

Guidelines for 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) student competition

The 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) is an academic competition that assists current students with fostering effective presentation and communication skills. Interested students registered in an undergraduate, masters or PhD programme are invited to submit abstracts to this competition. Abstracts are reviewed by a panel of experts and successful applicants will be allowed three minutes in the 3MT student competition session to explain the breadth and significance of their research project to a multidisciplinary audience.

Objectives

- to provide student researchers with a place to present and discuss their ideas / data with the audience
- to provide practice giving condensed and consumable versions of research findings
- to encourage new generations of practitioners/researchers to participate in the World Congress

Eligibility

To participate in the 3MT student competition, you must currently be registered in an undergraduate, masters or PhD programme. Students who have completed course / programme requirements by June 2025 but have not yet graduated are eligible to take part. Your studies must be related to physical therapy, occupational therapy, medicine, engineering, prosthetic & orthotics, human movement sciences or rehabilitation to be considered for the competition.

Presentations must be based on research that is related to the student's programme thesis. The topic is to be selected from the available list of [congress topics](#). Research performed for previous degrees or employment should not be presented.

For 2025, the congress theme is "Science in Practice, Practice in Science: Collaboration and innovation for sustainable rehabilitation". We encourage presenters to highlight links to the focus on sustainable rehabilitation where possible.

3MT student competition session

One 75-minute time slot parallel to other symposia, instructional courses and free paper sessions is reserved for the 3MT student competition. All presenters are to attend the World Congress in-person. Digital attendance is not possible.

Mentoring

ISPO wants to support the students to bring their best 3MT. Mentoring is offered to support students with writing their abstracts and / or preparing their presentations. Students can request mentorship for abstract writing until Monday, 14 October 2024 to receive feedback by the end of October. Mentorship for preparing presentations can be requested by end of April 2025. Please request support by emailing to info@ispo-congress.com.

Submission and evaluation process

Applications will be collected via the regular [submission of free paper and poster abstracts](#). The submission deadline is Monday, 11 November 2024. Please review the [Guidelines for free paper and poster abstracts](#) prior to completing the below form.

Eligible participants will need to indicate that they would like to submit to this specific competition. Applicants can submit their abstract to be considered for the 3MT student competition as well as the free paper and poster sessions given the latter enables a more fulsome overview of their work.



Presentation rules

Please note the following presentation rules:

- A maximum of 1 slide is permitted.
- Images used on the slide must be your own, or you must have permission from the owner of the photo(s) and provide proper credit(s).
- No additional electronic media (e.g. no sound and video files) are permitted.
- Presentations are to be spoken word. Use of additional languages, signing, reading of sections of poetry or prose, or playing musical instruments is allowed IF directly related to the research and used sparingly.
- No additional props (e.g. laser pointers, costumes, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- We encourage creative forms of research dissemination.
- No notes allowed. Presentations are meant to be memorized – do not read from notes.
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum. Judges are recommended to deduct marks from presentations that exceed 3 minutes.
- Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through movement or speech.
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

Judging criteria

Your presentation will be judged based on the following criteria:

Comprehension and content:

- The presentation provided clear background and significance to the research question.
- The presentation provided a clear description of the presenters research and research approach.
- The presentation clearly described the research strategy/design and the results/findings of the research.
- The presentation clearly described the (or potential) conclusions, outcomes and impact of the research.
- The PowerPoint slide was well-defined and enhanced the presentation.

Engagement and communication:

- The oration was delivered clearly.
- The language was appropriate for a non-specialist audience.
- The presenter conveyed enthusiasm for the research, captured & maintained the audience's attention.

Prizes

The best 3MT student presentations will be presented with one Judge's award and one People's choice award, during the World Congress Closing Ceremony on Thursday, 19 June 2025. The awarding of prizes is at the discretion of the SPC.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding the competition, please contact the ISPO World Congress team:

Email: info@ispo-congress.com

Phone: +49 341 678 -8237 or -8238