

CALL FOR RESEARCH ABSTRACTS FOR THE 2012 ANNUAL MPTA CONFERENCE



The MPTA Institute for Education and Research, Inc. encourages you to share your research findings at the 2012 MPTA Fall Conference. Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, DPT Students, and PTA Students are invited to present their research findings with a poster or platform presentation at the 2012 MPTA Fall Conference. Research posters that have recently been presented at other conferences are welcomed. There is a \$75 award for the best poster in each of the following categories: 1) PT/PTA Research Report, 2) Student Research Report and 3) Case Report. The credential of the first author should designate whether the poster is student- or academician/clinician- driven. In addition to the poster presentations, nine platform presentations will take place.

Abstract Submission Instructions:

1. SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Monday, May 21, 2012

- **Submit electronic copies (only) of abstracts and cover letter to:** Dan Vaughn, PT, PhD via email at vaughnd@gvsu.edu.

2. PREPARING THE COVER LETTER

- **In your cover letter, please indicate under which of the following categories your abstract is being submitted:**

- ___ Student Research Report [i.e., a student, or student group, conducted the majority of the project and has earned the 1st author assignment]
- ___ Professional Research Report [the majority of the project was conducted by a PT or PTA who has earned 1st author assignment]
- ___ Case Report [conducted by a student, PT, or PTA]

- List the full names and titles of each author. Please include an address and telephone number where you can be reached during the summer months (May-August). Include also an email address where you can be reached.
- Specify whether this is a poster or platform submission and whether you are willing to accept assignment to either a poster or platform. Specifications of the poster will be emailed to you during the summer, if you are accepted for a poster presentation.
- If you have any questions regarding abstract format contact Dan Vaughn, PT, PhD, Research Committee by phone (616-331-2678) or email vaughnd@gvsu.edu.
- A sample abstract may be obtained by contacting Dr. Vaughn.

3. PREPARING THE ABSTRACT

- **In order to be considered for review, your abstract must meet all of the requirements listed below:**
 - All abstracts must be typewritten, single-spaced with one inch margins, a 12-point font (Times Roman)
 - Do not center the title
 - Limit the abstract to one page (8.5 x 11 inches). If graphs or charts are included with the abstract all must fit within the margins.
 - The content of the **Research Abstract** must follow the form and sequence outlined below (see Case Report Abstract format further below**):
 - **TITLE OF STUDY IN BOLD AND CAPITAL LETTERS.**
 - Author 1 (last name, initials), author 2, author 3, etc; Facility/University, City, State, leave a line as space. Underline the name of the one author who will present the poster. Do not include titles or degrees.
 - Immediately after the author name(s), place a semicolon, and then type in the name of the facility or university in which the work being reported was conducted, and the city and state where the facility or university is located. Leave one blank line between this identifying information and the text of your abstract.
 - **INTRODUCTION/CLINICAL RELEVANCE:** Introductory sentence(s) of why this research question is important for clinical practice followed by an explicit purpose or hypothesis statement. **METHODS:** Specify research design. Subjects: Describe the number and relevant characteristics of sample. Methods/Procedures: including instruments used in data collection. Statistical Analysis: statistical tests used and alpha level. **RESULTS:** Briefly summarize the results that relate to the purpose(s) of the study. **DISCUSSION:** Briefly discuss the results that relate to the purpose(s) of the study. **CONCLUSIONS:** Summarize important results and state the conclusions from your results indicating the clinical relevance of the findings. **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.**
- ****Case Report abstract format:**
 - **TITLE OF STUDY IN BOLD AND CAPITAL LETTERS.**
 - Author 1 (last name, initials), author 2, author 3, etc; Facility/University, City, State, leave a line as space. Underline the name of the one author who will present the poster. Do not include titles or degrees.
 - Immediately after the author name(s), place a semicolon, and then type in the name of the facility or university in which the work being reported was conducted, and the city and state where the facility or university is located. Leave one blank line between this identifying information and the text of your abstract.

- **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:** Introductory sentence(s) of why this research question is important for clinical practice followed by an explicit purpose. **CASE DESCRIPTION:** Brief patient history and systems review, examination, clinical impression, approach/intervention. **OUTCOMES. DISCUSSION. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.**

4. FINAL SUBMISSION

- All submissions will be taken electronically only. Submit your abstract and all identifying information (in MS Word). Also submit a blinded abstract without identifying information that will be used by the review committee. One original abstract with identifying information will be printed, as submitted, in the conference supplement. Please check spelling and grammar and make sure the original abstract is clear and legible.
- Please save your abstract as follows: Last name of first author, followed by the word “poster” or “platform” eg. Smith poster, or Jones platform.

You will be notified via e-mail by Wednesday, July 25, 2012 regarding your presentation and provided with further instructions for your presentation.