

ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference Call for Abstracts

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1. **Key Dates and Submission Site**

Original, International, Encore Abstracts

Submission opens: July 01, 2020 at 8:00 am ET

Submission closes: September 30, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. ET

Submission fees*

Early bird submission fee: \$50 from July 01, 2020 – September 14, 2020 at 11:59 pm ET

Standard submission fee: \$100 from September 15, 2020 – September 30, 2020 at 11:59 pm ET

*Submission fees are administrative fees and are not meant to be punitive in nature. Submission fees are **NOT** refundable for any reason.

Notification of abstract status will be provided in late December of the submission year.

To submit an abstract, please visit

<https://www.abstractscorecard.com/cfp/submit/login.asp?EventKey=GQBHWGYY> and follow the instructions provided. Please note, abstract submitters must create a new account for the submission site each year. Submitter and/or author information is not transferred from year to year.

For questions on abstract submission, contact Sara Fleming at saraf@nutritioncare.org.

2. **Abstract Submission Options**

Original Abstracts - *unpublished basic or clinical research and data, practice abstracts, retrospective studies, vignettes, or case studies.* Research methodology may range from prospective, randomized trials, and systematic reviews to quality improvement projects and unique case reports. Depending on review score, these abstracts may be presented in poster sessions, paper sessions, rapid fire research sessions, and/or the Research Workshop. Original abstracts are eligible for **Original Abstract Research Awards**: Harry M. Vars and Promising Investigator, Research Trainee, Best International Abstract, Research Workshop Travel, Best of ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference, and Abstracts of Distinction. You must OPT-IN to be considered for the Vars/ Promising Investigator, Trainee, or Research Workshop awards. See added information in item #12 on page 8 of this document.

Encore Abstracts - *abstracts previously presented at another conference or previously published in a peer-reviewed journal.* Encore abstracts are eligible for presentation at ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference if the abstract was previously presented at a conference or submitted to a journal no more than 6 months prior to the abstract submission deadline. These abstracts will be presented as posters and are not eligible for Original Abstract Research Awards, except abstract of distinction.

International Abstracts - *Original or Encore Abstracts submitted by an investigator residing in a country other than the United States.* In addition to the awards noted above, Original International Abstracts are eligible for the International Abstract Research Awards: Best International Abstract or International Abstract of Distinction. Submitters must opt-in at the time of online abstract submission to be eligible for awards.

3. Abstract Topics

During the online abstract submission process, you will be asked to categorize your abstract according to ASPEN's six primary abstract topic areas to ensure that your abstract is reviewed appropriately. Please review **Table 1** below that summarizes these six groups of research in nutrition therapy and metabolism that ASPEN typically accepts. You will need to select at least one, but no more than three topic areas that are most relevant to your abstract. **The list is not all inclusive; you should select the best fit for your abstract.**

Table 1. Abstract Topic Areas

Group # 1 Parenteral Nutrition Therapy	access devices acid-base chronic / degenerative disease and PN compatibility complications diabetes – glucose control disease or condition specific PN drug–nutrient interaction fluid - electrolyte funding & reimbursement	home / alternate site indications lipid formulations macro & micronutrients monitoring nutrition support teams (related to PN) quality control & improvement (related to PN) safety shortages & alternative products stability
Group # 2 Enteral Nutrition Therapy	access devices chronic / degenerative disease and EN complications diabetes – glucose control disease or condition specific EN drug- nutrient interactions formulas funding & reimbursement	home and alternate site indications macro & micronutrients monitoring nutrition support teams (related to EN) quality control & improvement (related to EN) reimbursement safety
Group # 3 Malnutrition, obesity, nutrition practice concepts and issues	bariatrics bariatric surgery and complications body composition complementary & alternative medicine chronic diseases and nutrition related to malnutrition education ethics evidence-based practice exercise physiology guidelines	malnutrition malnutrition coding metabolic syndrome nutrition and taste obesity payers and malnutrition nutrition assessment nutrition support teams related to malnutrition or obesity quality control & improvement related to malnutrition or obesity- bariatric
Group # 4 Critical care and critical health issues	burns cancer cardiac critical care immunodeficiency and immunonutrition infection inflammation intestinal failure perioperative concerns (glucose control, CHO loading)	pharmaconutrition (related to critical care and critical health issues) pulmonary sepsis trauma wounds surgery transplant
Group # 5 GI and other nutrition and metabolic– related topics	allergy basic nutrient research biotics cholestasis chronic & degenerative disease endocrine gastroenterology geriatrics gut microbiota hepatic and pancreatic disease and conditions insufficiency	IBD metabolic pathways metabolomics nutrigenomics neurological disorders osteoporosis pharmacokinetics pharmaconutrition pancreatic insufficiency (cystic fibrosis) renal short bowel
Group # 6 Pediatric/ Neonatal/ Pregnancy/ Lactation	ketogenic diet NEC neonatal neonatal bone NICU & PICU	pediatric malnutrition pediatric short bowel PNALD pregnancy & lactation

4. **Abstract Methodology Types/Categories**

You will need to select the single methodology category that most closely represents your abstract.

