



SWATA Symposium
Call for Abstracts
2026 Application and Instructions

Abstract Title: _____

Category: ☐ Case Report ☐ Original Research ☐ Report

Subcategory: ☐ Disabling Case ☐ Basic ☐ Survey ☐ Meta-Analysis / Systematic Review

☐ Validation Case ☐ Validation Case ☐ Point-of-Care ☐ Translational ☐ Clinical outcomes

☐ Critically Appraised Topic ☐ Quality Improvement ☐ Evidence-to-Practice ☐ Clinical mentorship case

Division: ☐ Faculty/Clinician ☐ Post-Professional (i.e. ATC) ☐ Entry-Level Master's / Undergraduate

Answering the following questions will assist the Free Communications and Research Committee in the review process:

1. Has this abstract been accepted for presentation at the NATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposia? Yes ☐ No ☐
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2. If No, do you consent to having your abstract published in a special edition of the <i>Clinical Practice in Athletic Training Journal</i>? (Certified/Licensed Membership Only) Yes ☐ No ☐
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3. If presenting a case study or case series, you agree that you have obtained written consent from the patient or their representative prior to initiating your project. Yes ☐ No ☐

Author(s):

*Name: Affiliation:

Name: Affiliation:

Name: Affiliation:

Name: Affiliation:

Name: Affiliation:

Name: Affiliation:

Name: Affiliation:

* Presenting author

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LEAD AUTHOR:

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

E-mail:

NPI Number (required):

Please note that a secondary author may present in the place of a primary author if he/she is unavailable. If an award is presented, this will be presented to the faculty sponsor if the primary author is not present.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 3, 2026 at 11:59pm

This application, title page, and your one-page **structured** abstract (refer to submission guidelines listed below) must be electronically submitted to: brendonm@uark.edu

Please note that the deadline is determined as the time of receipt of the file, not the time it was sent. Feel free to contact Brendon McDermott at brendonm@uark.edu to confirm receipt of your submission.

Expectations upon submission

It is expected that if you submit an abstract via this avenue, you are willing and able to be in attendance to present your abstract (poster or oral presentation) at the SWATA Annual Meeting in July.

Any questions regarding the SWATA abstract process may be sent to Dr. Brendon McDermott, via email at brendonm@uark.edu or 479-575-4670.

Please note: all lead authors will be required to have an NPI number prior to submitting their abstract.

Please note: *Applications which do not adhere to the submission guidelines will be rejected.* Applicants should carefully review the “Common Errors in Abstract Submission” document prior to submitting their abstract to check for potential errors.

For each submission, a completed application (above) is required in conjunction with a properly formatted cover page and abstract as outlined below. For each submission, include only the application followed by the abstract (i.e. delete all extraneous material). Do not separate the application and abstract into separate files.



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APPLICATION/ABSTRACT

The mission of the SWATA Free Communications and Research Committee is to encourage and facilitate scholarly development and discourse among sports medicine professionals. To assure the exchange of valuable information, the SWATA Free Communications and Research Committee utilizes a blinded peer-review process for abstracts following standardized guidelines, but expects abstracts to be submitted at a quality worthy of publication. Each submitted abstract will be blinded and reviewed by a minimum of two reviewers. Due to the potential number of abstracts reviewed, it is essential for investigators or clinicians submitting abstracts to follow these instructions precisely and copy/edit their own work. Abstracts that are not submitted in accordance with the instructions below may be rejected.

**SWATA Free Communications and Research Committee
Call for Abstracts**

**SWATA Symposium
Waco, TX July 23-25, 2025
Instructions for Abstract Preparation and Submission**

Please read all instructions before preparing and submitting the abstract. Individuals may submit only one **Original Research Abstract** or **Clinical Case Report Abstract** as the primary (presenting) author, but may submit unlimited abstracts as a secondary author. All abstracts will undergo blind review. All presentations must be of original work (not previously presented). Authors of submissions selected for presentation will be notified by approximately April 30.

