

World Physical Therapy 2007 Call for Focused Symposia and Workshop Proposals

The World of Physical Therapy will meet in Vancouver from 2-6 June 2007. The International Scientific Committee (ISC) now wishes to invite proposals for Focused Symposia and Workshops.

Instructions and on-line submission of proposals will be available from **1 October 2005** via the WCPT website www.wcpt.org. The closing date for the submission of proposals is **31 January 2006**. All submissions must be electronic. All applicants will be notified of the outcome by **30 April 2006**.

The general call for abstracts for platform and poster presentation will be available from 1 January 2006 with a submission deadline of 15 September 2006. Information will be published on the WCPT website when available.

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 emphasises 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
- Electrophysical and isothermal modalities
- Equipment / orthotics / prosthetics
- Exercise
- Gender health
 - Women's health
 - Men's health
- Genetic advancements
- Manual therapy
- Measurement in practice

- Musculoskeletal
- Neuromuscular
- Occupational health
- 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. 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

Proposals are invited for

1. [Focused Symposia](#)
2. [Workshop Sessions](#)

All submissions should reflect at least one of the above five programme tracks. There are a limited number of openings available for these sessions as they complement other elements across the four day programme.

1. Focused Symposia

Each focused symposium is organised by a convenor who is a recognised expert / authority in the field. The convenor has the responsibility for inviting / leading a group of international researchers through a series of linked presentations.

The symposia are structured to include:

- An introduction by the convenor
- Up to three additional presenters
- A discussion period of presenters with the audience
- A summary by the convenor

In the summary at the end of the symposium, the convenor gives some insight into the implications and future directions for practice, research and education in the area. Each symposium will last 1.5 hours.

Each focused symposium will consist of a maximum of three 20 minute papers or four 15 minute papers (if the convenor also gives a substantive presentation). It is expected that the convenor ensures that papers in the symposium will be thematically linked, research focused and interesting to policy makers, academics and / or practitioners.

The symposium convenor should complete the “Convenor Submission” section on-line, where they will enter their abstract, session information and details of all contributors. The system will then send the symposium reference number to each contributor by email. Each contributor must then complete the “Contributor Submission” section online, where they will enter their abstract, and the symposium reference number.

Sample format for a Focused Symposium

08.30: Convenor: Introduction
08.45: Presenter 1: Topic X
09.00: Presenter 2: Topic Y
09.15: Presenter 3: Topic Z
09.30: Discussion with audience
09.50: Convenor summary and conclusions

Publications: WCPT is currently exploring with journals and publishers the options for producing a series of publications post Congress arising from these and other sessions, which will have the appropriate status to appeal to contributors and ensure the wider dissemination of the work. Further information will be made available as soon as it is accessible. It is expected that the nature of these publications will require that focused symposia presenters will each prepare a paper of 3000 - 4000 words (including references) to be accompanied by an introduction / editorial and summary by the convenor. Should it not prove possible to pursue this publication avenue with the publishers then the minimum requirement will be that all presentations will be available via the WCPT website post Congress.

Each focused symposium submission must be made electronically via the WCPT website. 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 available word count is provided.

Submissions should include the following:

1. Session summary:
 - a) Title of suggested symposium [10 words]
 - b) Names and titles of convenor and presenters
 - c) Contact Details of all contributors to include:
 - i. Full name, degree credentials, organisation / institution, city and country
 - ii. E-mail, work telephone, fax number, mailing address
 - d) Fit with Congress programme track(s) and topic areas [Completed via pick lists]
 - e) Relevance to WCPT and expected audience [75 words]
 - f) Target audience [25 words]
 - g) Summary of symposium objectives [100 words]
 - h) Participant level of learning (see general information) [Completed via pick list]
 - i) Summary of the delivery and format of the session and the agenda that will be followed [100 words]
 - j) Anticipated presentation room and audiovisual requirements - selected from a pick list
 - k) Number of abstracts submitted [restricted to maximum of 4]
 - l) The completed abstract for each presentation. These will be included in the Congress proceedings and should be structured using the following headings:
 - i. Title
 - ii. Author
 - iii. Learning objectives (up to 3)
 - iv. Summary
 - v. Implications / Conclusions
 - vi. Key words (up to 3)
 - vii. Funding acknowledgements
[Total 500 words excluding title, author, keywords and funding acknowledgement]
 - m) Abbreviated CV of the convenor. Please use the following headings drawing on experience relevant to this submission, as appropriate:
 - i. Name and Country of origin
 - ii. Academic Credentials
 - iii. Positions / Appointments
 - iv. Teaching / Presentations
 - v. Publications
 - vi. Research Information (interests, grants)
 - vii. Professional Practice
 - viii. Memberships / Honours
[Total 750 words]
 - n) Short CV for each of the speakers. Please use the following headings drawing on experience relevant to this submission, as appropriate:
 - i. Name and Country of origin
 - ii. Academic Credentials
 - iii. Positions / Appointments
 - iv. Teaching / Presentations
 - v. Publications
 - vi. Research Information (interests, grants)
 - vii. Professional Practice
 - viii. Memberships / Honours
[Total 300 words]
 - o) Information concerning any presentations or publications of the work made prior to Congress: where, when and content covered [50 words]

