2026 NF Conference Abstract Submission Resource Document

Event Dates: June 27-30, 2026 | Denver, Colorado

NEW THIS YEAR

Submitters should take note of the following changes for the 2026 NF Conference Abstract Submissions

- The 2026 Abstract Submission Call (regular and late breaking) will be hosted on Oxford Abstracts.
- Abstracts will be submitted by completing the required fields in the online submission form. *We no longer require an abstract to be uploaded as a Word document or PDF.*
- The Abstract Submission Categories have been slightly modified, with the branch of research and NF type to be selected separately from the abstract category/subcategory.
- Publication-Only: If the number of qualified submissions exceeds space and/or programming constraints, submissions may be accepted and designated as "Publication-Only." Publication-only submissions will be published in the print and digital 2026 NF Conference Abstract Book but will <u>not</u> be scheduled for presentation (platform or poster) during the conference.

General Information

The 2026 NF Conference will be held Saturday, June 27 through Tuesday, June 30, 2026, in Denver, Colorado. The meeting will be in-person, with a virtual attendance option; however, presenting authors are required to be on-site in Denver. The meeting content will also be accessible to virtual meeting attendees via an online platform.

All NF-relevant abstracts are welcome. However, those aligned with the themes for the 2026 conference will receive a prioritized review. Themes include:

- Developmental Origins and Cellular Drivers of NF
- Altered Metabolism in NF
- Tumor Immunology and Immunotherapy: From Antigens to Adoptive Cell Therapy
- NextGen Translational Pipelines: From Models to Clinical Impact
- Pain
- Neurocognition

Presentation Formats

Abstracts will be reviewed by a scientific committee and those with the highest scores will be invited to present their work as **Platform Presentations** or **Poster Presentations**.

Platform Presentation

Session Co-Chairs will select abstracts that fit into one of the 2026 Conference session themes for Platform Presentations. Each Platform Presenter will have approximately 10 minutes to present their work, followed by 5 minutes for Q&A, for a total of 15 minutes.

Poster Presentation

Poster presentations will take place during the Poster Session on Sunday, June 28. This format allows attendees to engage directly with poster presenters, providing critical learning and discussion opportunities. The Poster Session will be 3 hours long. Refreshments will be served.

In addition to physical posters, digital posters will be uploaded to the NF Conference website beginning in early-mid June as an additional engagement opportunity to allow for virtual Q&A and informal discussions with interested attendees during designated poster sessions.

Presentation Acceptance of an abstract requires an in-person presentation. Authors who are unable to travel to attend the NF Conference in-person may designate a co-author or fellow member of their scientific team to present on their behalf.

Acceptance for presentation does not include costs of conference registration, travel, or the printing of materials. Please complete your attendee registration for the NF Conference HERE.

Submission Options

Submitters may select how their abstract should be considered.

- Consider for Platform Presentation only
- Consider for Poster Presentation only
- Consider for either Platform or Poster Presentation

Platform-Only

During submission, the authors may elect to have their abstract considered only for a Platform (oral) Presentation. By making this selection, the submitter pre-emptively removes the abstract from Poster consideration if it is not accepted for a Platform. Choose this option if none of the co-authors are willing or able to give a Poster Presentation. This choice must be made during the submission process and cannot be changed after the Review Committee has reached its decision.

Poster-Only

Similarly, authors may elect to have their abstract considered only for a Poster Presentation. By making this selection, the abstract will not be considered for Platform (oral) Presentation, regardless of the score. Choose this option if none of the co-authors are willing or able to give

an oral presentation in English. This choice must be made during the submission process and cannot be changed after the Review Committee has reached its decision.

New in 2026 Publication-Only

If the number of qualified submissions exceeds space and/or programming constraints, submissions may be accepted and designated as "Publication-Only." Publication-only submissions will be published in the print and digital 2026 NF Conference Abstract Book but will NOT be scheduled for presentation (oral or poster) at the annual meeting.

Abstract Submission Labels & Categories

To ensure that submissions are reviewed and assigned to appropriate sessions aligned with their content, submitters must indicate the primary category with which the abstract most closely aligns.

