



An International Symposium to Advance TOTAL WORKER HEALTH™

Call for Abstracts

Submission Deadline: March 24, 2014

Natcher Conference Center, National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Bethesda, MD
October 6-8, 2014

www.eagleson.org/totalworkerhealth



An International Symposium to Advance TOTAL WORKER HEALTH™ 2014 Call for Abstracts

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), part of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is pleased to invite you to contribute to an international symposium to advance the total health, safety and well-being of workers. This symposium is being organized by the NIOSH Total Worker Health™ Program.

We are soliciting proposals for posters, pre- and post-symposium workshops, plenary sessions and two types of concurrent sessions: scientific paper or practice/intervention sessions and symposia sessions.

This symposium will explore research, practices, programs and policies that advance the overall health, safety, and well-being of workers through the integration of health protection and health promotion. This effort seeks to advance the tenets of Total Worker Health. The symposium builds upon successful past meetings of the 2004 NIOSH Steps to a Healthier US Workforce Conference and the 2007 NIOSH WorkLife National Symposium. NIOSH adopted the programmatic name “TOTAL WORKER HEALTH” in 2011. Additional details on the NIOSH Total Worker Health Program can be found at www.cdc.gov/niosh/twh.

Conference Theme

Total Worker Health is a strategy integrating occupational safety and health protection with health promotion to prevent worker injury and illness and to advance health and well-being. This approach recognizes that both work-related factors and factors beyond the workplace contribute jointly to the numerous health and safety challenges facing today’s workers. The *total worker health* strategy champions interventions that comprehensively address work and non-work threats and determinants in a harmonized way. Health protection activities and health promotion programs, which traditionally have often been compartmentalized, can be successfully coordinated and combined for greater effectiveness. Additional details on the NIOSH Total Worker Health Program can be found at www.cdc.gov/niosh/twh.

Audience

This symposium will explore subjects, themes and concepts of great interest to researchers and practitioners in the following areas: workplace health, human resources, employee benefits, employee assistance, health promotion, organized labor, occupational safety, workers’ compensation, disability management, emergency response, public health, health policy, health economics, organizational and occupational health psychology, industrial hygiene, and related disciplines.

Symposium Goals

1. Showcase current research that advances the concept of *total worker health*.
2. Connect stakeholders who share an interest in *total worker health*.
3. Provide resources and strategies for practitioners working to improve the health, safety and well-being of workers.
4. Inform a future research agenda to expand the evidence-base for *total worker health*.

Abstract Themes and Topics of Interest

The symposium planners seek abstracts related to the following themes and concepts, all within the context of a *total worker health* approach of integrated occupational safety and health protection and health promotion.

- Etiologic factors (occupational and non-occupational) contributing to health and safety challenges in today's workplace
- Effects of integrated interventions, including health and safety outcomes, economic and productivity effects and other organizational impacts
- Strategies and promising practices, including models, toolkits, and case studies, for implementing integrated innovations
- Measurement tools, data, and methodologies for evaluating integrated interventions
- Barriers to implementation and/or adoption
- Future challenges and directions for research, practice and policy
- Training of occupational health and safety, health promotion, health care, public health, and other professionals on an integrated approach to prevention

Within these broad *total worker health* themes related to integrating health protection and health promotion, a number of topical areas represent subjects of specific interest to the symposium planners. These areas of interest include (but are not limited to): aging and work; work and family issues; obesity and work; arthritis/joint health and work, chronic disease prevention/management/accommodation in the workplace; benefits/risks of the use of incentives or penalties for health behaviors, individual health outcomes, or organizational outcomes; workplace stress prevention and management; culture of health, safety culture, safety climate; and the organization of work and health. Additional areas include *total worker health* strategies and interventions including: interventions for part-time workers, contract workers, temporary workers, workers with multiple jobs, and low-wage workers; physical/built-environment interventions; strategies to decrease sedentary work; *total worker health* strategies for small businesses; community/workplace interactions to advance health; and advances in return to work, disability and rehabilitation management.

For additional information, such as Issues Relevant to a Total Worker Health™ Perspective, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/twh/totalhealth.html>.

Please note that the degree to which your proposal ties these topical areas to the meeting's theme of *total worker health* will be strongly considered when session selections are made.

Proposal Submission

The following presentation formats will be available during the symposium. Abstracts are being sought for all of these presentation types.

Poster Sessions

Poster sessions provide for the direct interaction of presenters with the audience in an informal setting lasting up to two hours. Posters will be grouped by topic area where applicable. Each presenter will have the opportunity to discuss his/her work and to respond to questions from individuals who attend the hosted poster session. Detailed instructions for preparing a poster will be sent to authors whose proposals are accepted for a poster presentation.

