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Abstracts are a very important part of the Annual Meeting for several reasons:

- A great abstract can help advance the field
- It provides you with the opportunity to convey your findings to your colleagues and get their feedback
- It is the foundation for turning a research study into a published manuscript.

The aim of the Heart Rhythm Society Scientific Sessions is to support the exchange of knowledge among the electrophysiology community. Annually, the Society receives over 3,000 abstract submissions from physicians and allied professionals seeking a forum to showcase their science. Of these submissions the Society will only accept a third for presentation.

Tips for a Good Abstract

Follow the Submission Guidelines

The Abstract Submission Guidelines can be used as a tool for success. The guidelines include everything that you need to know about submitting an abstract for presentation at Heart Rhythm 2016.

Be Succinct: Use Simple Sentences

Healthcare practice varies from country to country. Avoid using jargon and local expressions. Unless they are basic, universally accepted abbreviations, such as AF, VT, EP, they should be kept out of your abstract.

Review for Accuracy

Before submitting your abstract, enlist a colleague(s) to double-check for accuracy in the text section, tables and figures. Having more than one colleague review your abstract and offer constructive criticism can be extremely beneficial.

Adherence to these useful tips will increase your chances of being rated highly by reviewers and selected by the Program Committee.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, December 4, 2015, 11:59 p.m. ET

Abstracts must be submitted electronically via the Heart Rhythm 2016 Abstract Submission Site. Abstracts submitted December 5, 2015 12:00 a.m. ET will not be accepted.

SECTION 1: SUBMITTING AUTHOR DESIGNATION

The Presenting Author (Submitting Author) must provide disclosures for all authors listed on the abstract, at the time of submission. Disclosures for each author must include any financial, personal or professional relationships with other people

or organizations that could reasonably be perceived as conflicts of interest or as potentially influencing or biasing their work.

SECTION 2: ABSTRACT SUBMISSION & PREPARATION GUIDELINES

Abstract Title

- An abstract must have a short specific title (containing no abbreviations) that indicates the nature of the investigation.
- Titles should **not** include the authors' names.
- Always use correct title case (e.g., Only the Best of the Best in Medicine Study EP)

Abstract Authors

- Abstract authors are comprised of two different types
 1. **Presenting Author:** the author who is submitting the abstract; to whom all correspondence from the Heart Rhythm Society will be sent and is listed as the First Author
 2. **Co-Author(s):** all additional authors contributing to the abstract.
- The Society will institute the "People Look Up" tool for abstract submissions. This will allow you to search our database for your co-authors. If an individual is not in our database you will be required to enter them manually per abstract submission. For consistency spell out all co-author names and avoid using initials. This will allow the correct information to appear in the index of all Heart Rhythm 2016 publications, website and mobile applications.
- Submitting Authors will be required to indicate the career level for themselves and each co-author.
- In an effort to avoid scheduling conflicts, an abstract author may only serve as the Presenting Author for no more than five (5) abstracts.
- **Reminder:** The Submitting Author is the Presenting Author and listed as the First Author. The submittal of an abstract by the Submitting Author will automatically populate the submission information for the Presenting Author and First Author fields. All correspondence for the abstract will be directed to the Submitting Author. The information should be reviewed to ensure that current and correct email address information is listed. The designation of Submitting/Presenting/First Author should be carefully considered before initiating the abstract submission process. Once the abstract has been submitted, the Submitting Author/Presenting Author/First Author **cannot be changed**.

Abstract Text

When entering text, please remember:

- Use generic drug names.
- Do not begin sentences with numerals.
- Standard abbreviations may be used without definition. Nonstandard abbreviations (kept to a minimum) must be placed in parentheses after the first use of the word or phrase abbreviated.
- Do not include references, credits, or grant support in your abstract body. This information should be included in your disclosure only.
- Do not include the names or personal information of any patient participating in the study or trial.

Please note that because of the text box system, you will not be able to upload your abstract to the Abstract Submission Site; you must either manually type the text or cut and paste the text from another document. You will continue to be able to upload images and create tables.

