



Abstract submission regulations and instructions

Abstract submission deadline
23 July 2024, 21:00hrs CEST
(CEST = Central European Summer Time)

All abstracts for the Molecular Analysis for Precision Oncology Congress 2024 (MAP Congress 2024), including preliminary versions of those intended for late-breaking abstract status, must be submitted by the deadline of **21:00hrs** Central European Summer Time (CEST) on **Tuesday, 23 July 2024**.

Abstract submission is free of charge and must be completed online only via the MAP website.

Abstracts submitted by e-mail, post or fax will not be accepted.

Submission categories

- AI
- Biomarkers (prognostic and predictive)
- Cancer cell biology
- Clinical practice
- Multiomics and molecular characterisation of cancers
- New therapies and clinical trials
- Tumour microenvironment
- Miscellaneous

Submission regulations

1. By submitting an abstract intended for presentation at the MAP Congress 2024, the first author (= presenter) warrants that the **material has neither been, nor will be, previously published** in any publication in peer review setting or **presented** at a meeting of any other scientific organisation prior to the MAP Congress 2024.

Abstracts containing **updated data** with respect to a previous presentation may, however, be submitted to the MAP Congress 2024. In this case, additional information must be given specifying clearly which new data will be presented, for example final analysis of primary endpoint(s) or intermediate statistical analysis. Authors must at the same time also supply information regarding the prior presentation for identification and comparison purposes, indicating the name of the meeting, year and/or publication number. Violation of this policy will result in a rejection of the submitted abstract.

Encore abstracts are NOT accepted.

2. The first author (= presenter) must be over 18 years of age and may be, but does not need to be an ESMO, CRUK or Unicancer member to submit more than one abstract as first author, but present a maximum of two abstracts. See details below in point 3.8.

3. With the submission of an abstract, and on behalf of him/herself and all co-authors, the first author (=presenter) undertakes to:

- 3.1. Release full copyright to ESMO, CRUK and Unicancer, jointly “the MAP organisers”, and give full permission for the abstract, if accepted, to be published in the MAP Congress 2024 Abstract book in printed and/or electronic format, as well as published online on the MAP organisers and publisher websites.
- 3.2. Warrant that he/she is an investigator with a substantial involvement in the study presented in the abstract.
- 3.3. Accept responsibility for the accuracy and confidentiality (see corresponding paragraph) of the submitted abstract.
- 3.4. Confirm that all authors and sponsors are aware of, and agree to, the content of the abstract and support the data therein; furthermore, the first author will be responsible for obtaining, and, upon request, showing proof that all authors and sponsors have given their permission for the submission of the abstract and content therein as well as for the potential inclusion of the abstract in the official MAP communication activities.
- 3.5. Make all reasonable efforts to ensure the anonymity of any patient discussed in the abstracts.
- 3.6. Be the **contact person** for all correspondence concerning the abstract and to keep co-authors duly informed about its status.

