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**American College of Surgeons  
History of Surgery Poster Session  
2024 Abstract Submission Guidelines**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, March 1, 2024, 1:00 PM CST**

The History of Surgery Poster Session, sponsored by the History and Archives Committee of the American College of Surgeons, offers surgical history enthusiasts the opportunity to present on their subject of interest relating to the diseases, techniques, technology, events, or personalities of particular importance to the field of surgery and its subspecialties.

**This call is for presentation at:**

Clinical Congress 2024  
October 19-22, 2024  
San Francisco, CA

**KEY DATES**

- ❖ **Friday, March 1, 2024, 1:00 PM CST** (Submission deadline)
  - Revisions are not accepted after the deadline, be they to the title, body, or author string of the submitted abstract. • Late abstract submissions are not accepted. •
- ❖ **May 24, 2024** (Notification of acceptance)
  - Notifications will be sent via email to the **first author** listed in the abstract no later than May 24.
- ❖ **October 19-22, 2024** – Clinical Congress 2024 in San Francisco, CA.

**Who should submit?**

- Medical students
- Surgical residents
- Surgeons of all levels
- Historians/Graduate Students

### **What should be submitted?**

An abstract that presents a concise summary of the historical topic being presented that has not been formally presented or previously published by the author. Specific guidelines below.

*All submissions must be submitted through the online portal.*

### **Presentation**

Twenty abstracts will be selected for in-person poster presentation at the ACS Clinical Congress. Successful in-person presenters will need to be available from 9am-1pm on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> to present their poster to the judging panel.

Other abstracts may be considered for digital presentation only.

### **Awards**

All in-person presenters are eligible for first and second place awards based on judges scoring. Judging panel is made up of members of the ACS History and Archives Committee.

### **Publication**

Authors of the winning posters may be invited to submit a paper on their topic for inclusion in a future issue of the *Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons*.

### **Contact**

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## **Abstract Guidelines and Sample**

### **Abstract specifications:**

- Maximum number of authors: 10 (including the lead author)
- Structure:
  - **Title**
  - **Authors**
  - **Background:** A brief layout of the historical context or background of the topic
  - **Synopsis:** A brief narrative describing the key elements of the historical subject(s) being presented
  - **Historical Significance:** Explain the significance of the topic to the history of surgery or its subspecialty.
- Word limit: 500 words for entire body of abstract (not including title or authors)

- No tables, references or figures should be submitted as part of the abstract, but they can and should be included in the final poster.
- The first-named author is presumed to be the presenter. A presenter must be in attendance to be eligible for an award. If the first author is unable to attend, another author may attend and present the poster.
- Judges will be considering the following during the evaluating process:
  - **Effective communication of topic** and historical significance
  - **Novel historical investigation** – findings that had previously not been known or understood or are not well known. For example, if much is published about a person or topic, unless the abstract presents brand new information or perspective, it is less likely to be selected for presentation.
  - **Use of primary historical resources** – Sources are not required in the abstract, but if chosen to present, the use primary resources will be a component of evaluation. It is **strongly encouraged** to use original sources when researching your topic.
- **Please visit the following site for a list of past year’s poster titles:** <https://www.facs.org/about-acs/archives/history-archives-committee/history-of-surgery-poster-competition/>

### Sample Abstract

**Title:** World War I and the Emergence of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon

**Authors:** Travis Hamilton, DMD, MD; Justin Moe DDS, MD; Steven Roser, DMD, MD, FACS; Shahid R. Aziz, DMD, MD, FACS

**Background:** Trench warfare in the Great War introduced a new era of disfiguring maxillofacial injuries. Steel helmets increased survival, which left many soldiers to live with horrific facial wounds.

**Synopsis:** Several prominent dentist-surgeons from the US volunteered to lead the maxillofacial units on the European battlefield prior to America’s entrance into the Great War. Two such pioneers were Robert Ivy and Varastad Kazanjian. Their experience with high volume and limited resources demanded innovation to treat maxillofacial trauma. Ivy emigrated from England and earned his dental and medical degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. During WWI he trained with the renowned surgeon Vilray Blair in Vichy, France. During that time he was credited with the creation of the Ivy loop, a method of maxilla-mandibular fixation using wire alone. At 16 years old, Kazanjian emigrated from Turkish Armenia in 1895 and obtained his Harvard Dental degree in 1905. In 1915 Kazanjian was appointed chief dental officer for the Harvard Unit, a medical team who volunteered to assist the British war effort. Kazanjian became well known for his skill in treating jaw fractures with wires and splints.

**Significance:** The modernization of war and subsequent need for and the advancement of maxillofacial trauma management allowed for the inception of a new specialty, the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon.