



Abstract Submission Information

Abstracts are now being accepted for consideration at the 2024 Perioperative and Critical Care Conference, taking place October 25-26, 2024 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. **Abstracts will be accepted until Monday, July 8, 2024.**

Guidelines

- All posters should relate to cardiovascular and thoracic (CVT) critical care or ERAS.
- Accepted abstracts will be presented as posters.
- Abstracts must summarize an original contribution and must not have been presented, published, or accepted for presentation or publication elsewhere.
- You are encouraged to submit corresponding poster presentations for publication consideration to *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, which has a circulation of approximately 6,300. [Review instructions.](#)

Submission Instructions

- Visit sts.org/criticalcare to access the abstract submission site.
- A valid and current email address must be included with the submitted abstract.
- A confirmation will be sent to the submitter's provided email. If you do not receive an email confirmation, please contact STS at education@sts.org.
- Abstract submissions must be completed by **Monday, July 8, 2024.**

Abstract Specifications

- Use title case for your abstract title. Capitalize the first letter of each main word in the title; please do not enter information in all upper case or in quotation marks.
- All abstracts must be structured using the following section headings:
 - Purpose – Include a brief statement on the intent of the study and the current state of research in the field. Specifically, describe the quality gap (limitation or problem) within the practice of cardiothoracic surgery that this research addresses. (50 word maximum)
 - Methods – The methods of the study or experimental approach should be defined clearly and briefly. (100 word maximum)
 - Results – Provide a summary of the study findings, including sufficient details, to support the stated conclusions. These may be presented in a brief table—no more than five columns of data. (150 word maximum)
 - Conclusions – Include a statement concerning the significance of the work and its implications for further research. In what way might the results of this project supplement or inform clinical or research knowledge or strategies? (50 word maximum)
- The funding source for the research must be clearly identified.
- Tables: Only one (1) table is allowed.
 - The table cannot have more than five (5) columns of data.
 - The file should be in .jpg, .tif, or .eps format. (PowerPoint images, Excel, and Word Documents are not permitted.)
- Images: Only one (1) image is allowed.

- Images should be between 300 and 600 dpi at 3"x5".
- The file should be in .jpg, .tif, or .eps format. (PowerPoint images, Excel, and Word Documents are not permitted.)
- Other:
 - There should be no reference to the institutions involved in the body of the text.
 - The presenting author cannot be an employee or owner of a company that develops health care products or provides health care services.
 - Abstracts cannot contain product names; generic terms must be used when describing a single product.
 - Abstract development and data analysis for abstracts cannot be performed by industry.
 - The institution name, state, and email address information for the presenting author and all coauthors must be provided.
 - When percentages are used, the absolute numbers of derivation must be stated.
 - To ensure fairness, abstracts are read and graded in a blinded fashion with no references to authors or institutions. Abstracts are reviewed by peer reviewers based on scientific merit, originality, and practice gaps identified.

Other Abstract Rules

- Only abstracts submitted using the online system will be considered for presentation.
- Only authors (and not their assistants or other proxies) may complete submissions; authors will be responsible for the information provided via the online submission system.
- The submitting author must provide accurate email addresses of all coauthors and must attest that (a) all coauthors of the abstract have granted consent for the material to be submitted for presentation, and (b) that the submitting author has been granted the right by all coauthors to act on their behalf.
- For the submitted abstract, each coauthor will be asked to complete a disclosure form.
- STS reserves the right to withdraw any abstract from consideration or acceptance at any time.
- All abstracts must be submitted and presented in English.
- The person listed as the presenting author for each abstract must present at the 19th Annual Perioperative and Critical Care Conference. In the event that a change of presenting author must be made after the submission of the abstract, STS must be notified in writing. NOTE: The replacement presenter must be a coauthor of the abstract.
- Once an abstract has been accepted, additional authors may not be added.
- No abstract that contains deferred outcomes data will be considered for program inclusion. If data are to be presented, they must appear in summary form from within the original abstract submitted. If there are any questions regarding changes in data after the abstract has been submitted, it is the responsibility of the presenting author to notify STS by email at education@sts.org.
- Industry is not allowed to perform data analysis or present abstracts or scientific posters.
- Abstract content must be based upon the best available evidence and should not promote any health care device, drug, other product, or service.
- If the presenter/moderator has any relationship posing a conflict or potential conflict relevant to his or her session, he or she may not make any recommendations regarding relevant products or services as part of that session.
- If your abstract is selected, you will be asked to present as an e-poster. The final determination on format is at the discretion of the Perioperative and Critical Care Conference Task Force. You will receive complete information (including poster specifications) after notification of the acceptance decision, which will occur by the last week of July 2024.
- If accepted for presentation, your abstract will be displayed online as submitted, so please edit and proofread carefully.

Disclosure Information

Conflicts of interest and FDA disclosures are required before an abstract will be allowed to present. If a potential conflict of interest exists, be sure to include the name of the organization/company and the nature of the potential conflict.

