

## Abstract Guidelines

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstract submission opens: 21 September 2017
- Abstract submission closes: 8 January 2017
- Abstract notification: Week commencing 26 February 2018

***Abstracts received after the deadline will not be accepted.***

### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

**The internet abstract submission system works best with Mozilla Firefox:**

- Cookies needs to be enabled
- All pop-up blockers should be turned off

### DEFINITIONS

- **Submitting author:** person who physically submits the abstract
- **Presenting author:** person who will physically present the abstract at the conference and who is marked as the presenter in the program
- **First author:** First author cited who scientifically endorses the abstract and is therefore responsible for its content

### RULES

*Failure to observe these guidelines may result in disqualification.*

1. Click on the "ABSTRACTS" section of this website and follow instructions as given. Please note that you will be asked to register yourself if you have not used the system before. Once registered you will be sent confirmation of your username and password, which you can subsequently use to log in and modify / submit any new abstracts.
2. The correct **topic** must be selected to ensure correct scoring. The content of the abstract must be topic related.
3. Abstracts must contain data and meet international ethical standards.
4. Abstracts submitted should not have been previously published or presented at another National British meeting

5. Abbreviations should be defined.
6. Do not use subtitles, eg: Method, Results etc.
9. The abstract cannot contain more than **3500 characters** (blank spaces, punctuation).
10. It is undesirable to end abstracts with such phrases as "the findings will be discussed" as this is unhelpful to future readers.
11. When you submit an abstract for the first time you will be asked to create an account. You will be able to use the same details to login and register. Once you have submitted your abstract you will also be given a unique Reference Number. Please make a note of these so that, if required, you can recall and update/amend your submission. Abstracts can be amended up to **midnight on Monday 8 January 2018** when the submission site closes.
12. Please ensure that your abstract does not contain spelling, grammatical or scientific errors. No corrections are possible after the submission deadline. The abstract will be **reproduced exactly as submitted in the event materials**. No proofreading will be done of the scientific content.
13. Type the title, authors and addresses using Proper Case (i.e: do not use all capitals).
14. Only use international ASCII characters in your abstract text
18. If you need to withdraw your abstract, a written statement reflecting the reasons for this decision must be sent to **bsh2018abs@mci-group.com, no later than 15 January 2018**. After this date, abstracts can still be withdrawn, but we will be unable to remove them from the event materials.

#### **AFTER THE SUBMISSION**

1. The Programme Committee reserve the right of final decisions regarding acceptance of abstracts and the form of presentation.
2. The submitting authors will be notified in **February 2018**, at the email address provided during submission, whether their abstract has been accepted. It is the author's responsibility to ensure that emails from BSH can reach them. They will be informed at the same time about the date, time and format of their presentation.

#### **PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACTS**

1. Abstracts can be accepted either as a poster or oral presentation.
2. If your abstract is accepted as a poster, you will be requested to be available for discussion during the corresponding moderated poster viewing session. Please use letters large enough to be read from a distance of 1.5 meters (4.9 feet).
3. Oral presentations will be advised of presentation date and length of presentation once abstract has been accepted.
4. Full presentation guidelines will be included in the acceptance letter and posted on the conference website.

#### **ABSTRACT TYPING INSTRUCTIONS**

Maximum word count is 3500 characters.

##### **Formatting your abstract**

Please use International characters only. Please type in "Normal sentence case", not all in CAPITALS. Reduce abbreviations to a minimum, especially non-standard ones, and define at first use. Abbreviations should not be used in the title. Make the title intelligible to all. Use only use normal keyboard characters. Separate each paragraph with one hard return.

Please do not use hard returns at the end of each line - the text will wrap automatically. All abstracts will be reproduced exactly as submitted so please check the text for typing errors before you submit

Please use the buttons provided to format your abstract title and text. The following formatting is available: Bold, Italic, Superscript, Subscript, Symbol/custom character, Copy, Paste as plain text, Select all, Undo, Redo.

If you are pasting content we strongly advise using the "paste as plain text" button in the toolbar along with the "custom character" button, if any erroneous characters remain you will be alerted on submission and given the opportunity to amend.