

Call for Poster and Platform Abstracts



APTA Combined Sections Meeting
Feb. 4-6, 2027 | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The specialty academies and sections of the American Physical Therapy Association hereby issue a Call for Poster and Platform Abstracts.

The abstract submission deadline is **July 15, 2026, 11:59 p.m. PT**

Visit [Call for Submissions page](#) for more information, and submit your abstract(s) for a poster or platform presentation.

Presentation Formats

Posters are displayed for two hours during a pre-assigned date and time during the conference. Assignments are made by the academy/section.

Platform presentations are oral presentations of approximately 10 to 15 minutes. The schedule and duration of platform presentations are coordinated by each academy/section program chair.

Authors and Fees

A \$50 fee is collected at the time of submission for each abstract. The fee is non-refundable.

- Individuals may submit up to two abstracts as a presenting author and are allowed to submit unlimited submissions as a secondary author.
- Accepted abstract authors must register for APTA CSM. There is no waiver of registration fees for poster or platform presentations.
- Each abstract can only be submitted to one academy/section; multiple submissions to different academies/sections will result in rejection of your abstract.
- By submitting an abstract, the submitter assures that at least one of the authors will be available to present.
- Any accepted abstract cannot be deferred to a subsequent APTA CSM and would need to be resubmitted for consideration.

About Abstracts

Abstracts are intended to represent scientific research or noncommercial content related to clinical practice. All abstracts must be [submitted online](#). When submitting, you may specify your preferred presentation format (poster or platform). Each academy/section reviews the submitted abstracts and makes the final decision regarding presentation format, presentation date, and time. After submission, abstracts cannot be sent to other academies/sections for review.

Please note that abstracts should not have been presented previously at a national level or published elsewhere to ensure that new information and ideas are shared. Find more information under '[Submitting Your Abstract](#).'

Those submitting abstracts of research reports will be asked to select one of six key areas aligned with the [APTA Research Agenda for Physical Therapy](#):

- **Population health research.** Health within and across populations and generations; health disparities, social determinants of health, and the impact of health promotion or prevention efforts.
- **Mechanistic research.** Biological or behavioral processes, pathophysiology, or an intervention's mechanism of action.
- **Clinical research.** Diagnostic procedures, interventions, protocols, practices, technology, and factors affecting outcomes.
- **Education and professional development research.** Learning processes, human attributes, and institutions that shape educational and professional development outcomes.
- **Health services research.** Social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, technologies, and behaviors affecting healthcare access, quality, costs, and well-being.
- **Workforce research.** Workforce growth and attrition, provider demographics and characteristics, organizational structures and practice environments, geographical distribution of providers, and utilization of services.

Required Fields

Those submitting research reports must include the following fields:

Research Report

- Title
- References
- Abstract text:
 - Purpose/hypothesis
 - Number of subjects
 - Materials and methods
 - Results
 - Conclusions
 - Clinical relevance

Special Interest Group

- Title
- References
- Abstract text:
 - Purpose
 - Description
 - Summary of Use
 - Importance to members

Case Study Report

- Title
- References
- Abstract text:
 - Background and purpose
 - Case description
 - Outcomes
 - Discussion

Theory Report

- Title
- References
- Abstract text:
 - Purpose
 - Description
 - Summary of Use
 - Importance to Members

Submitting Your Abstract

Contact Details

- Abstracts require presenter/author information, including email (APTA profile email is preferred), credentials, contact information, institution(s), city, and state. Ensure your contact information is correct, as all correspondence regarding submissions will be via email. Notifications will be sent to the presenting author. It is the responsibility of the presenting author to inform the contributors of the abstract status.
- Author information will appear exactly as submitted in all APTA CSM publications. It is the submitter's responsibility to ensure that all information is correct at the time of submission, including ensuring the accuracy of any co-authors' information.
- Important: If you are a student in your final academic year, use your personal email to submit your abstract, not your school email.

Text and References

- Titles are limited to 15 words. There is a 3,125-character limit for the text of your abstract submission, including spaces. This does not include authors, institutions, or references.

- If you are submitting a **poster**, provide five to seven bibliographic references that are most relevant to your abstract. If you are submitting a **platform**, provide references from the last seven years (2020 and later). Failure to list references may result in your abstract being rejected.
- Authors are encouraged, but not required, to use in-text numerical citations within the abstract (e.g., [1] or ¹).

APTA Membership Requirement

- If none of the authors are active APTA members, you are encouraged to find a member who can be added as a sponsor. Please refrain from asking Section Research Chairs to sponsor.

Unacceptable Content

- Abstracts should not have been presented previously at a national level or published elsewhere.
- Advertisements are not acceptable.

If you have questions regarding content for a specific section, contact the academy/section research chair using the information below.

APTA Academy/Section Research Chairs (as of Dec. 31, 2025)

APTA Component	Contact	Email
APTA Acute Care, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Barbara Smith, PT, PhD Kerry Lammers	barbie3169@yahoo.com kerry.lammers@gmail.com
APTA Academy of Aquatic Physical Therapy	Marty Biondi, PT, PhD	martybiondi14@aol.com
APTA Academy of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy	Aaron Thrush, PT, DPT, MPH	thrusha@ccad.ae
APTA Academy of Clinical Electrophysiology & Wound Management	*Deborah Wendland, PT, DPT, PhD Karen Gibbs	wendland_dm@mercer.edu kgibbs@txstate.edu
APTA Academy of Education, a component of the American Physical Therapy Association	Michael Buck, PT, MSPT, ATC, PhD	mbuck@binghamton.edu
APTA Federal, a section of the American Physical Therapy	Ignacio Gaunard, PT,	igaunard@med.miami.edu

Association	MSPT, PhD	
APTA Geriatrics, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	Jessie Van Swearingen, PT, PhD, FAPTA	jessievs@pitt.edu
APTA Hand and Upper Extremity Physical Therapy, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Ann Lucado, PT, PhD	lucado_am@mercer.edu
APTA Home Health, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	Konrad Dias, PT, DPT, PhD	k.dias@csus.edu
APTA Leadership & Innovation, a component of the American Physical Therapy Association	Rhonda Manning Cara Whalen Smith	rajeske@utep.edu Cara.Whalen-Smith@osumc.edu
Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy	*Emily Fox, PT, DPT, PhD Nora Fritz	ejfox@php.ufl.edu nora.fritz@wayne.edu
APTA Oncology, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	Steve Morris, PT, PhD Linda Koehler, PT, PhD Andrew Ray, PT, PhD	gsmorris.onc@gmail.com koeh0139@umn.edu andrew.ray@roswellpark.org
APTA Orthopedics, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Jeff Taylor, PT, DPT, PhD John Borstad	jtaylor@orthopt.org borstadj@oregonstate.edu
APTA Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy	Alyssa Fiss, PT, PHD	afiss@twu.edu
APTA Pelvic Health, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Laura LaPorta, PT, PhD Christine Cabelka	llaporta@regis.edu Director1@aptapelvichealth.org
APTA Private Practice, a section of the American Physical Therapy Association	This section does not have posters or platform sessions.	N/A
APTA Academy of Research, a component of the American Physical Therapy Association	Jena Ogston, PT, PhD	jogston@css.edu

American Academy of Sports Physical Therapy	*Dan Cobian Christy Zwolski	cobian@ortho.wisc.edu Christin.Zwolski@cchmc.org
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*Indicates primary contact.

Last Updated: 03/17/2026

Contact: eventprogram@apta.org