American Federation for Medical Research
and Participating Societies

Regional Meetings

Call for Abstracts

Award Opportunities Available

Western Medical Research Conference
For 2021 Only: Virtual Meeting
January 29-30, 2021

Abstract Deadline: September 25, 2020
11:59 pm PST

Southern Regional Meetings
For 2021 Only: Virtual Meeting
February 25-27, 2021

Abstract Deadline: October 9, 2020
11:59 pm EST

Jointly sponsored by Tulane University Health Sciences Center
# Abstract Deadlines and Meeting Dates

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<td>January 29-30, 2021</td>
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<td><strong>Virtual Southern Regional Meetings</strong></td>
<td>February 25-27, 2021</td>
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<td>APA - Academic Pediatric Association&lt;br&gt;SAFMR - Southern Section - American Federation for Medical Research&lt;br&gt;SCCI - Southern Society for Clinical Investigation&lt;br&gt;SSGIM - Southern Society of General Internal Medicine&lt;br&gt;SSPR - Southern Society for Pediatric Research</td>
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Important Information

After careful consideration, WMRC and SRM have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 face-to-face meetings scheduled to take place in Carmel, California January 27-30, 2021 and February 25-27, 2021 in New Orleans due to uncertainties regarding the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. However, keeping in mind the importance of career development of students and trainees doing research, the Western American Federation for Medical Research (WAFMR) and Western Society for Pediatric Research (WSPR) have decided to host a Virtual Meeting for those that would like to ensure that students and trainees continue to have a forum to present their ongoing research without much disruption.

The Southern Regional Meeting societies include SAFMR, SSCI, SSPR and APA are also mindful of the importance of career development of students and trainees doing research and will also be hosting a Virtual Meeting for those that would like to ensure that students and trainees continue to have a forum to present their ongoing research without much disruption.

This abstract brochure is for the 2021 Western and Southern regional scientific meetings and meetings of other participating societies held in conjunction with these meetings. Included in the Call for Abstracts brochure is information unique to the Western and Southern regional meetings. Investigators may submit abstracts to any of the regional meetings regardless of the section or geographic area in which s/he resides. Please use the appropriate electronic submission form for each of the regional meetings which is found on the Internet at http://wrm2021.abstractcentral.com or http://srm2021.abstractcentral.com. It is required of all abstract submitters to complete a CME Disclosure Form. This is available when you log in to submit your abstract. You must fill this form out in order to continue. For further information on the Regional Meetings please visit the AFMR website (http://www.afmr.org). It is REQUIRED that you submit your abstract electronically. If you encounter problems submitting your abstract electronically, please contact ScholarOne directly: Technical Support: 888-503-1050 / 434-964-4100 or email: ts.acsupport@thomson.com. Technical Support Hours: 12:00 AM-8:30 PM ET Monday-Friday. There is no technical support on Saturday or Sunday. If other questions arise, email Lori.Ennis@medpubinc.com for assistance.

Information for Fellows, Trainees, and Jr. Faculty for the Western and Southern Meetings

WESTERN MEETING: The WAFMR/WSPR virtual conference will accept abstract submissions and the top scoring abstracts will be given the opportunity to give a virtual oral presentation or a virtual poster presentation as well as be eligible for research awards. The abstracts will continue to be published in the Journal of Investigative Medicine.

SOUTHERN MEETING: The SAFMR/SSCI/SSPR and APA virtual conference will accept abstract submissions and the top scoring abstracts will be given the opportunity to give a virtual oral presentation or a virtual poster presentation as well as be eligible for research awards. The abstracts will continue to be published in the Journal of Investigative Medicine. Due to the success of the SSCI Nephrology Young Investigators’ Forum, we will continue this program in 2021 for fellows. It will be held virtually on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. This postgraduate competition is designed to create a subspecialty forum for oral presentation for fellows training in this subspecialty. This competition is also designed to create a subspecialty atmosphere for networking with other fellows. We expect that these abstracts will also be submitted to the Southern Regional Meetings. Four awards will be given in the Basic Science Category and four awards in the Clinical Research Category. These award recipients will be invited to participate in the NKF National Young Investigators Meeting. Please see www.ssciweb.org for further details regarding information about abstract submission/deadline.

Abstract Policies

No revisions or changes will be accepted to submitted abstracts after the deadline.

1. All abstracts are peer-reviewed and ranked on the basis of scientific merit by experts in the category selected. The Program Committees use these rankings to develop the final meeting program. Abstracts submitted for presentation (whether or not selected for presentation) will be published at the discretion of the Regional Program Committees. The decisions of the Program Committees are final. Abstracts will not be reviewed if received after the deadline.

