



EHMA 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

This document outlines the abstract submission guidelines for the EHMA 2023 Annual Conference. We ask all abstract submitters to read this document thoroughly. For any additional questions, please contact EHMA Events Officer, Ms Anna Van der Heyden at anna.vanderheyden@ehma.org.

Deadline	<p>Abstracts must be submitted by Monday, 6 February 2023 at 11.00 CET.</p> <p>Authors can edit their abstracts until the submission deadline. No further changes will be accepted after that date.</p>
Submission	<p>All submissions must be made online on the abstract submission platform. Abstracts submitted in any other way will not be accepted.</p> <p>For any issues with the platform, please email anna.vanderheyden@ehma.org</p>
Language	<p>All documents must be submitted and presented in English. It is the authors' responsibility to submit a correct abstract (grammatically and scientifically).</p>
Type of presentation	<p>Abstracts may be submitted for either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral presentation • Poster • Karolinska MMC/EHMA Research Award (PhD Award)*. <p>At the moment of submission authors may indicate their preference for one or the other type of presentation.</p> <p>Please note: the final decision on the acceptance of your abstract, as well as the type of presentation lies with the Abstract Review Committee. If you submit your abstract for oral presentation, the Abstract Review Committee may assess it suitable for oral or poster presentation. If you submit your abstract for poster presentation, the Abstract Review Committee may assess it suitable for poster presentation only.</p> <p>* For submission under the Karolinska MMC/EHMA Research Award (PhD Award) please read the specific guidelines at page 7.</p>
Topics and tracks	<p>EHMA 2023 theme is 'Health management: sustainable solutions for complex systems' and we invite authors to submit abstracts within one of the conference tracks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance, leadership and social responsibility • Management, operations, and practice • Human capital, professionalism and people management • Finance and economics • Policy and regulations <p>Abstract submitters can then select a topic that best represent their abstract:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People-centred systems • Health technology and digital transformation • Workforce of the future • Sustainable and resilient health systems

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthcare access, delivery, and outcomes <p>Additional information on the tracks are at page 3 and on the topics at page 5.</p>
Abstract specifics	<p>Abstracts can be submitted either as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a short paper (max 450 words) an abstract (max 550 words), divided in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Context: max 100 words Methods: max 150 words Results: max 150 words Discussion: max 150 words
Authors	<p>The presenting author must be clearly marked on the submission form. Please do provide up-to-date contact details, as those will be used for any communications related to the Conference and your presentation.</p> <p>Any changes in the presenter or their contact details must be communicated as soon as possible to EHMA by email to anna.vanderheyden@ehma.org</p>
Grading	<p>All abstracts will be graded following the criteria below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State of Completion: The abstract must show substantial results indicating that the work has been or is nearly completed. Novelty: The abstract must show innovative information, cutting-edge results, or present a new topic or application in the field of interest; it should be attractive and provocative for a discussion with the audience. Advancement of field: The abstract should present a significant contribution to the field, and the authors must specify how the paper will contribute to the development of global knowledge. Quality: The quality of an abstract will be considered indicative of the quality of the final presentation by the reviewers. Authors should prepare their abstracts with care, assuring that the reader will understand the background of the issue(s) and the objectives of the presentation. Relevance: Abstracts must be concise and coherent, and the focus of the abstract and its relevance to an international audience should be stated clearly.
Abstract review process	<p>Abstracts are reviewed by an independent committee. The EHMA Board and Secretariat have no saying in the selection of abstracts.</p>
Notification of results	<p>All abstract submitters will be notified of the outcome via email by Friday, 24 March 2023. The email will contain information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance or rejection of the abstract Type of presentation (oral or poster) and technical details <p>For accepted oral presentations, the exact date and time of the assigned session will be communicated by Friday, 31 March 2023.</p>
Registration to the Conference	<p>Authors whose abstracts have been accepted (both oral or posters) must confirm their participation by registering to the Conference by Friday, 31 March 2023.</p> <p>EHMA does not guarantee to presenters who register after said date that their abstracts will be included in the Conference publications, including the Abstract book and conference Programme.</p> <p>All presenters must register via the online Registration System on the www.ehmaconference.org. Please do read carefully the Terms of Service and cancellation policy applying to EHMA 2023.</p>

CONFERENCE TRACKS

The EHMA conference tracks are fixed titles that reflect the practice of health management.

