

WCPT Congress 2007

Call for Abstracts

The World of Physical Therapy will meet in Vancouver from 2-6 June 2007. The International Scientific Committee (ISC) now wishes to invite abstract submissions for platform and poster presentations.

Important dates:

- **1 January 2006** Instructions and on-line submission of abstracts will be available on the WCPT website www.wcpt.org.
- **15 September 2006** The closing date for the submission of abstracts.
- **31 January 2007** All applicants will be notified of the outcome.
- **31 October 2005 to 30 June 2006** A mentoring programme will run alongside the call for abstracts. Further details of this are available on the WCPT website.

Submission format

All submissions should be made electronically via the WCPT website www.wcpt.org/congress. However, WCPT acknowledges that there are some physical therapists without access to the internet or e-mail. In exceptional circumstances WCPT will help individuals find an alternative method of submission. Should this be necessary contact the WCPT office by **30 June 2006**.

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Congress Theme and Programme Tracks

The overall Congress theme for 2007 is Moving Physical Therapy Forward, this continues the theme used in 2003 and as promoted in the current strategic direction and policies of WCPT. It is seen as a unifying theme encompassing global change, challenges and opportunities for the profession of physical therapy and the governments, professionals and populations we work with. Where better to move physical therapy forward than at its prestigious international Congress!

Congress 2007 will be structured around 5 core programme tracks. These will be used to draw together different sessions that complement each other.

Track 1: Global Health

Congress provides an excellent opportunity to reflect on international health care policy and its implications for physical therapy and the population. With an ageing population and the ever increasing burden of disease and disability, physical therapists have a vital role to play in working with individuals and populations affected by the epidemics of modern society, such as HIV / AIDS, cancer and cardiovascular disease. In addition, the increasing focus on wellness and health promotion provide many opportunities for physical therapy. WCPT is working with governmental and non-governmental international agencies to address many of these issues. This programme track will take a look at issues related to global health from a population perspective.

Topics:

- Chronic Diseases:
 - Arthritis
 - Cancer
 - Cardiovascular disease
 - Diabetes
 - HIV / AIDS
 - Smoking related illnesses
- Disability
- Epidemiology & public health
- Interagency working
- International policy - cooperation & collaboration
- National health policies and systems
- Politics and economics
- Primary health care
- Victims of torture
- Wellness & health promotion

Track 2: Professional Issues

The profession of physical therapy is evolving all the time, learning from the past and looking to the future. The status and profile of physical therapy varies internationally as does the context within which physical therapists work. The way in which health care services are delivered is continually changing with new models developing and opportunities for physical therapists emerging, at the same time as putting patients at the centre of health care provision. And yet, in some countries physical therapists continue to face a struggle for autonomy, often working in difficult and hostile environments. However, wherever physical therapists practice they share common goals: putting patients first, providing high quality services, maintaining professional standards and the ability to adapt to change. This track focuses on the many issues that affect the context and scope of practice.

Topics:

- Access to physical therapy
 - Direct access / first contact practitioner status
 - Physical therapists as the primary carer
 - Private practice & reimbursement
- Autonomy
- Business management / administration
- Cultural diversity
- Emerging roles
- Ethics
- Health & safety
- Integrated working -inter and intra professional
- International Classification of Functioning (ICF)
- Leadership & advocacy
- Professional regulation
- Quality assurance
- Record keeping
- Scope of practice
- Service delivery / models of practice
- Standards of practice

Track 3: Professional Practice

This track will focus on the practice of physical therapy from referral through assessment, diagnosis, planning, intervention and evaluation. Encompassing health promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation throughout the lifespan and across different health care settings, this track emphasizes the clinical practice of physical therapists working with patients / client groups seen every day. Underpinning this clinical practice is the knowledge derived from the biological, physical, behavioural and clinical sciences. The latest research and innovation to inform practice are vital requirements in contributing to the development of the profession and evidence based practice. Congress provides an excellent opportunity to present and discuss the latest advances.

Topics:

- Cardiovascular / Pulmonary
- Care of older people
- Communication
- Complementary therapies
- Diagnosis / differential diagnosis
- Manual therapy
- Measurement in practice
- Musculoskeletal
- Neuromuscular
- Occupational health

- Electrophysical and isothermal modalities
- Equipment / orthotics / prosthetics
- Exercise
- Gender health
 - Women's health
 - Men's health
- Genetic advancements
- Paediatrics
- Pain management
- Physical therapist - patient / client interaction
- Prescribing
- Screening / assessment for referral
- Wellness & health promotion

Track 4: Education

Physical therapy education is a continuum of life long learning beginning with admission to an accredited physical therapy school and ending with retirement from active practice. It includes post-qualifying education and specialisation opportunities. How educational provision is organised, delivered and evaluated are important issues. In striving to meet the need to educate physical therapists for practice in a changing environment and in different practice contexts new models of education provision and delivery are continually evolving. This track will focus on ensuring that physical therapists are appropriately prepared and fit for practice and the roles they take on as their career paths progress.

