

9-21 November 2025 in Warsaw and online

Guidelines for late breaker abstract submission

The ESCAIDE 2025 late breaker abstract is open from 10 to 24 September (23:59 CEST). ESCAIDE welcomes abstracts in all areas applied to infectious disease and public health. These areas include epidemiology, microbiology, virology, immunology, social sciences, science communication, the application of tools and methods to support infectious disease interventions and more. We encourage submissions that inform public health actions, introduce new ideas, and bring new understandings to the field.

Late breaker abstract eligibility criteria

Late breaker abstracts may be eligible for both oral and poster presentations. Abstracts initially submitted for the regular programme and rejected are ineligible for late breaker consideration, unless the rejection was due to the absence of critical data at the time of submission. To be eligible, the abstract must fulfil all the following criteria:

- 1. Report on acute urgent public health problems OR contain novel, surprising findings.
- 2. Report data or information that was unavailable before the deadline for submission in the general call for abstracts for ESCAIDE (14 May 2025).
- 3. Has not been published before.

Abstracts should be submitted in the form of text via the dedicated online platform. The link to the platform will be available on the ESCAIDE website between 10-24 September 2025.

General information

Abstract ID: After successful submission, a confirmation email will be sent to the submitting author and to the presenter (if different). This email will include the abstract reference number, which should be included in all correspondence related to the abstract.

Review and selection: The review process of late breakers is done in two steps carried out by the ESCAIDE Scientific Committee. Firstly, they assess the abstract's eligibility for late breaker consideration, as outlined in the "Eligibility" section above. Secondly, the submitted abstracts undergo review based on the process and criteria applied to standard abstracts. For a detailed understanding of the abstract selection process and review criteria, please refer to the dedicated **Guidelines for abstract selection and review**.

Requests for changes: The submitting author is responsible for the content submitted: any error in spelling, grammar or scientific fact will be reproduced as typed by the author. Corrections to abstracts can be made by 24 September 2025 (23:59 CET), directly in the submission platform. No requests for changes will be allowed after this date. The submitting author must also ensure to click "Submit" by 24 September 2025 (23:59 CEST), as any abstract saved but not submitted by the deadline will not be considered for review.

Communication of results: Results of the abstract selection will be communicated to the submitting author and the presenter (if different from the submitting author), by email by 15 October. Accepted abstracts will be

assigned to respective sessions in the programme. Presenters are responsible for checking the date and time of their presentation and for registering for the conference.

Registrations: If an abstract is accepted, late breaker presenters will receive registration instructions for the conference. Abstracts will be withdrawn if the presenter fails to register for ESCAIDE or doesn't assign a registered substitute presenter by 27 October 2025.

Submission of e-poster or PowerPoint: Presenters of accepted abstracts will be asked to submit an e-poster (for poster presentations) or PowerPoint slides (for oral presentations), through a dedicated platform. Submissions will open on 15 October and close on 31 October (for e-posters) and 12 November (for PowerPoint slides). Guidelines for presenters and templates for e-posters are already available on the ESCAIDE website: <u>Guidelines</u>.

Abstract submission form

Create an account: The email address and password you choose will be used to log in to the abstract submission platform to create, edit and submit abstracts. Please ensure that this email address matches the one you will use to register for the conference.

Submission tracks: Tag each abstract with one Disease group and one Health function that best reflect its content.

Disease groups	Health functions
 Antimicrobial resistance Emerging and vector-borne diseases Food- and waterborne diseases and zoonoses Healthcare-associated infections HIV/AIDS Sexually Transmitted Diseases Viral hepatitis B and C Tuberculosis Respiratory infections Vaccine preventable diseases General track: Public health sciences General track: One Health 	 Burden of infectious diseases Field epidemiology (e.g. outbreak investigations) Evidence to policy and practice International health and migration Mathematical modelling and other quantitative methods Microbiology Novel methods (e.g. digital disease detection, e-Health, Artificial Intelligence) Preparedness Prevention Social and behavioural sciences Surveillance

Title: Choose a clear and informative title that reflects the main content of your abstract. Avoid using acronyms, as they may not be familiar to all readers. Do not write the title in all capital letters or capitalise the first letter of every word.

First author & co-authors: The submitting author will by default be added as the first author, but this can be changed if it is not the case. The authors will be listed in the order you enter them. If your abstract has multiple co-authors, please fill in all the required fields for each author. The co-authors will be listed in the order that you enter them.

Affiliations: When listing affiliations for authors, please only include the primary organisations they are affiliated with. If an author has multiple affiliations, please list them without numbering as the system will automatically organise them. To add affiliations, please use the format 'Full organisation name (Abbreviation)'. For example, 'European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)'. The country will be added in another field, so you do not need to repeat it here.

