

Guidance for Oral and Poster Submissions

The NAPICU Annual Conference invites you to present completed research, or practice related projects as part of the Conference.

WHO CAN ENTER?

Any individual(s) from an LSU or PICU Service with a completed piece of work relating to psychiatric care in PICUs or LSUs.

Submissions from individual members of the NAPICU Executive Committee are not eligible to win the prize.

ORAL OR POSTER?

Oral - NAPICU will offer a limited number of oral presentations during the Annual Conference alongside the invited keynote speakers. These will be 15–20-minute slots.

Poster- NAPICU will also have posters presented during the conference with interactive poster session with our judges, fellow delegates, and exhibitors on Thursday 19th September with drinks and light refreshments.

You can either submit your abstract for oral poster or either Oral or Poster, please note the judges will confirm the type of presentation for each submission once all abstracts have been evaluated.

HOW TO ENTER

For both oral and Poster submission applicants should submit an abstract between **350 – 500 words** (a maximum of 350 words if a table or figure is included). The word count does not include the title or references.

Topics- Please consider which topic your abstract best fits into:

- ♦ **Research**
- ♦ **Quality improvement**
- ♦ **Service development**
- ♦ **Service Evaluation**
- ♦ **Other** – you can give details when submitting
Please use the Abstract template [here](#) - following the abstract structure as follows:
- ♦ **Introduction or background** – a brief introduction to or the background of why you chose to carry out your particular research/project, linked to key policy or journal references as appropriate
- ♦ **Aims & Objectives** – the aim is what you were trying to achieve overall; the objectives are
 - ♦ the key pointers you wish to achieve in order to demonstrate you have achieved your aim
- ♦ **Method** – describe the type of study, e.g. whether it was a qualitative or quantitative study; then whether it was research, audit, or a practice based project
- ♦ **Results** – state your findings
- ♦ **Conclusion** – discuss your findings in their immediate context relating to the literature base; draw conclusions from your findings and describe the implications

♦ **References** – use Harvard style, where each reference is numbered in order of use. Abstracts are reviewed anonymously, so please do not include any identifying information on the abstract, such as the names of authors or organisation. You will be able to add the authors and co-authors online when making the submission.

JUDGING CRITERIA

A multi-disciplinary panel of judges will shortlist applications from the submitted abstracts to be invited to present either an oral presentation (15-20 minutes) or a poster at the conference.

Each abstract will be judged on objective evidence on the following criteria:

- ♦ **Abstract Title:** Does the title fully represent the study and the method used?
- ♦ **Introduction:** Is the introduction clear and is this piece of work relevant to understanding or advancing the care of people with Mental Health.
- ♦ **Aims:** Are the aims clear?
- ♦ **Methods:** Were the objectives, design and methods of this piece of work informed by a sound rationale?
- ♦ **Results:** Are the main findings clearly described and supported with evidence?
- ♦ **Conclusion:** Do the conclusions match the findings?

PRIZES

The Oral presentations will be judged at the conference and the winner will receive £200. The NAPICU Poster Presentation Prize is £100 for the author. The authors will also be offered the opportunity to publish their work in the Journal of Psychiatric Intensive Care. (Subject to peer review) The winners will be announced at the Gala Dinner Awards on **Thursday 17th September 2026**.

SUBMITTING AN ENTRY

All applications should be submitted electronically [here](#)

Closing date for receipt of entries is **Monday 25th May 2026**

A multi-disciplinary panel of judges will consider the applications and shortlisted applicants will be contacted after the **Monday 8th June 2026**.

Successful oral and poster submitters must register and pay for the conference by Monday 3rd August 2026.

Successful oral presenters will be required to submit a final abstract, biography and photograph for the conference programme and abstract book.

Successful poster submitters will be required to submit a PDF version of the poster before the start of the Conference so that it can be displayed on the NAPICU conference App or website.