2. Workshops

Workshops will actively engage participants via a range of learning formats to explore issues in depth. Each workshop organiser has a responsibility for developing and running their programme, and inviting international speakers.

Each workshop should have specific learning outcomes and enable attendees to:

- Participate in intellectual and problem solving discussion with each other and the presenters; **and / or**
- Engage in hands on practice;
- Develop action plans for implementation back in the workplace

The workshops are likely to include at least one of the following formats:

- Technique/skills demonstrations:
 - Practice/opportunities for smaller groups
 - Facilitation for larger groups with the use of a live video link
- Lectures and facilitated interactive discussion groups
- Case studies – to include case presentation and discussion of issues
- Evidence in practice applied – clinical questions with practical advice and solutions on searching, interpreting and applying the evidence to clinical decision making

Attendance numbers will be restricted and managed through the registration process. There may be the possibility of running workshops more than once if programming permits. Since the Congress venue is not the same as a clinical teaching environment, careful consideration needs to be given to any equipment requirements and they should be kept to a **minimum**.

The duration of workshop sessions will be two hours.

Workshops should be planned for a two hour duration, but may comprise of a number of smaller components. Each workshop organiser is responsible for developing and running the programme, inviting international speakers (up to 6). Submissions on contemporary topics which reflect any aspect of the five programme tracks are invited.

The workshop organiser is responsible for submitting the final proposal and should therefore complete the on-line submission form on behalf of all the presenters together with the workshop abstract and presenters CVs.

Each workshop submission must be made electronically via the WCPT website. 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 available word count is provided.

Each submission should include the following:

1. Session summary:
 - a) Title of workshop [15 words]
 - b) Names and titles of organiser and contributors
 - c) Details of all contributors to include:
Full name, degree credentials, organisation / institution, city and country
 - d) Fit with Congress programme track(s) and topic areas [Completed via pick lists]
 - e) Relevance to WCPT and expected audience [75 words]
 - f) Target audience [25 words]
 - g) List of learning objectives / outcomes [100 words]
 - h) Participant level of learning (see general information) [Completed via pick list]
 - i) Maximum number of attendees
 - j) Programme of the workshop outlining which of the following components will be utilised throughout the session, e.g. technique, skills, demonstration, hands on practice, lectures, interactive discussions, case studies, evidence in practice applied. [200 words]
 - k) Abstract summarising the workshop including a statement re research / evidence based approach to the session. This will be included in the Congress proceedings and should be structured using the following headings:

- i. Title
 - ii. Author
 - iii. Learning objectives (up to 3)
 - iv. Summary
 - v. Implications / Conclusions
 - vi. Key words (up to 3)
 - vii. Funding acknowledgements
[Total 500 words excluding title, author, keywords and funding acknowledgement]
- Please note;** abstracts must be text only, ie they must not include any figures, tables, graphs, drawings or photographs
- l) Proposed action plans following the session – what do you expect delegates to go away and do? This is an optional field. [100 words]
 - m) Anticipated presentation room, equipment and audiovisual requirements - selected from a pick list
 - n) Abbreviated CV of the organiser. Please use the following headings, as appropriate, drawing on experience relevant to this submission:
 - i. Name and Country of origin
 - ii. Academic Credentials
 - iii. Positions / Appointments
 - iv. Teaching / Presentations
 - v. Publications
 - vi. Research Information (interests, grants)
 - vii. Professional Practice
 - viii. Memberships / Honours[Total 750 words]
 - o) Short CV for each of the workshop contributors. Please use the following headings, as appropriate, drawing on experience relevant to this submission:
 - i. Name and Country of origin
 - ii. Academic Credentials
 - iii. Positions / Appointments
 - iv. Teaching / Presentations
 - v. Publications
 - vi. Research Information (interests, grants)
 - vii. Professional Practice
 - viii. Memberships / Honours[Total 300 words]
 - p) Information concerning any presentations or publications of the work made prior to Congress [50 words]

