



Abstract Submission Guidelines

One System, Many Pathways:

Innovating with Purpose

Annual Conference 2025 | Directorate Allied Health Services

Abstract Submission Guidelines

These guidelines are provided to help you prepare and submit your abstract for the Annual Conference 2025 – One System, Many Pathways: Innovating with Purpose.

Please read carefully before submission.

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Submission Deadline

All abstracts must be submitted by the 19th of September 2025 by 23.00 CET.

Late submissions will not be considered.

1.0 Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the Annual Conference 2025 of the Directorate Allied Health Services, *'One System, Many Pathways: Innovating with Purpose'*. This guideline is designed to provide information about everything you need to know to submit an abstract. Please read it before proceeding to the online submission form.

The Directorate Allied Health Services (DAHS) conference will be held at the Mediterranean Conference Centre on the 5th and 6th November 2025. The conference is open to members of the workforce of the Directorate Allied Health Services. The workforce members are from the following professions and/or support workers category:

Professions:

- Audiology
- Clinical Perfusion
- Clinical Measurement Physiology
- Dental Hygiene
- Dental Technology
- Dietetics
- Genomic Counselling
- Medical Laboratory Science
- Medical Physics
- Nutrition

- Occupational Therapy
- Optometry
- Orthoptics
- Orthotics & Prosthetics
- Physiotherapy
- Podiatry
- Psychology
- Psychotherapy
- Radiography
- Radiotherapy
- Social Work
- Speech Language Pathology

Support Workers Categories:

- Allied Assistants
- Decontamination & Sterilisation Technicians
- Dental Surgery Assistants
- Phlebotomists

Upon submitting an abstract, kindly indicate preferred delivery format:

- Keynote Speech (20 minutes)
- Oral Presentation (7 minutes)
- Digital Poster (5 minutes)

The Scientific Committee will take into consideration the selected preferred format when deciding the method of presentation. The decision of the Scientific Committee will be final.

Presenting authors must be available to present in-person on both days. Poster presenters will be asked to display a digital poster at conference.

2.0 Important dates

- Abstract submission opens: 25th August 2025
- Abstract submission closes: 19th September 2025 at 23.00 CET.
- Notification of outcome: 8th October 2025
- Dissemination of Final Programme: 13th October 2025
- Annual conference: 5th and 6th November 2025

3.0 Who can submit?

The workforce members that can submit are from the following professions and/or support workers categories:

Professions:

- Audiology
- Clinical Perfusion
- Clinical Measurement Physiology
- Dental Hygiene

- Dental Technology
- Dietetics
- Genomic Counselling
- Medical Laboratory Science
- Medical Physics
- Nutrition
- Occupational Therapy
- Optometry
- Orthoptics
- Orthotics & Prosthetics
- Physiotherapy
- Podiatry
- Psychology
- Psychotherapy
- Radiography
- Radiotherapy
- Social Work
- Speech Language Pathology

Support Workers Categories:

- Allied Assistants
- Decontamination & Sterilisation Technicians
- Dental Surgery Assistants
- Phlebotomists

4.0 General Requirements

4.1 General submission guidelines

- Abstracts must be submitted in English.
- Please check your work before you submit. Check results and units of measurement are accurate and in-line with scientific measures. Use your software spelling and grammar check, ask a colleague to proofread. Errors in spelling and grammar or reporting of measures cannot be changed following submission of application.
- All abstracts must describe work to which all the authors listed have made a significant contribution¹. Any reference to personal experience and/or perceptions should be clearly labelled as such.
- The language of your abstract should always communicate respectfully about people and populations. Terms that could be considered stigmatising or discriminatory in any way should not be used. In most cases “people-first” language such as, “children with epilepsy” instead of “epileptic children” is preferable but in specific circumstances “identity-first” language may be most

¹ Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND Drafting the work or reviewing it critically for important intellectual content; AND Final approval of the version to be published; AND Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

appropriate e.g., the Deaf community. Consider practice in relation to the population you are describing.

- All individuals submitting an abstract are required to complete [registration](#) for both days of the conference via the designated registration portal. This is a prerequisite for abstract consideration and participation in the scientific program.

4.2 Abstract Structure

Submissions must include the following structured information:

- Title – concise heading, not exceeding 200 characters
- Authors & Affiliations – full author list with institutional affiliations
- Work Institution – primary site where the research/project was undertaken
- Date of Study – timeframe during which the work was carried out
- Presenting Author – designated individual responsible for delivery of the presentation
- Type of preferred presentation format – keynote speech, oral presentation or digital poster format
- Abstract – structured scientific summary ((Max 1200 characters)
- Keywords – up to five key terms reflecting the main concepts
- Key Theme – select one or two thematic categories
- General Comments – supplementary remarks pertinent to the submission
- Contact Details – corresponding author’s email and telephone number

Abstracts should not be used and will not be accepted as marketing opportunities for products, equipment, or organisations, nor speak negatively of competitors' products.

4.3 Language, Font and Format

- Language: English (clear, concise, and grammatically correct).
- Format: Submit through online application form as per link: [One System, Many Pathways: Innovating with Purpose](#)

4.4 Conference themes and methodologies

Submission paper must align with one of the following four main themes for the conference. You need to select up to two of the following 4 themes:

THEME 1: RELATIONSHIPS THAT DRIVE CARE

- This theme explores the essential role of meaningful relationships in delivering exceptional care. It highlights the importance of trust, empathy, and mutual respect as the foundation for compassionate, person-centred practice. In a system working across many pathways and committed to purposeful innovation, authentic human connection between healthcare professionals, patients, families, and colleagues that remains central.

