

**Call for Abstracts**  
**NORA Symposium 2006: Research Makes a Difference**

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) requests abstracts for the fifth NORA Symposium to be held in the Washington, D.C. area at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel on April 18-20, 2006. The conference will convene several hundred occupational safety and health researchers, stakeholders, and policymakers from the public and private sectors to celebrate completion of the first decade of the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) and inaugurate the new plan for the next decade of NORA. An important aspect of this conference will be scientific presentations addressing the 21 NORA priorities of the first decade and anticipating the issues of the next ten years. The symposium will be a unique forum for a broad cross-section of the occupational safety and health community to learn about the variety of research accomplishments stimulated or anticipated by the NORA.

**Background**

NIOSH and its partners unveiled NORA in April 1996 as a framework to guide workplace safety and health research nationwide. Approximately 500 organizations and individuals contributed to the development of the Agenda, capturing broad input and consensus to produce 21 priority areas of research (see Table). The presentations solicited through this call for abstracts will illustrate the important contributions being made to workplace safety and health by research in the NORA priorities. This research is the basis for the new NORA plan to guide research through the next 10 years. Building on its success, NORA will enter its second decade with a focus on sector-based partnerships to bring research to practice in workplaces. For more information including definitions of the eight sector groups, visit the NORA website (<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/NORA>).

**NORA Priority Areas**

<b>Disease and Injury</b>	Allergic and Irritant Dermatitis Asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Fertility and Pregnancy Abnormalities Hearing Loss Infectious Diseases Low Back Disorders Musculoskeletal Disorders of the Upper Extremities Traumatic Injuries
<b>Work Environment and Workforce</b>	Emerging Technologies Indoor Environment Mixed Exposures Organization of Work Special Populations at Risk
<b>Research Tools and Approaches</b>	Cancer Research Methods Control Technology and Personal Protective Equipment Exposure Assessment Methods Health Services Research Intervention Effectiveness Research Risk Assessment Methods Social and Economic Consequences of Workplace Illness and Injury Surveillance Research Methods

## **NORA Industry Sector Emphasis Areas**

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing  
Construction  
Health Care and Social Assistance  
Manufacturing  
Mining  
Services  
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities  
Wholesale and Retail Trade

## **Abstract Guidelines**

Presentations will be directed to a broad audience of policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers with diverse interests and disciplines. Please focus on the practical importance of your research and keep discussion of research methods simple and concise. Your research must be sufficiently complete to include a presentation of findings.

**Your abstract must address the following points, which will be rated in the selection process:**

- **Broad importance of the research problem.**
- **Purpose or objectives of the study.**
- **Summary of methods (Please be concise! Should not be the major focus.)**
- **Summary of findings.**
- **How the findings advance the particular research field.**
- **How the findings can be used to improve workplace safety and health and related outcomes.**
- **How the findings relate to a particular industry sector (if applicable).**

## ***Submission***

Abstracts and other registration information must be submitted via the internet through the Symposium web site: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/symp06>

Please limit the body of the abstract to 500 words. Include a title, author(s), organizational affiliation(s), and indicate the relevant NORA priority area(s) and industry sector(s) in the appropriate spaces on the internet submission form.

## ***Presentation Format and PowerPoint Submission***

Selected abstracts must be prepared for both poster presentation and RAPID (5-minute) oral presentation of their major findings. All presenters will be asked to submit a **PowerPoint File** of their 5-min oral presentation at least two weeks in advance of the meeting (no slides or overheads please). Because of the RAPID format, no more than five PowerPoint “slides” per presentation will be permitted. Larger files will be returned to the authors for editing.

**Deadline for receipt of abstracts is December 9, 2005** and notices of acceptance will be forwarded by January 13, 2006. Approximately 400 participants are expected.

If you have questions, please contact Roger Rosa (202-205-7856).

Version of August, 2005, which added the list of NORA sector groups.