

6th Annual Henry Ford + MSU Cancer Research Symposium

Abstract Submission Guidelines

Abstract Submission Requirements:

To be considered for an oral presentation award, please ensure your abstract meets the following requirements:

- Abstracts should be **no more than 320 words**.
- Abstracts should include the following sections, as applicable:
 - **Background:** Briefly describe the scientific context and rationale.
 - **Hypothesis:** State the hypothesis, if applicable.
 - **Methods:** Briefly describe the experimental or research approach.
 - **Results:** Present key findings, including relevant data, metrics, and statistical analyses.
 - **Conclusions:** Summarize the primary findings and their significance in **one to two sentences**.

Category selection: All submissions must be assigned to **one of the categories listed below**. We recognize that some abstracts may span multiple areas or may not fit neatly within a single category. In these cases, please select the category that **best represents the primary focus of your work**.

1. Cancer Biology & Immunology

This category encompasses research focused on the biological mechanisms underlying cancer initiation, development, progression, and response to disease. Research may include cancer cell and molecular biology, genetics and genomics, cellular signaling and metabolism, DNA replication and repair, gene regulation, cell cycle control, cell death, stem and progenitor cells, tumor–microenvironment interactions, and other mechanisms that contribute to cancer biology. This category also includes basic, translational, and clinical research focused on the immune system and its role in cancer, including innate and adaptive immunity, inflammation, immune regulation, and immune-based approaches to cancer.

2. Physical Sciences in Cancer

This category encompasses research that applies physical, engineering, computational, quantitative, and technological approaches to advance the understanding, detection, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cancer. Research may include cancer imaging and image analysis, early detection, medical physics, radiation sciences, bioengineering, device and technology development, biomaterials, computational and mathematical modeling, data science, and other quantitative approaches. This category also includes the development and application of experimental systems, disease models, technologies, and approaches that support therapeutic discovery, treatment evaluation, precision medicine, and clinical translation.

3. Cancer Epidemiology, Prevention and Control

This category encompasses research focused on understanding cancer risk, prevention, detection, outcomes, and disparities across populations and throughout the cancer continuum. Research may include cancer epidemiology, risk factors, biomarkers, disease patterns and progression, cancer prevention and control, behavioral and psychosocial interventions, health services and outcomes research, patient-centered research, quality of life, and cancer

disparities. This category also includes population-based and longitudinal research, including cohort, case-control, and cross-sectional studies, as well as research using clinical, genomic, molecular, and other integrated datasets to better understand cancer risk, outcomes, and population health. Statistical and computational approaches that advance cancer prevention, epidemiology, outcomes, and population health are also included.

4. Shared Resources & Cores

Abstracts in this category will not be judged or considered for awards. Teams are encouraged to use this category to highlight their resources and capabilities to the broader research community.

This category includes abstracts highlighting shared facilities, core services, technology platforms, specialized expertise, and other research resources that support investigators across Henry Ford Health and Michigan State University. Posters may showcase unique capabilities, technologies, services, expertise, or collaborative approaches that enable and accelerate research, foster multidisciplinary collaboration, and facilitate the translation of scientific discoveries into clinical and patient impact.

Deadlines:

- All abstracts should be submitted through InfoReady by **September 15, 2026**.
- The poster committee will review all abstracts and notify poster winners, no later than Friday, **October 9, 2026**.

Poster information:

- Presenters are responsible for printing, setting up, and removing their posters on the day of the poster session.
- Posters must be **no larger than 3' x 4' (36" x 48")**. Posters exceeding these dimensions may extend beyond the poster board.
- At least one author must be present at the poster during the designated poster session.
- Poster boards and push pins/binder clips will be provided.

Poster Awards & Travel Support:

- **Four poster award recipients** will be selected and invited to present their research during a scientific presentation on **Friday, October 30, 2026**. **We select the highest-scoring poster from each of the three categories (1-3), and a fourth poster with the next highest score across all categories combined.**
- Award recipients will also be eligible for a **travel award of up to \$250** to help support attendance at the symposium.
 - **Eligible Expenses:** Hotel accommodation, mileage, reimbursed in accordance with the traveler's home institution's policies. Meals will be provided during the symposium therefore will not be reimbursed.
 - **Non-Eligible Expenses:** Alcoholic beverages.
 - Please retain all receipts and submit reimbursement requests through your home institution's standard expense reporting process.

In case of any questions, please contact Jenna Anheuser, janheus3@hfhs.org