



Med+ 2026 abstract competition guidelines

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Introduction and basic details

Please note that the Med+ 2026 abstract competition is not the same as the RCP virtual poster competition and is run by a different team. Should you have any queries related to the RCP virtual poster competition, please see its [webpage](#) and contact the team directly via postercompetition@rcp.ac.uk.

1 Submitter eligibility

Main authors ('submitters') must be a **resident doctor**, and co-authors must be a healthcare professional, work in healthcare, or study medicine or a related field.

For clarification on who is considered a resident doctor, please refer to the [BMA's guide – Doctors' titles explained](#).

2 Submission categories

This year, we are accepting submissions in the categories listed below. Please select the category that best fits your work when you submit your abstract.

- 1 Health services, sustainability, policy and workforce development
- 2 Case reports
- 3 Research (including clinical, digital health, translational and innovation)
- 4 Education, training and medical professionalism
- 5 Quality improvement and patient safety, audit

3 Key dates and deadlines

Wednesday 17 June 2026	Abstract submission period opens
23:59 (BST) on Sunday 30 August 2026	Abstract submission period closes
Late September	Abstract decisions will be sent via email
Late September	Poster submission opens
23:59 (GMT) on Sunday 18 October 2026	Poster submission closes Deadline to purchase the correct quantity and type of tickets
Monday 23 – Tuesday 24 November 2026	Med+ 2026 conference and in-person poster presentations
Tuesday 24 November 2026	Competition winners will be announced during the closing remarks of the conference
By Friday 4 December 2026	Certificates will be provided to eligible participants

*All dates are subject to change.

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4 What are the competition stages?

- Stage 1 – abstract submission – open to all resident doctors.
- Stage 2 – e-poster submission and selection of participation type – open to authors whose abstract has been shortlisted in stage 1. Candidates will choose whether they wish for their poster to be judged online (without a presentation) or in person (poster presentation delivered on site by a resident doctor).
- Stage 3 – online participation (no presentations) **or** in-person participation (poster presentation delivered on site by a resident doctor).

5 Participants

These are the roles that you may have in this competition:

- **Submitter** – the person who submits the abstract in stage 1, usually the main author of the work. This should also be the person who submits the poster in stage 2, if applicable. The submitter is the main contact for each submission, and all communications will be directed to them unless the communication relates to a presenter who has already been nominated. The submitter must be a resident doctor.
- **Presenter** – the person who delivers a presentation in stage 3. The presenter may also be the submitter, but they could be a co-author who has been nominated by the submitter to present the work. Only one person may present each abstract and they must be a resident doctor.
- **Co-author** – a person who has contributed to the work that has been submitted and has been named on the submission in stage 1 by the submitter. A co-author who is a resident doctor may be nominated to be a presenter by the submitter, but this is not compulsory and co-authors are otherwise not involved in the competition. Co-authors must be healthcare professionals, work in healthcare, or study medicine or a related field.

Stage 1 – abstract submission

6 What are the eligibility requirements to submit an abstract?

To enter the Med+ 2026 competition, the main author (submitter) must be a resident doctor, and any co-author must be a healthcare professional, work in healthcare, or study medicine or a related field.

For clarification on who is considered a resident doctor, please refer to the [BMA's guide – Doctors' titles explained](#).

7 When is the deadline to submit an abstract?

The deadline to submit an abstract, as well as to edit a submission, is **23:59 (BST) on Sunday 30 August 2026**. No submissions or edits will be accepted after this date.

8 How do I submit my abstract?

You must submit your abstract via our [submission portal](#). You can also find the link to the portal on the abstract competition page of the [Med+ 2026 platform](#) from **Wednesday 17 June – 23:59 (BST) on Sunday 30 August 2026**.

Your abstract must be submitted in the format outlined on the portal. This includes entering each section of the abstract into the designated area on the portal. We do not accept Word files or any other document types containing the abstract.

9 How do I edit my abstract?

Once you have submitted your abstract, you will receive a confirmation email containing your personalised login details. Please use the [profile login link](#) and your login details to access your account. Then click on 'Your submission' in the left-hand panel to view your submission(s).