Topics:

- Clinical education
- Clinical reasoning
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Curriculum development
- Education research
- Entry-level qualification
- Evidence-based teaching
- Interprofessional education
- Methods of teaching and learning
- Post-qualifying education
- Problem-based learning
- Reflective practice
- Specialisation

Track 5: Research and Development

The generation of evidence through research is essential to the development of evidence based practice. The methods used to generate, disseminate and implement this evidence require scrutiny and evaluation. Additionally, innovative ways to build research networks, define research agendas and to develop capacity and capability within the profession are critical to delivering the evidence required for practice and policy. The challenges for new researchers are well known and there is much to be learnt from sharing good practice and collaboration. This track will focus on the processes of research and development.

Topics:

- Clinical guidelines
- Collaboration / networks
- Evidence Based Practice (EBP)
- Implementation
- Outcome measures
- Research capacity & capability building
- Research methodology / statistics
- Research publication / dissemination
- Service evaluation

Categories of Presentation

Abstracts are requested for the following categories:

1. Research Reports

Research reports are presentations of original scientific data collected by the authors. Submissions with pending results will **not** be accepted. Any established research approach, research design or research method will be welcomed.

2. Special Interest Reports, including Professional Resource Materials

Special interest reports include presentations of new or unique programmes or theories and descriptions of innovative ways in which established methods have been adapted to meet the needs of physical therapy practice, management, education or policy. Reports concerned with

the organisation, regulation or management of physical therapy services, education, research development and service delivery will be considered in this category. Those wishing to present details of professional resource materials, such as computer-based programs, materials or audiovisual material should submit an abstract for a poster or platform presentation under the Special Interest Reports category

Presentation Format

Research reports, special interest reports and professional resource materials may be made in one of the following formats:

- **Platform Presentations**

A platform presentation is a 15 minute oral presentation of a paper to a seated audience followed by 5 minutes of question time, moderated by a chair.

- **Poster Presentations**

Posters are reports summarising information using brief written statements and graphic materials, such as graphs, charts, figures and photographs mounted on a poster board, the dimensions of which must not exceed the allocated space per poster of 110cm x 110cm (43in x 43in). Presenters will be assigned a specific time when they will be at their poster for discussion with delegates. Posters will be on display during Exhibition hours.

Interactive Poster Discussion Sessions

A limited number of structured interactive poster discussion sessions will be held during Congress. Each session is led by a chair with expertise in the topic or research methodology. Presenting authors have 5 minutes to discuss the key points arising from their work, using no more than 3 PowerPoint slides, highlighting the areas in which they would particularly welcome discussion with the chair and audience. After all presenters have given their brief presentations there will be an opportunity for delegates to move around the room and discuss the posters with the presenters. The chair will then reconvene the session inviting presenters to answer questions from the floor. This type of session is very valuable for drawing out the relationships between research endeavours discussing interesting findings or methodological challenges and for establishing research networks. The poster will also be available for viewing as part of the main programme and moved to the discussion room at the time of the presentation.

Delegates can indicate their interest in participating in these sessions at the time of abstract submission for poster presentation. If their posters are accepted it is not a guarantee that they will be invited to join a poster discussion session, as this will be at the invitation of the ISC based on programme planning.

Selection Criteria

The following selection criteria will be used to review both research and special interest report abstracts.

- Abstract written clearly and concisely
- Relevance to the conference theme
- Relevance to one or more of the programme tracks
- Title clearly describes the abstract
- A clear purpose is stated
- Context within current evidence base presented
- Method / approach applied appropriate to aims
- Evaluation / analysis and results appropriately applied and interpreted
- Strengths and weaknesses of work highlighted
- Relevance and implications to physical therapy clearly expressed
- Suggestions for further work made
- Of interest to an internationally diverse audience

Submission Guidelines

Each submission must be made electronically via the WCPT website. The submitting author must be the presenting author. Correspondence will be with the presenting author. The presenting author does not have to be the first named author listed on the abstract. The on-line submission form will provide restricted space for data entry to limit the word count. To assist you in preparing your submission an indication of the maximum word count for each section is provided.

