

3 September 2021

REVISED CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: 9TH ANNUAL FREE STATE PROVINCIAL HEALTH RESEARCH DAY

The **Annual Provincial Health Research Day**, hosted **virtually** by the Free State Department of Health in collaboration with the University of the Free State on **4 November 2021** is a vital channel for exchange of information between health researchers, policymakers, and practitioners. The Research Day offers one of few opportunities to engage about health-related research, particularly research conducted in our own province, in order to discern the implications of new research findings and to address the major health, system and service delivery challenges facing the Province.

Given the pervasive impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic on health and healthcare, the theme for this year's Research Day is: "**Health, disease management and health systems in COVID-19 times.**" Abstracts should thus broadly relate to research that informs the provincial and national plights to mitigate the burden of disease.

Note: However, research important to health and healthcare in the Free State, but not related to COVID-19, will also be considered.

The **primary tracks** include (but may not be limited) to the following:

- COVID-19
- Medical and disease management.
- Health systems.
- Multi-, inter-, and trans-disciplinary approaches to disease control.

Individuals, teams and organisations interested in presenting their research are welcome to submit published or unpublished abstracts to the Free State Department of Health, serving as host for the Abstract Committee.

Send abstracts to: Researchday@fshealth.gov.za. For any further information please contact Mr Tumelo Sebeela or Mr Lehlohonolo Koekoe at telephone no. (051) 408-1527/1704.

Abstract format (300 words, excluding title, author/s and affiliation/s)

- Title
- Author/s
- Author/s' affiliation/s
- Introduction/background
- Aim/s and objective/s
- Design and methods
- Findings/results
- Conclusions/recommendations

Abstracts to be sent in MS Word and not in PDF format.

Please indicate your preference for an oral or a poster presentation. Poster presentations will also be presented orally. Both oral and poster presentations should be prepared as PowerPoint slides using the same format as outlined in the abstract format above. Technical details and time allocations for all presentations will be communicated in the acceptance notifications.

Each abstract will be considered by three reviewers. Both experienced and inexperienced researchers are welcome to submit abstracts.

Key dates:

- Abstract submission deadline: **01 October 2021**
- Notification of decision: **13 October 2021**
- Final submission of oral and poster presentations for pre-uploading: **3 November 2021**
- Free State Provincial Health Research Day: **4 November 2021**