You can edit a submission by clicking on the edit button under the 'Actions' column header. You must save your changes for your submission to be updated.

You can edit your submission until the submission deadline of **23:59 (BST) on Sunday 30 August 2026**. No further edits will be permitted after this time.

10 Can I change the order of authors on my submission?

Yes, you can edit the order of authors on your own submission by [logging into your account](#) and editing your submission before the submission deadline. After the deadline (23:59 (BST) on Sunday 30 August 2026) has passed, please contact conferences@rcp.ac.uk for assistance with changing the order of authors. Please include the updated order of authors in your message.

11 How do I list multiple authors who made equal contributions?

The abstract submission portal does not allow more than one author to be listed jointly in any position of authorship, such as two authors being secondary. If this applies to your group, we recommend that you list those who made equal contributions in alphabetical order by last name.

If you are shortlisted to submit a poster, you can record the order of authorship however you like on your poster.

12 Do you accept late submissions?

No. All submissions must be received by **23:59 (BST) on Sunday 30 August 2026**. No further submissions will be accepted after this time.

13 When will I hear if my abstract has been accepted?

We expect to be able to notify all submitters of the decision on their abstract in **late September 2026**. We cannot provide a specific date, as this is subject to judges completing all marking.

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All submitters will receive an email notifying them of their outcome, regardless of what it is. We kindly ask for your patience in awaiting the decision on your abstract.

14 Is there a limit on the number of abstracts I can submit?

No, you may submit as many abstracts as you like, provided that the main author is a resident doctor at the time of submission. Please note, if you have multiple abstracts accepted and wish to enter multiple posters to be judged either online or in person, a separate conference ticket must be purchased per poster for it to be included.

15 What are the guidelines for submitting an abstract?

Before submitting the form, please note that your abstract must meet the following requirements to be accepted:

Eligibility	Main authors (submitters) must be resident doctors . Co-authors must be a healthcare professional , work in healthcare, or study medicine or a related field. Please refer to the BMA article: Doctors' titles explained for further explanation of who is considered a resident doctor.
Language	The abstract summary can only be written in English.
Length	The main body of your abstract must not exceed 500 words . This does not include the title, tables, charts, graphs or reference section.
Structure	Each section should be structured in the following order, where it is logical to do so: 1. Introduction 2. Materials and methods 3. Results and discussion 4. Conclusion
Tables, charts, graphs and figures	Up to two (cropped with title below in body text, rather than embedded in the figure). Please ensure that figures are high resolution and any labels are readable. Tables, charts and graphs are not included in the word count, but should be used to provide evidence and complement your research.
Anonymity	Abstract submissions will be marked anonymously . Do not include author names or supervisors within the main body of your abstract – this will cause immediate rejection .
Originality	We do not accept work that has been published elsewhere , either as an abstract or as a full paper in a journal or website. This does not include presentation at another meeting, as long as the abstract has not been published. If the full paper has been accepted by a journal, it must not be published (in print or online) before this abstract is presented. If the abstract has been presented at

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	another meeting, it is not necessary to state this in the abstract, but it must be included on the poster.
Ethical compliance and consent	<p>Where appropriate, ethical approval must be obtained and written informed consent must be obtained from research subjects. You must state this on your abstract.</p> <p>It is your responsibility as the submitter to ensure that you have received appropriate and informed consent from the patient(s) before making your submission. You do not need to submit any formal documentation, but must have it saved for your records.</p> <p>We do not publish studies/research carried out on animals.</p>
References	You can include a maximum of 10 references per abstract, which must be cross-cited. Full reference guidelines can be found below.

Reference guidelines

- Please include a maximum of 10 references per abstract.
- Reference citations must appear in the text as superscript numbers, set after the punctuation, and numbered in order of appearance. For example: Several studies illustrate this phenomenon.¹⁻³
- In your reference list give the names of up to five authors, followed by their initials, unless there are more than five authors, in which case the first three only must be given, followed by *et al*.
- Use official abbreviations for titles of journals (if available).

