



Oral presentation guidelines

**9-11 December 2026
Amsterdam, the Netherlands**



Hosted by

Oral presentation guidelines

Presenters offered a platform session will be expected to attend in-person and deliver their presentation live in Amsterdam unless otherwise specified. All sessions will be recorded and pre-selected sessions live-streamed to our virtual audience. All sessions and presentations will be available on the virtual platform for registered delegates for up to three months after the event.

This document contains useful tips for platform presentations to help ensure your data makes a strong impact.

Please arrive at the Symposium and go to the 'Speaker room' around two hours before your oral presentation to upload your slides. Please bring your presentation on a memory stick or, alternatively, have your laptop available for use.

As stated in the Conditions of Acceptance, presenting authors of accepted oral presentations are required to attend in-person and bring their presentations on a memory stick or laptop.

If for any reason you are unable to attend the Symposium in-person, it is vital you email abstracts@mndassociation.org as soon as possible to allow for the programme to be updated.

If you have any other questions or issues, please get in touch with the research team at abstracts@mndassociation.org

This document contains information on:

- [oral presentation slide guidelines](#)
- [platform session information](#)

Oral presentation slide guidelines

Planning and design

The Symposium is attended predominantly by experts in MND research, therefore an introduction into ALS/ MND is not needed. However, due to the unique nature of each project we ask that your presentation includes a background to introduce your specific field.

Please bear in mind when presenting that English may not be first language of your audience.

- **Title and disclaimers** - should be clear and simple. State research project title and any disclaimers you may have around presenting research findings.
- **Background** - Clearly introduce your field of study using lay language.
- For example, explain incidence rates when discussing specific gene variants or, as another example, provide background information on how proteins mislocalise if introducing research into treating the dysfunction.
- **Clear layout** - Different sections should be clearly set out and should not replicate an academic paper. Data should be easy to interpret, and slides aimed at a basic scientist level with discussions kept to high level. Slides too content heavy risk losing the attention of your audience so please keep them easy to follow.
- **Reduce text, focus on images** – Too much text on a slide will impact the concentration of your audience. Using visuals and key points on slides increases attention on your presentation and allows key messages to be remembered.
- **Less is often more** – You do not need to, nor do we encourage you to summarise the past five years of research in a 15-minute presentation. Please pick out key points and include one storyline that builds a picture of what happened previously, what was developed, where we are now and what comes next. Context can be expanded on during further discussions within the Q&A and poster hall sessions.
- **Take home message** - The conclusion should summarize the content with brevity and clarity.

Slide length and design

Each presentation is usually allocated a slot in the programme that lasts between 15 and 30 minutes, to include both a presentation and five minutes for questions. Your presentation should highlight the key findings of your research. We recommend aiming for one slide per minute to avoid running over time.

Online scientific presentation resources

For more presentation hints and tips:

- [Using infographics to boost your presentation](#)
- [999 simple and effective public speaking tips for scientists](#)

Presentation tips

Be prepared - Practice your presentation beforehand. This will ensure you know how long your presentation will take to deliver.

Pay attention to your time constraints - Your time slot determines the length and depth of your presentation. When you've been allocated a time slot, the last five minutes of your slot is reserved for questions and discussion with your peers. This means your allotted time slot accounts for your presentation time and the five minutes of questions. Please do not go over your allocated time slot as the programme is set to allow adequate time for breaks between sessions. Running over time will have a knock-on effect on your peers. Practicing your presentation will ensure you can go into key points and details within your allocated time slot.

Be enthusiastic - You are the expert in your field. Be enthusiastic during your presentation to spark interest and enthusiasm from your audience. The audience wants to learn about your research so keep a steady pace so as not to lose anyone, project your voice so you can be heard at the back of the room, speak clearly and slowly as your audience cannot learn if they cannot hear you! Pause to help the audience absorb your information and take notes.

Know your audience - The majority of the audience will be within the broad field of MND research, therefore an explanation of ALS/MND or symptoms is not needed. However, the knowledge levels among your audience can vary dramatically when referring to specific topics. Those present may include patient fellows, industry members, PhD students, people from other fields of study looking to broaden their knowledge or representatives from other related neurodegenerative disease fields such as Dementia or Parkinson's Disease. Therefore, it is important your presentation is accessible to all who would like to learn about your research.

Platform session information and timings

The International Symposium on ALS/MND typically runs over three parallel sessions: Biomedical, Clinical and Alternative. Your presentation will fit into one of these tracks and a session that relates to the field.

Timeline of events

- 1 Oral presentation decisions will be sent in August and must be accepted by the given deadline to secure your space. You must also register separately for the International Symposium on ALS/MND by 4 September to be confirmed in the programme. Presenting authors not registered by this deadline without contacting the team, may be automatically withdrawn and the slot offered to someone else.
- 2 The provisional programme will be published in Autumn when you will be able to see which session you are presenting in, and the timing.
- 3 Once you are aware of your presentation timings, you can prepare your slides.

Uploading instructions

- 4 You do not need to upload your presentation slides before the event. Please bring a copy of your slides on a memory stick or a laptop to the event in person.
- 5 Upon arrival at the registration desk, you will be directed to a speaker room where you will be able to upload your slides up to two hours before your session begins.
- 6 If you would like to send your slides before the event or have any questions, please email abstracts@mndassociation.org