

Late-Breaking Clinical Trials and Science Submission Guidelines

The Heart Rhythm Society recognizes that stimulating and rapidly developing research may not have been completed in time for the regular abstract submission deadline of December 3, 2025. To highlight this timely and innovative work at Heart Rhythm 2026, the Heart Rhythm Program Committee will develop peer-reviewed sessions consisting of late-breaking science and late-breaking clinical trials.

Important Information

The Late-Breaking Science submission site will open **Monday, December 22nd, 2025**. Each submission will require a fee of \$175 for HRS members and \$275 for non-members. This fee will be charged to the submitting author for each abstract submitted. The submission fee will directly fund travel grants to assist fellows-in-training and will support enhancements to the presentation of abstracts. Payments must be made by credit card during the submission process. Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted.

All submissions must be received no later than **Wednesday, February 4th, 2026, at 11:59 PM Eastern Time**. Abstracts submitted after the deadline will not be considered. *Submitting authors will be notified about the acceptance/rejection of their abstract via email no later than **February 20, 2026**.*

LBCT Author Designation

LBCT authors can be comprised of three distinct types:

- **Submitting Author:** the author who officially submits the abstract to the Heart Rhythm 2026 LBCT Submission Site. The submitting author does not have to be the first author and does not have to be the presenting author. However, all correspondence regarding the abstract submission and decision will be directed to the submitting author. This information should be reviewed to ensure that the current and correct email address is provided.
- **Presenting Author:** the author, regardless of author order, who will present the abstract, should it be accepted for presentation at Heart Rhythm 2026. *Please note that the submitting author or first author is not automatically assigned as the presenting author.* The presenting author must be designated in the submission as shown below (here, you can see that the first author is not designated as the presenting author).

AUTHOR ORDER	PRESENTER	AUTHORS	REMOVE AUTHOR
1	<input type="radio"/>	Ms. Vanessa Lopez - More Info	Remove
		<input type="button" value="+ Show Affiliations"/> *Affiliation Edit <input type="text" value="Heart Rhythm Society"/> <input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="Remove"/>	
2	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Sarah Albright Alfano - More Info	Remove
		<input type="button" value="+ Show Affiliations"/> *Affiliation Edit <input type="text" value="Heart Rhythm Society"/> <input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="Remove"/>	

- **Co-author(s):** all additional authors contributing to the abstract.

The Society has instituted an “Author Search” tool for use during abstract submissions. This will allow you to search the HRS database for your co-authors. For consistency, spell out all co-author names and avoid using initials. This will allow the correct information to appear in the index of all Heart Rhythm 2026 publications, website, and mobile applications. If an individual is not in our database, the system will prompt them to set up an HRS account, which is required. It is strongly encouraged that all abstract co-authors create an HRS account prior to abstract submission and author search.

To avoid scheduling conflicts, an abstract author may serve as the Presenting Author for no more than five (5) abstracts.

Investigator/Presenting Author Requirements

- Only one investigator per trial can be considered the presenter.
- The submitting author must guarantee that all co-authors are familiar with the data, agree with the stated results, have agreed to be included as authors, and have given final approval of the submitted abstract.
- If an investigator belongs to multiple submissions, the investigator’s name must be identical in each submission. This will ensure consistency and assist in the indexing process for all Heart Rhythm 2026 publications. Each author’s prior registration with HRS <https://heartrhythm.com/attend/registration> will facilitate this process.
- A completed submission constitutes a commitment by the presenting author to present the abstract if accepted. All presentations will be conducted live in Chicago, IL. There will not be an option for virtual or pre-recorded presentation.

