



About the Principal Call for Podium Abstracts 2026 Annual Assembly of Hospice and Palliative Care

Thank You for Your Interest in Contribution an Abstract to the 2026 Annual Assembly

On behalf of the 2026 Annual Assembly of Hospice and Palliative Care Co-Chairs, Morgan Bain, MD and Michelle Webb, DNP, along with the Planning Committee, AAHPM, and HPNA, thank you for submitting to the Principal Call for Podium (Oral) Abstracts for the 2026 Annual Assembly.

Your contributions are vital to shaping the future of our field. By sharing your insights, innovations, and evidence-informed approaches, you help advance educational content that improves clinical competence, enhances care delivery, and fosters meaningful professional development.

The Annual Assembly serves as a national platform to:

- Equip the hospice and palliative care workforce for emerging care models
- Develop interprofessional leaders across disciplines
- Promote inclusion, well-being, and lifelong learning for all healthcare professionals

We are grateful for your commitment to excellence in hospice and palliative care and look forward to celebrating your work at the 2026 Assembly in San Diego.

About the 2026 Annual Assembly

- **Dates:** March 4–7, 2026 (In-Person in San Diego, California)
- **On-Demand Pre-Recorded Content Access:** Available through June 8, 2026
- **Program Scope:** Abstracts submitted to this Principal Call will be considered Podium (Oral) presentations. **If accepted:**
 - Presenting faculty must register and attend in person in San Diego
 - Present live during the scheduled session time

This call is open to all hospice and palliative care professionals, across all disciplines, practice settings, and career stages.

Opportunities Available in the Principal Call

The 2026 program features targeted, evidence-informed education aligned with identified practice gaps and professional competencies. Principal Call Abstracts are invited across a range of themes, including:



Principal Call Submission Themes	Focus Area	Ideal Submitters
Leadership or Program Development	Leading and scaling programs, systems improvement, sustainability	Leaders, managers, administrators, QI teams
Hospice	Direct care, regulatory updates, team dynamics in hospice settings	Hospice teams, clinicians, operations staff
Pediatrics	Pediatric palliative and hospice care, lifespan integration	Pediatric clinicians, educators, researchers, adult-based clinicians infrequently caring for children
Innovations in Care	Technology, new models, Quality Improvement initiatives, equity-focused interventions	Innovators, QI teams, systems thinkers
Symptom Assessment and Management	Pain, distress, interdisciplinary symptom care	Clinicians, symptom-focused researchers
Education	Curriculum, training, simulation, teaching innovation	Educators, fellows, program leaders

Submitters to the Principal Call are strongly encouraged to incorporate one or more of the following cross-cutting themes. These themes play a key role in shaping the structure and flow of the Annual Assembly program by informing the placement of accepted presentations. They help ensure alignment with audience needs, conference priorities, and balance across disciplines, settings, and topic areas.

- Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI):**
 The abstract meaningfully addresses issues of diversity and representation, particularly related to historically marginalized or minoritized populations, and is grounded in principles of equity and inclusion.
- Interprofessional and Multidisciplinary Collaboration:**
 The abstract highlights collaborative approaches across disciplines that significantly influence hospice and palliative care practice, team-based care, or interprofessional learning and development.



Principal Call Presentation Format

Submitters will be considered for **Podium (Oral) Presentations** that highlight innovative models, clinical advances, and impactful experiences in hospice and palliative care.

The Co-Chairs and Planning Committee determine the final presentation length based on reviewers' scoring outcomes, knowledge or skill needs, committee recommendations, successful mitigation of conflicts of interest (where applicable) and overall programmatic needs of the Assembly.

Principal Call Submission Timeline

- Submission Deadline: **Monday, July 14, 2025 at 11:59PM PT**
- Notification of Acceptance: On or around **Monday, September 22, 2025**

Please Note New for 2026

- The Principal Call is only open to Podium presentations across the defined tracks noted above.
- The **Scientific Research Call for Abstracts** will be part of a **Subsequent Call**, opening **mid-September 2025**. *This is a change from previous years.*



For Planning Purposes: Upcoming Subsequent Call for Abstracts will be open from September 25, 2025 through October 12, 2025

The Subsequent Call for Abstracts will invite submissions in the following categories:

1. Scientific Research seeking original research from people doing the research, asking the questions, and working with the data that includes (but is not limited to):

- Basic/bench science
- Qualitative science
- Observational science
- Health services science
- Clinical trials science
- Dissemination/implementation science

Note:

- Scientific Research abstracts submitted through the Scientific Research Subsequent Call **require results** for submission consideration.
- Scientific Research Subsequent call abstracts will be reviewed by researchers and accepted and slotted by SOTS Chairs in collaboration with Assembly Co-Chairs.

2. Early Career and Professionals in Training Scholarly Works in Progress and Case Submissions. Topics include original projects, novel care approaches, community-based initiatives, education innovations, implementation efforts, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Note: *Scholarly Works in Progress submitted through the Early Career and Professionals in Training Subsequent Call **do not require final results** for submission consideration.*

Submitter Eligibility Definitions:

- Early Career Professionals: Up to five years post-training
- Professionals in Training: Currently enrolled in a formal education or training program

Resubmission Note:

1. Abstracts submitted to the Principal Call that are not accepted may be resubmitted to the Subsequent Call, provided they meet Early Career Professionals in Training eligibility requirements.

We are grateful for your dedication to advancing hospice and palliative care and look forward to showcasing your contributions to the 2026 Annual Assembly.