

## STSA 68th Annual Meeting Abstract Submission Guidelines

You are invited to submit abstracts and surgical videos for the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (STSA) 68<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:stsa@stsa.org) or calling 312-202-5892.**