Research Methodology	Examples
Basic Science	“Bench research” <i>In vitro</i> studies or animal research
Clinical Science	Observational or interventional clinical trials, case-controlled or case studies, registry driven analyses, qualitative studies
Education, Quality Control & Improvement	Education or quality improvement programs, non-scientific surveys, programmatic communication
Meta-analyses, Systematic Review	Meta-analysis or Systematic Review of other studies

Sample Abstracts - All ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference abstracts must present qualitative or quantitative data that are directly relevant to the topic of the abstract. Abstracts describing only methodologies, concepts, or other topics will not be accepted without accompanying data or results. Case studies are exempt from the requirement for extensive data but must be unique, providing learning points or unusual clinical presentations.

Research Agenda - In 2018, ASPEN’s [Research Agenda](#) was updated and published. This document, will familiarize abstract authors with investigative priorities established by our Society. Authors are encouraged to be aware of and, when possible, submit abstracts reflecting these core research areas. Please note that this is not a requirement, but rather a statement of ASPEN’s priority research interests.

5. **Disclosure Information and Off-label Discussion**

Disclosure information is required for **all authors** at the time of submission of the abstract. If any of the abstract authors have financial relationships with a commercial interest (any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients) that are relevant to the topic of the abstract, the following needs to be submitted for EACH author:

- *Company name* (commercial interest).
- *What was received* (i.e. honorarium, financial support/grant or research funding/equipment or supplies, fee for service; ASPEN does not want to know amounts, just the description of what was received)
- *Role played* (such as speaker bureau, employee, consultant, PI on a supported grant, or other financially beneficial relationship)

Providing accurate disclosure information is mandatory, and failure to do so will result in an inability to participate in the conference programming in any capacity.

If the abstract discusses off-label uses (product applications that are not approved by the U.S. FDA) of licensed pharmaceutical or medical device products, the authors will need to identify the product and the nature of off-label use.

6. **Presentation Type**

You must choose one of the following options as your presentation preference:

- oral presentation
- poster presentation
- either oral or poster

The Abstract Review Committee will try to accommodate preferences, but the final presentation type will be dependent on the score the abstract received.

7. **Abstract Writing Standards**

Presenting Author - The presenting author is required to attend ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference if the abstract is accepted. This is particularly important for those who wish to Opt-in for consideration for the Vars Award. There are no financial stipends available to cover expenses.

Abstract Character Count - A maximum of 3780 characters, approximately 500 words, including spaces and punctuation is allowed. This does not include title and author/institution list.

Accuracy, Grammar, Spelling - If accepted, YOUR ABSTRACT WILL BE PUBLISHED AS SUBMITTED. ***You are 100% responsible for spelling, grammar, and scientific accuracy.***

Tables and Images – It is important that you follow these instructions as well as those in the submission site. A maximum of 2 tables converted to an image file, and 2 images /figures /charts (jpg) are allowed per abstract. There are no character count limits for these items. Images should be set at 300 dpi in order for clarity in print. Free graphics software include: www.irfanview.com; www.gimp.org; www.getpaint.net. **The submission site CANNOT ACCEPT PowerPoint, Word, PDF or Excel files as table or image uploads. If your images are not readable after submission, they may not accompany the published version of your abstract in JPEN.**

Author Personal Information - When submitting an abstract provide the following information for all authors:

- First and last name
- Credentials/Degree (e.g. MD, PhD, RD, RN, RPh, PharmD, MBBS, etc.)
- Job/position title; Institution/organization
- Business address including City, State/Province, Country, zip
- Email address
- Conflict of interest disclosure information

Abstract Revisions - You may login to the [submission site](https://www.abstractscorecard.com/cfp/submit/login.asp?EventKey=GQBHWGY) or type the URL <https://www.abstractscorecard.com/cfp/submit/login.asp?EventKey=GQBHWGY> into your browser as many times as necessary to complete the submission process until the submission deadline. ASPEN will only review your abstract if you have completed the submission process, including the payment step, by the submission deadline. **Revisions will NOT be accepted after the submission deadline.**

8. **Abstract Acceptance Criteria**

ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference abstracts must meet the following criteria for acceptance:

