



## **10<sup>th</sup> SA AIDS CONFERENCE ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

### **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

You are invited to submit an abstract for consideration by the Scientific Programme Committee for participation at the 10<sup>th</sup> SA Aids Conference Programme. The conference is scheduled to place at the Durban International Convention Centre from **08 - 11 June 2020**. The theme of the conference is ***“Ending AIDS & Global Pandemics”*** Abstracts will be reviewed according to the following tracks:

#### **Track 1: Basic and Clinical Science**

This track focuses on issues related to the prevention, treatment and eradication of HIV and other agents of global pandemics, including SARS-CoV2. Specifically, the track covers advances in various aspects of host genetics, virology (e.g. molecular epidemiology, pathogenesis, diversity), and immunology (e.g. humoral and cellular, innate and adaptive responses, mucosal immunology, immune reconstitution) that are relevant to understanding viral infection, persistence and pathogenesis. The track explores advances in biomedical strategies to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure infections, with a particular interest in mechanisms of action, the potential for drug resistance, and biological means of undermining drug efficacy. The track also focuses on the convergence of global pandemics in South

#### **Track 2: Epidemiology, Mathematical modelling & Surveillance of HIV and related comorbidities**

It covers the latest strategic information, research, debates, dialogues and projections on the epidemiology of HIV and related comorbidities. Surveillance on HIV hotspots and reaching epidemic control will be highlighted. Technological advances in mathematical modelling critical for accurately determining effective interventions that can reduce HIV transmission and incidence, and optimising delivery of HIV care will be included. Further, the track will forecast the healthcare needs and interventions for those living with or affected by HIV. The track will also cover the impact of COVID-19 related health care activities and service disruptions on HIV outcomes as well as the link between TB and other HIV-related comorbidities, HIV treatment and prevention. The track will review innovative models that can improve HIV-related health outcomes especially for vulnerable groups in high-burden contexts

#### **Track 3: Implementation Science and Best Practices**

- Scaling interventions, supporting health systems etc.
- Clinicians bring live cases of best practices for discussion
- What has been implemented, what worked/didn't work



#### **Track 4: Community and Civil Society engagement**

#### **Track 5: Policy and Society**

This track explores the social, political, economic and health systems factors that act as barriers or facilitators to an individual's or community's response to the AIDS epidemic. This may include research on how these issues have been influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic or by the response to it. The track assesses models and efforts to provide appropriate, affordable, and acceptable health care for HIV. It additionally explores cross-sectional responses to HIV and other societal and structural factors such as poverty, alcohol and drug use, and violence of men against women, with a focus on interventions that work

**Abstracts can only be submitted electronically through the SA AIDS Conference website. Abstracts submitted to the conference secretariat directly through any other means will not be accepted for review. Please draft your abstract according to the headings listed below in no more than 300 words in total. You may draft your abstract in text format only using a word processing software i.e. MS Word and then copy and paste the text in the abstract submission box. Note that no graphic images, tables, graphs or columns should be submitted with your abstract.**

**Deadline for abstract: 23 February 2021**

---

#### **Guidelines for abstract submissions**

The on-line abstract submission system is user friendly. You will be guided through the submission procedure. Please follow the instructions as shown on the webpage. The submitted abstract should contain the following information:

1. Background and Objectives
2. Method
3. Results
4. Conclusion

#### **Abstract Submission Information**

TIP: Draft your abstract in text format in MS Word or a similar program according to the fields described in Step 3 below. Please only use Arial plain font in 10 point. Save it as a document once you are sure the content is ready for submission as an abstract. Copy and paste the text from this document into the field provided under Step 2 of the submission process.



### **Step 1: Abstract Details**

You will be required to complete the following fields:

- Track
- Submission type
- Was the same or similar talk given in SA or abroad
- Declaration of conflict of interest
- Association with trade firm, stock, consultant etc.
- Abstract title
- Authors
- Author's Mobile Number
- Author's Work Number
- Short bio of author
- E-mail address for nominated author (for reader queries and correspondence)

Abstract Text as per the guidelines below

### **Step 2: Submission of Abstract Content**

**Abstracts that report research findings should contain the following concise statements:**

Background: The description of the problem or the hypothesis, the study objectives  
Methods: Study methods used, or approaches taken  
Results: Specific results in summarized form  
Conclusions: Statement about the main outcomes.

**Abstracts for reporting on strategies / projects should contain the following concise statements:**

Background: Short statement summarizing the issue(s) addressed by the abstract  
Methods: A brief description of the project, experience, program, or research  
Results: A brief description of the results or lessons learned  
Conclusions: A brief statement of next steps / recommendation



*The following fields will need to be completed under their respective headings:*

- Abstract Information
- Abstract Title
  - Has the material presented in this abstract been published previously?
  - Preferred presentation: (poster or oral presentation)
  - Preferred track
- Project Scalability: To scale the described project/activity described to a district /regional/national level, what are the requirements? (new or amended policies, operations, human resources, and financial implications)
- Combined text in these fields should not exceed 300 words.
- Abstracts can only be submitted in text format – no images or graphs should be included.

**Step 3: Verification of information provided in steps 1 – 2.**

All the details that have been provided in the abstract submission process will be presented for verification.