

2026 ACPOC Annual Meeting

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 1, 2025

The Association of Children's Prosthetic-Orthotic Clinics (ACPOC) invites professionals interested in pediatric musculoskeletal disorders, neurological impairment, surgical and not surgical restoration, prosthetic and orthotic fittings, therapeutic treatment, and outcomes to begin planning for their participation in ACPOC's 2026 Annual Meeting scheduled in Philadelphia, PA April 29 – May 2, 2026.

Please visit <https://form.jotform.com/251308604759158> to submit an abstract.

If you have any questions, please contact the ACPOC office at info@acpoc.org

TOPICS REQUESTED

We are interested in topics that revolve around orthopaedic and rehabilitativetreatment of children with musculoskeletal conditions. Intervention can include:

- Prostheses
- Orthoses
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Seating and Mobility
- Adaptive Equipment and DME
- Motion Analysis
- Outcomes Measures
- Surgical Interventions
- Mental and Behavioral Health
- International and Global Relationships and Experiences
- Pharmacological Management
- Other

Surgical presentations require a review of appropriate imaging studies for proper planning and execution. All presenters are strongly encouraged to include not only clinical photos, but also x-rays, graphs and or charts in their presentations.

COMMERCIAL BIAS

Due to specific requirements for CME programming issued by the ACCME, we have to be cognizant of any conflicts of interest or commercial bias. Scientific Paper and Poster presentations, as well as Creative Solutions and Challenging Cases, must be non-biased and conflict free. Presenters are required to follow the abstract they submitted, when making their presentation. Presentations of a commercial nature should be submitted for Technical Workshops. More information about Technical Workshops can be found in the Exhibitor Prospectus. Please contact the ACPOC office at info@acpoc.org with any questions.

ACPOC Program Committee

Jorge A. Fabregas, MD (Chair)
Colleen Coulter, PT, DPT, PhD, PCS
Kelly Jeans, MS
Corey Gill, MD

Instructions for Online Submission

Go to <https://form.jotform.com/251308604759158> and submit an abstract online for the 2026 ACPOC Annual Meeting

All online submissions must include:

1. **CME Disclosure is required for presenting author.**
2. **You must have a headshot, the last name and email address for every co-author on your abstract.**
3. References are required for each abstract. Please attach to your abstract.
4. **Uploading Abstracts:**

Follow the link above to upload all the necessary information for your submission. You will be able to include graphs, pictures, tables, etc. in the abstract section.

If you are submitting for the New Investigator Research Award, you must attach a full manuscript instead of just an abstract.

Abstract Format

The body of the abstract **should not exceed 500 words. For Workshops and Symposia, please include a list of goals and learning objectives along with the abstract.**

TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS

New Investigator Award

Through generous support from Otto Bock, ACPOC is able to present these awards to qualified students and residents in the field of pediatric orthopaedics, orthotics, prosthetics, therapy interventions, motion analysis, research, mental and behavioral health, outcomes etc. Monetary awards will be provided to each of the three award recipients in addition to the waived Annual Meeting registration fee and one-year ACPOC membership. Award recipients must attend the Annual Meeting to present their paper and will be responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses. Award winners will have 20 minutes to present their work.

Who is Eligible: Students, fellows, and residents in health related professions, who are completing or have completed their directed study. The study must be applicable to the pediatric population.

The criteria to be considered for the award are:

1. A letter from the head of the applicant's department verifying training status.
2. The majority of the work must have been completed during the time the applicant was a student or resident.
3. You are eligible to submit if you are within one year of completing the training program.
4. A full manuscript must be submitted.
5. Winning manuscripts must be suitable for publication in the ACPOC News.
6. All students and residents in health-related professions are welcome to submit applications.

Reviewing of submissions: The Program Committee will select up to three winners. The submissions not selected for an award will be considered for a podium presentation at the meeting. In reviewing the submissions, the Committee will look for scientific rigor, evidence-based studies, and excellence.

