



The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) Military Health Research Forum (MHRF) 2009 Media and Embargo Policy

EMBARGO POLICY

- All submitted abstracts are under embargo at the time of submission.
- Policy on embargo lift:
 - Poster presentation: Embargo will lift at the beginning of the MHRF.
 - Oral presentation: Embargo will lift at the beginning of the Scientific Session containing the research OR, if the abstract is featured in the MHRF press program, the embargo will lift at the beginning of the MHRF press conference, whichever comes first.

This policy covers all abstracts accepted as part of the MHRF regardless of whether information is obtained from another source.

SELECTION OF FEATURED ABSTRACTS

- All abstracts are reviewed by CDMRP-appointed reviewers.
- Media program should be co-organized by the conference organizing committee, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) and SAIC-appointed Public Relations agency.

MEDIA PROGRAM

- Media Program will include:
 - Printed list of abstracts of potential interest to media. The list will be divided into major categories: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Gulf War Illness, and General Military Health Issues.
 - Direct contact information for the media coordinator, a Spectrum representative.
 - Facilitation of one-on-one interview with CDMRP leadership/abstract authors.

PRESS CONFERENCE POLICY

- CDMRP reserves the right to host press conferences on all abstracts accepted to MHRF.
- CDMRP/SAIC will notify authors/sponsors of the abstracts selected for inclusion in the MHRF press program at least one month prior to meeting.
- Abstracts chosen to be highlighted in official MHRF press conferences will also be featured in scientific press releases issued by the CDMRP.
- All other press activities pertaining to the selected abstracts, including press conferences and media briefings must take place following the official MHRF press conference.

MEDIA CREDENTIALS

- Journalists are required to submit appropriate media credentials as part of their registration application including a photocopy or other facsimile of official press credentials, a letter of assignment from the media organization being represented, two bylined medical/health/science or military-related articles/items published (hard copy or online) within the last six months, coverage from the previous year's meeting (if applicable), and a copy of the publication or address of website. (Business cards or membership cards from news media, communications, or writers' organizations are not sufficient to establish eligibility.)
- Please be advised that registration forms sent without supporting documents and information will not be reviewed or approved.
- Due to space and resource limitations, registration is limited to three representatives per media outlet, unless otherwise approved.
- Registered journalists will be issued an official MHRF identification badge. It must be worn at all times while in attendance at the meeting and in order to gain admittance to any MHRF session.

PRESS ROOM POLICY

- Only credentialed media representatives are allowed access to the MHRF Press Room.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND AUDIOVISUAL RECORDING

- Videotaping at the MHRF is restricted to the press briefing, interview rooms, and common areas of the convention center. All crews filming outside of media or interview rooms must be accompanied by a MHRF Press Room representative.
- MHRF press representatives will seek authorization from a SAIC/CDMRP representative prior to facilitating filming or recording.
- Video recording of the MHRF is strictly prohibited without authorization from the MHRF news room.

- CDMRP permits non-flash photography and audio recording using hand-held equipment of Scientific and Educational Sessions for personal and non-commercial use only, provided it is not disruptive.

DISSEMINATION OF NEWS RELEASES

- News releases on science being presented at MHRF can be issued one week prior to the meeting on an embargoed basis; however, they must not reveal the scientific study results and must state that the information is embargoed until the **TIME OF SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATION and include the date and time.**
- **It is the responsibility of the issuer to ensure this policy is respected.**