



Scientific Program Abstract Submission Guidelines

Submission Opens on September 15, 2025, and Closes on December 1, 2025

The Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists invites the submission of scientific abstracts for presentation at the SCA 2026 Annual Meeting & Workshops to be held from **April 23-26, 2026**.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Submission system **opens on September 15, 2025**.
- Submission system **closes at 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on December 1, 2025**.
 - Additional submissions will not be accepted after the submission system closes.
 - If you do not receive an email confirmation of your abstract submission within 30 minutes of finalizing your abstract submission, please contact SCA Program Team at kflowers@scahq.org.
 - Co-authors must complete their bio and disclosure forms by December 1, 2025.
 - The submission will not be reviewed unless **all** listed authors complete a disclosure form by the deadline.
 - Notifications regarding abstract selection will be sent by the end of January 2026.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ONLINE ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Submission Content and Format Rules

- Submissions will be made to one of the following categories:
 - Basic Science
 - Cardiovascular Anesthesia
 - Case Reports/Medically Challenging Cases
 - Coagulation
 - Critical Care
 - Echocardiography
 - Perioperative Medicine
 - Quality Improvement
 - Structural Heart Disease
- All submissions will include four (4) sections. The content of those sections will depend on the type of submission (i.e. abstract case report):
 - Background / Introduction
 - Methods / Case Report
 - Results / Discussion
 - Conclusion
- Submissions must be in English.
- Submissions must be single-spaced.
- Submissions are limited to a 3,300-character count, which includes body text and spaces. Tables and graphs do not count against the character count.
- Do **not** include the following in the abstract body:
 - Names of abstract authors or institutions
 - References, credits, or grant support

- Titles should be short and specific and should **not** contain abbreviations, quotation marks, or all capital letters.
- Use generic drug/product names rather than trade names.
- Standard abbreviations may be used but should be kept to a minimum.
- Tables, figures, images, or other graphics will only be accepted as still images in the following file formats: .jpg, .png, .tiff, or .bmp.
- No video loops will be considered.
 - ⊖ Only the abstracts accepted for presentation at the two oral abstract presentation sessions will ultimately be able to accommodate video loops.
 - Abstracts/cases that are published or presented at other national and international meetings prior to the SCA Annual Meeting will not be permitted and should not be submitted.
- No abstract will be considered with deferred outcome data. If data is to be presented, it must appear in the original abstract submitted.
- Submissions should include the best available evidence and should not include content that is biased or promotional in nature.

General Rules

- Only abstracts submitted using the online submission system will be considered.
- The submitting author will be designated as the presenting author and must attend the 2026 Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN if the abstract is accepted.
- All communication from/to the SCA will be with the submitting/presenting author only.
- Submissions are not to be completed by other parties on the author's behalf.
- The submitting/presenting author must complete a disclosure of relevant financial relationships at the time of submission.
- Co-authors will receive emailed requests for relevant financial disclosures after the abstract has been submitted. If a co-author fails to submit his/her disclosure form, the abstract will be disqualified.
 - If there is an extenuating circumstance where an abstract author will be unavailable to submit conflict of interest information, please contact SCA at kflowers@scahq.org.
- Once the abstract is submitted, no revisions are permitted.
- An abstract or case may be submitted for consideration to multiple calls; however, the submission will not be accepted for presentation to more than one call. The author must indicate submission to multiple calls at the time of submission.
- Abstracts must summarize an original contribution.
 - If there is any question regarding similarity to earlier work or possible duplication, it is the responsibility of the submitting author to contact SCA at the time of submission (kflowers@scahq.org).
- Abstracts/cases that are published or presented at other national and international meetings prior to the SCA Annual Meeting will not be permitted to be presented.
 - If there is a potential conflict regarding an abstract already being presented or published, it is the responsibility of the submitting author to contact SCA via email at the time of submission. Failure to comply may result in the abstract being disqualified.
- Submitting/presenting author will attest that all co-authors of the abstract have granted consent for the material to be submitted for presentation, and that the submitting/presenting author has been granted the right by all co-authors to act on their behalf.
- Submitted text and images must be HIPPA compliant, including masking of all patient identification material. Images with patient identifiers will not be considered for presentation.
- Submitting/presenting author must attest that the research was approved by his/her institution's International Review Board (IRB) and that informed consent/assent was obtained from each subject and/or parent or guardian.

