

ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIOUR
ANALYSIS AUSTRALIA



ABA AUSTRALIA



**9TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MELBOURNE 2024**

CALL FOR
PAPERS

GUIDELINES



Acknowledgement of Country

The conference will be held on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong / Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin and we acknowledge their role as cultural custodians and holders of knowledge. We recognise their continuing connection to culture, land, water and community and pay our respects to Elder's past, present and emerging.

The Conference

The Association for Behaviour Analysis Australia (ABA Australia) is a professional organisation that seeks to assist in the development and advancement of the field of behaviour analysis within Australia through research, education, and dissemination of information.

ABA Australia's Annual Conference provides the platform as a meeting point for all behaviour analysts and related professionals, from all sectors in Australia and the international community. The Annual Conference provides unparalleled opportunities to become stronger as professionals and as an industry, with an engaging program and a forum to collaborate, network and build partnerships amongst our colleagues, peers, and industry leaders.



The Venue

The conference will be take place at the Rydges Melbourne from Friday 26th July to Sunday 28th July 2024.





Major Deadlines

Deadlines relevant to submissions are highlighted below.

PAPER/SYMPOSIUM/PANEL/ CLINICAL CASE PRESENTATION

- 01/01/2024 Submissions open
- 31/03/2024 Submissions due
- 25/04/2024 Notification of acceptance for submissions

POSTERS

- 01/01/2024 Submissions open
- 15/05/2024 Submissions due
- 19/05/2024 Notification of acceptance for submissions





Submission Types

We welcome submissions related to:

- Developmental Disability
- Mental Health
- Education
- Organisational Behaviour Management
- Education
- Experimental Analysis of Behaviour
- Sexual Behaviour
- Health
- Applied Animal Behaviour
- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy
- Autism
- Supervision of Behaviour Analysts
- Ethics
- Behavioural Insights/Economics
- Climate Change/Sustainability
- Cultural Diversity
- NDIS
- and many more!





Submission Categories

Research

All research submissions require data. Research work that is in progress must have preliminary data and preliminary analysis.

Research paper abstracts must include the following:

- a clear statement about the purpose of the study and research question(s);
- provide the rationale/background for why your research is needed;
- briefly describe the participants, experimental design, dependent variable(s), and procedures used used to conduct the study;
- provide a summary of the results; and
- state concisely what can be concluded and its implications.

Practice

Presentations related to practice, service delivery, or policy.

An abstract for a practice paper should describe:

- the purpose of the program/project/policy;
- who was the target population and where did the project/program happen;
- Description of the program/service;
- the lessons learned, what were the outcomes of the program/project/policy; and
- how does what you learned impact the sector and what are the next steps?



Submission Categories

Theory

If theory-orientated, the presentation should focus on exploring and analysing new and current issues, trends, perspectives, and/or models in the field of behaviour analysis. Your submission must clearly show how the theory or theories used are relevant to the field and the information explored/analysed must be new material related to behaviour analysis.

An abstract for a theory-oriented paper should describe:

1. the origins of the theory/model;
2. how the theory/model works and/or the principles on which it is based;
3. the strengths and criticisms of the theory/model; and
4. the implications for practice/research.



General Questions

Who can submit?

We invite proposals from behaviour analysts and other related professionals and industry partners - essentially anyone with a passion and commitment to the important role that behaviour analysis plays in our society.

How to submit

- Please review the information provided in this guide carefully to prepare your submission.
- Submissions must reference existing research and literature relevant to the content of the submission.
- Persons submitting must have the appropriate authorities/permissions to share the content they are intending to present. This includes sharing of audio-visual content as part of their presentation.
- Persons submitting content must meet the deadline listed above to ensure that their submissions are considered for inclusion in the conference program.
- Submissions are only accepted by completing the online form.

What happens after I submit my abstract?

- All submissions will be reviewed following the closing date (31 March 2024) by a committee including researchers and professionals within the field.
- Inclusion of submissions for the conference will be based on their scientific merit and relevance to the theme of the conference.
- All successful submissions will be contacted based on the date noted in the table above.





Submission Guidelines

Each submission must include:

Primary Presenter/Key Contact Person

This is the person responsible for submitting the proposal. This person will be the one receiving all communications from the ABA Australia Conference Committee. They should be prepared to share all communications with their co-author(s), if applicable.

