



## 2026 Research Abstract Guidelines

### The Call for Research Abstracts Submission Window

**Open:** Friday, January 9, 2026, 12:00 AM PT

**Close:** Tuesday, February 3, 2026, 11:59 PM PT

#### **ONLINE SUBMISSION REQUIRED!**

The submission form is available at the [2026 ACVIM Forum Research Abstract Submission Site](#).

### The Call for Research Abstracts Review Window

**Research Abstract Review Window:** Monday, February 9, 2026 – Thursday, February 26, 2026

**Research Abstract Status Notifications (Accept or Reject):** By the end of March 2026

#### **SUBMITTER AND PRESENTER INFORMATION**

- Anyone can submit abstracts to be considered in the research abstract category.
- It is not required that the submitter or presenter be an active researcher in the field.
- ACVIM Diplomates, ACVIM Candidates, Non ACVIM Diplomates, Post-doctoral Fellows, Residents, Interns, Graduate Students, Undergraduate Students, and Professional Students are all allowed.
- ACVIM Candidates may be eligible for the ACVIM Resident Research Abstract Award.
  - Awards will be given to selected oral or poster research abstract presenters. Abstracts will be judged on the quality of both the research and oral or poster presentation. Requirements for award consideration:
    - Active resident in an approved ACVIM training program or completed an ACVIM approved residency within the last 6 months (at time of submission) but are not yet (by time of ACVIM Forum) ACVIM board-certified.
  - The ACVIM Resident Research Abstract Award includes a payment of \$1,500 and a \$1,500 travel allowance to the 2027 ACVIM Forum, sponsored by Purina Institute. The ACVIM Cardiology Pacemaker Resident Research Abstract Award includes a \$1,000 travel allowance and complimentary registration to the 2027 ACVIM Forum.

#### **HONORARIA, REGISTRATION, AND PUBLISHING**

- No honoraria is given for research abstract presentations.
- Only one person is allowed to present the research abstract no matter how many co-authors.
- ACVIM provides 50% discount on the conference registration only to the presenter for accepted abstracts.
  - The ACVIM will provide the discount code for the conference registration at the end of March/early April 2026
  - Please register at the 2026 ACVIM Forum Registration Page
- Research abstracts are published in the Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine (JVIM) as well as in the ACVIM Forum Proceedings.
- The [Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine](#) (JVIM) encourages submission of materials abstracted in the ACVIM Forum.



- For abstracts published in the ACVIM Forum Proceedings and in JVIM, there is no need to obtain prior permission from the publisher of JVIM, or the ACVIM Forum Program Committee, to submit the material as a full-length article to any journal.

### **ACCEPTANCE AND PRESENTATION FORMATS**

- All research abstracts submitted by the deadline will be reviewed by up to 3 ACVIM Diplomates with self-declared interest or expertise in the subject area.
- Research abstracts are scored on multiple criteria. Research abstracts that receive a score  $\leq 11$ , out of a total possible score of 20, by at least 2 reviewers do not meet the ACVIM minimum standard and are subject to rejection.
- Accepted abstracts will be scheduled in the following formats:
  - Oral, 15-minute presentation
  - Poster
    - ePoster: an electronic facsimile replicating a physical poster. ePosters can be viewed digitally through the Mobile App and the online interactive schedule.
    - Physical: poster presenters may have the option to present a physical poster. All physical poster presenters will still be required to submit an ePoster.
    - All poster presenters will be scheduled for a Q&A session at the Poster Park on Thursday or Friday.
  - *Please note that the ACVIM Forum Program Committee reserves the right to limit oral presentations. Those wanting an oral presentation and not receiving this will be offered the chance to present a poster (if accepted). ePoster spots may be limited and the presenter may only be offered the opportunity to present a physical poster (if accepted).*
- **In-person attendance is required of the presenter at the ACVIM Forum regardless of the presentation format**

