



Dear Colleague,

The Massage Therapy Foundation (MTF) is pleased to assist the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) with the 25th annual MTF Poster Session at the 2024 AMTA National Convention in Tampa, Florida from September 12-14, 2024. We invite you to submit a poster for consideration for this important event.

Posters are an important way for massage therapists and researchers to share their expertise with other members of the profession. MTF encourages participation in this event to create a forum for informal discussion of research, and to provide attendees with the opportunity to learn how research impacts the profession. Foundation Poster Sessions provide a showcase to share massage therapy research with over 1,000 expected convention attendees.

The 2024 MTF Poster Session will include posters from three categories: original research, programmatic evaluation, and clinical case presentations. Posters should include research findings, photographs, charts and diagrams, and be accompanied by an abstract. Share your work and help inform and inspire other massage therapists!

Additional information including poster specifications and Foundation contact information can be found below. **Please submit abstracts electronically at <http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal> by May 31, 2024, at 11:59pm CST. Selected authors will be notified by July 1, 2024.**

We hope you will consider contributing to the dissemination of important information among massage therapists by participating in this exciting opportunity.

Best regards,

Adrienne F. Asta, LMT
President, Massage Therapy Foundation

Massage Therapy Foundation: Call for Poster Abstracts

The Massage Therapy Foundation invites abstracts for the 24th annual poster presentation at the 2024 AMTA National Convention in Tampa, Florida from September 12-14, 2024. Abstracts must be submitted electronically by May 31, 2024, 11:59pm CST.

Abstracts may be submitted to one of three categories:

Original Research – Reporting the results of research in massage therapy and bodywork.

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:

- February 5, 2024: open contest
- May 31, 2024: Deadline for electronic abstract submission
- July 1, 2024: Response letters sent to all who submitted
- July 19, 2024: Poster presenters must confirm their participation with all final poster presenter's names
- August 19, 2024: Deadline for poster to be received at MTF office:

Massage Therapy Foundation
500 Davis Street, Suite 950
Evanston IL 60201

Posters received after this deadline will not be presented during the Convention. All PDF versions of posters should be emailed to Geri Anne Nelson at gnelson@massagetherapyfoundation.org.

Submission Requirements:

1. The abstract is limited to 500 words. The title, author names, affiliations, and references are not included in the word count. The poster's text may be expanded beyond 500 words, if accepted. Do NOT include references, graphs, or tables in the abstract or submit the poster or poster layout during this initial submission; 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. View examples of past poster abstracts at <http://massagetherapyfoundation.org/rec-type/past-poster-presenter/>.
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 has not completed data collection and/or analysis) will not be considered.
4. All studies involving research with human subjects must have gone through appropriate IRB or ethics review and this should be stated in the abstract.
5. All case reports must have obtained consent from the client(s)/subject(s) and this should be stated in the abstract. For more information please see the article, "Adaptation of the CARE Guidelines for Therapeutic

Massage and Bodywork Publications: Efforts to Improve the Impact of Case Reports,” at <http://www.ijtmb.org/index.php/ijtmb/article/view/251/303>.

6. Abstracts should be non-biased, free from solicitations, and should not contain demonstrations of products for sale.
7. Any financial relationships that the author(s) may have with manufacturers/suppliers of any commercial products or services related to the work should be disclosed at the time of submittal.
8. An author's poster cannot have been presented at a previous AMTA National Convention. Presentation at another scientific conference does not preclude 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 the 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 Submission Signature Form for MTF Poster Session 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.

Submit abstracts electronically to <http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal>

For questions contact:

Geri Anne Nelson, Foundation Program Manager

Email: gnelson@massagetherapyfoundation.org

Phone: 847-905-1667

Poster Review Criteria

The MTF Poster Session Workgroup oversees the review and acceptance of posters and is made up of volunteer members with professional research and education backgrounds. Workgroup members 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.

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 posters are 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 subjects' faces 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 manufacturers/suppliers 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:

<http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/grantportal>