Symposium Proposal

Symposia provide an avenue for participants to organize a discussion focused around a specific theme. The theme can be either substantive (e.g., women's health, alternative medicine, geriatric medicine) or methodological (e.g., risk adjustment, quality measurement), or presentations of alternative viewpoints about significant topics. A symposium must include a convener, who is responsible for organizing the symposium, and at least three participants, who will be responsible for presentations. The symposium overview should identify the theme, the relevance and timeliness of the theme, and the relationships of the three presentations to the theme. All symposium proposals must include the following:

1. Up to three (3) key words, identifying the major subject of the symposium.

2. A one- to two-page (single spaced) overview statement.

3. A short description of the session's format.

4. A half-page (single spaced) synopsis of each presentation.

5. A signed statement from each participant showing agreement to participate and their assurance that their presentation will be ready in time for the conference. Please provide name, address, phone, fax, and e-mail for each participant.

6. Papers are not required for symposia participation, but are encouraged.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT OR
PROPOSAL BY **NOVEMBER 2, 2015**

If you do not receive an e-mail acknowledgement of your submission by November 20, 2015, assume we do not have your abstract. Contact Jane Raasch at 612-625-0955 or at raasc001@umn.edu to confirm receipt of your abstract or if you have any questions.

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Twentieth Annual

Minnesota Health Services Research Conference

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND CONFERENCE CENTER
ST. PAUL CAMPUS, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

Call For Abstracts

Sponsoring Organizations:

Allina Health
Center for Care Organization Research & Development, University of Minnesota
Division of Health Policy & Management, University of Minnesota
Fairview Health Services
HealthPartners Institute for Education & Research
Mayo Clinic
Medica Research Institute
Minnesota Department of Health
Minnesota Department of Human Services National Marrow Donor Program
PreferredOne
Stratis Health
Target Corporation
Veteran's Administration Center for Chronic Disease Outcomes Research

Twentieth Annual

Minnesota Health Services Research Conference

The Twentieth Annual Health Services Research Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at the Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul Campus, University of Minnesota. The purpose of this event is to bring together Minnesota's health services research community for a day of scholarly presentations and discussions. Nathan Shippee, from the Division of Health Policy and Management at the University of Minnesota, is Conference Chair.

The 2016 conference theme is "Addressing disparities: Building equity through engagement and partnership."

Call for Abstracts

The conference sessions will be organized around themes reflecting the abstracts received. We hope this will help ensure that the sessions cover the areas of greatest interest and relevance to the Minnesota health services research community. **Abstracts must be received by Monday, November 2, 2015** and be provided in one of the formats shown below. Abstract writers will be notified of acceptance or rejection by late November 2015. **There is a Student Paper Competition with first, second and third prizes of $500, $250, and $125, respectively.**

For the twentieth year we're proud to introduce three new competitions: Paper competitions: Best Use of Health Information Technology, and the Best Dissemination and Implementation. First-place winners for each competition receieve a $250 prize in recognition of their contributions, and have the opportunity to showcase their work as a presentation. Awards are open to all.

Distinguished Themed Abstract Commissioned Poster competition. Posters are by invitation only and authors can indicate their interest to be considered for the contest at the time of submission. Three posters will be commissioned and the top poster, chosen by combination vote and judging, will receive a prize of $250. Posters are not an overflow mechanism; they must present high-quality empirical work that matches the conference theme. Each submission will be judged under only one competition; submissions to the student paper competition are inelible for judging under the paper and poster competitions, and vice-versa.

For details on these competitions, see **http://ocs.sfu.ca/mnhsr**

Possible Topics

- Access to health care
- Accountable care organizations
- Children's health
- Chronic disease management
- Clinical practice improvement
- Community health
- Comparative Effectiveness
- Decision making, decision aids
- Global health
- Health behaviors
- Health care costs

- Health care reform
- Health disparities
- Health Informatics
- Health insurance markets
- Health literacy
- Health professions work force
- Incentives and pay for performance
- Long term care
- Medical homes
- Organization and financing of health services
- Outcomes research
- Patient-centered care

- Patient and enrollee satisfaction
- Patient safety
- Performance measurement
- Population health
- Predictive modeling
- Prevention and health promotion
- Quality of care measurement and management
- Research methods
- Risk adjustment
- Rural health

We encourage submission of abstracts in health services research, which is "the multidisciplinary field of scientific investigation that studies how social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, health technologies, and personal behaviors affect access to health care, the quality and cost of health care, and ultimately our health and well-being" (http://www.academyhealth.org/About/content.cfm?ItemNumber=831). If you are wondering whether a topic fits, contact Conference Chair Nathan Shippee (nshippee@umn.edu).

Abstracts may be submitted for either research papers or for symposia. A symposium must include a convener, who is responsible for organizing the symposium, and at least three participants, who will be responsible for presentations. **All participants, including paper presenters and symposium participants must register for the conference and pay the registration fee.**

All submissions should be submitted online at http://ocs.sfu.ca/mnhsr. Create an account and follow the instructions for the submission process. All submissions must include the submission title, the presenter's name, affiliation, title, and contact information (address, telephone, fax, e-mail) and either a structured abstract or a symposium proposal. A blinded abstract with no identifying information will be used to evaluate research papers. Symposia submissions should also include name and contact information for each participant and signed letters of participation from each participant. Structured abstracts will be reviewed on the basis of the quality of the design, sample, methodology, and timeliness. Symposium will be reviewed on the basis of overall quality, timeliness, and relevance. Accepted abstracts will be printed in a booklet and distributed to conference attendees.

Structured Abstract for Research Paper

Each abstract should fit on one single-spaced page and should include information under each of the following headings.

Objective (or Study Question). Provide a single partial sentence, beginning with the word "To" indicating the principal reason for the conduct of the study (e.g., "To test" a specific hypothesis or theory).

Data Sources/Study Setting. Provide a single partial sentence indicating whether primary or secondary data were collected and the time frame of the data collection. Descriptions of the study setting, with regard to both primary and secondary analyses (complete sentences) will help establish the generalizability of the findings.

Study Design. Describe succinctly (complete sentences) the general structure of the study approach, indicating whether the study involved an intervention, randomization of subjects, or particular diagnostic or therapeutic procedures, and whether measures were taken at multiple points in time, and analytic methods (e.g., regression, qualitative analysis). Identify the key variables in the analysis.

Data Collection/Extraction Methods. Indicate in complete sentences the procedures used in assembling the data for the analyses.

Principal Findings. In complete sentences, focus on the most important observations from the data pertinent to the questions or issues identified.

Conclusions. Again in complete sentences, mention only those conclusions directly supported by the data from this particular study. Avoid speculative observations, but indicate the extent to which additional research may be required to address the central issues raised in the paper.

Implications for Practice or Policy. In complete sentences, describe the implications for health care practice or policy. Avoid speculative implications.

Topics. Provide the topic area or areas that reflect the essential content and message of the article. Please choose from the list of possible topics or enter other and a topic description.

Source: *Health Services Research*.