2. The committee will decide on oral and poster presentations. Submitter will not be given a choice upon submission.

3. AFMR requires a nonrefundable abstract fee of $75.00 to cover the costs of processing, review and/or publication. This is separate from the registration fee. You must register to attend the meeting if you are presenting an abstract. Include separate payment with each abstract submitted. Payment must be made by credit card (American Express, MasterCard, or Visa). No checks or purchase orders will be accepted.

4. INFORMED CONSENT AND DISCLOSURE: AFMR has adopted guidelines for conflicts of interest (see Clinical Research, Volume 38, Number 2, April, 1990). Investigators should consider and disclose potential conflicts of interest in connection with papers presented at the regional meetings. Each abstract must comply with the following:
personal responsibility for assuring that, at the time of the meeting for which it is being considered, the material herein will not have been published; (2) the material may have been presented at another regional or national meeting with a focused audience like a subspecialty meeting, such that the material will be new to the broader audience; (3) that if accepted, an eligible author is prepared to present it; (4) that any animal studies conform with the “Guiding Principles in the Care and Use of Animals” of the American Physiological Society; (5) that any human experimentation was conducted according to a protocol approved by an Institutional Review Board on ethics of human investigation (if no such Board exists, please state in a separate letter what standards were used to assess the ethical property of the protocol); and (6) that potential conflicts of interest will be disclosed at time of presentation of abstract. All potential conflicts of interest should be detailed in a separate letter and uploaded with your abstract. Such information will not be available to the abstract review committee and will not prejudice review of the abstract.

Abstract Procedures

Step-by-Step Instructions for Electronic Submission. All users are considered New and must Create an Account.

1. For the Western Regional Meeting proceed to: http://wrn2021.abstractcentral.com. For the Southern Regional Meeting proceed to: http://srn2021.abstractcentral.com
2. The first step is to "Create an Account." Information is not saved from one year to the next. Click on the "Create an Account" link in the left side bar menu. During account creation, please bear in mind:
   A. All fields with a red asterisk are required.
   B. Your e-mail address is the primary method of correspondence. All system e-mails and other notifications related to the meeting will be sent to this address. Please keep your e-mail address up-to-date!
   C. The User ID and password that you create will be needed to log into the site after your account is created. Your User ID must be at least 6 characters long and can be a combination of letters and numbers. User ID and Password are case-sensitive.
   D. The last step in creating your account is to request a "role." For example, if you are requesting the "Abstract Submission" role, you need only check the box and you will receive the role automatically. You will then be able to submit an abstract by logging in, then clicking on the “Submission” tab at the top of the page. If you are not the presenter, you must have all of their information to complete the submission.
3. Once you have logged in using your User Name and Password, click on the Submission tab at the top of page, then on the “Create a New Submission” link located on the left-hand menu bar.
4. It is recommended that you step through the submission pages in a methodical manner, going page by page and filling in the information as you go along, beginning with Step 1: Title/Body page.
5. The title must be brief and indicate clearly the nature of the investigation. The title should be entered in UPPERCASE letters. PLEASE DO NOT enter the title in mixed case. Abbreviations must not be used in the title.
6. Do not include authors or institutions in the body of your abstract. Type or copy/paste each section of the abstract body into their respective fields. On Step 1: Title/Body page, the body of the abstract must be separated into the fields designated as: Purpose of Study, Methods Used, Summary of Results, and Conclusions, respectively.
7. You must complete the Disclosure Information on Step 2: Disclosures page.
8. There is a limit of 2500 characters for the text of your abstract submission. This includes authors, institutions, tables, images, abstract title, abstract body, as well as all spaces.
9. You may add as many tables as you wish. However, each row in the table will deduct approximately 50 characters from the character limit of 2500 characters.
10. Please enter all authors in the order they should appear in the heading of the abstract. Complete contact information must be entered for the Presenting Author and the Contact Author. Only name and email address are required for co-authors. If you (the Contact Author) are not the Presenter on an abstract, you will need to provide full contact information on the Presenter.
11. Enter all department and institutional affiliations. Department is an optional field. Only three (3) institutional affiliations will be allowed per author. You do not need to enter institutions in a particular order to be able to designate author affiliations.
12. Carefully check the proof of your abstract. Make sure all special characters and formatting is displaying properly in your proof. If you find errors, return to the appropriate page by clicking on the page name in the sidebar menu, and make your corrections.
13. If you have not completed all required sections/items you will not be able to submit your abstract. In the case of missing items, you will be prompted to enter the missing information. When all required information is entered, click “Submit” to submit your abstract. Payment is required to complete submission of the abstract.
Abstract Deadline:
October 9, 2020
11:59 pm EST

Virtual Meeting Dates:
February 25-27, 2021

Joint Plenary Session, Workshops and Symposia

Please register for the Southern Regional Meetings and workshops online at https://ww2.highmarksce.com/tulane/index.cfm?do=pln.viewActivity&plannerID=1348. The following workshops are open to all meeting registrants; however, pre-registration is requested to guarantee space. A second mailing of the meeting brochure will be mailed to members in late November. The brochure will also be available online and can be downloaded at www.afmr.org or www.ssciweb.org.

