ACE | AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

ACE 2024
Annual Meeting
SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024
— COLUMBUS, OH —

ACE | AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

Integrating Epidemiology and Artificial Intelligence to Advance Public Health

INTEGRATING EPIDEMIOLOGY AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO ADVANCE PUBLIC HEALTH

Call for Abstracts & Submission Guidelines
for the 2024 Annual Meeting of the American College of Epidemiology

Abstract Submission Deadline: May 31, 2024.

Call for Abstracts: Integrating Epidemiology and Artificial Intelligence to Advance Public Health

We invite submissions for the upcoming 2024 American College of Epidemiology (ACE) Annual Meeting, focusing on the pioneering intersection of epidemiology and artificial intelligence (AI) to propel advancements in public health. This theme underscores the critical role of innovative methodologies in understanding and addressing complex health issues.

Meeting Theme: Our conference will spotlight the transformative potential of integrating AI with epidemiological research. This collaboration offers unparalleled opportunities for enhancing disease surveillance, predictive modeling, and intervention strategies, thus revolutionizing public health practices.
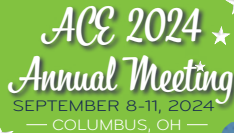
Abstract submissions are encouraged from the following topics, although other topics in epidemiology would be considered:

- Studies showcasing AI applications in epidemiological research, including but not limited to machine learning, natural language processing, and predictive analytics.

- Research highlighting the use of epidemiological data to train AI models, improving accuracy in disease prediction and health outcomes. Innovations in digital health and technology-driven public health interventions enabled by AI.

- Evaluations of the safety, ethical, legal, and social implications of deploying AI in public health settings.

- Using AI/ML to improve health equity.

- Application of AI/ML in public health practices - abstracts focusing on examples of the use of AI/ML tools to support the public health workforce are encouraged.

- Education and curricular development to integrate AI/ML in epidemiology courses.

Important Dates

By March 26, 2024	Abstract submission site opens
May **31**, 2024	Submission deadline for abstracts
June - July 2024	Abstract **Review**
July 1, 2024	Withdrawal deadline for abstracts
August 1, 2024	Abstract decisions sent out
September 8-11, 2024	ACE Annual Meeting in Columbus, OH

General Abstract Guidelines

- Authors may submit an abstract for poster or oral presentation during the submission round. If an abstract submitted for oral presentation is not selected, it may still be considered for poster presentation.

- Submitters whose abstracts have been accepted will be expected to attend the meeting and present their posters. For regular abstracts only: An RSVP to attend the conference must be received by June 25, 2024 in order to be included in the program and Annals of Epidemiology.

- All presented abstracts that meet the print deadline will be published within an issue of the *Annals of Epidemiology*. If abstract revisions are required, authors must submit the revised abstract by the required deadline in order to be published.

Please note: If an author submits more the two abstracts as first/presenting author, only the first two submitted abstracts will be considered.

- Only original abstracts will be accepted. Abstracts previously accepted and published by other societies or during a previous ACE meeting are not eligible for submission. Abstract content must be previously unpublished material. Results from a manuscript that has been submitted for publication and is currently under review are acceptable.

- Abstracts should not be submitted for a paper that has been accepted and/or is 'in press' by the submission deadline. An abstract for a paper that has been submitted to a journal, but is not yet accepted by May 31, 2024 is still eligible for submission.

- ACE Membership is not required to submit an abstract.

Required Content for Abstract

Documents required for submission on Editorial Manager (Uploaded as .doc or .pdf)	
Poster Presentation: *(Regular or Late-Breaker Rounds)*	Structured abstract of 250 words or less
Oral Presentation: *(Only Regular Round)*	Structured abstract of 250 words or less plus Supplemental File with additional details of study methods (≤250 words) and results (≤250 words)
Oral Presentation:	Structured abstract of ≤350 words excluding the title, authors, and affiliations). See below for the structure of abstracts for a Workshop/Symposium.

*Abstracts saved as .doc/.pdf should be prepared using "Formatting instructions and sample abstract with typing instructions" listed below.

The abstract should be well-written in clear English and structured into four subheadings as follows:

1. **PURPOSE:** Clearly state the background for and purpose of the study, including the hypothesis or research question being addressed.

2. **METHODS:** Include the design and methodology used, including any relevant instruments and measurement tools. Describe the predictor and outcome variables and the analytic approach used to evaluate the research question.

3. **RESULTS:** For analytic studies, report quantitative results including effect measures and confidence intervals. For descriptive or qualitative results, succinctly report relevant findings. Only abstracts with preliminary data or final results will be considered. Abstracts of studies "which will be done" or do not have at least some preliminary data will not be reviewed.

4. **CONCLUSIONS:** Conclusions should be evidence-based and drawn directly from the results of the study as they relate to the research question.

Please ensure that each of the four sections is included in the abstract. **Incomplete submissions will not be reviewed.** If applicable, we strongly encourage authors to read relevant extended EQUATOR Network guidelines, such as those for **observational studies, randomized trials, systematic reviews and diagnostic/prognostic studies.**

Symposium Workshop

1. **TITLE**

2. **SPEAKERS:** The Chair/Facilitator of the session and the names of the discussants must be provided. These sessions must have 3 to 4 discussants (excluding the Chair/Facilitator)

3. **BACKGROUND:** One or two sentences that describe the importance or relevance of the topic.

4. **OBJECTIVES:** The main objectives of the workshop or symposium should be explicitly stated. The targeted audience and beneficiaries of these session must also be provided.

