

2008 STS 44th Annual Meeting



Call for Abstracts & Surgical Videos

You are invited to submit abstracts and surgical videos for the STS 44th Annual Meeting to be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, January 28-30, 2008. Visit www.sts.org for further details on submitting an abstract or surgical video, as they become available.

Abstracts and surgical video submissions will be accepted until Monday, **June 25, 2007; 11:59 p.m., Central Daylight Time**. Accepted submissions will be presented as oral presentations, scientific posters, or surgical movies.

The STS Annual Meeting is the premier educational event in cardiothoracic surgery. Accepted oral presentations are submitted for publication consideration to the *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, which has a circulation in excess of 9,400. This makes the STS Annual Meeting the best forum for disseminating information to the cardiothoracic field.

To submit an abstract or surgical video for consideration for the STS 44th Annual Meeting:

1. You may access the online submission site via a link on the STS Web site at www.sts.org/abstractsonline.
2. In order to log onto the submission site you must have a username and password.
 - Those who did not submit an abstract or surgical video for last year's meeting will need to create an account. Accounts allow submitters to view or edit their abstracts and surgical videos until the June 25 deadline. If this is your first time submitting an abstract or surgical video and you do not have a username and password for the OASIS system, please click the "Create a new user account" link on the right side of the login page.
 - You **do not** have to be a member of the STS in order to submit an abstract or surgical video.
 - If you are an STS member, the username and password used to submit an abstract or surgical video is not the same as the STS member ID and password.
 - If you have previously submitted an abstract or surgical video to an STS Annual Meeting and have changed institutions, you may still use your previous username and password, but please take a moment to update your contact information.
 - Be sure to write down your username and password for future use. You will need your username and password when notifications are e-mailed in September.
 - Each step within the system provides step-by-step, easy-to-follow instructions.
 - ***Print and Save the Confirmation Page***
Once you complete the submission process, and submit your abstract or surgical video for review, you may request an email confirmation. This may be done by clicking the link at the bottom of the final submission page. STS highly recommends that you request a confirmation email as it will include the abstract and/or surgical video title, control number, and link to your submission. Once received, please save this confirmation information for reference and use the abstract/surgical video control number in any correspondence you have with STS regarding your abstract and/or surgical video. The submitting author can also send this confirmation email to any author identified on the Review Your Work page. If you request but do not receive a confirmation, please contact the STS or email tech support at support@abstractsonline.com.
 - ***Remember to Complete the Submission of Your Abstract/Surgical Video***
Once you begin entering an abstract or surgical video, you have until June 25, 2007 at 11:59 p.m. Central Daylight Time to submit your abstract and/or surgical video for review. Prior to submission, your abstract/surgical video will be marked as "undefined". All "undefined" submissions are not submitted for review. When submitting an abstract and/or surgical video for review, make sure you click the Submit button one time only. Please do not enter duplicate submissions if you have forgotten your login and password. STS staff can help you obtain your password and login information if misplaced.

Submission Specifications

Make certain your abstract conforms to these guidelines:

- Title case: Capitalize first letter of each word in title, please do not enter information in all upper case.
- Title length: No limit
- Structured abstract: Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions
- Abstract text length: Maximum 250 words
- Spacing: Single space only. No double spacing permitted. **No hard returns.**
- Tables: Up to one (1) table allowed
- Graphics: Up to one (1) graphic allowed. Graphics must be in black and white.

- Other:
 - There should be no reference to the institutions involved in the body of the text.
 - Full names of authors and disclosure must be provided as requested.
 - Institution, mailing address, telephone number, and email address of the presenting author is to be given, but omit titles and appointments.
 - When percentages are used, the absolute numbers of derivation must be stated.
 - All abstracts must be structured using the following section headings or they will not be accepted:

Background - A brief statement on the purpose of the study and the current state of research in the field.

Methods - The methods of study or experimental approach must be defined briefly.

