



Northern Ireland Symposium Poster Competition Terms and Conditions

1. There can be more than one author of the poster that is submitted, but one person must be nominated as main point of contact and to take receipt of the prize.
2. Only one submission per author/s is allowed.
3. The competition is open to Northern Ireland entrants only.
4. The theme is open to individual interpretation, but entries must have pathology at their heart or be inspired by the overall theme of the RCPATH Northern Ireland Symposium (*From Diagnosis to Recovery: Pathology Improving Every Step of the Patient Journey*). Information on the disciplines which encompass pathology can be found in the [careers section](#) of the website.
5. Winners will present their posters at the RCPATH Northern Ireland Symposium on Tuesday 20 October 2026.
6. Each abstract entry should be accompanied by the following information:
 - Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words.
 - The abstract should include the following information:
 - Title of the poster
 - Name(s) and affiliation(s) of the author(s)
 - Objectives and purpose of the research or project
 - Methods and materials used
 - Results or expected outcomes
 - Conclusions and implications
 - Please also include a brief biography of the author(s) no longer than 50 words.
 - Authors of accepted posters will be expected present their posters and to answer questions during the poster session at the RCPATH Northern Ireland Symposium 2026 being held in-person only at the Lecture Theatre, Postgraduate Medical Centre, Belfast City Hospital, 51 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 7AB.
8. The competition closes at **23.59 GMT on Tuesday 1 September 2026**.
9. There will be a first prize and two runner-up prizes. First prize to be awarded will be £100. The second and third prizes awarded will be £50 each.
10. All entries will be judged by a panel of judges. The judges will select a shortlist of abstracts for presentation on the day which, in their opinion, get to the heart of pathology or the overall theme of the RCPATH Northern Ireland Symposium. They will consider a range of factors including technical ability, originality, and interpretation, which in their opinion, demonstrates and illustrates the pathological findings in the most impressive way. They will consider the quality and originality of the work, the power of the poster's communication and the quality of the presentation of the poster.
11. All entries must be the original work of the entrant/s and must not infringe the rights of any other party. The entrant/s must be the sole owner of copyright in all works entered and must have obtained permission of any people featured in the entry or their parents/guardians if children under

16 are featured. Furthermore, entrants must not have breached any laws when taking photographs or sourcing images.

12. Entrant/s will retain copyright to the poster they submit. By entering the competition, all entrant/s grant to The Royal College of Pathologists the right to publish and exhibit their posters in any of our publicity and on the website. No fees will be payable for any of the above uses. Entrants whose work is selected for the College exhibition also agree to take part in post-competition publicity. While we make every effort to credit authors, including in printed reproductions of their work, we cannot guarantee this.

13. By entering, entrant/s will be deemed to have agreed to be bound by these rules and the competition organisers reserve the right to exclude any entry from the competition at any time and in its absolute discretion if the organisers have reason to believe that an entrant has breached these rules.

14. The Royal College of Pathologists reserves the right to cancel this competition or alter any of the rules at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, and if circumstances arise outside of its control.

15. If the winners are unable to be contacted after reasonable attempts have been made, the Royal College of Pathologists reserves the right either to offer the prize to another entrant/s, or to re-offer the prize in any future competition.

16. Please note that any personal data collected in this competition will be kept only for the duration of the competition to notify the winner, and to ship the competition prize to them. All information will be kept in compliance with the [College's privacy policy](#).