- 3.7. **Register for the Congress, and present** his/her/their abstract **onsite** if selected for presentation in the official MAP 2024 programme as Proffered Paper (oral presentation), Mini Oral or Poster. Registration must be completed using the same email address as that given during the abstract submission. The first author may nominate a co-author to **register and present** onsite an abstract in his/her place provided that the replacement presenter is also a listed co-author **independent of the sponsor** (unless for data generated as mentioned in point 3.9 below). The name of the replacement must be submitted by e-mail to the MAP organisers c/o ESMO Scientific Programmes Department (programme@esmo.org) **by Friday, 23 August 2024**. No shared first-authorship is possible: Each abstract can have one presenter only.
- 3.8. The maximum number of abstract presentations throughout the MAP Congress 2024 by the same **first and presenting author** is two (2), with options as follows:
- 1 Proffered Paper (oral) plus 1 Mini Oral
 - 1 Proffered Paper (oral) plus 1 Poster
 - 2 Mini Orals
 - 1 Mini Oral plus 1 Poster
 - 2 Posters
- Any additional Proffered Paper, Mini Oral or Poster must be presented by a listed co-author **independent of the sponsor** (unless for data generated as mentioned in point 3.9 below).
- 3.9. An author employed by the abstract sponsor or by a company (including pharmaceutical, diagnostic, data or AI companies) cannot act as the presenter or corresponding author of any work related to clinical or translational data, defined as data/parameters captured in interventional clinical studies (phase I-IV) and observational or real-world data series, involving patients. The presenter must be an independent, practising physician or independent investigator listed in the abstract author string. Authors employed by the sponsor or a company are allowed to present preclinical data. When the presenting investigator represents an independent entity contracted by the sponsor, this should be disclosed in the abstract submission process.
- 3.10. Certify that the study reported in the abstract will not be presented as such during the MAP Congress 2024 at any industry-related Satellite symposia prior to its presentation during the official MAP Congress 2024 programme.
- 3.11. Indicate whether he/she agrees to participate in the official **MAP communication activities** if the abstract is selected for coverage by MAP organisers and guarantee he/she is not subject to any restrictions by the institute he/she belongs to or by the scientific journals he/she may have submitted his/her research to.
- 3.12. The first author must further confirm his/her presence at the official MAP communication activities if selected; however, he/she may nominate a co-author to participate in the MAP communication activities in his/her place provided that the replacement presenter is also a listed co-author independent of the sponsor who has also made a substantive contribution to the work. The name of the replacement must be submitted by email to the MAP organisers c/o ESMO Press Office (pressoffice@esmo.org) within thirty-six (36) hours of invitation acceptance and must confirm their attendance at the MAP communication activities.
- 3.13. Declare the name of the **legal entity** responsible for the governance, coordination and running of the study.
- 3.14. Declare how the study detailed in the abstract was **funded**, for example by a pharmaceutical, biotech or other commercial company or by a Foundation or academic group, and to name the organisation(s) funding the study.
- 3.15. Ensure that **all authors** complete the **“Declaration of Interest”** statement identifying any financial/non-financial interest in products or processes involved in their activities, related or not, to the work submitted in the abstract. This includes stock ownership, membership on an advisory board or board of directors, corporate-sponsored research, or other substantive relationships such as employment with a pharmaceutical company or any other organisation. Should no valid disclosure statement be provided at submission, authors may, at the discretion of the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee, be removed from the author string without further recourse to the authors.
- 3.16. Guarantee the scientific independence of the author or principle investigator (whichever is going to be the presenting author) when presenting his/her data, and confirm that he/she has full control over the text of the submitted abstract, subsequent presentation (slides or poster) and content of the press release prepared by MAP organisers (if part of the official MAP communication activities), and that he/she has not been influenced by any third party, including the sponsor of the study (**unless for data generated as mentioned in point 3.9 above**).
- 3.17. Indicate where applicable the number of the trial protocol (NIH or European equivalent) and the release date (when it was obtained).
- 3.18. Ensure that for all studies involving human or animal subjects, permission has been obtained from the relevant regulatory authority and that properly informed consent, where appropriate, has been given.
- 3.19. Indicate whether the abstract is submitted in association with either an application for an MAP Merit Travel Grant.

- 3.20. Acknowledge any editorial assistance in the writing of the abstract that was provided by a third party, providing the name of the writer and the company who provided this service.
- 3.21. The use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-assisted technologies is allowed in the writing process of an initial abstract draft. However, application of AI technology should be done with human oversight and control, and authors should carefully review and edit the final abstract, for which they assume complete responsibility and accountability. AI and AI-assisted technologies should not be listed as an author or co-author, or be cited as an author. Authorship implies responsibilities and tasks that can only be attributed to and performed by humans.
- The above guidance only refers to the writing process. When AI tools are used in order to generate and analyse data as part of the research process, their specifications should be described in the Methods section of the abstract/presentation. This declaration does not apply to the use of basic tools for checking grammar, spelling, references etc. If there is nothing to disclose, there is no need to add a statement.

4. Withdrawal of abstracts

If the first author wishes to withdraw his/her abstract from the MAP Congress 2024 after outcome notifications have been made available, he/she must submit a written request **within thirty-six (36) hours** to programme@esmo.org. Any withdrawal requests made after 36 hours will be assessed on a case by case basis and cannot be assured of removal from the MAP Congress 2024 Abstract Book.

5. Correction of published abstracts

Only minor corrections to the body of accepted abstracts may be possible if advised in writing to the MAP organisers c/o ESMO Scientific Programmes Department (programme@esmo.org) **by Friday, 23 August 2024**. After this time, no changes will be possible at all unless requested by MAP organisers. Once the abstract has been published, no corrigenda will be considered unless the data published in the original abstract are proved to have a relevant and negative impact on the treatment of patients and/or the future of any related research.

For changes related to the author string please see point 7.11. below.

6. No-show policy

The abstract's first and presenting author, or a delegated representative, who is not registered for the Congress and absent during the session when his/her abstract is presented may be barred from having abstracts accepted for the following MAP Congress.

