM 2021 Scientific Congress, in Baltimore, MD.

In-Training Awards for Research:

Five (5) In-Training Awards for Research will be granted in recognition of outstanding research conducted by individuals who are in-training. Applicants who wish their abstract to be considered for one of these awards must check the "In-Training Award for Research" check box in the online Abstract Submitter. He/she must be the presenting author (first) and must be a medical student, resident, fellow or undergraduate, graduate or postdoctoral student. Each awardee will receive:

- \$250.00
- One-year free ASRM membership
- Free registration for ASRM 2021 Scientific Congress, in Baltimore, MD.

Corporate Member Council (CMC) Abstract Award for In-Training Professionals

These awards are made possible through the generous support of the ASRM Board of Directors and the ASRM Corporate Member Council.

The CMC Council will award complimentary ASRM 2021 Scientific Congress & Expo registration (registration rates based on location, ASRM-member status, & in-training status) to each awardee (the awardee is the first and presenting author only). This award is open to:

- Trainee abstract presenters from within the United States
- Trainee abstract presenters traveling from countries other than the United States*

Eligibility

- Awardee must be an undergraduate, graduate, medical or allied health professions student, postdoctoral trainee, or clinical resident or fellow.
- Awardee must be the first and presenting author of the abstract.
- Abstract must have been selected for oral or poster presentation in the ASRM 2021 Scientific Congress.
- *For international applicants, they must be located in one of the countries on [this](#) list.

Application

- Applicants must check the box on the abstract submission site indicating their desire to be considered for an award.
- Applicants must upload curriculum vitae, including current educational program, in the abstract submission system.
- Awardees will be notified by email by July 31, 2021.
- ASRM will provide a complimentary registration code to the registration system/vendor to provide any awardee with free registration.
 - If awardee has already registered, a refund will be issued to the awardee.
 - If awardee has not already registered, the code will allow them to do so for free within the system.
 - No currency or payments will be issued to awardees other than refunds, if applicable.
- Selection will be based on scientific merit of the abstract and qualifications of the presenter.

Society of Reproductive Surgeons (SRS) In-Training Awards for Research:

Three (3) SRS In-Training Awards for research will be granted. The purpose of these awards is to recognize outstanding research conducted by individuals in-training. Applicants who wish their abstract to be considered for one of these awards must check the “SRS In-Training Award for Research” check box in the Online Abstract Submitter and must submit their abstract to the “Reproductive Surgery” category. The candidate must be the presenting author (first), must be a medical student, resident, fellow or undergraduate, graduate, or postdoctoral student, and must attend the ASRM 2021 Scientific Congress, in Baltimore, MD and present the abstract. Each awardee will receive:

- \$250.00
- One-year free ASRM and SRS membership
- Free registration for ASRM 2021 Scientific Congress, in Baltimore, MD.

Society for Male Reproduction and Urology (SMRU) Traveling Scholars Award Program:

The objective of this award is to provide an opportunity for trainees to learn more about the field of male infertility by attending educational activities at the ASRM Scientific Congress. Awardees will receive reimbursement of up to \$2,350 in travel expenses to attend the Congress, which will be held in Baltimore, MD, October 17-21, 2021.

Awards

- Registration fee waived for the ASRM Scientific Congress.
- Registration fee waived for the SMRU Postgraduate Course.

- Registration fee waived for one Roundtable Luncheon.
- Registration fee waived for the SMRU banquet.
- One-year membership to ASRM and to SMRU

Eligibility and Application

- Applicants must be trainees in the field of male infertility, or trainees who are considering entering the field of male infertility. Trainees may include medical students, residents, fellows, undergraduate students, graduate students, or postdoctoral fellows.
- Applicants must be the first author of an abstract submitted to the **Male Reproduction and Urology: Traveling Scholars** Sub-category under the Male Reproduction category in the ASRM online abstract submission website.
- To receive reimbursement for travel costs, awardees must attend the SMRU Pre-Congress Course as well as special interest sessions on each day of the ASRM Scientific Congress.
- Applications must email the following to Susanna Scarbrough (sscarbrough@asrm.org): an application form, curriculum vitae, letter of recommendation from the trainee's mentor, and a statement of career goals. *Any materials uploaded in the abstract submission website (CV) must also be emailed to Susanna Scarbrough.*

Completed application materials must be received by **May 2, 2021**. Prior to submitting an application, applicants and mentors should ensure the applicant's availability to participate in the SMRU Traveling Scholars Program. Failure of an awardee to present his/her abstract, or failure of an awardee to attend SMRU-sponsored activities, without a legitimate medical excuse, will result in penalties to the awardee and/or mentor, including denial of travel reimbursement to the awardee and/or denial of applications from the mentor's program for a period of two years. Preference will be given to applicants in their earlier years of training; however, applicants in their senior years of training also will be considered. Applicants not currently in the field of male infertility, but who are considering entering this field, also will be considered. More detailed information about this specific award can be found here: <http://www.asrm.org/smru-traveling-scholar-award/>.

