FAQ

1. **How do I know in which category I should submit? Research, Evidence-Based Quality Improvement Research Project, Innovative Program, Case Study or Specialty Session?**

Research?
o Is this original research conducted by you? If not, if for example the abstract is a literature review of others' research, consider submitting as a Specialty Session.
o If yes, is this a completed study, with data analysis and outcomes? If not, consider submitting next year.

Evidence-Based Quality Improvement Project?
o Did you undertake a quality improvement project using an evidence-based intervention? If not, if for example this was a research project aimed at testing a hypothesis, consider submitting in the Research category.
o If yes, have you analyzed data and determined outcomes? If not, consider submitting next year.

Innovative Program?
o Is this a newly created, implemented program addressing a practice challenge? If yes, are outcome data available? If not, if for example the abstract is a discussion of a proposed program, consider submitting after implementation of the program and outcome data is available.
If yes, is this an actual program developed and implemented in your facility or organization? If it isn't an actual program developed and implemented in your facility but a description of a nationwide initiative, it may better fit in the Specialty Session category. For example an abstract describing the development, implementation and outcomes of your hospital's program to provide a safe haven for abandoned babies could be an Innovative Program, but a more general health policy oriented discussion of the initiative and its nationwide effect on baby abandonment would be a Specialty Session.

Case Study?
o Is this an actual complex patient care case or practice situation you were part of? If not, if this is a hypothetical case study used to illustrate an informational session about a condition, consider submitting as a Specialty Session.
o If yes, but the case is under litigation, you cannot submit it.

Specialty Session?
o Is this an evidence-based, more broadly focused informational session, with a literature review or in-depth examination of a clinical problem, best practice or professional issue? If not, if for example the abstract is looking at your hospital's experience with a complex case, consider submitting as a Case Study. Or if you are describing a specific program at your hospital, such as its early discharge program rather than presenting a literature review of the nationwide experience with early discharge, consider submitting as an Innovative Program.

2. **Can I submit the same abstract in more than one category?** No, you cannot submit the same abstract in more than one category. In some cases however, reviewers may decide that your submission better fits another category, and it will be re-categorized. This most commonly occurs when a Specialty Session abstract is narrowly focused on one hospital's program; in that case reviewers may re-categorize it as an Innovative Program.

3. **How many abstracts can I submit?** There is no limit.

4. **Can I re-submit an abstract that I submitted the previous year?** Only if the abstract was not presented the previous year.

5. **How are the abstracts selected for presentation?** Specialty Sessions, Innovative Programs and Case Studies are reviewed by members of the Convention Program Committee. Research and Evidence-Based

Quality Improvement Research Project abstracts are reviewed by members of the Research Advisory Panel. All abstracts are scored using standardized criteria outlined in the detailed descriptions of each category. Specialty Session abstracts are not reviewed blindly. Sometimes, we receive multiple Specialty Session abstracts on the same topic. To avoid overloading the program with that topic, the Program Committee must often choose between several excellent options. Innovative Programs, Case Studies, Research and Evidence-Based Quality Improvement Research Project abstracts are reviewed blindly.

6. **Why are some Research, Evidence-Based Quality Improvement Research Project, Innovative and Case Study abstracts selected for oral presentation and others for posters?** When submitting, you will be asked if you wish to present a poster; an oral paper presentation; or an oral presentation first and poster presentation second. Speaking experience is required for those requesting oral presentation. Oral presentation slots are awarded to the highest scoring abstracts in given categories.

7. **If I indicate that I would not mind presenting a poster, do I lessen the chance I will get to present orally?** No. There are a limited number of slots available for oral paper presentations of Innovative Programs, Case Study, Evidence-Based Quality Improvement Research Project and Research abstracts. Unless you have indicated that you prefer to present as a poster, those oral paper slots are awarded to the highest scoring abstracts regardless of whether you have indicated a willingness to present as a poster.

8. **Are there any advantages to presenting as a poster rather than a paper?** The poster room is extremely well attended with hundreds of attendees spending at least 45 minutes reviewing the presentations. Arguably more attendees are exposed to your work in the poster room than in an oral presentation which competes with seven other sessions and may only draw a handful.

9. **How can I optimize chances of having my abstract accepted?** Pay close attention to the criteria; fill out the on-line forms carefully, correctly and completely. For example, in completing the bibliography, make sure that ¾ of the references cited are current as of the last 5 years.

10. **When will I hear whether my abstract was accepted?** Deadline for submission is September 10, 2012. You will hear no later than December 2012.

11. **What is the "convention proceedings supplement?"** A compilation of accepted Innovative Program, Case Study, Evidence-Based Quality Improvement Research Project and Research abstracts published as a supplement to *JOGNN* in conjunction with convention.