



GUIDELINES FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

Important Dates and Deadlines:

- **July 13, 2026**—Session Proposal Submission Site Opens
- **September 14, 2026**—Group/Network Sponsorship Approval Deadline
- **September 21, 2026**—Group/Networks deadline to notify Organizers of sponsorship status
- **September 28, 2026, 11:59 p.m. PT**—Deadline to Submit a Session Proposal to ScholarOne Abstracts site
- **October 12, 2026**—Session Proposal Decision Notifications Emailed to Organizers
- **January 13, 2027**—Presenter Registration Deadline (All Accepted Session Proposal Speakers required to be registered)

To Submit Your Session Proposal:

Member and non-members who wish to submit a Session Proposal can login at this link:

<https://56am.abstractcentral.com/login> using your My IADR Portal login to be directed to the submission platform. If you do not have a My IADR Portal account, you will be required to create one to complete login through to the ScholarOne Abstracts platform.

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SESSION PROPOSAL SUBMISSION TYPE DESCRIPTIONS

Symposium: A cohesive session organized around a cutting-edge topic with about three to four speakers; typically, 90 minutes in length unless approved otherwise. Approval of Group/Network sponsorship is **required** from at least one IADR Scientific Group/Network. Symposium submissions exhibiting a cross-collaboration between more than one Scientific Group/Network will be prioritized higher if accepted into the scientific program. IADR encourages not only collaboration within Groups/Networks, but with the greater scientific community. Organizers are encouraged to include noteworthy speakers from outside a traditional IADR background.

Hands-on Workshop: A session organized with a “hands-on” application; typically, 90 minutes in length unless approved otherwise. Approval of Group/Network sponsorship is **required** from at least one IADR Scientific Group/Network. Hands-on Workshop submissions exhibiting a cross-collaboration between more than one Scientific Group/Network will be prioritized higher if accepted into the scientific program. IADR encourages not only collaboration within Groups/Networks, but with the greater scientific community and this should be reflected in the participants; organizers are encouraged to include noteworthy experts from outside a traditional IADR background.

Lunch & Learning Sessions: A 60-minute informal discussion led by a single expert on a topic of high interest over the designated time. Each Lunch & Learning session accommodates nine attendees at a single table. These sessions are directed at students, but all are welcome to purchase a ticket. Session organizers who are not the speaker and wish to attend must purchase a ticket. Approval of Group/Network sponsorship is **required** from at least one IADR Scientific Group/Network. Lunch & Learning Session submissions exhibiting a cross-collaboration between more than one Scientific Group/Network will be prioritized higher if accepted into the scientific program. IADR encourages not only collaboration within Groups/Networks, but with the greater scientific community.

Satellite Symposium: A cohesive session organized around a cutting-edge topic that will be scheduled before or after the 2027 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting official dates, March 17-20, 2027. Satellite symposia are limited to selection of one date/time to hold the session, in a single room with a standard session room set and A/V package, for 90 minutes in length. All accepted speakers, chairs, organizer/chairs, and attendees of satellite symposia are required to register to attend the 2027 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting if the satellite symposium is accepted.

SUBMITTING A SESSION PROPOSAL

Scientific Group/Network Sponsorship:

- To receive Scientific Group/Network sponsorship approval, the Organizer should contact the [IADR Scientific Group/Network Officers of the applicable Group\(s\)/Network\(s\)](#) for further instruction no later than **September 14, 2026**. Each Scientific Group/Network may have its own protocol on how proposals are approved.
- Organizers are encouraged to submit their requests to the appropriate Group/Network representative by no later than **September 14, 2026**, and include, if applicable, any other Scientific Group/Networks approached for co-sponsorship, and specify the primary sponsoring Scientific Group/Network.
- After Scientific Group/Network sponsorship is received, all submissions must be submitted by the Organizer to the online submission system to IADR no later than **September 28, 2026**.
- **New!** Organizers will be required to identify one Primary Scientific Group/Network Sponsor at the time of submission. Primary Scientific Group/Network Sponsorship will indicate financial support provided to the session proposal Organizer (speaker registration, travel, and hotel accommodations).
 - Co-sponsoring Scientific Group/Networks will indicate Group/Network acknowledgement that the science presented in session is of relevance to their members though they will not provide financial assistance. Organizers should be clear on which type of sponsorship they are requesting of the Scientific Group/Network when contacting the Group/Network Session Proposal Coordinator.