7. Submission instructions

- 7.1. Each section of the online abstract submission system must be completed. Authors failing to give all information required in the online submission system will not have their abstract considered by the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee.
- 7.2. Once each step is completed, the author must go to the 'Preview and Finish' section and click "**Finish Submission**" in order to complete the process. Without clicking this option, the abstract will not be considered as submitted and will not be forwarded to the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee for consideration.
- 7.3. Abstracts, with the exception of Trial in Progress (TiP abstracts, see below), should be structured in such a way as to include the following four (4) sections:
- Background: A short introduction indicating the rationale of the study
 - Methods: A brief description of pertinent methodological procedures
 - Results: A summary of the results of the research
 - Conclusions: A statement of the main conclusions
- 7.4. **The title** of the abstract should include significant words that reflect the content of the abstract but not refer to the study results or conclusions. The MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee reserves the right to correct the title format without further recourse to the authors.
- 7.5. **Commercial names** may not be used in the title of the abstract. Compounds should be mentioned with the generic name in lower case. Commercial names are admitted in the text, with the ® symbol, and if in brackets following the generic name, i.e. 'generic (Commercial®)'. The MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee reserves the right to substitute commercial names with generic names where necessary without further recourse to the authors.
- 7.6. The name(s) of the legal entity/entities responsible for the governance, coordination and running of the study detailed in the abstract, and the name(s) of the organisation(s) providing funding must be provided. This information will be published with the abstract.
- 7.7. Abbreviations may be used in the title and text of abstracts if they are defined. Terms must be spelt out in full at first mention and followed with the abbreviation in parentheses. Particular care should be taken to identify complex chemotherapeutic regimens.

- 7.8. The **character limit** for all submitted abstracts is set at **2'000, excluding spaces**. This limit includes characters entered in the title, abstract body and table but not the author names and institutions.
- 7.9. Illustrations and graphs are not permitted. One brief and clear **table** counting for a default of 225 characters is accepted; however, the table itself must not be longer than 600 characters. More than one table may not be submitted under the guise of Table 1.1, 1.2 etc.
- 7.10. The **maximum number of authors** allowed per abstract is limited to **twenty (20)**. Mailing addresses, academic degrees and professional positions such as Medical Director, CEO, CMO etc. must not be mentioned.
- 7.11. The names of all listed authors will be published in the order provided during submission. In exceptional cases, **a maximum of one (1) new co-author, or, if strictly necessary, two (2) new co-authors** may be added to the original author string, as long as they are accompanied by full "Declaration of Interests" statements. Changes may be requested in writing to the MAP organisers c/o ESMO Scientific Programmes Department (programme@esmo.org) by **Friday, 23 August 2024**. Any requests for changes to the author string made after this time will not be included in the MAP 2024 Abstract Book or the online programme. Once the abstract has been published, no corrigenda will be possible.
- 7.12. Authors must select the appropriate abstract submission category, however, the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee reserves the right to re-categorise abstracts without further recourse to the authors.
- 7.13. Authors must select their preferred choice of presentation: Proffered Paper, Mini Oral or Poster; however, the decision of the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee will be final.
- 7.14. The use of good English and proof-reading is essential. Once the abstract is submitted, online changes, corrections or rewording will not be possible. The MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee reserves the right to reject abstracts which are presented in poor English or to request an immediate revision by the first author.
- 7.15. Supplementary data such as manuscripts will not be accepted or forwarded to the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee.
- 7.16. Abstracts on **case reports will be rejected**.

Presentation of accepted abstracts

The MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee will select abstracts for presentation during the Congress based on the following possibilities:

- **Proffered Paper** – Oral presentations by authors presenting original data of superior quality, followed by expert discussion and perspectives.
- **Mini Oral** – Short oral presentations by authors presenting data of good quality, followed by expert discussion and perspectives.
- **Poster** – Display session for review, discussion and questions. The presenting authors must be available for Q&A to represent their work.

Accepted abstracts, including late-breaking abstracts, will be published online only in the MAP 2024 Abstract Book, a supplement to the official ESMO journal, *ESMO Open*.

Detailed instructions for the preparation of slide presentations and posters will be made available on the MAP website by mid-August 2024 ("Information for Presenters") along with scheduling notices.

Publication schedule for accepted abstracts

- All **regular** abstracts accepted for presentation at the Molecular Analysis for Precision Oncology Congress 2024 as Proffered Paper (suffix O), Mini Oral (suffix MO), Poster (suffix P or TiP) will be published online via the MAP website **at 00:05 CEST on Thursday, 10 October 2024**.
- Information about dedicated embargo for official MAP communication activities will be made available two weeks prior to the congress.

