

Otago Spotlight Series: Mental Health 2019 Student Poster Competition Guidelines

A student poster competition will be held in association with the Otago Spotlight Series: Mental Health event.

The competition asks students to clearly communicate their research methodology and findings to others who may not be a specialist in their field.

A first prize of up to \$750 plus up to three others prizes of \$250 are on offer. The deadline for entries is: **5 pm, 30th August 2019.**

How to Enter

Step 1: An abstract/summary A 250 word summary of your research written for an academic audience. If you are working as part of a research team, you need to make it clear how your research contributes to the team's objectives. This summary is used to assess the scientific merit of your research, in particular whether it is likely to result in the generation of new, potentially internationally leading-edge knowledge. Please provide details of your research including your research questions, methodology and conclusions, even if these are only interim based on early work. Your abstract does not need to address health relevance, just explain the research you are doing.

Provide a title for the abstract, names of supervisors and departmental affiliations

Abstracts should be submitted as a Microsoft Word attachment via email by 5 pm 30th August to **healthsciences.research@otago.ac.nz**

Step 2: A poster

This will demonstrate the entrant's ability to successfully communicate their research to a scientifically educated audience, but one that may not have particular expertise in your field. Remember there will be people from disciplines as diverse as Pharmacy, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, to Molecular Biology, Bioinformatics and Public Health in attendance.

Language should be simple and concise. Your poster should include your research question, methodology and conclusions. You will be asked to attend and speak to your poster on the evening before the Forum, i.e. **Monday 7th October.** You will be informed by email closer to the

time about when and where to hang your poster.

There are no restrictions on poster size or orientation but please advise if it is wider than 1.2m when hung in landscape orientation.

Students can choose to make a new poster **or** to use a poster recently made for another event.

Following the competition a number of students will be shortlisted for a Poster Competition prize.

Those who are shortlisted will be asked to present their poster in a 1–2 minute talk to attendees of the *Otago Spotlight Series: Mental Health* meeting the following day. The judging panel will decide the winners after these presentations.

Judging Criteria

It should be noted that the poster competition places extra weighting on the student's ability to communicate the ideas presented in their poster verbally.

There will be three criteria and the student will be marked out of 25.

1. The validity of the scientific question and findings (5)
2. The communication of these ideas in the abstract and poster (5)
3. The student's ability to communicate these ideas verbally and to answer questions about their research. (15)