The **Original Research Abstract** must be written to the accepted scientific standards of a research area and should present findings pertaining to DEI issues related to sports medicine and/or the athletic training profession. The **Clinical Case Report Abstract** should present a unique individual athletic injury case of general interest to the Clinical Symposium attendees.

Formatting Instructions

Cover sheet for the entire submission – please include the information that is presented as page 1 of this document.

Prepare your abstract in accordance with the following instructions. Please note that improperly formatted abstracts will be rejected.

1. Top, bottom, right, and left margins of the body of the abstract (in a WORD file) should be set at 1" using the standard 8.5" x 11" format. Use either Arial, Times New Roman, or Helvetica 12pt. font with single spacing. Provide the title of the paper or project starting at the top left margin.
2. On the next line, indent 3 spaces and provide the names of all authors, with the author who will make the presentation listed first as the lead author. Enter the last name, then initials (without periods), followed by a comma, and continue the same format for all secondary authors (if any), ending with a colon.
3. On the same line following the colon, indicate the name of the institution (including the city and state) where the research was conducted. If primary author is not at the institution where the work was completed place an * after his or her name and following the institution where the research was conducted
4. The primary author can indicate their present institution (including the city and state). For collaborative projects where portions of the project were conducted at different institutions, list all authors as described above (#3), then list institutional affiliations using the following consecutive symbols (*, †, ‡, §, ¶, #, **, etc.)
5. Double space and begin entering the body of the abstract flush left in a single paragraph with no indentions. **The text of the body must be structured** (with the headings as indicated in the various formats below). Do not justify the right margin. You can include a single figure/table as described within specific sections below. **The body of the abstract for Original Research is limited to 450 words. The body of the abstract for a Clinical Case Report is limited to 600 words.** A word count generated by MS Word must be included at the bottom of the abstract. The word count should include the entire body of the abstract, including headings and the final word count.
6. The required formats for the structured abstracts are listed below. For further clarification, authors should consult the AMA Manual of Style 10th edition and the instructions for authors in *Clinical Practice in Athletic Training*.
7. Abstracts fall into one of the following seven (7) categories; the author is responsible for determining the most applicable category for structuring their abstract. Each is provided with examples where applicable but the examples are not all encompassing and some may overlap. Authors should choose the format that seems to best fit and present their data or case study.

Review Criteria for All Original Research Abstracts:

- Completeness of requested information in each structured heading.
- Overall clarity of writing
- Originality of research and or contribution to the literature or knowledgebase
- Methods, appropriate statistical analysis and results address the primary objective
- Consistency between data and conclusions
- Adequacy of sample size to support conclusions



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Consult *Clinical Practice in Athletic Training's* Author's Guide for style information (*AMA Manual of Style* and *Index Medicus* journal abbreviations).

When choosing the appropriate research methodology and statistical analyses please consult your departmental faculty. The additional resources below may assist with choosing the appropriate research methodology and statistical analysis.

Berg, K.E. and Latin, R. W. (2004). *Essentials of research methods in health, physical education, exercise science, and recreation*. 2nd ed. LWW: Baltimore, MD.

Green, S.B., Salkind, N.J. (2010). *Using SPSS for Windows and Macintosh: Analyzing and Understanding Data*. 6th ed. Prentice Hall, Boston, MA.

Hurley, W.L., Denegar, C.R., Hertel, J. (2011). *Research Methods: A Framework for Evidence-Based Clinical Practice*. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Philadelphia, PA.

Jewell, D. (2010). *Evidence-Based Physical Therapy Practice*. 2nd ed. Jones & Bartlett, Sudbury, MA.

Norman, G.R. and Streiner, D.L. (2003). *PDQ Statistics*. 3rd ed. BC Decker: Hamilton, ON.

Portney, L.G., Watkins, M.P. (2008). *Foundations of Clinical Research: Applications to Practice*. 3rd ed. Prentice Hall. Boston, MA.