Your category/subcategory selection will aid the abstract reviewers in placing the abstract into the most appropriate session, if accepted for platform presentation. Accepted poster abstracts are also listed according to the primary category selected within NF Conference Abstract Book and placed accordingly within the Poster Hall.

CTF reserves the right to recategorize an abstract if it was grossly miscategorized by the submitter.

Labelling your Abstract Submission

For 2026, we have slightly modified categorization, with the branch of research and NF type to be selected separately from the abstract category/subcategory:

BRANCH OF RESEARCH (pick one)

- Basic / Preclinical Research
- Clinical Research

NF TYPE (pick list)

- Neurofibromatosis type 1
- NF2-related schwannomatosis
- Non-NF2 schwannomatosis
- Disease agnostic

Abstract Submission Categories and Sub-Categories

The following are the 2026 abstract submission categories, updated for the upcoming NF Conference:

I.   MANIFESTATION
   A. Metabolic / Metabolism
   B. Bone abnormalities
   C. Cognition / Behavioral / Learning
   D. Cutaneous and subcutaneous neurofibroma
   E. Plexiform neurofibroma
   F. Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor (MPNST)
   G. Glioma (optic pathway, non-optic)
   H. Schwannoma
   I. Meningioma
   J. Ependymoma
   K. Pain
   L. Other

II. TUMOR BIOLOGY AND DISEASE MECHANISM
   A. Tumor microenvironment, including transposable elements (e.g., exosomes)
   B. Immunology / Immune response
   C. Cell signaling and signaling/metabolic pathways
   D. Cellular interactions and communication
   E. Gene regulation and epigenetics
   F. Tumor cell of origin / cell lineage / cancer stem cells
   G. Biomarkers
   H. Disease progression and metastasis
   I. Other

III. STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY
   A. Protein structure
   B. Other

IV. DRUG DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT
   A. Target identification and validation
   B. Lead discovery and development
   C. Cell models
   D. Patient-derived xenografts
   E. Genetically engineered mouse models
   F. Animal models including Drosophila models
   G. Organoids and 3D culture models
   H. Novel alternative methods (NAMs)
   I. Brain Tumor Research Novel Therapeutics Accelerator (BTR-NTA)
   J. Other

V.   THERAPEUTICS

A. Drug repurposing
B. Precision medicine / Targeted therapy
C. Gene therapy
D. Cell therapy
E. Immunotherapy
F. Nutraceuticals
G. Targeting metabolic vulnerabilities in cancer
H. Other

VI. BIOINFORMATICS AND COMPUTATIONAL OMICS
A. All omics studies (genomics, proteomics, transcriptomics, and metabolomics)
B. Data libraries
C. Computational biology, predictive technology, and AI-based approaches
D. Other

VII. SHARING PLATFORMS
A. Data sharing platforms and initiatives
B. Biobanks
C. Other

VIII. CLINICAL RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT
A. Quality of Life measures and improvement
B. Clinical Management / Care
C. Endpoints
D. Toxicity
E. Biomarkers
F. Trial designs
G. Symptoms, toxicities, patient-reported outcomes, treatment management
H. Clinical trials in progress, clinical trials completed, case reports
I. Diagnostic tests including measurements
J. Real-world evidence / Natural history
K. Other

Abstract Submission Guidelines for the 2026 NF Conference

Please read carefully, as there are several changes from prior abstract calls.

Submission Timeline

- March 2, 2026: Abstract Submission Deadline
- March 2-31, 2026: Abstract Review Period
- April 1, 2026: Acceptance/Rejection Notices Sent
- June 14, 2026: Submission Deadline for Platform Presentation Materials
- June 15-24, 2026: Material Review Process
- June 26-30, 2026: See you in Denver!

Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts should not exceed 400 words, including purpose, methods, results, and conclusion.
- Funding and disclosures do not count against the 400 word count.
- No more than 4 figures are permitted per abstract.
- If used, each figure should be high resolution (at least 300 dpi), and be accompanied by a legend
- Define all abbreviations used; within the body of the abstract, spell out the word in full at first mention and follow with the abbreviation in parentheses
- Do not use proprietary names for drugs.

