Real-World Evidence Research Proposal Competition
SISPE 2024

Goals

1) Foster student collaboration
2) Advance pharmacoepidemiology proposal writing skills
3) Promote student engagement with the ISPE
4) Help students develop a rigorous research proposal that they will go on to complete

Competition Overview

- Competitors will assemble a team of up to three students
- Teams will submit research proposal on any topic of interest that uses real-world data
  - Proposal will include introduction, specific Aims, methods, and limitations sections
  - Three-page limit for proposal
- Pharmacoepidemiology experts will review and score proposals
- The team with the highest score wins!

Timeline

- Announce competition at MYM April 14-16th
- Students submit their teams by May 15th
- Proposals due June 15th
- Distribute proposals to reviewers by June 20th
- Reviewers' scores due by July 20th
- Notify winners August 1st and provide all competitors with their feedback
- Announce 1st place and runner up teams publicly at ICPE Aug 24-28th

Incentives to compete

- Grand Prize, **TBD** possibilities include:
  - Registration at ICPE, 1 year of membership
  - Publication (abstract of best proposal gets published)
- Other
  - Recognition for 1st place and runner up teams
  - All competing teams will receive critical feedback from pharmacoepidemiology experts on their research proposal

Details to be worked out

- Finalize grand prize
- Finalize timeline
- Develop complete set of rules for competition
- Develop scoring /review rubrics
- Identify reviewers
  - ICPE education committee
- Find a web portal or other platform to submit:
  - Names of team members
  - Completed research proposals
  - Reviewer scores and feedback

Competition Rules

- Teams
    - Teams can consist of up to three students
        - Members must be students throughout the duration of the competition, students completing their degree before proposal submission are not eligible
    - At least one student must be a member of ISPE
- Registration
    - Teams must register using the registration form by the enrollment deadline
    - No late registrations will be allowed
- Proposal
    - Proposals are due 11:59 PM (EST) on *TBD DATE XX/xx/XXXX*
    - Proposals are limited to *3 pages* and should include:
        - Background/Introduction
        - Specific aims and hypotheses
        - Methods
        - Limitations
    - Formatting
        - 11-point font
        - Arial, Georgia, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype
        - One-inch margins
    - Figures
        - Figures are allowed, but are included in the overall page count
- Scoring
    - Reviewers will score submissions using
        - NIH Scoring rubrics
        - ISPE Abstract review standards
        - Other?
    - All proposals will be scored by two experts on the judging panel
        - Judges will provide critical feedback in addition to scores