Scientific Group/Network Sponsorship Timeline:

- **September 14, 2026**—Deadline for Organizers to submit to Group/Network Sponsorship/co-sponsorship Approval
- **September 21, 2026**—Deadline for Group/Networks to notify Organizers of sponsorship status
- **September 28, 2026, 11:59 p.m. PT**—Deadline to Submit a Session Proposal to ScholarOne Abstracts site

Session proposals must be submitted by the Organizer through the online system no later than September 28, 2026, 11:59 p.m. PT in order to be considered for inclusion in the program by the Annual Session Committee.

SUBMISSION COMPONENTS

1. **Proposal Title:** Titles are limited to 10 words or less and should be dynamic and conclusive, rather than descriptive. Titles should be entered in title case format (AP Style). In general, you should capitalize the first letter of each word unless it is a preposition or article. The names of organisms should be written in *Italics* (e.g. *streptococci* or *candida*).
2. **Proposal Description:** 250 words or less for Symposia and 50 words or less for Lunch & Learning Session proposals. Include corporate sponsorship information if applicable. Descriptions must include why the symposium is relevant for the 2027 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting and specifically highlight the new research to be presented if accepted.
3. **Sponsoring Scientific Group(s)/Network(s):** You must select one Primary Sponsoring [IADR Scientific Group/Network](#). There will be space to add additional sponsoring Scientific Group/Networks in the submission system. If your proposal was sponsored by more than three Groups/Networks, please

enter this information in the field provided for “Other.” To assist Annual Session Committee review, Organizers will be requested to provide the order in which the co-sponsoring Group/Networks should be prioritized in review materials during the submission process.

4. **Educator/Clinician Tracks:** AADOCR will ask if your research fits well into one of the tracks created by the Annual Session Committee (ASC). Selecting the **Educator track** indicates content would be of most interest to educators. Selecting the **Clinician track** indicates content would be of most interest to clinicians.
5. **Learning Objectives:** You will be asked to enter 1-3 brief learning objectives that will be listed with your description (if accepted). The objectives should identify the expected learner outcomes. As provided by the American Dental Association in conjunction with the ADA CERP program, learning objectives may include, but are not limited to, the following categories:
 - a. Changes in the attitude and approach of the learner to the solution of dental problems; corrections of outdated knowledge;
 - b. Provision of new knowledge in specific areas;
 - c. Introduction to and/or mastery of specific skills and techniques; and
 - d. Alteration in the habits of the learner; accurate educational objectives succinctly describe the education that will result from attending the course.
6. **Participants:** In Step 2 of the online submission process, the session proposal submitter will be asked to enter session proposal organizers and chairs. Symposia require at least one Corresponding Organizer and one Chairperson. Lunch & Learning Sessions require one Corresponding Organizer.
 - a. **Corresponding Organizer:** The corresponding organizer is the designated point of contact for the AADOCR Global Headquarters staff. This individual will be copied on requests for authorization forms and other required materials for recorded components. If a Corresponding Organizer is not designated at the time of submission, it is assumed the individual submitting the session proposal will take on this role. This person may also be an Organizer, Organizer/Chair, or Chair.
 - b. **Organizer:** An Organizer is an individual who has participated in the creation of the session proposal.
 - c. **Chair:** A Chair is an individual who will be in attendance to moderate the session proposal if accepted into the scientific program.
 - d. **Organizer/Chair:** An individual who has participated in the creation of the session proposal and will be in attendance to moderate the session proposal if accepted into the scientific program.
7. **Speakers:** In Step 3 of the online submission process, the session proposal submitter will be asked to add in the speakers. Speakers should have been extended a tentative invitation by the Organizers prior to their listing in the system as a potential speaker.

