

## **AFHTO 2013 Conference: Concurrent Session and Poster Submission Guidelines**

Thank you for your interest in submitting an abstract for a concurrent session or poster to present at the [AFHTO 2013 Conference](#) taking place October 22-23 in Toronto.

Conference planning committees are looking for concurrent session and poster submissions that:

- Reflect the conference theme ([see next page](#))
- Are useful and/or relevant to Family Health Teams
- Present innovative ideas
- Are backed up by evidence of impact (e.g. outcome measures, evaluation results, research findings)
- Demonstrate clarity of learning objectives and presentation format

**Concurrent Session Format:** Either 45 minutes or 1 hour and 30 minutes long.

**Poster Format:** Maximum size for posters is 46" (vertical) x 70" (horizontal)

**Due date for all concurrent session and poster abstracts is May 13, 2013 at 9:00 AM**

To submit a survey, go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8DPYTHM>

### **Submission Process**

Fill out the [online form](#) to submit an abstract for a presentation or poster. You will be asked:

1. In 100 words or less, describe the Learning Objectives
2. In 100 words or less, describe the Evidence / Results from your initiative
3. In 250 words or less, provide a brief summary/abstract of the presentation

### **Terms and Conditions:**

- All presenters must register and pay the applicable [conference fee](#). For each approved concurrent session, up to 2 presenters will be granted a \$50 discount off the conference registration fee. (Discount does not apply for poster presentations.)
- In order to submit you must fill out all the required fields in the form.
- All submissions will be reviewed by the applicable concurrent session planning committee. If accepted, abstracts and presenter name and affiliation will be published in the conference program.

### **Timeline:**

- Deadline for submission: **May 13, 2013 at 9:00AM (EST)**
- Notification of acceptance: **June 14, 2013**
- Conference registration opens: **late June, 2013**
- AFHTO 2013 Conference: **October 22 & 23, 2013**

If you have any questions, please contact Sal Abdolzahraei by e-mail ([info@afhto.ca](mailto:info@afhto.ca)) or by phone (647-234-8605).

**AFHTO 2013 conference:**  
*Leadership in Healthcare for Ontarians*

**Guidelines regarding presentation THEMES**

Concurrent session and poster presentations will be grouped under the following eight themes:

1. [Leadership and Governance for Quality](#)
2. [Using data to improve care](#)
3. [Improving outcomes for “the 5%”](#)
4. [Integration: building the team beyond the FHT](#)
5. [Advances in health promotion and chronic disease management](#)
6. [Improving care for seniors](#)
7. [Innovation in interprofessional collaborative team implementations](#)
8. [Meaningful use of EMRs](#)

### **1. Leadership and Governance for Quality**

The primary care sector is at the centre of transformational change in Ontario. FHTs are faced with an increased need to be accountable to patients and the ministry for providing excellent quality care to their communities. Presentations in this category will focus on how FHT leaders are developing the skills, structures, processes, relationships and culture to govern effectively and advance quality in all its dimensions. This includes the board’s role in developing, implementing and monitoring quality improvement plans and overall performance.

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- Strengthening the leadership triad of Chair, ED and Medical Director in the FHTs.
- Knowledge sharing for FHT boards (ie. role descriptions, skill development and toolkits).
- Governance for Quality and Inter-agency work: monitoring quality when several partners are involved in a program.
- Case study of a “high functioning board”: How do you know that your board is functioning well? How to assess board functioning? What are the elements needed to support the functioning of a sound organization?

### **2. Using data to improve care**

Quality improvement is built upon on-going performance measurement. This has been recognized by Ontario’s Ministry of Health with the initiative to develop a Primary Care Performance Measurement Framework, the implementation of Quality Improvement Decision Support Specialist positions in a number of FHTs, and the performance measurement requirements associated with Quality Improvement Plans and Health Links. Presentations in this stream will focus on innovative methods to effectively and efficiently use data to improve care, and what is happening in Ontario that will affect FHTs as they work to monitor and improve care.

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- How data is extracted and presented
- Coding data practice and standardization
- What results has your FHT achieved from your use of data to improve care?

