

2026 Gulf Conference

Information for Poster Presentations

The poster session will be set up in the Lower Exhibit Hall Lobby. The room will be open on Monday, May 4, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for you to hang your poster in advance (push pins will be available). You may also hang your poster when you arrive. Location assignments will be distributed one month prior to the event. Posters must be removed by Thursday, May 7, at 12:00 p.m.; any posters not removed by this time will be discarded.

Poster Size: 48 inches high by 48 inches wide (max)

We are hosting Rise and Shine Poster Sessions 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the event. Presenters are not required to attend each session. You will be notified which day your poster session will be highlighted. We encourage you to be at your poster on the day it's being presented. Breakfast will be served while conference participants may review and mingle with the poster presenters. We encourage all posters to include contact information so that conference participants may reach out to you should they not be able to speak with you personally.

Guidelines

1. Size and Format Specifications

- **Maximum dimensions:** 48" × 48" (width × height). Posters may be smaller but must not exceed this in either direction to fit allocated board space.
- **Orientation:** Portrait (taller than wide) or landscape (wider than tall). Choose based on content flow. Conference poster boards will accommodate two 48" x 48" landscape posters per side.
 - Landscape is more common for traditional research posters.
 - Portrait can work well for vertically flowing narratives or when space is square.
- **Practical printing tip:** Design at 44" × 44" (or slightly smaller) to allow margin for mounting and prevent edge curling. Pins will be provided to attach poster to board.

2. Overall Design Recommendations

- **Less is more:** Aim for **300-800 words total** (ideally closer to 500), including captions. Viewers should grasp the main message in **3-5 minutes**.
- **Visual hierarchy:** 40%-60% graphics/images, 20%-30% text, and generous white space for readability.
- **Color scheme:** Use light background (white/off-white/light gray) with dark text for maximum contrast. Limit to 2-3 complementary colors; avoid overly bright or clashing palettes.
- **Font selection:** Use clean, sans-serif fonts (e.g., Arial, Helvetica, Verdana, Calibri, or Georgia). Avoid decorative/script fonts. Limit to 2 font families, maximum.

3. Recommended Font Sizes (for 48" × 48" poster)

These ensure legibility from 3–10 feet away:

- **Title:** 72 pt-100 pt (bold, concise; readable from across the room)
- **Authors & affiliations:** 48 pt-60 pt
- **Section headings** (e.g., Introduction, Methods, Results): 36 pt-54 pt
- **Body text / bullet points:** 24 pt-36 pt (minimum 24 pt for main content)
- **Figure captions / references / small labels:** 18 pt-24 pt (avoid anything below 18 pt)

4. Layout and Structure Recommendations

Use a **clear, logical flow** (typically left-to-right, top-to-bottom) to guide the viewer naturally.

Standard sections (adapt to field/discipline):

- **Title** (top center or top left — large and eye-catching)
- **Authors & affiliations** (below title)
- **Introduction / Background / Objectives** (left column or top section)
- **Methods** (brief — focus on essentials)
- **Results** (center — largest/most visual area; use graphs, charts, images)
- **Discussion / Conclusions** (right or bottom)
- **References** (small font, bottom corner)
- **Acknowledgments / Funding / Contact info / QR code** (bottom) – It is recommended that you include your contact information should conference attendees wish to contact you outside of your designated poster session.

Layout tips:

- Divide into 2-4 columns (or modular blocks in square format).
- Use white space generously to separate sections — avoid crowding.
- Align text left (ragged right) for readability; center only titles or select elements.
- Place the most important visual (key figure/result) near the center to draw attention.

5. Content and Visual Best Practices

- **Text:** Use **short bullet points** (not full paragraphs). Avoid dense blocks of text.
- **Graphics:** High-resolution images, charts, diagrams (300 DPI minimum). Use arrows/labels for emphasis.
- **Data presentation:** Prioritize 1-3 key figures/tables over many small ones. Make axes/labels large and clear.
- **Accessibility:** High contrast; avoid red-green color schemes for colorblind viewers.
- **Balance:** Ensure symmetry or intentional asymmetry; don't overload one side.