References must be written in the following format (based on the Vancouver style of referencing):

Books:

1. Charlesworth A, Hawkins L, Marshall L. *NHS payment reforms: lessons from the past and directions for the future*. London: Nuffield Trust, 2014.

Journal articles:

2. Shahid M, Tindall A. Payment by results: are we missing something? *Int J Health Care Qual Assur* 2013;26:387–91.

3. Chauhan A, Sahota S, Jegatheeswaran L *et al*. Dyslipidaemia and cardiovascular risk – Key considerations in South Asians. *Clin Med (Lond)* 2026;26:100571.

Websites:

4. Overall patient experience scores: 2018 Adult inpatient survey update.

www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/2019/06/20/overall-patient-experience-scores-2018-adult-inpatient-survey-update/ [Accessed 29 July 2019].

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16 What if the structure of my abstract is different from the guidance?

Each section should be structured in the below order, where it is **logical to do so**. If your abstract does not exactly follow this structure, such as if it is a case report, please use a structure that is most logical for your work.

1. Introduction
2. Materials and methods
3. Results and discussion
4. Conclusion

17 Do the title and references count in the 500-word limit?

No, only the abstract body text is included in the 500-word limit. This does **not** include the title, tables, charts, graphs or reference section. Your word count is indicated at the bottom of the abstract text box on the submission portal.

18 Can I enter an abstract if I have entered another competition with the same work?

If your work has previously been entered in another competition or presented at another conference, then you can still enter it into the Med+ 2026 abstract competition.

However, we **do not accept work that has been published elsewhere**, either as an abstract or as a full paper in a journal or website. This does not include presentation at another meeting, as long as the abstract has not been published.

If the full paper has been accepted by a journal, it must not be published (in print or online) before this abstract is presented. If the abstract has been presented at another meeting, it is not necessary to state this in the abstract, but it must be included on the poster.

19 Can I enter an abstract if it has been published?

We **do not accept work that has been published elsewhere**, either as an abstract or as a full paper in a journal or website. This does not include presentation at another meeting, as long as the abstract has not been published.

If the full paper has been accepted by a journal, it must not be published (in print or online) before this abstract is presented. If the abstract has been presented at another meeting, it is not necessary to state this in the abstract, but it must be included on the poster.

Stage 2 – e-poster submission

20 What happens if my abstract is accepted to the next stage of the competition?

If your abstract is shortlisted, you will receive an email in late September to confirm this outcome. You will then be eligible to submit a poster representing your abstract and will have the choice between entering your poster for online judging (no presentation) or attending the conference in person to present your poster.

Regardless of your participation type, your poster must be submitted in accordance with our guidelines, and you must purchase the appropriate conference ticket to accompany your entry.

If your abstract is shortlisted, your acceptance email will contain a personalised link to the poster submission portal, which you must use to upload your poster to your submission.

21 What happens if I have multiple abstracts accepted to the next stage of the competition?

If you have multiple abstracts shortlisted, you will receive one email per accepted submission to confirm this outcome. You will then be eligible to submit one poster per abstract and will have the choice between entering each poster for online judging (no presentation) or attending the conference in person to present your poster.

Regardless of your participation type, your poster must be submitted in accordance with our guidelines, and you must purchase the appropriate conference ticket to accompany each entry.

If you submit multiple posters into different categories, you must purchase the corresponding number and type of tickets. For example,

- If you submit poster A into the online category, you will not present poster A, but it will be judged virtually and compete for the ‘best poster’ award. You must purchase an online ticket for poster A to be judged.
- If you submit poster B into the in-person category, you will attend the conference in person and deliver a poster presentation in competition for the ‘best presentation’ award. You must purchase an in-person ticket to be able to present poster B.

It is not possible to purchase multiple tickets via the platform. Please contact conferences@rcp.ac.uk to arrange multiple ticket purchases; we will need to know the number and type of tickets required, as well as the abstract submission IDs that these tickets relate to.

If you have multiple shortlisted abstracts, each acceptance email will contain a personalised link to the poster submission portal, which you must use to upload your poster to your submission. You must use the specific link in each acceptance email to submit each poster, as these are unique and linked to your individual submissions. Do not upload a poster using a link from another accepted submission.

