



SOCIETY FOR  
PSYCHOTHERAPY  
RESEARCH  
UNITED KINGDOM CHAPTER  
EUROPE CHAPTER



Oxford Conference, 20-22 September 2017

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**  
**Society for Psychotherapy Research UK & European Chapters**  
**3rd joint conference on Psychotherapy Research**  
**Oxford, UK, 20-22 September 2017**

The theme of the 2017 joint conference is:  
**“Psychotherapy practice and research: Finding the common ground”**

While the results of psychotherapy research have increasingly impacted both psychotherapy practice and administrative programmes over past years, a continued and enhanced dialogue between research and practice is more important than ever. The conference programme committee especially encourages proposals exploring clinical applications of psychotherapy research; practice-based approaches to research and collaborations between researchers and clinicians. We invite presentations focusing on client/ therapist experiences of psychotherapy and psychotherapy research and contributions including clinical material. We also welcome proposals focusing on ways to enhance research collaboration across European countries and the wider international field.

Along with submissions related to the specific conference theme, the programme committee invites submissions on all areas of psychotherapy research, practice, and training. We welcome a full range of contributions to the field of psychotherapy, including reports of innovative research methods and empirical studies of varied treatment modalities (individual, couple, family, group, and milieu therapies); diverse patient populations (children, adolescents, adults, and seniors); a wide range of diagnostic and problem categories (e.g., various psychological/psychosomatic disorders as well as the effects of cultural, political or economic oppression and migration) and a broad spectrum of theoretical approaches (e.g., CBT, behavioural, existential, humanistic, interpersonal, psychodynamic, systemic, etc.). As in all previous calls for submissions to SPR conferences, we invite research that draws on a diversity of methods including qualitative and quantitative studies, single case

research, process and outcome studies, meta-analyses, methodological contributions, research on psychotherapy measures, literature reviews and so forth.

### **Submission types**

There are five categories or types of presentation for the 2017 conference: Panels, brief papers, structured discussions, posters, and pre-conference workshops. To increase the value of poster and brief paper sessions, the programme committee will organise them into groups by topic. The following gives an overview of submission types:

#### **Panels**

Panels should include three to four presentations focused on a common theme or various facets of a large-scale research project. Panels with international representation and presenters at different career stages are encouraged whenever possible. Panels will be 90 minutes with a minimum of 15 minutes for open discussion. Each panel should have a moderator (normally the organiser of the panel or another relevant person).

Panels with two or three papers are expected to have a discussant prepared to offer comment on the papers or the topic being presented. We encourage the inclusion of panel discussants that can provide a distinctive research and/or clinical perspective on the panel presentations. A panel is ideal for presenting work that is of broad interest to the SPR membership and the field, that involves investigators across a number of locations working on related questions, and that cannot be adequately covered within a single 10-minute oral scientific paper presentation.

We anticipate accepting a limited number of panel proposals for the meeting given programme constraints and slots of time available for general sessions. If it proves difficult to schedule all submissions of panels, the programme committee may request that the work be presented as series of brief papers or posters.

#### **Brief Papers**

Brief papers are 8-10 minute reports about ongoing or completed studies. Brief paper sessions will be 90 minutes and will consist of six short presentations, with 5 minutes for discussion allotted to each. The programme committee will designate moderators for the brief paper sessions. If it proves difficult to schedule all submissions of brief papers, the programme committee may request that the work be presented as a poster.

#### **Structured Discussions**

These are meant to provide an opportunity for group discussion among colleagues on a specific topic in psychotherapy research (e.g., specific methods, theories, new developments in research and practice, disorders, etc.). A number of persons should be named who agree to lead the discussion. Sessions should be structured by having each designated discussant give a position statement (of maximally 5 minutes) on the theme to elicit active participation from audience members.