Challenging Case

These are 10 minutes presentations of difficult clinical problems without obvious solutions (one problem per presentation). Audience participation is critically important to the effectiveness of Challenging Case Presentations, so these cases will be selected for their anticipated appeal to meeting participants.

Write your case in the following format:

The Problem: A paragraph or two outlining the problem.

The Solution: How you solved the problem (optional).

Creative Solution

These are 10-minute presentations of the results of new or innovative prosthetic, orthotic, or other therapeutic interventions. Designs must be focused on original, inventive, or imaginative approaches to problems afflicting children with orthopaedic needs, rather than a specific manufacturer's product. These presentations are intended to inspire discussion and collaboration among meeting participants, to provide new ideas for participants to implement immediately in the day-to-day care of their patients, and to stimulate future scientific investigation. Include 'how you solved it' and solicit audience feedback.

Scientific Paper

These are 10-minute presentations of research findings. Papers in this category are expected to describe the findings of a study with a specific hypothesis, appropriate methodology and execution, and suitable data analysis, with conclusions that reflect the findings. While there is no minimum number of research subjects, the number of subjects studied should be statistically adequate. If indicated, Human Subjects Committee approval should be obtained. These presentations are intended to improve the standard of care of children with orthopaedic needs. When possible submissions for scientific presentation should include data analysis and results. Do not submit an abstract for consideration as a scientific paper if the work has not been completed.

Scientific Poster

Posters present relatively simple topics or a small series, or "tips and tricks" in a visual and written format. Poster presentations are best suited for a pilot study, a unique idea, or a new procedure. Posters are to be exhibited throughout the meeting and attended at designated session.

Symposia

These sessions are 1-2 hours in duration (based on availability), multi-disciplinary presentations, on a single topic. Presenters should seek to provide and integrate multiple points of view on their chosen topic, but in the interest of audience attention span, the number of individuals presenting should be between two and five per symposium. Audience participation is critically important to the effectiveness of symposia, so these will be selected for their anticipated appeal to meeting participants, based on the results of previous ACPOC meeting evaluations. **Goals and learning objectives must be included in your abstract.**

Clinician-Guided Case Study Forum Cases for Clinician Guided Forum do not require abstract submission. Notify Dr. Fabregas 2 weeks before the meeting if you are planning on presenting case(s)

Jorge.fabregas@choa.org

Reminiscent of the early days of ACPOC; this Forum provides clinicians the opportunity to share challenging cases and glean valuable input from the audience. Participants are encouraged to share cases for which they would like feedback from attendees. Whether the case is new, has been ongoing for a few months, or a few years; there may be questions as to the best method to address the current situation.

This informal session will be moderated by a physician who will assist the participant in gaining valuable information via sharing of the case, ideas, etc. To participate in the session, it will be necessary to bring along an electronic medium with information about the case. Radiographs, in addition to photographs, are encouraged, so that the attendees can have a better understanding of the child being presented. Upon arrival at the meeting, the participant should confirm their participation to the Staff at the Registration Desk, as always, consent of the child/family is mandatory.

NOTE:

Submission of any kind commits the author to be prepared to present at the ACPOC Annual Meeting. (The second author should also be prepared to attend if any emergency causes the primary author's absence.)

Withdrawal of a presentation (of any kind) after the program has been publicized, may result in the author's work NOT being considered for presentation at the next ACPOC Annual Meeting.

Other Important Information

The ACPOC 2025 Program Committee reserves the right to change the category of your submission and will make the final determination of the most appropriate format for each abstract submission, keeping your preference in mind. The individual listed as the Submitter will receive Notification of Acceptance.

You do not need to be a member of ACPOC to submit an abstract; however, membership will entitle you to a lower registration fee for the meeting. **All presenters are required to register for the meeting.** Acceptance of a presentation does **NOT** mean your registration fees are waived.

Students, residents, and fellows are welcome to submit abstracts and present. There are special discounted registration fees for full-time students with proof of student status. Basic registration fees will be waived for the winners of the New Investigator Research Award.