AORTIC 2021 OAREC VIRTUAL

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The African Organisation for Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) invites abstracts for its biennial International Conference on Cancer in Africa. The 2021 conference, **5-10 November**, will be convened under the theme "Cancer in Africa: Approaches, Collaborations, Impact" and the programme will offer numerous opportunities for research to be presented.

Due to the continuing pandemic-related travel restrictions and uncertainty over vaccination processes globally, AORTIC 2021 will be presented as a fully virtual conference. But everything you expect from the biennial AORTIC conference will still be present: the commitment to rigorously researched scientific content, high quality African and international perspectives, opportunities for emerging research to be presented on a prestigious platform, networking with colleagues to form collaborations, and updates on products and services that are essential to work in cancer in Africa. In fact, the virtual format will allow us to offer even more expertise and a wider range of perspectives as well as make the conference accessible to more African and international cancer and healthcare professionals from around the world.

This is an opportunity to share your research with African and international colleagues who are actively working toward reducing the impact of cancer in Africa. Abstracts of both empirical and theoretical studies related to cancer are welcome, and researchers at all career stages are encouraged to submit one or more abstracts. Abstracts will be peer reviewed and acceptance will be based on content relevance and overall programme balance.

ABSTRACT SPECIFICATIONS

- Abstracts may be submitted in English or French.
- Choose a topic that best categorises the work:
    - Advocacy
    - Basic science
    - Biobanking
    - Cancer genetics
    - Cancer registries
    - Cancer screening
    - Clinical trials
    - COVID-19 and cancer
    - Economics of cancer control
    - Haematology
    - Implementation science
    - National Cancer Control Plans
    - Oncology nursing
    - Paediatric oncology
    - Palliative care
    - Pathology
    - Psycho-oncology
    - Radiation oncology
    - Site-specific cancers
    - Surgical oncology
    - Tobacco control

- Abstract title should be typed in UPPER CASE. The title should define the subject and contain no abbreviations.
- The maximum word count for the body of the abstract is 300 words.
- In the body of the abstract, standard abbreviations need not be defined; other abbreviations and acronyms should be defined on first use.
- Abstracts should contain four sections:

  i) OBJECTIVE: introductory sentence indicating the objective and purpose of the study.

  ii) METHODS: description of experimental procedures, including applicable statistical evaluation.

  iii) RESULTS: summary of the data and results.

  iv) CONCLUSIONS: statement of the study's conclusions.
- Generic names for pharmaceuticals, biologicals, and medical devices should be used in place of trade names. Trade names should only be used if equivalent products from multiple manufacturers are being compared.
- Overly commercial abstracts will not be accepted.
- Do not include graphics, photographs, or tables.
- Abstracts may have one submitting author and up to five co-authors.
- The submitting author must be the presenting author. The submitting author's details must be entered first. All correspondence from the Programme Manager will be sent to the submitting author and the abstract will be listed under the submitting author's name in the conference programme and the digital abstract book.

PRESENTATION FORMAT

Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to give a five-minute oral presentation. Oral presentations will be pre-recorded by the author and distributed to viewers via the virtual platform. In addition, ten of the top-scoring abstracts will be placed in the live programme within the relevant topic, and one live session will be dedicated to the best of the best abstracts.

PRIZES

Two prestigious awards will be given to the top scoring abstracts: The Jim and Jimmie Holland Award for Most Promising African Research and The Christopher Williams Award for Innovation in Cancer Care in Africa.

IMPORTANT DATES

Call for Abstracts: 15 March 2021

Abstract submission deadline: 15 April 2021

Authors notified: Mid-June 2021

Registration deadline for successful authors: 30 June 2021

GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION ON SCORING CRITERIA

Abstracts should be relevant to healthcare and social issues specific to cancer control and care in Africa. Abstracts must adequately describe the research performed to allow reviewers to evaluate the quality, originality, and thoroughness of the work.

The Abstract Review Panel will score abstracts based on the following criteria, with each being equally weighted.

A) Groundbreaking: The abstract presents new information, innovative insights, work that is novel, and/or thought leadership in its subject or application.

B) Impact potential/interest: The abstract presents research that is a significant contribution to the field. The abstract stands out from others in its subject or application.

C) Quality: The abstract contains sound insights supported by world-class research and analysis. It is concise, coherent, well organised, and includes all the required sections (objective, methods, results, conclusions). The abstract indicates that the final presentation will be of an adequately high standard.

D) Significance/relevance: The work presented in the abstract is relevant to the AORTIC programme topics. The focus of the abstract and its relevance to the AORTIC conference audience is clear.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

1) Prepare your abstract to the above specifications.

2) Access the submission site via the abstract submission button below, or through the conference website.

3) Complete all compulsory fields and enter your abstract.

4) Carefully check your personal and contact details and your abstract. Abstracts will be published “as is” with no editing.

5) Check your email for confirmation of your submission.

6) To make changes, follow the instructions in your confirmation email. Changes may be made until 15 April 2021.

Please note that abstracts must be submitted via the abstract submission site; submissions via email will not be accepted.

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

QUESTIONS?

AORTIC 2021 Virtual Conference Programme Manager

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

AORTIC reserves the right to not accept any abstracts that do not meet the criteria and standards of the AORTIC 2021 Virtual Conference.

AORTIC reserves the right to publish all abstracts. Excerpts of the abstracts may be published for promotional purposes and abstracts will be published in a digital abstract book.

The acceptance of an abstract for the AORTIC 2021 Virtual Conference confers no promise of funds nor offer of financial assistance. Authors remain responsible for all registration fees.

Successful authors must register by 30 June 2021 or they will forfeit their opportunity to present their abstract.

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