22 How do I submit my poster?

In your acceptance email, you will receive a personalised link to the poster submission portal. You must submit your poster using that link and follow the instructions provided on the submission portal to upload it. Please ensure that you upload the correct poster to the portal.

If you upload the wrong file or wish to update the poster we have on file for you, please email conferences@rcp.ac.uk and attach it as a PowerPoint document that is no larger than 25 MB (25,000 KB). You may send us your updated poster until the submission deadline at **23:59 (GMT) on Sunday 18 October 2026**, after which no updates will be accepted.

Please ensure that your poster meets the poster formatting guidelines outlines in section 25.

23 When is the deadline to submit my poster?

The deadline to submit your poster via the portal is **23:59 (GMT) on Sunday 18 October 2026**.

If you upload the wrong file or wish to update the poster that we have on file for you, please email conferences@rcp.ac.uk and attach it as a PowerPoint document that is no larger than 25 MB (25,000 KB). You may send us your updated poster until the submission deadline at **23:59 (GMT) on Sunday 18 October 2026**, after which no updates will be accepted.

24 Who can submit a poster?

Posters can be submitted by authors who submitted their abstract in stage 1 and received an email to confirm that it has been accepted.

Main authors and co-authors may create the poster collaboratively; however, the person who submitted the abstract in stage 1 (usually the main author) should be the person to submit the poster via the portal and answer the participation questionnaire.

Online participants: as there **will not be any presentations** taking place in this category, there is no need for anyone other than the submitter to be in contact with us regarding poster submission or participation. Because of this, submitters do not need to nominate any co-authors to complete any part of the competition on their behalf and must submit their poster, complete the questionnaire to indicate participation type and purchase the accompanying conference ticket themselves.

In-person participants – submitter is the presenter: only one person may present each poster in person. If the submitter plans to present their own poster, there is no need for anyone other than the submitter to be in contact with us regarding poster submission or participation. In this instance, submitters do not need to nominate any co-authors to complete any part of the competition on their behalf and must submit their poster, complete the questionnaire to indicate participation type and purchase the accompanying conference ticket themselves.

In-person participants – co-author is the presenter: only one person may present each poster in person. If the submitter plans to nominate a co-author to present the poster on their behalf, they must submit the poster via the portal using the link in their acceptance email and complete the questionnaire to

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indicate participation type and to nominate the co-author who will be presenting. It is then the responsibility of the co-author who will be presenting to purchase the appropriate conference ticket.

25 What are the poster formatting and submission guidelines?

Posters will be displayed on site and online. To ensure parity across the board, all posters must follow the guidance below; **failure to do so could result in your poster not being displayed within the poster exhibition as it may not be compatible with our technology.** An e-poster is an electronic version of the poster you might normally print out for a conference. You do **not** need to print your poster if you are participating in-person.

Template	Please download the template linked below and edit the slide to create your e-poster – do not delete or cover the blue box in the top left corner, as this is where we will add your poster ID before judging begins. E-poster template – Med+ 2026
Title	Save your poster with the title format: Primary author’s name – first 5 words of abstract title , eg ‘John Smith – a collaborative approach to treating’
Format	1-page widescreen (16:9) PowerPoint file. Please use the attached template and do not edit the size of the slide. Your poster must be landscape in orientation. Any posters received in portrait orientation may not be displayed at the conference due to incompatibility with the technology available.
Visual features	We strongly advise against submitting a poster that contains only the copied abstract text. You can include images, colours, charts and logos where necessary, but we are unable to support the use of animations or videos. The minimum font size is 10 for all sections of your poster. This is for consistency and ease of viewing on screen.
Consent	You must declare on your poster that you have obtained the appropriate permissions for collecting and sharing any patient data as part of the competition. You do not need to provide full documentation, but must note that it is the responsibility of the submitter and authors to have followed the appropriate processes for obtaining consent.
References	You must include your reference list on the poster.

If you have more than one abstract accepted, you will need to submit the posters separately. You must use the link provided in each respective acceptance email. A separate ticket is required for every poster that you submit. You cannot purchase more than one ticket via the platform and so will need to **contact us via conferences@rcp.ac.uk for assistance with purchasing multiple tickets.**

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Please note that if you are presenting on behalf of the author, you **must be a resident doctor** and have **purchased an in-person ticket** to the conference.

