

2025 SOUTHERN AFRICAN HEALTH JOURNAL

COLLABORATING FOR VALUE

Partnerships Transforming the Future of Healthcare

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We invite researchers, professionals and thought leaders to submit abstracts showcasing insights, strategies and success stories that demonstrate the transformative potential of partnerships.

Selected abstracts will be published in the BHF peer-reviewed journal, while others will be presented as oral presentations at the BHF Conference.

The closing date for abstract submissions is **28 February 2025**.

Southern African Health Journal

Abstracts can be submitted as a paper for the journal and a presentation.

Important Information and Due Dates

- Deadline for **Abstract** submissions no later than **28 February 2025**
- Deadline for the **first draft paper** submission is no later than **21 March 2025**
- Deadline for the **final draft after peer reviews** should be submitted by **11 April 2025**
- All details regarding your peer reviewer will be sent to you in due course.
- The final paper should be pitched at a level that is accessible to an audience that is not very technical yet at the same time be based on strong scientific evidence.
- For any questions, kindly contact Lesley Mogano at lesleym@bhfglobal.com or 011 537 0271

Theme

Our Conference Theme for this year : Collaborating for value – Partnerships transforming the future of healthcare.

Uniting Parallels!

Theme Summary

The theme, “Collaborating for value – Partnerships transforming the future of healthcare”, aligned with the annual **BHF Conference, show casing** transformative collaboration that enables new capabilities, expands access, and builds resilient, value-driven systems for a sustainable future that works for everyone.





We invite the submission of abstracts based on the topics outlined below:

1. Disruptive Partnerships Transforming Healthcare

- **Breaking Barriers in Healthcare Partnerships:** Case studies of **local, regional, and international collaborations** that have redefined healthcare delivery and accessibility.
- **Employer-Led Healthcare Innovations:** The role of occupational health partnerships in boosting economic productivity and employee well-being.
- **Health Funders in Service Provision:** How medical schemes and health insurers are investing in **service delivery** to ensure long-term sustainability.
- **Value-Based Care Implementation:** Lessons from successful **value-based care models**, including a roadmap for effective implementation in Southern Africa.
- **Bridging Public and Private Healthcare:** Strategies for **enhancing access** and reducing healthcare disparities through collaboration.

2. Harnessing Technology and Data for Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

- **AI and Digital Health Solutions:** How technology is **reshaping diagnosis, treatment, and patient outcomes**.
- **Data-Driven Decision-Making in Healthcare:** Using **predictive analytics and big data** to optimise healthcare planning and resource allocation.
- **Telemedicine and Remote Care:** The future of digital health and **scaling telehealth solutions** in Africa.

3. Innovative Financing and Sustainability Models

- **Alternative Healthcare Financing Models**
- **Public-Private Funding Partnerships:** Success stories of innovative **co-funding models** in healthcare.
- **The Future of Medical Schemes in an NHI Era:** What role do medical schemes and private healthcare funders play post-NHI implementation?

4. Addressing Critical Healthcare Workforce & System Challenges

- **Strengthening the Healthcare Workforce:** Addressing **skills shortages, retention strategies, and upskilling** in healthcare.



- **Realigning Healthcare Education:** Innovative approaches to training the next generation of **healthcare professionals**.
- **Emergency and Disaster Response Systems:** How collaborative models are strengthening **health system resilience** in crisis situations.

5. Tackling the Burden of Disease & Social Determinants of Health

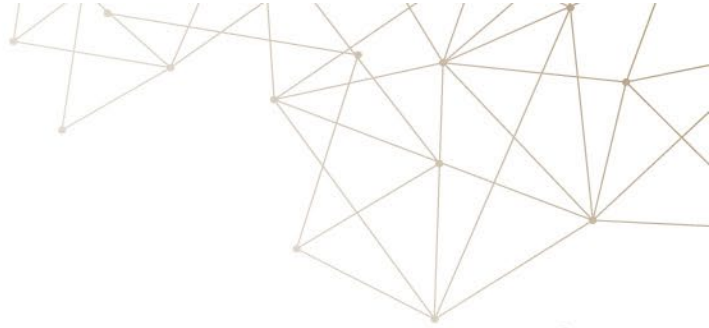
- **Addressing South Africa's Quadruple Burden of Disease:** Innovative **policy interventions and community-based solutions**.
- **Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health:** Partnerships that drive **inclusive healthcare access and reduce inequalities**.
- **Climate Change and Healthcare Resilience:** Understanding the **impact of environmental shifts on health**.
- **Mental Health and Collaborative Care Models:** How **public, private, and community partnerships** are transforming mental health interventions.

