



apos-society.org

APOS 2025

22nd Annual Conference

March 5 - 7, 2025

Strengthening Bridges Between Clinical Practice and Research: New Perspectives in Psychosocial Oncology

CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

The American Psychosocial Oncology Society is **now accepting abstracts** for the 22nd Annual Conference to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from March 5-7, 2025. The theme of the 2025 Annual Conference is ***Strengthening Bridges Between Clinical Practice and Research: New Perspectives in Psychosocial Oncology.***

Psychosocial oncology professionals in all disciplines and cancer advocates are encouraged to submit abstracts as part of a symposium or as individual podium or poster presentations. We welcome research, program, and clinical abstracts, including meta-analyses, systematic reviews, case presentations, and program evaluations. Preferred abstracts will address the conference theme and objectives, focusing on research, practice, training, and advocacy endeavors that support diversity, equity, and inclusion in psychosocial oncology as related to race, ethnicity, age, religion, culture, language, disability, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, and gender identity and/or expression. We particularly encourage symposia that include community partners as discussants, as well as podium and poster presentation submissions from community partners.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS SUBMISSION QUALIFICATIONS

By 'community partners', we are referring broadly to individuals who work in the field of psychosocial oncology outside of traditional academic and clinical settings. Community partners include, but are not limited to, patient advocates, patient navigators, staff and leaders of community-based non-profit organizations, or lay people with lived experiences relevant to cancer. We encourage scientists and clinicians working with these community partners to include them in their symposia submissions. We also encourage community partners to submit abstracts about their work or narratives using the 'Community Partner' submission category.



ABSTRACTS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PRESENTATION TYPES:

- **Symposium** - 90-minute oral presentation (*additional guidelines apply*)
- **Podium Presentation** - 20-minute presentation
- **Poster Presentation** - Live poster session at the conference and online e-poster for viewing during and after the conference.

POSTER AND PODIUM ABSTRACTS ARE SUBMITTED UNDER THE SAME LINK. DURING THE SUBMISSION PROCESS, SELECT WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR:

POSTER

PODIUM PRESENTATION

BOTH



Submission Deadlines*:

- **Symposia Submission** – Wednesday, August 21, 2024
- **Poster/Podium Sessions** – Monday, September 30, 2024
- **Late Breaking Abstracts** (poster only)**– Wednesday, December 4, 2024

Decisions on symposia presentations will be announced the week of September 16, 2024, allowing those not selected for a symposium to resubmit their abstract as a poster/podium session. Poster/Podium Session decisions will be announced the last week of October.

Abstracts will be reviewed and selected for presentation based on significance to psychosocial oncology, relevance to the conference theme, inclusion of community partners, innovation, appropriate analytic approach, findings, implications for research and practice, and clarity of writing.

Abstracts detailing planned research that has not yet been conducted will not be considered for inclusion in the 2025 conference program.

***All deadlines are 11:59 PM Eastern U.S. time zone (e.g. New York, New York) NOTE: Staff NOT available after 5 PM ET**

****Late breaking posters will not be published in the online journal.**

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

Developments in psychosocial oncology that include changes to health care systems, advances in oncology, an increase in complex care needs, and greater attention to social determinants of health - demand adaptation, growth, and innovation. Always ahead of the curve, APOS was founded on the belief that all individuals benefit from coming together to innovate and advance the field of psychosocial oncology through research, practice, education, and advocacy. This annual conference seeks to emphasize and celebrate connections with one another and our community partners, sharing new perspectives for workforce growth and professional development, clinician resilience, innovations in care delivery models, and evidence-based care.

The aim for the 2025 annual meeting is to build personal and professional connections, strengthen our psychosocial oncology community, and advance knowledge as APOS leads the way through the changing landscape of psychosocial oncology via these objectives:

1	Education/training. Define training priorities for the field of psychosocial oncology that reflect the evolving landscape of cancer care and the diverse needs of our programs and trainees from all disciplines (psychology, social work, psychiatry, etc.). This includes special focus on networking to facilitate meaningful relationships, professional advancement, program development, and expanding psychosocial oncology training to improve access and utilization of psychosocial oncology in underserved communities.
2	Clinical Practice. Redefine the role of the psychosocial oncology clinician and how we deliver cancer care, with a focus on building a community within and across cancer care settings. Of special interest is offering tools and receiving mentorship around evolving models of care and strategies to enhance clinician resilience that is inclusive of all members in the multidisciplinary field of psychosocial oncology.
3	Research. Identify innovative models for extending the reach of psychosocial care to all impacted by cancer. Special emphasis will be placed on novel and sustainable digital health interventions with potential for wide implementation and the goal of ensuring equitable access to all patients, survivors and caregivers.
4	Advocacy. Translate scientific findings into opportunities for advocacy - from policy level to professional wellness and patient advocate inclusion - fostering the diverse views and expertise of our membership.

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES/SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

[CLICK HERE](#) to download a printable instruction sheet (PDF). *Please read carefully before submitting.*

[CLICK HERE](#) for information on Ethics Cultural Competence Designations.

Submission Requirements for Symposia and Podium Presentations:

When submitting your abstract, you will be asked to identify your abstract as research (basic & applied, meta-analyses, systematic reviews), program (program evaluations, policy implementation) or clinical (case reports and clinical services). Reference below for instructions and submission specifications for both symposia and poster/podium. Incomplete submissions will ***not*** be considered.

