These are the official contest rules for The 2017 AMA Research Symposium Contest [“Contest”]. By submitting an entry to the Contest, each Entrant (as defined below) agrees to be bound by these Contest Rules. Contest Entrants agree to be bound by the decisions of the judges and the Sponsor. In the event of a conflict, decisions of the Sponsor are final.

1. **Contest**
   Entrant may choose to submit (1) one entry to the Poster competition (explained below); or (2) one entry each to the Poster & Podium competitions (explained below). Entrants may not choose to submit an entry only to the Podium competition.

   Contest begins at 12:01 a.m. Central Daylight Savings Time on Wednesday, June 21, 2017. Abstracts and posters must be submitted by 12:01 a.m. Central Daylight Saving Time on Wednesday, August 9, 2017. The Contest ends at 6:30 p.m. Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time on Friday, November 10, 2017 (“Contest Period”).

2. **How to Enter:**
   To enter, go to the registration link on the Contest Website (the “Contest Website”) at ama-assn.org/events/ama-research-symposium. Complete all fields of the Official Entry Form and submit an entry with appropriate supporting material (“Submitted Entry”). Abstracts must be submitted without pictures or graphs. Contest entry is only available online. Submissions in person, by mail or other means will not be accepted. Each Submitted Entry must be in English and received during the Contest Period. Each Submitted Entry must address a Contest topic appropriate for the Entrant’s section.

   For medical students Entrants (“Medical Students”), the following topic categories:
   - Basic Science
   - Clinical research
   - Public health/epidemiology

   For International Medical Graduate Entrants (“IMGs”), the following topic categories:
   - Clinical vignette
   - Clinical medicine
   - Improving health outcomes

   For resident and fellow Entrants (“Residents/Fellows”), the following topic categories:
   - Clinical vignette
• Clinical medicine
• Improving health outcomes

Please see section 18 below for further descriptions of the topic categories.

Each Submitted Entry also must include Entrant’s contact information and other requested information according to the instructions posted on the Contest Website. All fields marked with an asterisk (*) in the Entry Form are required and must be completed. These requirements shall be collectively referred to as “Entry Requirements”.

3. Prizes:
A total of twelve (12) prizes will be awarded as follows:
- For each section (medical student, IMG or Resident/Fellow) the top-scored entrant in each topic category [whether a Poster or Podium entry, as defined below] shall win a $150 prize;
- In addition, for each section, the top-scored Podium entry shall win a $250 prize.

EXAMPLE:

Medical Student section:
A posts top poster score in “Basic Science” topic with score of 99;
B posts top podium score in “Basic Science” topic with score of 100;
C posts top poster score in “Clinical Research” topic with score of 80;
D posts top podium score in “Clinical Research” topic with score of 78;
E posts top poster score in “Public Health” topic with score of 64;
F posts top podium score in “Public Health” topic with score of 70;

IMG section:
G posts top poster score in “Clinical Vignette” topic with score of 60;
H posts top podium score in “Clinical Vignette” topic with score of 58;
I posts top poster score in “Clinical Medicine” topic with score of 70;
J posts top podium score in “Clinical Medicine” topic with score of 78;
K posts top poster score in “Improving Health Outcomes” topic with score of 70;
L posts top podium score in “Improving Health Outcomes” topic with score of 64;

Resident/Fellow section:
M posts top poster score in “Clinical Vignette” topic with score of 99;
N posts top podium score in “Clinical Vignette” topic with score of 98;
O posts top poster score in “Clinical Medicine” topic with score of 45;
P posts top podium score in “Clinical Medicine” topic with score of 40;
Q posts top poster score in “Improving Health Outcomes” topic with score of 50;
R posts top podium score in “Improving Health Outcomes” topic with score of 42;

$150 Winners in this example:
In the Medical Student Section -
B,C and F each win $150 because each has the best score for a category topic in their section.

In the IMG section
G, J and K each win $150 because each has the best score for a category topic in their section.

In the Resident/Fellow section
M, O and Q each win $150 because each has the best score for a category topic in their section.