- Abstract submitted in English, including tables/charts and figures
- Relevance and uniqueness of the study or presentation to the field of nutrition therapy and metabolic support
- Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts that: address unique or emerging nutritional issues; contribute new information to the field; show strong applicability to or improvement of nutrition therapy practice or metabolic support
- Clarity of the introduction, hypothesis, or purpose for the study or presentation
- Quality of the research design and methodology
- If relevant, the hypothesis is clearly stated
- Methods are clear and appropriate
- Sufficient sample size to validate conclusions
- Investigators took measures to control for threats to validity and reliability
- Validity and sufficiency of the data
- Enough data or findings to form conclusions
- If relevant, statistical analysis of the data is appropriate
- Study was completed
- Relevance of the conclusions to the data
- Case studies and vignettes are exempt from the requirement for extensive data; however, must be unique, providing learning points or unusual clinical presentations
- Abstract carefully reviewed for spelling, grammar and formatting
- Abstract is free of promotional material, and it is not commercial in nature
- Brand names for products or services are not mentioned in the title, but may be mentioned once in the methodology section

9. **Abstract Selection Process**

Review and Selection Process - The ASPEN Abstract Review Committee conducts a rigorous peer review of all abstracts submitted. On average, ASPEN accepts approximately 85 - 90 percent of all abstracts submitted. There will be no reconsideration of non-accepted abstracts. Abstracts are selected for poster presentations or oral presentations, and may additionally be selected for poster presentations at the Research Workshop. There is no refund of the submission fee if the abstract is not accepted.

If your abstract has been accepted for presentation, but you are unable to attend ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference, contact Sara Fleming at ASPEN as soon as possible at saraf@nutritioncare.org. You will have two options: 1) Designate a co-author on the abstract as the new presenting author; or 2) Withdraw the abstract. There is a withdrawal deadline of January 01, of the conference year. Refunds will not be issued for abstracts that are withdrawn.

10. **Abstract Publication and Copyright**

All accepted abstracts are published online in the [*Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition \(JPEN\)*](#)

Original Research- You will be asked to transfer the abstract copyright to *JPEN*, ASPEN's scientific journal, for your original abstract. All authors must agree to this. Read further instructions in the online system.

Federal Employees- Federal employees may select the box indicating there is no copyright to convey.

Encore Abstracts - Encore abstracts (previously presented at another conference or submitted to a journal no more than 6 months prior to the abstract submission deadline can be submitted, but will not qualify for Original Abstract Research Awards and will be presented as posters. If you are submitting an

abstract that was previously presented, you will advise ASPEN via a checkbox in the abstract submission site. You must provide the name of the conference and the date it was presented. If the abstract was previously published, the full citation is requested. In either case (published or presented), if you wish to have ASPEN republish your work in *JPEN* online, we must have formal re-publication (re-print) permission from the conference organizer or journal publisher, whoever holds the copyright for the abstract. **It is your responsibility to obtain permission to re-print** your work from the copyright owner, and to submit it to ASPEN, saraf@nutritioncare.org. **If permissions are not received by January 11, 2021, your abstract title, author list, and encore status will be published without the abstract text.** If the previous conference/journal did not take copyright, there is a check box indicating that you have the right to convey it to ASPEN.

11. Submission/Registration & Travel Fees

Submission Fees- The cost of submission for Original, Encore, and International Abstracts is \$50 per abstract during the early bird submission period and \$100 during the standard submission period. If an abstract is not accepted, the cost of submission will NOT be refunded. Abstracts that are voluntarily withdrawn will NOT have the submission fee refunded.

Registration & Travel Fees- Visit www.nutritioncare.org/conference and click Attendees. ASPEN will make every effort to notify all abstract authors of their acceptance status prior to the early-bird registration deadline. You are encouraged, however, to register for ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference when you submit your abstract. If the early-bird deadline has passed, ASPEN may extend it for abstract authors. Individuals who have an abstract accepted into the conference program as a poster or oral presentation are responsible for their own travel and conference registration expenses.

12. Original Abstract Research Awards

Abstract Awards Consideration - You must opt in to be considered for most Original Abstract Research Awards. There are some obligations associated with the awards, and you must certify that you acknowledge and will accept those obligations if your abstract is selected. Detailed information regarding the obligations are included in the online submission system.

ASPEN offers the following awards:

1. Harry M. Vars Award and Promising Investigator Award –

General Overview:

- Recognizes and honors an Early Career Investigator (details below) who has submitted a top-scoring original abstract, and demonstrates excellence via a manuscript and oral presentation at the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference Premier Paper Session.
- The Vars winner is awarded \$1,000 and the runner up in the competition, the Promising Investigator, is awarded \$750.

Vars and Promising Investigator Candidates Are Chosen According to the Following:

- Candidates have chosen to participate in the Vars competition by opting in on the Abstract Submission Site.
- The candidate has submitted an Original Abstract (abstract represents original work that is presented for the first time at the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference). Abstracts presented at other national meetings will not be considered
- The abstract score as determined by the Abstract Review Committee.
- The quality of the candidate's manuscript
- Presentation and responses to questions at the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference Premier Paper Session.

