

World Congress of Epidemiology – now in 2021

FAQs

Why is the congress being postponed?

The health, economic and travel disruption caused by COVID-19 means that it is not feasible for the congress to be held in September 2020. After considering the options, it was necessary to postpone. **The new dates for the congress will be Friday 3rd – Monday 6th September 2021 – put this in your diary now!**

This is a much anticipated congress for the international epidemiology, biostatistics and public health community, and the COVID-19 pandemic shows just how important epidemiology is. This congress has been 6 years in the planning, and we look forward to bringing the World Congress of Epidemiology to Australia! The aim is to engage all of those working in or interested in epidemiology internationally. The overarching theme of the congress is 'Methodological Innovations in Epidemiology', and sub-themes include: Teaching and communicating epidemiology and bio-statistics, Translation from research to policy and practice, and Career development for Early to Mid-Career Epidemiologists. We will now also include a dedicated session for COVID-19 – related presentations at the congress.

What happens to the abstract that I submitted?

We received 1,135 abstracts for the congress, which was beyond our expectations! All submitted abstracts to date are being reviewed and presenters will be notified of provisional acceptance in the coming months. In late 2020/early 2021, we will re-open the abstract submission process to allow for authors to revise their accepted abstracts and/or to submit new abstracts. Final notification of oral or poster presentation format for all abstracts will be made in May 2021 after new abstracts have been assessed and the scientific program is finalised. Abstracts may be withdrawn by emailing program@wce2020.org. However, please consider whether one of the other authors may be able to present on your behalf.

What about bursaries and travel awards?

There are a number of generous bursaries and travel awards available for the congress. For those who have already applied, we will proceed with notifying applicants of the outcome of their travel grant application in the coming months. Successful travel grants will be for attending the congress in September 2021. If you cannot attend the congress in September 2021, you will forfeit the monetary award but you could still list the award on your curriculum vitae. Additional travel awards are likely to become available in 2021.

When will registration open?

We plan to open congress registrations in late 2020/early 2021.

What happens if I can't go to the World Congress of Epidemiology in 2021?

Registrations will not open until late 2020/early 2021, so decisions about attendance can be made around that time. If you wish to withdraw your abstract, you can email program@wce2020.org. However, please consider whether one of the other authors may be able to present on your behalf.

What about sponsorship?

We hope that sponsors will continue to support the congress and acknowledge the essential role that epidemiologists play in promoting the health of populations, and in generating and critiquing evidence to support policy and clinical decisions. We look forward to working with our valued sponsors.

For AEA members: What's going to happen with the AEA Annual General Meeting?

The AEA Annual General Meeting will be held by videoconference around September 2020 in line with the Constitution. Details of how to attend the meeting, ask questions and join discussions will be distributed to members at least one month beforehand. We hope to plan a short virtual scientific session alongside the AGM.

Other questions?

Please contact info@wce2020.org for any other questions and enquiries.