TWO ISLANDS – MANY VOICES
UK & IRELAND
CLINICAL RESEARCH FACILITY
Annual Conference 2026 | Dublin

UK & Ireland CRF 2026 Abstract Submission Guidelines

Call for Abstracts is now open!

Abstract submissions are welcome for the UK & Ireland Clinical Research Facility Annual Conference 2026, which will be held in Dublin, Ireland, 9-10 July 2026.

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Important Dates

Abstract Submission Deadline:	12 March 2026
Notification of Review Outcome:	15 April 2026
Deadline for accepted authors to confirm attendance:	15 May 2026
Deadline for accepted authors to upload poster pdf:	22 June 2026

What are we looking for?

The Conference is an excellent opportunity to showcase your expertise, innovation, and contribution to clinical research. We are looking for submissions that demonstrate the contribution of your facility that aligns with our conference theme, **Two Islands – Many Voices, Future Scaping Trans-National Clinical Research**.

- Submissions should reflect recent activity, impact or demonstrate significant improvements in the 12-24 months prior to submission; improvements should be measurable and evidenced.
- All submissions should highlight the impact, benefits, or learning for a CRF and/or clinical research infrastructure.

The Programme Committee will assess all submissions and will use the following criteria in addition to the bullet points above for selection:

1. Broadly connected to the conference theme, including posters submitted highlighting working across infrastructure and other key stakeholders.
2. Relevance to the category selected.
3. Potential for learning, application, or adoption.
4. Evidence of achievement which is measurable and evidenced.
5. Timeliness of the research/initiative.

All Posters must be uploaded prior to the conference and will be available to view within the conference app. Functionality will be available to allow you to interact with authors to support networking and vote for the top posters.

In addition to all digital posters, a selection of posters from each of the categories below will be chosen to be printed and displayed throughout the conference.

Categories

Your poster abstract should relate to one of the following categories. Please note that all categories are open to applicants from all career pathways, and we encourage applicants at any level, including early career researchers, to submit an abstract. We are keen to receive collaborative abstracts showcasing working across several stakeholders/teams and innovative ways of presenting your research or project.

01. Outstanding leadership and inspiring others: examples of where an individual, team or group has demonstrated leadership skills for your infrastructure and/or inspired others to work in, take part in or support experimental research. This may include personal skills such as the ability to mentor and guide, develop the talents of others, promote teamwork, or how you have enabled research staff to be included and/or developed. It could also include initiating programmes, projects or improvements which have had a measurable impact on successful outcomes for your infrastructure. Applicable topics will be training, development, or recruitment of research professionals; building trust and mutual understanding in experimental research with communities, patients, and the public; or developing new career pathways which open research to people who otherwise might never have considered this as an option for them.

02. Collaborative research: initiatives led by your infrastructure and developed, delivered, or enabled through collaborations in the UK and/or internationally. The collaboration may be between other facilities; other research infrastructure (for example Applied Research Collaborations); with patients, public, communities or third sector organisations; with industry; or through establishing bespoke collaborations to bring together the skills, knowledge, and expertise to deliver research that a single centre on its own would not have been able to achieve.

03. Science, technology and data: key scientific research conducted or planned in and supported by your infrastructure. This category focusses on novel science; the scale of the potential impact or practical application; development of technology as an aid to research methodology; use of data or developments in data science that have enabled research; development of medical technology/medical devices; experimental medicine research into high priority diseases or conditions.

04. Breaking down the barriers: demonstrate how your infrastructure has successfully removed barriers for the benefit of high quality, high impact and generalisable experimental medicine. This could include how you have supported/empowered your workforce, or supported involvement, engagement or participation in research studies. This will include examples of making research more accessible and more relevant to the

public or to patients. It will also include examples of increasing the diversity of participants, initiatives to include people and communities who have been under-represented/under-served in experimental research or how research design and methodologies have been developed around the needs of a specific target population. This category also includes initiatives to ensure that the research conducted in your infrastructure addresses the health needs of your local, regional, or national populations.

05. Innovation and Impact: How have you done things differently? What innovations have you implemented that lead to research of high quality, safety, effectiveness and/or maximised impact? This may be through study design, developments in practice or through initiatives which focus on the development of a "safety culture" or greater understanding of the human factors in decision-making. This category recognises the innovations which have demonstrated measurable improvements in high quality research, or innovative approaches to accelerating study/trial start-up times. Thus, other examples could include a novel way to measure and capture impact; how you worked collaboratively in a new way; or how you implemented a novel trial design (e.g. basket trials, data-driven trials, high intensity advanced therapy trials).

Presentation Type

While we aim to accept the majority of posters for both physical and virtual presentation, a small number may be accepted as E-Posters only.

Poster Format:

Accepted 'Physical Posters' will be asked to produce a printed poster for display at the conference. The authors are also required to submit a PDF version for inclusion within the conference app. This will be made available to conference attendees and stakeholders.

Authors will be provided with details on how to upload content to the platform.

Presenters are asked to take note of the following guidelines when producing their poster:

- Maximum poster size is A0 (0.84 x 1.19m) (portrait orientation)
- Keep text to a minimum
- Ensure any text is in large font
- Use graphs, charts, and/or tables
- Ensure contents have a logical flow
- Make it colourful
- Removal and collection of posters at the end of the display period remains the responsibility of the presenter. Posters not removed by the indicated take down time will be removed and disposed of.