Governance, leadership and social responsibility

Governance is the framework through which health systems and organisations set and oversee clear strategic goals to ensure the quality and safety of patient care, performance of services, as well as compliance with laws, regulations, and ethical responsibilities. Effective governance is essential to achieve objectives, drive improvement, and deliver the valued outcomes for citizens and patients. Governance is complex and evolving, and a universal common framework or simple concept of health systems governance does not yet exist.

Leadership is a key principle of governance and must be embedded within governance systems to ensure that systems and organisations are led to accomplish their objectives and meet their strategic goals.

Social responsibility is an ethical framework that underlines how the choices of individuals may affect the whole society. Applied to health management, social responsibility is strictly interlinked with the concepts of resilience and sustainability. Health professionals, health managers, and health systems should be accountable for their behaviours toward society.

This track would include abstracts that:

- analyse leadership theories, styles, approaches, knowledge, and skills required to meet the needs of health systems
- transfer theoretical perspectives to shape the development of a strategic focus
- focus on performance management, quality assurance, and patient safety
- are forward looking and anticipate future trends in health management and health systems
- explore the concepts of clinical and business governance
- discuss legal aspects and ethics of health services and systems
- evaluate the factors that impact the role of leaders within health and social care
- discuss ethical theories and aspects of health professionals, health managers, and health systems' responsibility towards the society
- present best practices of responsible governance and leadership in health management.

Management, operations, and practice

The transition towards person-centred care requires health care systems to be integrated. This track focuses on the operations of organisations and systems. It pays attention to the efforts involved in the planning, organising, staffing, monitoring, directing, and decision-making processes of health services and systems to ensure the effective, efficient, and equitable use of resources.

The abstracts to be considered within this track include, but are not limited to those that:

- share insights from evidence-based research that translate management knowledge into practice contribute to better practice by sharing scalable and innovative models/solutions or improved processes
- identify key lessons based on rigorous analysis of existing practices and models
- provide case studies focusing on implementation of management models.

**Human capital,
professionalism
and people
management**

Health systems rely on their workforce. This track focuses on how human resources are managed to support the delivery of health services. This includes challenges relating to optimal planning, personnel shortages, the post-COVID 'great resignation', remunerations and incentives, and competence building.

Against this background, this track will include abstracts that:

- propose frameworks to measure the efficiency of workforce management models
- adopt quantitative approaches to compare transferrable management best practices as emerged in response to the ongoing European major challenges
- include the workforce perspective before and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Finance and
economics**

This track examines business planning and refers to how resources are raised, pooled, allocated or spent to ensure that people have access to health services of good quality without financial hardship. This includes issues related to efficiency, effectiveness, value and behaviour in the production and consumption of health and healthcare.

This track would include abstracts that:

- articulate the drivers of spending and the factors impacting total spending and value
- focus on the financial and economic concepts of health management, such as payment systems and models, budget modelling, investment decisions, health spending/costs
- address challenges in economic evaluation and decision models by highlighting best practices
- present the financial challenges and solutions to the current and future needs, such as the use of technology
- support in setting priorities in national, regional, or organisational contexts towards the best use of resources.

**Policy and
regulations**

Beyond organisations, policy decisions made at the local, regional, national, and European level have an important impact on health systems, care, and practitioners. Policy mechanisms (e.g., regulation, financial, quality, and technical) can incentivise or hinder the adoption of innovative solutions to improve health outcomes. This track focuses on the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of policies and regulations affecting health management at the organisational, local, regional, national, and European levels.

Abstracts submitted within this track would include those that:

- analyse relevant policy aspects of challenges in health management
- provide insight on public health challenges, paradigm shifts and health reforms
- share evidence and information on policy issues and possible solutions
- link health management and public health policies with practice
- discuss the involvement and impact of national policymakers, the European Union, as well as internal organisations on health systems.

CONFERENCE TOPICS



People-centred systems

Patient-centricity has been a key topic within health systems, giving way to bringing in patients in the decision-making, planning, development, and monitoring of their care. Moving beyond patients and their conditions within the health care setting, people-centredness extends the concept to individuals, families, communities, and society and focus on population empowerment, as well as social services and broader health determinants.