Each speaker is allowed to present at ONLY ONE Symposium/Hands-on Workshop and give only one presentation based on an abstract submitted for oral or poster presentation. The Annual Session Committee will take into consideration individuals that are outside of the AADOCR’s dental, oral, and craniofacial membership.

8. **Speaker Justification:** Organizers will be asked to provide a maximum of 5-6 paper citations relevant to the proposed topic and summarize why the citation listing qualifies the speakers. Organizers may also provide a brief biosketch representing the speaker’s significant expertise or experience in the topic area. Long lists of citations without context related to significance of the list should not be submitted. Maximum character limit: 4000 characters, including spaces.

- 9. Keywords:** All session proposal submissions will require entry of three to five keywords. Keywords should be selected from Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) to be used for indexing of articles. See: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html> for information on the selection of key words.
- 10. Recorded Components of the Meeting:** The 2027 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting will be an in-person meeting. All symposia accepted into the scientific program are required to be recorded and made available for a minimum of 90 days after the scheduled presentation for registered attendees of the 2027 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting to access the IADR On Demand Library. Organizers should confirm with all tentatively invited speakers, chairs, and other organizers their participation in the recorded components of the meeting as it is required to confirm your agreement to the Guidelines for Session Proposals at the time of submission.
- If all participants agree, please note that the Corresponding Organizer will be required to coordinate with speakers to complete the applicable authorization forms and complete all online tasks related to the assigned virtual component to include but not limited to providing multiple choice questions/answers for their presentation.
- 11. Miscellaneous:** You should include any special requests in the Special Scheduling field. For example, if you wish to request more than the standard allotment of 90 minutes for a symposium, please make a note for the ASC to consider additional time. Requests made after submission closes will not be considered.
- In the Comments section, outline the individual speaker timings within the symposium should your proposal be accepted in the General Session. If a specific outline of individual speaker timings is not included AADOCR GHQ will assume for Symposia with 3 speakers, each speaker will be provided 25 minutes with 15 minutes for discussion; for Symposia with 4 speakers, each speaker will be provided 20 minutes with 10 minutes for discussion. If there is going to be a Chair introduction or an introduction from one of the Organizers, it must be indicated at the time of submission in the Comments section as well.

CRITERIA USED TO SELECT PROPOSALS

Annual Meeting symposia are popular events in the meeting schedule that should present cutting edge science around a theme that provides added value to the scientific program and would be unlikely to emerge as an oral session. The Annual Session Committee (ASC) will select symposium proposals based on the following principal guidelines:

- 1) Scientific Merit. Evaluation criteria include but are not limited to; a) proposal organization, b) topic significance, c) clarity of objectives, d) multidisciplinary approach of the topic.
- 2) Impact of Presenters. Organizers should propose the best possible participants for their event, based on scientific relevance and track record. It is encouraged, where appropriate, to include a speaker(s) from outside the dental, oral, and craniofacial arena with specific expertise who is not an IADR member.
- 3) Diversity and geographic distribution of speakers is expected in every proposal. Specifically, speakers should reflect the diversity of IADR membership and be inclusive of gender, sexual orientation, ability, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or religion. Only under exceptional circumstances inclusion of speakers from the same institution be justified.
- 4) Demonstrate cross-collaboration with required sponsorship of two or more Scientific Group/Network (SGN).

Scientific Groups/Networks are expected to involve their members in selecting topics and speakers of relevance to their Scientific Group/Network, or more broadly across the organization's membership. The ASC will also consider the number of submissions from any one Scientific Group/Network as the Primary Sponsor to provide an equitable distribution of symposia across the various Scientific Groups/Networks.