$250 Winners in this example
In the Medical Student Section
B wins $250 for best podium
In the IMG section
I wins $250 for best podium.
In the Resident/Fellow section:
N wins $250 for best podium.

The judges and the Sponsor have no further obligation to any Entrant or Winner after the award of the Prizes mentioned above. Each Entrant or Winner assumes all liabilities associated with entering this contest and the receipt of any Prize. An Entrant or Winner may decline advancement in the contest and decline any Prize prior to its award. Withdrawal from the contest or declining a Prize at any time will nullify an Entrant’s designation as a Finalist or Winner of this contest.

4. **Entry Requirements:**
   a. An Entrant may only enter as an individual. The individual must be either (a) an international medical graduate awaiting residency in the U.S. and a member of the American Medical Association as of Wednesday, August 9, 2017; (b) a resident in an ACGME-accredited or AOA-accredited residency program and a member of the American Medical Association as of Wednesday, August 9, 2017; or (c) a medical student in an LCME-accredited or COCA-accredited medical school and a member of the American Medical Association as of Wednesday, August 9, 2017. Any poster or abstract submitted (“Submitted Entry”) must be either (i) solely the Entrant’s original work or (ii) Entrant must be the lead author and have authorization by co-authors and owners of the Submitted Entry to submit the Submitted Entry (See section 15, “Entrant’s Representations and Warranties” below). There will be a place on the Official Entry Form to list all other authors of an abstract. Multiple Entries from an individual are not allowed.
   b. If Sponsor receives a challenge to an Entrant’s ability or authority to make a Submitted Entry in compliance with these Rules, the Sponsor in its sole discretion may disqualify that Entrant.
   c. Once Entrant submits a Submitted Entry, Entrant is prohibited from making substantive changes or alterations to the Submitted Entry. No substitutions or materially new versions of a Submitted Entry will be accepted under any circumstances once a Submitted Entry is submitted.
   d. All entries must apply to an appropriate entry topic. Entrants must choose a title which accurately reflects emphasis and content of the Submitted Entry.
   e. All entries must be completed by the stated deadlines.
f. The Contest is open only to (a) individuals who are 18 years old or older as of their time of entry and who have not been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude; and (b) have not declared or been declared in bankruptcy.

g. Utilization of content, technology, materials or other intellectual property not created or owned by Entrant or without authorized license is grounds for disqualification and legal action.

h. Any Submitted Entry that contains patient Personal Health Information (“PHI”) or Personally Identifiable Information (“PII”) will be disqualified.

i. Evidence that an Entrant is misrepresenting or inducing others to misrepresent support or engagement with Entrant’s project is grounds for disqualification.

j. All information submitted must be non-confidential.

k. Employees of Sponsor, its subsidiaries or affiliates (or their immediate family members) are not eligible to participate in the Contest.

5. Phase 1 Selection and Section Judges

Poster and Podium Competitions – Abstract Required as part of Submitted Entry

Whether an Entrant chooses to enter just the Poster competition or the Poster & Podium competitions, the Entrant is required to submit an abstract as part of the Entrant’s Submitted Entry. The abstract can be no longer than 350 words (not including Entrant’s name, abstract title, ancillary entrant information or page numbering) using Times New Roman, size 12 font, double spaced with one (1) inch margins. An Entrant entering the Poster competition only submits an abstract in Phase 1 of the Poster competition. An actual poster submission is not required until Phase 2 of the Poster competition.

Phase 1 Judging

On each Submitted Entry, each Entrant must indicate (a) the appropriate AMA section in which his Submitted Entry will compete (whether with the Medical Student section, the IMG section or the Residents/Fellows section); and (b) the section category topic on which the Entrant wants to compete. If the section status of an Entrant is, in Sponsor’s judgment, inappropriate or unclear, Sponsor may designate the section in which the Entrant’s Submitted Entry should compete. Sponsor shall be the sole judge of whether a Submitted Entry fulfills the requirements of addressing a designated topic category.