This topic includes different models and processes to ensure that people are the priority when discussing value, developing new technologies, and analysing integrated care needs. Some questions to be answered are how to manage the paradigm shift to people-centred care and balance evidence-based healthcare management and patient preferences.



Health technology and digital transformation

Over the past years, the use of digital technologies in healthcare has increased. The digital transformation of health systems has been a priority topic for European health systems. The pandemic moved health technology and digital transformation even higher on European policy agendas, as proved by the election of the European Health Data Space as one of the key pillars of the European Health Union. One of the lessons learnt through the increased adoption of digital innovation is that although technology is essential, it is people that drive change.

Digital tools should connect and serve patients and professionals without losing sight of the social and human element of medicine. How can health systems ensure the effective adoption of digital innovation such as Artificial Intelligence and robotics? What is the impact of new technologies on population health and expenses? How can health systems build trust in digital innovation?



Workforce of the future

Future health systems depend on people and investing in the future of health systems means to invest in the health workforce of the future. As societal and technical evolution occur, the health workforce must rapidly change and adapt to safeguard patient and their wellbeing, as well as their professional existence. Healthcare is provided by people to people but sometimes healthcare workers are left with the hopeless feeling that they are 'working together alone.

What are the needs of the health workforce? What are the key areas to invest in to support the health workforce? How will their upskilling, reskilling, and skill-mixing needs change? How do we address challenges relating to shortage and mobility of professionals? How can health managers support professional collaborations and relationships?



Sustainable and resilient health systems

To be sustainable European health systems need to adopt a wide understanding of sustainability considering economic, environmental, and social aspects. Sustainable health systems ensure the provision of appropriate and adequate care to patients, the affordability for payers (whether it is patients, families, employers, or governments), the adaptability to change, as well as the lowering of the negative impact of health systems on the environment. Health systems' sustainability is interlinked with their resilience, namely their capacity to prepare for shocks, respond, minimise the impact, and embed lessons learned.

How can health systems participate towards achieving the sustainable development goals? Which strategies, processes, solutions can health systems and managers implement to ensure the sustainability of health systems? Including their resilience; emergency/pandemic preparedness; as well as health crisis management and prevention.



Healthcare access, delivery, and outcomes

Many subgroups of the population face inequalities and considerable barriers that impede access to healthcare resources and services, and affect their health and wellbeing. There is a need for health systems to address the social determinants of health and disparities.

How can health systems ensure equitable access to health services, and achieve the delivery of better quality of care and better health outcomes? What are the new developments in models of healthcare delivery?

EHMA AWARDS

All abstracts accepted and presented at the EHMA Conference are eligible for the following Awards:

- Best European Paper
- Best non-European Paper
- Best Poster

The abstracts will be evaluated by an independent jury panel which will assess the scientific basis of the research, as well as its presentation. The Awards will be assigned to the abstracts which have the clearest and most innovative presentation, as well as a strong science background. The authors will receive the awards during the Closing Plenary.

KAROLINSKA MMC & EHMA RESEARCH AWARD SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Karolinska Medical Management Centre (MMC) & EHMA Research Award is an annual award for the best contribution associated with a doctoral thesis related to health management. Candidates should be researchers in the final phase of their PhD studies or who have recently completed a PhD.

The best papers submitted under this category will have the opportunity to compete for a €1.000 prize during a dedicated session at EHMA 2023. The winner will be announced during the Closing Plenary, where the winner is also asked to present their abstract.

Theme and sub-themes	Abstracts do not have to be linked to the Conference theme but must be associated with a doctoral thesis in the field of health management.
Abstract specifics	Abstracts can be submitted either as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a short paper (max 450 words) • an abstract (max 550 words), divided in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Context: max 100 words ○ Methods: max 150 words ○ Results: max 150 words ○ Discussion: max 150 words
Authors	Only PhD students can present their abstracts , not their supervisors. Please provide up-to-date contact details, as those will be used for any communications related to the Conference and your presentation. Any changes in the presenter or their contact details must be communicated as soon as possible to EHMA by email to anna.vanderheyden@ehma.org .
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