Consortium, network or group: If the abstract is co-authored by a consortium, network or group, please do not list all the co-authors and just give the name of the consortium, network or group.

Presenter: The submitting author will by default be added as the presenter, but this can be changed if it is not the case. The presenter of an accepted abstract must register for and attend the conference to ensure the abstract is presented. Please note that the presenter's email address entered must be the same one that will be used when registering for the conference.

Keywords: Please include four to six key words; use terms listed in the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) from the Index Medicus (https://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/index.html). Keywords should reflect core concepts of the abstract, including methods, results, and key findings, not just general topics. Select terms that complement, rather than duplicate, the title.

Abstract text: The total text should <u>not exceed 300 words</u> (excluding the title). Abstracts must be written English, using UK English spelling. Please follow the structure of **Background**, **Methods**, **Results and Conclusions**, but do not include these headings in the text. We encourage you to refer to the guiding questions provided in the <u>Guidelines for abstract review and selection</u>, as reviewers will use the same criteria when assessing your submission

Disclosure of the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools: Authors must be transparent about any use of AI in the research or in drafting the abstract. If AI tools were used, please specify which tool and its purpose (e.g. language improvement, content generation, code writing, data processing) in the designated section of the submission form. The Scientific Committee reserves the right to exclude abstracts based solely on research conducted or generated by AI tools. Please note that AI tools cannot be listed as authors, as authorship requires accountability for the submitted work. All listed authors must review, edit, and assume full responsibility for the content of the abstract

Declaration of originality: ESCAIDE abstracts should present original work that is recent and not yet in the public domain or presented at other conferences. Although abstracts based on previously published or multiple-conference submissions are discouraged, exceptions may be made if the work carries significant public health relevance. The decision to accept such abstracts is left at the discretion of the reviewers and the Scientific Committee, with priority given to original content of high public health importance. If the abstract includes material that has already been published or presented, this must be clearly disclosed in the designated section of the submission form, along with relevant links, if available.

Multi-country investigation/study: Please indicate if the abstract submitted is based on work involving at least two countries (e.g. cross-border investigation of an alert or an outbreak). Tick this box even if the abstract describes the background, methods, results and conclusions for only one of the countries involved.

Preferred presentation method: The final presentation format is determined by the review process and the Scientific Committee's decision, but you may indicate your preferred format:

- Oral presentation: If accepted, you will present your work during a Fireside session (options available for on-site and remote presentations).
- Poster presentation only: If accepted, your abstract will be considered exclusively for a poster presentation. Posters must be submitted in advance through a dedicated platform. During the conference, they will be displayed on e-poster terminals and presented in a Poster tour. Please note that if your abstract is accepted as a poster, the presenter must attend in person, as remote poster presentations are not possible.

Presenter plans to attend: Please indicate your preference for presenting in-person or remotely. **Abstracts selected for oral presentations have the option for remote presentation**. However, we encourage on-site presentations when possible, as this enhances networking opportunities and simplifies the integration of online and in-person presentation formats. **Poster presentations are limited to in-person participation only.** If your abstract is accepted for a poster presentation and you are unable to attend in person, you may nominate a co-

author to present on your behalf. Please ensure that the nominated presenter is able and willing to attend in person. If a substitute presenter cannot be arranged, the abstract will unfortunately have to be withdrawn from the conference.

Considerations on diversity, equity and inclusion

Sex and gender: ESCAIDE recommends following the 'Sex and Gender Equity in Research - SAGER – guidelines' and considering whether sex and/or gender play a role in your study design, data collection, analysis and reporting. Use the terms sex (biological attribute) and gender (shaped by social and cultural circumstances) carefully to avoid confusing them. If applicable, during your research ensure that data is disaggregated by sex and gender, and analyse and discuss any relevant differences.

Diversity in research: We encourage reflecting on the inclusiveness of your research approach and how diversity across disciplines, geography, culture and ethnicity, may affect your findings and interpretations. These aspects may not apply to every study, but we invite you to consider them where relevant, including when planning future studies.

Balance of presentations: To support a wide range of voices at ESCAIDE, only one abstract per presenting author will be accepted. This includes presenters that will already be presenting an abstract accepted in the standard call for abstracts. This helps create a balanced programme, reduces repetition and gives more researchers the opportunity to share their work. By limiting each presenter to one accepted abstract, we aim to encourage broader participation and showcase a wider range of perspectives.

Important dates

Call for late breakers: 10–24 September

Late breakers review period: 25 September-7 October

Communication of late breaker results to authors: by 15 October Deadline for registration of late breaker presenters: 27 October

Submission of late breaker e-posters (for poster presentations): 15–31 October Submission of PowerPoint slides (for oral presentations): 15 October–12 November

ESCAIDE 2025: 19-21 November