Each Submitted Entry, whether for Poster or Podium competition, will be reviewed for completeness and appropriateness by the appropriate section’s Judging Committee (described below). Up to five hundred (500) poster entries, as judged by the Section Judging Committees will be invited to compete in the Phase 2 live-judging competition in Hawaii. The top twenty five (25) Entries for the Podium competition, as judged by the Section Judging Committees, will be invited to compete in the Phase 2 live-judging Podium competition. All Phase 2 competitions will take place in Hawaii. If a Submitted Entry is not selected for Phase 2 competition, the Submitted Entry will be disqualified.

Section Judging Committees for Phase 1 Judging

Each section shall form a judging committee of up to ten (10) individuals. Each member of each section’s judging committee shall be reviewed and approved by the Sponsor. In addition to judging an
Entrant’s Submitted Entry, the Phase 1 judges will be asked to verify that the Entrant meets all the membership criteria for membership in the section to which the Entrant’s Submitted Entry pertains. Entrants deemed ineligible for the section to which their Submitted Entry was submitted will be disqualified. All scoring is at the sole discretion of the Judges and subject to review only by Sponsor.

An Entrant whose Poster or Podium entry is selected for Phase 2 competition must be willing to travel to the Hawaii Conference Center in Honolulu, Hawaii at the appropriate time(s) for the November 10, 2017 Live Competition (Phase 2) where the prize winners will be determined. Entrants unwilling or unable to travel to Hawaii to be present for the live competition will be disqualified.

6. Phase 2 Competition and On-Site Judges

Poster Competition

Poster Format Guidelines. Entrants chosen to compete in Phase 2 must present their poster entry in compliance with these poster format guidelines. The poster size can be no larger than 45 inches x 45 inches for competition judging. Posters larger than these dimensions will have an automatic ten (10) point deduction and may not be displayed. Entrants will be expected to provide 2-4 minute verbal overview of the poster entry to each judge.

Posters and the Entrant’s verbal overview will be judged on the following criteria:

- **Project/case report design and methods** (the project/clinical vignette is clearly designed; scientific/clinical procedures are appropriate and well organized; the experimenter uses a logical scientific method and appropriate methodology/relevant history, physicals and complementary studies are included; and the presenter has a good understanding of the methods use/case report).
- **Data** (an effort has been made to identify all significant variables affecting the experimental results/case report and those significant variables not manipulated as part of the experiment design have been controlled. In case report there is an organized and logical algorithm of case presentation; clinical topic is interesting, novel and relevant to scientific knowledge; data [including case report] is presented in a clear and understandable manner with an effort to eliminate bias).
- **Discussion/conclusion** (the effect of experimental error was estimated and considered when drawing the discussion/conclusion or the discussion/conclusion is relevant and pertinent to the case; potential pitfalls and limitations of the study/case report have been addressed; the discussion and conclusion use relevant sources to compare and contrast the information that exists in literature; the conclusion is consistent with the data and/or observations/case).
- **Organization/Visual Presentation** (Visuals are easy to read and logically organized; grammar and syntax are correct).
- **Verbal Presentation** (author explains in detail relevance of the research/case; author answers questions thoroughly).
- **Poster requirements** (Poster is 45-in. x 45-in. or smaller and fits on the board. Circling “no” will deduct 10 points from the score.)
Podium Competition

Each Entrant chosen to compete in Phase 2 will be expected to make 5-minute oral presentation of the Entrant’s abstract submission in compliance with podium format guidelines, described below.

The podium presentation must be submitted to researchsymposium@ama-assn.org in PowerPoint format two (2) weeks prior to the event at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, October 27, 2017. Podium presenters must bring their presentation to the event on a USB flash drive. Podium presentations must be limited to five (5) minutes.

Each Entrant’s Podium oral presentation and accompanying abstract will be judged on the same criteria as the Poster competition (described above) except there will be no scoring for the poster requirements.

On-Site Judges

Sponsor will seek to have, at a minimum, two On-Site Judges assigned to review each Submitted Entry (in connection with both the Poster and Podium competitions). On-Site Judges will be based on volunteers who meet Contest credentials, namely:

-Credentials Required For On-Site Judges for the IMG and Residents/Fellows sections:

AMA-member physicians who attend the Phase 2 competition. Only physicians will be invited to judge entries submitted to the IMG and Residents/Fellows sections.