- Institutional quality improvement committee approval is not sufficient without also having IRB approval or a written statement from the IRB that the study is IRB exempt.
- SCA reserves the right to withdraw an abstract at any time.
- In the event that a change in presenting author must be made after the submission of the abstract, the SCA must be notified in writing as soon as possible, email can be sent to kflowers@scahq.org.
- Poster presentations will be in electronic format for the 2026 Annual Meeting. Authors of accepted abstracts are responsible for submitting electronic versions of their posters for presentation at the Annual Meeting. **The deadline for poster submissions will be Friday, March 20.**
- Abstract authors will not be provided complimentary registration or any other financial support. Presenting authors are expected to register for and attend the meeting.
- **If a different presenting author must be designated after submission, please adhere to the following:**
 - The presenting author must be a co-author listed on the abstract at the time of submission. Please notify the SCA at kflowers@scahq.org to make this change.
 - Presenter changes made after **February 27, 2026** will not be reflected in any printed or online materials or applications.
 - If a co-author cannot be identified to present the abstract, the abstract must be withdrawn from presentation. Please notify the SCA immediately at kflowers@scahq.org.
- If an abstract or case is accepted for presentation to more than one SCA call, it is the authors' responsibility to notify the SCA on acceptance. The SCA Program Committee will work with the submitting author to decide where the submission will be presented.

ABSTRACT REVIEWS

All abstracts undergo a blinded peer-review process and will be reviewed on content organization and clarity, relevance to SCA membership, and methodological strength of study design. Submissions should be well written in a style that is understandable to a non-specialist. The “message” is easily understood by the reader without having to re-read the abstract several times.

- **Background:** Clearly stated study background. If a case report or case series, the reason for presenting the case(s) is clearly stated instead of a study hypothesis.
- **Methods:** Clearly describes the method of data collection (e.g.) prospective data collection or chart review). Statistical methodologies are clearly described.
- **Results:** Data/findings are presented in a manner (description +/- graphics) that is easy for the reader to understand. For case presentations, the appropriate clinical details are included. Descriptive and statistical results are stated. Tables, figures, images, or other graphics add to what is described in the abstract.
- **Conclusion:** Well-stated so that it is obvious how the data supports or refutes the stated conclusions. Case report conclusions should clearly state how observations support a clinical or scientific principle or hypothesis worthy of future study.

BEST OF MEETING PRESENTATIONS

The top-scoring accepted abstracts will be recognized by presenting at one of the two “Best of Meeting Oral Abstract Presentations” sessions held at the Annual Meeting. Authors of abstracts selected for these Best of Meeting sessions will be asked to present their work as oral slide presentations and will be informed of this shortly after abstract acceptance notification.

EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARD

The Research Committee will select the top five eligible abstracts to receive an SCA Early Career Investigator Award (ECIA). Each recipient will be recognized during the SCA Annual Meeting and in the SCA Newsletter, give an oral presentation of the abstract during the Annual Meeting, and receive a \$1,000 travel award to support attendance at the Annual Meeting.

To be considered for this award, authors must identify their submission as ECIA eligible at the time of submission and submit supporting documentation.

Priority will be given to studies that elucidate the pathophysiology of cardiac, thoracic, or vascular disease or explore novel therapeutic possibilities based on mechanisms of disease.

SCA Management will notify you of the status of your application in late January 2025.

General Rules and Eligibility Requirements

- Submitting abstract author must:
 - Be enrolled in an Anesthesiology Residency or Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology Fellowship program or have completed such training in the previous 12 months before the SCA Annual Meeting.
 - Be an SCA member.
 - Have performed the majority of the research.
- The abstract must be submitted to the Annual Meeting's Scientific Program only. Abstracts submitted to any other call will not be considered.
- Joint first-author abstracts are not eligible for consideration.
- The research must be an original, scientifically sound, hypothesis-driven exploration.
- The abstract must be unpublished in manuscript form.
 - The abstract may be simultaneously submitted for publication, but it must be under publication embargo (online or print) until after the SCA Annual Meeting.
- A senior mentor must assume responsibility for the research.

Application Requirements

- The abstract submission form includes a field pertaining to eligibility for the Submitting authors, submitters must select the checkbox to indicate their interest in and verify their eligibility for the award.
- Before the abstract has been submitted, you must upload a letter of recommendation from your senior mentor stating/including the following by **December 1, 2025, at 11:59 PM ET**:
 - The applicant is eligible for the award.
 - The applicant's status in the training program where the research is taking place.
 - A description of the applicant's contributions to the research.
 - The applicant's NIH Biosketch.
 - The senior mentor's role in the project.
 - The senior mentor's NIH Biosketch.

NOTE: ECIA eligible abstracts that do not include the required supporting documentation at the time of submission will not be considered for the award.