

Call for Abstracts (oral and poster) and Case Reports ACVECC VetCOT Veterinary Trauma & Critical Care Symposium



April 24-26, 2026
Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas, Nev.

Resident and General Abstracts

The ACVECC VetCOT is soliciting research abstracts (oral and poster) and case reports for the annual Veterinary Trauma & Critical Care Symposium to be held in Las Vegas in April 2026. We encourage submission by all members of the veterinary or human medical trauma team: clinicians/faculty, house officers (residents, interns), and veterinary technician team members.

Oral abstracts should represent original research not yet published or presented elsewhere and not to be published or presented prior to the 2026 Veterinary Trauma & Critical Care Symposium*. Accepted oral abstracts have the option to be published in the Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care (JVECC), with the author's permission.

Abstracts not selected for oral presentation will be given an option to present their work at the poster session/social event on Saturday, April 25, 2026.

Travel awards:

All submissions from **house officers and graduate students in the veterinary medical field** will be eligible for a \$1000 travel grant awarded to the top abstract submission, as determined by a blinded process through the VetCOT-Education subcommittee.

Poster abstracts should represent original work not yet published; however, in an effort to create space for discussion and translational collaboration, work presented elsewhere will be accepted. Poster abstracts will *not* be published in JVECC. Therefore, poster abstracts are eligible for presentation (oral or poster) at subsequent scientific meetings.

Travel Awards:

Poster abstract presenters will be eligible for 2 awards to help offset travel costs (\$500, \$400), determined by judges participating in the poster session and mixer on Saturday, April 25, 2026. Poster authors will present posters to the judges between 5:30pm-6:30pm on Saturday, April 25, 2026, with awards presented at Sunday afternoon, April 26, 2026.

Case reports: The goal of this session is to highlight unique and challenging trauma cases that were managed (at least in part) by the presenter. Please adhere to 550 words or less and use the same document formatting as abstracts except use the following subheadings: **Introduction, Case Description, Conclusion.** Specific instructions are below.

The Dr. Alison Wilson Trauma Support Team award (LVT, RVT, CVT):

In honor of Dr. Alison Wilson's invaluable support of the VetCOT efforts, a \$1000 grant to offset travel costs will be awarded to a veterinary technician presenting a case report Saturday morning of the conference. All case report submissions by veterinary technicians in the veterinary field will be eligible for the award which will be presented to the top case report submission as determined by a blinded process through the VetCOT-Education subcommittee.

Deadline for abstract or case report submission is 11:59 pm (EST), Monday, January 26, 2026.

Authors of successful abstracts and case reports will be notified via email by March 8th, 2026 (or sooner).

Each oral abstract or case report presentation will be 12 minutes in length followed by 3 minutes for discussion. Abstracts and case reports not accepted for oral presentation may be given the option to be presented as posters and will be eligible for the poster session awards on Saturday evening.

Conference registration and Sunday lunch lecture will be complementary for those selected to present. Accepted oral abstracts will be published in JVECC (poster session abstracts and case reports will not be published).

For questions, please contact info@vetcot.org

PLEASE NOTE THAT BOTH SMALL AND LARGE ANIMAL TRAUMA SPECIFIC ABSTRACTS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR PRESENTATION AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, AWARDS.

Specific instructions for abstract and case report submissions are as follows:

1. The abstract should be 350 words or less, not including title, author names and affiliations.
 - Case reports should be 550 words or less, not including title, author names and affiliations.
2. Document formatting should be as follows:
 - Abstracts and case reports should be created in Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format
 - Single-spaced typed using Times New Roman 10-point font

- All page margins should be set at 1" (2.54cm)
 - Do not justify the right margin
3. The abstract must be organized in the structured format using the following subheadings in bold type: **Introduction, Methods, Results, Conclusion**.
 - Subheadings should be bolded and followed by a colon
 4. Case reports must use the following subheadings: **Introduction, Case description, Conclusion**
 5. No tables, figures, footnotes or bibliography should be included
 6. Embedded symbols or formatting should not be used
 - Use words to spell out symbols
 7. Title:
 - The entire title must be bolded, capitalized (i.e.. upper case letters), single-spaced and centered
 - Should be brief, clear and informative
 8. Author(s) names:
 - Should be flush left
 - Immediately beneath the title
 - Should appear as last name followed by first and middle initials, with no space between the initials (e.g., Sharp CR)
 - Do not list degrees or other titles
 - Presenter should be underlined
 9. Author affiliations:
 - Institution / practice affiliation (department/section/school and institution/practice name) and address (city, state and country only) should be flush left immediately under the author(s)
 - If authors are from more than one institution / practice, use numerical superscripts after each name and place the appropriate number before each institution
 10. Body of the abstract or case report:
 - Begin 2 lines beneath the address line.

Abstract submission:

Please submit the abstract as an email attachment (Microsoft Word file format) to Rachel.Fink@colostate.edu (and cc khall.wilke@colostate.edu).

In your cover email please include the statement "All authors have read the attached abstract/case report and agree to its submission for presentation at the 2025 Veterinary Trauma and Critical Care Symposium."

The cover letter should also state whether the author is willing to present the abstract or case as a poster if not accepted for oral presentation. If you are an approved ACVECC resident or veterinary student, please indicate so in your cover e-mail and provide your mentor's name and email address (for residents this is your official Diplomate ACVECC mentor).