IMPORTANT: PRESENTER REGISTRATION AND SPEAKER FUNDING

All participants of accepted proposals are required to register for the meeting by the presenter registration deadline of January 13, 2027. It is the responsibility of the Proposal Organizers to arrange to cover the meeting registration and travel for speakers that require it. The Primary Scientific Group/Network Sponsor is financially responsible for providing registration, housing, and travel funds if required. The Member registration rate will be extended to true non-member Symposia presenters.

A waiver of registration can be requested for non-members only presenting at one symposium and truly outside the traditional oral, dental, and craniofacial research fields, i.e. not located in a dental institution and not a recipient of an oral, dental, and craniofacial grant from either public or private sources, if the sponsoring Scientific Group/Network has a balance of less than \$7,500. A waiver must be requested at the time of submission, and this will be decided by the ASC in the review process. If any of your speakers meet the waiver criteria, please enter their names on your proposal form. **Requests made after submission has closed will not be considered.**

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. The Annual Session Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any Session Proposal.
2. IADR will not accept tobacco company funded research as outlined in the [IADR and AADOCR Policy Statement on Tobacco Funded Research](#).
3. Scientific Groups/Networks may submit more than one proposal. However, they should keep in mind that proposals should be high quality, include topics considered to be the cutting-edge of science and endorsed by the Scientific Group/Network Proposal Organizer. **Remember, there are only a limited number of positions for session proposals open in the program.** When more than one proposal covering related topics is submitted, Group/Networks are encouraged to communicate with the Organizers and suggest merging of overlapping proposals.
4. The total number of proposals will be limited (number to be determined by the ASC). The proposals accepted into the 2027 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting will be scheduled throughout the meeting; Wednesday, March 17, through Saturday, March 20, 2027.
5. Each proposal must have a Corresponding Organizer who will be the contact person for the IADR Meetings Department. **All communications will be sent via email to the Corresponding Organizer.** The Organizer will be responsible for communicating with all other proposal participants.
6. It is required that at least one Scientific Group/Network sponsors a proposal although it is recommended that at least two Groups/Networks sponsor each proposal. Symposia demonstrating a cross-collaboration between more than one Group/Network will be prioritized higher if accepted into the scientific program. **The Organizer must obtain permission from his/her own Group/Network and the co-sponsoring Group(s)/Network(s) prior to submitting the proposal no later than September 14, 2026.**

7. Selection of potential speakers and time allotted:
 - a. Each speaker is allowed **to present at ONLY ONE Symposium or Hands-on Workshop** and give only one presentation based on an abstract submitted for oral or poster presentation per scientific program.
 - b. Each speaker should tentatively agree to speak in the session if the proposal is accepted.
 - c. Symposia, Hands-on Workshops, and Satellite Symposia will be allotted 90 minutes. If additional time is needed, please make a request in the online submission form in the Comments section. Requests will be evaluated by ASC.
 - d. Plan no more than four speakers.
 - e. It is suggested that ample time be allowed for discussion. Even if a general discussion period is planned at the end of a session, a ten-minute discussion period (minimum) should follow each speaker's presentation. Speakers will be held to the schedule as programmed.
8. Symposia, Hands-on Workshop, Satellite Symposia and Lunch & Learning speakers do not need to submit a separate abstract for their talks in the symposia.
9. The Organizer must appoint one Chairperson (usually one of the Organizers) and a Co-chairperson to run the session.
10. No presentation is to be a repeat of an oral or poster presentation.
11. All required questions must be completed through the online ScholarOne Abstracts submission platform. When prompted the Organizers must submit all speakers' names, email addresses, and tentative titles of their talks. Each speaker will be entered separately on the online form. Individual abstracts from each symposium speaker are not collected.
12. Selling and/or promoting products as part of a session proposal program is prohibited at the AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting. Session proposals will not be accepted if viewed as being too commercial.