Submissions should include the following:

- a) Title of abstract [maximum 20 words]
- b) Names and titles of presenter and co-authors
- c) Contact details of authors to include:
 - i. Full name, organisation / institution, city and country for all authors, as you would wish it to appear in the completed programme
 - ii. E-mail, work telephone, fax number, mailing address for presenting author
- d) Fit with Congress programme track(s) and topic areas [Completed via drop-down lists]
- e) The completed abstract [maximum 500 words]. Abstracts will be included in the Congress proceedings and must be structured using the following headings:

Category			
Research Reports		Special Interest Reports	
Heading	Notes	Heading	Notes
Title		Title	
Author(s)		Author(s)	
Purpose	What was the major reason for doing the study? Any secondary objectives?	Purpose	What was the major reason for developing the new or adapted programme / method / theory / resource? Any secondary objectives?
Relevance	How does this study relate to the physical therapy practice / management / education / policy and the evidence base?	Relevance	How does this study relate to the physical therapy practice / management / education / policy and the evidence base?
Participants	Describe the number and relevant characteristics of the participants and how they were selected.	Description	What methods, materials and principles did the project involve, and how have these been developed and used?
Methods	What methodological approach was used for the study and the methods used for data collection?	Evaluation	How has the programme been evaluated? What have been the responses to the programme method and theory when it has been put to use?
Analysis	Describe the type of qualitative / quantitative data analysis used to assist you in interpreting your data.	Conclusions	What can be concluded from the development and evaluation? What are the suggestions for future work?
Results	Briefly summarise the main findings derived from your analysis.	Implications	For physical therapy practice / management / education / policy.

Conclusions	What can be concluded from the analysis of your data? What are the suggestions for future work?	Keywords	Use up to 3 words to describe your work which are supplementary to the programme track and topic.
Implications	For physical therapy practice / management / education / policy.	Funding acknowledgements	Please acknowledge all funding sources that supported your work. If the work was unfunded please state this
Keywords	Use up to 3 words to describe your work which are supplementary to the programme track and topic.		
Funding acknowledgements	Please acknowledge all funding sources that supported your work. If the work was unfunded please state this		

- f) **Ethics approval:** In accordance with the advances in research governance we require evidence that ethics approval was given. Please name the ethics committee that approved your work, where appropriate. If ethics approval was not required, or if you do not have an ethics system in your country, please state this. [20 words]
- g) Brief biography of presenting author (for Platform Presentations and those interested in taking part in a Poster Discussion session **only**) [200 words]
- h) **Professional Resource Material**, including computer based programs, materials and audio visual resource presentations, should be submitted in the special interest category. There will be no display area provided for professional resource material and they must be presented as special interest posters or platform presentations.
- i) **Computer based programs:** Demonstrations of computer software including multimedia designed and used by the presenter(s) for any of the following purposes are welcomed:
- Research data analysis
 - Records
 - Management (e.g. billing, scheduling and generating reports)
 - Controlling therapeutic equipment (e.g. virtual reality)
 - Instructing patients, students or staff for educational testing
- Programs must be original designs, not simply modifications of programs developed by others. The presenter must have been a significant contributor in the development of the program. For Platform presentations presenters will be expected to bring a laptop computer with the software loaded and this will be connected to a projector for display on a large screen. Screen shots should be used in Poster displays
- j) **Materials:** Presenters wishing to discuss equipment, devices and graphic or printed matter should integrate images / photographs / diagrams of these into a PowerPoint presentation for Platform presentation or a Poster display. The following types of materials may be presented:
- Small pieces of equipment, such as therapeutic equipment, supportive and adapted devices and clinical measurement instruments.
 - Models, graphic material and booklets, used for students or patients.
 - Special forms, for recording patient information or management data.
- k) **Audio Visual Resource Presentations:** Audio Visual programmes must have been designed and produced by the presenter. A variety of possible formats include video tapes, motion pictures, synchronised slides, sound programmes and sets of slides or transparencies with accompanying instructions for their use. It is expected that the presenters should be able to integrate these into a PowerPoint presentation or use Windows media files for a Platform presentation or use screen shots in a Poster Display. The author(s) of the abstract must have been a significant contributor to the development of the presentation material. Both **instructional material**, for teaching patients, carers, students or clinical staff, and **public relations material**, for promoting public awareness and understanding of physical therapy are welcomed.

- l) It is expected that any resources or materials will have been designed / developed by the author(s) and **MUST NOT** currently be for sale commercially by the author(s) or another vendor.
- m) If a poster presentation was requested indication of interest in participating in a poster discussion session.
- n) Indication if an alternative category of presentation if offered would be acceptable e.g. if submitted for a research report a special interest report presentation would be acceptable.
- o) Indication if an alternative presentation format would be acceptable e.g. submitted for a platform presentation but offered a poster.
- p) Information concerning any presentations or publications of the work made prior to Congress [maximum 50 words]

Mentorship Process

WCPT has a mentoring programme in place from 31 **October 2005 to 30 June 2006** for those with limited or no experience of submitting an abstract for a WCPT or other Congress. The goal of the mentorship programme is to help the author present their material clearly and concisely. As abstracts must be submitted in English the programme may be most helpful for those whose first language is not English. Participants should prepare their abstract according to the submission guidelines and forward it to the Programme Coordinator (abstractmentoring@wcpt.org). If you do not have e-mail access, address your abstract to the Mentorship Programme Coordinator at the WCPT office. An appropriate Mentor will read the abstract and provide advice on ways that the clarity of expression could be enhanced. The feedback will be provided to the author in time for the author to make any changes and submit their abstract before the final submission of abstracts on **15 September 2006**. The mentorship programme closes at the end of June to allow time to meet this deadline. Once feedback has been received it is the author's responsibility to submit the abstract using the guidelines provided here.

