ACR Convergence
Where Rheumatology Meets

ACR CONVERGENCE 2027
CALL FOR SESSION SUGGESTIONS GUIDE

#ACR27

OCTOBER 29—NOVEMBER 3, 2027 • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Dear Colleagues:

As the chair of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee (AMPC), I want to thank you for your interest in submitting your thoughts and ideas to help develop ACR Convergence 2027. Please review the topic requests from the AMPC by team (ARP, Basic Science, Business of Rheumatology, Clinical, Pediatrics, and Workforce and Education)

For ACR Convergence 2027, you can submit ideas in two different ways:

1. You can give us the name of a valued **speaker** who you think will teach and inspire or an **idea** that you have had for a specific session. The AMPC will take this information and will consider it as we craft sessions for ACR Convergence.
2. You can also submit a **formal session suggestion** for possible inclusion in the meeting. Information needed will include type of session, session title, session description, moderator(s), speaker(s) and topic(s), and session goals and objectives.

Please note: We receive over 300 excellent session suggestions annually, reflecting the wealth of knowledge in our community. To create the most impactful program for our learners, the AMPC carefully reviews and often combines similar ideas. This collaborative approach allows us to develop the strongest possible sessions, even if it means modifying individual submissions. We appreciate your understanding as we work together to craft an exceptional learning experience at ACR Convergence.

Again, thank you for taking the time and effort to share your ideas and help make ACR Convergence 2027 in San Francisco an exceptional meeting!

Warmest regards,

Salahuddin Kazi, MD
AMPC CHAIR, 2027-2029

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ACR Convergence Mission Statement

ACR Convergence will be the premier international rheumatology scientific meeting. Rheumatology professionals from around the world will be immersed in an impactful educational and networking experience each time they attend the meeting. ACR Convergence will improve the lives of people with rheumatic diseases by constantly moving the field of rheumatology forward.

Planning Timeline

October 13, 2026–*Submission Site Opens*
December 1, 2026–*Submission Site Closes*
December 2026–February 2027–*Reviews and Selections*
March 2027–*Session Suggestion Submitter Notifications Sent*
October 29–November 3, San Francisco, CA–*ACR Convergence 2027*

What Makes a Successful Session

The ACR Annual Meeting Planning Committee (AMPC) is looking to develop high-impact sessions that move the field of rheumatology forward by addressing topics important to our field. We are looking for session suggestions that have the following attributes:

WHO

- Speaker and moderator diversity (age, gender, ethnic background, geography)
- Speakers who have been recognized as excellent teachers
- Moderators who can lead a discussion and facilitate interaction among presenters

WHAT

- High-impact sessions that move the field of rheumatology forward by addressing topics important to the field
- Sessions that showcase up-and-coming leaders in the field, as well as established leaders
- Sessions that address knowledge gaps that need educational reinforcement

HOW

- Consider the AMPC Topics of Interest, which reflect attendee feedback, educational outcomes data, and identified educational needs and practice gaps across rheumatology. Session suggestions addressing these and other relevant topics are encouraged.
- Consider new topics that have not been covered at ACR Convergence over the last three years. (Please review the ACR23-ACR26 Session Titles to avoid duplication.)
- Consider how your session suggestions might utilize audience engagement to increase session impact. See Active Learning Techniques for ideas on how to best accomplish this goal.

Please note: If you have all the attributes for a successful session but have not been able to identify speakers, please submit the session without speakers and indicate in the description that assistance is needed in identifying speakers.

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INFORMATION TO NOTE:

- The AMPC strives to create the best program possible to address the needs of the rheumatology community. As part of the review and planning process, sessions may be modified, combined, retitled, reformatted, or otherwise adjusted to align with program goals and attendee needs.
- Submission Tip: In 2026, 72% of accepted sessions originated from formal session suggestion submissions, compared with 24% from idea/speaker-only suggestions. While all submission types are reviewed and considered by the AMPC, submitting a fully developed session suggestion may increase the likelihood that your concept is incorporated into the program.
- Examples of 2026 sessions that were accepted as submitted can be found here for your reference: Example Presentations

Target Audience

Continuing education activities are designed to serve educational needs for:

- Nurses
- Nurse Practitioners
- Occupational Therapists
- Pharmacists
- Physical Therapists
- Physicians
- Physician associates
- Psychologists
- Social workers
- Research scientists
- Residents/fellows
- Other members of the healthcare team

Session Types

We aim to give our speakers 30 minutes or more to allow them to fully develop their topics without being rushed and to make the presentations interactive where appropriate

SUGGESTED IDEA OR SPEAKER: Suggest a topic, issue, condition, or speaker you would like to see featured at ACR Convergence 2027. Please indicate the target audience and recommended session format. Additional details, including the rationale for your suggestion and 2-3 key learning objectives, are welcome but not required. The AMPC will consider this information when developing future sessions.

STATE OF THE ART: 1 speaker who is a recognized national/international leader in the field and an excellent teacher reviewing a selected topic. Length 45-60 minutes.

LIMITED SYMPOSIUM: 2 speakers each with 30 minutes to develop the topic. Each speaker will be a recognized leader in the subtopic they are asked to discuss. Length 60 minutes.

EXTENDED SYMPOSIUM: 3 speakers each with 30 minutes to develop their topic. This format is best for areas that need additional time/expertise to cover completely. Length 90 minutes.

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PANEL DISCUSSION: Topic development is followed by 2-3 panelists discussing important questions from the moderator(s)/audience. May work well with interactive format by asking audience to respond to key questions and panelists expounding/discussing the answers. Length 60-90 minutes.

CURBSIDE CONSULTS: 3 speakers each with 30 minutes discussing 3 different challenging problems seen in the clinic and discussed by experts on the specific topics. Examples: calcinosis in scleroderma or immunizing immunosuppressed patients. Length 90 minutes.

GREAT DEBATE: Two known experts, typically one pro and the other con, on a key area of uncertainty in rheumatology. Example: Diagnosing Sjogren's Disease: Is Lip Biopsy Really Necessary. Length 60 minutes.

INTERACTIVE LEARNING: 1-3 speakers utilize a dynamic, interactive educational format of their choice that helps engage the audience in the content presented. Examples include game-based learning, role play, demonstrations, fishbowl, Pecha Kucha, etc. Length 60-90 minutes.

Formal Sessions

WHAT IS REQUIRED:

- Session title and presentation topics (if applicable)
- Suggested faculty names and email addresses
- Session type
- Session details: length, target audience and evidence-based medicine references
- Session overview: primary topic, AMPC topic of interest, description, rationale, active learning techniques and activities (if applicable)
- Session learning objectives (3 required)

SESSION TITLE AND DESCRIPTION:

- Your session title cannot exceed 200 characters, 50 words
- Your session description cannot exceed 250 words
- Do not include your objectives in your description

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