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP SPECIFIC ITEMS

1. During submission, Organizers must inform the IADR Global Headquarters of the attendance limit if one is needed. If accepted, delegates must sign up for Workshops with limited attendance on the meeting registration form and will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.
2. The program must include some "hands-on" experience as to distinguish between a Hands-on Workshop and a Symposium. The program should not be limited to just a lecture from select speakers but should include audience participation/interaction.
3. After the presenter registration deadline, if requested, the list of registrants and their email addresses will be sent to the Organizer in case he/she wishes to send registrants any materials in advance. This is only if the Hands-on Workshop has limited attendance and registration is required.

SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM SPECIFIC ITEMS

1. Satellite symposia are limited to selection of one date/time to hold the session, in a single room with a standard session A/V package as defined by the AADOCR.
2. Satellite symposia organizers will be required to request any additional time beyond 90 minutes in the Comments section if necessary.

3. All accepted speakers, chairs, organizer/chairs, and attendees are required to register to attend the 2027 AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting, by paying the applicable fees by the presenter deadline.

LUNCH & LEARNING SESSION SPECIFIC ITEMS

Topics must be of a high level of interest. The ASC encourages Organizers to submit numerous proposals covering a wide range of topics from each Group/Network. The Lunch & Learning Sessions will likely be scheduled for approximately 60 minutes on Thursday, March 26, and/or on Friday, March 27, 2026, if necessary.

1. A brief description (50 words or less for publication in the online Scientific Program) along with the name/address of the speaker must be entered through the online Lunch & Learning Sessions proposal submission form by the deadline date.
2. When completing the online submission, there should only be one speaker per topic. Lunch & Learning Session Speakers must be sufficiently prepared to involve participants in the topic.
3. This program is directed at students, and delegates must register to attend and are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Nine tickets are available for purchase for each Lunch & Learning table.
4. Lunch & Learning sessions **cannot** accommodate presentation slides or audiovisual equipment.
5. After the presenter registration deadline, if requested, the list of registrants and their email addresses will be sent to the speakers in case they wish to send registrants any materials in advance.
6. Lunch & Learning Session speakers do not need to purchase a ticket for their own Lunch & Learning Sessions but they do need to register for the meeting at the applicable rate. **If the Organizer, Organizer/Chair, Chair or Submitting Corresponding Organizer of the Lunch & Learning Session would like to attend the session, they will be required to purchase a ticket.**

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTED PROPOSALS

1. Once the proposal is provisionally accepted by the ASC, notification of acceptance and materials will be sent to the Corresponding Organizer who must then distribute those materials to the speakers.
2. **All participants, including speakers, chairs, moderators, and organizers attending in-person are required to register for the meeting and pay the applicable fee by the presenter registration deadline of January 13, 2027.**
3. There are not online or hybrid presentations or attendance options available
4. A description from the Organizer only must be submitted for publication in the online Scientific Program. The description should be 250 words or less. Include corporate or commercial sponsorship if applicable. The description provided in the proposal will be used unless the Organizer wishes to make minor changes to the content. Individual abstracts from each symposium speaker are not collected.
5. IADR does not produce printed handouts for distribution, but the Organizer can provide them. The Organizer would be responsible for production and distribution.
6. The Corresponding Organizer must also confirm that each speaker in the program has agreed to the [IADR Policy on Full Disclosure](#), [Abstracts Licensing Policy](#), [IADR Corporate Sponsorship Policy](#) and the [Symposia Financial Sponsorship Policy](#).

ADA CONTINUING EDUCATION RECOGNITION PROGRAM (CERP)

The International Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research is an American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) recognized provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition at CCEPR.ada.org.

Delegates are eligible to receive continuing education credits by attending the scientific sessions throughout the meeting. One hour of program time is equivalent to one credit hour. Delegates are responsible for completing the forms accurately and keeping them for auditing purposes. (Do NOT return the forms to IADR.) For information on the ADA CERP program, please contact Director of Membership and Publications, Kourtney Skinner at kskinner@iadr.org.

IADR will announce the maximum number of continuing education credits available for this meeting when the scientific program is released (mid-February 2027)

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