-Credentials Required For On-Site Judges for the Medical Student section:

AMA-member physicians, residents or fellows who attend the Phase 2 competition. Medical students will not be permitted to judge medical student Submitted Entries.

All Phase 2 Entrants must participate in the Phase 2 oral presentations (poster or podium) in person in order to be considered for prizes. In the case of ties, Sponsor shall make the final determination.

7. Notice to Phase 2 Competitors: Entrants eligible for entry into Phase 2 will be notified via email at the e-mail address provided on the Official Entry Form for the Entrant during the week of September 11, 2017. The Entrant must complete paperwork (to confirm Entrant’s eligibility and intention to attend the Phase 2) by 12:01 a.m. on Monday, October 2, 2017. Any Entrant not returning the required documentation by 12:01 a.m. on Monday, October 2, 2017 will be disqualified and will have their invitation to compete in Phase 2 rescinded. Any Phase 2 competitors who may need a reasonable accommodation for a disability are asked to notify the Sponsor when sending confirming their intention to attend Phase 2. If the notification is returned as undeliverable, or if an Entrant is determined to be ineligible or has not complied with these Rules, that Entrant will be disqualified. Another substitute Entrant may be selected for each disqualified Entrant and notified according to the procedures described herein. Deadline requirements for substitute Entrants may be modified by the Sponsor as Sponsor deems appropriate.
Prize winners will be required to submit completed W-9 forms and completed Affidavits of Eligibility and Liability/Publicity Release forms (See “Releases/Disclaimers” section below) as a condition of winning any prize. Failure to submit required documentation is grounds for prize forfeiture.

WINNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORTING AND PAYING ANY INCOME TAXES OR OTHER TAXES THAT MAY APPLY TO ACCEPTING THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PRIZES. SPONSOR AND ADMINISTRATOR ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY SUCH TAXES.

8. **General Information:** Participation is subject to all federal, state and local laws and regulations. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. Entrant is responsible for checking applicable laws and regulations in Entrant’s jurisdiction before participating in the Contest to make sure that Entrant’s participation is legal. Entry into the Contest does not constitute entry into any other contest or promotion, including, without limitation, other similar programs or promotions offered by Sponsor. Entrant is responsible for abiding by Entrant’s employer's policies regarding participation in the Contest. In the event of a conflict between these Official Rules and other promotional copy about the Contest, these Official Rules shall govern and control. Sponsor disclaims any and all liability or responsibility for disputes arising between Entrant and Entrant’s employer related to the Contest.

9. **Intellectual Property Rights:** Sponsor makes no claim to ownership of Entrant’s Submitted Entry or any intellectual property that it may contain. Entrant is not granting Sponsor any rights to any intellectual property rights to anything in Entrant’s Submitted Entry. By submitting an Submitted Entry, Entrant only grants Sponsor certain limited rights as set forth in these terms.

Entrant grants to Sponsor and Administrator the right to review Entrant’s Submitted Entry and to have the judges review Entrant’s Submitted Entry. Entrant also grants Sponsor the right to post a reasonable amount of information describing Entrant’s Submitted Entry and any videos, diagrams or images that Entrants may submit or prepare in connection with the Contest. Entrant represents and warrants that Entrant has the right to publicly post all content, audiovisual works and other materials on the Contest website and to grant Sponsor such right.

By submitting an Submitted Entry, Entrant consents to the use by Sponsor, its affiliates, subsidiaries and licensees, of Entrant’s name, likeness, and images in connection with the Contest, in any media or format now known or hereafter invented, in any and all locations worldwide, without any payment to or further approval. Entrant agrees Entrant’s consent is perpetual and irrevocable.