### **3. Improving outcomes for “the 5%”**

With the introduction of “Health Links” Ontario is focusing on improving care for those who use the greatest amount of health care services. The business case is clear – a 10% reduction in the costs of the 5% highest users would save about \$2 billion per year. Primary care providers are essential to this equation, whether it’s taking more responsibility for keeping people well, screening them appropriately for chronic diseases, and coordinating and managing their care when they are sick. FHTs are uniquely positioned to play a key leadership role in Health Link development – and are doing so. Presentations in this stream will focus on the strategies, partnerships and resources developed and/or required to give this patient population the care they need to reduce health system costs.

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- Updates on Health Link development from FHT and non-FHT led Health Links.
- Engaging FHT and non-FHT physicians in initiatives.
- Including patients and community members in planning Health Link initiatives.

### **4. Integration: building the team beyond the FHT**

While Health Links are focused on high users of health services, all Ontarians stand to benefit – as patients and citizens – from greater collaboration among healthcare providers, other agencies, community stakeholders and governments. Presentations in this stream will focus on building collaborative relationships and working with community partners towards providing the right care, at the right time, in the right place. This includes improving the patient’s experience during their journey through the health care system, and identifying and addressing gaps in the quality of care and service delivery for individuals with complex chronic illnesses and other needs that compromise health.

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- Successful partnerships with agencies in your community.
- Community engagement and grass root initiatives.
- Examples of successful integration with key stakeholders (ie. Public Health, CCACs, etc.)

### **5. Advances in Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Management**

Family Health Teams have been focused on health promotion, disease prevention and chronic disease management since the first teams were announced in 2005. What advances have we made? What is the new knowledge that’s emerging? What is the evidence for what works to keep people as healthy as they can be?

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- Developing capacity for health promotion through partnerships.
- Secondary prevention - the health economics of successful programs.
- Diabetes Education Programs - updates and strategies for the future.
- Mental Health support for CDM patients.

## 6. Improving care for seniors

Ontario's Seniors Strategy outlines the need for a team-based approach to primary care that prioritizes continuous quality improvement to care for Ontario's seniors. Presentations in this stream will focus on developing models of care that build on the Seniors Strategy's five principles: Access, Equity, Choice, Value, Quality.

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- Examples of successful inter-sectoral collaboration with demonstrated patient outcomes.
- Innovative community partnerships to address complex medical and social issues (ie. Muscle wasting with nutrition & exercise).
- Mental health and dementia care, dealing with co-morbidity in complex elderly.
- "Frailty" as a topic that can be addressed in a number of segments.
- Caring for caregivers, elder mediation and advocacy issues
- Addressing unique needs of older aboriginal peoples and others with diverse needs, such as those from LGBTQ and ethnocultural communities and those with limited abilities.

## 7. Innovation in interprofessional collaborative team implementation

The whole is greater than the sum of its parts – this is the goal of interprofessional teams.

Interprofessional collaboration is the process of communication and decision making that enables the separate and shared knowledge and skills of care providers – and the patient – to create synergy in patient care. It involves the concepts of mutual respect, maximum use of collective resources, and awareness of individual accountabilities, and competence and capabilities within respective scopes of practice.

Presentations in this stream will focus on innovative methods to develop evolving, dynamic teams focused on the value of collaboration and inclusiveness.

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- The role of the inter-professional collaborative team in healthcare prevention, acute care and episodic patient care.
- Building a team across geographical boundaries.
- Best practice in interprofessional care from other models (non-FHT examples).

## 8. Meaningful use of EMRs

"Meaningful use" goes beyond storing patient information in an electronic version of a paper chart. It includes using the data and functionality of the EMR to advance the clinical process of care and improve outcomes. The US Centres for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) has defined "meaningful use" as using EHR/EMR technology to:

- Improve quality, safety, efficiency, and reduce health disparities
- Engage patients and families in their health care
- Improve care coordination
- Improve population and public health
- All the while maintaining privacy and security

Presentation proposals on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- What can be done in the FHT environment to develop a greater degree of "meaningful use" to achieve these ends.