



# SURF 2024 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**Online Abstract Submission Deadline: Friday, March 15, 2024  
at 11:59 pm, CST**

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## Overview

San Antonio Texas is a unique city, serving as a leader in government and civilian healthcare research through organizations including the San Antonio Military Health System (SAMHS), The University of Texas Health San Antonio (UTHSA), The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), The University of the Incarnate Word (UIW), Texas Biomedical Research Foundation and the Veterans Administration (VA). These institutions invite you to the tenth annual San Antonio Military Health Systems and Universities Research Forum (SURF), a conference that attracts presenters from around the nation to showcase the work of students, trainees, faculty, and staff. The forum will be hosted on June 24-25, 2024, at The Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center in downtown San Antonio.

While this is the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the SURF conference we are still changing and innovating. With this in mind, in 2024, the SURF conference will be held in conjunction with the Military Medical Industry Day (MMID) and BexarBio to create a new meeting concept, the AIM Health R&D Summit bringing together (A)cademia, (I)ndustry, and (M)ilitary researchers. The AIM Health R&D Summit will be co-sponsored by SURF, Velocity Texas, the City of San Antonio, and Bexar County. This new meeting will maintain the original mission of the SURF conference which was to “advance research collaborations among academic, military, and industry partners to improve health outcomes and readiness.” Most importantly, with this new expanded meeting format, everyone will be able to present and share research, practice, and policy knowledge; and connect not only with scholars and practitioners from the SAMHS, academic institutions, but now with other public, government, and private organizations, small businesses, and industry partners.

The SURF Committee invites you to join the AIM Health R&D Summit, and present your research, results, and perspectives across a spectrum of themes, from battlefield health and trauma to precision medicine and emerging technologies.

Submit your abstract by March 15, 2024, and be a driving force for change. Let us redefine research, clinical practice, and healthcare together.

## General Abstract Submission Guidelines

We invite abstracts that propose original research, policy, and practice interventions as podium and poster presentations. Submit abstracts through [the SURF 2022 abstract submission website](#) by Friday, **March 15, 2024, at 11:59 pm, CST.**

### Themes

Research, practice, and policy interventions will be presented in paper and poster sessions, panel discussions, and symposia according to the themes below. Abstracts submitted in the “Other” category will be grouped by the abstract reviewers into panels of related papers or posters.

1. Aging/Healthy Aging
2. Clinical Investigations
3. Dental Research
4. Emergency Medicine
5. Emerging Technologies
6. Health Systems Research
7. Human Performance
8. Infectious Diseases
9. Mental Health/Sleep
10. Neuroscience
11. Nursing Research
12. Pain Research
13. Precision Medicine
14. Regenerative Medicine and Biomaterials
15. Trauma Research
16. Traumatic Brain Injury
17. Wound Healing

### Abstract Types

There are two types of presentations for which we are soliciting abstracts: 1) Podium and 2) Poster. Please follow the instructions below to submit your abstract in response to your preferred presentation type. If you submit for consideration as a podium presenter but are not selected, you will automatically be considered for a poster presentation.

#### Podium Presentations

An abstract for consideration of a podium presentation should share the results of a quantitative, qualitative, or other analytical methods study. These studies are based on original data collection or secondary data analysis. Research paper abstracts should be mature both conceptually and methodologically, ideally with some preliminary data analysis.

#### Poster Presentations

Poster presentations provide a forum for scholars to engage in active discussion with other event participants about a completed research project or about a project

in developing stages. Poster presenters will have the opportunity to display their posters on large frames (provided) during a networking and poster session.

### Abstract Preparation Instructions

All podium and poster abstracts must be submitted online via the SURF 2024 Call for Abstracts [Application Form](#).

