ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

You are invited to submit a competitive abstract for a platform or poster presentation for ACTRIMS 2009. See information below regarding prizes for young presenters.

Abstracts will be evaluated on the basis of originality, significance, relevance to MS, and scientific/technical merit.

Presenting authors will be contacted by March 31, 2009 regarding whether or not an abstract has been accepted. Presenting authors must register for the meeting. Accepted abstracts will be published in the journal *Multiple Sclerosis: Clinical and Laboratory Research*.

**Important Dates**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 1, 2008</td>
<td>Abstract submission site opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 26, 2009</td>
<td>Abstract submission site closes</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 31, 2009</td>
<td>Platform and poster presenters notified</td>
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**Categories**

- Disease Modifying Therapy
- Epidemiology/Genetics
- Experimental Disease Models
- Imaging
- Neuroimmunology
- Neuropsychology/Neuropsychiatry
- Pathology
- Rehabilitation and Quality of Life
- Surrogate Markers (non-MRI)
- Symptom Management

**Presentation Types**

*Poster Presentations*

Up to 100 abstracts will be selected for poster display. The presenting author will stand by the poster and be available to answer questions during the poster session on **Saturday, May 30**
Additionally, it is desirable for poster presenters and their posters to be available during the joint CMSC-ACTRIMS reception on **Friday, May 29 from 7-9 pm**. Meeting staff will be available to put up the posters, if an author cannot attend this session.

**Platform Presentations**
Up to seven abstracts will be selected for presentation at the platform. The presenting author will be invited to make a 15-minute presentation (including questions).

**Opportunities for Young Investigators**
To encourage emerging clinicians, clinical researchers, and basic scientists to continue their work in the field of multiple sclerosis research, the ACTRIMS Steering Committee will offer prizes and travel awards to select presenting authors who certify that they are 35 years old or younger, i.e., born on or after January 1, 1974.

- **Young Researcher Prizes** Up to two award of $1,500 USD will be offered to young investigators for best platform or best poster presentations.
- **Young Research Travel Awards** A limited number of travel awards will be available to young investigators.

**Guidelines for Preparation of Abstracts**

- The presenting author must be the contact author.
- The author may not submit the same abstract or an abstract on substantially the same topic to both CMSC and ACTRIMS. Doing so will result in the author forfeiting the right for the abstract to be considered for either program.
- Additionally, the author must certify that the abstract is not being considered for publication elsewhere and has not already been published elsewhere, in printed or electronic form.
- Abstracts must be submitted in English.
- Abstract must be submitted online.
- Please plan to create and save the abstract using your customary word processor and to copy/paste the information onto the abstract processing site.
- Use a short specific title indicating the nature of the investigation. Do not include abbreviations in the title.
- Abstract should clearly address the following points: background, objectives, methods, results, and conclusions.
- Authors will be asked to select the category that best describes their abstract submission.
- Provide six index terms (keywords), not including “multiple sclerosis” or “MS.”
- Abstracts must be 300 words or less.
- Tables, figures, and references are not allowed.
- Disclosure of conflict of interest (e.g., grant support, consultancy, membership on advisory councils, speaker’s bureau, etc.) and source of research funding is required.
- Use generic drug names.
- Standard abbreviations may be used without definition. Nonstandard abbreviations must be placed in parentheses after first use of the term in the abstract body.
- Proof-read your abstract to make sure it is accurate. If selected, it will be published as submitted.