

Joint 29th annual ESDAR conference / 4th ECAR symposium 2026

Guidelines for abstracts, posters and oral communications

Beside invited plenary presentations, free communications on all aspects of reproduction (included clinical cases) in domestic animals will be presented at the conference. Although most free communications will have to be presented as posters, ESDAR likes to give scientists the opportunity to present their data orally and numerous sessions with short oral communications will be offered. All submitted abstracts will undergo a strict peer-review process (see below). Accepted abstracts will be published in the journal *Reproduction in Domestic Animals*. You are invited to submit abstracts of your scientific work to be presented at the conference 2026 **not later than April 5th 2026**.

All abstracts (posters, oral communications) can only be submitted through the ESDAR website. Please follow the according submission advices there.

Abstract requirements

Abstracts must be written in English. If you are not a native speaker, ask for help to edit grammar and style. Your name must only appear once as first author of an abstract. However, you may submit additional abstracts as co-author. Abstracts should contain the purpose of the study, methods used, results, and conclusions. **Do not forget to indicate the species within the title**. A maximum of two references (first author, year, journal, volume, pages) of published full papers (no abstracts!) may be included. No figures or tables are allowed. Abbreviations have to be defined and should be used sparingly. Abstracts without results (e.g.: the results of this study will be presented at the meeting) are **not** accepted. Abstracts are subjected to scientific review by peers. The decision on acceptance/rejection by the program committee is final.

The maximum size of abstracts is limited to 1,800 characters including spaces from the first word of the title through to the last word/character of the text, excluding author names and affiliations. This restriction must apply due to page limitations of the Journal (RDA). Abstracts exceeding 1,800 characters are automatically truncated.

Preferred Method of Presentation

When you submit your abstract, please indicate your preferred method of presentation:

- a) The poster session only
- b) Poster session or oral communication
- c) ESDAR Young Scientist competition (Oral)
- d) Student poster competition
- e) ECAR resident oral communication

Submission of abstracts

By submitting the abstract, the author concedes (1) that the work has not been published (at least not before 2026) previously and is the work of the named authors, who all agree to be listed as co-authors and (2) that the experiments have been conducted under the appropriate legal authority.

Make sure that the author or one of the co-authors is present at the conference and will present the publication either as oral communication or poster. Failure to present the work after the abstract has been published in the conference proceedings will result in rejection of abstracts from this particular laboratory/team in the following years.

Review of abstracts

The abstracts are subjected to a rigorous peer-review process. Firstly, abstracts must meet the formal requirements laid down in the information for authors of abstracts. Abstracts exceeding the character limit of 1,800 are not accepted. Abstracts may be re-submitted before the deadline expires. The corresponding author of each submitted abstract will receive an automated confirmation email. If not, they should make contact immediately with the program secretary.

Submitted abstracts are then distributed to the reviewers and rated by 2 reviewers

- a) Accepted without revision
- b) Accepted after minor revision
- c) Major revision necessary
- d) Not acceptable (rejected)

Abstracts, which need a revision, will be returned to the corresponding author with detailed questions/instructions. After resubmission, the original reviewer again reviews the abstract. Abstracts, which need only minor revision will be returned to the author and will be rechecked after resubmission for the requested corrections. Very often the reason for rejection of abstracts is poor scientific quality. e.g. poorly designed experiments with inappropriate statistical analyses, or abstracts containing no data.

Poor language per se is not a reason to reject an abstract; however we strongly recommend all non-native speakers to get help from a native speaker. Minor language problems are edited by the reviewers.

Abstracts will be rated major revision necessary when the abstract contains interesting data but lacks some formalities e.g. description of methods, lack of statistics, lack of conclusion etc. Very often authors claim that they could not include sufficient information because of the limited characters. However, careful reading of the text usually reveals that there are quite a number of words, phrases or even sentences, which can be omitted without losing information.

Please refrain from inquiries about the status of the abstract after submission. The entire procedure will take up to 8 weeks. Authors will be informed by e-mail as soon as the final decision has been made.

