



The 4th Community Health Workers Symposium Abstract Guidelines

Event Date: November 10–14, 2025

Format: Online

Time Zone: GMT+7 (ICT, Bangkok Time Zone)

Submission Deadline: 31 August 2025 at 11:59PM PST

The following guidelines provide essential information for preparing and submitting your abstract for the 4th International Community Health Workers Symposium. Please read carefully to ensure your submission meets the required format and content criteria.

About the Symposium

The 4th International Community Health Workers (CHW) Symposium will be a global exchange of knowledge, emphasizing the essential role CHWs play in fostering resilient and equitable health systems, especially in communities impacted by polycrises. Through both academic sessions and program-focused engagements, participants will explore critical health challenges and scalable solutions led by CHWs working within diverse and often vulnerable communities worldwide.

In the Asia-Pacific, CHWs form the backbone of many communities and play a crucial role in bringing access to fundamental healthcare services to those in need. Across the region, CHWs are at the frontlines of multi-facet barriers, and often the first point of entry to the health systems for people in vulnerable communities. At the 4th International CHW Symposium, participants will engage with Thailand's remarkable network of over one million community health workers, connect with frontline health workers in Myanmar who deliver essential care to communities in conflict settings and beyond the reach of formal systems, and Rohingya health workers in Bangladesh, who are building crucial bridges between displaced communities and their new host health services. This event will bring together CHWs, policy makers, government representatives, academics and advocates from around the world.



Important Dates

- **Abstract Submission Opens:** 15 July 2025
 - **Submission Deadline:** 31 August 2025 at 11:59 pm PST
 - **Notification of Acceptance:** 30 September 2025
 - **Symposium Date:** 10-14 November 2025
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Conference Theme and Sub-themes

On the Front Lines: Empowering Community Health Workers to Create Equitable Health Systems in Contexts of Crisis, Migration, and Exclusion

- **CHWs Central to Advancing Primary Health Care (PHC)**

This sub-theme explores how CHWs can be further integrated, recognized, and supported to drive people-centered, comprehensive, and sustainable PHC. We invite abstracts that demonstrate how CHWs are being effectively integrated into national PHC systems, recognized as essential health workers, and supported to deliver people-centered and sustainable services. Sessions could include country-level experiences, new supervision or training models, cross-sectoral collaborations, or tools and frameworks that support the CHW role in delivering comprehensive PHC.

- **Bridging the Gaps: reaching vulnerable communities with CHWs**

This sub-theme highlights strategies to ensure inclusive service delivery, address structural inequities, and expand access to health for all. We welcome examples of inclusive programming, rights- and gender-based approaches, and innovations that address the unique needs of vulnerable groups, including youth, persons with disabilities, and indigenous populations.

- **CHWs in Crisis: first responders in affected communities**

This sub-theme examines their role in crisis preparedness, response, and recovery, and how to build systems that protect, equip, and sustain CHWs during emergencies. Submitted abstracts may focus on lessons learned from past crises, CHW-led emergency response efforts, mental health and psychosocial support for frontline workers, or community-based preparedness strategies that have strengthened local resilience.

- **Strengthening Community Health for Equitable Health Systems**



This sub-theme delves into policies, financing mechanisms, and governance models that elevate community health within national health strategies and beyond. Abstracts may include examples of national scale-up efforts, integration into health budgets and planning processes, accountability mechanisms, and advocacy work that has helped elevate the role of community health on the global stage.

Submission Process

1. **Prepare Your Abstract:** Ensure your submission meets the guidelines outlined below.
2. **Complete the Submission Form:** Access the **Submission Portal** to complete your application. Enter your personal information, abstract/organized session details, author information, and relevant sub-theme.
3. **Review & Submit:** Double-check all information and complete your final submission **before 31 August 2025 at 11:59PM PST**. You will receive an automated confirmation email upon successful submission.
4. **Review Process:** Abstracts will undergo a review based on set evaluation criteria. Authors will be notified by **30 September 2025 at 11:59PM PST** regarding the status of their submission.

Important Notes:

- The presenting author may only present one abstract but can be listed as co-authors on others.
 - Duplicate abstracts submitted by different first authors will be rejected.
 - **Submissions can be edited until the submission deadline.**
 - If your abstract is accepted, you must register for the conference to confirm your participation.
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Submission Guidelines

The 4th International CHW Symposium will accept abstracts in two categories: Oral/Poster Presentations for individual participants to present academic research or programmatic work, and



Organized Sessions for multiple speakers to present their work around a shared topic. Please select the category that best fits your submission.

I. Oral/Poster Presentation Abstract Structure

Share research findings, case studies, innovative programs, or policy discussions through oral presentations or posters. The secretariat will assign all accepted abstracts as either an **oral presentation** or a **poster presentation** based on availability and the overall program structure. If your abstract is accepted, you will be informed whether it has been selected for an oral or poster presentation.