5. **DESCRIPTION:** Provide a clear description of the symposium/workshop and explain the major concepts this session will be presenting and the key takeaways for attendees. List the names of confirmed speakers and what each speaker will be discussing (the titles for each speaker need not be included at this time). For workshops, please explain how the audience would be engaged.

Formatting instructions and sample abstract

A sample abstract with complete typing instructions for .doc or .pdf file

AK Bahn, WH Frost, EL Kaplan, P Meier, A Lilienfeld, EJ MacDonald, Department of Epidemiology, University of Sir Francis Bacon, Pasadena, CA

PURPOSE: If accepted, your abstract will be published in the conference program exactly as it appears in your original. ACE is not responsible for author errors. Abstracts may be reformatted for publication so that all abstracts appear in uniform type. By following the instructions, you will guarantee that your abstract will appear as you intended.

METHODS: All abstracts must be 250 words or less (not including the title or authors) and must include the following fields: PURPOSE; METHODS; RESULTS; CONCLUSIONS. Type your title in boldface capital letters. Begin the author list and the affiliation of the presenting author on a new line, as shown. The name of the presenting author should be underlined. Skip one line and begin typing the abstract **using the structured format and headings exactly as shown.** Begin each section on a new line, with headings exactly as shown. Abstracts must be single-spaced. **Submissions must be in Microsoft Word format.**

RESULTS: Your abstract must be submitted through the **Editorial Manager** by May 31, 2024.

CONCLUSION: To be considered, abstracts must be prepared following these instructions.

FUNDING: If applicable, please specify source of funding and grant number.

Submission Instructions:

Step 1: Sign into Editorial Manager. If you do not have an account, please register by clicking on the text "Register Now".

Step 2: On the Author Main Menu, click "Submit New Manuscript"

Step 3: "Select Article Type" tab

- Select type of presentation (oral or poster) under the drop down menu

Step 4: "Attach files" tab

- Upload abstract as a **"Manuscript"** item type (in Word or PDF format)

- Upload a completed ICMJE **Conflict of Interest (COI) Disclosure Form** as a "Conflict of Interest" item type (in PDF format)

- For "Oral Presentation" abstract submissions only: Upload as a "Supplemental file" (in Word document or PDF) providing additional details of methods (≤250 words) and results (≤250 words).

- Enter the order of the files as follows: (1) Manuscript, (2) Conflict of Interest and (3) Supplemental File (only for Oral Presentation). Click "Update File Order" button."
Enter Manuscript Information" tab

Step 5: "General Information" tab

- **Suggest a maximum of three keywords.**

- **Select a maximum of three classification terms by clicking "Add Classifications" button**

Step 6: "Additional Information" tab

- **Complete the questionnaire**

Step 7: "Comments" tab

- **If needed, enter any additional comments**

Submission Instructions (cont'd):

Step 8: "Manuscript Data" tab

- Enter a full title and short title (10 words or less) in sentence case. Avoid abbreviations and formulae.

- Add a structured abstract of 250 words or less to the text box. Abstract text should be organized as PURPOSE, METHODS, RESULTS and CONCLUSIONS. Avoid abbreviations and formulae. Figures are also not permitted.

- Insert author information (including e-mail address, institution and country) by clicking the "+ Add Another Author" button

- To finalize submission click on "Build PDF for Approval →" button

Step 9: Approve submission

- Once the PDF is ready for approval, go to "Action Links" and select "View Submission"

- If you approve of the PDF submission, click on the "I accept" box for Ethics in Publishing and then under "Action Links" select the line "Approve Submission"

- If you would like to edit the submission, go to "Action Links" and select "Edit Submission"

Guidelines for Judging and Scoring Abstracts

The following guidelines will be used for judging and scoring all abstracts submitted for presentation at the ACE Annual Meeting.

Abstract are scored for each of the following of the following criteria.

1. **PURPOSE**: Hypothesis is explicitly stated. Study methodology is clearly and succinctly described.

2. **METHODS:** Exposure and outcome are exactly and explicitly described, including any written instruments used to measure exposure or outcome. Analysis is clearly and explicitly described.

3. **RESULTS:** If measures of association are estimated, then quantitative results should be shown, including the point estimate with confidence intervals. Abstracts of studies which are "going to be done" or do not have at least some preliminary data should not be accepted.

4. **CONCLUSION:** Conclusions should be clearly and conservatively reported for the previously stated hypothesis.

An overall score from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) is also given for the abstract. Submissions being judged for **oral presentation** will be additionally assessed on a five point scale for each of the following criteria: originality, relevance, clarity of style/readability, research design, statistical analysis, and appropriate conclusions. Additional points may be given for content related to the theme of the meeting. Please note that one slot for oral presentation is reserved for a trainee.

Conflicts of Interest Disclosure

All authors must disclose any financial and/or personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include (but are not limited to) employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, grants or other funding. Please upload a completed **Conflict of Interest (COI) Disclosure Form** stating the nature of potential COIs. More detailed descriptions of conflicts are available here.

Plagiarism

Any form of plagiarism is not tolerated. Please note all new abstract submissions are automatically screened by Elsevier using **CrossCheck iThenticate.** Submissions with copying will be automatically rejected.

Technical support with abstract submission site

For further assistance, please visit Elsevier's **Customer Support** site. Here you can search for solutions on a range of topics, find answers to frequently asked questions, and learn more about Editorial Manager® via interactive tutorials. You can also talk 24/5 to our customer support team by phone (+1 888 834 7287 for Americas) and 24/7 by live chat and email.