Abstract Review and Selection

The decision whether an abstract is accepted as poster or oral communication is made by the program secretary and the local organizers and depends on the general layout of the scientific contents of the conference. The decision is final and will be announced around June 2026.

ORAL COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES 2026

Oral Communication: 12 min presentation and 3 min discussion

Young Scientist Communication: 5 min presentation and 1 min discussion

ECAR residents' oral presentation: 5 min presentation and 1 min discussion

Presentations should be in English. Come to your session in good time, so you can upload and test your presentation, talk to your chair about how he or she may introduce you, and express any concerns you may have about your presentation (e.g. use of technical equipment, photographs and video recordings of the session).

Young Scientist Competition / Student posters / ECAR residents oral communications

The contest is intended to engage student interest (ECAR interns and residents, doctoral thesis, PhD) in reproduction fields and to encourage them to present the results of their studies at the ESDAR Conference. All those who are interested in participating in the competition should submit the abstract and click on Young Scientist Competition(oral) or Student Poster participation. Notice the abstract should be accepted for participation, the submission will be subjected to the same rigorous peer-review process than regular ones. Oral communications are strictly limited to 6 minutes (5 minutes presentation and 1 minute discussion).

Awards

The first-place winners from the YSC and the student posters will be awarded with the registration fee of the next Annual ESDAR Conference on the following year.

PLENARY SPEAKERS 2026

Plenary speakers are expected to submit a full paper to *Reproduction in Domestic Animals* by the end of March, 2026. An accepted paper is the prerequisite for the invitation (paid conference, 3 hotel nights, travel economy). The paper should be submitted as any other review in an electronic manner and will be subject to customary peer review: mc.manuscriptcentral.com/rda. Plenary speakers should add Review-ESDAR 2025 to the manuscript. Writing and submission instructions are in the following address: [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1439-0531/homepage/ForAuthors.html](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1439-0531/homepage/ForAuthors.html)

POSTER PRESENTATION GUIDELINES 2026

We hope that the following guidelines will help you when preparing your presentation. Poster session is one of the most important sessions at the Annual Conference of the European Society for Domestic Animal Reproduction.

Display boards will be provided for posters. POSTERS SHOULD HAVE A SIZE OF 120 x 90 cm (vertical presentation).

Copies of your poster reduced to A4 format are generally well appreciated by delegates. If you wish to distribute it, please prepare them before and bring them with you. Provide an envelope where delegates can leave their cards for more information.

Ideas for Improving Posters

(Based on guide-lines published in the Embryo Transfer Newsletter Volume 16, Number 3, September 1998 by G. E. Seidel, Jr.)

The poster title should be in large letters that can be seen a long distance away (ideally, 4 cm high).

The names and addresses of authors should be in much smaller letters than the title.

Text letters should be at least 1 cm high.

A poster is not a scientific paper. It should be possible to read and understand a poster within 5 minutes. Long posters are ignored by most attendees. A maximum of two references (first author, year, journal, volume, pages) of published full papers can be included.

For posters, lists are preferable to text; tables are preferable to lists; and graphs are preferable to tables. Long and complex tables and complicated graphs have no place in posters.

The following parts are absolutely essential for most posters:

Introduction (putting work into context)

Procedures (materials and methods)

Results (what was found)

Interpretation

Conclusions

ESDAR keeps a list of authors from previous conferences who submitted abstracts, but did not present a poster; abstracts will no longer be accepted from scientists who authored or co-authored previous abstracts and failed to put up a poster (without good cause).

Registration

Please remember to send your registration form in order to be allowed to participate in the poster session and to register at the Congress Secretary.

Mounting, viewing and removing the poster

Fixing tape for posters will be available in the poster exhibition area. Please use only the fixing materials made available by the poster exhibition staff in order to avoid damages on the poster boards. The authors are requested to be present to answer any questions concerning their poster during the poster session. Posters that are not dismounted by the authors will be dismounted and disposed of by the staff when the conference had finished.