

The Corrigan Medal: Case Study Guidelines

The purpose of the case study competition is to recognise excellence in communication and the ability to effectively identify complicating and challenging aspects of patient histories and communicate what we can learn from them.

Eligible Applicants

Trainees registered on the Basic Specialist Training (BST) programme and International Residency Training Programme or the Joint Residency Training Programme of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) at the time of case submission.

Submission Guidelines

Trainees should submit abstracts of an interesting or challenging case, which they have encountered in the course of their Basic Specialist Training or International Residency Programme. The case presentation may be either published or unpublished but must be the author's own and original work. Submissions will be assessed for plagiarism and use of AI generated content by reviewers.

Only one case study per trainee per training period can be submitted. More than one case study submitted by the same trainee in the same period will be disqualified. The award will be granted to an applicant only once.

The abstract must not exceed **400 words in length**. This word count includes numbers.

Each submission must include the following headings and details:

1. Case Study Title
2. Introduction: give context to and summarise the case
3. Case presentation: Presenting symptoms and relevant physical findings
4. Investigations and results
5. Differential diagnosis
6. Diagnosis
7. Discussion
8. Take home message
9. References

Patient confidentiality must always be observed, and no identifiable patient information should be included

Scoring System

There are a total of **30 marks available**:

1. The case is interesting, clinically relevant and has educational value **(/5)**
2. The abstract is well written and key points are well described **(/5)**
3. Diagnostic and prognostic tests are used appropriately, and results are evaluated critically **(/5)**
4. Appropriate differential diagnosis has been considered **(/5)**
5. Relevant literature is referenced and evaluated critical **(/5)**
6. The conclusion is valid and supported by the evidence provided in the abstract **(/5)**

Further Information

Ensure that no identifiable content is provided within the submission text (e.g. name, RCPI ID number etc.) This information will be requested separately.

The material submitted will be used as an educational and training tool primarily for Senior House Officers and Registrars but will also be made available to all trainees, Members and Fellows of RCPI.

By submitting case studies for competition, trainees are providing consent for the RCPI to use the material as an education and training tool.

Applicants, if chosen, must be available to present their research at the Annual National Education Day for Doctors in Training, which takes place on Friday, 22 May 2026. A number of abstracts will be selected for poster presentation on the day. Further information on poster requirements and formatting will be provided for successful applicants.

Closing Date

Submissions must be received by 12 midnight **Sunday, 30 November 2025**.

The Corrigan Medal: Submission Subheading Format

1. Title
2. Introduction
3. Case presentation
4. Investigations and results
5. Differential diagnosis
6. Diagnosis
7. Discussion
8. Take home message
9. References