

BTS Winter Meeting Abstracts: Frequently Asked Questions

Abstract Deadline: 23:59 Tuesday 9 June 2026

1. How do I submit an abstract for the Winter Meeting?

Follow the 'submit abstract' button on the Winter Meeting webpage. You will be required to log in, or register for a BTS account if you have not used the website before. NB - you do not need to join as a BTS member to submit an abstract.

2. Can I submit an abstract for the Winter Meeting which has previously been presented elsewhere?

We will consider encore abstracts provided they have only been presented at **one** meeting previously, e.g. ERS or ATS. The author should complete the relevant fields on the abstract submission form to inform us that the abstract is an encore.

3. Can I submit an abstract that has been previously published?

We will not consider abstracts that contain data previously published in a peer review journal (the exception being conference abstracts – see point 3 above). Failure to adhere to this request will result in such abstracts being rejected.

4. I am not the author of the abstract, can I submit the abstract?

Yes. You do not have to be an author to submit the abstract but you will need to have the permission of the authors to submit and all the relevant information to complete the submission. An author must however be included in the additional email contact list.

5. Can I obtain a copy of an abstract presented at a Winter Meeting in a previous year?

Yes. Please go to the *Thorax* website (www.thorax.bmj.com) where you can search for the abstract book supplement you require. You will need to follow the archive tab and search for the supplement you are looking for.

6. Can you give guidance about which category my Winter Meeting abstract should fall into?

This is not possible as all abstracts are refereed blind by a panel of referees therefore, we cannot pre-judge what might or might not be accepted, or indeed what is or is not suitable for a given category.

7. Who is eligible to enter the Medical Student Competition?

Those eligible for the Medical Student Competition must be at a medical school studying medicine (or have been when the research for the abstract was carried out). Unfortunately, if you do not fall into this category you are not eligible to enter the competition, you can however still submit an abstract.

8. Who is eligible to apply for a Conference award?

Those eligible to apply for a Conference award must be the first author of the abstract and meet one of the following criteria - Within 5 years of having achieved your PhD; Registered for Higher Degree in a relevant subject; A doctor in training; A nurse, allied health professional, healthcare scientist or other member of the respiratory team.

9. Can an author be allocated to more than one institution in an abstract?

Yes. This can be done via the abstract submission system when adding the authors. First add all the affiliated institutions in the relevant section of the submission form. You will then need to allocate one institution to an author. When an author has more than one affiliation, allocate the institution you wish to appear first, to the author, then add the authors name again and allocate the second institution and so on.

10. How do you highlight joint authorship?

This is not possible. The author list will be printed in the order it appears when the abstract is submitted. To highlight joint authorship if your abstract is accepted, please make this known when giving your presentation.

11. Do Winter Meeting abstracts have a PubMedID?

No they do not.

12. What is the word limit for Winter Meeting abstracts?

350 words. Words which appear in a table or figure, in the title or in the list of authors do not count towards the limit, but references do. See tips for preparing your abstract.

13. When will I be notified about the status of my abstract?

All named correspondents will be notified of the outcome of their abstract by the end of August. The abstract will either be accepted as a Spoken presentation, Poster presentation or a Moderated poster presentation.

14. If I have had a spoken session accepted at the Winter Meeting, do I need to produce a poster as well?

No. The email you received specifically outlines what is required.

15. Can a non-author present an abstract?

Only an author can present an abstract. BTS adheres to the [ICMJE definition](#) of an author - presenters must be an author of the abstract.

16. Can there be more than one presenter?

This is not possible. Only one author can present the abstract. Other authors can of course attend the session their abstract is being presented in.

17. I have noticed a mistake in my abstract, how do I amend this?

Please send an email to the abstracts@brit-thoracic.org.uk with an attachment of the corrected abstract. The corrections must be highlighted in yellow in order for any changes to be made. There is

a small window in which changes can be made however if you notice the mistake after the abstracts have been sent to print, a correction will be put through to *Thorax* in the following year. We stress that abstracts should be checked thoroughly before final submission.

18. I am no longer able to present at the Winter Meeting, what should I do?

Please send an email to the abstracts@brit-thoracic.org.uk notifying them of the change of presenter. Please be reminded that an author of the abstract must present your abstract. It is not possible for abstracts to be presented virtually, whilst the conference is being held on-site.

19. When will the Winter Meeting abstracts be published?

Abstracts are printed in the BTS Winter Meeting Programme and Abstract book which is published as a supplement to *Thorax*. This is usually available on the *Thorax* website a few weeks prior to the Meeting.

20. Do I maintain the copyright of my abstract once published?

The copyright of abstracts that are published in the *Thorax* supplement, will rest with *Thorax*. BTS does not hold any permissions to the abstracts published.

21. Do I maintain the copyright of my poster once presented?

Yes. The copyright remains with authors. It should also be noted that presenting a poster or presentation at the meeting does not signify endorsement from BTS.

22. Can I include a QR code on my poster?

QR codes are permissible only if they provide access to clinically relevant content related directly to the subject of the poster. They must not provide any links to marketing or promotional materials and their use must not imply any endorsement by the British Thoracic Society of any related products or therapies.