THEME 2: DIGITAL FUTURES | HUMAN TOUCH

- This theme examines the transformative potential of digital innovation within healthcare, while affirming the enduring importance of human connection in care delivery. It considers how the workforce of the Directorate Allied Health Service can be supported to confidently engage with emerging technologies, not as replacements for human interaction, but as tools that enhance relationships, improve outcomes, and enable more person-centred care. This session will explore how purposeful digital integration can reduce complexity, facilitate collaboration, and uphold the values of empathy, respect, and dignity in every interaction.

THEME 3: QUALITY WITHOUT COMPROMISE

- This theme underscores the unwavering commitment to quality without compromise where clinical excellence, safety, accountability, digital literacy, and outcome-focused services as the foundation for continuous improvement are non-negotiable. In a complex system with many pathways, true innovation demands that progress never sacrifices these core standards. By safeguarding high-quality, secure, and outcome-driven care, the workforce ensures every patient receives care that is both transformative and uncompromised.

THEME 4: FACING CHALLENGES, FORGING CHANGE

- This theme confronts the pressing realities of workforce sustainability, resource limitations, burnout, policy shifts, and climate impact with boldness

and clarity. In a transformed system of many pathways, true strength comes from resilience and adaptability turning obstacles into catalysts for meaningful, purpose-driven innovation and new service development.

We are inviting you to submit an abstract linked to one of these four areas.

4.5 Methodologies

Abstracts should be based on/include the following scientific approaches:

- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- Mixed Methods
- Grey Material e.g. Case studies, Service evaluation, clinical audit, quality improvement, operational reviews, practice-base innovation etc.

Please note we welcome abstracts describing case reports and study protocols. Submissions with pending/ incomplete data or results cannot be accepted.

4.6 Communication

- All correspondence regarding the abstract will be with the person who submits the abstract. They are responsible for informing all co-authors about the outcome of the abstract's submission. The author who is presenting must be named in the abstract but does not have to be the submitter or first named author.

- The author(s) retain the right, after presentation at the DAHS Annual Conference 2025, to include the work in articles, books, or derivative works that they author or edit. Said use does not imply the endorsement of the DAHS.

4.7 Submission details

- Title (Max 200 characters)
- Authors & Affiliation
- Work Institution
- Date of Study
- Presenting Author
- Type of Presentation
- Abstract (Max 1200 characters)
- Keywords (Up to 5 keywords)
- Key Theme (Choose 2 of the 4 mentioned key themes in Section 4.4)
- General Comments
- Contact Details

An individual may present a maximum of one abstract. They may be named on other abstracts as a co-author, but only as presenting author on one abstract.

The final decision as to how selected abstracts are allocated and scheduled within the programme is at the discretion of DAHS Scientific Committee. This includes the format for which an abstract is accepted and presentation time.

4.8 Conflict of Interest

All authors are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest related to the submitted work. A conflict of interest may include, but is not limited to, financial relationships, professional affiliations, personal relationships, or other circumstances that could be perceived to influence the content, interpretation, or conclusions of the abstract.

If there are no conflicts of interest, please include the statement: *"The authors declare no conflicts of interest."*

5.0 Online Submission Process

Each submission must be made electronically via the online submission form [HERE](#).

The online submission form is split into the following sections:

- Title (Max 200 characters)
- Authors & Affiliation
- Presenting Author
- Ethics
 - Does the project have ethical approval? (If yes, submit attached approval. If no, provide a justified explanation)
 - Conflict of Interest (Yes or No)
 - Funding Transparency (Declare any funding received and any potential funding bias)
- Affiliation

- Work Institution
- Date of Study
- Type of Presentation
- Abstract (Max 1200 characters)
- Keywords (Up to 5 keywords)
- Key Theme (Choose 2 of the 4 mentioned key themes in Section 4.4)
- General Comments
- Contact Details

You can preview your entry prior to submission. You will receive a confirmation email that your submission was successful and will be able to download a PDF of the submission.

6.0 Attendance and booking

In-person attendance at the DAHS Annual Conference is a requirement for those giving presentations. Should your abstract be accepted for the conference, you will be required to attend on both days (5th and 6th November 2025) of the conference.

7.0 Review Process

All submissions will be reviewed by the DAHS Scientific Committee.

Abstracts will be judged on clarity, originality, methodology, significance and ethical compliance.

Notification of acceptance will be sent by 8th October 2025.

8.0 Selection process

All submitted abstracts will be anonymised and blind peer reviewing will take place. Each abstract will be reviewed independently by two reviewers.

Selection of abstracts will be based on how they are scored through the review process against the published criteria (see Appendices 1 and 2).

Appendix 1: Eligibility Criteria

Ethics – Does the project need ethical approval?

— If yes, submit attached approval.

— If no, provide a justified explanation.

- **Conflict of Interest**

The authors declare no conflicts of interest (tick if applicable).

- **Funding Transparency – Declare any funding received and any potential funding.**

Appendix 2: Evaluation Grid

Each submission will be assessed against the following five equally weighted criteria (20% each):

Relevance to Conference Themes & Clarity of Submission (20%) – Must clearly align with one of the four conference themes and be presented in a well-structured, coherent, and understandable manner.

Innovation & Originality (20%) – Demonstrates a novel idea, method, approach, or perspective that advances thinking in the field.

Scientific / Professional Rigor (20%) – Evidenced-based, supported by data or best practices, and methodologically sound.

Practical Impact or Application (20%) – Offers clear implications for service delivery, professional practice, or policy development.

Collaborative & Inclusive Approach (20%) – Reflects meaningful collaboration (e.g., across DAHS teams), and/or promotes inclusivity such as digital empowerment or incorporating the patient/service-user voice.