



edsa

European Dental
Students' Association

RESEARCH COMPETITION GUIDELINES

European Dental Students' Association

June 2026

Introduction

The Research Competition is an integral part of the EDSA meetings, showcasing the traditional scientific aspect. Twice a year, students from member countries vie with their research projects, presenting their knowledge and skills through oral presentations. This platform offers participants fantastic opportunities to learn from one another and compete for prestigious awards. Esteemed professors from the host's faculty typically serve as juries. To streamline abstract submission and oral presentation, we have established guidelines for all future participants.

Abstract

Your abstract must fit within a maximum limit of **500 words**. Keywords are usually placed at the end of the abstract and are not included in the word count. Applicants must clearly specify in their application which category they are applying for:

- **Original Research**
- **Case Report**

While it may be challenging to convey all relevant information within a limited word count, the use of **concise and precise** academic language is strongly encouraged, as it improves clarity and readability. The use of first-person statements and personal opinions should be **avoided** in the abstract. Interpretations, explanations, and subjective reflections should be reserved for the discussion section of the oral presentation.

Submission Procedure

In the event that **more than 20 participants** submit abstracts to the Research Competition, the Research Officer, in consultation with the organising body and jury, may introduce a **pre-selection process** in order to ensure a fair, feasible, and academically sound evaluation procedure.

Participants are encouraged to submit their abstracts **as early as possible** within the submission period.

Where a pre-selection process has been introduced due to the number of submissions, only those participants selected through that process shall proceed to the oral presentation stage, and the existing presentation rules under Time Limitations shall continue to apply unless otherwise adjusted in accordance with the Research Competition Guidelines.

Required Category-Specific Structure

For **Original Research**, the required structure is:
Introduction, Aim, Materials and Methods, Results, Conclusions.

For **Case Report**, the required structure is:
Introduction, Case Description, Discussion, Conclusions.

Authors and Qualifications

Please ensure that you acknowledge all co-authors (maximum of 5) when submitting your paper. Additionally, please note that only one person is allowed to be the author and presenter of the submitted abstract. It is crucial to provide the qualifications and academic status of all the individuals involved in the paper. An example illustrating the previous statements is provided below: John Doe Assoc. Prof. PhD, DMD
Department of Periodontology

Publication & Ethical Standards

Participation in the Research Competition is considered a scientific activity of the European Dental Students' Association. Therefore, the following rules apply:

- Students may submit a simplified or adapted version of an abstract intended for future journal publication, provided it is **not a verbatim duplicate** of any previously published or accepted manuscript and remains consistent with the requirements of the respective journal. Authors are advised to consult their intended journal's editorial policy and contact the EDSA Research Officer if in doubt.

- Consent to publication. By submitting an abstract to the Research Competition, the author and co-authors automatically agree that, once the competition has concluded and the winners have been officially announced, all submitted abstracts will be published in the official EDSA Book of Abstracts.
- This publication serves the purposes of transparency, fairness to all participants, and the promotion of EDSA's scientific activities within the wider academic community.
- Exceptions to these rules cannot be granted after submission. Authors who cannot comply should refrain from participating.

Time Limitations

Please note the following time limit for oral presentations:

- Original Research: **6 minutes**
- Case Report: **6 minutes**

These time limits may be adjusted depending on the number of participants. The Research Officer will provide a 1-minute reminder before the end and after the time limit is reached.

Tip: Practice your presentation with a stopwatch to ensure you stay within the allocated time.



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