



AADPRT Workshop Submissions: Get to the POINT

—Randon S, Welton M.D., AADPRT President

There is a rhythm to the Program Director's year: Late February – Finalize your rank order list; Mid-March – Welcome your new residents; Mid-May – Prepare for graduation; Mid-June – Orient incoming residents. And so on. Early August brings a particular opportunity. It is the time to prepare workshop submissions for next year's AADPRT annual meeting. As you start to get your submission(s) ready, some simple reminders will make your final offering more competitive. While there is no guarantee of acceptance, your submission will be looked on more favorably if you get to the POINT.

- P – Portable:** Attendees to your workshop should be able to take home something that immediately benefits their program. You might have a brilliant insight into running a residency, but that is not enough. There needs to be something tangible. People will be interested in your session if you are providing something they can use. One of the most celebrated aspects of AADPRT is that we are there to help each other. Write up your workshop submission in a way that makes it obvious how you will help your attendees improve their programs.
- O – Outcome-Focused:** While you do not have to have data to have a good workshop, it is helpful to show the impact of what you will be presenting. If you are presenting a novel way of teaching neuroscience, for example, it is valuable to show how that approach impacted residents who went through the process. This supporting data could come in the form of improved test scores or positive post-course comments, but you will want to show that the approach you are espousing is demonstrably helpful.
- I – Interactive:** Perhaps you can hold an audience's attention indefinitely, but typically, busy training directors will not come to a workshop to hear you lecture at them for 90 minutes. Create abundant opportunities for your attendees to share their experiences, discuss their ideas, question your ideas, and engage in dialogue. These interactive experiences can be via small-group or large-group discussions, audience response systems, or role-plays, but make it obvious that attendees will be participants in the workshop and not just passive, audience members.
- N – New Presenters:** AADPRT is a rapidly growing community, and there are always members who are looking to get more involved. Your presentation might be the perfect opportunity for someone looking to get engaged in the organization. Strive to include presenters in your submission who have never previously led workshops at AADPRT. Not only does it increase participation of the membership, but it will also provide new perspectives, experiences, and energy to your workshop.
- T – Trans-organizational:** OK, I will admit I stretched a little to make the acronym work, but the point is valid. Over 250 residencies and fellowships are represented within AADPRT. Organizational structures, circumstances, and challenges vary widely within the membership. A workshop presented from one program's unique perspective may not be applicable to many other programs. Increasing the number of programs represented in your submission increases the applicability of your workshop to the general membership.

I make no promises that submissions based on these POINTs will be accepted, but no doubt your proposal will be more appealing to the review committee. A workshop developed along these lines better serves the AADPRT community as you are helping other programs help their residents help their patients. That is the point of AADPRT and the point of our workshops.