Stage 3 (online participation)

26 What does the online category involve?

As an online participant, you will submit your e-poster in stage 2 and purchase an online conference ticket. Your poster will be marked virtually by our panel of judges, and winners will be announced on day 2 of the conference during the closing remarks, which you will be able to watch live or on demand via the [Med+ 2026 platform](#). **You will not deliver any kind of presentation.**

You will be competing for the 'best poster' award by entering the online category.

27 Will I get to present my poster virtually?

No. Participants who enter their poster into the online category will not present their poster under any circumstances. If you would like to present your poster at the conference, then you will need to enter the in-person category and purchase an in-person ticket.

28 Will my poster be displayed at the conference?

All participating online posters will be displayed virtually on the [Med+ 2026 platform](#) from shortly after the conference has ended until **27 February 2027**. Posters will be available on the abstract competition page for public viewing (no ticket required).

29 What ticket do I require to participate in the online category?

As an online participant, you require an online ticket for every poster that you have entered into the category.

If you require multiple tickets due to entering multiple posters in the competition, please contact conferences@rcp.ac.uk for assistance.

Stage 3 (in-person participation)

30 What does the in-person category involve?

As an in-person participant, you will submit your e-poster in stage 2 and purchase an in-person conference ticket. Your poster will then be prepared by the team for display at the conference during your poster presentation. Your poster will be displayed on a large TV screen that you will stand next to during your presentation.

Your presentation will be marked by our judges who attend the conference in person, and winners will be announced on day 2 during the closing remarks, which you will be able to attend in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre, or watch live or on demand via the [Med+ 2026 platform](#).

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You will be competing for the ‘best presentation’ awards by entering the in-person category.

31 Do I need to submit my e-poster online if I want to present in person?

Yes. All posters submitted in stage 2 must be submitted as e-posters via the portal in order to be included. This is because all posters will be displayed on large TV screens at the conference to allow easy poster storage and display. During your presentation, you will be able to stand next to the TV screen to interact with your poster.

As a result, you **do not need to print** your poster.

32 Can I present my poster?

Any author whose abstract is shortlisted will have the opportunity to present their poster if they wish. To be able to present, the author must:

- be a resident doctor
- have received an email to confirm that their abstract has been shortlisted
- have submitted their poster via their personalised link to the submission portal, included in their acceptance email
- have answered the questionnaire on the portal after uploading their poster to confirm their participation and presenter status
- have purchased an **in-person** ticket to the conference
- attend their assigned presentation slot to deliver their presentation. Authors who do not attend their assigned slot, or arrive late, are not guaranteed to be able to present.

33 What type of presentation is it?

In-person participants will deliver a **3-minute poster presentation**, followed by a 2-minute Q&A. Please note that this is **not an oral presentation** and cannot be treated as such on any specialty training applications.

Please refer to the [NHS IMT recruitment page](#) (and then click on the grey sub-tab called ‘Presentations’) for a full explanation of the difference between a poster presentation and an oral presentation, and how you can use your participation in this competition to support your training application.

34 When will I present my poster?

You will be allocated to a specific presentation time slot that will take place on either day of the conference.

We will not be able to allocate time slots until nearer the event date, as we need to know the total number of participants before we can begin allocations. We kindly ask for your patience in awaiting your presentation date and time slot.

We will not be sharing specific presentation times within each slot, as you will be allocated to a small group and start/end times may be unpredictable. You must attend at the beginning of your allocated time slot and wait your turn.

35 Can I present my poster with a co-author?

No. Only one person is permitted to present each poster, even if the work was completed collaboratively. It is the responsibility of the authors to decide who will be the presenter.

Please note that the abstract submitter will have priority to present over co-authors. Should the submitter wish to nominate a co-author, they must do so themselves, via the questionnaire on the poster submission portal, or by emailing conferences@rcp.ac.uk. Please note that it must be the submitter who confirms that a co-author will present on their behalf. We will not be able to make any changes without confirmation from them.

