



Poster Competition & Abstract Display

The Abstract Competition and Poster Display is organized to encourage hospitals and health care providers to present their original work. All posters are welcome even if it's your first time submitting, we encourage your participation. All winners of the Poster Competition will present their posters during a conference session, and all submissions will have their posters on display during the annual Health Care & Innovation Summit on October 21, 2026. The competition emphasizes quality improvement methodology, provides a venue to share innovative and effective educational programs, showcase unique community projects, and encourages networking among peers with similar interests.



SAVE THE DATES

- **October 21: DCHA's Health Care & Innovation Summit**
- **October 18-24: Health Care Quality Week**
- **April 21-July 2: Portal Open for Submissions**
- **July 7-28: Judging**



Abstract Instructions

The abstract must be a stand-alone summary that clearly and succinctly conveys the essential information of a project or study. The abstract should use a performance improvement methodology.

Requirements	Details
Word Count	300 (not including titles or authors)
Font Style	Arial
Font Size	10-point
Line Spacing	Single-spaced
Margins	1-inch all sides
Formatting	Indent paragraphs
References	Do not provide in abstract
Considerations	Clarity of expression
Abbreviations	Place in parentheses after the full word the first time it appears
Do Not Include	Endorsements, sponsors, brand names or bias toward a product or service

Poster Instructions

A poster is a visual guide that summarizes information or research concisely and attractively to help publicize it and generate discussion. The poster is typically a mixture of a brief text with tables, graphs, pictures, and other presentation formats. Each poster needs to include the following:

- The poster must be landscape orientation and submitted as a PDF.
- Word count should not exceed 800 words.
- Size should be scaled to 36" W x 24"H for printing.
- Once printed and mounted, posters should be able to be displayed on an easel.



**Click Here to
Submit Your
Abstract or
Poster**

2025 Poster Submissions for Reference



Visuals & Text

- Present numerical data in the form of graphs, rather than words or tables (graphs make trends in the data much more evident). If data must be presented in table form, keep it simple.
- Visuals should be simple and bold.
- Avoid acronyms and extensive mathematical notations as much as possible.
- Avoid submitting compactly packed, high word-count posters.
- Use bright colors to enhance the detail.
- In addition to your project detail, the text could also include future research plans or questions.



Key Components of a QI Poster

- Title & Authors
- Background/Introduction
- Methodologies
- Results
- Conclusion
- References (approximately 3-6)

Judging Criteria

Innovation (Weight: 2)

- Innovative techniques within patient safety & quality
- Novel approach to improve existing practices

Replicability (Weight: 3)

- Ability to be adopted by others

Performance Improvement (Weight: 3)

- Identification and improvement of processes or outcomes
- Use of performance improvement methodologies [e.g., PDCA, lean, six sigma]

Demonstrated Impact (Weight: 3)

- Measurable improvement to patient safety or quality
- Addresses positive outcome or lessons learned.

Abstract Instructions (Weight: 1)

- Conveys the essential information
- Follows logical format
- Visuals included numerical data and are clear and concise; Figures convey the improvement processes



Other Considerations

- All scores are final and confidential. DCHA does not provide individual feedback from reviewers or release the identity of the review group.
- Top 20 posters will be expected to print their posters for display at DCHA's Health Care & Innovation Summit. One individual per poster will be provided with a complimentary registration.
- Top 3 posters will win an award for their hospital and will be presented during a session at the Summit. One award winner per poster will be provided with a complimentary registration.



Awards Structure: 1 Gold - \$750; 1 Silver - \$500; 1 Bronze - \$250



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