



# International Massage Therapy Research Conference

**Integrating Therapies for Pain** May 12–15, 2016 **SEATTLE**

## IMTRC Call for Scientific Submissions

**Abstract submission deadline: December 14, 2015, 11:50pm CST**

**Conference Theme:** The theme for the 2016 conference is “Integrating Therapies for Pain;” however, submissions may be in any of the categories listed below.

**Categories:** The call for IMTRC scientific submissions invites original research that promotes the dissemination and discussion of new information in the following research categories:

- Basic Science (e.g. experimental trials, quantitative basic science research, etc.)
- Education (e.g. classroom research, quantitative/qualitative education/administration research, etc.)
- Clinical (e.g. clinical trials, quantitative/qualitative clinical research, cohort studies, etc.)
- Case Studies/Reports (e.g. clinical case reports or case series)
- Public Health (e.g. population health studies, preventive care, etc.)
- Integration (e.g. research on integration of massage services into hospital settings, etc.)
- Conference Theme - “Integrating Therapies for Pain” (e.g. Massage therapy as part of integrated therapy for pain relief)

**Instructions:** This call for scientific submissions invites original research that will promote the dissemination and discussion of new information. To be considered, please submit **all** of the following items **no later than December 14, 2015, 11:50pm CST** to the following website: [www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal](http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal) which will be open to accept submissions beginning on Friday, October 2, 2015.

Submissions that do not meet all requirements below will not be accepted.

### Abstract

- Word Count - 300 words or less; abstracts will be published in the IMTRC Conference Proceedings in the International Journal of Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork if submission is accepted.
- Headings - Please include subheadings in the abstract. For research studies, use the subheadings Introduction, Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusion. For case reports, use the subheadings Introduction, Objective, Case Presentation, Intervention, Interpretation, and Implications. **Please do not include references, pictures, tables, or figures in the abstract.**
- The abstract must be cut and pasted into the Massage Therapy Foundation online submission system and cannot be uploaded separately.

### Ethics Materials

- Human Subjects Research - Studies involving human subjects (surveys, observational, and any research studies) must be approved by proper Institutional Review Board (IRB’s)/Research Ethics Boards (REB’s)/Ethics Committees, questions should be directed to your institution’s board/committee.
- Case Studies - Case studies/reports require obtaining written patient consent for use of de-identified case information and/or images, unless your institution also requires IRB/REB/Ethics review.
- No specific upload is required; however there will be questions regarding completion of ethics material on the online Massage Therapy Foundation IMTRC submission form. If a study involves human subjects, your institutional IRB or Ethics Committee Approval # must be provided.

#### □ Signature Form

- Required Signatures - Corresponding author must collect and submit signed authorship forms for all authors.
- Commitment - Presenting author, not necessarily first author, of an accepted oral presentation must register and attend the conference. Funding should be confirmed in advance of submission. Submission of a presentation is a commitment from author(s) to present at the conference if accepted as an oral presentation.
- The author(s) signature form is the only document that must be uploaded to the Massage Therapy Foundation online submission system as part of the IMTRC submission process.

#### **Important Information:**

1. All accepted author(s) who decide to attend must register to present at the conference. Any author of the work may present, it does not necessarily need to be the primary author.
2. It is the author's responsibility to find funding to register and attend the conference. It is strongly recommended that funding is secured or confirmed in advance of submission. Registration for the conference is required for all oral presenters, or the invitation to present will be revoked.
3. If accepted, a 300-word maximum abstract will be printed in the conference proceedings. This will allow you to publish your completed paper in any journal you wish.
4. Due to time and space limitations, a maximum of 2 poster presentations per author/presenter are allowed.
5. If the submission does not meet the submission requirements (e.g. not a completed research study, missing items, etc.), it will **not** be accepted for review. The IMTRC Scientific Review Committee Chair will not contact authors if any submission does not meet the requirements. Notification will be sent out as a rejection notice. Concept submissions and incomplete works will be rejected.
6. It is the responsibility of the primary author to ensure that all requirements are met. The primary author will be the contact person responsible for submission of all required materials and all correspondence. Please do not send communications through a third party, staff member, or co-author.
7. The IMTRC Scientific Review Committee may request additional information for any item that is submitted. This may be for internal quality control purposes or to check on materials if a concern is raised.
8. If the IMTRC Scientific Review Committee confirms that there is an inappropriate submission, it will be disqualified. Examples of inappropriate submissions include, but are not limited to, submissions that have been previously presented at IMTRC, incomplete submissions, concept submission, duplicate submissions, non-authors listed as authors, plagiarized work, etc.
9. No faxed, mailed, or hand delivered submissions will be considered. Only submissions completed through the Massage Therapy Foundation online submission system will be considered ([www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal](http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal)). Submissions will be accepted in the system beginning on Friday, October 2, 2015.

All submissions will be evaluated for completeness, strength of contribution to the profession, and relevance to the IMTRC conference. Submissions will be reviewed by at least two peer reviewers and confirmed by the IMTRC Scientific Review Committee based upon the following criteria:

- Practical Significance
- Originality
- Theoretical/Conceptual Framework
- Quality of Experimental or Descriptive Design
- Clarity of Objective, Methods, and Presentation of Findings
- Interpretation of Results
- Conclusions
- Implications for Massage Practice, Research, Education, and Policy
- Applicability to the Massage Profession, Classroom Use, Future Research, Critical Concerns, etc.
- Completed Study
- Overall Rating of the Paper

**Process:** Once all items are submitted, the abstract will be evaluated by at least two peer reviewers, and these results will be sent to the IMTRC Scientific Review Committee for review and final decision. If accepted, all oral presenters must register and attend the conference. Funding should be confirmed in advance of the submission, as submission is a commitment from the author(s) of presentation at the conference. Accepted poster presenters are not required to attend, but are encouraged to register/attend.

**Notification:** Corresponding authors will be notified of peer review results by February 1, 2016. All accepted presenters who will be attending must register for the conference no later than March 30, 2016.

If you have questions or concerns about this process, please contact:

Christine Daskais, Foundation Coordinator, by email at [cdaskais@massagetherapyfoundation.org](mailto:cdaskais@massagetherapyfoundation.org) or by phone at (847) 905-1667.

*The Massage Therapy Foundation has an equal opportunity policy and welcomes abstract submissions from all people regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, or marital status.*