



Call for
PRESENTERS

**MESSAGE THERAPY CONFERENCE
UNDERSTANDING PAIN**

JUNE 10, 2023

Delta Hotels Toronto Airport & Conference Centre
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario

Call for Presenters

The Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario (RMTAO) invites individuals to share their knowledge and experience at our upcoming RMTAO 2023 In-person Education Conference. This Call for Presenters is your guide to determining how you can contribute to information sharing and knowledge transfer with members of the massage therapy profession. Proposals may be submitted to present relevant materials in your area of expertise for any of the topics identified in this Call for Presenters, or any other topic that fits within the theme.

About the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario

The RMTAO is a member-driven, not-for-profit professional association that provides leadership and advocates on behalf of Registered Massage Therapists (RMTs) in Ontario, Canada. The RMTAO exists in order to advance the profession of massage therapy in Ontario by promoting the profession to the public, educational institutions, government, business and other health care professions. The RMTAO advocates on behalf of the profession and provides education, information and programming that encourage professional growth and high standards for RMTs. More information can be found at www.rmtao.com.

Conference Overview

The RMTAO Education Conference is an education event that emphasizes excellence in the profession of massage therapy. The theme for the 2023 conference is *Understanding Pain*. Pain is one of the top reasons patients seek massage therapy treatments. The theme will provide RMTs with an in-depth exploration into the multi-dimensional nature of pain, helping with understanding its role in the overall health of patients along with providing solutions to ease the discomfort it brings into daily activities.

Being a speaker with the RMTAO will allow you to:

- Gain exposure to other massage therapists, educators and vendors who share your commitment to educational excellence and high standards of care.
- Share ideas, knowledge and experience with massage therapists new to the profession and those with years of experience.

Defining the Theme

The theme will be focused on breaking down the multi-dimensional nature of pain by providing education on the science behind it, the role it plays in a patient's overall health management, the psychological and somatic side of pain and how massage therapy fits into a patient's management of pain holistically. The sessions will provide an overview of the science of pain, the factors that can influence pain experience, and the different ways different populations, conditions and pain locations and impact pain experience and treatment.

Potential topics:

The topics below are some examples of topics the RMTAO would be interested in for our 2023 Education Conference. If you have a topic idea that is not listed below but would fit into any of the 3 streams, we encourage you to submit it.

Stream 1: The Science of Pain

- Breaking down the science of pain from a neuro, psychosocial level
- Understanding the anatomy of pain
- Understanding somatic pain
- Overview of the multi-modal approach to pain management (how massages fit into the big picture of pain management)
- Role of pain medication and how massage fits in with managing dose/dependence/addiction

Stream 2: Location-specific Pain

- Shoulder, Pelvic, TMJ, Neck, Back (Lower Back, Upper Back), Hip and Knee, Ankle, Foot, Sciatica, Headaches and Migraines, Post-Concussion, Frozen Shoulder

Stream 3: Population/Condition-specific Pain

- Sports-related Injuries, Palliative Care, Pregnancy, Oncology, Reproductive Health (Dysmenorrhea, Menopause, Chronic Pelvic Pain), Fibromyalgia/Polymyalgia, Neuralgia (e.g., Post-Herpetic), Arthritis, Post Joint Replacement

Conference Session Information

The RMTAO Education Conference will include two plenary presentations and three concurrent sessions divided into three streams (total of nine sessions on the agenda). All the sessions will be approximately one hour in length. The RMTAO may consider alternative session lengths but reserves the right to determine the session format based on the content. All sessions will be lecture format and will teach skills that can be immediately incorporated into practice. Time for an interactive Q&A session can be included towards the end of the session. The topic being presented should be directly related to one or more of the career-span competencies for massage therapy (strive.cmta.com). The sessions should not be an overview or promotion of another course or book and should not be used to promote or sell a product or service.

Proposals

Individuals who wish to participate in the 2023 RMTAO Education Conference are welcome to submit one or more proposals to the RMTAO Education Conference Committee. By submitting a proposal, presenters are deemed to have agreed to reserve the Conference date (June 10, 2023) until such a time as the results of the Education Conference Committee's review of proposals is completed.

Proposal Requirements

In order to be considered, proposals should provide the following elements.

Presenter Information

The individual or individuals who would be presenting the proposed session should be clearly identified by providing:

- a) All contact information for all presenters
- b) A brief 150-word biography of each presenter
- c) A curriculum vitae for each presenter
- d) Two references for each presenter (name, title, all contact information for references)

Session Information

The education content of the proposed session must be clearly articulated and should include the following information:

- a) Proposed title
- b) Proposed topic category (Stream 1, 2 or 3)
- c) Session description: a brief description outlining the overall educational information, relevance and value to be derived from the session
- d) Learning outcomes: the specific skills and knowledge that participants will obtain by participating (provided in bullet points)

Proposal Review Process

The proposals will be evaluated by the RMTAO Education Conference Committee. The selection process will be based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the theme of the conference;
- Anticipated level of interest to delegates;
- Introduction of new techniques and presenters to the conference;
- Sufficiency of detail regarding the proposed session;
- Education and experience; and
- Organization and clarity of the proposal.

The RMTAO Education Conference Committee will finalize its selections as soon as possible after the submission deadline. All presenters are deemed to be holding the Conference date (June 10, 2023) pending the outcome of the Committee's deliberations.

Conference Attendance and Registration

Accepted presenters will receive an honorarium and complimentary registration for the full conference, should they wish to participate in other sessions.

All sessions hosted during the conference will be live in-person presentations from the speakers (i.e., sessions will not be pre-recorded).

Submission of Proposals

Detailed proposals should be sent via email in a PDF or Word document to Hariti Malhotra, RMTAO Education and Events Planner, at hariti@rmtao.com. All proposals must be received by the RMTAO office by **November 25, 2022**. In fairness to those adhering to the timelines, submissions received after this deadline will not be reviewed.

The RMTAO reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal that in its view does not meet the intended needs of the conference delegates. The RMTAO also reserves the right to reject all proposals. All decisions will be made by the RMTAO Executive Director on the advice of the RMTAO Education Conference Committee. All decisions are final. By submitting a proposal, prospective presenters are agreeing to hold harmless the RMTAO, its Board of Directors, volunteers, staff and agents working on behalf of the delivery of the Education Conference. All submissions become the property of the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario.

Questions

Questions regarding this Call for Presenters or any component of the Education Conference should be directed to:

Hariti Malhotra

Education and Events Planner

Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario

416-596-9074

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