Guidance for Submitting Your Work to the 2026 MedStar Health-Georgetown University Research & Education Symposium

The MedStar Health—Georgetown University Research & Education Symposium will feature posters of more than 300 peer-reviewed projects in research and education from across the academic health system. All MedStar Health and Georgetown University physicians, nurses, researchers, staff, residents, and fellows are encouraged to submit abstracts. Please review the detailed guidelines below. For additional questions on submitting your work for consideration, please contact Symposium@medstar.net.

Submission Categories
This year, we will accept the following submission types. Abstracts selected by the Scientific Review Committee will be invited for poster presentations during the Symposium.

Submissions	Type	Categories
Faculty/Investigator/Staff Abstracts	Original research	AI, Wellbeing, Social Science Cancer Critical Care/Burn/Trauma Health Services Heart & Vascular Neurosciences/Rehabilitation Ortho Other Med Spec Other Surg Spec Peds/Neonatology Psychiatry/Psychology
	Health Professions Education	Health Professions Education Research Curriculum Development Educational Innovation
Resident/Fellow Abstracts	Original research	AI, Wellbeing, Social Science Cancer Critical Care/Burn/Trauma Health Services Heart & Vascular Neurosciences/Rehabilitation Ortho Other Med Spec Other Surg Spec Peds/Neonatology Psychiatry/Psychology
	Case report/case series	AI, Wellbeing, Social Science Cancer Critical Care/Burn/Trauma Health Services Heart & Vascular Neurosciences/Rehabilitation Ortho Other Med Spec Other Surg Spec Peds/Neonatology Psychiatry/Psychology

General Guidelines:
- Case reports for Residents/Fellows are purely descriptive and are eligible for the poster and case report competition but will not be eligible for oral presentations. Case reports must address the novelty of the case, address the clinical background, outline the case and particularly, the key clinical points, and provide meaningful discussion.
- Original research projects are hypothesis-driven and can be prospective, retrospective, or meta-analysis (and are eligible for the manuscript competition for Residents/Fellows).
- Abstracts reporting the results of Quality Improvement projects, Innovative Clinical Programs, and new teaching methodologies are encouraged for submission to the Symposium.
- Abstracts submitted should include data or results. Abstracts without data/results will not be accepted for presentation.
- If selected, you must attend the Symposium to present your research or designate an alternate presenter. For residents/fellows, we will work with your program director to facilitate attendance.
- No individual may be listed as presenting author on more than **TWO (2)** abstract submissions. Abstracts submitted under the Resident/Fellow type will be divided into PGY1-3, PGY4 and above, and Research Resident/Fellow categories for the manuscript competition.
- All authors listed should have made a meaningful contribution to the submission.
- Authors must certify that all research involving human subjects has been approved by an Institutional Review Board, and all studies involving the use of animals approved by an animal care committee, ***prior to conducting the research.***
- For Case Reports submissions (Residents/Fellows only), please refer to the MHRI Office of Research Integrity to determine if your case report needs to be submitted for official review.
- Abstract submissions are limited to research at least partially conducted in the past 2 years (no earlier than January 2024). Abstracts submitted in previous years can be re-submitted if additional research has been conducted. Abstracts that have been submitted for publication are eligible for the competition.
- It is the authors' responsibility to submit abstracts free of typographical or other errors.

Abstract Submission Requirements:
Abstracts should be no longer than 2500 characters (including spaces), which is approximately 400 words, and must be submitted in the following format under Abstract Text:
- ***Abstract Summary:*** A brief, high-level overview of the abstract.
- ***Background and Objective****:* A clear statement of purpose and/or hypothesis must be included in this section.
- ***Methods and Analysis***: A description of study design, all patient populations studied, materials and methods used, and quantitative analysis planned or performed.
- ***Results***: A logical and concise summary of the study's results.
- ***Conclusion***: A discussion of the study's relevance, application, and potential limitations is included here.
- ***Tables/Figures***: Authors may include 1-2 tables/figures. Text in the tables/figures is not counted in the total word count. For optimum publishing quality, images/figures must be submitted as high-resolution JPEG files (600 dpi minimum). Tables up to 10 rows and 10 columns may be configured inside the submission system.
    Upload Instructions
- You may upload two (2) figures max. You may also upload any IRB approval documents. Uploads are NOT required for abstract submission.
- Authors must remove all patient identifiers (name, birth date, address, phone number, medical record number, account number, social security number, etc.) from any presentation materials. Presentations will not use identifiable photographs of patients unless written permission from the patient has been obtained.

Additional Guidelines for Health Professions Education Submissions:

- Submissions highlighting emerging and impactful work that leverages Artificial Intelligence (AI) to advance health professions education will receive priority consideration. However, all health professions education abstracts are welcome.
- Health Professions Education submissions will be accepted in the following categories:
  - **Health Professions Education (HPE) Research** – Your research focuses on generating new knowledge and understanding educational processes, assessment, evaluation, and theory in health professions education. Methods may be qualitative or quantitative. Discussion of the study design and specific research questions is required. Your submission must include results and a discussion of potential implications. Your submission must include the following: *BACKGROUND, *METHODS, *RESULTS, IMPLICATIONS, *CONCLUSIONS.
  - **Curriculum Development** – Your work involves designing and implementing educational experiences based on specific learning objectives. Outcome data mainly focus on program assessment and learner results. The focus of curriculum or educational activities can be tailored for individual units, departments, or broader programs. Your abstract should include the following: *BACKGROUND or PURPOSE, *METHODS or INNOVATIONS, *RESULTS or OUTCOMES, *CONCLUSIONS or LESSONS LEARNED.
  - **Educational Innovation** – Your work presents emerging ideas in education or teaching that use existing or new methods to enhance learning, assessment, or evaluation. Your submission will describe a new idea, details about implementation, and lessons learned. Your work may not yet have outcome data. Your submission should include the following: *BACKGROUND or PURPOSE, *METHODS or INNOVATIONS, *OUTCOMES, *CONCLUSIONS or LESSONS LEARNED.
- Submissions that describe innovations or new approaches rather than completed research should be organized as above, with "METHODS" detailing the innovation and "OUTCOMES" discussing observed outcomes, or benefits and challenges. Works in progress are welcome, but they are strongly encouraged to include pilot data or data from existing literature. Submissions in this category may also incorporate "LESSONS LEARNED" within the "CONCLUSIONS" section.

Key dates
- Abstract submissions close – **February 16, 2026**
- Abstract selection notifications – **Week of March 23, 2026**
- Selected GME Oral Presentation slides due – **April 20, 2026**
- MedStar Health–Georgetown University Research & Education Symposium – **April 27, 2026**