

Dear Colleague,

The Massage Therapy Foundation is pleased to assist AMTA with the 21st annual poster session at the AMTA National Convention in Washington, DC from August 9-11, 2018. We would like to invite you to submit a poster for consideration to be part of this important event.

This year we will have posters in three categories: original research, programmatic evaluation, and clinical case presentations.

Posters are an important way for bodyworkers and researchers to share their expertise with other members of the profession. The Foundation's poster session allows us to bring reports on research, programs, and clinical cases to the AMTA National Convention. Please consider submitting a poster to this session, where 1,000 or more massage therapists can view it and be informed and inspired by your work.

You will find additional information on the poster session and poster specifications below. If you wish to participate, please submit your abstract electronically to [www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal](http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal) by April 2, 2018, 11:59pm CST. Selected authors will be notified by May 7, 2018.

Gini Ohlson, the MTF Executive Director and Christine Daskais, Foundation Program Manager can be reached by email at [gohlson@massagetherapyfoundation.org](mailto:gohlson@massagetherapyfoundation.org) or [cdaskais@massagetherapyfoundation.org](mailto:cdaskais@massagetherapyfoundation.org) or by phone at (847) 905-1520 (Gini) and 847-905-1667 (Christine) if you have any questions. I hope you will seriously consider participating, as your presence will add to the success of our poster session and contribute to the dissemination of important information among massage therapists.

Best regards,



Jerrilyn Cambron, LMT, DC, PhD  
President, Massage Therapy Foundation



Jennifer Dexheimer, BS, LMT  
Poster Review Committee Chair

## Massage Therapy Foundation: Call for poster abstracts

The Massage Therapy Foundation invites abstracts for the 21st annual poster presentation at the 2018 AMTA National Convention to be held in Washington, DC from August 9-11, 2018. Abstracts must be submitted electronically by April 2, 2018, 11:59pm CST. Selected authors will be notified by May 7, 2018. Final accepted posters must be shipped to the Massage Therapy Foundation by June 15, 2018.

**Abstracts for the conference may be submitted to one of three categories:**

**Original Research** – Reporting the results of research in massage therapy and body work.

**Programmatic Evaluation** – Describing the outcomes of innovative educational programs in massage therapy school curricula or with specialized client groups.

**Clinical Case Presentation** – Describing an interesting client case that reinforces specific learning objectives for massage therapists (student case reports may also be submitted).

### **Important dates:**

- April 2<sup>nd</sup>: Deadline for electronic abstracts submission
- May 7<sup>th</sup>: Response letters sent to all who submitted
- May 25<sup>th</sup>: Poster presenters must confirm their participation with all final poster Presenters names
- June 15<sup>th</sup>: Posters received in our office: Massage Therapy Foundation 500 Davis Street, suite 950 – Evanston IL 60201. **Posters received after this deadline will not be presented during the Convention.**

### **Submission requirements:**

1. The abstract is limited to 300 words. The title, author names, affiliations, and references are not included in the word count. The poster's text may be expanded beyond 300 words, if accepted. Do NOT include any references, graphs, or tables in the abstract or submit your poster or poster layout, only submit the written abstract.
2. Abstracts should include: (1) Introduction, (2) Objective, purpose, or aim, (3) Methods or case presentation, (4) Results or interpretation, and (5) Conclusion or implications. Past AMTA poster abstracts for your review can be found at <http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/past-poster-presenters/>
3. The submission must be a completed study. Incomplete work (e.g., a proposed idea for a research project that has not begun or a project that was started but no data) will not be considered.
4. All studies involving human subjects' research must have gone through appropriate IRB or ethics review and should state as such in your abstract.
5. All case reports must have obtained consent from the patient(s) and should state as such in your abstract.
6. Abstracts should be non-biased, free from solicitations, and should not contain demonstrations of products for the purpose of sales.
7. Disclosure of financial relationships that the author(s) may have with the manufacturer/supplier of any commercial products or services related to the work should be indicated.
8. An author's poster cannot have been presented at a previous National Convention. Presentation at another scientific conference does not exclude from submission to the AMTA National Convention; however, if the abstract has been previously published in another conference proceeding special permissions may be needed to publish again in the AMTA National Convention Conference Proceedings.

9. Submission of an abstract acknowledges your acceptance for the abstract to be published in convention publications and on the affiliated websites. Therefore, it is the authors' responsibility to obtain permissions from any publishers of any work submitted here that has already been published to publish again in the AMTA National Convention Conference Proceedings.

10. Abstracts must be received by the announced deadline. Abstracts received after the deadline will not be considered.

11. The presenting author is required to ensure that all co-authors are aware of the content of the abstract prior to submission. Therefore, the AMTA 2018 Poster Session Submission Signature Form must be completed and uploaded with your submission.

12. The authors are encouraged to be present at the poster sessions, but attendance is not mandatory.

13. Resubmission of abstracts that meet the above criteria and were not previously accepted is welcomed only if the abstract has been improved or updated in some manner.

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Submit abstracts electronically to

[www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal](http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal)

For questions email Gini Ohlson, Executive Director at [gohlson@massagetherapyfoundation.org](mailto:gohlson@massagetherapyfoundation.org) and Christine Daskais, Foundation Program Manager at [cdaskais@massagetherapyfoundation.org](mailto:cdaskais@massagetherapyfoundation.org) or call(847)905-1520 (Gini) or 847-905-1667 (Christine).

## Poster Review Criteria

The Poster Workgroup oversees the acceptance of posters and is made up of volunteer members and includes representation from various professional disciplines. Committee members will rank each abstract in the following five categories:

**Clarity:** All sections of the abstract were clearly written and logical.

**Quality/Rigor:** implementation of study design is appropriate for the research topic/question

**Relevance:** The topic area is applicable and relevant to the profession

**Potential impact:** The abstract has high practical significance for the advancement of massage and manual therapies practice, research and policy.

**Originality:** This is an original idea or design

Acceptance for poster presentation will be determined based on the committee rankings and consideration of space for presentations.

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## Poster Specifications

If your poster abstract is accepted, you will then need to create the poster. A poster is a graphic presentation of authors' reports. The authors illustrate their findings by displaying graphs, photos, diagrams, and a small amount of text on the poster. The authors will then hold discussions with the registrants who are circulating among the posters. The author will be asked to remain by his/her poster at various times during the conference so that attendees have the opportunity to ask questions.

### Poster Information

- The maximum poster size is 4' x 6' but smaller is allowed. Poster materials should be of the size and type that will fit within the allotted space and can be secured with either Velcro or push pins.
- The top of the poster should include the title of the abstract and the authors' names, degrees (if applicable), and institution or affiliation.
- The abstract text should follow the format: (1) Introduction; (2) Objective, purpose, or aim; (3) Methods or case presentation; (4) Results or interpretation; and (5) Conclusion or implications. There is no limit to the number of words on the actual poster, however words should be legible (typically 20 to 24 point font is best).
- Figures, tables, color photographs (with the face shielded for confidentiality), and charts are helpful for the reader to better understand the abstract content. It may be helpful to consult an artist about the display.
- Disclosure of financial relationships that the author(s) may have with the manufacturer/supplier of any commercial products or services related to the work should be indicated at the bottom of the abstract.

For helpful tips on designing conference posters and to obtain poster templates, please check out the following resource: <http://colinpurrington.com/tips/academic/posterdesign>

Click on the following link to apply

[www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/portal](http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/portal)