Abstract Structure

1. Title: Objectively describe the study as a single sentence.
2. Abstract*
   a. Purpose: Statement of why the study was conducted.
   b. Methods: Brief description of how the research was conducted.
   c. Results: Summary of key findings, to include text and/or images/tables/graphs.
   d. Conclusion: Interpretation of results and the implications/significance of the study.
3. Funding and Disclosures
   a. Funding: Indicate the granting agency and mechanism whose fiscal support made the research possible.
   b. Disclosures: Any relevant financial relationships for author(s). If chosen for CME accreditation, additional disclosure documentation may be required.
4. Authors: Full name, academic credentials, and institutional affiliation for all authors.

As you prepare your submission, please note the following:

Accepted abstracts will be published physically and digitally, constituting public disclosure. For more information on public disclosure as it relates to future publications & patent filings from your research, please consult with your institution's Technology Transfer/Patenting & Licensing Office.

- 2026 Abstracts must be submitted through the Oxford Abstracts platform.
- You will receive a confirmation email once your abstract is submitted.
- No changes can be made after the abstract submission deadline.
- Presenters will only be invited once the abstract submission is accepted.
- Invited presenters will be required to present in-person, and all presentations will be accessible on the virtual platform.

New in 2026 Submission Instructions

- Before you can make a submission, you will be prompted to log in or set up an account with Oxford Abstracts (our 2026 Abstract Submission Platform).
  - Once registered, you can make your submission by completing the fields in the online submission form. Please note that mandatory fields are marked with an asterisk *
- When completing the Abstract field*, it is easiest to copy and paste straight from a Word document; but in all fields that have a formatting toolbar, you can format text, add tables and images as permitted within the toolbar's functions.
  - Hover over each toolbar icon with your mouse to view its function.
  - *Unlike in past submission calls, you will NOT upload your abstract as a Word document.
- After Title and Abstract, add the Authors and Affiliations of your abstract
- In the final section you will need to tick the boxes and make your selection from drop down boxes.
- Click Submit at the bottom right of the form when you have completed all relevant fields.
  - You can also save your submission by pressing Submit and return to complete it later.
- You will receive email notification that your submission has been received and informed whether it is complete or incomplete.
- Return to your dashboard to view/edit your submissions and/or make a new submission by clicking on the logo at the top left of your screen.

Incomplete Submissions
- When mandatory fields are left incomplete, your submission will be marked as 'incomplete'; ensure you return to complete these before the deadline.
- If your word or character count is over the permitted limit, your abstract will also be marked as incomplete.

Should you require any further assistance, please contact our NF Conference Team at nfconference@ctf.org.

Authors' Consent and Waiver of Claims

Completion of all required information in the online abstract submission system serves as an agreement. It certifies the NF Conference abstract submitter's understanding of the rules for participation contained in the online abstract submission program and affirms that:

1. They assign all copyrights of the abstract in all forms and media to CTF, effective if and when it is accepted for publication by CTF.
2. They confirm that the abstract contains no material the publication of which violates any copyright or other personal or property right of any person or entity, and acknowledge that CTF is relying on this representation in publishing this abstract.
3. They have obtained consent of all other authors to transfer copyright on their behalf, and indemnify CTF for any breach of this representation.
4. In the case of a " work made for hire" (a work prepared by an employee within the scope of his or her employment or commissioned as a work for hire under a written agreement), an authorized representative of the copyright owner must agree to the copyright transfer to CTF. The submitting author must obtain consent of the copyright owner and indemnify CTF for any breach of this representation.

--OR–

- United States Federal Employment: If all named authors are officers or employees of the United States and the abstract was written as part of his or her official duties, it is not subject to United States copyright. Authors must also agree to items 2, 3, and 4 above. If such an abstract is not published by CTF, this form will not take effect.

Abstract Review Criteria

Reviewers will evaluate abstract according to the following criteria (B & C to be more heavily weighted):

A. Quality of Presentation: To what extent does the author demonstrate clarity and thoroughness in the abstract, including sections for Background, Methodology, Results, Conclusions?
B. Innovation: To what extent does the abstract submission investigate a new area, use novel methodology or outcomes, or present a new perspective on existing knowledge?
C. Impact: To what extent is the topic important and of interest to attendees of the NF Conference and the findings are a substantive contribution to the field of NF?