Title

The title should be a clear and concise description of what the workshop is about.

- Please use title case when entering the title, not all lowercase or all capital letters
 - e.g., Using Behavioural Skills Training via Telehealth Sessions for Toilet Training
- Please limit titles to 15 words (200 characters) and spell out all acronyms.





Submission Guidelines

Learning Objectives

You will need to provide learning objectives for your submission. Learning objectives should be written in behavioural terms that specify what the delegates should be able to do after completing the presentation, rather than what the delegates will “know”, “understand”, “comprehend” or what the presenter(s) will do. Make sure to focus on what the delegate will get out of the presentation, not your goals for the presentation.

Clinical Case Presentations: List at least 1 learning objective

25 min Paper: List at least 1 learning objective

50 min Paper: List at least 2 learning objectives

Panel: List at least 3 learning objectives

Symposium: list at least 3 learning objectives

For each learning objective, complete the following statement (or similar), “At the conclusion of this presentation, delegates will be able to...”

Learning Objective Examples

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- describe how self-management training can help to facilitate independence in individuals with disabilities;
- describe recent research showing how current consumer technology can be used to facilitate self-management skills in individuals with disabilities; and
- describe potential drawbacks and barriers to the use of technology in facilitating self-management, and suggest some ways to overcome these drawbacks and barriers.



Submission Guidelines

References

Include references to demonstrate that your submission is evidence-informed (books, journal articles, websites, etc.).

Should include 3-5 varied resources preferably within the last 10 years. Seminal pieces older than 10 years are acceptable. References to the literature should be formatted using APA style.

Who is the target audience of the presentation?

State the groups of people who will benefit from attending the presentation.

Academic level

Beginner: The presentation is designed for practitioners with little or no knowledge of the subject. Information is provided in a general, introductory manner.

Intermediate: The presentation is designed for practitioners with a general working knowledge of current practice trends and literature related to the subject matter. The emphasis is on increasing understanding and competence in the subject matter.

Advance: The presentation is intended for practitioners with in-depth knowledge of the subject matter based on current theories and standards of practice, as well as current literature and research. The focus is on the latest advances and trends in the field, and/or research applications.





Submission Guidelines

Presentation Short Description

Provide a brief, 2-3 sentence summary of your submission that covers expectations to draw your target audience. This description will be used for promotional material and programming. If your submission is accepted, this information will be published on the ABA Australia website and **MUST** be submitted ready for publication. Please ensure proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

Handouts

If you wish to provide handouts for delegates at the conference, you need to bring these with you, as there will be no photocopying facilities available.

Accessibility

ABA Australia is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. Please contact Alayna Haberlin at events@auaba.com.au to request disability accommodations. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.

Spell carefully

Please verify that all names, titles, affiliations and abstracts are spelled correctly. Whatever you submit on-line will be used in all conference programs and advertising.





Presentation Limits

The Conference Committee has instituted a two presentations rule. That is, each person is limited to a being listed as the presenting author for a maximum of two presentations. This is summed across papers, panels, symposia, and clinical case presentations.

Note that for the purpose of the two presentations rule, the roles of chair and discussant do not count; instead, there is a limit of four presentations in the roles of presenter, chair, and discussant inclusive.

There is no limit on how many times a person can appear on the program as a co-author.





Paper Guidelines

Paper submissions provide reports of scholarly work focussing on conceptual, historical, or methodological issues or should be data-driven, empirical reports of new lines of research that have not been previously published.

Paper presentations are oral presentations given in a 25 or 50-minute duration. Literature reviews or summarising published techniques will not be accepted under this category.

Papers that are accepted in this format will be grouped into presentation sessions according to common themes by the Conference Committee. There is not a discussant for paper sessions. The author intending to speak must be noted as the PRESENTING AUTHOR. There will be only one presenting author per paper.

Papers may not be accepted at the same duration in which they were submitted (e.g., a 50-minute paper may be requested by peer reviewers to be reduced to a 25-minute presentation). Submissions that do not meet these guidelines may be considered for re-assignment as posters or clinical case studies.