Affiliated Societies:

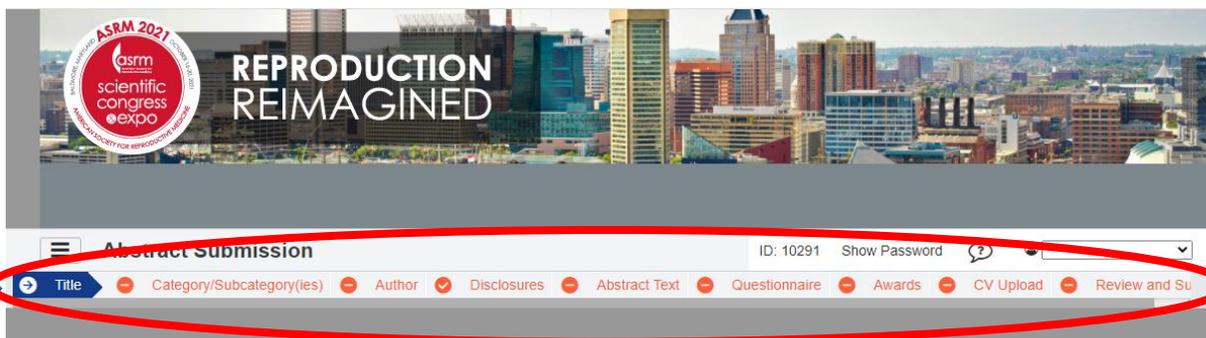
The Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART), the Society for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (SREI), the Society of Reproductive Surgeons (SRS), the Society of Reproductive Biologists and Technologists (SRBT), and the Society for Male Reproduction and Urology (SMRU) select prize papers and awards.

Professional and Special Interest Groups:

Several of these groups select prize papers for cash awards.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:

Be aware you can check the status of your abstract at any point by observing the Abstract Control Panel on the top of the abstract submission screen. That looks like this:



If there is a circle with a horizontal line in it, that means the step is incomplete and puts your abstract into an incomplete status in the system. Any step with a horizontal line in the circle must be completed for your abstract to proceed to review. If the horizontal line circle is on the Author Disclosures step, that means one or more of your authors has not yet completed their disclosure.

A. STEP BY STEP SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **TITLE PAGE:** Type in your title, the submitter's email, select your presentation preference (Either Oral or Poster, or Poster Only), select your virtual presentation preference, and then select your study design type from the drop-down list. Once done, click on SAVE AND CONTINUE at the bottom of the page.
2. **CATEGORY and SUB-CATEGORY are required fields.** You may select one category and up to 3 Sub-categories.
3. **AUTHOR(s):** In the Online Abstract Submitter, provide names of all co-authors.
 - a. The Presenting Author should be entered first. Search for each author using last name or email address.
 - b. If you are not able to find an author using the search feature, please select the radio button beside "Not Found – Enter new name" then click SELECT to enter a new author. **New authors' first (given) name, last (family) name, degree(s), and email should be entered.**
 - c. The authors' names will be printed in the program exactly as submitted, so capitalize correctly. The co-authors are responsible for inputting their affiliation information and correcting any issues with their name or degree(s) when they login to complete their disclosure.
 - d. Please use the same author information for every abstract on which an author appears. All author names should be included at the time of submission.
 - e. **ASRM is not responsible for missing or excluded names that the submitting author leaves off during the submission process.**
4. **AUTHOR DISCLOSURES:** All authors included on the abstract are required to complete a CME disclosure form within the abstract submission system. **You will not be allowed to proceed to any other part of your abstract submission until all co-author disclosures are complete.** When you enter author information, an email is automatically sent to the co-authors, asking them to complete the disclosure. You can also send email reminders to authors missing disclosures. If you complete all steps of your submission and then add more authors, your submission will not be considered complete and will not be submitted for consideration until those newly added authors complete their disclosures.
5. **ABSTRACT TEXT:** Format the abstract into five (5) sections. Each section must be preceded by a section heading. Section headings must be in upper case, followed by a colon, as shown below. The headers must be included, or the abstract text will not be accepted. You may copy and paste formatted text from your word processor or use the buttons on the text box to format your text or add special characters. **Body text of the abstract are limited to a total of 2700 characters (spaces are not counted in character total), which may include one table. Authors may distribute the characters among these items as they choose.** Inclusion of a table will replace 320 characters (this is to off-set the amount of room tables use in publishing). If a table is

included, all characters in the table will be counted towards total characters allowed and the limit will drop from 2700 characters to 2380 characters