To submit your proposal, please follow the instructions below:

- Visit the 2025 Abstract Submission Portal: <https://apos.societyconference.com>
- If you are a current or previous member of APOS, your account is stored within our system. Please select 'Forgot Your Password' in the top right-hand box to obtain your login information.
- If you are a new submitter or your email address is not recognized by the system, please create a new account.
- Should you have any issues email info@apos-society.org.



Symposia Submissions: Each symposia session will be 90 minutes. Sessions are comprised of a maximum of 7 speakers, including a chair. *Inclusion of community partners or patient advocates as symposia discussants is encouraged, but not required.* Chairs will be notified when all participants have completed their portions and asked to log in to finalize the entirety of the submission.

- **Symposium title**
- **Overall Symposia description (300-word limit)**
- **The following is required for each presentation (excluding title and authors, 300-word limit):**
 - Background/Purpose
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Conclusions and Implications
- **Acknowledgement of Funding**
- **Learning Objectives**

- Learning Objectives: Individuals will be required to provide 2-3 learning objectives, using action verbs and listing measurable objectives. For example, “The participant shall be able to analyze the practice implications of...” instead of, “The participant shall be able to understand the practice implications of...”
- CV Upload: All participants must upload a copy of their CV for accreditation purposes.



Poster/Podium Submissions: The information below should be submitted through the APOS online submission portal by the posted deadline. Poster and Podium submissions are submitted under the same link. There is a **300-word limit** excluding title and authors.

- Poster/Podium Presentation Preference
- Title
- Authors (names and affiliations)
- Background/Purpose
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
- **Learning Objectives**
 - Learning Objectives: The submitter will be required to provide 2-3 learning objectives, using action verbs and listing measurable objectives. For example, “The participant shall be able to analyze the practice implications of...” instead of, “The participant shall be able to understand the practice implications of...”
 - CV Upload: All participants must upload a copy of their CV for accreditation purposes.

Additional instructions pertaining to all submissions:

- **Background/Purpose** Clearly state the purpose of the abstract, describing the focus and significance to the field of psychosocial oncology.
- **Methods** For basic & applied research abstracts, describe the study’s design, participants, setting, data collection, and analytic approach. For meta-analysis & systematic review research abstracts, identify the databases searched, criteria for selection and inclusion of studies in the analysis, and methods for assessing risk of bias. For clinical case study abstracts, include the referral problem, assessment data and diagnosis, case conceptualization and treatment plan, and details of the course of treatment including specific interventions and mechanisms of change. For program abstracts, review the current program or policy, stating the necessity for change.
- **Results** For research (basic & applied, meta-analysis & systematic review) abstracts, present your results in a logical sequence. For clinical case study abstracts, summarize qualitative and/or quantitative

changes and note the clinical significance of the outcomes. For program abstracts, present results and impact of programmatic changes or policy implementation.

- **Conclusions and Implications** Emphasize new and important aspects of the research study, case report, or program/policy implementation and the conclusions drawn from them. Describe how findings are relevant to the science and practice of psychosocial oncology, the need for future research or clinical investigation. Special emphasis will be given to implications for advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion or reducing health disparities in psychosocial oncology.

Word Limit for all Submission Types:

The Background/Purpose, Methods, Results, Conclusions sections combined must be **300 words or fewer**. Acknowledgement of funding and learning objectives are not counted in the word limit. Implications are excluded from the word count.

Symposium Submission Guidelines:

The symposium chair/convener must submit symposium title, overall symposia description, and each presenter's contact information using the online submission system. [Click here](#) to view an example of an overall symposia description. The system will contact the proposed speakers to submit individual abstracts online, linking the speaker abstracts to the symposium title. For more information, see the [instruction sheet](#). Symposium abstracts will be reviewed as a group and will be accepted or rejected as a group. If your symposium is not accepted, you may resubmit your abstract as a poster or podium presentation. The symposium chair is responsible for communicating conference information to individual speakers. It is preferred that symposium speakers do not represent the same institution. Symposium abstracts that address the conference theme and objectives (e.g., diversity, equity, and inclusion in psychosocial oncology; engagement of community partners and patient advocates) will be preferred.

Poster/Podium Submission:

NEW THIS YEAR: Pilot Preliminary Abstract Review Program for APOS 2025

In service of APOS's goal to promote high quality research and facilitate diverse representation in the society, the APOS Research Committee has launched a pilot program in which APOS members may submit their poster or podium abstract for a friendly preliminary review and supportive feedback prior to the September 30th, 2024, abstract submission deadline for the 2025 APOS annual meeting. While everyone is eligible to take advantage of this opportunity, we strongly encourage applications from:

- psychosocial oncology clinicians who are new to research or seeking to become more involved in research
- psychosocial oncology researchers, clinicians, and/or educators who are underrepresented in medicine
- students, trainees, and fellows interested in psychosocial oncology
- early career and junior investigators in psychosocial oncology

The deadline to submit your poster or podium abstract to be reviewed by a member of the APOS research committee is **Monday, September 9th**. While you do not need to submit a completely finalized, polished version, your draft should minimally address all sections of the submission (i.e., background, methods, results, discussion). You may include 1-2 relevant questions or comments to your reviewer. You will receive written feedback with sufficient time to revise your abstract prior to the official **September 30th** deadline. Please note, this review is meant to enhance the rigor of the submission and is not a guarantee of acceptance.

Instructions to Request Abstract Review

- You must start your poster/podium submission prior to submitting your review request and address all sections of the submission, even in draft form.
- Once your submission is started email info@apos-society.org to request that your abstract be reviewed.
- Please attach your draft or final abstract

Should you have any questions, please contact the Executive Office at info@apos-society.org or call 615-432-0090.