

Framework rules for abstracts of scientific contributions at congresses of the German Society for Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology e.V. (DGRh)

Important notes

- Abstracts can only be submitted online via the [congress portal](#).
- When submitting, please only use the template we provide. The template for abstracts for all categories is available for download during the submission process and on the congress website [here](#).
- Insert the content into the paragraphs provided (slight deviations are permitted), if needed add pictures or tables. Do not enter the abstract title, nor the details of the (co-)authors (surname, first name, affiliation). That information will be directly entered in the corresponding input fields in the congress portal.
- Submissions from Russia and Belarus-based institutions or authors will not be accepted.

Abstracts can be submitted for the following categories

Diagnosics / Imaging
Digital Rheumatology
Experimental and Translational Rheumatology
Epidemiology and health services research
Paediatric Rheumatology
Osteology
Rheumatologically orthopaedics
Rheumatoid arthritis
Spondyloarthritis
Vasculitis and collagen vascular disease
Miscellaneous
The Special Case (please note the separate information on content and structure)

A. Content and composition of the abstract

- The content and style of the abstract should be informative.
- Make use of scientifically common terminology.
- The abstract must contain at least:
 - a. Specific information on
 - the objectives of the study,
 - the subject of the study (patients, laboratory animals, etc.)
 - the essential methods.
 - b. results, if possible, presented in numbers with a statistical assessment. Reportable results must be available at the time of submission. Abstracts without relevant data will not be considered.
 - c. a clear conclusion
- For reasons of clarity, please use the section structure provided in the template:
 1. Introduction
 2. Methods
 3. Results
 4. Conclusion
 5. References (mandatory)
 6. Disclosure statement (mandatory)
- You may deviate from the structure if it appears unsuitable for the abstracts.
- The background and objectives of the abstract should still be clearly understandable.
- Up to two small tables or diagrams are permitted for a clear presentation of the results.
- Abbreviations should be explained/written out the first time they are used.
- The integration of links and QR codes that refer to additional content is not permitted.
- Abstracts can be submitted in German or English; excluded from this are abstracts for the forum on Experimental and Translational Rheumatology; these must be submitted exclusively in English.
- The presentation will be held in German.

- The pure abstract text should be between 250 and 350 words. Tables, captions and bullet points are not included.

B. Content and composition of the abstract

The forum “The Special Case” presents cases from the diverse repertoire of rheumatological and immunological diseases whose diagnosis or course is impressive due to their rarity, the special presentation of the disease, their surprising outcome or their innovative form of therapy. We hereby invite you to describe and submit your exceptional cases to us.

- Please do not mention the final diagnosis in the title!
- For reasons of clarity, please use the section structure provided in the template:
 1. History
 2. Cardinal symptoms by manifestation of disease
 3. Diagnostics
 4. Therapy
 5. Further course
 5. References (mandatory)
 6. Disclosure statement (mandatory)

C. Regulations for the acceptance of "Encore Abstracts" at DGRh congresses

Encore abstracts are short scientific summaries that have already been published or presented elsewhere in an identical form as posters or specialist articles or that are expected to be published or presented in the period from abstract submission to the start of the congress. Encore abstracts are only accepted by the abstract reviewers for participation in the congress if they contain innovative scientific results (on novel drugs, novel indications or head-to-head studies); in contrast, for example, no casuistics or observational studies. Encore abstracts are also recorded in the applicable abstract categories, can be written in German or English, must be visibly marked as Encore Abstracts for the congress and must be presented in German by one of the authors. If no German-speaking author contributed to the work, an employee of the supporting company may present study results in German as part of the poster exhibition. An oral presentation on an Encore abstract in the context of a session is generally omitted. Selected registration studies are exempt from this. Encore abstracts do not take part in the competition for the DGRh science prizes.

D. Review of the abstracts

1. Each abstract is evaluated by three independent expert reviewers from the relevant subject area who are members of the abstract committee. The evaluation is carried out anonymously, in the ignorance of the authors and their research institutions.

2. The abstract committee is usually composed of members of the program committee. The experts are summoned by the congress presidium.

3. The evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

- a. Criteria for scientific quality are: Assessability and information content according to the rules presented above for the abstract factual-methodological correctness and logical consistency.
- b. Priority is assessed in terms of scientific relevance and originality.

c. The reviewers assess whether the contribution is suitable as a presentation in addition to the poster.

4. The congress presidium makes the final decision on the acceptance of the scientific contributions that have been accepted by the abstract committee. If there are no objections, a contribution accepted by three reviewers is considered accepted. If only two or less reviewers accept the contribution, the presidents will decide after detailed consultation. The basis for the decision is the assessment of the priority of the abstract, taking into account the number of contributions received and the adequate possibility of their presentation.

All accepted abstracts will be exhibited as posters and presented during the poster walks. Only authors are allowed to present. The presidium decides whether the abstract will also be presented as a short presentation in an abstract session or in a regular session). The decision is made taking into account the vote of the reviewers, the topic of the contribution and the time and space available at the congress.

E. Rights notice:

The German Society for Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology (DGRh) publishes all accepted abstracts (excluding Encore Abstracts) on a congress platform provided by GMS gGmbH. The abstracts will receive a publication number and are thus citable. The posters for the abstracts will be presented in analogue and digital form in the poster exhibition at the congress. In addition, the abstracts will be published on a web key for congress participants onsite.

By submitting an abstract, the authors grant the DGRh a free, exclusive right of use to reproduce, distribute and make the abstract publicly available. After the end of the congress, you may also otherwise reproduce, distribute and make the abstract publicly available (Embargo policy).

Berlin, 18.11.2024