Society of Refugee Healthcare Providers

Tips for 2020 NARHC Abstract Submissions

We were pleased to receive over 500 abstracts for the 2018 North American Refugee Health Conference! Here are some tips to improve your chances of being selected:

For all abstracts:
1. Don't submit incomplete work.
2. Adhere to the word count (250 words).
3. Spell out acronyms.
4. Don't write in the future tense and don't include references.
5. Program/best practice recommendations should include a rigorous outcomes assessment.
6. Only submit case studies (or anecdotal work) if they are particularly unique or novel. If selected, these will most likely be assigned as a poster presentation.
7. Literature reviews should be accompanied by a theoretical model and critical analysis.
8. Ensure that your abstract is well-written and free of typos and grammatical errors.
9. Specify the relevance of your work to refugee health and the conference.
10. Abstracts should include new/innovative data on emerging trends in refugee health.

For scientific abstracts (oral and poster presentations):
1. If you presented at past NARHCs, please make sure that your latest abstract offers new insights or updated information. We welcome repeat presenters but want to offer attendees new information that they haven't seen in previous years.
2. Follow the traditional format of Background, Methods, Results and Conclusion.
    a. Background: what is known about your topic and what is not known, and what the study or program intended to study/do (indicating how it was new/innovative). Keep this brief, just one or two sentences.
    b. Methods: what your study/program did and how (e.g., research design; objectives; study/program duration; how participants were sampled).
    c. Results: as detailed as possible; include sample size and measurement of outcomes. Quantitative studies should include actual numeric results and statistics, e.g. odds ratios or P values.
    d. Conclusion: what you want people to take away from this study/program, and the importance of these findings for refugee health.
3. Well-designed studies with scientific questions, hypotheses, and larger sample sizes are more competitive than purely descriptive studies that do not test hypotheses and those with small sample sizes.
4. These abstracts are intended to provide an overview and results of a single study or program. Only abstracts with final results are eligible for submission. Abstracts with preliminary results, or for early/conceptual projects, are unlikely to be selected.
5. Case presentations will not be selected for oral abstracts.

For workshops and panel discussions:
1. These sessions are meant to provide in-depth coverage of a topic. Ensure that your abstract merits an hour-long session versus the 15 minutes for an oral presentation.
2. Your abstract should include a review of multiple studies and literature or give a detailed overview of the topic. Presenters are expected to present currently accepted guidelines and/or suggested guidelines based on evidenced-based findings.

3. Workshops focusing on a single study or program will be less competitive. Workshops should not be used to promote a particular clinical or community program as a best practice without rigorous outcomes evaluation to support that assertion.

4. Workshops and panel discussions should be interactive, engage with the audience and impart practical knowledge/skills relevant to NARHC attendees. Abstracts that include significant participant engagement are more likely to be selected.

5. Abstracts should follow this format: a maximum of 250 words plus 3 keywords. The subheadings should be:

    a. Background/Rationale – describe the rationale for the workshop, drawing upon theory and/or evidence as applicable.

    b. Content – describe the workshop objectives and 2-3 key points you will be making.

    c. Instructional methods – briefly describe the instructional methods to be used during the workshop.

We look forward to reading your abstract! Submit your abstract by March 1st, 2020 through https://www.openconf.org/2020NARHC/openconf.php.