



Late-Breaking Clinical Trial Policies and Procedures

(Updated Sept. 2025)

The American College of Cardiology Foundation (hereinafter referred to as “ACC”) is accepting Late-Breaking Clinical Trial (“LBCT”) submissions for the American College of Cardiology’s 75th Annual Scientific Sessions & Expo in New Orleans, Louisiana (“ACC.26”) from Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025, until **Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025, 1 p.m. ET.**

Please Note: All presentations must be in-person for ACC.26. We are not offering virtual or remote presentation capabilities for peer-reviewed research. If your submission is accepted, you or a co-author will need to make arrangements to present in-person.

LBCT acceptance notifications will be sent out on Jan. 20, 2026. If your submission is accepted as an LBCT, you are required to immediately withdraw any other type of submission of the same research. See item #11 below. Failure to do so may result in an embargo break, which could subject your LBCT to penalties, including removal from the LBCT program. Send withdrawals to mparks@acc.org.

Submission Instructions: Please read the following instructions carefully.

Section 1 details LBCT submission categories.

Section 2 has important information about submitting your LBCT.

Section 3 contains information for accepted submissions.

SECTION 1: Submission Categories

ACC.26 is accepting LBCT submissions across the following five categories:

- 1. LBCT major study:** First-time presentations of the primary endpoint(s) of a new, large-scale clinical trial.
- 2. Multicenter observational study or registry:** Data collected from multiple centers without intervention, typically from registries, cohorts, or epidemiological studies.
- 3. Secondary analysis of major clinical trial:** New insights or data derived from a previously conducted major clinical trial, focusing on secondary endpoints, subgroup analyses, or extended follow-up.
- 4. Smaller study/randomized clinical trial (RCT):** Smaller-scale RCTs or pilot studies that may not meet the size or scope of a major LBCT but still offer novel or impactful findings.
- 5. Other:** Submissions that don’t fit neatly into the above types.

SECTION 2: Submitting Your LBCT

A: General Information

- LBCT sessions at ACC.26 provide notable exposure and recognition for studies likely to significantly affect clinical practice. Potential presenters must complete an online application outlining the purpose, design, and methods of their study. Evaluation for presentation in the LBCT sessions will be based on the impact and novelty of the research; rigor of the design/methods; major clinical



endpoints; and the quality of the statistical plan. Priority will be given to trials whose results will be presented for the first time at ACC.26.

- Investigators/Authors do not need to be ACC members to submit or otherwise participate in ACC.26.
- ACC will not reimburse ACC.26 LBCT presenters for travel, hotel, or per diem expenses.
- Any human experimentation must conform to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki of the World Medical Association. If any such experimentation is undertaken, the presenting author must be able to provide copies of informed consents signed by human participants.
- The ACC.26 Program Committee endorses the position of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (“AAAS”) in requiring assurances of the responsible use of animals in scientific research. All submissions for consideration must be in compliance with these AAAS guidelines.
- For ACC.26, three LBCT sessions will be co-sponsored with major journals: The *Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC)*, the *Journal of the American Medication Association (JAMA)*, and the *New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)*.
 - All accepted LBCTs are eligible for review by the journals.
 - Each accepted LBCT will be considered for rapid review and online journal publication, at the discretion of the Journal editors, with the release timed to coincide with presentation at ACC.26.
 - Acceptance to a journal requires that the trial investigators comply with all procedural deadlines and policies of that journal and agree to submit a completed manuscript at the journal’s required deadline if the LBCT is accepted for publication.
- There is no relationship between selection for publication in a particular journal and being selected to present in that journal’s co-sponsored session.
- General information subject to change due to circumstances beyond the ACC’s control.

B: Submission Policies

- All submitting authors must file up-to-date disclosures through ACC’s online disclosure system (<http://disclosures.acc.org/>) in order to enter the LBCT submission site. All lead investigators must also disclose for themselves by Friday, Feb. 6, 2026 if their LBCT is accepted for presentation.
- LBCTs must be submitted by 1 p.m. ET on Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025. The ACC is not responsible for the review of submissions that are not submitted by this deadline.
- Submissions with “INCOMPLETE” status cannot be processed.
- There is no limit to the number of LBCTs an author/investigator can submit. The submitting author/investigator is considered the presenting author/investigator, unless another co-author/investigator is appointed to present in the submission.
- Multiple authors/investigators should not submit the same research. LBCTs that appear to be duplicate versions of a single study will be rejected.



