

Call for Proposals

ACRM 
Annual FALL
Conference
& EXPO

**PROGRESS IN
REHABILITATION
RESEARCH**

TRANSLATION TO
CLINICAL PRACTICE

#ACRM2025

**2025
CHICAGO**
27 - 30 OCT

HILTON

PRE-CON: 25 - 27 OCT

TAKE YOUR RESEARCH
FURTHER

TAKE YOUR WORK
FURTHER

TAKE YOUR CAREER
FURTHER

TAKE YOURSELF
FURTHER

PRESENTER BENEFITS

Reach the world with your research & your work

- 1) CHICAGO — world-class city
- 2) Boost your career — NETWORK
- 3) ACRM Conference publicity
- 4) GET PUBLISHED in the ARCHIVES of PM&R
- 5) SAVE MONEY on conference registration
- 6) Best-in-class — presenter technology platform



All abstracts of accepted oral and poster presentations of scientific papers will be published (fully searchable and citable) in the online pages of the ARCHIVES of PM&R.

▶ DEADLINES AHEAD >>> [ACRM.org/call](https://www.acrm.org/call)



ACRM AMERICAN CONGRESS OF
REHABILITATION MEDICINE

Improving lives through interdisciplinary rehabilitation research

TEL: +1.703.435.5335

[ACRM.org/call](https://www.acrm.org/call)



I N T E R D I S C I P L I N A R Y

Call for Proposals



The **ACRM Annual FALL Conference & EXPO: Progress in Rehabilitation Research** is the premier educational conference for evidence-based learning in rehabilitation medicine. The ACRM Program Committee invites proposals focused on research evidence and its translation into clinical practice.

ACRM IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- Aging Research & Geriatric Rehabilitation
- Arts & Neuroscience
- Athlete Development & Sports Rehabilitation
- Behavioral Health Sciences
- Big Data
- Brain Injury
- Burn Rehabilitation
- Cancer Rehabilitation
- Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation
- Caregiver Needs
- Clinical Practice (assessment, diagnosis, treatment, knowledge translation/EBP, implementation science, program development)
- Complementary Integrative Rehabilitation Medicine
- Consumer Engagement
- COVID-19 and Long COVID (Post-Acute Sequelae SARS-CoV-2 infection, PASC)
- Cultural Competency
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- Early Mobilization & Rehabilitation in the Intensive Care Unit
- Ethics
- Health Services Research
- International
- Leadership
- Lifestyle Medicine
- Limb Care
- Measurement
- Military/Veterans Affairs
- Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Neuroplasticity
- Pain
- Pediatric Rehabilitation
- Rehabilitation Treatment Specification System
- Skin Management
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Stroke
- Telehealth
- Technology (e.g., robotics, assistive technology, mHealth)
- Trauma
- Writing Grants & Getting Funded

ACRM especially encourages proposals that are:

- interdisciplinary in nature
- include international topics / are from international applicants
- from students and early career professionals
- from those who identify with groups that are traditionally underrepresented in science.

Sample topic areas of interest to conference participants include:

- Evidence-based approaches to diagnosis, treatment, and overall care of individuals with acquired brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, neurodegenerative diseases, pain, and cancer
- Applications of technology in rehabilitation research and practice (prosthetics, orthotics, assistive technology, implantable devices, robotic devices)
- Evidence-based approaches for remediation of cognitive impairment, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, sleep disturbances, and pain
- Role of exercise and activity-based therapy in neuro-recovery
- Use of innovative information and communications technology in rehabilitation (telehealth, telerehabilitation, Internet and social media)
- Use of neuro-imaging in diagnosis and treatment
- Methods for translation of evidence into clinical practice
- Alternatives to randomized clinical trials (RCTs) for validating treatment effectiveness and application of RCT findings into clinical practice
- Application of biomechanics, motor control, and learning perspectives in rehabilitation.

For the full guidelines and worksheets, please see [ACRM.org/call](https://www.acrm.org/call)

RESEARCH TO PRACTICE. *FASTER*

1) PRE-CONFERENCE INSTRUCTIONAL COURSES

Instructional courses may be proposed for a four-hour or eight-hour time block, allowing presenters the opportunity to discuss and present a topic in depth. Courses should be either instructional in nature, offering in-depth training or knowledge translation on a particular topic; or informative, providing detailed coverage of an area of research, methodology, or clinical practice. Courses will be scheduled as pre-conference sessions on 26 October 2025 depending upon the length and level of interest in the topic. Instructional courses provide the opportunity for small-group interaction and hands-on activities.

The proposal should include a course title, course director/lead presenter, all presenters with credentials and affiliations, detailed course outline, and duration. The submission must describe the instructional method to be used, and the content and format of presentations. It should also identify the intended audience (i.e., researchers, clinicians, administrators). A concise and descriptive summary of the course is also required for marketing purposes.

There must be multiple presenters identified. All presenters must furnish necessary disclosure information concerning

potential conflicts of interest and must agree to have the course audio or video-recorded for future re-broadcast. Presenters will not be paid a stipend or honorarium. All presentations must be submitted for review prior to the conference.