The abstract must be 2,000 characters or fewer in total, excluding the title, author(s), and affiliations.

- **Corresponding Author/Presenter:** Enter list of names and affiliations of the key presenter(s) involved in the presentation.
- **Co-Authors:** Enter list of names and affiliation of all co-authors involved in the session.
- **Abstract Theme:** Select the conference sub-theme that is most relevant to your work.
- **Abstract Title:** Use proper capitalization (e.g., *Role of Community Health Workers in Enhancing Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention in Rural Areas*) and do not add line breaks. Maximum is 250 characters.
- **Abstract:** Provide context for the research, addressing the problem or issue being investigated.
 - Clearly state the objectives of the research or study. Explain how the study contributes to advancing knowledge, policy, or practice.
 - Describe the methodology or approach used in the study. Explain data collection methods (e.g., surveys, interviews, case studies, field observations).
 - Provide information on analysis techniques, if applicable. Present key results and findings from the research. Highlight significant patterns, trends, or impacts, if applicable.
 - Summarize the conclusions drawn from the study and its implications for the field or practice. Suggest recommendations for future research, policy development, or implementation strategies, if applicable.



- **Keywords:** Include **3-5 keywords**, separated by commas relevant to your abstract to facilitate indexing and categorization.
- **Motivation:** Briefly describe *why* you wish to attend the 4th CHW Symposium. What interests, goals, or challenges drive your participation? You may reflect on your commitment to community health, relevant work or experiences, or how you hope to contribute to and benefit from the symposium.

II. Organized Session Abstract Structure

Propose a panel discussion or an interactive session (30, 45 or 60 minutes) to engage participants in knowledge exchange, or skill-building. The abstract must be 2,000 characters or fewer in total, excluding the title, author(s), affiliations, and motivation.

- **Corresponding Author/Presenter:** Enter the name and affiliation of the key presenter(s) involved in the presentation.
- **Co-Authors:** Enter list of names and affiliation of all co-presenters involved in the session. Example: Jane Doe (University of XYZ), John Smith (NGO ABC)
- **Session Format:** There are two session format options for this type of activity:
 - **Panel Discussion** (30, 45 or 60 minutes) – A structured discussion featuring a panel of experts or practitioners exploring a specific topic. The session may include brief presentations, video screening, audience engagement, and interactive discussions to encourage knowledge exchange.
 - **Workshop/Interactive Session** (30, 45 or 60 minutes) – A dynamic session designed to actively engage participants through hands-on activities, facilitated discussions, or skill-building exercises. This format encourages collaboration and practical learning.
- **Abstract Theme:** Select the conference sub-theme that is most relevant to your work.
- **Session Title:** Use proper capitalization (e.g., *Role of Community Health Workers in Enhancing Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention in Rural Areas*) and do not add line breaks.
- **Background:** Provide context for the session, addressing the problem or issue being discussed.



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- **Objectives:** Clearly state the goals of the organized session. Explain how the session will contribute to advancing knowledge, policy, or practice.
 - **Proposed Session Agenda:** Outline how your proposed session will be structured over the allotted time (e.g., 30, 45 or 60 minutes). The agenda should reflect a clear flow, balance between speakers or segments, and opportunities for audience engagement.
 - **Motivation:** Briefly describe *why* you wish to attend the 4th CHW Symposium. What interests, goals, or challenges drive your participation? You may reflect on your commitment to community health, relevant work or experiences, or how you hope to contribute to and benefit from the symposium.
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Who Should Submit?

Submissions are welcome from:

- Community Health Workers (CHWs)
- Researchers, academics and students
- Government officials and policymakers
- NGOs, CBOs and international organizations
- Private sector and health innovators

Collaborative abstracts that bridge research and practice are especially encouraged.

Language Policy

Abstracts for Oral/Poster Presentations and Organized Sessions are **only accepted in English**. Presentations in languages other than English may be accommodated with translation services depending on interest and feasibility - such opportunities will be shared with participants following the acceptance of their abstract.

Publication Opportunities

Authors may choose to submit a full paper for inclusion in the conference proceedings. Indicate your interest in the submission form. All accepted abstracts will be published in the conference proceedings.



Consent and Terms

By submitting an abstract, you agree to the following conditions:

- If your abstract is accepted, you are committed to registering and attending the **4th CHW Symposium**. Failure to register by the communicated deadline will result in your abstract being removed from the conference program and excluded from the Abstract Supplement.
- We encourage the submission of original material that has not been published or presented elsewhere prior to the symposium.

Contact

For any questions regarding the abstract submission, program, or registration, please contact the secretariat at: info@chwsymposium.org