

IRISH SOCIETY OF COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE

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Invitation to submit poster abstracts

We invite attendees to consider displaying their work as a poster at the ISC&PHM Annual Scientific Meeting 2026. We accept original research and clinical audit/quality improvement studies.

While we hope that it will be possible to complete the poster abstract submission form and submit abstracts via our website; <https://iscphm.ie/>, but it is also possible to submit the completed form to abstracts@iscphm.ie from **1 May 2026 until 30 June 2026** using the email subject header: **Poster Abstract submission ISCPHM 2026**

For your abstracts, please use the naming format: **FirstName_LastName_2026Abstract** (e.g. Jane_Smith_2026Abstract). Add a number if submitting more than one abstract: **FirstName_LastName_2026Abstract1; FirstName_LastName_2026Abstract2** (e.g. Jane_Smith_2026Abstract1, Jane_Smith_2026Abstract2, etc)

Submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the abstract review panel. Please submit early to facilitate early review. We provide feedback to authors to improve submissions rather than rejecting those that don't meet the required standard. This takes time. We try to respond as quickly as possible to give you the best chance of displaying your work.

Authors will be informed if their abstract has been selected for a poster presentation as soon as possible, and by *August 22nd 2026* at the latest. Accepted abstracts will be included in the conference Book of Abstracts and made available at the conference and on the Society's website.

A prize will be offered for the best poster. Posters must be submitted to the secretary in pdf format by *September 1st 2026*. Poster pdfs submitted later than this will not be entered for the prize. A small number of posters will be chosen to present their studies during the conference during a "3-minute magic" poster presentation session. If yours is chosen, please

let us know as soon as possible if you would be willing to participate in a 3-minute presentation. This involves preparing a **single slide** to convey your study to the audience and undertaking to present it in no more than three minutes.

Timeline summary

Abstract submission open (On https://iscphm.ie/ or by email abstracts@iscphm.ie)	1 May 2026 until 30 th June 2026
Abstract outcome released	By August 22 nd 2026
Poster PDF submission (Portrait A1 size) (abstracts@iscphm.ie)	By September 1 st 2026
Single slide for 3 minute presentation (for selected posters only and optional) (abstracts@iscphm.ie)	By September 21 st 2026
ISC&PHM Annual Scientific Meeting 2026 (Gresham (Riu Plaza) Hotel) (treasurer@iscphm.ie)	October 1 st and 2 nd 2026

Abstract requirements

The following are **required** for abstracts:

1. *Word count:* 300 maximum. (Word count does not include Title, references, ethical statement, funding, acknowledgement or conflict of interest.)
2. *Choose the type of abstract:* Audit, Quality Improvement, or Research study
3. *Complete the form:* this is in Appendix I. It covers:
 - *Why this needed to be done* => Introduction
 - *What you hoped to achieve or find out* => Objective
 - *How you did it* => Methods
 - *What you found* => Results
 - *What this means (e.g. for patients, clinical practice, policy, or research)* => Discussion
 - *Key message or what needs to be done* => Conclusion/Recommendations
4. *References:* Abstracts should contain at least one reference and a maximum of three. All references should be in the Vancouver citation format (see attached information supplied by UCD Library).

Ethical Considerations

Authors must state whether their study has been reviewed by a Research Ethics Committee (REC). Where approval has been given, they must state the REC approval reference number in the *Ethics statement*.

If the study involves patients and hasn't been reviewed by a REC, authors must state this and justify why.

Review Process

Abstracts will undergo review by at least two independent reviewers, who will apply the initial screening criteria to determine if they are potentially suitable for our audience.

Those that are considered suitable, will undergo a structured review examining study quality and validity. The reviewers will reach an agreement through discussion and/or by decision of a third reviewer. Rather than refusing an abstract, the reviewers may decide to recommend that it be accepted following certain suggested amendments. Authors need to be able to respond to reviewer's comments and requests for revision in a timely manner.

The initial screening criteria are:

Topic: Relevant to community medicine or public health (i.e. addresses a health issue relevant to community or public health or an aspect of community medical/public health work practice).

Study design: Audit, quality improvement, or original research (including literature reviews, or evidence-based policy/opinion pieces).

