



## AHTA Abstract Submission Guidelines

The Conference Organising Committee invites you to submit abstracts for free papers on any topics related to the upper limb. Topics which complement the conference theme will be marked with a higher preference. Presenters have the following presentation options:

### PAPERS

Papers will be allocated a total of 10-15 minutes presentation time including questions, exact time allocation will be confirmed upon acceptance of paper. Those abstracts not selected for paper presentation may be offered a poster presentation.

Papers may be:

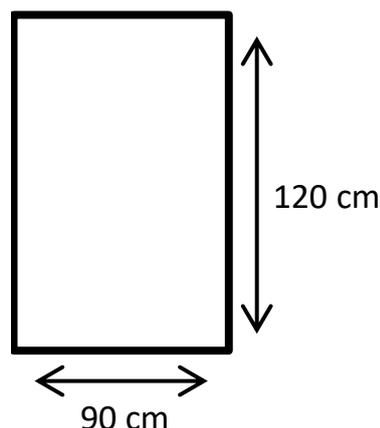
- A. Scientific papers. These include studies related to the creation of in-depth knowledge behind the clinical practices. E.g. Reliability & validity studies; goniometric studies and collecting normative data.
- B. Clinical papers. These include studies that examine the effectiveness of clinical interventions. E.g. Clinical trials, prospective/retrospective reviews and case studies.

### POSTERS

These will be a "display only" presentation. Presenters are asked to erect their posters by morning tea on the first day of the Conference. Display posters will be exhibited in the area where morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be served. Authors will be encouraged to stand next to their posters to answer questions during the catering breaks. As this is a hybrid event, poster presenters will also be asked to submit a digital copy of their poster for the online platform. Further details will be provided with acceptance of your abstract.

**Poster dimensions:** 120 x 90 cm maximum **portrait** (nothing larger can be accommodated)

**\*\*\* Please note landscape posters cannot be accommodated**





## PREPARING YOUR ABSTRACT

Abstract submissions should be clearly identified as either a scientific or clinical paper. The purpose of the abstract is to capture the interest of a potential member of your audience. The abstract should provide sufficient information to allow the reader to assess the implications of the work undertaken. The word limit is 250 words. This word limit does not include the title, authors and references.

*Scientific* abstracts should be set out as follows:

**Background** - briefly describe any significant previous research conducted in the area and justify the need for your research

**Aims** - outline specific research aims

**Method** - describe briefly the study participants, research design used and basic procedures

**Results** – present key findings from statistical analyses and link these to research aims

**Conclusion** – highlight major conclusions from the work in the context of study limitations. Consider implications for future research.

Refer to Appendix 1 for marking criteria.

*Clinical* abstracts should be set out as follows:

**Background**- briefly describe the clinical background/setting and include previous research if applicable.

**Problem**- clearly identify the clinical problem

**Intervention**- describe the intervention used to address the clinical problem and how this was innovative/unique

**Evaluation**- explain how you assessed the effectiveness of your intervention

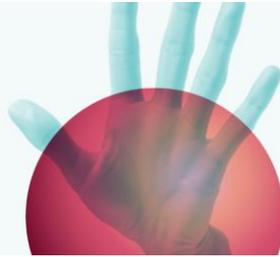
**Recommendations**- provide recommendations for future implementation and highlight the implications of your intervention.

Refer to Appendix 2 for marking criteria.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Closes: **11.59pm, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

Acceptance Notification: **June 2021**



## PAPER AWARDS

Presenters of free papers are eligible for the following awards:

### **The Jill Chapman Award for the Best Clinical Free Paper:**

This award honours our first AHTA President, Jill Chapman and is awarded for the ‘best clinical’ free paper at the AHTA Annual Conference. Papers are allowed 10 minutes, plus questions and are judged on content and presentation. The winner of the Jill Chapman Award will receive a \$1,000.00 cash prize.