36 Do I need to create a PowerPoint slide presentation?

No, you only need your e-poster. You will have your poster displayed on the screen next to you during your presentation, but you will not be able to use a PowerPoint, video or other program/interactivity. Please see the poster formatting guidelines above in section 25.

37 Do I need to print my poster?

No. All posters will be displayed on large TV screens at the conference to allow easy poster storage and display. During your presentation, you will be able to stand next to the TV screen to interact with your poster.

38 I am a co-author of the submitter. How do I inform you that I wish to present the poster on their behalf?

If you will be presenting as a co-author on behalf of the submitter, the submitter will need to confirm this with us. Please ensure that the submitter completes the questionnaire on the poster submission portal or emails us via conferences@rcp.ac.uk to let us know. We will not be able to consider any co-authors as the presenter unless we receive this confirmation directly from the submitter.

39 Which authors will receive communications from the RCP about their abstract/poster?

All communications will be sent to the submitter for each abstract. It is the responsibility of the submitter to pass on any information that is relevant to their co-authors.

Online participants: only the submitter will receive communications about their submission, as there is no circumstance in which a co-author would need to be nominated.

In-person participants – submitter is also the presenter: only the submitter will receive communications about their submission, as they have chosen not to nominate another co-author to present on their behalf.

In-person participants – co-author is the presenter: the presenter will receive only the communications relevant to their presentation, including but not limited to presentation time slot and presenter certificate. However, we will not send any backdated communications about the submission to the

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presenter. It is the responsibility of the submitter to pass our communications onto the presenter and co-authors, if applicable.

40 What happens if I have already presented my work at another conference?

If your work has been previously entered into another competition, or presented at another conference, then you can still present it at the Med+ 2026 competition.

However, we **do not accept work that has been published elsewhere**, either as an abstract or as a full paper in a journal or website. This does not include presentation at another meeting, as long as the abstract has not been published.

If the full paper has been accepted by a journal, it must not be published (in print or online) before this abstract is presented. If the abstract has been presented at another meeting, it is not necessary to state this in the abstract, but it must be included on the poster.

41 Will my poster be displayed at the conference?

All participating in-person posters will be available to view at the conference at various intervals throughout the 2 days, when there are no preparations or presentations taking place. All conference attendees are welcome to enter during the presentation sessions to watch the presentations taking place at that time.

Additionally, all participating in-person posters will be displayed virtually on the [conference platform](#) from shortly after the conference has ended until **27 February 2027**. Posters will be available on the abstract competition page for public viewing (no ticket required).

42 What ticket do I require to participate in the in-person category?

As an in-person participant, you require an in-person ticket for every poster that you plan to present. If you have nominated a co-author to present your poster, they must have purchased an in-person ticket.

If you require multiple tickets due to entering multiple posters in the competition, please contact conferences@rcp.ac.uk for assistance.

43 Can someone who is not a co-author present on my behalf?

While it is technically allowed for a non-author to present a poster with the submitter's consent, we would strongly advise against this. This is because only the presenters are eligible to receive the presenter certificate, and any prizes they may win in the competition.

As a result, it would be more logical to nominate a co-author to present the work, if possible, so that the presenter certificate and any prizes won would go to someone who actually worked on the project, rather than someone who presented the group's work without any of their own input.

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Should you wish to proceed with nominating a presenter who is not a co-author, please ensure that the submitter confirms this by emailing conferences@rcp.ac.uk with their name, email address and confirmation that they are a resident doctor.

44 What happens if I am late or miss my presentation slot altogether?

If you are no longer able to attend the conference to present, please contact conferences@rcp.ac.uk to let us know.

If you are late to your slot or miss it altogether, please find a member of the team when you arrive to let them know the situation. If circumstances allow, we will find another opportunity for you to present your poster; however, please note that this is not guaranteed.

You will not be eligible to receive a presenter certificate if you do not deliver the presentation, even if you are on site at the conference.

Tickets, fees and attendance

45 Do I have to buy a ticket?

You do not need to purchase a ticket in order to submit your abstract to stage 1. However, if your abstract is shortlisted and you wish to submit a poster to participate in the next round of judging, then the appropriate ticket must be purchased.