It is important to note that the mentoring and review processes are entirely separate, and requesting mentoring assistance does not guarantee that an abstract will be accepted for presentation at the Congress.

General Information

When completing the on-line submission process you will be asked to confirm that you have read and understood the general information and the requirements you are expected to fulfil. This also a requirement for those submitting using WCPT as a proxy.

1. The Congress language is English and all abstracts and presentations must be made in English.
2. A written abstract must be submitted for each proposed presentation.
3. The abstract submission fee of CA\$50 per abstract must be paid. If an abstract is accepted CA\$35 of the fee will be put towards the presenter's registration fee. If an abstract is not accepted CA\$35 will either be refunded or put towards the submitting author's registration fee.
4. All abstracts must be written in English and must be prepared using the Congress abstract guidelines to be found in this document and on WCPT's website www.wcpt.org
5. All submissions should reflect at least one of the above five programme tracks.
6. Each prospective presenter may **submit** and **present** a maximum of **two** abstracts. They may be named on other abstracts as a co-author but only as presenting author on two. This excludes any submissions made and accepted as part of the call for focused symposia and workshops.
7. Only **one** presenting author per paper is permitted.
8. All presentations must describe original work to which all the authors listed have made a significant contribution. Any reference to personal experience should be clearly labelled as such.
9. All proposals and presentations must adhere to the use of "people-first" language. A person must not be referred to by disability or condition, and terms that could be considered biasing or discriminatory in any way should be removed (e.g. use "person with a stroke" instead of "stroke patients").

10. Any source of funding or support for the work being presented should be acknowledged.
11. All presentations including research on humans should ensure that reference is made to the methods / approaches for ensuring that the research was carried out ethically (i.e. ethics approval, subject consent).
12. Each abstract submission must indicate if the material has been or will be published or presented at another national or international meeting prior to the 2007 WCPT Congress.
13. Abstracts for previously published or presented work will be considered only if they are unlikely to have reached an International Physical Therapy audience and if the authors take responsibility for providing any copyright clearance needed for inclusion in the Congress proceedings or other Congress publications.
14. The author presenting the paper must register to attend the Congress and be available to participate in the programme at the time scheduled. Only an author may present the abstract. If no author is available the abstract will be withdrawn.
15. Any changes to the presenting author will need to be notified directly to WCPT. Changes will be incorporated into the final programme if there is sufficient time, but thereafter no further changes will be reflected in the programme.
16. The scheduling of all presentations will be determined by the International Scientific Committee to ensure best fit with the overall Congress programme. Any requests for specific dates and times can not be considered. Similar abstracts in related topic areas will be grouped together for platform presentation / poster display / interactive poster discussions.
17. All abstracts will be blinded and reviewed without knowledge of the identity of the author(s). The abstract submission fields ensure that the authors of an abstract cannot be identified during the review process. Abstracts will be peer reviewed using specific criteria developed for each of the research and special interest report categories.
18. Selection will be based on the abstracts' conformance to the stated criteria.
19. PowerPoint presentation will be available in all Congress rooms and will be the primary resource available for platform presentations.
20. Abstracts concerning professional resources will need to integrate material into a PowerPoint presentation for a platform presentation or a poster, as appropriate. Presenters will need to bring a laptop if appropriate for demonstrating a computer-based program during a platform presentation only.
21. Those who indicated an interest in participating in an Interactive Poster Discussion session will be notified at the same time as the general notification of outcome.
22. Some sessions may be translated. Resources permitting, English / French translation will be made available where possible.
23. Some sessions may be audiotaped.
24. Contributors SHOULD NOT use these sessions for marketing opportunities for new products, equipment or organisations, and not use the presentation time to refute or denigrate competitors' products.
25. Accepted abstracts will be published in the Congress proceedings.
26. **Presenting authors** only will receive a certificate of presentation.
27. All presentations during the Congress must include the same content and follow the same outline as that described in the submitted and accepted abstract. Exceptions will only be allowed with written permission of the Chair of the International Scientific Committee.
28. All decisions of the International Scientific Committee are **final**.
29. In keeping with WCPT policy, honorarium, fee or payment of expenses will not be provided for presentations.

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