



**IADMS** International Association  
for Dance Medicine & Science

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION &  
PRESENTATION GUIDELINES**

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## STEP 1: Call for Presentations

IADMS welcomes presentation submissions for our Annual Conference. We are looking for groundbreaking research and ideas in the field of dance medicine, dance science, dance education, and/or dance for health. By submitting an abstract you may have the opportunity to present at our conference along with esteemed colleagues and other industry professionals from around the globe. IADMS is committed to, and we value diverse, equitable, and inclusive participation within Dance Medicine, Sciences, and Education. We aim to foster diversity, equity, and inclusivity at our virtual and live annual meetings. Please be mindful of this when creating your sessions.

The *Call for Presentations* is [posted online](#) and sent to the IADMS constituency prior to the IADMS Annual Conference. Presentations are to be submitted by **March 1** as a 350-word maximum abstract via our [abstract submission system](#). You can make changes to your submission up until the submission deadline, March 1. After the submission deadline, only those accepted abstract submissions will be given a set time frame to make any necessary revisions. It is recommended that all research be completed, and all results finalized by the submission deadline.

Students/residents interested in the Student Researcher Award should read the Student Research Support Guidelines [here](#).

## STEP 2: Prepare Your Abstract

- **Presentation Format**
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### Presentation Format

Applicants must note their preferred presentation format in their submission. You can also note your second and third choices. The IADMS Program Committee determines the official presentation format for each abstract, and the author will be informed of that choice when the abstract is accepted. The Q&A sessions will take place after the presentation time listed below.

Presentation format(s) available:

- **Poster Presentation:** Poster presentations are on display during the conference with a formal presentation/Q&A time. Poster formatting will be available upon acceptance.
- **Lecture Presentation:** (15 minutes, lecture) PowerPoint lecture-based presentation may include intervention research, descriptive studies, conceptual analyses, clinical case studies, or other practical short-form presentations. The keystone of Lecture Presentations is to present the most recent scholarly work in dance medicine and science to the broad audience represented by IADMS members. Q&A time is outside the allotted 15-minute presentation time.

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- **Interactive Session:** (45 minutes, lecture/practical) optional PowerPoint presentation with two or more speakers. Interactive sessions may: cover one area in depth with speakers from different disciplines (e.g. panel); provide studio-based experiential or movement-based learning (e.g. movement sessions); demonstrate or teach clinical techniques or skills; or provide explicit training or opportunity to develop resources to enhance dance medicine and science practice (e.g. workshop). The keystone of Interactive Sessions is to emphasize audience participation and interaction between IADMS members. Q&A time is outside the allotted 45-minute presentation time.

## Presentation Type

When submitting your abstract, you will select which presentation type best suits your study. The six presentation types include:

- **Intervention Research** includes studies in which researchers arrange (or follow) a systematic change in conditions to determine a) the effects on a physical capacity, skill, or performance relevant to dancers, or b) the improvement on health and wellbeing as a result of dance practice. Clinical and experimental research are the most common types of intervention research but other systematic efforts to measure the effects of an intervention, including qualitative studies and intervention-based case studies and series may be included.
- **Descriptive Studies** describe phenomena systematically to reveal patterns and connections that might otherwise go unnoticed. Descriptive studies include normative, epidemiological, and correlation studies, as well as non-intervention case studies and qualitative studies.
- **Conceptual Analysis** can be constructed from a review of the literature and can be quantitative and/or qualitative forms of research.
- **Clinical Case Study** is a synopsis of your case which includes a history and physical exam of the case to be discussed, an outline of the differential diagnosis, test and results, final/working diagnosis, and treatment/outcomes as it pertains to the case.
- **Practitioner Wisdom** allows experienced practitioners to share insights based on extensive professional experience. Experts can be teachers, physicians, psychologists, clinicians, choreographers, dance educators, and dancers who: a) train, treat, and/or educate dancers; or b) teach dance to improve health and well-being.
- **Movement Sessions** emphasize essential aspects of the presentations revealed through movement or other direct experiences of the session attendees. Experiential presentations (imaging, relaxation, etc.) are also considered movement sessions. Ideally, movement sessions are evidenced-based and practice-led. Abstracts should include aims and learning outcomes for attendees of the session.

Intervention Research, Descriptive Study, Conceptual Analysis, and Clinical Case Study are most often appropriate for the 15-minute Lecture Presentation format.

Practitioner Wisdom and Movement Sessions are most often appropriate for the 45-minute Interactive Session format.

