

Publication Rates of Podium Presentations and Posters from the Annual Musculoskeletal Tumor Society Meetings: The 2014 Meeting Leading the Way

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Abstract

Background: The Musculoskeletal Tumor Society (MSTS) continues efforts to improve the quality of podium presentations and posters presented at annual meetings. A prior analysis of only podium presentations from the 1990's showed a 41% overall publication rate within 3 years of presentation. However, we do not know what the publication rates are for posters being presented, and whether there have been improvements in the publications rates for podium presentations.

Questions/Purposes: We evaluated the annual publication rates of podium presentations and posters presented at recent MSTS meetings. We hypothesized that there has been improvement in selecting podium presentations that survive the peer-review process and that rates of publication for posters were lower than the paper abstracts.

Patients and Methods: We retrospectively reviewed each podium presentation and poster from the 2011 through 2014 MSTS meetings, searching the PubMed and Ovid databases. We quantified the publication rates for podium presentations and posters for the 2011 through 2014 MSTS meetings. For each meeting, we calculated the cumulative publication rate for each year. A comparison of podium presentations and posters was completed. For both types that went to publication at any date within one year or subsequent to the date of presentation at the annual meeting, we compared level of evidence, country of origin, common paper topics, tumor topic, journal of publication, and time to publication.

Results: A total of 757 podium presentations and posters were presented in the four meetings. 256 were podium presentations while 501 were posters. The overall 3-year publication rate for podium presentations and posters was 45.8% and 35.0%, respectively (Table 1 and 2). The 2014 MSTS meeting had the highest one-year publication rate, for both podium presentations and posters (36.7% and 24%, respectively). The combined MSTS and Connective Tissue Oncology Society (CTOS) meeting in 2011 had the next highest one-year podium presentation and poster publication rate with values of 18.6% and 16.6%, respectively. The most popular topic for publication addressed survival/treatment outcome. Soft tissue sarcoma was the highest published tumor type. Clinical Orthopaedic Related Research was the journal in which the highest percentage of publications was noted. Only institutions from the United States had a successful publication from every meeting.

Conclusions: The 3-year MSTS podium presentation publication rate has improved from 41% to 45.8%. The 3-year MSTS poster publication rate was lower than the podium presentations, but remained higher than anticipated at 35%, suggesting meeting participants should spend quality time reviewing the posters. The 2014 MSTS meeting yielded the highest one-year publication rate for both podium presentations and posters, suggesting the selection process utilized for the 2014 meeting should be closely studied and the results analyzed in the years to follow. Lastly, the 2011 MSTS/CTOS meeting produced a high 3-year publication rate and the highest total number of publications, providing further support in continuing these combined meetings. Consistent analysis of these meetings will help improve both our selection process and the data being presented in podium presentations and posters.

Table 1. Cumulative Publication Rates of Podium Presentations

	1 year publication rate	2 year publication rate	3 year publication rate	4 year publication rate
2011	22/118 (18.6%)	46/118 (38.9%)	49/118 (45.8%)	57/118 (48.3%)

2012	8/48 (16.7%)	20/48 (41.7%)	22/48 (45.8%)	-
2013	8/60 (13.3%)	19/60 (31.7%)	-	-
2014	11/30 (36.7%)	-	-	-

Table 2. Cumulative Publication Rates of Posters

	1 year publication rate	2 year publication rate	3 year publication rate	4 year publication rate
2011	50/302 (16.6%)	81/302 (26.8%)	104/302 (34.4%)	116/302 (38.4%)
2012	10/64 (15.6%)	20/64 (31.3%)	24/64 (37.5%)	-
2013	6/85 (7.1%)	18/85 (21.2%)	-	-
2014	12/50 (24.0%)	-	-	-