#### **Posters**

Posters are appropriate for the full range of research reports, including completed projects, single case studies, pilot studies, and work-in-progress. They provide a

good opportunity for detailed discussion with interested colleagues. We will try to group the posters by topic to stimulate discussion and exchange of ideas. Poster dimensions should approximate 32" x 40" (80cm x 100cm) portrait. Please keep in mind that many attendees will appreciate receiving a handout summarising your research findings.

### **Pre-Conference Workshops**

Pre-conference workshops will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday 20 September 2017. Two types of pre-conference workshops are encouraged. The first is intended to provide training in specific areas of psychotherapy research, methods, or data analysis. The second type of workshop entails the presentation of a clinical assessment or treatment method followed by discussion on how best to empirically study or validate the clinical procedures described. Submissions should indicate the amount of time desired for the workshop (either 2 or 3 hours).

### **Submission Policies & Guidelines**

The official conference language will be English; all submissions should be made in English. First authorship by an individual is limited to one presentation on a panel or brief paper session and two presentations in the poster format. However, please note that one person can be listed as a co-author on multiple presentations as long as different people present them.

In order to ensure a broad range of participation on panels and in discussion sessions, each attendee may serve as a discussant on a maximum of two panels and/or participate in a maximum of two open discussions.

Programme submissions will be accepted via the submission portal (online), beginning 15 February 2017. The deadline for submissions is 31 March 2017. Notification of acceptance will be emailed by the end of April 2017.

To submit please go to the submission portal for Oxford 2017:  
<http://www.mymeetingsavvy.com/spr-eu-uk>. Please retain your submission ID.

Please read the instructions below carefully before submitting your work:

Although preference in general will be given to presentation of completed studies, we also aim to foster discussion of research projects at various stages of development (especially in structured discussions, posters, and brief paper sessions). In selecting panels, preference will be given to those that include: (a) presentations on a topic common to different treatment approaches or research methods, (b) representatives from different research teams, (c) members from different countries, and/or (d) presenters at different career stages.

All abstracts are limited to 250 words. For panels, structured discussions, and pre-conference workshops, the moderator/organiser should provide an overview of the session as a whole. Brief papers, papers in a panel, and posters should be structured using the following headings: Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion.

Click the word [example](#) to see a sample of a panel submission. The Book of Abstracts will be available for download on the SPR UK- EU Oxford 2017 website

and hardcopies will be available for purchase at the time of registration and at the conference.

A central purpose of SPR is to foster discussion and it is therefore essential that presenters leave ample time for discussion of their work. A minimum of 15 minutes in each 90-minute panel session should be reserved for open discussion with members of the audience. We encourage the inclusion of panel discussants that can provide a distinctive research and/or clinical perspective on the panel presentations. We strongly recommend submission of coherently organised panels, as standalone presentations will be designated brief papers and limited to 8-10 minutes.

Depending on the number of submissions and possible time constraints, it may be necessary for the programme committee to request changing the type of presentation (e.g., oral presentation to poster)

Please note that well-integrated panels with authors from different research groups often have the largest attendance.

If you have an idea for a panel or other collaboration, please consider using the SPR mailing list to find colleagues with similar interests: [list@psychotherapyresearch.org](mailto:list@psychotherapyresearch.org).

If you have any questions, requests, ideas or suggestions for the scientific programme for the conference, please email: Stig Poulsen: [eu-uk2017program@psy.ku.dk](mailto:eu-uk2017program@psy.ku.dk).

### **Dates to Remember**

- ∞ Online submissions will be open from 15 February 2017 to 31 March 2017
- ∞ Notifications of acceptance will be emailed by end of April 2017
- ∞ Online revision period: presenters will be able to modify their abstracts between 15 May 2017 and 15 June 2017

We look forward to receiving your programme proposals and seeing you in Oxford, UK, 20-22 September 2017!

**Programme planning committee:** Stig Poulsen (programme chair), Johannes Ehrenthal, Daniel Hayes, Charlie Jackson, Michał Mielimaka, Helene Nissen-Lie, Jo-Ann Pereira, and Mark Widdowson.