Results - A summary of the study results, including sufficient details to support those conclusions. These may be presented in a brief table (no more than five (5) columns of data).

Conclusions - A statement concerning the significance of the work and its implications for further research.

Abstract and Surgical Video Categories

For your submission you will be required to select one category (in bold) and one corresponding sub-category.

I. Adult Cardiac

- Adult Cardiac: Basic Science Research
- Adult Cardiac: Coronary
- Adult Cardiac: End-Stage Heart Disease/Extracorporeal Circulation/VADs
- Adult Cardiac: Endovascular
- Adult Cardiac: Great Vessels
- Adult Cardiac: Myocardial Protection
- Adult Cardiac: New Technology
- Adult Cardiac: Valves

II. General Thoracic

- General Thoracic: Basic Science Research
- General Thoracic: Chest Wall/Mediastinum
- General Thoracic: End-Stage Lung Disease/Lung Transplantation
- General Thoracic: Esophagus
- General Thoracic: New Technology
- General Thoracic: Pulmonary

III. Congenital

- Congenital: Basic Science Research
- Congenital: Congenital Cardiac
- Congenital: New Technology

IV. Other (Geriatrics/Thoracic Surgery Education)

- Other (Geriatrics/Thoracic Surgery Education): Geriatrics
- Other (Geriatrics/Thoracic Surgery Education): Thoracic Surgery Education

Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts and surgical videos chosen for presentation are selected at the discretion of the Workforce on Annual Meeting to ensure a fair and balanced program.
- Abstracts and surgical videos may only be submitted online through the STS Web site at www.sts.org/abstractsonline.
- All abstracts and surgical videos must be submitted in English.
- An abstract and/or surgical video may only be submitted once.
- If an abstract is not accepted for presentation as an oral presentation, it may be accepted instead as a poster. The final determination on format is at the discretion of the Workforce on Annual Meeting. The presenting author must be prepared to attend the meeting or to send someone in their place (a co-author on the abstract is recommended).
- Edit for spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors prior to submission. Abstracts will not be edited for any reason, please submit final versions only.
- Once an abstract and/or surgical video is accepted, additional authors may not be added.
- Each paper read before the Society must be submitted to The Annals of Thoracic Surgery before or at the time of the meeting. Manuscripts must be submitted online via The Annals on-line editorial office (<http://www.atseditorialoffice.org>). Manuscripts will not be considered for publication if submitted after January 30, 2008, the last day of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons 44th Annual Meeting. All papers will become the

property of the Society. Publication of papers in *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery* is not assured. If manuscripts are not submitted to *The Annals* prior to or at the time of the STS Annual Meeting, a two-year period of ineligibility for participation in the Annual Meeting will be imposed upon all authors of the paper. The same two-year sanction applies to all papers and scientific posters returned to authors for revisions that are not resubmitted within one calendar year of the request for the revision.

- No abstract will be considered with deferred outcome data. If data is to be presented, it must appear in the original abstract submitted.
- Data entered into the abstract database is not accessible by the co-authors and cannot be changed after the submission website has closed at 11:59 p.m. Central Daylight Time, Monday, June 25, 2007.
- No abstract or surgical video received after June 25, 2007 will be considered for inclusion in the STS Program.