- If you submit your poster for online judging (no presentation), an online ticket is required.
- If you submit your poster with the intention to present it in person at the conference, an in-person ticket is required.

You must purchase a ticket for every poster that you wish to submit, and the ticket types must correspond with your participation type. For example, if you submit three posters but want to present two of them in person and have the remaining one judged online, then you must purchase two in-person tickets and one online ticket.

If you submit one poster only and require one ticket (online or in person), you can purchase this from the [Med+ 2026 platform](#).

If you submit multiple posters and therefore require multiple tickets, please request assistance from conferences@rcp.ac.uk and let us know how you plan to participate. Please note that it is not possible to purchase multiple tickets via the platform.

46 How many tickets do I require?

You must purchase a ticket for every poster that you wish to submit, and the ticket types must correspond with your participation type. For example, if you submit three posters but want to present two of them in person and have the remaining one judged online, then you must purchase two in-person tickets and one online ticket.

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Med+ 2026 abstract competition guidelines

If you submit one poster only and require one ticket (online or in person), you can purchase this from the [Med+ 2026 platform](#).

If you're submitting multiple posters and therefore require multiple tickets, please request assistance from conferences@rcp.ac.uk and let us know how you plan to participate. Please note that it is not possible to purchase multiple tickets via the platform.

47 Are all co-authors required to purchase a ticket?

No, depending on the participation type only the submitter (for online entries) or presenter (for in person entries) are required to purchase a conference ticket to be eligible to participate in the competition. Co-authors who do not wish to attend the conference are not required to purchase a ticket.

If co-authors wish to attend the conference, either online or in person, then they must purchase an appropriate ticket from the [Med+ 2026 platform](#); however, this is not compulsory.

48 How do I purchase multiple tickets?

If you submit multiple posters and therefore require multiple tickets, please request assistance from conferences@rcp.ac.uk and let us know how you plan to participate. Please note that it is not possible to purchase multiple tickets via the platform.

49 When is the deadline to purchase a ticket?

You must purchase your Med+ 2026 ticket(s) by **23:59 (GMT) on Sunday 18 October 2026**. If you have not purchased your ticket(s) by then, your submission(s) will be automatically withdrawn.

50 Do I have to attend both days of the conference?

No, you do not have to attend both days of the conference; however, in-person participants do need to be prepared to attend on either day of the conference, depending on when their presentation slot is allocated.

Please also note that it is not possible to purchase a 1-day ticket to the conference. All tickets include full 2-day access to the content, therefore we encourage you to attend on both days to benefit from all of the sessions, workshops and hands-on activities, as well as networking opportunities.

51 Is it possible to purchase a 1-day ticket?

It is not possible to purchase a 1-day ticket to the conference. All tickets include full 2-day access to the content; therefore we encourage you to attend on both days to benefit from all of the sessions, workshops and hands-on activities, as well as networking opportunities.

52 Can I request a fee waiver?

No. Unfortunately we are not able to offer any fee waivers or specific financial support under any circumstances.

53 Is there a discount available?

One author per shortlisted abstract will be eligible for a discount of 10% from their ticket price. Submitters will receive this code in the email that confirms their acceptance. Please note that this discount cannot be applied retrospectively. If it is not used at checkout, it cannot be claimed as a refund.

Tickets are priced based on RCP membership status and career grade. Please refer to the [Med+ 2026 platform](#) for a breakdown of ticket prices.

54 Can I withdraw my submission?

Yes, you can withdraw your submission at any time by emailing conferences@rcp.ac.uk.

If you withdraw your submission after you have purchased a ticket, you can choose between keeping your ticket and attending the conference without participating in the competition, or cancelling your ticket subject to our [cancellation policy](#).

Any poster submissions received without an appropriate accompanying ticket by the deadline will be automatically withdrawn.

Results and prizes

55 What are the prizes available?

The prizes available differ, depending on whether you compete in the online category or attend in person to present. Please note that the RCP does not split or duplicate prizes under any circumstances and will only provide the appropriate prizes to the specified recipients.