Time: No older than ten years (unless it is an update on previous research/audit).

Each of these three criteria (topic, study design/time) will be scored as yes (1) or no (0). Only abstracts that score 3 can be accepted.

The quality appraisal criteria are listed in the appendices, and we advise authors to take note of them when preparing their abstract.

Poster preparation

There are a few points we would like you to note regarding your poster.

1. To allow review of posters before the conference, posters must be submitted to secretary@iscphm.ie by September 1st using the following file name and format: **FirstName_LastName_2026Poster.pdf**. This is to allow sufficient time for the judges to assess the posters.

2. Posters must be in portrait and printed in size A1 (59.4 cm x 84.1 cm).¹ Poster templates can be made available on request.
3. We don't specify the font or its size, but generally it should be possible to read your poster from 2-3 metres. Some sources recommend using size 24-32 pts for the body of the text, and 36-40 pts for the headings, with the Title in size 80-150 pts. However, the ideal font size depends on your choice of font. (Tip: In an A1 size poster it looks better to not have more than 600 words of text, and less is better still. Well-labelled diagrams can convey a lot of information without words, and look interesting.
4. The poster should reflect what is in the accepted abstract, using similar headings.
5. The poster should expand on what is contained in the abstract, supplying additional data, explanations, implications, or recommendations that are necessary to understand the study or the importance of the results that could not be included within a 300 word abstract.
6. Please include author names, references and, if relevant, acknowledgements.
7. References must be formatted in the Vancouver style. (Style guide attached below)
8. We suggest using a tube to protect and carry your poster.
9. The presenter must be a medical doctor (or if accepted, a medical student).
10. The presenter must register in advance for the conference, paying the appropriate fee. **Please note:** *Cash on the day at the registration desk will **not** be accepted. If attendees have paid for registration but are unable to attend, these fees will be refunded.*
11. We request that the presenter arrive early at the registration desk on the first day to collect their name badge - the registration desk opens at 8:30am. It will also be possible to put it up or leave it in to the conference room on the evening before, between 17:30-18:30. Please email (abstracts@iscphm.ie) in advance if you wish to do this, so that someone will be there at that time.
12. After registration, the person on the registration desk will check your poster in. You will be shown where to display your poster and provided with Velcro sticky tabs.
13. Anyone arriving after the conference has started must wait until the first break to put up their poster.
14. Please be available for questions near your poster during the tea/coffee breaks.
15. If possible, please leave your poster on display for the duration of the conference.
16. We would request that all posters are taken down at the end of the conference as we are unable to return posters left behind.

¹ This is the size that best fits our display boards. However, we will do our best to accommodate other sizes/orientations if someone is displaying a poster that they have displayed previously.

Appendix I: Poster abstract submission form 2026

Instructions

Please choose which type of study you are reporting (Audit, Quality Improvement Project, or a Research study) and fill in the relevant form, either on our website or using this Word form.

If using this form, choose which type of study you are submitting (i.e. Audit, Quality Improvement Project, or Research) and complete the relevant page only.

Limit the words in the Abstract Text column to 300, not counting the Title, Authors' names, or the statements on conflicts of interest, funding, and ethics.

Save the form with your own name using the format: **FirstName_LastName_2026Abstract**. (e.g. Jane_Smith_2026Abstract).

Add a number if submitting more than one abstract: **FirstName_LastName_2026Abstract1**;

FirstName_LastName_2026Abstract2 (e.g. Jane_Smith_2026Abstract1, Jane_Smith_2026Abstract2, etc).

Send the completed form to abstracts@iscphm.ie using the email subject header: **Poster Abstract submission ISCPHM 2026**.

The text in the *Abstract Text* column is given for guidance. It should be deleted when filling in your own text and should not be counted in the Word Count (unless you leave it in).

