

Abstract submission tips from the AFHTO 2016 Conference working groups

The AFHTO Conference working groups are made up of professionals working in primary care teams, patients and other community stakeholders. These volunteers will use their knowledge and experience to select all poster & concurrent session abstracts according to the [evaluation criteria](#).

The working groups offer the following advice for submitting a compelling presentation abstract:

Understand the everyday counts. Has your team developed a workaround for a particular challenge? Utilised a range of tricks to address a sticky situation? Other teams may be wrestling with these same issues. It may seem like business as usual to you but these could be a real help to attendees in similar circumstances.

You're not too small or too remote for your voice to be heard. Evaluations from past conference participants tell us they would like to hear from a variety of sources and especially from small, rural and Northern teams.

Include a variety of voices. Our focus is on **interprofessional** primary care so bring a range of experiences and people together when presenting and developing the presentation. **Include a patient/caregiver representative as a presenter where appropriate.**

Review past presentations. They were chosen for a reason, whether it be an exciting initiative, compelling results or simply a well-told story. They are [great examples of submissions](#) that communicate what their presentations are about. Consider including visuals as well.

When writing your abstract:

- **Pick the right theme.** Conference theme descriptions are very detailed and specific. Make sure reviewers & conference attendees know why your presentation fits the theme.
- **Identify WHY someone would want to attend your presentation.** Attendees will be picking 1 out of 8 concurrent sessions and visiting a handful of over 70 poster presentations. You need to tell them why they should pick yours over the rest and make it an easy choice.
- **Identify 1-3 key learning objectives that summarize your presentation.** Reviewers and attendees want to know what key pieces of information they will take home that are practical and actionable for their teams.
- **Use plain language.** Omit flowery speech and state your points clearly.
- **Look beyond the stats when demonstrating evidence.** Consider your results from the human perspective, not just statistics and measures. What did your initiative DO for your patients, team and/or community?

Do Check In. Not sure if your program or initiative will be a good fit for the conference? [Feel free to ask us](#). We're happy to discuss it with you.

For more help, contact AFHTO staff at info@afhto.ca or 647-234-8605 x200.