AAPS National Biotechnology Conference (NBC)

Abstract Screening Committee

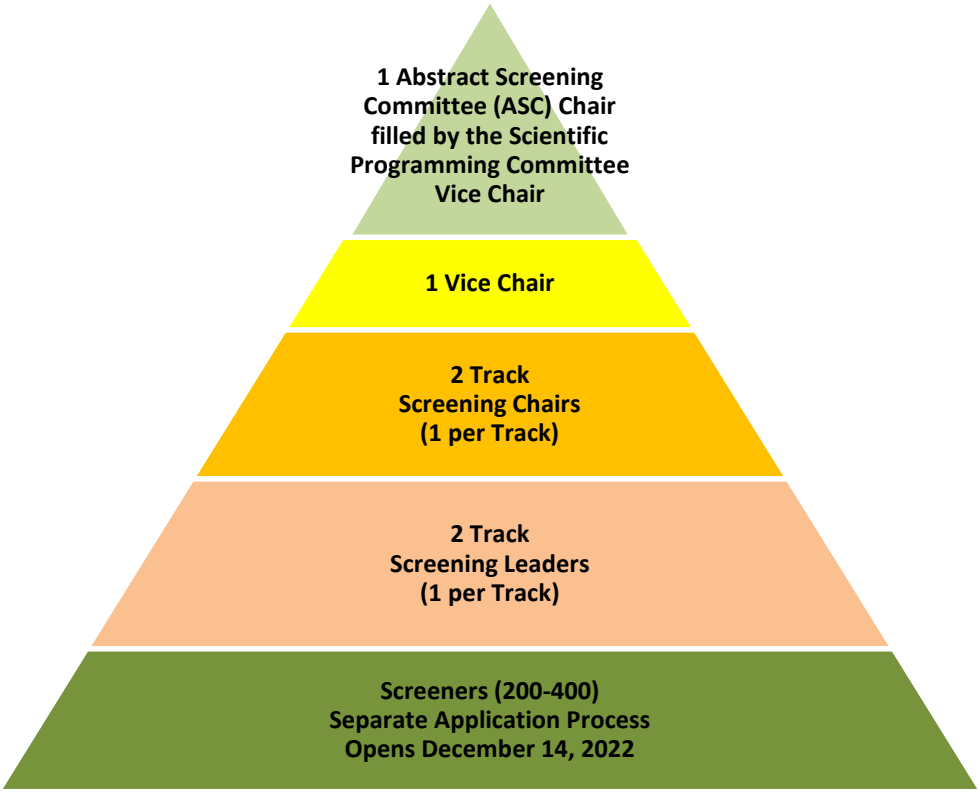
Roles, Requirements, Responsibilities

Contents

*Dates are subject to change pending finalization of the screening timeline.

How the NBC Abstract Screening Committee (ASC) is Organized

The vice chair of the NBC Scientific Programming Committee chairs the NBC Abstract Screening Committee to ensure that poster abstracts are organized and managed in alignment with the scientific program goals for the meeting.



Tracks

There are two tracks, and each track has three themes:

TRACK 1: Advances in Therapeutic Development Across Modalities

Recent advances in therapeutic development across modalities -- including gene therapy, cell therapy, and innovative therapies -- based on traditional modalities.

Theme 1: Recent Advances in Gene Therapy:
As the field of gene therapy expands in scope beyond orphan disease indications and learnings from ongoing clinical trials become available, the bioanalytical strategy to support this novel modality is developing. Discuss recent advances in this field, including biodistribution, pharmacodynamics, cellular immunogenicity, as well as how these fit into evolving regulatory guidance.

Theme 2: The Evolution of Cellular Therapy:
As cellular modalities expand across formats and indications, the technologies and practices for monitoring exposure, immunophenotyping, and clinical endpoints are rapidly advancing. Discuss these evolving strategies as well as considerations around allogeneic versus autologous therapies.

Theme 3: Innovation Based on Traditional Approaches:
Protein-small molecule hybrid (e.g., ADC), bi- and tri- specifics, oligonucleotides, and vaccine-based therapeutics are experiencing an exciting reemergence in innovation with new clinical findings. Discuss

recent advances in biotransformation, PK/PD, and immunogenicity analyses to better assess safety and efficacy.

