



American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (ACNS) 2020 Annual Meeting Call For Proposals

The American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (ACNS) Program Committee seeks proposals for Symposia, Skills Workshops and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) for the 2020 Annual Meeting, to be held at February 7-9, 2020 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The proposal submission deadline is April 30, 2019

SESSION CONTENT & FORMAT

Complete session proposals must include the following elements:

- Session title
- Description of the session content/scope
- An overview of the knowledge gap and educational need the session seeks to address (see "CME Information" section below)
- Learning objectives
- Target audience
- Draft agenda, including:
 - Names of proposed moderator(s)
 - Names of proposed speakers
 - Speakers' presentation titles
 - Time allotted to each presentation

Proposals may be submitted for one of the following session formats:

- Symposium (Scientific)
 - Based on a scientific theme expanding cutting-edge knowledge for a topic culminating in a conclusion or summary;
 - Utilize a lecture style learning format,
 - 90 minutes in length;
 - Should include no more than three (3) speakers.
- Symposium (Clinical)
 - Based on a clinical theme expanding current or new clinical knowledge of a topic relevant to current clinical practice;
 - Utilize a lecture style learning format but may also encourage active audience participation related to difficult or controversial issues in clinical neurophysiology;
 - 90 minutes in length;
 - Should include no more than three (3) speakers.
- Clinical Workshops
 - Forums for clinical demonstrations that provide a hands-on or slide-based demonstration and review difficult clinical or practical neurophysiologic issues. These sessions are most applicable to clinical practice issues in clinical neurophysiology.
 - May utilize case discussions/vignettes with video and neurophysiologic data and discussion or demonstration of relevant findings or techniques. Audience interaction/participation is encouraged. If case review is incorporated, the session chair is expected to ensure the cases are of high quality and appropriate data for discussion is available.
 - 90 minutes in length;
 - Should include no more than three (3) speakers.
- Special Interest Groups (SIG)
 - An opportunity to present cutting-edge or ongoing research activities in a more informal environment with ample opportunity for discussion and feedback.
 - 90 minutes in length;
 - Should include no more than three (3) speakers.
 - Some SIGs may be asked to continue for three year terms on a rolling basis, as determined by the Program Committee.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) INFORMATION

The ACNS Annual Meeting will be planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the sponsorship of ACNS. ACNS is accredited by ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Professional Practice Gaps

The ACNS Program, Course and CME Committees have identified “professional practice gaps,” or the differences between what a health professional is doing or accomplishing compared to what is achievable on the basis of current professional knowledge. Sessions selected for the Annual Meeting scientific program must address one of the following “professional practice gaps:”

Gap #1 - Emerging Areas of Practice

Several emerging areas of clinical neurophysiology have significant practice gaps in which the opportunities for training and mentoring fall short of the demands of experienced and trained neurologists. Intraoperative monitoring, intensive care unit EEG monitoring, Video and Quantitative EEG, and invasive evaluation for epilepsy surgery with Stereo EEG are growing areas of clinical neurophysiology with few practicing neurologists having adequate training in these techniques. Adult and pediatric physicians as well as neurodiagnostic technologists with competence in these areas are in great demand. Without additional specialized training, neurologists will not be competent to conduct these types of monitoring.

Gap #2. General Practice of Clinical Neurophysiology

Clinical neurophysiology procedures are performed by a large proportion of practicing US neurologists, many of whom have little or no formal training in clinical neurophysiology. Many clinical neurophysiology procedures (e.g. evoked potentials, invasive EEG, advanced EMG procedures) are performed at low volume at many centers and a forum for review and hands-on interpretation are essential to improve and maintain competence in these area

Topics of Educational Need

Several specific topics where there is a significant gap between current practice and ideal practice have been identified via review of the literature, review of clinical neurophysiology fellowship curricula, and surveys of ACNS members and Annual Meeting attendees. For more information and a complete list of ACNS identified educational needs, please see the complete [2019-20 Gap Analysis and Needs Assessment](#).

The Program Committee especially welcomes session proposals which have an interactive or hands-on component, and are specifically designed to improve the procedural competence of attendees.

Content Validity

Further, the ACNS Content Validity policy requires that recommendations involving clinical medicine in an ACNS CME activity must be based on the highest level of evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contraindications in the care of patients. All scientific research referred to, reported or used in CME in support or justification of a patient care recommendation must conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.

Compliance with ACNS CME Policies

Session directors, moderators and speakers will be required to comply with ACNS CME policies related to identification and resolution of potential conflicts of interest, including submission of the following documentation:

- Conflict of Interest Disclosure statements – outlining all financial relationships with ACCME-defined commercial interests
 - **IMPORTANT** - Speakers in Annual Meeting sessions may NOT be owners or employees of ACCME-defined commercial interests. Should such a speaker be proposed, the ACNS International Relations, Program or CME Committee will require an alternate speaker be selected and/or make suggestions of alternate speakers.
- Presentation abstracts – defining the scope of the speaker’s presentation; and
- Presentation slides – allowing the CME Committee to review in advance the material the speaker will present during the activity.

Failure to provide disclosure information in a timely manner, refusal to disclose a conflict, or the inability to resolve an identified conflict will result in an individuals’ disqualification from the activity, at the discretion of the ACNS CME Committee.

NOTES

Speaker Availability & Cooperation

Prior to submitting a session proposal, we recommend that you:

- Confirm that all the speakers in your proposed session are willing to speak and available to attend the meeting.
- Confirm that all your proposed speakers agree to the ACNS speaker compensation policy. Travel funding is not available, and exceptions are made to this policy only in very rare cases.
- Confirm that all your proposed speakers are willing to provide the required materials including a conflict of interest disclosure forms, presentation abstracts, and presentation slides according to the stated timeline.

Joint International Symposia Proposal Process

The ACNS International Relations and Program Committees are pleased to consider proposals for Joint International Symposia which should be developed by a clinical neurophysiology-related national society, federation or chapter, in cooperation with the ACNS International Relations Committee.

Proposals for Joint International Symposia should NOT be submitted via the session proposal website, but should be submitted directly to the ACNS International Relations Committee for review and feedback. To submit a Joint International Symposium proposal, please contact the ACNS Executive Office at info@acns.org.

**The Session Proposal Submission Deadline is
Tuesday, April 30, 2019**

Submit a proposal online at
www.acns.org/meetings/annual-meeting-and-courses/2020-annual-meeting-and-courses/call-for-proposals

**Notifications will be sent out by June 17, 2019
Speaker acceptances are due July 1, 2019**