Call for Speakers and Abstracts

APTA Orthopedics Virtual Conference

Submission open: January 15, 2026, 12:00 PM CST
Deadline to submit: March 16, 2026, 11:59 PM CDT

The **APTA Orthopedics Virtual Conference** brings together orthopedic physical therapy clinicians, educators, and researchers for a high-impact virtual learning experience focused on evidence-based practice and clinical reasoning.

The Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy invites proposals for:

- **90-minute Educational Sessions**
- **30-minute Micro-learning Sessions**
- **Poster Presentations**

Sessions should be evidence-informed, clinically relevant, and designed for engagement in a virtual environment. Proposal acceptance and final scheduling decisions rest with the conference programming leadership.

Session Formats

90-minute Educational Sessions
Designed for comprehensive coverage of an orthopedic topic, incorporating evidence, clinical reasoning, and application (e.g., case-based integration, polling, breakout discussion).

30-minute Micro-learning Sessions
Designed for concise, high-impact learning focused on one concept, one clinical decision point, or one targeted skill update.

Submission Requirements

All proposals must be submitted via the online portal and include the following elements (adapted from the CSM educational-session requirements:

1. **Title** (15 words maximum).
2. **Session description** (250 words maximum).
3. **Learning objectives**
   - 90-minute session: **3–5 objectives** (5 maximum).
   - 30-minute micro-learning: **3-5 objectives** (5 maximum).
4. **Current bibliographic references (from the past 10 years)**
   - 90-minute session: **5 references**.
   - 30-minute micro-learning: **5 references**.
5. **Timed outline** that aligns with learning objectives.
6. **Content related to differential diagnosis**

7. **Speaker information** for each presenter
8. **Brief biographical information** for each speaker.
9. **Keywords** to support attendee search.
10. **Teaching and learning assessment methods.**
11. **Recommended content level (entry level, advanced)**
12. **Conflict of interest disclosure.**

Submission Expectations

- Proposals will be reviewed based on **foundation in evidence**, **clarity**, **likely interest to participants**, and **feasibility** within program constraints.
- Proposals should reflect **cultural and/or ethical components** relevant to clinical practice and research where appropriate.
- Proposals must be **devoid of promotional content**.
- Speaker information will appear **exactly as submitted** in conference materials; please verify accuracy with any co-presenters prior to submission.
- The Academy may limit the number of accepted sessions per speaker to maintain programming balance.

Virtual Design Guidance

Strong proposals will clearly describe how the session will engage a virtual audience, such as:

- Live polling, chat-based Q&A, structured case reasoning, brief breakout tasks, or "pause + apply" moments.
- Clear take-home tools: clinical decision algorithms, quick checklists, or short demo videos.

Speaker information will appear exactly as submitted.

POSTER INSTRUCTIONS

We invite you to submit a poster for consideration at the upcoming professional conference. All submissions will be peer reviewed by the conference committee. Special categories for student and resident/fellows as primary presenters.

We encourage members to share their research, projects, and innovations with the broader professional community and look forward to your submissions.

Abstract categories for research reports and case reports.

Research Report

- Title & Citations:
- Purpose:
- Number of Subjects:
- Methods:
- Results:
- Conclusion:
- Clinical Relevance:
- References

Case Report

- Title:
- Background:
- Case Description:
- Outcomes:
- Discussion:
- References:

Review & Selection

Proposals will be reviewed for evidence base, clarity, participant interest, and feasibility. Content must be non-promotional and reflect ethical and/or cultural considerations where appropriate. To maintain program balance, the Academy may limit the number of accepted sessions per speaker.

Accepted speakers will be notified after **March 16th**.

Questions? Contact David Cheesen, dcheesen@setonhall.edu