Abstract Data

- Multiple abstracts appearing to be redundant versions of a single study will be rejected.
- Abstracts are not eligible for consideration if published prior to the Annual Scientific Sessions. No abstract may be presented at the Annual Scientific Sessions if it is substantially similar to material presented or to be presented at a major North American meeting held prior to the Annual Scientific Sessions.
- Individuals who have submitted abstracts to other major North American meetings and are awaiting notification of acceptance may also submit abstracts to the Heart Rhythm Society for consideration for the Annual Scientific

Sessions; however, upon acceptance from another organization, it is the responsibility of the author to notify the Heart Rhythm Society office by **Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 11:59 p.m. ET** to withdraw the abstract.

- The Scientific Sessions Program Committee endorses the position of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in requiring assurances of the responsible use of animals in research ([AAAS Resolution: Use of Animals in Research, Testing, and Education](#)). All submissions must be in compliance with these guidelines.
- Any human experimentation must conform to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki of the World Medical Association ([WMA Declaration of Helsinki](#)).
- The Presenting Author must ensure that all co-authors are familiar with the data, agree with the stated results, and have agreed to be included as authors.
- Abstract submissions from industry representatives are allowed. Submissions are required to focus on science and research and not products or services. Abstract presentation may not be sales presentations and/or endorsement for products or services.
- The Heart Rhythm Society reserves the rights of reproduction, distribution, display and derivatives in both print and digital format. Upon their abstract's acceptance, authors will be asked to read and comply with the Heart Rhythm Society's Release and Authorization for CD-ROMs, USBs, Webcasts, and Enduring Products.

Abstract Format

The total number of characters allowed for the submission is 1,950. The character count does not include spaces. As you enter text into the abstract title, a counter deducts characters from the total allowable number of characters.

Submitting authors are required to include the assigned section headers in his/her abstract submission. If this information is not included in the abstract body, the abstract will not be considered formatted correctly for publication.

Section Headers

Introduction:

Methods:

Results:

Conclusion:

Provocative Cases Abstracts: When entering your case report, Please enter "N/A" into the Methods section and the actual case into the Results section.

Characters are also deducted when you create a table or upload a graphic. The number of characters deducted for each table or graphic is 500. Only a single table or graphic is allowed per submission. Please be sure that any text included in the graphic will be legible at the size you define for the graphic.

Use of Color: Please be sure to use colors in your graphic that can easily be seen in black and white print. We recommend that you do not use any dark color(s) (i.e., black, blue, dark grey or green, or red) as a background color on an image.

Abstract Revisions

- Carefully proofread the abstract and make any necessary revisions before the abstract submission deadline date.
- To ensure that the abstract receives proper scientific consideration, please make sure that the abstract is submitted to the appropriate category. This determines which team grades the abstract. If you select the appropriate category, you are more likely to be graded by peers with similar interests.
- Resubmission of an abstract that is corrected or changed is not possible after the abstract deadline date.

Reporting Financial Disclosures

Please provide disclosure information related to this Certified Educational Activity by indicating any relevant financial relationships with commercial interest(s). As part of the Society's commitment to transparency and accountability, and to attain the highest standards of excellence, HRS requires all volunteers, session participants, and authors to disclose and manage relationships between personal, professional, financial or business interests when engaged in Society activities.

For accepted abstracts at the time of presentation:

- **Oral Presentations:** Disclosure information of the Presenting Author must be included in the abstract at the time of submission. The Heart Rhythm Society will insert a disclosure slide in the accepted oral presentations.
- **Moderated Poster Presentations:** The Presenting Author must prepare a slide listing all financial relationships. Presenting Authors are required to insert a disclosure slide as the first slide featured in the presentation.
- **Poster Presentations:** The disclosure information of the Presenting Author should be included in the poster presentation.

For more information, visit the Faculty Resources section of the Heart Rhythm Society's website at www.HRSonline.org.

Please visit the [Disclosure Policy](#) on the Society's website for more information.

Note: *After the abstract submission site closes Presenting Author (Submitting Author) will not be allowed to update disclosure information. Please be sure that all disclosures for all authors are complete and submitted on time.*

SECTION 4: ACCEPTANCE & WITHDRAWAL

Notification of Acceptance/Non-acceptance: Announcements will be sent via email by **February 10, 2016**.

Publication: Accepted abstracts will be published in the May supplement to **HeartRhythm Journal**, the official journal of the Heart Rhythm Society, which will be mailed to all journal subscribers and available for all other attendees at Heart Rhythm 2016 in San Francisco. The full-text abstracts will be available on the Heart Rhythm Society website in May 2016.

