

The abstract submission deadline for MSF Scientific Days is 06 December 2026 @ 23:59 GMT.

MSF Scientific Days will take place in London at the Royal Society of Medicine on **29 April 2027**.

Abstract word count: 400 words

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING A RESEARCH ABSTRACT

Content

Your abstract should give enough information about your research project clearly and concisely.

Introduction

Why was your research needed and what was your aim in doing it?

- Please describe the relevant background, e.g. the setting and the reason for MSF's presence.
- Programme descriptions: the introduction must describe your programme and what it aims to do.
- Explain why this study/medical programme is needed – what information gap is it addressing?
- Describe the aim of the study/medical programme and methodology.

Methods

What did you do?

- Research studies: describe what was done and when; how the data were collected and analysed; and ensure your comparison group is clear.
- Programme descriptions: describe how you analysed the programme; avoid duplicating information in introduction and methods sections; and include any comparison group or programme if available.

Results

What did you find out?

- Research studies: report the main outcomes relevant to the study aims and methods. Give actual numbers as well as percentages, with clear denominators; report standard deviations (SDs) with means, interquartile ranges (IQRs) with medians, and 95% CIs and p-values where appropriate.
- Programme descriptions: report the main programme outcomes relevant to the stated aims.

Conclusion

What should MSF or others do with your results?

- Explain the significance of your main findings – why are they interesting? Are you the first to report this? Is this the largest cohort? Is this a unique cohort? Don't just repeat your results again.
- Explain the implications (potential impact) of your study/programme – what this means for practice, policy, or advocacy for MSF or others. Do not overstate your implications.
- How would you like your results to be used by MSF? Propose next steps and a way forward.
- Please include any limitations of your study/programme.

Ethics

All abstracts must have appropriate ethics oversight. MSF-authored abstracts must also be approved for submission by the relevant Medical Director. MSF abstracts will be sent to the relevant Medical Director so that they are aware of what has been submitted. See the [MSF Ethics Review Board \(ERB\) guidance](#).

Application Process

Support

Assistance is available to review/assist in abstract writing. If you require this, please contact scientificday@london.msf.org as early as possible.

Abstract review

Abstracts are rated according to quality of scientific content and relevance and importance for a medical humanitarian audience.

Selected abstracts are usually offered an oral or poster presentation. However, where the Editorial Committee considers that an abstract is particularly suited to an alternative format, authors may be offered this option. **Authors will be responsible for developing and producing the content and materials, with guidance from the Scientific Days team.**

Poster authors may also be offered an opportunity to produce a video or give a one-minute presentation to support their poster.

Abstract editing

Abstracts accepted for oral presentations will be edited. The aim is to ensure that presenters are fully prepared to meet questions that may be raised during the conference and to ensure that MSF research is presented clearly and appropriately.

Authors must be available to revise abstracts according to the conference timeframes. **Please note that the offer of an oral presentation or poster involves commitment by authors to meet deadlines and to respond to points raised by the Editorial Committee.**

Abstracts will be edited for language readability, scientific clarity, consistency, and adherence to abstract guidelines (see Content section above).

Edited abstracts will include questions/points raised by the Editorial Committee – these must be addressed in the abstract revision.

Note: poster abstracts are not published and therefore not edited. Authors will receive an edited version of their title and author affiliations to check for inclusion in the conference booklet.

Presentation/poster editing

Presentations and posters will be reviewed to ensure that poster and presentation guidelines are met – in particular around ethics statements, image use (author and copyright information included, including for maps; consent and ethics of using images of people or patients, particularly children), and clarity/accuracy of language.

Oral presentation practice

To ensure all oral presenters are fully prepared to present to both an in-person audience and an online audience of thousands, public-speaking training is available ahead of MSF Scientific Days and is highly recommended for anyone who would find it useful.

All presenters are required to take part in at least one practice session with the MSF Scientific Days team and/or Editorial Committee representatives, regardless of their level of presentation experience. These sessions help us ensure that presentations are clear, engaging, appropriate for the audience, and meet the standards expected of the event. MSF Scientific Days has a strong reputation for high-quality presentations, and the team reserves the right to require additional practice where needed.

Content sharing

All abstracts, posters, slides, and videos of oral presentations will be shared on the [MSF Science Portal](#). Posters will be shared in advance of the conference and tweeted via @msfsci. Highlights of the day will be written up for blogs and potentially further publication.

Conflicts of interest

You will be asked to declare any conflicts of interest. Failure to disclose these might lead to withdrawal of abstracts or presentations from MSF Scientific Days. All conflicts of interest will be published in the conference booklet.

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organisations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. All submissions must include disclosure of all relationships that could be viewed as presenting a potential or actual conflict of interest.

If there are no conflicts of interest, authors should tick the box to state that there are none.

Authorship

Please ensure that the names of all authors from the research team who qualify for authorship are included in the submission. Please note, we would expect to see authors from the countries where the research is conducted.

If your abstract is selected for presentation, we strongly encourage teams to consider nominating someone directly involved in the operational response or programme to present the work. MSF Scientific Days aims to bring operational perspectives to the forefront, and we particularly welcome presentations from colleagues who can speak to the context, relevance, and application of the research in practice.

Deadlines

MSF Scientific Days

Abstract submission deadline: **06 December 2026 at 23:59 GMT**

Applicants whose abstracts are not selected for MSF Scientific Days will be notified by **19 February 2027**.

Other MSF Scientific Days family regional events

All abstracts submitted to MSF Scientific Days will also be considered for the wider MSF Scientific Days family regional events. These occur throughout the year in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. There is also a second submission window specifically for these regional events – the deadline for this is TBC.

Get in touch

If you have any questions, please get in contact with us: scientificday@london.msf.org