Dates and times below will be determined at a later date.

Joint Plenary Session
Please join us for an exciting session entitled “2020 SARS-CoV-2 pandemic - From Bench to Bedside and Beyond.” Given the once in a 100 years SARS-CoV-2 crisis, there is no better time to exchange scholarly information about multiple aspects of the pandemic, from understanding the biology of the virus, to vaccine development, to implications for healthcare in the US and the world.

Clinical Case Symposium
The Adult or Pediatric Clinical Case Symposium is devoted to the presentation and discussion of clinical case abstracts highlighting diagnostic and/or management issues. Clinical case descriptions, unique characteristics, treatment/interventions, and results/outcomes are all suitable for presentation at the Clinical Case Symposium. There will be two concurrent sessions: Adult and Pediatrics. A subset of abstracts will be selected for presentation and there will be a discussion among the authors, participants and experts in the field. At the time of abstract submission, the appropriate abstract category must be checked in order to be considered for the Adult or Pediatric Clinical Case Symposium.

Career Advancement for Clinician Educator: Navigating the Day-to-Day and Fulfilling your Vision
Designed to provide practical advice on day-to-day activities essential to master for today’s clinician educators and will include: Time Management for Wellness and Achievement; Creating the Learning Environment; Leading Learners Through Technology; Understanding the Competency Trajectory; and Evaluating to Promote Improvement. “Fulfilling your Vision” will address larger issues in career development and include: Creating a Career Vision; Staying on Course (Saying “No”); Utilizing the Mentoring Relationship; Advancement Through Scholarship; and Seeking the Necessary Challenges.

Moving Your Clinical Case Presentation into a Published Manuscript
This activity will target students, trainees and faculty. Scholarly activity is an important facet of medical training and academic medicine. In this workshop, aspects related to developing a clinical case presentation into a manuscript awaiting submission and choosing the optimal journal for submission will be discussed. The audience will view and discuss how two abstracts selected from the SRM 2021 meeting were moved from the presentation phase to the manuscript phase.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION: CME will not be offered this year.
Southern Awards

Listed below is a description of awards for which you may apply on the electronic submission form. Please choose the appropriate award on the pull-down menu if you are eligible and wish to receive an award. If the box is not checked, you will not be considered for an award. To be eligible for an award, you must apply at the time of abstract submission. You must choose only one award matching the award to the society(ies) to which you and your mentor belong. You must check all that apply since some are members of more than one society.

SAFMR/SSCI Awards

To be eligible for the SAFMR/SSCI awards, you or your mentor (in the case of students and trainees) MUST be a member in good standing of AFMR or SSCI. You may choose to become a member at the time of the award. In this case, your membership fee will be deducted from the award amount.

♦ The Nathan Solomon & Irene Oransky-Solomon Medical Student Research Awards: (2) are offered to recognize and encourage excellence in investigation by medical students during research training. Eligibility: Medical Students or Combined MD/PhD Students who are in research training or were in research training as of June 2020 and who are eligible. The applicant must be the first author of the abstract submitted in competition for the awards and plan to present the paper during the scientific sessions of the Southern Regional Meetings. Please note that it is not necessary for the senior author to be a member of SSCI. Applicants for this award are encouraged to apply for the SAFMR/SSCI Student Award as well. For consideration of this award, the abstract has to suggest: 1) investigator-initiated; 2) hypothesis-driven basic, clinical or behavioral research; 3) conducted in a mode of discovery; 4) whose study design, findings and conclusions satisfied the proposed hypothesis; 5) findings have or will have the potential to advance the practice of medicine.

♦ SAFMR/SSCI Student Research Award: These awards recognize medical students and combined MD/PhD students who are currently in training and accomplished in research. The awardee must be the first author/presenter of the abstract accepted for presentation at the 2021 meeting.

♦ SAFMR/SSCI Trainee Award: These awards recognize residents and fellows who are currently in training and recognize excellence among these groups. The awardee must be the first author/presenter of the abstract accepted for presentation at the 2021 meeting.

♦ SAFMR/SSCI Young Faculty Award: The purpose of these awards is to stimulate participation by faculty at the instructor and assistant professor level. Awards will be given to the young investigators with the top rated abstract in each subspecialty as judged by a committee of the officers of SAFMR and SSCI. The awardee must be the first author/presenter of an abstract accepted for presentation at the 2021 meeting. Only faculty at the instructor and assistant professor level are eligible for these awards.

