

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF POISONS CENTRES AND CLINICAL TOXICOLOGISTS



A non-profit making international association
Association internationale sans but lucratif

CRITERIA FOR SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OF ABSTRACTS SUBMITTED TO EAPCCT CONGRESSES

Abstracts submitted to EAPCCT congresses are subject to a peer review process before being accepted for presentation at the congress and for publication in the congress abstract book. Publication in the *Journal of Toxicology – Clinical Toxicology* is also considered as part of this process and a separate decision on this is made.

The peer review process always involves at least 10 members of the Association who each score abstracts separately using the criteria below. The final decisions are taken by the scientific committee.

- *Quality:* The scientific quality of the research described is given the highest weighting in deciding whether abstracts are accepted for presentation and particularly when considering the appropriateness of a platform presentation
- *Relevance:* The topic must be relevant to clinical toxicology and/or poisons centre activity. The potential interest of congress attendees in the subject is important in deciding whether a poster or platform presentation is appropriate
- *Originality:* The research being described should not have been presented or published previously
- *Content:* Abstracts must contain original data or observations, or should illustrate an issue of important educational benefit or of particular interest. Abstracts that do not contain data will not be accepted for presentation or publication.
- *Format:* Abstracts must be written in the format outlined in the congress booklet.
- *Language:* Abstracts must be written in English, since this is the official language of the Association. It should be noted that some assistance can be provided in finalising abstracts prior to publication when the author's first language is not English.

Please also note

- Oral presentations are offered to those who have submitted the highest quality research and an indication of a preference to give an oral presentation is used as a secondary index. When assigning oral presentations, the scientific committee are looking for quality, originality and relevance in particular.

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- The submission of case reports containing original observations is encouraged. The quality of abstracts is enhanced by a brief and balanced description of the available literature relevant to the case being presented. Some case presentations will be recommended as 'discussed posters', where the authors will have the opportunity to discuss their case in more detail with a discussant who is an expert in the field.
- Some clinical observations that are not original can sometimes be interesting and educational and may stimulate some useful debate. Such abstracts may be accepted for presentation and if they are they will be published in the congress booklet. However, they are unlikely to be appropriate for publication in the *Journal of Toxicology – Clinical Toxicology* since they do not describe original observations and do not expand knowledge in clinical toxicology.

Simon Thomas
Chair, EAPCCT Scientific Committee
July 2005