Audit

	Headings	Abstract Text
1.	Title	
2.	Submitting Dr	
3.	IMC Number of submitting Dr	
4.	Authors	
5.	Background/ Introduction	
6.	Objective/ Standard	
7.	Methods	<i>Data Source(s)</i>
		<i>Data Collection Methods</i>
		<i>Data Analysis Methods</i>
8.	Results	<i>Summary statistics – comparison against the standard</i>
9.	Quality Improvement Plans & Reaudit	
10.	Conclusions/ Recommendations	
11.	References	
12.	<i>Ethical statement</i>	
13.	<i>Funding/ Acknowledgement</i>	
14.	<i>Conflict of Interest</i>	
15.	Word Count	<i>Include words in 5-10</i>

Quality Improvement Project

	Headings	Abstract Text
1.	Title	
2.	Submitting Dr	
3.	IMC Number of submitting Dr	
4.	Authors	
5.	Background & Problem statement	
6.	Objective (QI Plan)	<i>QI Initiative</i>
7.	Methods	<i>Implementation (methods)</i>
		<p><i>Evaluation methods (i.e. how you measured the success of your initiative):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Data Source(s)</i> • <i>Data Collection Methods</i> • <i>Data Analysis Methods</i> • <i>Outcome measure</i>
8.	Results	
9.	Discussion	
10.	Conclusions/ Recommendations	
11.	References	
12.	<i>Ethical statement</i>	
13.	<i>Funding/ Acknowledgement</i>	
14.	<i>Conflict of Interest</i>	
15.	Word Count	<i>Include words in 5-10</i>

Research

	Headings	Abstract Text
1.	Title	
2.	Submitting Dr	
3.	IMC Number of submitting Dr	
4.	Authors	
5.	Background/ Introduction	
6.	Objective	
7.	Methods	<i>Study Design</i>
		<i>Data Source(s)</i>
		<i>Data Collection Methods</i>
		<i>Data Analysis Methods</i>
8.	Results	
9.	Discussion	
10.	Conclusions/ Recommendations	
11.	References	
12.	<i>Ethical statement</i>	
13.	<i>Funding/ Acknowledgement</i>	
14.	<i>Conflict of Interest</i>	
15.	Word Count	<i>Include words in 5-10</i>

Appendix II: Quality Appraisal tools

Audit/Quality Improvement Project (QIP) Appraisal Checklist

Based on Millard's tool.¹

TOPIC

1. If appropriate, was the problem in the delivery of care addressed by the audit well described?

METHODS

2. Are the audit questions/aims clear? (What are they?)
3. Were all the collected data essential for the audit?
4. Was the sample size suitable?
5. Were the statistical methods used appropriate?
6. Were the methods described well enough for you to repeat the audit?
7. Did the project compare results with guidelines, standards or criteria?
8. Were the guidelines, standards, or criteria based on good evidence?
9. Was the interpretation of the results fair?
10. Did the findings fully answer the audit questions?

IMPACT

11. If appropriate, did the project identify useful changes to practice?
12. If relevant, was there a planned programme of change, and was it implemented effectively?
13. If relevant, were the relevant staff appropriately involved in change implementation?
14. If relevant, were the changes described well enough for them to be implemented in your setting?
15. (ii) If the project did not include a reaudit, should it have?
16. If appropriate, were patients' experience of aspect(s) of the treatment process significantly improved?
17. Was an appropriate end point defined for the project?

OVERALL

What is your overall assessment of the project methodology?

What is your overall assessment of the worthwhileness of the project aims for improving the delivery of patient care?

Reference

1. Millard AD. Measuring the quality of clinical audit projects. *J Eval Clin Pract.* 2000 Nov;6(4):359–70.

Research Study Appraisal Checklist

1. What is the research question or objective? Is it described clearly?
2. What study design do the authors say they have they used?
3. Are the methods described in the abstract?
4. Are the methods appropriate to the research question/objective?
5. Is the data appropriately sampled (size/breadth/representative)?
6. How is the data analysed and synthesised?
7. Is this appropriate to the research question/objective and data sample?
8. What are the findings/results? Do they align with the research question/objective?
9. What inferences or conclusions do the authors draw?
10. Are they consistent with the findings/results?
11. Do the authors provide recommendations or 'next steps'? Are they consistent with the conclusions and findings/results?
12. Are there any risks to the validity of the study (in its methods, results, conclusions, or recommendations)?
13. Was ethical approval sought or an explanation given as to why not?