Selection Criteria

Each complete submission received by the published due date will be independently peer-reviewed. Each proposal is peer-reviewed for the following elements:

- 1) scientific, clinical, or didactic quality;
- 2) interdisciplinary nature;
- 3) broad appeal to the ACRM membership;
- 4) timeliness of the topic;
- 5) and contribution to the state-of-the-art of rehabilitation science.

The conference Program Committee reserves the right to offer alternative or reduced time slots for presentations based on submissions.

2) SYMPOSIA **Proposals Due: see [ACRM.org/call](https://www.acrm.org/call)**

Symposia are 60 minutes in length, presented by professionals with expertise in the topic. Symposia will be scheduled for presentation 27 – 30 October 2025. Desired symposia submissions:

- Show how current research can effectively guide clinical practice.
- Identify clinical questions where additional research data are needed.
- State a direct relationship between the subject matter and evidence-based practice.

The following components are encouraged: interdisciplinary content, presenters from multiple institutions, international presenters, and a point/counterpoint format, as appropriate, for the discussion period.

There must be more than one presenter identified. All presenters must furnish necessary disclosure information concerning potential conflicts of interest and must agree to have the course audio or video-recorded for future re-broadcast. Presenters will not be paid a stipend or honorarium. All presentations must be submitted for review prior to the conference.

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3) SCIENTIFIC PAPERS & POSTERS

Proposals Due: see [ACRM.org/call](https://www.acrm.org/call)

A scientific paper is a moderated oral presentation of 17 minutes including questions and discussion. Outstanding submissions may be chosen for a longer presentation. AV equipment may be used to supplement the presentation.

Posters are graphic presentations of a scientific paper. Submissions must include objectives, hypotheses, methodology, and results in the abstract (see Submission Guidelines below). **Submissions with pending results are not accepted.** Posters are displayed digitally at the Annual Conference. No printed-out posters are required.

Submission Guidelines

A 400-word abstract must follow one of the two structured abstract formats required for submission of general articles to the *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. See the **Instructions for Structured Abstracts** available at [ACRM.org/call](https://www.acrm.org/call).

Structured abstracts for Scientific Poster and Papers must have these sections:

- Research Objective(s)
- Design
- Setting
- Participants (animals or cadavers or specimens, for orthotics only)
- Interventions
- Main Outcome Measure(s)
- Results

continued...

- Conclusions
- Author(s) Disclosures

Systematic/Meta-analytic Reviews must have these sections:

- Research Objective(s)
- Data Sources
- Study Selection
- Data Extraction
- Data Synthesis
- Conclusions
- Author(s) Disclosures

The total length of all sections in the submission must not exceed 400 words. Tables or other graphics are not permitted. Submission must include three to five continuing education learning objectives. This is required whether the abstract is eventually selected for CE/CME or not.

Submission must indicate all participants in the abstract, listing the lead investigator first, followed by all other participants in the order in which they should appear in print. The submitter has the ability to complete all information for each participant, though we recommend that participants log in to the system to complete the information themselves.

Selection Criteria

Each complete submission received by the published due date will be independently peer-reviewed. There should be no more than ONE presenter identified for Scientific Poster and Papers. Each abstract will be reviewed for the following elements:

- 1) Scientific and clinical quality
- 2) Broad appeal to the interests of the ACRM membership
- 3) Interdisciplinary nature
- 4) Timeliness of the topic
- 5) Contribution to the state-of-the-art of rehabilitation science.

Abstract Publication & Poster Awards

All abstracts of accepted papers and posters will be published in the online pages of the ACRM journal *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, where they will be fully searchable and citable. ARCHIVES is the most-cited journal in rehabilitation.

Accepted posters will have the opportunity to be considered for the ACRM Poster Awards. Further, a subset of the poster award winners will have the opportunity to present their poster in a Poster Spotlight session. Digital poster abstracts must be uploaded by the due date as well as registered for the conference to be considered for an award.

4) LAUNCHPAD Proposals Due: see ACRM.org/call

Developed by the ACRM Technology Networking Group, LaunchPad is a rehabilitation technology innovation competition for early-stage health technology companies and rehabilitation research labs/researchers working on technology-based solutions. This is an exciting opportunity to pitch a company or idea to a panel of experts and an audience of clinicians, researchers, engineers, and decision-makers and receive market feedback. For details and application guidelines: ACRM.org/LaunchPad.

“LaunchPad offers a unique opportunity for startups and R&D labs to receive feedback on their rehabilitation technology solutions directly from experts with deep knowledge of health technology R&D, rehabilitation services and technology acquisition” —Tracey Wallace, CCC-SLP, Past Chair of the LaunchPad Task Force

WE BELIEVE IN RESEARCH TO PRACTICE.

FASTER

If you do too, please join us.

As a presenter, as a member & in Chicago for #ACRM2025

ACRM  **PROGRESS IN REHABILITATION RESEARCH**
102nd Annual FALL Conference & EXPO



Full guidelines, the latest deadlines, presenter benefits and online submission system:

ACRM.org/call



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INTERDISCIPLINARY