

2021

Abstracts CME Policy FAQs

ACR
Convergence
Where Rheumatology Meets

For a one-year pilot, the ACR will not offer CME credit for abstracts during ACR Convergence 2021. Owners and employees of ACCME-defined ineligible companies may submit and present abstracts during ACR Convergence 2021.

Frequently asked questions about this policy include:

1. How many CME credits can I earn at ACR21?

ACR Convergence 2021 will offer over 150 CME credits and MOC points.

2. Will not offering CME for abstracts impact the quality of the ACR21 abstract program?

Although this is a significant change, the ACR believes this change will strengthen the ACR21 program by allowing the author most responsible for the work to present the study.

The ACR researched multiple options and consulted with several internal medicine societies who have removed CME credit from their abstract program and have successfully maintained a high-quality program based on evidence-based medicine.

This is a one-year pilot and the ACR will reevaluate CME Credit for Abstracts before ACR Convergence 2022 to ensure we are appropriately representing your educational needs.

3. How will the ACR ensure the scientific integrity of the 2021 abstracts?

The ACR will continue to rigorously peer-review all abstracts, and the disclosure of financial relationships for reviewers and authors will be published. Marketing or sales of products or services, including the use of commercial logos or product messages, will not be permitted.

4. Why will CME credits not be offered for abstracts during ACR Convergence 2021?

In December 2020, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) broadened its definition of an ineligible company. The ACR believes the application of this broader definition may exclude many researchers from presenting at ACR21 and the ACR wants to ensure the presenting author for a given study is the author most responsible for the work as this is key to providing an open forum for rigorous scientific debate at our meetings.