

STSA 68th Annual Meeting Abstract Submission Guidelines

You are invited to submit abstracts and surgical videos for the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (STSA) 68th Annual Meeting to be held at the Loews Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, November 3-6, 2021.

Abstract, poster and video submissions will be accepted until **Monday, April 5, 2021 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time**. Accepted submissions will be presented at the STSA 68th Annual Meeting as oral presentations, surgical videos or scientific posters.

This website does not support Internet Explorer 8. Please use IE 9 +, Chrome, Firefox, or Safari. If you have trouble accessing the submission fields, please ensure your browser is up to date.

Please follow these instructions to submit an oral, surgical video or poster abstract for the STSA 68th Annual Meeting:

- **All abstract authors must complete their commercial relationship disclosure form prior to the abstract submission deadline of April 5, 2021.**
- You **do not** have to be an STSA member in order to submit an abstract or video.
- **Be sure to save your username and password for future use.** You will need to enter this information each time you want to access the submission site.
- E-mail is the sole means of communication from STSA regarding your abstract(s). Should any e-mail addresses change prior to the STSA Annual Meeting, please provide the updates to stsa@stsa.org.
- **Once you begin entering an abstract or video submission, you have until April 5, 2021 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time to submit your abstract and/or video for review. Prior to submission, you may save your abstract/video as a draft and complete the submission at a later date. Draft submissions are not submitted for review.**
- Once you have completed the submission process and submitted your abstract or surgical video for review, you will receive an e-mail confirmation. Please save this confirmation information for your reference and use the abstract/surgical video abstract number in any correspondence you have with STSA regarding your abstract and/or surgical video.

Oral/Video/Poster Abstract Submission Specifications:

- **Abstract Limit:** There are no restrictions on the number of abstracts you may submit.
- **Character Limit:** **There is a limit of 400 words, for the text of your abstract submission.** Titles, authors, institutions, tables, and images will not be counted. Each field has a word limit, but they have been expanded beyond the guideline of 400 words. This change was made to accommodate individuals who have a higher word counts in certain fields and shorter word counts in others. This will allow the fields to flex to the content of your abstract. **Please adhere to the 400 word guideline to the best of your ability. All abstract fields (Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusion) should still add up to 400 words or less.**
- **History Abstract Character Limit:** History abstracts are limited to 4000 characters or 600 words.
- **Title and Body:** Capitalize the first letter of each word in the title; please do not enter information in all upper case or in quotation marks. You may copy and paste your abstract body into the appropriate abstract sections.
- **Special Characters and Formatting:** If you copy and paste the title and/or body from your word processor, please ensure special characters transfer accordingly.

Surgical Video Abstract Specifications:

- An abstract must be submitted along with each surgical video submission.
- Information for all authors involved in the submission must be entered via the online submission process. The identity of the authors, institutions and/or names of hospitals should be excluded from the surgical video submission.
- **The surgical video may not exceed seven (7) minutes in length or 500 MB.**
- Accepted file types are: .mov; and .mp4
- Uploading of files should be done with a **high-speed internet connection.**
- **Wait until your file has completely loaded** before moving to the next step.
- **For the purposes of review, sound should be included.**
- **The identity of the surgeon, institution, and/or name of hospital, should be excluded from the actual video submission. Any patient identifying information must be excluded or obscured from video films and narration.**
- **If the video is selected for presentation, live narration by the presenting author is required for participation in the program and the sound in the video should be muted.**

Other:

- There should be no reference to institutions or company/product names in the body of the text.
- Abstracts cannot contain product names; generic terms must be used when describing a single product.
- Abstract development and data analysis for abstracts cannot be performed by industry.
- **Full names of all authors and their disclosures must be provided by the abstract submission deadline of April 5, 2021.**
- The institution name and location, telephone number, and e-mail address information of the presenting author should be provided with titles and appointments omitted.
- When percentages are used, the absolute numbers of derivation must be stated.

All abstracts must be structured using the following:

- **Objectives** – A brief statement on the objectives of the study and the current state of research in the field. **What quality gap (limitation or problem) with the practice of cardiothoracic surgery does this research address?**
- **Methods** – The methods of study or experimental approach must be defined briefly.
- **Results** – A summary of the study results, including sufficient details to support those conclusions. These may be presented in a brief table which is uploaded separately.
- **Conclusions** – A statement concerning the significance of the work and its implications for further research. **In what way might the results of this project supplement or inform our clinical or research knowledge or strategies?**
- **History abstract** authors must submit an abstract title and body. Tables should not be used in History abstracts.

Questions related to the abstract submission process may be directed to STSA Headquarters by e-mailing stsa@stsa.org or calling 312-202-5892.