



SOMA 2019 Scientific Assembly Call for Abstracts and Presentations

SOMSA 2019 is May 6-10, 2019 in Charlotte, North Carolina

Submission Deadline: Monday, October 1, 2018 (no exceptions)

The SOMSA Program Committee seeks proposals for presentations, labs, and research abstracts that address important medical challenges and issues, increase the knowledge and skills of SOF and civilian pre-hospital providers and promote the development of new best practices and technologies.

Proposal submissions will be considered for the following types of sessions:

- General Session: 30-60 minutes
- Pre-assembly Lab: 2, 4, or 8 hours
- Concurrent Track Session: 30-60 minutes
- Research Abstract (Podium or Poster): 15-20 min podium or 60 min poster session

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS

Proposals for the assembly should be submitted electronically [here](#) by **October 1, 2018**. Unless noted otherwise, only proposals submitted through the online submission site will be considered. Interested parties can also access the online submission site from the SOMA website. **The proposal submission site asks for author contact information, title, a brief description of the topic that will be used in the online brochure, session type, and an abstract (detailed outline) of no more than 300 words.** Submitters will need to indicate if they are a medic or otherwise and civilian or military. Submitters of multiple-authored proposals will be asked to provide information for the additional authors.

CONCURRENT TRACK SUBMISSIONS

Submitters will be asked to select the target audience for their proposal from one of the following concurrent tracks:

- Military SOF
- Tactical EMS
- Human Performance & Resiliency
- Unconditional Warfare & Global Health Engagement
- International
- Research

The Program Committee will determine if a proposal is suitable for a General Session slot and also where the content of the proposal best fits the overall program. The more information you provide, the more likely your proposal will be selected.

RESEARCH SUBMISSIONS

We seek innovative, rigorous, original research as focus submissions in topics relevant to the mission of SOMA. The Research concurrent track's goal is to disseminate emerging and ongoing research initiatives, in addition to enabling scholarly collaboration among colleagues and members of pre-hospital/operational medicine. We expect medics and forward providers to co-author/co-present relevant submissions and will give significant preference to submissions with medic collaborators. The use of the English language is expected. Studies in progress are welcome to submit abstracts, provided at least pilot and/or preliminary analyses are completed by May 2019.

In particular, we seek and strongly encourage abstract submissions addressing:

- 1) neuroendocrine and/or physiological influences on mental health and suicidality (in particular, rigorous studies or developed hypotheses that refute, redefine, and/or reframe assumptions and previous findings on resilience, post-traumatic stress disorder [PTSD], biomarkers, neurocognition, etc.)
- 2) practice advancement (in particular, prolonged field care advancements/technologies and virtual health/telemedicine)
- 3) research-driven training (in particular, using internet and social networking platforms, studies examining simulation vs live-tissue training, etc.)
- 4) biomedical/engineering breakthroughs (in particular, proof-of-concept and/or nascent devices, technologies, pharmacotherapies, blood products, etc.)

Research submissions must include the following content in order to be submitted under the "research" category. Otherwise, the submission will be evaluated for one of the other session types. "Expert panels" or consensus-based approaches to SOF medicine are ineligible for consideration in the research program. For all author(s) please provide **rank, name, credentials, position, organization, city, state, country**. Please include these 4 section titles within the body of your 300-word abstract:

- Background
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusion/Discussion

No figures, tables, images or symbols may be used except < and the like. You will be asked to provide acknowledgements of funding, prior presentations, conflicts of interest and any scientific or ethical oversight.

Poster presentations are less formal, but not less rigorous or substantive, than oral presentations. Rather than delivering an address before an assembled audience, poster authors present their work interactively to groups of interested people with the aid of a visual display that summarizes research findings or information presented. Posters are displayed in a central location so that attendees can peruse the posters and converse with the authors. Poster presenters will be given presentation guidelines to help best display their research.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Program Committee and/or Research Committee will evaluate a proposal topic's relevance and value to SOMA's target audiences as well as the source, depth and quality of the content represented. Awards (4) will be presented for top podium and top poster abstracts delivered by both a non-medic and a medic as judged by a review committee on-site.

Final decisions on which proposals will be included in this year's program will be made by **November 15**. Submitters will be notified about the status of their proposals via email shortly thereafter.

INQUIRIES

Questions concerning the scientific assembly or the proposal submission process should be directed to:

Melinda O'Brien

SOMA Education Program Administrator

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