- Online participants will compete for the 'best poster' award. Only the abstract submitter will be eligible to receive these prizes.
 - The winner will receive £250, an online-only ticket for Medicine 2027 and a certificate, and their abstract will be forwarded to the RCP journals team for review and potential publication in one of the [RCP journals](#).
 - The runner-up will receive a certificate, and their abstract will be forwarded to the RCP journals team for review and potential publication in one of the [RCP journals](#).

- In-person participants will compete for the 'best presentation' award. Only the presenter will be eligible to receive these prizes.
 - The overall winner will receive £500, an in-person ticket for Medicine 2027 and a certificate, and their abstract will be forwarded to the RCP journals team for review and potential publication in one of the [RCP journals](#).
 - The runners-up (those who deliver the best presentation in each category) will receive a certificate and their abstract will be forwarded to the RCP journals team for review and potential publication in one of the [RCP journals](#).

56 When will the results be announced?

All results, for online and in-person participants, will be announced during the closing remarks of the conference on day 2.

In-person participants can watch the closing remarks in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre, or online on the [Med+ 2026 platform](#), via the programme tab.

Online participants can watch the closing remarks on the [Med+ 2026 platform](#), live or on demand, via the programme tab.

57 Where can I find the winners?

Winners' names and abstract titles will be added to the abstract competition page on the [Med+ 2026 platform](#) on **Wednesday 25 November 2026**.

58 Will my abstract be published?

If you are a winner or runner-up, then your abstract will be forwarded to the RCP journals team for review and potential publication in one of the [RCP journals](#).

If you are not a winner or runner-up, then your abstract will not be published.

All posters that are eligible for judging (online and in person) will be added to our virtual exhibition on the [Med+ 2026 platform](#) after the conference has ended, and they will be available for public viewing (no ticket or login required) until **27 February 2027**, 90 days after the conference has ended.

59 Will my poster be displayed at the conference or online?

All posters that are eligible for judging (online and in-person) will be added to our virtual exhibition on the [Med+ 2026 platform](#) after the conference has ended, and they will be available for public viewing (no ticket or login required) until **27 February 2027**, 90 days after the conference has ended.

Posters that will be presented in person will be available for viewing by all conference attendees throughout the conference whenever preparations or presentations are not taking place.

Posters submitted for online judging will not be available for viewing on site at the conference.

60 Can the RCP split prizes between co-authors?

No, the RCP will not split or duplicate any prizes and will only provide them to the eligible recipients.

- Online participants will compete for the 'best poster' award. Only the abstract submitter will be eligible to receive these prizes.
- In-person participants will compete for the 'best presentation' award. Only the presenter will be eligible to receive these prizes.

Med+ 2026 abstract competition guidelines

If you would like to split prize money between co-authors, then it is your group's responsibility to organise this privately once the eligible recipient has received the money from the RCP.

Certificates

61 What types of certificate are available and who is eligible to receive them?

Provided that an appropriate ticket has been purchased for the poster submission, the following certificates are available.

- **Certificate of shortlisting** – will confirm the submitter and co-authors' names and state that the abstract was accepted. This certificate will read the same for both in-person and online submissions and will confirm that the poster was displayed in the virtual exhibition, as all eligible posters will be displayed there regardless of participation type.
- **Presenter certificate** – will confirm the presenter's name only and state that a 3-minute poster presentation was delivered in person at the conference.
- **Winner/runner-up certificate** – will confirm the winner/runner-up's name and category only.

62 When will I receive my certificate?

You will receive your certificate of shortlisting and presenter certificate (if applicable) by email by the end of the week after the conference has ended, **Friday 4 December 2026**. We kindly ask for your patience in awaiting your certificates.

You will be able to download your own conference attendance certificate for CPD points on the [Med+ 2026 platform](#), via the 'my certificates' tab. We will not issue these by email.

63 How will I receive my certificate?

You will receive your certificate of shortlisting and presenter certificate (if applicable) by email. Each certificate will be downloadable from an individual link included in the email.

Winners and runner-up certificates will be sent by email and will contain the certificate as an attachment.