Embargo Policy: Accepted abstracts are embargoed until the time of presentation. This means that information regarding any abstract submission may not be released before this time. Failure to honor embargo policies will result in the abstract being withdrawn and barred from presentation.

Registration: The Presenting Author (Submitting Author) is required to register for Scientific Sessions at the reduced registration fee of \$575. Expenses associated with the submission and presentation of an abstract are the responsibility of the presenter. Only one author per abstract is considered the presenter. Co-Author(s) listed on the abstract do not receive reduced rates towards registration. Registration information will be sent to Presenting Authors that have been accepted for presentation in March. For more information, visit the Faculty Resources section of the Heart Rhythm Society's website at www.HRSonline.org.

Abstract Withdrawal

The Presenting Author must submit a request via e-mail to the following address to withdraw an abstract from Heart Rhythm (abstracts@hrsonline.org). Please note that the Presenting Author will receive an e-mail confirmation upon completion of the withdrawal. The request must fulfill the following requirements:

- Subject line of the e-mail must include "Abstract Withdrawal"
- Abstract title and number
- Reason for the withdrawal

The deadline to withdraw an abstract is **Wednesday, February 17, 2016, ET** to avoid being published in May **HeartRhythm Journal**.

SECTION 5: ABSTRACT AWARDS

To be considered, you must indicate your interest in applying for the abstract award(s) during the regular abstract submission period (*October 12-December 4, 2015*). Abstracts must conform to the award rules and criteria and be received by the deadline for abstract's First Author to be considered. Please review the [Awards and Scholarship Overview](#) for a detailed description of each Scientific Sessions Abstract Award category.

The Heart Rhythm Society reserves the right to determine the number of awards made and to cancel the competition in a given year if submitted abstracts are deemed to not be of adequate quality or interest.

Young Investigators Awards (YIA) Competition

Purpose

The YIA Competition recognizes and encourages the work of young investigators in training or within three years of completing their training and their parent institutions.

The Heart Rhythm Society YIA Subcommittee, which is part of the Scientific Sessions Program Committee and is comprised of senior researchers, clinicians, and scientists, reviews all submissions for the competition. The Subcommittee then selects six finalists to present their work during the Heart Rhythm Annual Scientific Sessions.

Highest Scoring Abstract in the Category Allied Professional Award

Purpose

The award will recognize the Presenting Author of the highest scoring abstract submitted to the Allied Professional category.

Fellow with the Highest Scoring Abstract Award

Purpose

This award recognizes the fellow-in-training, functioning as the Presenting Author with the highest scoring abstract in all sub-categories excluding the Allied Professional category.

The Eric N. Prystowsky Fellow Clinical Research Award

Purpose

This award promotes excellence in clinical research by recognizing the fellow-in-training with the highest scoring abstract in the Clinical Electrophysiology & Catheter Ablation abstract category.

This award is supported by an unrestricted educational grant provided by the Eric and Bonnie Prystowsky Clinical Research Fund.

The Eric N. Prystowsky Early Career Researcher Award

Purpose

This award promotes excellence in clinical research by recognizing an early career researcher with the highest scoring abstract from select sub-categories in the Clinical Electrophysiology & Catheter Ablation abstract category.

Designed for the physician scientist with interest and expertise in arrhythmia research, this award aims to support the early career researcher who is one to five years out of fellowship training.

This award is supported by an unrestricted educational grant provided by the Eric and Bonnie Prystowsky Clinical Research Fund.

SECTION 6: LATE-BREAKING CLINICAL TRIAL ABSTRACT SUBMISSION SITE

The Heart Rhythm Society recognizes that exciting and rapidly evolving research may not be concluded in time for the December 4, 2015 abstract submission deadline. In an effort to highlight timely and novel work at Heart Rhythm, the Scientific Sessions Program Committee developed a peer-reviewed session of late-breaking clinical trials that allows for later submission and more emergent presentation.

This year, the Scientific Sessions Program Committee plans to offer two or three Late-Breaking Clinical Trial Sessions at Heart Rhythm. Please indicate your interest in Late-Breaking Clinical Trial submission on the Abstract Submission Site. You will be notified when the Late-Breaking Clinical Trial submission site opens.

