



## Call for Abstracts – Quality Improvement Projects

**Deadline for submission is January 10, 2020**

You are invited to submit abstracts for the 2020 International Conference on Residency Education. Paper and poster presentations contribute to the conference's dynamic and interactive learning environment. Preference will be given to those submissions addressing this year's conference theme: *"Next Generation Residency Education: Game Changers and Proven Practices"*

Abstracts in ICRE's Quality Improvement (QI) Project category must describe and/or evaluate improvement projects, either led by residents and embedded in a residency QI curriculum, or carried out in a clinical learning environment in which resident education or residency activities are an integral part of the project. QI projects that address quality of care, patient safety, and/or resource stewardship issues and that can be generalized to other residency/fellowship training sites are eligible for consideration.

### **Quality improvement and patient safety in residency education (QI)**

This track explores cutting-edge research and practice as it relates to the competencies required for delivery of safe, quality patient care. Submissions under this track will evaluate improvement projects and explore innovative educational approaches that address quality improvement, patient safety and resource stewardship in residency education.

Abstracts should clearly and succinctly describe the improvement project and its impact on quality of care, patient safety and/or resource stewardship, in 250 words.

### **Guidelines for submitting a high quality abstract:**

**Title:** Should summarize the abstract and suggest how the topic is relevant and important.

**Author names:** *See below for instructions on how to list authorship.*

**Introduction:** Is usually several sentences that outline the question addressed by the project. The first sentence should frame the issue. If possible, provide a concise review of what is and is not known about the problem being addressed, and how your project fills a gap. The final sentence should describe the purpose of the initiative and include a clear aim statement that specifically lists the desired improvement target.

**Methods:** Should describe 1) what QI measures (outcome/process/balancing) were used to evaluate the QI intervention; 2) what change(s) were implemented, and ideally an explicit rationale for why

the proposed changes would be expected to solve the local QI problem; 3) detailed description of the iterative cycles of change (i.e., Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles) used to implement the change(s); 4) analytic approach used to evaluate the impact of the intervention.

**Results:** Provide a summary of the results.

**Conclusion:** State concisely what can be concluded. This must be supported by data presented in the abstract. Describe the implications of the project findings (including implications for residency training if applicable). Include major limitations and future directions

Please [click here](#) to see a **sample QI project abstract**.

## Technical instructions for online submission of abstracts

The following pieces of information are required during the submission process. Please have all information ready prior to submitting, as you will not have the opportunity to save your work in progress.

- **Author information (may or may not be the same as the submitter):** Full address and contact information is required for the main author. For each co-author, you will need to provide, their First Name, Last Name, Institution, City, Province/State and email address. The order of authorship will remain through all publications.
- **List the authors in order of authorship.** Do not include degrees, titles, institutional appointments or addresses. You will be asked to provide first name, last name, institution, city, province/state and email address for each co-author.
- **Topic area:** Select "Implementing quality of care" from the drop down menu.
- **Title**
- **Abstract text:** Note that the limit is 250 words (including headings).
  - Do not use character formatting such as italic, bold, or ALL CAPS in title and text.
- **Presentation type:** Oral, poster or either.
- **Keywords:** A maximum of three keywords can be entered.
- **Presenter:** During the submission process, please indicate the presenter by selecting the check box. The presenter's name will be underlined in the abstract book.

## Instructions for submission and journal publication

1. All abstracts must be submitted electronically, using the submission link below.
2. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words in length (including headings). Single-space all typing, leaving one line space between paragraphs and other elements.
3. Use standard abbreviations such as kg, g, mg, ml, L (litre), mEq, m (metre), mmol (millimole), / (per) and % (per cent). Place special or unusual abbreviations in parentheses after the full word the first time it appears. Use numerals to indicate all numbers (including 1–10), except to begin sentences. Non-proprietary (generic) names are required when a drug is mentioned. e.g., acetazolamide (Diamox).
4. Place acronyms in parentheses after the full term the first time it is used.
5. **Do NOT** include historical data, literature reviews, bibliographies, references or mention of corporate support.

**Note: submissions without results or conclusions indicated may be rejected.**

## Criteria for Research abstract evaluation

- 1) **Introduction, background and objectives**
  - a. Provide a clear description of the quality of care, patient safety and/or resource stewardship gap/problem being addressed.
  - b. If applicable, show a link to existing literature.
- 2) **Summary of the QI improvement project**
  - a. Purpose and aim of the QI project or initiative is clear.
  - b. Clear articulation of the theory or rationale for why the change implemented would be expected to solve the local QI problem
  - c. Demonstrate the degree to which QI methodologies were appropriately used to support implementation and evaluation (i.e., evidence of iterative PDSA cycles, analytic approaches that include small samples of data over time)
- 3) **Conclusions and implications**
  - a. Include a clear statement of the impact and relevance of the improvement project.
  - b. State whether the improvement project can be adapted by other residency programs, specialties or clinical environments.

## Abstract review and selection

All abstract submissions will be acknowledged upon receipt. Submissions will be blinded, and peer reviewed by panels established for the topic area.

In May, the official letter of acceptance will be sent to the submitter of the abstract. In late-June, specific details will be provided to the presenter about the session date, time and location of the presentation along with registration, housing and audio-visual information.

Accepted abstracts will be posted on the Royal College website. The research paper abstracts will also be published in the Journal of Graduate Medical Education (JGME).

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## Top Paper and Top Poster Prizes

The top paper and top poster presentations are selected during the conference. Winners are invited as our guests and recognized at the International Residency Education Awards Dinner on Saturday, September 26, 2020. Recipients receive a certificate and are featured on the Royal College website and publications.

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### Note:

It is presumed that you will present in the language of your submission.

**All presenters are required to register and pay the conference fees and are responsible for covering their own expenses including hotel, travel, and registration fees.**

By submitting their abstract(s), the submitter consents to their contact information being shared with the Journal of Graduate Medical Education (JGME), for editing purposes only.

Progress cannot be saved within the submission site, so please compile all relevant material before beginning the submission process.

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**Questions?**

Telephone 613-730-8177 ext. 364 / 1-800-668-3740 ext. 364

E-mail: [icre@royalcollege.ca](mailto:icre@royalcollege.ca)

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[Click here](#) to access the submission site  
(note that you will be required to create an account)