*Please note that while the Submitting Author will receive correspondence regarding the **acceptance decision** for the abstract, the Presenting Author is the one who will receive the official **invitation to present** as well as further details including presenter resources, session details, and scheduling information. Please make sure to review your author list and have the correct Presenting Author identified prior to submission. If the Presenting Author is unable to present, a co-author may be identified to present in his/her place after contacting HRS staff via email at abstracts@hrsonline.org to request this change.*

Criteria

Evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

1. Impact of the research
2. Novelty and rigor of the study design

3. Clinical endpoints
4. Quality of the statistical plan

Rules for Submission Eligibility

- If a submission has already been accepted as a general abstract for the Heart Rhythm 2026 meeting, it will need to be withdrawn if accepted as a Late-Breaking abstract submission. Please be aware that the withdrawal period between Late-Breaking notifications and general abstract withdrawal is very short. You must withdraw your general abstract by February 24, 2026.
- Submissions are not eligible for consideration if the manuscript of the submission will be published prior to Heart Rhythm 2026 (April 23 – 26, 2026).
- Submissions are not eligible for consideration if the trial results have been presented at a major international meeting held prior to Heart Rhythm 2026 (April 23 - 26, 2026).
- Submissions that appear to be redundant versions of a single study and/or selling a product versus discussing science will be rejected.

Late-Breaking Clinical Trials and Science Categories

1. **Late-Breaking Randomized Clinical Trials and Innovative Studies:** First-time presentation of primary or major secondary results from a prospective, randomized clinical trial. First-time presentation of results of clinical applications of novel therapeutic or diagnostic approaches to heart rhythm disorders.
2. **Late-Breaking Clinical Trials Updates and Registries:** Follow-up analyses from prospective, randomized clinical trials or first-time presentation of high-impact information from multicenter clinical registries or observational studies.
3. **Late-Breaking Science:** Innovative research that includes the latest breakthroughs in basic and/or clinical science that could have a significant impact on clinical practice.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AND PREPARATION GUIDELINES

Abstract Title

- An abstract must have a short, specific title (containing no abbreviations) that indicates the nature of the investigation.
- Titles should **not** include the authors' names or institutions.
- Always use the correct title case (e.g., Only the Best of the Best in Medicine Study Electrophysiology).
- The abstract title is not counted in the character count limit (2,500) designated for abstract submission.

Abstract Text

When entering text, please remember:

- Use generic drug names.
- Do not begin sentences with numerals; numbers at the start of sentences should be spelled out.
- Standard abbreviations may be used without definition. Non-standard abbreviations (which should be kept to a minimum) must be placed in parentheses after the first use of the word or phrase abbreviated.
- Do not include references, credits, or grant support.
- Do not include the names or personal information of any patient participating in the study or trial.

Please note that because of the submission site's text box system, you will not be able to upload your abstract into the submission site. You must either type the text in or cut and paste the text from another document. You will still be able to upload images.

Abstract Data

- Multiple abstracts appearing to be redundant versions of a single study will be rejected.

- Abstracts are not eligible for consideration if published prior to Heart Rhythm 2026. No abstract may be presented at Heart Rhythm 2026 if it is substantially similar to material presented or to be presented at a major international meeting held prior to Heart Rhythm 2026.
- Individuals who have submitted abstracts to other major international meetings and await notification of acceptance may also submit abstracts for Heart Rhythm 2026; however, upon acceptance from another organization, it is the responsibility of the submitting author to notify the Heart Rhythm Society by **March 6th, 2026** to withdraw the abstract.
- The Heart Rhythm 2026 Program Committee endorses the position of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in requiring assurances of the responsible use of animals in research ([AAAS Resolution: Use of Animals in Research, Testing, and Education](#)). All submissions must follow these guidelines.
- Any human experimentation must conform to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki of the World Medical Association ([WMA Declaration of Helsinki](#)).
- The Presenting Author must ensure that all co-authors are familiar with the data, agree with the stated results, have agreed to be included as authors, and have given final approval of the submitted abstract.
- **Industry Abstract Submissions:** All submissions are required to focus on science and research, and not products or services. Abstract presentation may not be sales presentations and/or endorsements of products or services.
- The Heart Rhythm Society reserves the rights of reproduction, distribution, display and derivatives in both print and digital format. Upon their abstract's acceptance, authors will be asked to read and comply with the Heart Rhythm Society's Release and Authorization for Webcasts, and Enduring Products.
- SEC Exception: A publicly traded company may determine that it is legally required to disclose certain data or other information from a confidential abstract in advance of the public release date to satisfy requirements of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission or a corresponding regulatory body in a country where the company's stock is traded (collectively, "SEC"). This need typically arises when there is a substantial likelihood that the information would be considered by a reasonable investor in the company to significantly alter the total mix of information made available to the investor. The abstract is still eligible for inclusion at the Heart Rhythm 2026 meeting provided that the company submits to HRS, in advance of the release, a letter signed by the company's legal counsel that contains the abstract title, indicates the format/nature of the public disclosure, and advises that (a) public disclosure of the information is necessary for the company to comply with applicable securities laws, and (b) the information disclosed is limited to the minimum necessary for such compliance. HRS also requires that the lead author be copied on the request.