Entrant agrees that nothing in these Rules grants Entrant a right or license to use Sponsor’s name or any of Sponsor’s trademarks or service marks. Entrant grants to Sponsor the right to refer to Entrant’s Submitted Entry on the Contest website and in materials related to Sponsor promotion of the Contest. Other than these uses, Entrant is not granting Sponsor any rights to Entrant’s trademarks.
Likewise, nothing in this Contest requires Entrant to negotiate or do business with Sponsor. Entrant is free to discuss Entrant’s Submitted Entry and the ideas or technologies that it contains with other parties and Entrant is free to contract with any third parties as long as Entrant does not sign any agreement or undertake any obligations that conflict with any agreement Entrant entered into with Sponsor regarding Entrant’s Submitted Entry. Entrant acknowledges that the intent of the Contest is to promote research conducted by AMA members and to promote interest in AMA membership. Entrant’s participation in the Contest does not create an obligation on Sponsor’s part to enter into any further business relationship or to promote Entrant’s solution in any way.

10. **No Confidential Information/No Confidential Relationship:** Sponsor does not wish to receive or hold any submitted materials “in confidence” and accordingly it is agreed that, with respect to Entrant’s Submitted Entry, no confidential relationship or obligation of secrecy is established between Entrant, Sponsor, Administrator or anyone with an ownership interest in Entrant’s Submitted Entry.

11. **Internet:** Sponsor is not responsible for incorrect or inaccurate entry information whether caused by Internet users or by any of the equipment or programing associated with or utilized in the Contest or by any technical or human error which may occur in the processing of the entries in the Contest. The Contest is intended only for play in the United States and shall only be construed and evaluated according to United States law. Entrant should not enter this Contest if Entrant is not a resident of the United States. **Void where prohibited.**

Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion to cancel or suspend this Contest, or randomly award the prizes from among all eligible Entries received prior to action taken by Sponsor or award no prizes should fraud, virus, bugs or other causes beyond the control of Sponsor corrupt the administration, security or proper play of the game. Sponsor is not responsible for computer system, phone line, hardware, software or program malfunctions, or other errors, failures or delays in computer transmissions or network connections that are human or technical in nature.

Should multiple users of the same e-mail account enter the Contest and a dispute thereafter arises regarding the identity of Entrant, the authorized subscriber of said e-mail account at the time of entry will be considered the Entrant. “Authorized account subscriber” is defined as the natural person who is assigned an email address by an Internet access provider, on-line service provider or other organization which is responsible for assignment e-mail address or the domain associated with the submitted e-mail address. Please see Sponsor’s website's privacy policy for details of Sponsor’s policy regarding the personal information collected in connection with this game. Any potential winner may be requested to provide Sponsor with proof that such winner is the authorized account holder of the email address associated with winning entry.
All Entrants must have a valid email address. Sponsor reserves the right at its sole discretion, to disqualify any individual (and all of his or her Contest Entries) who tampers with the entry process. Automated entries are prohibited, and any use of such automated devices will cause disqualification.

12. **Releases/Disclaimers:** Entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and Sponsor’s decisions. As a condition of entering, Entrant(s) agree: (a) to release Sponsor, its affiliates, retailers, sales representatives, distributors, and each of its officers, directors, employees, representatives and agents from any and all liability, loss or damage incurred with respect to the awarding, receipt, possession, and/or use or misuse of any prize, (b) Entrants waive all rights to claim, punitive, incidental, consequential, or any other damages; (c) all causes of action arising out of or connected with this Contest, or any prize awarded, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action; (d) any and all claims, judgments, and award shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, excluding attorneys’ fees and court costs; (e) all issues and question concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Contest Rules, Entrant’s rights and obligations, or the rights and obligations of Sponsor in connection with the Contest, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of State of Illinois, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules; and (f) Entrants consent to the jurisdiction and venue of the federal, state and local courts located in Cook County Illinois.

The winners of the Contest will be required to sign and return to Sponsor an Affidavit of Eligibility and Liability/Publicity Release Form before receiving their prize. Refusal or failure to sign and return the Affidavit of Eligibility and Liability/Publicity Release Form within 14 days from first attempted notification will result in forfeiture of the prize. Except where prohibited by law, acceptance of the prize constitutes winner’s consent to use his/her name, likeness, and biographical data for Sponsor’s promotional purposes without additional compensation.

