

Symposium 2018

Connect • Learn • Apply

17 & 18 May 2018

Bentley, Western Australia

www.siren.org.au

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Key dates

Abstracts submissions open	Wednesday 13 December 2017
Abstract mentor requests open	Monday 8 January 2018
Abstract mentor requests close	Friday 17 February 2018
Abstracts close	Wednesday 28 February 2018
Author notification of offer	Friday 16 March 2018
Deadline for authors to accept offer	Friday 30 March 2018
SiREN Symposium 2018	Thursday 17 & Friday 18 May 2018

Abstract submissions

- SiREN encourages practitioners, researchers, clinicians, policy makers and students to submit abstracts.
- Abstracts must be submitted to the SiREN email address siren@curtin.edu.au.
- Abstracts which do not adhere to the preparation guidelines will be returned to authors.
- Submissions should be based on original work or projects that demonstrate new ideas.
- Presenters may submit more than one abstract.
- All presentations require the submission of an abstract.
- Abstracts can be submitted with or without traditional headings (see [Abstract Examples](#)).
- If you would like assistance to develop your abstract, please email a request to siren@curtin.edu.au.
 - Please include a draft abstract, or an outline of your idea you wish to present.
 - SiREN will allocate an 'abstract mentor' who can give you feedback on your abstract via phone or email before final submission.
- Presenters whose abstracts are accepted for presentation must register for the symposium BEFORE the deadline for authors to accept offers (Friday 30 March 2018) to ensure that their abstract is included in the symposium program.

Symposium theme

The SiREN Symposium 2018 theme is “**Connect, Learn, Apply**”. We encourage abstract submissions which reflect the theme and ask presenters to consider submitting an abstract under one or more¹ of the following types of abstract:

- **Connect** – This presentation is about collaborations and partnerships within the sexual health and blood-borne virus sector, OR this presentation makes connections between evidence, policy and practice.
 - How did collaboration and partnership enhance this project?
 - How did this project connect evidence to policy?
- **Learn** – Projects presenting research or evaluation results and new evidence.
 - What can symposium attendees learn?
 - What lessons did the presenters take from this project?
- **Apply** – Presentations from practitioners and “Stories from the Field”.
 - How did we apply an idea in practice?
 - How can research evidence be applied in practice?
 - How does our practice apply to research and policy change?

The following are suggested topics, however, other topics will be considered (if you are unsure, please email siren@curtin.edu.au or call Myra Robinson 9266 1814 to discuss):

- Prevention and testing
- Primary care
- Treatment
- Community and stakeholder engagement
- Access and hard-to-reach populations
- Key populations
- Social and behavioural research
- Harm reduction
- Social marketing
- Health promotion
- Education programs and peer-based projects
- Emerging technology and social media
- Other

¹ For example, presenters may have a topic that could fit under both “learn” and “apply”. In this case please select both.

Abstract preparation guidelines

All abstracts must:

- Use the abstract template provided.
- Indicate symposium theme(s) Connect, Learn, Apply in order of relevance.
- Indicate one or more of the topic areas.
- Use Arial 12 point type only.
- Use single spacing only.
- Use a Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) file only, sent as an email attachment.
- Include a short title (up to 15 words).
- Include a 'so what' section outlining implications for policy, practice, research and advocacy.
- Be no longer than 250 words (excluding the names, authors names and affiliations) written in plain English with no tables or figures.
- Leave one line between paragraphs.
- Specify all abbreviations in full at the first mention, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses e.g. sexually transmitted infections (STIs); thereafter the abbreviation only should be used, e.g. STIs.
- Underline the presenting author(s).
- Be checked thoroughly for correct spelling and grammar.
- Not include references.

Abstract selection

Abstracts will be reviewed by a panel including representatives from the WA Department of Health, non-government service providers and researchers. Your abstract should demonstrate:

- Relevance to the sexual health and blood-borne virus sector.
- Clarity.
- Relevance to the theme of Connect, Learn, Apply.
- Projects which identify new evidence or implications for policy and practice.

Reviewers will score each of the qualities on a three point scale. Guidelines for developing presentations will be made available via the SiREN website after abstracts have closed.

Want to submit an abstract but unable to come to Perth?

Pre-recorded video presentations or videoconferencing for presenters who submit an abstract but are unable to attend the symposium in person may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please indicate in your abstract submission whether you do not intend to present in person.

You may also be eligible for a regional and remote travel grant. Click [here](#) for more information.