Abstract Format

The total number of characters allowed for the submission is 2,500. This character count does include spaces and does not include the abstract title. Figure and table files will reduce the character count by a maximum of 560 characters each, with the magnitude of the reduction calculated by the submission system based on the size of the image file.

Section Headers

Introduction:

Methods:

Results:

Application:

Next Steps/Future:

Graphics/Figures

1. Keep figures simple – line or bar graphs are most appropriate.
2. Ensure text is large enough to be read when printed.
3. Use only pre-sized .gif or .jpg.
4. Save color images in RGB mode.
5. Ensure images are at least 300 dpi.
6. You are limited to one figure and one table per submission, submitted as an image file.

Abstract Revisions

- Carefully proofread the abstract content and make any necessary revisions before the submission deadline.
- Corrections or changes are not allowed after the submission deadline.
- The only adjustment allowed after the submission deadline is a change in presenting author, which can be requested by emailing abstracts@hrsonline.org

Accepted Submissions

General Information

- Acceptance/Rejection Notification: Announcements will be sent via email no later than **February 20, 2026**, to the submitting author.
- Accepted Late-Breaking abstracts are embargoed until 1 hour prior to their presentation in Chicago. This means that the Society will release to Sessions' attendees these abstracts on the day of the presentation, at the times designated below:
 - Friday, April 24, 2026 9:00 AM CT: LBCT Session #1 beginning at 10:00AM CT
 - Saturday, April 25, 2026 7:00 AM CT: LBCT Session #2 beginning at 8:00AM CT
 - Saturday, April 25, 2026 10:00 AM CT: LBCT Session #3 beginning at 11:00 AM CT
 - Sunday, April 26, 2026 7:00 AM CT: LBCT Session #4 beginning at 8:00 AM CT
 - Sunday, April 26, 2026 10:30AM CT: LBCT Session #5 beginning at 11:30 AM CT
- The Heart Rhythm Society reserves the rights of reproduction, distribution, display and derivatives in both print and digital format. Co-authors reserve all proprietary rights other than copyright, such as patent rights and the right to use all or part of the application in future works of their own.
- Titles and presenters will be listed online in the Heart Rhythm 2026 Program/Online Planner.
- The Late-Breaking abstracts will be published on the Heart Rhythm website shortly after the embargo lifts during the Heart Rhythm 2026 meeting and will be included in an upcoming issue of the *Heart Rhythm* journal.
- Authors of accepted abstracts are encouraged to submit full articles of their findings to *Heart Rhythm* for expedited peer review and potential publication in the journal, either simultaneously with or soon after the presentation. See the *Heart Rhythm* [author guidelines](#) for more information on manuscript preparation and submission.
- Disclosure of relationships: the presenting author will be required to provide the Heart Rhythm Society with all financial relationships with ACCME-defined ineligible companies.

Registration

- The presenting author is required to register for Heart Rhythm 2026, but will be charged a reduced registration fee. This discount will be applied automatically to accepted presenting authors, with automatic retroactive refunds as appropriate.
- Any expenses associated with the presentation of an abstract are the responsibility of the presenter.
- Only one author per abstract is considered the presenter. Co-author(s) listed on the abstract do not receive reduced registration fees.

Questions? If you have questions about submitting a Late-Breaking abstract for presentation at Heart Rhythm 2026, please contact HRS Staff at abstracts@hrsonline.org.