



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY**
Case Comprehensive
Cancer Center

Cancer Disparities Symposium Call for Abstracts

Abstract Submission Deadline: Monday, November 23, 2026, 11:59 pm EST

The Case Comprehensive Cancer Center is hosting its annual Cancer Disparities Symposium on **March 11 and March 12, 2027**. The theme for the day and a half symposium is **Early Onset Cancers**. Researchers, clinicians and community partners will focus on Food as Medicine, Early Onset Cancers, Sexual Health, Sexual and Gender Minorities and Screenings, Social Drivers of Health and the Impact on Women and Cancer with a panel discussion focusing on the lived experiences of patients surviving cancer.

The symposium will feature keynote and research presentations, a trainee poster session and selected rapid round trainee presentations. A first and second prize will be awarded from the rapid round presentation. A best poster prize will be awarded to an undergraduate student, a 1st year PhD and a postdoc as well as a community choice award that will be selected by members of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center Community Advisory Board. Cleveland-area trainees (students, postdocs, residents, and fellows) conducting research in early onset cancers and/or cancer disparities are invited to submit abstracts. A committee will review abstracts based on the relationship to early onset cancers, cancer disparities, novelty, significance of findings, and clarity.

Presentation details

- Accepted abstracts will be invited to present during the poster session and compiled digitally in the WHOVA app for all symposium registrants.
- Up to eight (8) abstracts will be selected to present their work (2.5- 3 minute presentation).
- Individuals interested in being reviewed for the community choice award should submit a lay abstract in addition to the scientific abstract. A lay abstract is a summary of research written in simple, non-technical language for a general audience. Follow the guidelines at the end of this abstract call.

Abstract submission instructions

- Please use the template attached to this call for abstracts.
- All individuals whose abstracts are selected must also register for the symposium (free trainee registration).
- Each abstract must fit on one (1) one-sided $\frac{1}{2}$ $\times$ 11-inch paper with 0.5-inch margins on all sides.
- Use Times New Roman 11-point font.
- Place the abstract title, authors, and author affiliations at the top.
- **Bold** and underline the name of the presenting author.

- The abstract body is limited to 300-500 words.
- Include a contact name and email.
- The organizing committee reserves the right to modify the abstract for uniformity.

Important dates

- **Abstract submission deadline:** Monday, November 23, 2026 11:59pm EST (Extension deadline: Monday, December 14, 2026). Abstracts should be emailed to Kristina Austin at kristina.austin@case.edu.
- **Posters must be delivered to the Tinkham Veale University Center:** by 12:00 PM (noon) on Thursday, March 11, 2027. Details to follow.
- **Poster session:** Thursday, March 11, 2027, 3:30-5:30 pm.
- **Awardee presentations:** Friday, March 12, 2027.

Contact

Questions regarding abstract submission should be directed to Calvin I. Tornes (citornes@case.edu) with any questions regarding abstract submission.

2027 Cancer Disparities Symposium Abstract Template

Abstract title:

Presenter name (in bold), author names, and affiliations:

Project mentor:

Purpose:

Methods:

Results:

Conclusions:

Contact name and email:

Lay Abstract Guidelines

- **Language:** Simple, accessible, and free of jargon
- **Purpose:** To explain the research to non-experts, demonstrate accountability, and increase accessibility
- **Content:**
 - Explains why the research was done
 - How the research was done
 - The main findings in a clear, straightforward way