### **The Australian Hand Surgery Society Prize:**

First awarded in 1988, the prize is awarded to the ‘best research’ free paper at the AHTA Annual Conference. Papers are allowed 10 minutes, plus questions and are judged on content, methodology and presentation. The winner of the Australian Hand Surgery Society Prize will receive a \$1,000.00 cash prize.

### **The Leanne Breen Memorial Award:**

First awarded in 2010 in memory of Leanne Breen, a Western Australian Hand Therapist, for the ‘best poster’. The winner of the Leanne Breen Memorial Award will receive a \$200.00 cash prize.

### **Rolyan Award for Best Poster for Research in Hand Therapy**

*The Rolyan Award for Best Poster for Research in Hand Therapy* is awarded for the best research poster for treatments specifically using thermoplastic materials. The winner of this award will receive a \$1,000.00 cash prize.



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## SUBMITTING YOUR ABSTRACT

Online submission is the only method of receipt of abstracts. Abstracts are submitted via the conference registration site, Currinda. If you have submitted an abstract or registered for a previous AHTA Conference you can login with your existing Currinda login details. Alternately you will need to make a new Currinda profile. If you experience technical difficulties with online submission, please email your query to [ahta@yrd.com.au](mailto:ahta@yrd.com.au) or call +61 7 3368 2422. Online submission closes at 11:59pm on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021 AEST**.

## CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS

Immediately following submission, you will receive an acknowledgment email confirming receipt of your abstract. If you need to make changes to your abstract submission, you can do so by logging into your conference dashboard, up to and no later than the submission deadline, **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021**. No changes will be possible after this deadline.



## APPENDIX 1: MARKING CRITERIA SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

Quality of Presentation Content	
<b>Intro</b>	Must provide clear background and be reinforced in the conclusion
<b>Objective</b>	Must outline content or expectations or specific research aims
<b>Method</b>	Is the research qualitative or quantitative? Do I understand the methodology used and is it appropriate for the research question? Do I understand the statistical terms used and are they appropriate to the research question? Level of evidence
<b>Results</b>	Must clearly indicate the findings of the project and be consistent with methodology and objectives. Application of findings
<b>Conclusion</b>	To be consistent with intro and objectives. Future research implications
Educational Value	
<b>Interest and Appeal</b>	Needs to be heard, describes historical perspective, current trends or new ideas? Is it of interest to the audience? Is it occupation-based? Does the abstract provide new information?
<b>Contribution</b>	Will the content change practice? Is the information based on a theoretical approach? Will it add to the current body of work in this area?
<b>Novel, innovative, relevant to theme</b>	Does the abstract approach the topic in a new or different way? Does it reflect the theme of the conference? Does it support a new approach or change an accepted approach? Are the ideas presented provocative?
Quality of Written Abstract	
<b>Self Contained</b>	Should not include abbreviations, acronyms, quotes, or extensive reference citations. Concise and specific, where each sentence is maximally informative, especially the lead sentence.
<b>Coherent and Readable</b>	Written in logical sequence. Use of active not passive voice. Avoids use of personal pronouns. Use of clear vigorous prose. Should be clear and easily readable.



## APPENDIX 2: MARKING CRITERIA CLINICAL ABSTRACTS

Quality of Presentation Content	
<b>Intro</b>	Must provide clear background/setting and include previous research if applicable
<b>Objective</b>	Clearly outline the clinical problem/content/expectations
<b>Intervention</b>	Describe clearly the intervention used to address the clinical problem. Evidence of depth of clinical reasoning
<b>Evaluation</b>	Explain how effectiveness of the intervention was assessed. Describe findings and application
<b>Conclusion</b>	To be consistent with intro and objectives. Future research implications
Educational Value	
<b>Interest and Appeal</b>	Needs to be heard, describes historical perspective, current trends or new ideas? Is it of interest to the audience? Is it occupation-based? Does the abstract provide new information?
<b>Contribution</b>	Will the content change the practice? Is the information based on a theoretical approach? Will it add to the current body of work in this area?
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