

NCME 2021 Q & A

GENERAL

- 1. The NCME conference is not occurring in conjunction with the AERA conference in 2021. What will happen in future years?**

We currently do not have plans to continue to separate our annual conference from AERA after 2021. The 2021 conference was an exception because AERA moved their conference virtual. NCME, being smaller and nimbler, is allowing more time to decide if an in-person meeting is safely possible. In full disclosure, the current NCME/AERA contract expires in 2022.

- 2. How is NCME planning for the 2021 conference with the uncertainty of COVID-19?**

The NCME Board is hopeful that, by June of 2021, we will be able to gather for our annual meeting. We have selected a location and meeting dates we feel will provide our community with the best opportunity for doing so. However, even with these changes NCME recognizes that some members may not be ready to travel by next summer. We are therefore planning for a hybrid model. This means there will be presentations delivered in-person as well as virtual.

The conference is scheduled for June 8-11, 2021 in Baltimore MD. The first day (June 8) will be training sessions and the remaining dates (June 9-11) will be the main conferences with e-boards (posters), paper presentations, and coordinated discussions.

Between now and June, the Board will continually monitor the situation. If necessary, the entire conference will be conducted virtually.

- 3. What types of sessions will be available in the hybrid model?**

We will continually update the plans based on the number of attendees (virtual and in-person) but currently we are planning for two types of sessions.

- 1. Fully virtual – leading up to and during the conference timeframe we will have virtual sessions where presenters and attendees connect online, similar to the sessions that have taken place this summer (2020).*
- 2. In person with virtual participation – during the conference week, we are planning to have sessions where presenters may be all in-person or a combination of in-person and remote. All sessions will be accessible for remote attendance.*

The number of sessions of each type will be determined based on the availability of presenters, topics, and preferred format (as indicated by the presenters during proposal submission). Pre-conference training sessions will also be offered as fully virtual or hybrid (virtual and in-person).

- 4. If needed, how will NCME transition from the hybrid model to the fully virtual model?**

If NCME decides to move the conference fully virtual, we anticipate maintaining the same schedule with some advance sessions in the weeks prior to the conference and the majority of sessions held during the scheduled week of the conference (June 8-11, 2021). Our goal is to have an opportunity for each presenter slated for an in-person presentation to transition their presentation to virtual.

FOR PRESENTERS

1. Do I have to know my travel plans for the conference to submit a presentation?

We welcome submissions from everyone! Within the submission system, we will ask you to indicate your preliminary plans for attending the conference. However, we recognize that plans are subject to change and therefore will only use this response for initial planning purposes. When proposals are accepted, presenters will be contacted again (estimated January 2021) about their plans for attending the conference in-person or virtual. We will use this response to put together the preliminary program for the conference. If your plans change after this time, we will do our best to make accommodations, but cannot guarantee that all requests can be honored.

2. In the hybrid model, how will NCME decide which presentations are delivered in person and which will be delivered virtually?

We will consider the overall attendance plans of our membership to determine the number of each type of session. From there, we will rely on the indicated travel plans for individual presenters and what will work best in each format.

3. As a presenter, what important dates do I need to be aware of?

- ✓ *October 9th, 2020 - Submissions due*
- ✓ *December 20th, 2020 - Accept/Reject decisions sent to submitters*
- ✓ *March 2021 - Initial program available*
- ✓ *April 2021 - Final program available*
- ✓ *May 2021 – Virtual sessions begin in advance of the conference*
- ✓ *June 8-11, 2021 – NCME 2021 Conference*

4. I had a session accepted or NCME 2020, can I present it at NCME 2021?

If you uploaded your paper to the NCME 2020 repository or presented in an NCME 2020 virtual session, it is considered a presentation and no longer new work. However, if you had to withdraw your paper from the NCME 2020 conference for any reason, you can resubmit it to the NCME 2021 system (note – this is a different system and you must go through the submission process for 2021). Although your presentation was accepted for the 2020 conference, it will go through the 2021 review and decision process.

FOR VOLUNTEERS

1. How do I volunteer?

We welcome volunteers to review proposals in advance of the conference. We also encourage members to volunteer for the roles of session chair and discussant during the conference. You can volunteer you logging into the [NCME 2021 AllAcademic site](#) and select “Volunteer to be a Discussant, Chair, and/or Reviewer”.

2. What if I do not know if I will be able to travel to the conference?

As the conference program is assembled, we will reach out to volunteers to identify their travel plans and match individuals to sessions accordingly.

FOR ATTENDEES

1. What will virtual attendance be like?

Our goal is to make this an engaging experience where virtual attendees can interact with in-person presenters and attendees. We are in the process of gathering and organizing ideas for doing so and welcome input from our members (NCME2021ProgramChairs@talley.com).

2. What will be the cost of registration?

The NCME Board is working through many of the organizational details including the costs for conference registration (virtual or in-person).