



*Bridges Over Borders: Advancing HIV Care Through
Community Connectedness and Health Equity*

Abstract Submission Instructions

ANAC2026: Abstract Submission Instructions

ANAC2026 Conference Objectives:

1. Clinical: Using a syndemic approach, describe interdisciplinary actions to provide effective, culturally responsive, and person-centered HIV prevention, treatment, and care.
2. Policy: Identify advocacy strategies to respond to public policy issues impacting the health and welfare of persons living with/affected by HIV.
3. Leadership: Examine nurse-led programs and initiatives that cultivate the professional growth of interdisciplinary teams and lead to improvements in equitable healthcare delivery.
4. Research: Describe the development, translation, or implementation of research initiatives that impact nursing practice, care delivery, and/or health outcomes of persons living with/affected by HIV or associated comorbidities.

Call for Abstracts

The Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) invites abstract submissions for the 2026 ANAC Conference to be held in San Diego, CA from Nov. 12-14, 2026. The conference theme, *Bridges Over Borders: Advancing HIV Care through Community Connectedness and Health Equity*, emphasizes the critical role of building bridges across communities, disciplines, systems, and structural boundaries to strengthen the HIV care continuum. Grounded in equity-centered practice, this theme highlights the importance of community-informed approaches, cross-sector collaboration, and culturally responsive care to reduce disparities and improve outcomes for people affected by HIV.

Submissions should reflect innovative strategies that bridge gaps in prevention, treatment, and support services; strengthen trust and engagement; and address structural barriers and social determinants of health. Submissions should showcase evidence-based practice, research, implementation strategies, and replicable solutions that advance health equity, foster community partnership, and enhance access, linkage, retention, and quality care across diverse and underserved populations

ANAC welcomes abstract submissions from nurses, clinicians, researchers, educators, administrators, advocates, and other members of the interprofessional HIV workforce. All selected presenters, including student presenters, are responsible for conference registration fees, travel, and other conference-related expenses.

First authors may submit up to three abstracts for consideration. Abstracts should reflect original work and align with formatting requirements and review criteria as outlined in the instructions below.

Abstract Tracks and Suggested Topics

Abstract submissions will be considered in four tracks: Practice, Research, Education/Leadership, and Policy/Advocacy. Authors should indicate the track that most aligns with their abstract topic during the online submission process. A description of each track follows:

- Practice - Presentations that consider the complexities of providing care for people living with or affected by HIV. Example practice topics include updates on assessment, diagnostic or treatment approaches for specific health conditions; updates to clinical guidelines or standards of care; case studies to illustrate complex patient management and case management issues; clinical issues within special and hard-to-reach populations; quality improvement and implementation projects that are conducted within practice settings.
- Research - Presentations of scholarly, systematic investigations. Within the research track, only completed research projects will be considered for oral presentations. Works in progress, preliminary results, methodology issues, and pilot studies may be considered for poster presentations. Research abstracts are especially welcomed in the areas of methodology, evidence-based interventions, and legal or ethical issues in HIV.
- Education/Leadership - Presentations on clinical workforce and skills development; educational interventions or teaching tools for clients, healthcare workers, or the general public; HIV/AIDS educational curriculum development at undergraduate and graduate levels; nurse entrepreneurship; nursing leadership development.
- Policy/Advocacy- Presentations on emerging and historic roles for nurses in policy and advocacy; ANAC members' role in the development, implementation and/or evaluation of HIV/AIDS-related policies and laws (e.g., Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, ADAP, local boards, etc.), efforts to save HIV funding, save Medicaid/Medicare funding, HIV criminalization and other human rights issues and full practice authority.

Presentation formats

Authors are asked to select their preference for presentation format (oral/poster/either) during the abstract submission process. First or presenting authors may be accepted to present no more than two oral abstracts. Authors also will be asked if they are willing to have their submission considered for late acceptance should their submission not be accepted during the first round and space becomes available.

- Oral abstract presentations - Oral abstracts will be presented during concurrent abstract sessions. Oral presentations are reserved for reporting on completed research projects or projects from other tracks (i.e., practice, education/leadership, policy, and advocacy). Presentations should be no more than 20-25 minutes long and will be followed directly by a question-and-answer period.
- Poster presentations - Posters will be displayed throughout the conference. There will be a dedicated session when authors are expected to be available for discussion. This session will be decided later and relayed to accepted presenters. Poster presentations may report completed research, research in progress, or projects from other tracks (i.e., practice, education/leadership, policy and advocacy). Specific information on poster design will be sent to authors whose work is selected for presentation.

• Student poster presentations - Students from baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral programs are encouraged to submit posters on their original research, including studies in progress. Authors of accepted student posters will be invited to present at ANAC2026. Student posters will be displayed throughout the conference. There will be a dedicated session when authors must be available for discussion to be considered for the ANAC2026 Student Poster Award. Please note that if you have more than one student poster accepted, you will have to choose only one of the posters to be considered for the award. The author of the winning poster will receive a certificate of recognition and a monetary award. Specific information on poster design will be sent to students whose work is selected for presentation.

Resubmission Policy

An abstract published previously or presented at a professional meeting may be considered for presentation at ANAC2026 provided that new methods, findings, or other substantive updates are included. If preliminary or partial data has been published or presented, authors must indicate this when submitting an abstract. This information will be considered by the Conference Committee when making final decisions on abstract acceptance. The conference organizers regard plagiarism as serious professional misconduct. If an author neglects to indicate details of prior publication or presentation or the reasons for resubmitting an abstract are not valid the abstract will be rejected.

Abstract Format

Please use the following format to prepare your abstract.

1. There is a 350-word limit for all abstracts. No tables or images are allowed. References are not required.
2. The abstract title should concisely depict the topic to be discussed.
3. Use the following headings for abstracts in Research or Practice tracks:
 - Background
 - Purpose
 - Methods/Practice
 - Results/Findings
 - Conclusions/Implications for Practice
4. Use the following headings for abstracts in Education/Leadership, or Policy/Advocacy tracks:
 - Issue
 - Description of Program or Actions
 - Outcomes or Lessons Learned
 - Recommendations

Abstract Deadline

All abstracts must be submitted using the Oxford abstract submission system by April 13 at 11:59 p.m. EST. Abstracts will not be accepted after that date.

Abstract Review Process

Abstracts will be peer-reviewed using a blind review process. All authors' names and affiliations will be removed prior to submission to the review committee. No information from the reviews is made available to authors. All submissions will be reviewed for significance, appropriateness, clarity, rigor, and relevance to the ANAC mission statement and alignment with the conference theme and learning objectives.

ANAC fosters the professional development of nurses and others involved in the delivery of healthcare for persons living with, vulnerable to and/or affected by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and its comorbidities. ANAC promotes the health, welfare and rights of people living with HIV around the world.

Abstracts will be chosen based on scoring criteria and conference programmatic needs. Student poster abstracts will be evaluated using the same blinded peer review process. The Research Committee will make all final decisions about accepted presentation formats.

Accepted Abstracts

Authors will be notified by email of the abstract decision the week of May 18, 2026. Presentation format will be communicated at that time (oral, poster or student poster presentation). Full instructions on how to prepare presentations will be sent via email after notification of acceptance. Presenting authors will be required to register for the conference, and assume responsibility for transportation, lodging, and annual conference fees. All accepted authors must provide their agreement to present and submit disclosure information via our online system by July 15, 2026.

Abstract submission implies consent to publish the abstract along with all authors' names and affiliations on the ANAC website and/or any other venue ANAC sees fit.