At the time of the judging, extra alternate finalists/winners may be selected. Such alternate winners may receive a prize if the originally selected winner is disqualified or otherwise determined to be ineligible. If any correspondence of the Contest or any prize is returned as undeliverable, the corresponding prize will be forfeited and will be awarded to an alternate winner. Should a winner make any false statement(s) in any document referenced above, the winner will be required to promptly return to Sponsor his/her prize. Any unclaimed prizes will be awarded as Sponsor deems appropriate. In the event there is a dispute of an Entrant’s identity, the prize will be awarded as Sponsor deems appropriate.

The Sponsor, its directors, employees or agents are not responsible for errors, problems or malfunctions relating to or in connection with the Contest, including without limitation, errors, problems or malfunctions which may occur in connection with the administration of the Contest, the announcement of the prizes, the processing of entries or in any Contest-related materials; or for transactions that are lost, misdirected, or fail to enter into the processing system for any reason; or are processed, reported, or transmitted late or incorrectly; or are lost
for any reason, including computer, telephonic, paper-transfer, or human error, or electronic, computer, or telephonic malfunction, damage, error, omission, interruption, defect, delay in operation or transmission, or any combination thereof. Any and all warranties and/or guarantees on a prize (if any) are subject to the respective manufacturers’ terms therefor, and the winner(s) agrees to look solely to such manufacturer(s) for any such warranty and/or guarantee.

All trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

13. **Publicity Rights/Limited Privacy:** By participating in the Contest, in addition to any other grants granted herein or which may be granted in another agreement with Sponsor, Entrant hereby irrevocably (a) grants to Sponsor the right to use Entrant’s name, likeness, image and biographical information in any and all media for any purpose including, without limitation, advertising and promotional purposes relating to the Contest; and (b) releases Sponsor from any liability with respect thereto. Entrant acknowledges Entrant’s privacy rights will be limited in the Contest.

14. **Legal Warning:** ANY ATTEMPT BY AN individual, whether or not an ENTRANT, TO DELIBERATELY interfere with the OPERATION OF THE CONTEST IS A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS and THE SPONSOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES and diligently pursue all remedies against ANY SUCH individual TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW. WITHOUT LIMITING THE FOREGOING, ENTRANTS FURTHER AGREE THAT THE SPONSOR, ITS AFFILIATES, AND ITS RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, SHAREHOLDERS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, AGENTS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES, LOSSES, COSTS OR EXPENSES, OF ANY KIND, ARISING FROM OR RELATED TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THE REASONABLE CONTROL OF SPONSOR AND/OR THEIR AFFILIATES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, SHAREHOLDERS, REPRESENTATIVES, AND AGENTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ACTS OF GOD, ACTS OF GOVERNMENT, ACTS OF TERROR, ACTS OF WAR, CIVIL UNREST, LABOR SHORTAGES AND/OR STRIKES, EVEN IF ANY ONE OR MORE OF THE PARTIES OR ANY OF THE OTHER RELEASED PARTIES WERE AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY SUCH EVENTS OCCURRING.

15. **Entrant’s Representations and Warranties:** By participating in the Contest and submitting an Submitted Entry, Entrant represents and warrants that all information Entrant enters on the Contest Website is true, accurate and complete to the best of Entrant’s knowledge, that Entrant has the right and authority to submit the Submitted Entry on Entrant’s own behalf, Entrant has secured all necessary consents and provided all necessary attributions with respect to artists, musicians or others whose intellectual property or creative content is included in Entrant’s Submitted Entry, and that Entrant’s Submitted Entry:

(a) is Entrant’s own original work, or is used by permission with full and proper credit given within Entrant’s Submitted Entry;

(b) does not contain confidential information or trade secrets (Entrant’s or anyone else’s);
(c) does not violate or infringe upon the patent rights, industrial design rights, copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy, publicity or other intellectual property or other rights of any person or entity;
(d) does not contain malicious code, such as viruses, timebombs, cancelbots, worms, Trojan horses or other potentially harmful programs or other material or information;
(e) does not and will not violate any applicable law, statute, ordinance, rule or regulation; and
(f) does not trigger any reporting or royalty obligation to any third party.