TRACK 2: Turbocharging Innovation in CMC -- Driving Back to Rational Drug Design

Beyond the innovation in drug discovery, pharmaceutical and biotechnology communities are embracing emerging opportunities and advancements in Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Controls (CMC) in all stages of the drug development life cycle. This track focuses on the emerging landscape of non-traditional platforms for drug delivery and novel modalities, such as cell and gene therapies. Discuss frontiers of drug and formulation design in biologics development, modern experimental, computational, intelligent analytics, regulatory perspective, and bioengineering.

Theme 1: Innovation Based on Non-Traditional Platforms
Innovative technologies have been harnessed to integrate cutting-edge resources with scientific expertise in shaping the next wave of medical interventions. Discuss breakthroughs with drug design and analytical tools for novel modalities, innovations in vaccine approaches, enhancing scope and coverage of modalities using AI and machine learning, as well as regulatory guidance and perspective on future innovations in biotechnology.

Theme 2: Next Generation Gene Therapies
Gene therapy advancements have revolutionized the treatment paradigm of a handful of rare disorders, from managing to curing the disease. The next wave of novel gene editing modalities will impact other therapeutic areas such as cancer, immune, and infectious diseases. Discuss coping with these advances in terms of improving patient stratification strategy, drug safety, and efficacy.

Theme 3: Explosion of Cell Therapy Beyond CAR-T
The next wave of cell therapies goes beyond the traditional Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cell immunotherapy (CAR-T). Newcomers include universal allogeneic CAR, tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) and adoptive cell immunotherapy such CAR NK-cells. Discuss key advancements and challenges facing the adoption of these novel cell therapies, especially those related to drug design, safety, and supply chain.

Track Screening Chair

Requirements

- AAPS membership at time of application and throughout service
- Expertise in scientific area(s) related to a specific track
- Active involvement in at least one AAPS Community
- Previous screening chair/track leader experience for AAPS – either as a member of an Abstract Screening Committee or Scientific Programming Committee – is preferred
- Previous experience authoring or coauthoring an abstract accepted by an AAPS meeting is preferred
- Experience screening abstracts for AAPS after 2018 is preferred

The Track Screening Chair role requires **daily monitoring of a website** to track the progress of the Track Screening Leaders during the screening period – generally a 2-week period. Applicants must be available to do this work **January 27–February 15, 2023*.**

Additionally, the Track Screening Chair must participate in two, 60-minute conference calls focused on:

1. Screening Committee Kickoff/Training
2. Wrap-up

Responsibilities

- Time commitment as described above.

- Daily monitoring of Track Screening Leaders during screening window. Screening begins January 27.*
- Review scored abstracts and make final accept/reject decisions by deadline **February 15, 2023***.
- Review appeals as necessary – (appeals period is five business days from sent accept/reject notifications).

Track/Theme Screening Leaders

Requirements

- AAPS membership at time of application and throughout service
- Experience in scientific area(s) related to a specific track
- Active involvement in at least one AAPS Community
- Previous experience authoring or coauthoring an abstract accepted by an AAPS meeting is preferred
- Experience screening abstracts for AAPS after 2018 is preferred

The Track Screening Leader role **requires daily monitoring of a website** to track the progress of the screeners during the screening period – a 2-week period. Applicants must be available to do this work **January 27–February 15, 2023*.**

The Track Screening Leader must participate in two, 60-minute conference calls focused on:

1. Screening Committee Kickoff/Training
2. Wrap-up

Responsibilities

- Time commitment as described above
- Daily monitoring of screeners during screening, beginning January 27.*
- Provide Recommendations of accept/reject with comments for the Track Screening Chair by Screening Deadline February 14, 2023.*

Screeners (separate application site opens December 14, 2022)

Requirements

- Experience authoring or coauthoring an abstract accepted by an AAPS meeting preferred
- Complete online sign-up
- Review screener training documents
- Spend a few hours reviewing recent research before beginning screening

Screeners are assigned abstracts to review based on their scientific area of expertise. All screening must be completed during the screening window, which AAPS anticipates running approximately January 27–February 13, 2023*.

Screeners should expect to spend a few hours familiarizing themselves with recent research in their area of expertise, and then a few minutes looking at each abstract. Total time commitment varies based on the number of abstracts assigned, but is usually 2-3 hours.