Trials in progress

Trial in Progress (TiP) abstracts in all phases of clinical research (phases I to III) may be submitted to the MAP Congress 2024.

It is expected that abstracts submitted as Trial in Progress are ongoing trials that have not reached any protocol-specified endpoints for analysis and consequently will only require the completion of two (2) sections:

- Background
- Trial design

Notes:

- **Recruitment** must have already begun or have been completed by the abstract submission deadline of 23 July 2024.
- Abstracts including **results or preliminary data** will be **rejected**.
- Trial in Progress abstracts can be accepted for **Poster presentation only**.
- **Encore TiP abstracts will not be accepted**.

Abstracts will be reviewed by the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee and considered on the merits of the scientific and clinical rationale of the trial.

Embargo and Confidentiality policy

Data and information included in the accepted abstracts are under embargo until the relevant embargo release date cited in the "Publication schedule for accepted abstracts".

Data and information beyond what is included in all accepted abstracts, for example full data sets, may only be made public at the start of the official programme session during which the study is presented.

Abstracts accepted for presentation at the MAP Congress 2024 must be considered confidential by the author, co-authors, institute(s), research sponsor(s) and MAP organisers until publicly released in connection with the MAP Congress 2024.

In the event that any relevant party, including but not limited to, author, co-authors, institute(s), research sponsor(s), plans to issue a press release prior to presentation at the MAP Congress 2024, MAP organisers request that it adheres to the [Qualitative Sample Press Release](#) format by summarising abstract data in a qualitative rather than quantitative way, and avoiding interpretations about the implications of the data for clinical practice.

The relevant party is to submit to MAP organisers (programme@esmo.org, cc: media@esmo.org) written notification of the intention to issue a press release in advance of the release itself.

A note stating that full data has been submitted for presentation at the MAP Congress 2024 should be added in the press release.

MAP organisers are available to provide guidance and feedback for the qualitative press release.

If the press release includes significantly more information than MAP organisers' recommendations, the abstract's placement in the MAP Congress 2024 is subject to change.

MAP organisers reserve the right to share material under embargo with journalists on the authorised MAP organisers media list who have agreed to respect the MAP organisers embargo policy.

Copyright

MAP organisers hold copyright of all abstracts accepted for the MAP Congress 2024 and therefore abstracts cannot be made public prior to official publication.

MAP copyright is lifted only if the abstract is not accepted for inclusion in the official MAP Congress 2024 programme and/or publication in the Congress Abstract Book.

The submission of abstracts accepted for MAP Congress 2024 to subsequent conferences, organised either by MAP organisers or third-parties, requires the permission of MAP organisers as copyright holder. Requests must be addressed to programme@esmo.org.

Commercial data mining of MAP Congress 2024 published abstracts requires the permission of MAP organisers and approval must be sought before inception of the project. Queries should be addressed to programme@esmo.org.

Financial support

The MAP organisers offer abstract presenters the possibility to apply for Congress free registration, subsidised travel and accommodation to facilitate their attendance at the MAP Congress 2024. Based on the submission categories and eligibility criteria outlined below, a limited number of Merit Travel Grants are available upon application.

Merit Travel Grants

A limited number of Merit Travel Grants to MAP Congress 2024 are available, upon application by the abstract submission deadline of 23 July 2024, to first authors (=presenters) under the age of 40 (forty) who submit abstracts considered deserving of recognition. Selection will be made by the MAP Congress 2024 Scientific Committee on a competitive basis from among the accepted abstracts.

The application for an MAP Merit Travel Grant must be completed during the abstract submission process. Applicants will be required to reply to the following questions:

- How relevant to your current practice are the topics presented at this Congress?
- Have you attended any event on a similar topic in the last 3 years?
- How will attendance at this Congress help with your professional development?
- How can your abstract contribute to the topics covered at this Congress?
- Have you recently been awarded an Award/Travel Grant? If yes, for which event?

And to provide the following documents:

- A copy of the submitted abstract (the applicant must be the first and presenting author)
- A readable photocopy of either identity card or passport
- A short curriculum vitae (max. 2 pages)

The MAP organisers will provide recipients with a fixed-amount monetary subsidy towards travel and accommodation costs. Complementary registration to the Congress will be offered by the MAP organisers.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Merit Travel Grant recipients must submit a report detailing the benefits of participating in the MAP Congress 2024 by 16 November 2024.