6. The Expanding Role of Partnerships in Healthcare Innovation

- **Pharmaceutical Collaborations Beyond Medicine:** How **research, policy, and local manufacturing** are expanding medicine access.
- **Corporate Social Responsibility in Healthcare:** CSR initiatives that **go beyond philanthropy to drive real impact**.
- **Advancing Research and Innovation:** The role of cross-sector partnerships in **medical breakthroughs**.

Submission Guidelines

1. Please note that abstract submissions are only accepted via the BHF submission website. To begin the process, contributors will need to create an account and then upload their abstract electronically.
2. Please make sure to submit a comprehensive application that clearly includes all the necessary information for review.
3. The abstract must be submitted by the primary author. An email confirming the submission will be automatically sent to that author's email address.



4. The primary author serves as the corresponding author and will handle all communication with the BHF.
5. Please indicate preferred type of presentation format, either podium presentation (10 minutes with 5 minutes for Q and A), journal publication or poster presentation.
6. Please ensure that all abstracts are complete and that they are submitted before the deadline. Incomplete submissions will not be eligible for presentation or review.
7. Please ensure that submissions are concise, with a maximum word limit of 300. Submissions should include the following information: background/introduction, purpose, methods, results, limitations and conclusions/implications for practice.
8. Submissions should align with the conference's main focus and theme.

Acceptance Terms and Conditions

1. Presenters are kindly requested to disclose any potential conflict of interest related to the content they will be presenting. This includes any commercial interest, affiliation with a vendor, or receipt of royalties. Additionally, presenters are required to confirm that their abstract presentations will not be utilised for the purpose of promoting a specific product or service. The BHF reserves the right to revoke the acceptance of an abstract if any conflict of interest is found at a later stage.
2. All authors whose abstracts are accepted are required to register for the conference and present their abstract. Registration for the conference is mandatory for any co-authors who wish to present on behalf of the primary author.
3. Presenters are expected to cover all of their own expenses, such as the conference registration fee, travel, accommodation and any other related costs.

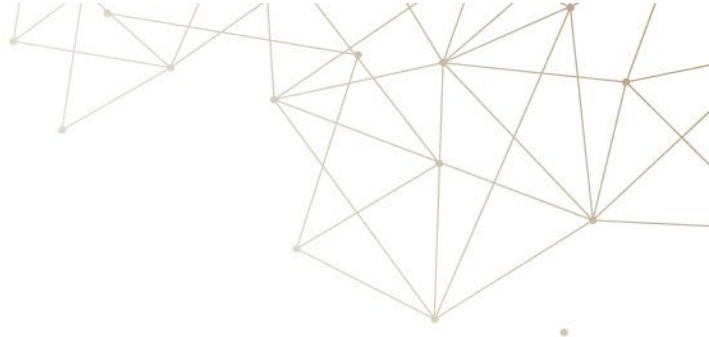
Acceptance Notification

The primary presenting author will receive an email notification of the acceptance of their abstract. Only this author needs to respond to the presentation invitation form.

If the author does not provide the 'intent to present' information, their abstract will be disqualified from presentation.

After the primary author has confirmed their acceptance, the BHF will request some additional materials that will be shared with all participants at the conference. This will include:

1. A short biography
2. High resolution (300dpi), high quality head and shoulders photo(s) of the author(s)



Titanium Awards

Papers that make the shortlist will also be considered for the prestigious Titanium Award for Best Paper, based on the following criteria:

1. Is the paper relevant?
2. Does it address the intended topic?
3. Does this paper add new knowledge?
4. Are key concepts introduced and explained clearly?
5. Are methods and assumptions explained clearly?
6. Are there clear conclusions and recommendations?
7. Is the paper well-written and well-structured?
8. Does the paper have enough substance?
9. Is there consistency in referencing?
10. Is the technical approach sound and well-chosen?
11. Can one trust the claims of the paper — are they supported by proper background and evaluation (with the target users, when appropriate)?
12. Is the paper appropriate for its title?
13. Does it describe what the author hoped to achieve accurately, and clearly state the problem being investigated?
14. Does the executive summary provide sufficient detail on the paper?
15. Is the introduction appropriate? (The introduction should summarize relevant research to provide context, and explain what other authors' findings are, if any)
16. Does the paper present relevant work?
17. Does it provide one or more alternative views/perspectives against which to contrast this paper?
18. Does it describe the limitations and major obstacles found during the process?
19. Open research avenues: Does it explain any future perspectives that the work opens?

Posters

All accepted papers will be promoted at the Annual BHF Conference by means of printed A3 posters, which will be physically displayed throughout the venue.