- a. **Objective:** An introductory sentence indicating the objective and purpose of the study.
- b. **Materials and Methods:** A description of methodology including applicable statistical evaluation.
- c. **Results:** A summary of the new, previously unpublished data and findings.
- d. **Conclusions:** A statement that will drive home the broader implications of the study results.
- e. **Impact Statement:** A statement defining the study's impact, significance, or relevance to the field.

6. QUESTIONNAIRE PAGE:

- Check the box at the top of the page beside: "This abstract was not previously published, presented, or accepted for presentation." This verifies the abstract contains original work. This means the work has not been 1) presented at a meeting of another national or international scientific organization prior to this meeting, or 2) submitted for publication at the time of submission to ASRM.
 - If any of these conditions are not met, you should not submit your abstract. Email abstracts@asrm.org with any questions.
 - **Financial Support:** (optional) Identify all sources of financial support for the research or state "None" if appropriate.
 - **References:** (optional) Identify all source materials
 - **ACCME Disclosure** - Select your choice from the drop-down selection. You can choose to include your disclosure verbally or on a slide in your presentation.
 - **IRB approval** - If appropriate, select "The abstract has been approved by a local Institutional Review Board (IRB) or equivalent" if human subjects or any human materials were utilized.
 - **Data Responsibility** – Check the box beside "I accept complete responsibility for the data at the time of submission."
 - **HIPAA Compliance** - Check the box beside "HIPAA Compliance" to indicate you are in compliance with the HIPAA standards to protect the privacy of the patients discussed in your presentation (or to indicate your presentation does not pertain to patient treatment).
 - **Data Submitted for Separate Abstract & Video Consideration** – only check this box if you are submitting a video of the methodology as well as this scientific abstract (oral or poster). Note: The two presentations cannot be identical and will be reviewed for duplication.
7. **AWARDS PAGE:** Select any awards you are eligible for or select the "I am not applying for an award" option at the top of the awards page.
8. **CV UPLOAD PAGE:** *A CV is only required if the presenting author is applying for an award on the award page that requires a CV as part of the application.*
9. **REVIEW AND SUBMIT PAGE:** When you have completed the abstract submission process, **print a copy of your abstract and keep it for future reference.** Once the submission portal closes on April 28, 2021, you will not have access to the record to print or make edits.

B. Review and selection of abstracts

Abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Congress Committee and selected for inclusion in the program on the basis of scientific content and significance to the field of reproductive medicine. Reviewers will consider the following criteria in their evaluations:

Score Criteria

1. Objective (research question/aim)

2. **Materials and Methods**
3. **Results**
4. **Conclusion**
5. **Significance/Impact**

C. Poster or Oral Presentation Expectations

Abstracts will be considered for oral presentation unless the author designates “Poster Only” in the box provided. Abstracts not selected for oral presentation will be considered for poster presentation.

- **Oral presentations** will be 10 minutes in length followed by five minutes of discussion. PowerPoint and the use of LCD projection will be supported. Presenters submit their presentations prior to leaving for the meeting to a link included in the audio-visual instructions in the acceptance email sent to the primary author. Additional information will be available on the [ASRM Congress website](#) prior to the meeting.
- **Poster presentations** are made during our Poster Sessions (dates, times, and possible electronic presentation TBA). Poster preparation instructions (for both in-person and electronic) and a poster template will be available on the [ASRM Congress Website](#) prior to the meeting.

Electronic Submission Web Address: <https://asrm.confex.com/asrm/2021/cfp.cgi>

Available online February 24, 2021 – April 28, 2021.

Technical assistance

Phone: +1 (401) 334-0220 available Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 6:00 PM Eastern Standard Time USA (GMT - 05:00).

Email: asrm@confex.com

For all non-technical questions, please view the FAQs on the [Presenter Resources](#) page on the ASRM Congress site.

All further non-technical inquiries can be sent to abstracts@asrm.org.