♦ SSCI Young Investigator Award: The SSCI Young Investigator Awards are offered to recognize and encourage excellence in investigation by physicians and medical students during research training. Eligibility: combined MD/PhD students, interns, residents, and post-doctoral physicians who are in research training or were in research training as of June 2020 are eligible. Postdoctoral research training may be considered to extend for a period of up to three years and time spent in strictly clinical fellowships need not count against this. The applicant must be the first author of the abstract submitted in competition for the award and plan to present the paper during the virtual scientific sessions of the Southern Regional Meetings. Please note that it is not necessary for the senior author to be a member of SSCI. Applicants for this award are encouraged to apply for the appropriate SAFMR/SSCI Award as well. For consideration of this award, the abstract has to suggest: 1) investigator-initiated; 2) hypothesis-driven basic, clinical or behavioral research; 3) conducted in a mode of discovery; 4) whose study design, findings and conclusions satisfied the proposed hypothesis; and 4) findings have or will have the potential to advance the practice of medicine. Nomination letters from the senior investigator or mentor and the division director or department chairman are required and should include a statement of the candidate’s role in the study. The letters should be received no later than October 9, 2020 and uploaded via the ScholarOne website upon submission of your abstract. For further information contact Joan Kemp, Executive Director, Southern Society for Clinical Investigation, email: jkemp5@tulane.edu

♦ Henry Christian Award

These awards were established in 1990 to honor the founder of AFMR, Dr. Henry Christian. Each year, the awards will be given to the presenter (or first author) of the most outstanding abstracts submitted to the Southern Regiona Meetings. Candidates who meet the requisite criteria are eligible: physicians who are post-MD trainees, including residents, fellows, physicians pursuing PhDs or other graduate degrees, and other post-doctoral fellows. To qualify applicants must be an AFMR member in good standing and a curriculum vitae must be uploaded at time of submission. Awardees will receive a Certificate of Excellence.

SSPR Awards

These awards are for work intimately related to pediatric research. MUST be an SSPR member or have a sponsor who is an SSPR member. The candidates must check the appropriate award box in order to be considered. You cannot apply for the other society awards if applying for SSPR Awards. The Member/Sponsor name must also be filled in on the electronic submission form. This competition will consider original clinical or basic science research abstracts related to pediatrics.

♦ SSPR Young Investigator Award: Eligible candidates include students, residents, fellows, and young faculty who are currently within 5 years of the completion of fellowship training. The nominee must be first author/presenter of the abstract accepted for presentation. A letter from the senior investigator or sponsor that includes a statement that the work was performed by the nominee and fully addresses the role the candidate had in the work is required and must be uploaded at the time of submission and received by October 9, 2020. For further information contact Jay Kerecman MD; Secretary-SSPR; (jkereman@gmail.com). Three finalists for Basic or Clinical Science research will be selected and once notified are required to submit a manuscript (for purposes of this competition only) and present the study at the SSPR Plenary Session as part of the Virtual SRM meeting in February 2021. Each finalist who provides a manuscript and presents their abstract will receive a $250 prize and 1 winner from each category will receive a $500 prize. The candidates must check the appropriate award box in order to be considered and must designate either Basic or Clinical Science Division. These awards are for work intimately related to pediatric research. MUST be an SSPR member or have a sponsor who is an SSPR member. The candidates must check the appropriate award box in order to be considered. You cannot apply for the other society awards if applying for SSPR Awards. The Member/Sponsor name and email address must also be filled in on the electronic submission form to be eligible.
Registrations will be processed on-line ONLY:


Please indicate which society(ies) you are a member.

___ Member $65      ___ Student or Trainee $55   ____Non-Member $75

___ AFMR        ___ SSCI   ___ SSPR      ___ APA

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION
Preregistration is encouraged to attend any of the workshops being held at the Southern Regional Meetings. There are no additional fees but you must check the appropriate box of the one you wish to attend when filling out the on-line form.

Dates and Times TBD for sessions below.

___  Workshop on Career Development for Clinician Educators on Navigating the Day-to-Day

___  Moving Your Clinical Case Presentation into a Published Manuscript

___  Workshop on Career Development for Clinician Educators on Fulfilling Your Vision

METHOD OF PAYMENT
Check (made payable to Tulane CCE in US dollars/US bank). Credit Cards Accepted: Visa, Mastercard, American Express, and Discover. Purchase orders are not accepted. Send checks to: Southern Regional Meetings, Tulane Center for Continuing Education, 1430 Tulane Ave #8451, New Orleans, LA 70112-2699

YOU MUST REGISTER ON-LINE at:

If you need registration assistance please contact Tulane CCE by phone (504) 988-6444 or by email: cme@tulane.edu