<https://journals.humankinetics.com/view/journals/ijatt/31/1/article-p1.xml?content=fulltext>
(Critically Appraised Topic Example)

Format each submission according to the guidelines listed below. When ready to submit, include only the application and cover page as listed above, and the structured abstract as outlined below (i.e. 3-4 total pages per submission).

Formats For Each Abstract Category

DISABLEMENT MODEL CASE STUDY

The purpose of disablement model case studies is to describe a unique diagnosis, intervention, or outcome experienced in clinical practice through the lens of the disablement model. This includes exploring the unique case through areas of health and wellness including societal, environmental, and activity.

Title: The words “Case Study” should appear in the title along with the area of focus. Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Abstract: A 600-word structured abstract should accompany your submission. The abstract should include an introductory statement, the clinical diagnosis, outcomes, and a clinical bottom line.

Introduction

Patient Information

Interventions

Outcomes

Clinical Bottom Line

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.



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CRITICALLY APPRAISED TOPIC

A critically appraised topic (CAT) is essentially a brief systematic review and critique of the most current and best available evidence to answer a focused clinical question. These questions should be related to the recognition, rehabilitation, and prevention of sport-related injuries. While large-scale systematic reviews and meta-analyses involve an exhaustive search of the literature, CATs involve similar elements but on a smaller scale (typically 3-8 sources of peer-reviewed evidence).

Abstract: A 450-word structured abstract should accompany your submission. The abstract should include the following sections:

Clinical Scenario

Clinical Question

Summary of Key Findings

Clinical Bottom Line

Strength of Recommendation

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.

VALIDATION CASE STUDIES AND REPORTS

As a form of action research, validation case studies are prospectively developed to explore the best available evidence as it is integrated in clinical practice. The clinician should explore the literature for a meta-analysis or systematic review published in the past 5 years (at the time of implementation) and identify the best practice suggestions concluded from the study. Following the identification and integration of the level 1 evidence, the athletic trainer should integrate the best practice recommendations into practice on a measureable scale or patient population of interest as identified in the review. Outcome measures relevant to clinical practice should be used to monitor and assess the patients throughout the continuum of the best practice integration. The validation period may differ in time from a course of injury to an athletic season, but should relate to the recommendations suggested in the review. The goal of the outcomes developed from the validation period is to best understand the translation of evidence-based practice into practice-based evidence.

Title: The phrase “A Validation Case Study/Report” should follow the content and focus of the title (e.g. Balance Training to Prevent Ankle Sprains in Secondary School Soccer Players: A Validation Case Report). Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Article Citation and Summary: Provide a brief summary (200 words) of the key findings from a recent (published within past 5 years) systematic review and/or meta-analysis related to the field of athletic training on which the validation is based upon.

Abstract: A 400-word structured abstract should accompany your submission. The abstract should include the citation for the reference article, objective statement of the validation, and a brief summary of the patient population, intervention and intervention timeline, main findings, and clinical take-home message.

Objective

Patient Population

Intervention

Main Findings

Clinical Bottom Line

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.



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**POINT-OF-CARE
CHARACTERISTIC) RESEARCH**

(PRACTICE

The purpose of point-of-care research is explore the practice of clinicians at the point-of-care as evidence through document review. Document reviews require the clinician(s) to perform chart reviews of evaluations and interventions to understand the practice methods deployed. This may include exploring the use of special testing, rates of diagnoses through risk, rates, and exposures, shared histories or goals for patients, etc.

Title: The phrase “Point-of-Care Research” should be included, as well as the content and focus of the title (e.g. Use of Special Testing for the Ankle at the Point-of-Care).Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Abstract: A 450-word structured abstract should accompany your submission. The abstract should include an introductory statement, the clinical diagnosis, outcomes, and a clinical bottom line.

Introduction

Methods

Results

Clinical Application

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

The purpose of translational research is to produce meaningful and applicable results that directly benefit clinical practice. Several research designs, including “traditional” research designs, can be published under this submission type but should be focused on clinically applicable topics that contribute to the profession of athletic training in an immediately impactful way.