Symposium Guidelines

A symposium contains three - four individual papers, linked thematically that focus on conceptual, historical, or methodological issues or should be data-driven, empirical reports of new lines of research that have not been previously published. The individual papers may all be from one organisation or from 2 - 3 different organisations, but all MUST adhere to a single theme. Proposals for symposia must include both the symposium overview and an abstract for each individual paper within the symposium.

Symposiums are a total of 75 minutes. Every symposium will have a chairperson who moderates the session by giving a short abstract summarising the session and introduces each presenter. The symposium consists of one of the following two formats:

- 3 presentations with a discussant and chair; or
- 4 presentations with a chair

If a discussant is included the discussant's role is to highlight and integrate the contributions of various presenters in the session.

Submission

The symposium organiser should submit all papers on behalf of the presenting authors. This individual may be one of the three presenting authors. Individual symposium presenters do NOT submit their own abstracts.

Symposium submissions that do not meet these guidelines may be considered for re-assignment as papers, case presentations or posters.





Panel Guidelines

Panel discussions consist of 3-4 panellists and runs for 75 minutes. A panel discussion is organised by a chairperson who is the session's moderator. The goal of a panel is to facilitate discussion amongst presenters and with the audience. The panellist will express their scholarly opinions on a specific topic and may not agree on some issues. This will make for a lively discussion. There will be a designated moderator to make certain that the discussion stays on topic and to guarantee equal participation from panellists and the audience. We encourage each panellist to quickly present their ideas or research as a backdrop to the ensuing discussion and audience questions.

The Conference Committee will give preference to panels that include panellists from multiple organisations or areas of specialisation. Panel submissions should not promote a particular organisation and panellists should refrain from marketing or selling any particular service-delivery entity.





Clinical Case Presentation Guidelines

The purpose of the clinical case presentations at the Annual Conference is strictly educational. Clinical case presentations should detail a particular clinical case, describe the clinical background of the individual, assessment, intervention and present data. As a whole, your case presentation should be an informative and useful part of a behaviour analyst's on-going education.

Clinical case presentations should be those of interesting topics in ABA. Most cases tend to have a lot in common, which is fine, but you should try to put the emphasis in your presentation on what makes your clinical case presentation different from the others. There is always something that is different about each case, and the difference tends to be the most interesting aspect for the audience. So try to find out how your project is different, and then emphasise that in your submission.

Submissions for acceptance in this category will be evaluated based on relevance to the fields of behaviour analysis in the areas of assessment, intervention, staff training, basic conceptual understanding, program design, and acceptability to our members.

Preference will be given to studies that include measures of baseline and intervention, as well as data related to treatment fidelity.

1. The total time allotted to each speaker is 18 minutes, which includes 15 minutes of presentation and 3 minutes for questions.
2. The presentation should be prepared in Microsoft Office Powerpoint format.





Clinical Case Presentation Format

Introduce yourself

Start with a brief description of who you are and where you work, plus your relationship with the case. This part should be 1-2 slides, max.

Introduction

- Explain why this case is important, why you decided to present it.
- The main purpose of the introduction is to place the case in a clinical context and explain the importance or relevance of the case.
- Briefly state what the problem is and if there is any relevant research on the topic – keep this very brief 1-2 slides, we want to hear about the case, spend the most time on that part!

Case presentation

The case should be presented in a chronological order. At this point, you may wish to include more details than you might have time to present, please remember to keep it brief.

- Client history including medical, social and/or family aspects
- Assessment used
- Intervention procedures
- Results – show and explain the graph(s), you must have a baseline and intervention condition.





Applied Animal Behaviour Papers

We welcome any behaviour consultants, animal trainers, veterinary practitioners, and shelter/rescue staff and volunteers who use behaviour analysis when working with animals to come and share their research, challenges, and best practice. We have a dedicated stream within our annual conference for papers related to improving the welfare of animals through the use of behaviour analysis.

Paper presentations are oral presentations given in a 25 or 50-minute duration. They can be research or case study based.

Papers that are accepted will be grouped into presentation sessions according to common themes by the Conference Committee. There is not a discussant for paper sessions. The author intending to speak must be noted as the PRESENTING AUTHOR. There will be only one presenting author per paper.

Papers may not be accepted at the same duration in which they were submitted (e.g., a 50-minute paper may be requested by peer reviewers to be reduced to a 25-minute presentation). Submissions that do not meet these guidelines may be considered for re-assignment as posters.





