

IPCRG AI Use Policy for Scientific Medical Conference Abstracts

Effective date: 04/09/2026

Applies to: All submitters, presenters, reviewers and authors of abstracts for IPCRG conferences, including scientific meetings.

1. Purpose and principles

The IPCRG recognises that the use of AI can help people with and in writing up their research, particularly if English is their second language. This policy establishes transparent, responsible, and ethical rules to support the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the creation of conference abstracts and subsequent presentations of accepted abstracts.

As the IPCRG accepts repeat or previously presented conference abstracts we will not identify previously published abstracts by the same author/s as using AI or as plagiarism.

The policy is based on the npjPCRM AI policy, recommendations from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), and the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE, UK).

There are four core expectations:

- Human accountability cannot be transferred to AI systems
- AI may support but must not replace scholarly judgement
- Transparency about AI use builds trust
- Confidentiality and data protection must be maintained when using AI tools.

2. Definition of AI use

For this policy, AI use includes any tool that generates, rewrites, translates, summarises, analyses, classifies, or modifies content. Examples include:

- Generative AI chatbots and large language models (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini)
- AI grammar, spelling, translation, or paraphrasing tools
- AI tools used to generate or modify tables, figures, images, code, or statistical analyses
- AI-supported tools used to extract, classify, or analyze research data

3. Permitted uses

AI tools may be used to support abstract, poster and slide preparation, provided that the authors independently verify and approve all resulting content. Routine spelling or grammar checking that does not generate substantive content may be treated as editorial assistance.

Permitted uses include:

- Correcting spelling, grammar, punctuation, and language
- Translating an author-written abstract
- Improving clarity, structure, readability, or concision
- Suggesting keywords or alternative titles
- Helping format an abstract according to the conference template
- Assisting with code development, data organization, or preliminary analysis, when the methods and results are independently checked by the authors
- Supporting the preparation of tables or figures, provided that the underlying data are accurate and the final presentation is reviewed by the authors.

Given the energy use and wider environmental impact associated with AI systems, authors are encouraged to use AI proportionately and only where it provides a clear benefit, avoiding unnecessary or indiscriminate use.

4. Prohibited uses

The following practices are not permitted:

- Listing an AI system as an author, co-author, presenter, or corresponding author
- Submitting AI-generated scientific claims, results, interpretations, references, or patient information without human verification
- Using AI to generate references that have not been checked against the original sources
- Presenting AI-generated text as entirely original without disclosure
- Using sensitive or unpublished patient data from third-party databases in public AI or LLMs
- Using AI-generated content that infringes copyright, confidentiality, privacy, or intellectual-property rights.

The submitting author must ensure that all statements, data, citations, and interpretations are accurate, appropriately attributed, and consistent with the underlying research. AI-generated content may be inaccurate, incomplete, biased, or fabricated, and must therefore be checked against primary or authoritative source.

Reviewers and members of the scientific or abstract review committee must maintain the confidentiality of submitted abstracts. Abstracts, supporting information or reviewer comments must not be uploaded to public or unsecured AI systems. AI may support administrative or language-related tasks where confidentiality is protected, but assessment, scoring and acceptance decisions must remain the responsibility of human reviewers.

5. Disclosure by authors

Authors must disclose any substantive use of AI in the abstract submission system and on posters or slides.

Disclosure is required when AI has been used to:

- Generate or substantially rewrite text
- Translate or paraphrase substantial portions of the abstract
- Generate or modify tables, figures, images, or graphical abstracts
- Collect, classify, process, analyze, or interpret data
- Generate code used in the research or analysis
- Produce scientific conclusions or recommendations.

Disclosure is not required for ordinary electronic spell-checking alone or for AI-assisted copy editing that only improves readability and style of already-written text.

Authors may use the following submission statement:

AI-use disclosure: In preparing this abstract/poster/slide, the authors used [name of tool and version, if available] for [e.g., language editing, translation, text restructuring, data analysis]. The authors reviewed and verified all AI-assisted content and remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, integrity, and ethical compliance of the abstract.

AI tools cannot be listed as authors or acknowledged as having authorship.

6. Verification and editorial review

The conference may request clarification about an author's AI use, ask for supporting information, or require correction of an incomplete disclosure.

Authors may be asked to provide the original, unedited text or analysis, supporting data or documentation and explanation of how the output was verified.

7. Non-compliance

Failure to comply with this policy may result in:

- A request for correction or additional disclosure.
- Removal of the abstract from review.
- Rejection or withdrawal of the abstract.
- Notification to the authors' institution, where appropriate.
- Restriction from future submissions in serious or repeated cases.

The response will be proportionate to the nature of the conduct.

8. Short version for author guidelines

Authors may use AI-assisted tools for language editing, translation, formatting, or other supportive tasks, but they remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, integrity, confidentiality, and ethical compliance of the submitted abstract. AI tools may not be listed as authors. Any substantive use of AI—including text generation or rewriting, translation of substantial content, data analysis, code generation, or creation of tables, figures, or images—must be disclosed at submission, including the tool used, its purpose, and how the output was verified. Undisclosed or inappropriate AI use may lead to correction, rejection, withdrawal, or referral.

1. <https://www.nature.com/npjpcrm/editorial-policies/ai>
2. <https://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf>
3. <https://publicationethics.org/guidance/cope-position/authorship-and-ai-tools>
4. <https://group.springernature.com/gp/group/ai/ai-guidance-for-our-researchers-and-communities>