## Abstract Requirements

When writing your abstract do not include author(s) name, affiliations, or any identifying factors, to keep the review process objective. Abstracts must be in American English; any abstract submitted in another

language will not be reviewed. Read the Language and Abstract Support Liaison section below to learn about the new initiative from the IADMS Publications Committee for non-English speaker abstract support.

Each abstract has a 350-word maximum (2,500-character limit), and headings are required. Consider the format and type of presentation for which you are submitting. The following headers are suggestions and can be adjusted for the specific format and type of presentation of the abstract:

## Poster and Lecture Presentations (15-minutes)

- Purpose: Identify the specific question you set out to answer or the specific objective of the study.
- Literature review (Background): Outline the relation to current literature.
- Methods (participants, setting, equipment, procedure): State whether a human subjects committee approved your study and if participants gave consent (See Ethics Review section below). As most appropriate for your study, describe the design, participants, methodological procedures, rationale, origin, and/or analysis of the research or proposed presentation.
- Results and Discussion: Present the results and succinct relation to current literature. Discuss the implications of these results related to the field.
- Conclusion: Summarize your conclusions, highlighting their relevance to treating, training, or conducting research with dancers and implications for future research in dance medicine and science.

## Clinical Case Report (Lecture Presentation, 15-minutes)

Your clinical case report abstract should include a synopsis of your case which includes:

- History and Physical Exam of the case to be discussed.
- An outline of the Differential Diagnosis
- Test and Results
- Final/Working Diagnosis
- Treatment/Outcomes as it pertains to the case.

## Interactive Sessions (45-minutes)

- Purpose: Identify the objectives of the session and what you hope participants gain.
- Literature review (Background): Identify the research literature or other relevant background knowledge that supports the Interactive Session as evidence-based and/or relevant to the IADMS audience. This may also include a brief summary of the expertise of the speakers.
- Learning Outcomes: Explicitly state the outcomes an attendee would expect to gain from attending this session. This may include the development of materials, new skills for research or clinical evaluation, knowledge pertaining to dance education practices, etc.
- Conclusion: Summarize your conclusions, highlighting their relevance to treating, training, or conducting research with dancers and implications for future research in dance medicine and science.

## Works in Progress

An incomplete abstract can be submitted as a “Work in Progress”. This means that the initial abstract submission, submitted on March 1, does not include results or conclusions. The results and conclusions **must** be ready by May at the time when the submission has been accepted, and the submitter agrees to present. Accepted Works in Progress that are not completed with updated results/conclusions by the May deadline will not be included in the conference program. No exceptions/extensions will be granted. Anyone can submit a Work in Progress abstract.

## Ethics Review – Human Participant Research

All original research involving human participants must be reviewed and approved by a research ethics committee [also known as an ethics review board, or institutional review board (IRB)]. *Human subjects research that has not been reviewed and approved by an ethics board by the time of abstract submission will not be accepted for presentation.* If you have questions regarding these ethics’ requirements, please contact the Program Committee ([programchair@iadms.org](mailto:programchair@iadms.org)).

## Presenting Authors

Presenting author is the submitter and the first primary presenter. The contact email provided online must be for the presenting author. It is the presenting author/submitter’s responsibility to communicate changes or notifications to fellow presenters. A person may be the presenting author on up to two abstracts. The Program Committee will not review additional submissions or consider them for inclusion in the IADMS Annual Conference. A person may be a secondary author on an unlimited number of abstracts. The principal investigator or project supervisor, especially for student submissions, must be one of the named authors on a submission. Any accepted presenter must submit a brief bio (150-200 words outlining current role, and relevant past experience). The Program Committee must approve any presenter changes before August 1, and it is the submitter’s responsibility to communicate the change to both parties.

## Deadlines

Abstracts may be submitted via the [abstract submission system](#) until the deadline of March 1. Once an abstract is accepted presenters must adhere to the required deadlines as received by IADMS conference planner and Program Committee. Notifications are sent out via the abstract system to all listed presenters. As such, we ask that you ensure that all presenters’ emails are correct and check your inbox and spam folders for these notifications. Missed deadlines can result in your abstract being pulled from the program.

## Language and Abstract Support Liaison

The official language of IADMS is American English. All abstracts will be reviewed in English and all presentations should be given in English. When planning your presentation please be aware that English is not the first language for many of the attendees.

The Publications Committee is offering writing support to members throughout the submission period. This is primarily aimed at those for whom English is their second language or with less academic writing experience. The support is focused on grammar and formatting, rather than subject-specific content, which will be considered in the review process. This initiative is aimed to support and encourage further

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diversity in submissions, as well as making the submission process more accessible to members. If you feel that you would benefit from this assistance in preparation for submitting your abstract, please contact [publications@iadms.org](mailto:publications@iadms.org), with the subject heading "Abstract Support".

