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**2023 USPHS SCIENTIFIC & TRAINING SYMPOSIUM  
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

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The USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium's Scientific Track Sessions focus on the measurable impacts achieved by USPHS Commissioned Corps officers and our public health partners and how these efforts protect, promote, and advance the health and safety of our nation.

Abstract submissions of original research, education, practice, policy changes, program evaluation, case studies, and development of guidance or recommendations are welcome.

The Symposium's Scientific Track Sessions are distinct in that selected presentations must demonstrate adherence to scientific methodology. While any topic relevant to the Symposium theme is welcome, all submitted abstracts must include a background section, structured methodology, clear results (or lessons learned), and conclusions or recommendations for future policy, programs, clinical practice, or research. Abstracts will be scored lower if these key components are missing or incomplete. For further guidance, please refer to the **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): Writing Effective Scientific Abstracts for the USPHS Symposium** document.

The following criteria will be used to review abstracts:

- Quality of learning objectives
- Implications/conclusions for public health policy/program/research/practice
- Program or research innovation/originality
- Overall clarity and scientific rigor of abstract

Recommended word count limits:

- Background / Problem (100 words)
- Methods / Project or Program Description (200 words)
- Results / Lessons Learned (200 words)
- Conclusions / Recommendations (100 words)

Authors must include three learning objectives related to their abstract. Objectives should be correctly structured and tied to the content of the description/narrative summary. The following tips are recommended to develop strong learning objectives:

1. Identify important concepts you want the audience to acquire from the presentation.
2. Begin with a measurable action verb (e.g., describe, assess, explain, develop, analyze).
3. Use only one action verb per objective.

Authors must also include three keywords related to their abstract. Keywords will be used to group similar presentations. Both civilian authors and PHS officers must receive necessary clearances (e.g., organizational, agency, tribal) before abstract submission. All PHS officers must be basic ready to present at the Symposium.

Accepted presenters will be assigned a 30-minute time slot, which includes time for questions and discussion. Presenters are required to use PowerPoint slides to accompany their oral presentations. Each

presentation is limited to two presenters. Submission of an abstract constitutes a commitment by the author(s) to register and attend the Symposium.

Please note that the Scientific Track Session call for abstracts is separate from Category Day and pre-conference presentations. Duplicate submissions may not be accepted.

The deadline for abstract submissions is **December 2, 2022**.

If you have any technical issues or questions about the abstract submission process, please contact: [symposium@phscof.org](mailto:symposium@phscof.org).