

RCN Education Conference and Exhibition 2024

Future Insights: Enabling professional practice in health and social care nursing education.

Criteria for abstract selection

Abstracts which focus on education, research, innovation or matters for debate are invited on the following themes. Please note, for inclusion in the conference programme, the Education Forum Committee will ONLY consider abstracts under the following topics:

1. Topic areas and descriptors

1.1 Topic: Sustaining and developing the Educator workforce

Descriptor:

Submissions in this area will be concerned with initiatives that focus on educators across both practice and education settings. Development of educators and education careers, 'growing your own' educator workforce, educator roles, addressing equality, diversity and inclusion issues and widening representation within the education workforce, and educator well-being are a few examples of initiatives suitable for this area.

1.2 Topic: Evolving and innovative models of workforce training and education

Descriptor:

Submissions in this area will be concerned with innovations that focus on the current workforce in health and care settings. Education partnerships to support staff development and career pathways from Band 2 to Band 9 (Agenda for Change), creative approaches to use of the lifelong learning fund, educational innovations to support new models of interprofessional and integrated service delivery, evolving education models which address staff well-being, recruitment and retention, innovative approaches to support internationally educated nurses to deliver professional care within a UK context, are a few examples of initiatives suitable for this area.

1.3 Topic: Innovations in nursing education programmes

Descriptor:

Submissions in this area will be concerned with initiatives which underpin a nurturing education environment which develops student professional practice (in both apprenticeship, undergraduate and postgraduate provision). Initiatives focusing on building student communities of practice, pedagogical approaches to learning, teaching and assessment, facilitating success, reducing attrition, and addressing the student learning experience and the diverse needs of the student population are just a few examples. Innovations which have been co-produced with students would be particularly welcome in this area.

1.4 Topic: Quality improvement and innovation

Descriptor:

Submissions in this area will be concerned with initiatives and research which contribute to the evidence base for high quality professional health care education. Initiatives may focus upon changes and improvements made in response to student and staff evaluations, and education programme and training developments in response to changing professional and practice standards. Educational innovations which support engagement and leadership in quality improvement and research would also be particularly suitable here.

2. Word limits and publication

The word limit must be adhered to, the AMS will automatically limit entry.

For all presentation formats the word limit is **300 words** (excluding references and learning outcomes). This also applies to individual papers that are submitted as part of a symposium.

When writing the 300 word abstract, authors should be careful not to include information which could identify the author/s, as abstracts are reviewed blind.

- 2.1** Abstracts must clearly demonstrate an aspect of innovation in nursing education.
- 2.2** Abstracts should be a clear concise summary of the main points from your presentation.
- 2.3** The abstract should be jargon-free, indicate clear aims and objectives and clearly demonstrate the impact on nursing education and practice
- 2.4** All accepted abstracts will be published 'as submitted'. It is, therefore, incumbent upon the author to ensure that the spelling, grammar and syntax is of an academic publishing standard.

3. Symposium guidance notes

3.1 Each paper in a symposium will need to be submitted individually on the abstract management system. The 300 word limit excluding references and learning outcomes applies to individual papers submitted as part of a symposium.

3.2 Authors of all papers should agree a consistent overarching symposium title in addition to their paper title in advance of making a submission. This will ensure that papers can be easily identified by administrators and grouped together for reviews.

The naming convention to follow is Symposium Title | Paper Title | Paper No

- Deep Space Explorations Symposium – Space Travel (1)
- Deep Space Explorations Symposium – Food in space (2)
- Deep Space Explorations Symposium – Sleeping in Space (3)

4. Review and scoring

Abstracts will be anonymously assessed by members of the RCN Education Forum Committee against 4 main criteria:

- rigour of approach
- advancing the art and science of nursing
- relevance to conference theme
- clarity of text

When writing abstracts with these criteria in mind writers should consider:

- Does this abstract illustrate how this work has been rigorously undertaken and developed and where appropriate, illustrate how it is contemporary or innovative?
- Does this abstract report on work that can be used in practice?
- Is the abstract relevant to the conference themes?
- Does the abstract read clearly and without jargon?

4. Sponsored educational events

The RCN offers sponsorship opportunities to organisations wishing to host their own educational sessions. Abstract submissions that align to a commercial entity maybe subject to additional review and managed under the programme of sponsored activity.

To discuss the options for sponsored educational events please email our [corporate relations team](#) or call [020 7647 3940](tel:02076473940).

Top tips for submitting a quality abstract

Before you start, be clear what aspect of your work you want to present. What will appeal to your audience?

To maximise the chances of your abstract being selected for presentation, it may be helpful to consider these factors:

- In what way(s) is your work innovative?
- Does your work relate to a contemporary issue facing the nursing community?
- How can your work and findings be linked to the wider context of the overarching conference theme?
- Is your work relevant to the wider nursing / health care education and practice community? In what way?
- How is your work evidence-based and quality assured?
- Does your abstract clearly communicate the impact of your findings for nursing education and practice?
- Are there clear learning outcomes identified from your session?
- If submitting for a concurrent or symposia session, are the aims and objectives of your session achievable within the time allocated?
- How will your event add value to the conference? What learning will delegates take away with them that can be used in practice?

And some more general advice includes:

Do's	Dont's
Make sure you read and understand the abstract submitter guidelines.	Guess if you aren't clear what something means. If you have any queries or need clarification contact education@rcn.org.uk
Make sure your abstract is well written. Keep language simple and clear. Your abstract should aim to be a condensed summary of your method and findings.	Submit an abstract that's too short or lengthy, is too vague and doesn't make sense.
Make sure your abstract makes clear what your presentation is about: what was the subject of your project, what was discovered / the outcomes and how it was accomplished.	Submit an abstract that doesn't clearly communicate the aims and objectives of your work, methods and findings.
Use professional language making sure your information is easy to understand by a diverse audience.	Use abbreviations and jargon – remember abbreviations are not universal. Don't make any assumptions about your reader.
Ensure that there is a logical and coherent flow to the abstract.	Jump from one section to the next: your reader will not be familiar with your work so be methodical.
Review what you have written and carefully proofread before submitting. You could even ask a friend/colleague to do this.	Make basic spelling and grammar mistakes. If you haven't taken the time to read through it suggests you put through a last-minute submission.
Make sure you submit before the deadline: midnight on Sunday 22 October 2023	Submit a panic abstract. A rushed submission put in at the last minute will not do your work justice.

If you have any queries or need guidance on submitting, please contact education@rcn.org.uk

We look forward to reviewing your submissions and welcoming you to the event.

RCN Education Conference Team.

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