The presentation evaluation criteria include:

- Command of material; expertise commensurate with level of experience and training
 - Quality of slides
 - Clearly states background, relevance, and rationale for the study
 - Clearly states hypothesis, study design, and methodology
 - Presents data relevant to research questions/study aims
 - Presents complicated concepts & results at level understandable to general audience
 - Appropriate organization of the presentation in support of the manuscript including the overall timing of talk
 - Summarizes appropriately; findings interpreted with appropriate level of caution
 - In control of speaking situation and poised/composed during Q/A
 - Articulately handles responses, explanations, and discussion during Q/A
 - Input from the audience via popular vote in the conference app
- The Promising Investigator Award is given to the runner---up for the Vars Award. Selection is based on the same evaluation criteria.

Vars and Promising Investigator Candidates must comply with the following Criteria and Responsibilities:

- The presenting author is specified at the time of abstract submission and will attend the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference to present their abstract at the Premier Paper Session. The presenter/Vars candidate must be listed as the first author in the author list and if an unexpected event occurs prior to the conference that prevents that Vars candidate from presenting, ASPEN has the authority to make other arrangements on a case by case basis.
 - The presenting author is an Early Career Investigator (he/she is within 10 years of completing a terminal research degree, medical residency, end of post-graduate clinical training, must be at a career level of assistant professor (or the equivalent) or lower, and is the primary contributor to the research represented in the abstract.
 - The presenter must not have obtained funding (other than career development awards/young investigator awards) from a large governing research body such as the NIH or equivalent in the US or another country. [Please check the NIH list to verify US affiliated awards.](#)
 - A manuscript based on the candidate's abstract will be produced and submitted to *JPEN* prior to the stated submission deadline. On behalf of ASPEN and the Research Committee, it is recommended that each candidate submits their manuscript for detailed proof reading to ensure academic and written English proficiency prior to submission to *JPEN*. Failure to meet the deadline will result in disqualification of the candidate. Note: Manuscript submission does not guarantee acceptance by *JPEN* editors.
 - All candidates will attend the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference to present their abstract in the Premier Paper Session.
 - All candidates must also attend the Rhoads Lecture and Awards Ceremony in preparation for the Vars Award or Promising Investigator Award recipient announcement. One candidate will receive the Vars Award and the runner up will receive the Promising Investigator Award.
2. **Research Trainee Awards** – honor investigators still in training who have submitted top-scoring original abstracts to the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference. \$500 travel award.
 3. **International Abstract Research Awards** – honors international investigators who have submitted top-scoring original abstracts to the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference.
 4. **Research Workshop Travel Awards** – honors Early Career Investigators who have submitted top-scoring original abstracts to ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference that align with the year's Research Workshop topic. Up to \$1,000 travel expense award.
 5. **Resident Physician award.** Physicians in resident training programs may be eligible for complementary registration, given an accepted abstract.

Awards not requiring opt-in:

6. **Abstracts of Distinction** – Awards given to first authors of top-scoring abstracts that display extraordinary originality, explore new aspects of a topic, and/or investigate unique aspects of a subject. Submitters are not required to opt-in to compete for this award.
7. **Best of ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference.** For each of ASPEN's six abstract categories (Parenteral, Enteral, Malnutrition/Obesity/Practice concepts, Critical Care, GI, Pediatric/ Neonatal), the presenting author of the top-scoring (non-Vars candidates) will be acknowledged with a certificate and will be published in *JPEN* awarded abstracts. Winning Encore must provide ASPEN with permission to reprint their abstracts from the copyright owner prior to January 08, 2020.

Abstract Type	Abstract Research Award Eligibility					
	Vars/Promising Investigator	Research Trainee	International	Research Workshop	Abstracts of Distinction	Best of ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference
Original	Yes	Yes	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*
Encore	No	No	No	No	No	yes

***Submitters whose abstracts are selected as Vars Candidates are not eligible**

For more information, visit [ASPEN's Research Awards](http://nutritioncare.org/Research/Awards/Original_Abstract_Awards/) webpage or type the URL http://nutritioncare.org/Research/Awards/Original_Abstract_Awards/ into your browser. Encore Abstracts are accepted for poster presentations and are ineligible for these awards.

13. Resources

The following resources are available to assist with preparation of ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference abstracts.

- [ASPEN's Poster instructions](#)
- [Poster Templates and Printing](#)

Research Agenda 2018: The American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

Volume 42 Number 5

July 2018 838–844

2018 American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

DOI: 10.1002/jpen.1312

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Financial disclosure: None declared.

Conflicts of interest: None of the authors have any personal or financial conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest relative to this publication.

Received for publication May 14, 2018; accepted for publication May 17, 2018.

This article originally appeared online on July 12, 2018.

Keywords

electronic medical record; enteral nutrition; health services research; malnutrition; metabolome; microbiome; nutrition assessment;