Abstract content:

1. Title (up to 225 characters).
2. Abstract (no more than 500 words) must contain the following sections: Background, Objective, Methods, Results, and Discussion/Conclusion.
3. Abstracts without results or case reports will not be accepted.
4. Do not include pictures or tables in the abstract.
5. All Air Force Investigators must submit a Form 3039 and a copy of their abstract to the Clinical Research Division (CRD) at [usaf.jbsa.59-mdw.mbx.wing-crd-publications-and-presentations@mail.mil](mailto:usaf.jbsa.59-mdw.mbx.wing-crd-publications-and-presentations@mail.mil) no later than 30 days before final clearance is required to present your materials. Form 3039 is located at: <http://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/59mdw/form/59mdw3039/59mdw3039.pdf>.
6. Army and Navy investigators are similarly required to clear their presentation materials through their respective Public Affairs offices prior to presentation at SURF 2024.

### Online Abstract Submission Instructions

All podium and poster abstracts must be submitted online via the SURF 2024 Call for Abstracts [Application Form](#). On the submission page, you must provide:

- **Author Information:** First and last name, email, organization (list department and institutional affiliations), and designate the corresponding author(s). Be certain to enter the names, affiliations, and contact information for all coauthors as well.
- **Title:** No more than 225 characters.
- **Abstract:** No more than 500 words. NOTE: Reviewers will not review abstracts greater than 500 words.
- **Keywords:** Include key phrases or key terms associated with your work.
- **Theme:** Designate the appropriate theme(s).
- **Submission Categories:** Indicate whether you are proposing a podium paper or poster presentation.
- **Upload File:** Upload a Word document using the required formatting instructions provided in the “Abstract Preparation Instructions” section above. Abstracts may be published in online or printed format. NOTE: Reviewers will not have access to this Word document file, only the abstract that was entered into the form.

When the online submission form is complete, press the “Submit” button. The corresponding author will receive a confirmation email from the proposal submission system.

### Abstract Formatting Instructions (for Word Document Files)

The uploaded Word document file for paper (podium) and poster abstracts should be formatted as follows:

- **Title:** Arial font, 12-point, centered, boldface, and all caps.
- **Author(s):** Use Arial font, 12 pt, centered, and boldfaced with presenter(s) name first. Provide first and last names, credentials, department, college/school (if applicable), and institutional affiliations (e.g., Jill Hernandez, Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering, College of Sciences, The University of Texas at San Antonio).
- **Abstract Body:** Arial font, 12-point, use 1” page margins on all sides. Indent the first line of each paragraph by half an inch. Use both left and right justification. Superscripts and subscripts sized at 9-point.
- Please include acknowledgements and funding support. NOTE: If this information limits the size of abstract body, please extend the text to an additional page.

### Abstract Submission Timeline

Friday, February 2, 2024	Online abstract submission opens
Friday, March 15, 2024, 11:59 pm CST	Deadline to submit abstracts
Thursday, March 20, 2024	Abstract review notification
Monday, April 3, 2024	Deadline to accept/decline invitations to present
Monday and Tuesday, June 24-25, 2024	AIM-Health R&D Summit

### Evaluation Criteria for Abstracts

Each podium and poster abstract will be evaluated based on the criteria below. Each criterion will be scored from 0-5, with 5 being excellent. Each abstract must demonstrate:

- **Originality:** How original is the concept presented in this abstract? Or, how original is the new approach to an old problem?
- **Logic:** Are the ideas presented in this abstract well-reasoned?
- **Quality:** contains a clearly stated hypothesis or issue and contains a background, methods, results, and discussion/conclusions section. Free of significant grammatical errors.
- **Significance:** originality, impact on the understanding of the topic of study
- **Validity:** How valid is the research design for the stated objectives, and how appropriate are any statistical techniques applied? For abstracts describing research

studies, please include enough information to understand the experimental design/approach followed.

- **Synergy:** Is there potential for significant collaboration in the research?

### Contact Information

Have questions? Please email [MHI@uthscsa.edu](mailto:MHI@uthscsa.edu).

### Accommodations Notice

The AIM Health R&D Summit team is committed to providing universal access to all our events. Please contact the SURF Program Manager at [MHI@uthscsa.edu](mailto:MHI@uthscsa.edu) to request disability accommodations. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.