Digital Poster Format:

Accepted posters will need to upload a PDF version following the same formatting above which will be available on the app throughout the conference.

Poster Publishing

Posters will be hosted on one of the below platforms after the conference, so that they can be accessed by clinical research staff in the UK and Ireland:

- UKCRF Portal (private-access website)
- NIHR Learn (private-access website)
- UKCRF Network website (public-facing)

You will be asked for your consent for publication on each of these platforms during the submission process.

Previously Presented or Submitted Abstracts

Abstracts that have been previously published or presented elsewhere in the last 24 months and are relevant to the conference can be submitted and considered for presentation.

Please email UKCRFN@conferencepartners.com if you are unsure about submitting previously presented work.

Prizes

A poster winner for each category will be announced at the end of day 2. Voting will be available throughout the conference via the app. The winning posters will be featured on the UKCRF Network website and promoted on social media post-conference.

At least one poster author must be present for the prize giving at the end of day 2.

Submission Process:

The abstract submission process for UK & Ireland CRF 2026 will be through an online submission portal.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. The Presenting Author must submit the abstract and is required to be the corresponding author for that abstract.
2. You do not need to register for the conference to submit the abstract.
3. All abstracts must be received by the submission deadline to be included in the review.

4. Accepted abstract presenters must register by 15 May 2026.
5. Abstracts must be submitted in English.

Submission Guidelines:

It is ESSENTIAL that you read the guidelines below before you submit. Abstracts which do not adhere to the guidelines will not be reviewed.

Who submits the abstract?

The Presenting Author must submit the abstract and will act as the main point of contact for the abstract with organisers.

Once you enter the online submission portal, start by creating an account. Please keep a record of the account details you use to set up the account as you will require them to log into both the UK & Ireland CRF 2026 abstract submission portal and Conference registration portal. Upon successful submission of the abstract a confirmation email will be sent to the Presenting Author.

If you have not received a confirmation email, please check that your abstract is not left in draft and is fully submitted by logging back into the portal and checking on the View/Edit Abstracts page.

How to edit a submitted abstract?

You can save your submission as a draft and return to edit the submission at a later point. It is important to note that once it has been submitted the abstract cannot be edited after the abstract submission deadline. Ensure that your abstract is not left in draft as it will not be reviewed.

Submission Details Required

The online abstract submission is a simple step-by-step process and will ask you to input the following details:

- **Abstract title** - word limit is 20 and should clearly define the content of the abstract
- **Category** - chosen from the Category list above
- **Presenting Author -** Name, affiliation, and job title of presenting author (this person must be listed as the first author)
- **Co-Authors** - Name, affiliation, and job title of co-author(s)
- **Abstract text** - Abstract word limit is 300. Submissions should reflect new activity or demonstrate significant improvements in the 12 months prior to submission; improvements should be measurable, and data driven. All submissions should

acknowledge the expertise/benefits of your CRF. Word limit includes: references; excludes: title, authors and affiliations.

- **Additional information**
  - Clinical Research Facility Affiliation
  - Publication of Poster Agreement
  - Publication of Abstract Agreement
  - Data Consent Agreement
  - Alternative Contact for Abstract

Review and Notification of Acceptance

All abstracts will go through a peer-review carried out by reviewers selected by the UK & Ireland CRF 2026 Programme Committee. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be sent to the submitter by 15 April 2026.

While we aim to accept the majority of posters for both physical and virtual presentation, a small number may be accepted as E-Posters only. Authors will be notified at acceptance about whether their poster has been selected for E-Poster only, with detailed instructions in the notification email. It is the responsibility of the poster authors to comply with the information/guidance within this document and confirmation email.

Registration of the Abstract Presenter

When notified of acceptance, the Presenting Author is required to accept the offer by registering for the conference and by 15 May 2026. You will be provided with a link to register in your acceptance email.

If a presenter fails to register by 15 May 2026, the poster details:

- Will be removed from the programme
- Will be removed from all UK & Ireland CRF 2026 related publications

Withdrawal Conditions & Change of Presenter

If you need to withdraw the abstract or change the presenting author contact UKCRFN@conferencepartners.com by 15 May 2026.

Terms and Conditions:

- The abstract submitted adheres to the abstract submission guidelines outlined in this document.
- The abstract submitted is in English.

- This abstract has only been submitted once for UK & Ireland CRF 2026.
- It is the responsibility of the presenting author to submit the abstract. They are the main contact whose responsibility it is to communicate with other co-authors.
- The presenting author is available to present at the conference between 9-10 July 2026.
- The presenting author must register by the deadline indicated in the abstract review outcome email. If they do not register, the abstract will be removed from the programme and any associated publications.
- The text of the abstract, along with the names and affiliations, poster and/or additional documents as requested, may be published on the conference website, in the abstract document and on the conference app, and this will not raise any copyright issues.
- A submission as a particular presentation type or category may be changed to a different type following review in order to be accepted and included in the programme.

If you have any queries regarding the above, please contact the UK & Ireland CRF 2026 Programme Team at UKCRFN@conferencepartners.com

Submit your abstract: https://confpartners.eventsair.com/ukcrf2026/abstracts