The Late-Breaking Clinical Trial Submission Site opens **Friday, January 29, 2016**. The deadline for submission is **Friday, March 11, 2016 11:59 p.m. ET**. The Scientific Sessions Program Committee reviews the abstracts and authors will be notified of their abstracts' status in early April 2016.

**Late-Breaking Clinical Trial abstracts will be published on the HeartRhythm website in May 2016 shortly after Heart Rhythm 2016 and included in the July issue of the HeartRhythm Journal.*

SECTION 7: ABSTRACT CATEGORIES

All submitting authors must select an abstract category for the peer review process. Listed below are the Heart Rhythm 2016 Abstract Categories and Subcategories. Changes have been made to this list; if you submitted an abstract in the past, please review the list carefully before selecting the appropriate topic. Also, submissions to physicians should not submit to the Allied Professionals subcategories.

BASIC/TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

- 01) Molecular Structure, Function, and Regulation
- 02) Micro Anatomy and Pathology
- 03) Bench
- 04) Translational
- 06) Computer Modeling/Simulation
- 07) Intact Heart Electrophysiology (includes Pharmacology and Optical Mapping)
- 08) Whole Animal Electrophysiology and Pharmacology (includes Neurohumoral Modulation)

ALLIED PROFESSIONALS

- 09) Clinical Research
- 10) Teaching Case Reports

CARDIOVASCULAR IMPLANTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES (CIEDS)

Bardycardia Devices

- 11) Indications
- 12) Device Technology
- 13) Clinical Trials
- Tachycardia devices
- 14) Indications
- 15) Device Technology
- 16) Clinical Trials

Diagnostic Devices & Sensors

- 17) Indications
- 18) Device Technology
- 19) Clinical Trials

Leads & Electrodes

- 20) Implantation
- 21) Extraction/Removal
- 22) Technology

- 23) Clinical Trials

Monitoring & Outcomes

Ventricular Tachycardia & Ventricular Fibrillation

- 36) Physiology-Pharmacology
- 37) Electrocardiography
- 38) Clinical Trials / Outcomes
- 39) Mapping & Imaging
- 40) Ablation
- 41) Experimental methods
- 42) Quality Measures & Complications

CLINICAL ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY

- 43) Signal Processing (SAECG/TWA, HRV, QT Interval)

SCA Risk Assessment

- 44) Clinical Techniques
- 45) Other Noninvasive Techniques
- Syncope & Bradycardia
- 46) Physiology-Pharmacology
- 47) Electrocardiography
- 48) Clinical Trials / Outcomes
- 49) Experimental methods
- 50) Tilt Table Testing

SVT/AVNRT/WPW/AT

- 51) Epidemiology of Cardiac Arrhythmias/Epidemiology
- 52) Physiology-Pharmacology
- 53) Electrocardiography
- Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter
- 54) Physiology
- 55) Pharmacology (Antiarrhythmic drugs and anticoagulants)
- 56) Electrocardiography
- 57) Left Atrial Appendage Closure

HEART FAILURE

- 58) Indications

- 24) Monitoring & Follow-up
- 25) Outcomes, Quality Measures & Complications

CATHETER ABLATION

SVT / AVNRT / WPW / AT

- 26) Clinical Trials / Outcomes
- 27) Experimental Methods
- 28) Quality Measures & Complications

- 29) Mapping & Imaging
- 30) Ablation

Atrial fibrillation & Atrial Flutter

- 31) Clinical Trials / Outcomes(DRUG TRIALS)

- 32) Mapping & Imaging
- 33) Experimental methods
- 34) Ablation

- 35) Quality Measures & Complications

- 59) Device Technology

- 60) LV Leads
- 61) Autonomic Modulation
- 62) Other
- 63) Pharmacology
- 64) Clinical Trials
- 65) Monitoring

PEDIATRIC/ADULT CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

- 66) Pediatric Cardiology
- 67) Adult Congenital Heart Disease
- 68) Translational

POLICY/PAYMENT/PRACTICE

- 69) Reimbursement, Regulation and Health Policy
- 70 Training and Education
- 71) Clinical Quality Measures and Outcomes

PROVOCATIVE CASES

- 72) Teaching Case Reports

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about submitting an abstract for presentation at Heart Rhythm, please contact Heart Rhythm staff at abstracts@hrsonline.org