Selection Criteria

The following selection criteria will be used to review all proposals. The Committee are seeking sessions that:

- Are relevant to the conference theme.
- Are relevant to one or more of the programme tracks.
- Articulate a clear purpose with defined outcomes for attendees.
- Are thought provoking.
- Demonstrate innovative yet practical approaches to practice, research, education and / or policy as they relate to the Congress theme.
- Strike a balance between appealing to “everyone” and appealing to a very specialised group of attendees.
- Incorporate current available evidence, implications for further research, and areas of controversy in the literature.
- Have the potential to stimulate active engagement of participants.
- Appeal to an internationally diverse audience.

In addition to the preceding selection criteria consideration will be given to symposia / workshops that support inclusion, as appropriate, of less experienced with established presenters and provide representations from a variety of geographical regions.

General Information

1. The Congress language is English and all proposals and presentations must be made in English. Resources permitting, French translation will be made available for key sessions.
2. Symposia / workshop organisers and all presenters are expected to register for at least the day of Congress that their session is programmed.
3. In keeping with WCPT's policy, honorarium, fee or payment of expenses will not be provided for convenors / organisers or contributors.
4. Proposals should address the current evidence, where it exists, the need for further research, and areas of controversy in the literature. Any reference to personal experience or hypotheses should be clearly labelled as such.
5. 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. "person with a stroke" instead of "stroke patients").
6. Any source of funding or support for the work being presented should be acknowledged.
7. Each proposal should indicate the targeted level of learning:
 - Introductory:* the proposal is designed to provide an introduction to the topic and raise awareness. It assumes that delegates have little or no knowledge of the areas to be covered.
 - Intermediate:* proposals should focus on increasing levels of understanding and application for delegates who have a general familiarity with the subject.
 - Advanced:* delegates are expected to have detailed knowledge of the topic and the focus is on advanced techniques, recent developments and future directions.
 - Multiple:* proposals should accommodate a range of abilities and levels of knowledge.
8. Focused Symposia: Submission of a proposal indicates agreement to make the presentations available post Congress and that each presenter will submit a prepared paper to comply with WCPT's plans for publishing it, should publication proceed along the lines outlined above. The convenor will be responsible for providing an introduction / editorial and summary.
9. Speakers are responsible for providing all copyright permissions.
10. The production and costs associated with any handout materials are the responsibility of focused symposium and workshop organisers. WCPT does not provide financial support, production or copying facilities for these.
11. PowerPoint presentation will be available in all Congress rooms and will be the primary resource available for presentations.
12. Presentation room layout, audiovisual and equipment requirements are being collected at this stage for information. WCPT cannot guarantee that all requests will be honoured as consideration needs to be given to feasibility and resource (physical and financial) requirements. WCPT will liaise with the convenors / organisers of accepted proposals concerning their requirements. The final decision rests with WCPT.
13. Sessions may be translated.
14. Sessions may be audiotaped.
15. Contributors SHOULD NOT use these sessions for marketing opportunities for new products, equipment or organisations, nor to use the presentation time to refute or denigrate competitors' products.
16. Proposals must indicate if the material has been or will be presented prior to WCPT Congress 2007 and provide details.
17. All presentations must cover the same content and follow the same outline as those described in the proposal.
18. Descriptions and objectives for each focused symposium and workshop will be published in the preliminary and final programmes, on WCPT's website and in other promotional material. As a general rule only a presenter's name and country will be used.

19. Congress programme placement will be determined by the International Scientific Committee to ensure best fit with the overall Congress programme. Any requests for specific dates and times cannot be guaranteed but will be considered if submitted at the time of proposal submission.
20. For those proposals accepted WCPT expects to see the minutes of a planning meeting or conference call between the organiser / convenor and presenters. This should be submitted by July 2006 as part of the Congress quality control procedures.
21. Any changes to an accepted focused symposium or workshop must be submitted to the International Scientific Committee for review and approval.
22. All decisions of the International Scientific Committee are **final**.
23. All proposal submissions must be completed online.

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.