## Student Researcher Support

Students whose abstract is accepted for presentation at the IADMS Annual Conference will be invited to apply for the *Student Research Award* and/or the *Student Researcher Travel Fund*. Click [here](#) to review all guidelines for the Student Researcher Support.

## STEP 3: Prepare Your Presentation

This section is for accepted abstract submissions:

- **Target Audience**
- **Purpose**
- **Disclosure**
- **Abbreviations**
- **Language**
- **Lecture Presentations**
- **Interactive Workshop & Movement Sessions**
- **Poster Presentations**

### Target Audience (not exclusive)

Athletic trainers, bodywork practitioners, dancers, dance educators, dance/sports science researchers, movement therapists, physical therapists/physiotherapists, physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, somatic practitioners, sports-medicine professionals, and surgeons.

### Purpose

Presenters should address the applicability of research findings to dance/dancers' health and wellness, education, continued research, science, and/or medicine.

### Disclosure

All must make an oral statement; poster presenters must place presenters are required to complete a disclosure form when accepting their presentation format and must disclose any financial relationships, or lack thereof, in their presentation. Lecture presenters must include a disclosure statement in their second slide on PPT; movement session presenters a statement at the bottom of their poster.

Disclosure Statements to include:

- No Disclosure – "[Insert presenter name(s)] have no financial disclosures that would be a potential conflict of interest with this presentation"
- Financial Disclosure – "[Insert presenter name(s)] have the following financial disclosures: [Insert disclosure specifics]"

## Abbreviations

Avoid the use of abbreviations. If used, ensure full text for the first use of the abbreviated item, with abbreviation noted in parenthesis for future reference.

## Language

Presentations must be given in English.

## Lecture Presentations (15-minutes, AV)

- **PowerPoint Due Date: August 31.** Due to accreditor regulations, NO changes can be made to the presentation once submitted. If you do not submit a PPT at this time you will not be allowed to use a PPT during your presentation.
- Presentations must be submitted via the IADMS Speaker Resource Center (link will be sent to accepted presenters). This is the preferred submission platform. If necessary, the presentation can be sent via WeTransfer to [conference@iadms.org](mailto:conference@iadms.org) if the file size is too large.
- **PowerPoint Format:** Microsoft PowerPoint in 16:9 or 4:3 ratio. No other format will be accepted; Mac users do NOT use Keynote when creating your presentation.
- **Do not include the IADMS logo on your PowerPoint presentation.**
- **Font Type:** Arial or Times New Roman
- **Computers:** PC will be used at the conference venue. Mac adaptors are unavailable. Presenters are not allowed to use their own computers when presenting.

## Interactive Session (45-minutes, PPT optional)

- Interactive Sessions include both Practical Wisdom and Movement Sessions
- Interactive Sessions are allotted 60-minutes in the conference program; 45min presentation time and 15 minutes of Q&A time. Facilitators of Interactive Sessions can use their discretion on how to use the time effectively to meet the goals of their session.
- Interactive Session presenters may choose to use a PPT Presentation. If so, they must follow the guidelines above for lecture presentations.
- Any additional props/supplies needed must be brought by presenters, including printed handouts (50 copies are recommended).
- Prior to the conference, all live demonstrations with human demonstrators must be approved and have signed consent and liability forms for each participant. IADMS is not responsible for any injury, illness, medical condition, or other adverse effects as a result of participation in these activities.

## Poster Presentations

- Dimensions and layout TBA upon acceptance.
- Minimum font size: 12pt.
- Do not place the IADMS logo on your poster.

## Poster Competition

There are two poster competitions: one Student Award and one Professional Award. To be eligible, the first author of the poster must be physically present at the poster sessions to communicate with judges. The poster title must match identically with the conference listing. All research posters involving human subjects must state that informed consent and ethics approval was obtained. All posters must contain

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financial disclosure information and be in correct formatting. Contact information should be provided (e.g., email address) so feedback can be rendered to the first author/creator of the poster. For questions regarding the poster competition please contact the Research Committee ([research@iadms.org](mailto:research@iadms.org)).

## **General Questions**

Please contact [conference@iadms.org](mailto:conference@iadms.org) with any questions.



## Student Researcher Support Guidelines

*Student Research Award* provides a \$500US stipend and complimentary registration for the IADMS Annual Conference to a student/resident or recent graduate who has conducted especially promising research in the field of dance medicine and science.

*Student Researcher Travel Fund* provides a \$250US stipend and complimentary registration for the IADMS Annual Conference to two or more students/residents or recent graduates. The number of travel grants awarded each year depends on the funding available and the quality of the papers submitted.