Policies

- STS reserves the right to withdraw an abstract and/or surgical video at any time.
- Abstracts and surgical videos must summarize an original contribution and not presented or accepted for presentation elsewhere.
- Abstract and surgical video content will be based upon the best available evidence and will not promote any health care device or service. **Only those agreeing to do so will be allowed to present at the STS Annual Meeting. Presenters found to have not attempted to utilize the best available evidence or to have given content that is biased or promotional in nature will not be allowed to take part in the planning or provision of any other STS educational program or product for 2 years.**
- Papers selected for oral presentation during the scientific sessions will be provided with time limits for their presentation and must comply with this limit. If a paper is selected for presentation, please refer to the confirmation notification for specific time limits.
- The presenting author for each abstract and/or surgical video must be prepared to attend the meeting. If a change of presenting author is needed, **STS must be notified in writing by the primary author.**
- Scientific posters selected for presentation/display at the STS Annual Meeting must be displayed at the meeting for the entire time assigned and in the assigned location. Authors who do not display their selected posters or are not available to discuss their findings at the assigned time will be subject to a two-year period of ineligibility for participation in the Annual Meeting. This sanction applies to all authors of posters.
- Each presenter will be required to complete a Speaker Permission & Release Form.
- **Only Unpublished/Unpresented Work Allowed**
The presenting author will attest that the material will not be presented elsewhere if accepted for the scientific program nor published elsewhere if accepted for publication in *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*. If there is any conceivable question regarding similarity to earlier work or possible duplication or redundancy, it is the responsibility of the presenting author of the paper to consult directly with the Chairman of the Workforce on Annual Meeting, Carl L. Backer, MD. If there is a potential conflict with an abstract or surgical video already presented or published, please **notify us by email** (mchao@sts.org) of the conflict at the time of submission. Failure to comply will result in the paper being rejected. **Include the title and Control number in any correspondence regarding an abstract or surgical video.**

Thoracic Surgery Directors Association Award

If the author wishes to submit the abstract for consideration for the TSDA (Thoracic Surgery Directors Association Award), you must select the checkbox on the Awards page. The name of the Program Director must appear on a TSDA Resident Award abstract. **Only Oral Presentations can be considered for the TSDA Award.**

Geriatric Patient Care Award

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons' Workforce on Aging has established an award for the best abstract related to cardiothoracic care of the geriatric patient. If you would like your abstract to be considered for this award, you must select the Geriatric Patient Care Category and select this award on the Awards page. **Only Oral Presentations can be considered for the Geriatric Patient Care Award.**

Additional Information for Surgical Video Submissions

- All surgical videos must be completed in QuickTime or MPEG for review.
- An abstract must be submitted along with each surgical video submission.
- Information for all authors involved in the submission must be entered via the online submission process.
- If you do not submit your video in QuickTime or MPEG, it will not be forwarded for review.
- The actual video may not exceed 10 minutes in length or exceed 75 MB.
- For purposes of the Task Force review, sound is encouraged.
- Live narration by the principal surgeon is a requirement for participation in the movie night program.

- STS must receive a CD/DVD of the surgical video being submitted no later than the abstract deadline of June 25, 2007. Please include the presenting authors name and the control number of the submission for reference.
- Each presenter will be required to complete a Permission & Release Form prior to submission.

Disclosure Information

Conflict of Interest and FDA disclosure is required by all authors before an abstract and/or surgical video can be submitted within the abstract database. If a conflict of interest exists, be sure to include the name of the organization/company and the potential conflict. Full disclosure for each author must be completed before submitting the abstract and/or surgical video. **The OASIS Submission site will not allow an abstract or surgical video to be submitted without full disclosure from each author.**

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

As a sponsor of continuing medical education accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), The Society of Thoracic Surgeons requires that any individual who is in a position to control the content of an educational activity must disclose all relevant financial relationships (including known relationships of his or her immediate family, department, and partners) with any healthcare-related business or other entity whose products or services may be discussed in, or directly affected in the marketplace by, the educational content. The ACCME defines a “relevant financial relationship” as a relationship of any amount occurring within the previous twelve months. The question of whether a disclosed conflict situation could represent undue influence on the educational activity by a commercial interest or whether the disclosed information is sufficient to consider an abstract, presentation, or other educational enduring material to represent potentially biased information must be resolved prior to an individual’s involvement in STS educational programming.