Poster Guidelines

Posters are physical displays of information, usually reporting empirical research. Submissions must demonstrate that the work to be reported has scientific and/or clinical merit and is well advanced. Data-based posters, which require a graph or visual display of data, will receive preference. The advantage of a poster is that it provides face-to-face interaction with the author(s).

- Posters should be B1 size: 1000mm (H) x 707mm(w).
- A bulletin board for display and pins will be provided.
- Poster session will be held on the Saturday evening, 27th July (at the end of the Day 1 presentations).
- Presenters are expected to be with their poster, interact with attendees, and answer questions about the content of their posters.





Evaluation Criteria

The number of accepted submissions is limited by the time available and the facilities of the conference venue.

Submissions will be evaluated according to the following:

- Quality of the submission
- Significance to context of behaviour analysis in Australia
- Submission description articulates purpose and content of presentation
- Learning objectives are appropriate and clearly stated
- Level of material is appropriate for the identified target audience (e.g. Intermediate, Advanced)
- References are current and relevant
- Proposal is coherent
- Overlap with other presentation
- Preference will be given to presentations that have not been presented in previous years





Professional Development Information

All submissions will be considered for professional development units for ABA Australia and may be considered for Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) Learning Continuing Education (CE).

Please state the type of content related to (select all that are relevant):

- **Ethics** - Please provide a rationale on how your presentation relates to ethics.
- **Supervision** - Please provide a rationale on how your presentation relates the supervision.
- **Cultural Diversity** - Please provide rationale on how your presentation relates to cultural diversity.
- **General Learning** - if the submission does not meet one of the above types of PDU/CE then select general learning.





Professional Development Information



The following information is required for the submission to be considered for BACB CE credit.

Qualified CE Instructors

The CE instructor must be prepared to either directly give instruction or actively supervise the instruction when multiple presenters are involved. The CE instructor must meet one of the following qualifications:

- hold active BCBA certification
- have a doctorate and substantial, formal training in behaviour analysis
- be a current graduate student who has completed a master's degree and is enrolled in a behaviour-analytic doctoral program

If a presenter does not meet one of the above qualifications, then they can be the presenting author but must be under the in-person supervision of a Qualified CE Instructor.

By requesting this submission be reviewed for CE, you are attesting that the CE instructor and any co-presenters have completed substantial formal or experiential training in the subject matter of this submission.

All presenters must adhere to the BACB Code of Ethics during the presentation.





Conference Schedule

FRIDAY

7:30 AM	Registration opens
8:30 AM	Morning workshops
11:30 AM	Lunch
12:30 PM	Afternoon workshops
3:30 PM	Workshops end
4:00 PM	AGM

SATURDAY

7:45 AM	Registration opens
9:00 AM	Morning Session A - KEYNOTE
10:25 AM	Morning Tea
10:55 AM	Morning Session B
12:10 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Afternoon Session C
2:15 PM	Afternoon Tea
2:45 PM	Afternoon Session D
4:00 PM	Social and Poster Session

SUNDAY

8:00 AM	Registration opens
9:00 AM	Morning Session A
10:15 AM	Morning Tea
10:45 AM	Morning Session B
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Afternoon Session C
2:15 PM	Afternoon Tea
2:45 PM	Afternoon Session D - KEYNOTE
4:00 PM	Conference Finishes





Room and Audio/Visual Information

The session rooms will be set theater style and equipped with the following: a lectern at the front of the room, presenter table, LCD projector, speakers, and projection screen. You will need to bring your own laptop to present off of. Those using Mac computers will need to provide their own cable adapters.

Audio

The standard projectors do not have sound support. Presenters requiring separate sound equipment must request it during the submission process. Assignment of presentations to rooms specially equipped for sound is at the discretion of the conference committee.

Internet connection

There will be WiFi internet connection available throughout the hotel, but you should have a back-up plan ready to go in case the network is slow or too busy to provide an adequate connection for your presentation.

Advice for preparing to present with AV

Try out your media ahead of time prior to the conference starting or during one of the breaks. Be at your presentation early to hook up and test your media. Bring your media on a flash drive too in case you need to use someone else's machine. There will be an AV technician available throughout the conference to assist you, if needed.