Title: Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Abstract: A 450-word structured abstract should accompany your submission. Abstracts using qualitative or mixed-methods designs can be up to 600 words in length.

Introduction

Methods

Results

Translation to Practice

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.



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CLINICAL OUTCOMES

RESEARCH

The purpose of clinical outcomes research is to share research focused on the meaningful use of patient- and clinician-rated outcomes measured in clinical practice. The research may be written from several perspectives including a patient population, through the lens of a singular outcome tool, as a comparison of tools, or outcomes of an entire clinic before and after the introduction of an intervention. The research should emphasize the utility of specific clinical outcomes in practice. This research may also be written from the perspective of improving the work life of health care providers (Quadruple Aim) through the use of outcome measures.

Title: Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Abstract: A 450-word structured abstract should accompany your submission.

Introduction

Methods

Results

Clinical Application

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REPORTS

The purpose of quality improvement projects are to address local problems through the implementation of a systematic process for targeted change. The goal of the quality improvement report is to disseminate detailed information on the steps taken throughout the implementation process to benefit the athletic training community. We welcome submissions using any quality improvement model.

Title: The title should be formatted to include “quality improvement” and the area of focus. Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Abstract: A 450-word structured abstract should accompany your submission.

Scope of the Problem

Context

Needs Assessment

Project Aim

Project Design

Implementation

Results

Limitations

Implications for Clinical Practice

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.

CLINICAL MENTORSHIP CASE STUDIES

The purpose of clinical mentorship case studies are to provide a reflection of opportunities, challenges, and creative experiences that preceptors in athletic training have developed for clinical education. The commentary may explore previous experiences or theory into practice in terms of methods to deliver clinical experiences. The case studies may explore topics such as clinical immersion from the preceptor perspective, designing quality patient interactions, and assessment of student growth during the clinical experience.

Title: The words “case study” or “case report” should appear in the title along with the area of focus. Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Abstract: A 600-word structured abstract should accompany your submission. The abstract should include an introductory statement, the educational/mentorship technique or experience, outcomes, and a clinical teaching bottom line.

Introduction

Mentee Characteristics

Mentor Characteristics

Experience

Results

Clinical Mentorship Bottom Line

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.

EVIDENCE TO PRACTICE REVIEW

The purpose of a (review) is to review currently published literature (systematic review or meta-analysis) and provide a concise and clinical summary of relevant findings for practicing clinicians. This includes providing a clinical bottom line that can be applied in clinical practice.

Title: The word “Review” should appear in the title as well as the content focus of the review. Titles should be no longer than 15 words and the heading “title” does not need to appear in the submission.

Original Reference: The original research reference from the guiding manuscript, please adhere to the AMA guidelines.

Abstract: A 450-word structured abstract should accompany your submission. The abstract must be original in nature and summarize the context to the clinical problem under investigation, brief summary of the guiding manuscript, and the clinical bottom line.

Clinical Problem and Question

Summary of Literature

Summary of Interventions (Optional)

Summary of Outcomes

Findings and Clinical Implications

Clinical Bottom Line

Tables, Figures, Photos, Illustrations: Up to one table, figure, photo, or illustration, which must be numbered and cited in the text, can be included. The table, if applicable, must be numbered and cited in the text and should have a short, descriptive title. Abbreviations used in tables that are not commonly understood should be explained in a table legend. Figures, photos, or illustrations should be accompanied by a legend. Material that is in the tables should not be repeated in the text. If applicable, arrows or asterisks can be present on figures for identification of specified areas that are discussed in the legend.

References: Provide up to 5 references used to support the commentary at the conclusion of the column. Please adhere to AMA guidelines.

Please ensure that you are using this form to submit your abstract, and that you are only submitting the application, cover sheet, and formatted abstract. All additional material must be deleted prior to submission.

If you have any questions please contact:

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