Required disclosures include (1) a financial interest of any amount (e.g., through ownership of stock, stock options, or bonds) (2) the receipt of any amount of cash, goods or services within the current 12-month period (e.g., through research grants, employment, consulting fees, royalties, travel, or gifts) or (3) a nonremunerative position of influence (e.g., as officer, director, trustee or public spokesperson). EXCLUDED are blind trusts or other passive investments such as mutual funds. In the case of a financial or other relationship disclosure, the company, product/service, and specific nature of the relationship must be noted. Disclosure is mandatory for any person involved in the planning, management, presentation, and/or evaluation of STS educational activities.

Failure to disclose relevant financial relationships disqualifies the individual from being a planning committee member, a teacher, or an author of CME materials, and this individual cannot have any responsibility for the development, management, presentation, or evaluation of STS CME activities. This requirement is intended neither to imply any impropriety of such relationships nor to prejudice any individual planner, presenter or author. It is merely to identify such relationships through full disclosure, and to allow the STS to assess and resolve potential influences on the educational activity prior to the planning and implementation of an educational activity. If no relevant financial relationships exist, the individual must indicate this on the disclosure form.

- Disclosure information is required for each author on each submission.
- It is the responsibility of the primary author to obtain and provide disclosure information for each author listed on an abstract and/or surgical video.
- For oral presentations, all disclosures must be stated orally or on a slide at the beginning of the presentation and will be noted in published material. Slides utilized as part of an educational activity cannot contain any advertising, trade names or a product group message. Speakers are required to disclose that they have nothing to disclose if this is the case.
- If the submitter fails to enter an author’s disclosure, the abstract database will not allow the submission until every field has been completed.

FDA Disclosure

If a device or drug requiring FDA approval is identified as a component of your presentation, you must indicate the FDA status for use of the device or drug as it will be discussed in this presentation. The fact that the information presented describes (a) the use of a device, product, or drug that is not FDA approved or (b) an off-label use of an approved device, product, or drug must be disclosed. This requirement has been adopted in response to FDA policy and recent case law involving medical societies, and is not intended to prohibit or inhibit independent presentation or discussion regarding the uses of devices, products, and drugs as described in (a) or (b) above. This information will be listed with the abstract in the Preliminary and Final Program.

Withdrawal of an Abstract or Surgical Video

- To withdraw an abstract or surgical video, the presenter must notify the STS in writing. Email Michele Chao at mchao@sts.org and include the title of your abstract and/or surgical video and your abstract control number.

- Persons submitting an abstract and/or surgical video to the STS Annual Meeting are doing so with the understanding of the above policies and they will abide by the conditions, deadlines, and decisions of the Workforce on Annual Meeting.

Abstract/Surgical Video Disposition Notification

At the time of submission, please ensure email addresses are accurate as this is the only way you will be contacted regarding the status of your abstract and/or surgical video submission(s).

On or after Tuesday, September 11, 2007, STS will send selection results following peer review to the presenting author listed on the abstract via email only. Only the presenting author will be notified. We kindly ask that the presenting author communicate this information with all co-authors.

If you move to another location or change your email address, please notify STS in writing. Contact Michele Chao by phone at 312-202-5800 or by email at mchao@sts.org to update your contact information.

Abstract and Surgical Video Review Process

Abstracts and surgical videos not in compliance with these instructions will not be reviewed. Abstracts will be read and graded in a blinded fashion with no reference to authors or institutions to ensure fairness. The scientific program will include Oral Presentations, Scientific Posters and Surgical Videos. Abstracts and surgical videos are reviewed by peer reviewers based on scientific merit and originality. STS members have been selected by the Workforce on Annual Meeting Program Task Force to serve as abstract and surgical video reviewers for the 44th Annual Meeting.

In discussion of papers, the Society encourages a healthy spirit of constructive critical review and rebuttal by comments pertinent to the content of the paper being presented. Presentation of discussion in the form of "secondary papers" will not be accepted.

Questions

If you have further questions regarding submissions, please contact Michele Chao, STS Education and Member Services Assistant at 312-202-5800 or via email at mchao@sts.org.

Deadline

All submissions must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Daylight Time, Monday, June 25, 2007.