16. Indemnification: By participating in the Contest, Entrant agrees to release, indemnify and hold harmless Sponsor and its respective affiliates, subsidiaries, as applicable, and their respective agents, representatives, officers, directors, shareholders, and employees (collectively, “Sponsor Entities”) from and against any injuries, losses, damages, claims, actions and any liability of any kind resulting from or arising out of Entrant’s participation in or association with the Contest. Sponsor is not responsible for any miscommunication such as technical failures related to computer, telephone, cable, and unavailable network or server connections, related technical failures, or other failures related to hardware, software or virus, or incomplete, late or misdirected entries. Any compromise to the fair and proper conduct of this Contest may result in the disqualification of a Submitted Entry, termination of the Contest, or other remedial action, at the sole discretion of Sponsor.

17. No Sponsor Obligation: Entrant acknowledges that multiple participants may submit Entries that contain concepts, ideas, innovations or technologies similar to Entrant’s Submitted Entry and that Sponsor, its subsidiaries and business partners may already be investigating or developing solutions or business activities that are related or similar to those that Entrant may disclose in Entrant’s Submitted Entry. Entrant further acknowledges and agrees that Sponsor’s action with respect to another entry, even if similar to Entrant’s Submitted Entry, shall not create in Sponsor any liability to Entrant or others. Further, Sponsor is not and shall not be restricted in any way from pursuing, developing, or commercializing, in any way that Sponsor sees fit, independent of Entrant and at Sponsor’s sole discretion, any technology that is created independent of Entrant’s Submitted Entry. Entrant acknowledges Sponsor is not obligated to take any action whatsoever with regard to Entrant’s Submitted Entry.

By entering the Contest Entrant waives all rights to seek injunctive or equitable relief, or to claim punitive, incidental or consequential damages, or attorneys’ fees.

18. Descriptions of Topic Categories:

RFS / IMG Category Descriptions

Clinical vignettes:
Submissions in this category are patient-related cases and scenarios that have educational value for a wider audience. Clinical vignettes should: a) describe clinical conditions that illustrate unique or important teaching points, b) provide insight into clinical practice, education, or research in either outpatient or hospital settings, c) illustrate important clinical problems commonly encountered by physicians (i.e. diagnostic, therapeutic, management dilemmas,) and d) include a background and discussion of relevant literature.

**Clinical Medicine:**

Submissions in this category should be applicable to research in clinical and translational medicine in patients. Studies suitable to this category include a broad range of approaches such as any type of observational studies (descriptive, case control, cohort, population based studies, etc.), biomarker and translational studies, diagnostic studies, clinical trials (randomized, quasi randomized or non-randomized), systematic review with or without meta-analysis. The study endpoints may range from clinical outcomes (relevant to patient care) to in-vivo physiologic assessments (translational research).

**Improving Health Outcomes:**

Submissions in this category should address topics relevant to health outcomes in the areas of cardiovascular disease and Endocrinology (especially diabetes and obesity). This includes research that results in innovative healthcare delivery, the value of new or repurposed system/clinical practices, cost effectiveness, quality improvement initiatives, impact epidemiological studies and population genetics/genetic epidemiology.

**MSS Category Descriptions**

**Basic Science:**

Submissions in this category should relate to molecular, pharmacologic, or physiologic mechanisms of disease or treatment. This category includes studies that utilize human tissue or animal models to address mechanisms of disease or mechanisms of action of therapies, as well as basic studies examining fundamental aspects of molecular and cellular regulation and genetics studies.

**Clinical Research:**

Submissions in this category should include studies that determine the safety and effectiveness of medications, devices, diagnostic products and treatment regimens. This includes research that establishes a new diagnostic methods or treatment which may be used for prevention, treatment, diagnosis or relieving symptoms of a disease.

**Public Health/Epidemiology:**

Submissions in this category should address topics relevant to population health, global health or epidemiology, including, but not limited to, research that results in innovative healthcare delivery and population genetics/genetic epidemiology or epigenetic.