

Track Descriptions

Track 1: Healthy and Safe Community Environments

This track will highlight national, state, and local projects that create, sustain, and recognize communities that promote health and wellness through prevention. Communities can be defined as homes, schools, public spaces, and work sites. A community's health and safety is influenced by where people live, learn, work, and play. Accessibility, affordability, and ability to make healthy choices are the keys to a community's health. Abstracts for this track may include a broad range of topics such as:

- Establishing a competent healthcare and public health workforce
- Ensuring the safety of the nation's basic resources- safe air, land and water
- Strategies for strengthening the capacity of state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments
- The use of novel public-private partnerships for creating healthy environments
- Strengthening the health and safety of communities through data sharing and health information systems
- Promoting policies for social and physical environments that support healthy living and ensure that the healthy choice is the easy choice.

Track 2: Clinical and Community Preventive Services

This track will emphasize the role frontline clinical and public health providers can serve in better preventing disease, disability, and death through delivery of services from the individual patient through the community level. Submissions should reflect what is known in terms of evidence-based prevention strategies, as well as practical examples of what works to translate knowledge into practice. Abstracts for this track may include a broad range of topics such as:

- Innovative programs or strategies to promote wider use of recommended screenings (e.g. for breast, colon, and cervical cancer) that translate into disease prevention
- Prevention in outpatient and inpatient healthcare settings, including improving immunization rates and reducing healthcare-associated infections
- Enhancing the delivery and impact of clinical preventive services (e.g. smoking cessation, treatment adherence)
- Community-wide health initiatives and interventions to promote and protect health (e.g. preventing drug abuse and excessive alcohol use)
- Utilizing health information systems such as electronic health records and immunization registries as prevention tools
- Reaching high-risk or hard-to-reach persons and populations with needed preventive interventions, in clinical or community settings

Track 3: Empowering People to Make Healthy Choices

This track will highlight the importance of innovative programs and resources to empower and foster healthier choices. Abstracts should emphasize evidenced-based knowledge translated into accessible, culturally and linguistically relevant information which supports active individual and communal engagement to recognize and prevent common health problems. Abstracts may discuss innovative media campaigns; community education strategies; prevention programs;

medical, behavioral or environmental health activities; and/or success stories of similar efforts. Abstracts for this track may include a broad range of topics such as:

- Education campaigns promoting readily available nutritional information targeting common diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and obesity in at-risk populations/communities
- Use of social and mass media to raise awareness, strengthen social connections and stimulate positive change in mental, physical and behavioral health across the life span
- Strategies for engaging individuals, communities, commercial partners, local businesses, and educational institutions in public education to promote positive health choices
- Incorporation of preventive medicine and mental/behavioral health components in a deployment setting such as assistance to Haiti, Operation Lone Star (Texas) and others
- Educating the public, policy makers and stakeholders about evidence- and practice-based policy interventions to improve population health and foster healthy behaviors.
- Expanding and impacting education and employment opportunities for improved long term healthy decision making
- Experiences from the field highlighting excellence in coordinated systems of health care for individuals, families and communities

Track 4: Elimination of Health Disparities:

This track will address the causes and impacts of health disparities among sub-populations as well as progress towards the reduction and elimination of health disparities. Topics will reflect a comprehensive exploration of racial and ethnic, environmental, social and economic inequalities, including challenges in the provision and receipt of equitable health care services. Abstracts for this track may include a broad range of topics such as:

- Examining innovative approaches in health care policy that have resulted in measurable reductions in health disparities
- Improving health equity through novel use of population data related to health disparities such as race, ethnicity, language preference, disability status, and geographic location
- Exploring interrelated factors that impact the health of communities, such as neighborhood characteristics, unemployment, and home ownership
- Describing national and international comprehensive efforts to measure and address health equity, such as the National Healthcare Disparities Report, the Marmot Review (UK), and the Federal Collaboration on Health Disparities Research (FCHDR)
- Discussing persistent and often overlooked social inequities and institutional biases that exist

Track 5: Prevention in the Field of Mental and Behavioral Health:

This track will focus on mental health interventions that seek to prevent drug and alcohol abuse, obesity, unplanned teen pregnancies, and violence among family members. This track is unique in that it will feature panels consisting of three selected abstracts integrated into a ninety-minute joint presentation. Symposium organizers will develop thematic panels with a consolidated title, objectives and references in order to meet time requirements, conference goals and continuing education requirements for psychologists. The focus of the presentations will be on the use of existing health care systems to identify, educate, and support individuals who are likely to engage in risky behaviors that contribute to poor mental health and limited participation in their

own medical care. Topics related to the National Prevention Strategy are strongly encouraged. Abstracts for this track may include a broad range of topics such as:

- Screening for adolescent substance abuse among family physicians
- How social and cultural images shape norms, values, and behaviors in teens/young adults
- Exploration of current research on the relationship between childhood exposure to trauma and family violence in adulthood
- Integrated care programs designed to treat depression, anxiety and substance abuse.
- How social class/ethnicity impacts the doctor patient relationship
- Obesity as a complicating factor in the prevention and treatment of mental health disorders
- Intimate partner violence prevention efforts
- Parent and family skill-based programs that prevent children exposure to trauma and violence