Conference Policies

You must read and agree to the following when completing your submission application.

Consent to present data

Your submission is verification that you have permission to present the data and information in the submission. That is, you affirm that the participants in this submission have given authorisation to present the content and data and that the correct authors have been credited for the work presented.

Research Standards

If submitting your own research, you affirm that all procedures described in the presentation conformed to the internationally recognised standards set forth for research involving human or animal subjects.

Scheduling Changes

The conference committee reserves the right to change your presentation room or time from one session to another at their discretion.





Conference Policies

Conference Attendance and Registration

Any accepted presentation included in the final program is expected to have at least one author attend and present at the conference. All presenters (presenting author, discussant, panellists, moderators, chair, and workshop presenters) are required to register and attend the ABA Australia 9th Annual Conference in Melbourne, VIC. All presenters will receive flash sale prices on their conference registration fee if they are a current member of ABA Australia. If they are non-member or qualify as an international delegate with membership with ABAI or APBA they will receive early bird registration fees. If the presenter is attending the conference only on the day of their presentation, they still pay the full conference fee.

All accepted presenters are required to confirm their acceptance and register for the conference within two weeks of the acceptance email for the submission. Accepted presenters include only the presenting author(one person) from the submission.





Conference Policies

Code of Conduct

The ABA Australia is committed to providing a friendly, safe, and welcoming environment for all, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, or other protected characteristics. All presenters at ABA Australia events are expected to abide by ABA Australia's Anti-discrimination policy and sexual harassment policy.

We expect all attendees, media, speakers, volunteers, organisers, venue staff, guests, and exhibitors to help us ensure a safe and positive conference experience for everyone.

- Exercise consideration and respect in your speech and actions.
- Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behaviour and speech.
- Be mindful of your surroundings and of your fellow participants. Alert the ABA Australia staff at the registration desk if you notice a dangerous situation, someone in distress, or violations of this Code of Conduct.





Conference Policies

Code of Conduct continued

Unacceptable Behaviour

- Offensive, intimidating, harassing, bullying, abusive, or discriminatory behaviour or language based on race, religion, colour, national origin, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, transgender status, age, disability, veteran or marital status, or any other similar categories.
- Visual harassment, such as displaying sexual or offensive images OR inappropriate language at the event, including in presentations, slide decks, as backgrounds, or on clothing visible to attendees.
- Possession of a weapon or something that could be construed as a weapon during the event.
- Photographing, video- or audio-recording of slides, oral, or poster presentations without presenter/author's permission.
- Sharing your event registration information, including your conference badge, with another person(s).
- Inappropriate disruption of events.
- Real or implied threat of professional or financial damage or harm.
- Any other illegal activity not already covered above.





Conference Policies

Disclosures

Disclosures are for anything of value received from a commercial interest or financial relationship which relates directly or indirectly to the subject of a presentation. Presenters are asked to disclose any relationship they may have with companies that may have relevance to the content of their presentations during the submission process. ABA Australia must be made aware of any disclosures in advance.

All presenters are asked to show a disclosure slide at the beginning of their presentation, even when they have nothing to disclose. Such disclosure is intended to provide participants with sufficient information to evaluate whether any given presentation has been influenced by the presenters' relationship(s) or financial interest(s) with said companies.

The disclosure slide must be the first slide after the title slide. As you show your slide, it must also be verbalised.





Conference Policies

Photography Release

You acknowledge that while at the ABA Australia event, you may be photographed by an ABA Australia-approved photographer. By making a submission, you are granting the ABA Australia permission to use your likeness in photograph(s) in all of its publications and in any and all other media, whether now known or hereafter existing, controlled by the ABA Australia, in perpetuity, and for other use by the association. You will make no monetary or other claim against the ABA Australi for the use of the photograph(s).

Publishing Release

By submitting your abstract, you acknowledge that all submissions (abstracts, biographies, and presentations) may be published on the ABA Australia website, social media channels and conference program.

Please note: Accepted abstracts will be published on the conference website as per your original submission. Please ensure that your abstract has been proof read before submitting and does not contain any personal or contact details that you do not wish to be published.

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We thank you very much for participating in what we are sure will be a wonderful event, made possible by your contribution.

Questions contact: events@auaba.com.au