- Each author must submit her/his individual disclosure when completing the abstract submission.
- It is the responsibility of the submitting author to identify each coauthor on the abstract. Upon submission of the abstract, an email will be sent to each coauthor, who will then be responsible for submitting her/his individual disclosure.
- If commercial relationship information and FDA disclosures are not received from all coauthors by the abstract submission deadline, the abstract will not be considered for review.
- For all presentations, relationships with commercial interests and FDA disclosures, as defined in the STS Education Disclosure Policy (below), must be stated orally to the audience at the beginning of each presentation. In addition, a slide at the beginning of the PowerPoint presentation must be used to reveal the nature of the disclosure(s). This commercial relationship and FDA disclosure information will be noted in published materials. Speakers are required to communicate that they have nothing to disclose, if that is the case.
- For scientific poster presentations, all relationships with commercial interests, must be displayed on each scientific poster along with any FDA disclosures.

Education Disclosure Policy

As a sponsor of continuing medical education accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), The Society of Thoracic Surgeons requires that any individual who is in a position to control the content of an educational activity must disclose all financial relationships with any ineligible companies. This is to ensure that all decisions related to the planning, faculty selection, delivery, and evaluation of accredited education are made without any influence or involvement from the owners and employees of an ineligible company. The ACCME defines ineligible companies as those whose “primary business is producing, marketing, selling, reselling, or distributing health care products used by or on patients.” The question of whether a disclosed conflict situation could represent undue influence on the educational activity by an ineligible company or whether the disclosed information is sufficient to consider an abstract, presentation, or other educational enduring material to represent potentially biased information must be mitigated prior to an individual’s involvement in STS educational programming.

Required disclosures must include all financial relationships with ineligible companies in the prior 24 months. Examples of financial relationships include employee, researcher, consultant, advisor, speaker, independent contractor (including contracted research), royalties or patent beneficiary, executive role, and ownership interest. Individual stocks and stock options should be disclosed; diversified mutual funds do not need to be disclosed. Research funding from ineligible companies should be disclosed by the principal or named investigator even if that individual’s institution receives the research grant and manages the funds.

Individuals who are owners or employees of ineligible companies are excluded from controlling content or participating as planners or faculty in STS educational activities. There are three exceptions to this exclusion—employees of ineligible companies can participate as planners or faculty in these specific situations:

1. When the content of the activity is not related to the business lines or products of their employer/company.
2. When the content of the accredited activity is limited to basic science research, such as preclinical research and drug discovery, or the methodologies of research, and they do not make care recommendations.
3. When they are participating as technicians to teach the safe and proper use of medical devices, and do not recommend whether or when a device is used.

Disclosure is mandatory for any person involved in the planning, management, presentation, and/or evaluation of STS educational activities. Failure to disclose all relationships with ineligible companies

disqualifies the individual from being a planning committee member, a teacher, or an author of educational materials, and this individual cannot have any responsibility for the development, management, presentation, or evaluation of STS educational activities. This requirement is intended neither to imply any impropriety of such relationships nor to prejudice any individual planner, presenter or author. It is merely to identify such relationships through full disclosure, and to allow STS to assess and mitigate potential influences on the educational activity prior to the planning and implementation of an educational activity. Speakers are required to disclose that they have nothing to disclose if this is the case.

Additionally, the fact that the presentation, paper, or other educational product describes (a) the use of a device, product, or drug that is not FDA approved or (b) an off-label use of an approved device, product, or drug or (c) a new or evolving topic advocating for, or promoting, practices that are not, or not yet, adequately based on current science, evidence, and clinical reasoning must also be disclosed. This requirement has been adopted in response to FDA policy and case law involving medical societies and is not intended to prohibit or inhibit independent presentation or discussion regarding the uses of devices, products, and drugs as described in (a) or (b) above.

All relevant financial information will be disclosed to learners before they engage with or access STS educational content and activities. For live presentations, all disclosures must be stated orally and on a slide at the beginning of the presentation and will be noted in published material related to the activity. Disclosure to learners will include each of the following:

1. The names of the individuals with relevant financial relationships.
2. The names of the ineligible companies with which they have relationships.
3. The nature of the relationships.
4. A statement that all relevant financial relationships have been mitigated.

Disclosure to learners must not include ineligible companies' corporate or product logos, trade names, or product group messages. If applicable, the absence of relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies will also be disclosed to learners.

In order to ensure that STS educational activities are free of marketing or sales of products and services, faculty must not actively promote or sell products or services that serve their professional or financial interests during accredited education. Slides, handouts, and other materials utilized as part of an educational activity cannot contain any advertising, trade names or a product group message.

Amended by the STS Executive Committee: June 9, 2021

Withdrawal of an Abstract

To withdraw an abstract, the presenter must notify STS in writing. Please contact STS at education@sts.org and include the title of the abstract.