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- Submissions received by the ACVIM will be reviewed according to subject categories for scientific content, experimental design and statistical analysis where appropriate, animal welfare, relevance to internal medicine and strict adherence to abstract formatting guidelines.
- Single case reports are not acceptable, and criteria for immediate rejection.
- Abstracts describing a study using clinical cases that lack confirmed, definitive diagnoses are not acceptable.
- Abstracts that present data “fractionated” into 2 or more abstracts when they could be combined into 1 are discouraged (e.g., regarding test validation, methodology development, or establishing a normal range without application to a population with sufficient power to demonstrate statistical significance).
- Excessively poor grammar or clarity of writing is not acceptable.
- Animals used in the described study are expected to have received humane care, i.e., according to the principles outlined in the NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and/or the humane care guidelines found at the author’s institution.
- Abstracts describing studies deemed to include unethical treatment of animals, even if approved by the author’s institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) are not acceptable and subject to immediate rejection.
- Abstracts describing experimental studies using laboratory animals not treated by ACVIM Diplomates and not on a topic germane to ACVIM are not acceptable and are subject to immediate rejection. An example of an abstract that would be rejected is a study in rabbits on fracture fixation.
- Abstracts including research animals of a species treated by ACVIM Diplomates or detailing research that pertains to a species treated by ACVIM Diplomates, e.g., studies using research colony dogs or studies using mice as a model of equine disease, are acceptable.
- Abstracts that have been previously published, presented or submitted to another conference in current or substantially similar form are not acceptable and are subject to immediate rejection. If the data collected and reported on previously has grown and undergone new analysis, then the abstract will be allowed.

**AUTHOR AND TITLE INSTRUCTIONS****Author(s):**

- Enter each author's name and institutional affiliations (including city and state). If no institution is involved, give the city and state.

**Title:**

- Provide a short, specific (15 words maximum) title that clearly indicates the nature of the presentation.
- Abbreviations should be avoided and mixed/title case should be used.

**PREPARING YOUR ABSTRACT**

*Abstracts that do not fit within these guidelines can be rejected based on formatting.*

**Typing Instructions for Abstract Entry:**

- Do NOT include author and institution information. You will be able to enter this information online when you submit the abstract.
- Do NOT include the title. You will be able to enter this information online when you submit the abstract.
- Proof your submission carefully as the abstract will appear EXACTLY as submitted.
- Excessively poor grammar or clarity of writing is not acceptable.
- Modifications to your submission can be made through the submission site until the deadline.
- Abstract corrections will not be accepted after the deadline to alter the acceptability of the abstract.
- Line spacing is single, and there should be one blank line between paragraphs.
- **Word limit = 250 including subheadings.**

**Content:**

- DO NOT mention support of work for a research grant, conflict of interest or copyright permission. These disclosures are required at time of presentation in a Conflict-of-Interest Declaration statement/slide.

**Abstracts are structured and use subheadings, organized as follows:**

Background – A brief explanation of why the study was performed and why it is relevant to the ACVIM.

Hypothesis/Objectives – A statement of the principal hypothesis tested in the study or a brief statement of the major objectives.

Animals – A concise description of the number of animals used in the study including the population from which they were drawn (e.g., research colony, hospital population) and any special characteristics of the animals (e.g., disease status).

Methods – A statement of overall study design (e.g., randomized, blinded, placebo-controlled clinical trial; cohort study; case-control study; case series) and principal interventions or methods.

Results – Statistics as appropriate should be included. If statistics, a concise statement of important results including numerical description (such as mean and standard deviation for descriptive statistics, and effect measure and confidence intervals for inferential statistics such as the odds ratio) of critical variables and statement of statistical significance.

Conclusions and Clinical Importance – A summary of conclusions based on results of the study and statement of clinical importance of these conclusions. The results should not be restated.

**Tables and Figures:**

- We will not be accepting tables and/or figures as a part of the abstract submission for the 2026 ACVIM Forum.
- If the abstract is accepted, tables and/or figures can be included in the oral or poster presentation.

**Abbreviations and Drug Names:**

- Abbreviations accepted by the [Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association](#) (JAVMA) are suggested.
- Abbreviations otherwise not defined must be defined by the author by placing them in parenthesis after the full word the first time they appear.
- Abbreviations should be avoided in titles.
- Non-proprietary (generic) names are required the first time a drug is mentioned, written in small letters.
- Proprietary names are always capitalized, e.g. cimetidine (Tagamet).

**QUESTIONS?**

Please contact [Presenters@ACVIM.org](mailto:Presenters@ACVIM.org)