Plenary Sessions

Plenary presentations are made in large audience settings, often to all attendees of the meeting in opening or closing keynote sessions. The content of these sessions should appeal to a broad audience of varied disciplines, interests, and skill levels. Subject matter should be highly relevant to the conference theme, timely, and provide novel, ground-breaking or late-breaking content where applicable. Presenters of plenary sessions should have significant past experience in providing large audience presentations. Submissions for presentations of 30 and 60 minutes in length are being sought. Please note that only a few plenary session presentations will be chosen, so submitters should consider entering other types of proposals to increase the likelihood of selection.

Concurrent Sessions

Multiple concurrent sessions, held simultaneously in smaller group settings, allow for deeper examination of more specific topics and themes. Offering a variety of concurrent sessions also allows attendees to customize the conference experience by selecting and attending only the sessions that are most appealing. Submissions for concurrent sessions should be made in one of the following formats: paper sessions; symposia; or practice/intervention sessions.

1. Brief Scientific Paper or Practice/Intervention Sessions

These sessions allow opportunities for individual researchers or practitioners to highlight recent or ongoing research, evaluations or other findings related to their work in *total worker health*. These sessions may also be used to present evidence-based or promising practices, or describe interventions and their evaluation and outcomes. Descriptions of organizational programs or case reports are also acceptable for these sessions. During the session, a presenter will have approximately 20 minutes to present his/her work. Time will also be allotted for questions and discussion. Conference planners will group 2 or 3 similar or related submissions so that they can be presented together into an overall session of 75 minutes.

2. Symposia

A symposium is a focused session in which participants present papers/topics which address a common theme, issue or question. Symposia can focus on research topics, practical applications of research or both. The papers are submitted together as one proposal. A symposium must consist of an introduction of the topic by a chairperson, followed by 2-4 participant presentations of separate papers, and concluded with an interchange among the participants and the audience. A discussant may be included but is not required. Symposia sessions will be 75 minutes long.

Pre/Post Conference Workshops

Half-day pre-conference workshops will be held on the morning of Monday, October 6, 2014. Half-day post-conference workshops will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 8, 2014. Workshops allow for lengthier, more detailed exploration of research topics and/or practice/intervention areas. They also allow for greater interaction between organizers and participants. Workshops should be practically-oriented and hands-on where applicable. Some workshops may be designed to lead to the awarding of training certificates. Workshop proposals should be designed to deliver 3.5 hours of educational content for the half-day sessions, including interactive components.

Elements of Proposal Submission

PLEASE NOTE

A conference participant may submit a **total of NO MORE THAN THREE** program abstracts/proposals. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Please ensure that you have included all requested information in each submission.

For persons submitting more than one abstract/proposal, please provide the following information **in a stand-alone document for each proposal.**

The submission of an abstract does not guarantee the opportunity to present at this meeting. Each submission will undergo peer-review as a condition of acceptance for this symposium. Every effort will be made to accommodate as many qualified proposals as the schedule permits. Participants may be requested to present a different session type than the one originally sought. **We anticipate providing notification to all persons selected for a presentation no later than June 1, 2014 to allow adequate time for presentation finalization and travel planning.**

Please include the following information in your submission:

- **Title** (15 words or less)

- **Presentation type. Must select one:**
 - Poster session presentation
 - 30 minute plenary session
 - 60 minute plenary session
 - 20 minute concurrent scientific paper or practice/intervention session
 - 75 minute concurrent symposia session
 - 3.5 hour Pre/Post conference workshop

- **Abstract of the proposed course or presentation description.** The abstract should be between 250 and 500 words. It should include: (a) a statement of the problem or challenge being addressed; (b) methods, approach, tools, instruments, or procedures, where applicable; (c) a description of the program or intervention, where applicable; (d) a description of subjects, participants or audience, as appropriate; (e) the outcomes, analyses, and/or results; and (f) practical/theoretical implications, and conclusions, as appropriate.

- **Brief summary.** A summary consists of 3–4 sentences and briefly describes the proposed presentation. It should include a brief description of the problem and, as appropriate, the procedures, results, and conclusions of your work. The brief summary will be used to assist with the planning of the conference program, brochure and website.

- **Proposed course/presentation objectives.** Objectives should be stated using the form "Upon completion, participants will be able to (verb) (topic)." Example: "Upon completion, participants will be able to identify 3 components of a high-quality workplace smoking cessation program." Note that 2-3 objectives should be provided for presentations of less than one hour; 3-4 objectives should be provided for sessions of one hour or more.

- **Proposed instructors/presenters.** For each instructor or presenter, please submit the following.
 - Name as it should appear in symposium promotional material and symposium agenda
 - Credentials
 - Job title and organization
 - A one-paragraph (3-4 sentences) biography of each presenter for the symposium website.
 - Full contact information **for each person who will be presenting** to include: mailing address, email address, phone number

- **Listing of most recent presentations or significant previous presentations.** Include meeting name, presentation topic, audience type, and size.

Deadline

You should submit your abstract no later than March 24, 2014 to twh@cdc.gov. More information on the conference can be found at www.eagleson.org/totalworkerhealth .

Contact

Please contact Tanya Headley at theadley@cdc.gov or 304-285-6278 if you have questions.