**Qualifications:** For either award, the student researcher must be the primary investigator and the primary presenter. In addition, the research must have been conducted within one year prior to the submission date and while the student was enrolled in a full-time degree-seeking course of study.

**Application:** To apply for either award, when submitting an abstract in accordance with the IADMS Call for Presentations, indicate that you wish to be considered for a student award by selecting the appropriate Y/N option in the on-line submission form. Student/resident submissions can be submitted as a “Work in Progress”, meaning March 1 abstract submissions do not need to include results or conclusions. The results and conclusions must be ready by May and submitted in the extended abstract (see below) and presented during the conference. Works that are not completed by the later deadline will be removed from the conference program.

**Extended Abstract:** If your presentation is accepted for the IADMS Annual Conference, your proposal will go through an initial blind review process through the Research Committee. If your study is selected, you will be invited for a second round of review (to be submitted mid-May; final date TBD), wherein you will be asked to submit an extended abstract that includes the abstract and keywords, introduction and objectives, methods, results, discussion, conclusion, and recommendations for future research.

Extended abstracts should not exceed 4 pages, including references (up to 15 maximum), and must adhere to the following formatting: Times New Roman, 12-point font, left-justification, and double-spaced. Page margins are 2.5 cm from right, left, top, and bottom (i.e., normal default within Microsoft Word). Figures and tables may be included. Please acknowledge your research grant, organization, and/or scholarship where relevant.

**Announcement:** Winners will be notified and announced on the IADMS website and social media outlets at the commencement of the IADMS Annual Conference. Awards will be given at the IADMS Annual Conference. Award recipients are invited to join the Research Committee luncheon at the conference.

Questions about the student research awards should be emailed to the Research Committee ([research@iadms.org](mailto:research@iadms.org)) with “Student Awards” in the subject line of your message.

## Linda and William Hamilton Dance Wellness Symposium Guidelines

The **Linda and William Hamilton Annual Dance Wellness Symposium** will be held in conjunction with the IADMS Annual Conference. The purpose is to highlight dance medicine professionals' emerging research on wellness, with a focus on the multifaceted aspects of physical and psychological stressors on those who dance or work with dancers of any level or style. Abstracts submitted for the IADMS Annual Conference that features multidisciplinary individual or collaborative research, and/or clinical focus in their approach to dancer health and wellbeing are encouraged to apply for this award.

**Award:** Three abstracts will be selected for this prestigious award. The recipients will receive a \$1,000 monetary prize and certificate(s) of achievement. They also will present their work at the Annual Conference in the highlighted **Linda and William Hamilton Annual Dance Wellness Symposium** section.

**Qualifications:** Applicants to the Linda and William Hamilton Annual Dance Wellness Symposium must:

- Be accepted for presentation to the conference through general review
- Represent completed work (Works in Progress submissions will not be accepted)
- Be prepared to present in a 15-minute Lecture Presentation format
- Abstracts must clearly relate to both physical and mental components of dancer health and wellness while offering an interdisciplinary viewpoint.

**Application and Awarding Process:** When submitting an abstract in accordance with the IADMS Call for Presentations, indicate that you wish to be considered for the Hamilton Symposium by checking the appropriate box in the on-line submission form. Following the IADMS internal blind review process for annual conference abstract submissions, those submitters that meet the qualifying criteria (listed above) will then be reviewed by an independent adjudicating body.

Finalists for the Hamilton Symposium Award will be **required** to submit an extended abstract **by May 1**. The extended abstract allows for up to 1,000 words to expand on the research methodologies, results, provide a figure or table to support the research, and explicitly address, "How does this work represent interdisciplinary, not multidisciplinary, research that advances aspects of both mental and physical health and well-being in dancers and dance science?"

It is recommended that applicants for the Hamilton Symposium Award have their extended abstract prepared when submitting to present at the IADMS Annual Conference. Finalists will be notified in April with more details of how to submit their extended abstract. Extended abstracts **must be received by May 1** to be considered for the award. The selected recipients of the award will be notified in advance of the conference and will present their research during the Linda and William Hamilton Annual Dance Wellness Symposium featured session.

*If your abstract is not chosen for the symposium it will remain in consideration for the main conference program.*

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**Announcement:** Winners will be notified via email in advance of the general announcement of the Hamilton Symposium's agenda on the website and social media outlets prior to the IADMS Annual Conference. Awards will be given at the IADMS Annual Conference.

Questions about the Linda and William Hamilton Dance Wellness Symposium can be emailed directly to [conference@iadms.org](mailto:conference@iadms.org).