- Authors/investigators must follow all instructions set forth in these Submission Instructions for completing the submission. Please keep in mind that for LBCTs, final results may not be known at the time of submission.
- Clarity of expression will be considered in the review process. The overall quality of language used should ensure comprehension by the reader.
- Authors/investigators may use a maximum of five unique abbreviations in the body of the submission. Place abbreviations in parentheses after the full word the first time it appears. Abbreviations increase the difficulty of reading and evaluating LBCTs.
- Only commonly used abbreviations should appear in the title of the LBCT.
- **If your research – whether presenting data in part or in whole – is accepted as both an abstract and LBCT, you must withdraw your abstract from the main abstract program before Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2026. Any data being presented as an LBCT cannot be presented in one of the ACC.26 poster, moderated poster, or oral abstract sessions. To withdraw an accepted abstract that is duplicative of an accepted LBCT, please email Matthew Parks at mparks@acc.org. Failure to do so may result in a broken embargo and could subject the LBCT and presenters to penalties, including removal from the LBCT program.**
- Proofread LBCTs carefully to avoid errors before they are submitted. The ACC is not authorized to make changes to a submission, including typographical errors.
- Authors/investigators may return to the online submission system to edit LBCTs, revise information, correct typographical errors, tables, graphics, or delete a submission at any time before 1 p.m. ET on Nov. 18, 2025. After this time, the system will be closed and complete submissions will be forwarded for the review process. An author/investigator may not revise or resubmit an LBCT to make changes or corrections after this deadline; instead, the submission may be withdrawn. If you choose to withdraw an LBCT after the submission deadline, written notification must be sent to Matthew Parks at mparks@acc.org.

C: Copyright and Confidentiality Policies

- On behalf of all co-authors/investigators, the submitting author/investigator agrees that the submission of an LBCT constitutes the submitting author/investigator and all co-authors'/investigators' agreement to assign and transfer to the ACC all rights, title, and interest, including copyright and all rights subsumed thereunder, in and to the LBCT and all material contained therein if the LBCT is accepted. Except as otherwise set forth herein, the ACC, as holder of the copyright on the accepted LBCT, reserves all rights of reproduction, distribution, performance, display, and the right to create derivative works in both print and digital formats. The assignment of copyright to ACC shall be required for, and the terms set forth in this section shall apply to any and all LBCTs submitted or presented in any format, including but not limited to live, hard copy, or digital formats.



- ACC hereby grants to the submitting author/investigator and the co-authors/investigators a non-exclusive, limited, nontransferable license to use the LBCT and presentation and all content contained therein for educational, scientific, and research purposes, provided, however, that such license shall only be effective and such use is only permitted following the conclusion of ACC.26 and after any embargoes in place on ACC.26 content have been removed. Such license does not include the right for the authors/investigators, co-authors/investigators, or any sponsors to provide links to, or copies of, the LBCT or presentations to third parties or ACC.26 attendees in advance of or during ACC.26. Notwithstanding, the authors/investigators and co-authors/investigators are permitted to include a link to the LBCT in their presentation.
- Subject to the prior approval of ACC and the payment of an applicable royalty fee, exhibitors may be granted a license to link to LBCTs or presentations from the exhibitor booth during ACC.26.
- On behalf of all co-authors/investigators, the submitting author/investigator agrees that any requests for reproduction, distribution, performance, display or the right to create derivative works of an LBCT or presentation thereof shall be referred to ACC as the copyright holder.
- Primary responsibility for all data and content contained within an LBCT and the presentation rests with the presenter, if the LBCT is accepted. On behalf of all co-authors/investigators, the submitting author/investigator agrees that all data and content contained within an LBCT and presentation shall be the original work of the authors/investigators and shall not violate or infringe the intellectual property rights of any third party.
- All LBCTs submitted in connection with ACC.26 will be disclosed to members of the ACC.26 peer review selection committee, as well as to ACC employees and contractors as necessary.
- LBCTs that are accepted for presentation are summarized for publication after ACC.26 and are not available to the public in advance of the Annual Scientific Session & Expo. LBCTs not accepted for presentation are not summarized, and ordinarily are not disclosed outside of ACC and persons associated with the selection process (i.e., the peer review committee). Notwithstanding these policies and procedures, ACCF is not subject to any confidentiality requirements with respect to submitted LBCTs. In addition, compliance with any disclosure or nondisclosure requirements that apply to researchers or research sponsors (whether under federal securities laws, contract agreement, or otherwise) is the sole responsibility of the researcher and/or sponsor, and not the ACC.

D: Embargo Policies

- All authors must read and comply with the ACCF embargo policy set forth in the [ACC.26 Media & Communications Policies](#), which states that scientific study results accepted for presentation during the Annual Scientific Session & Expo must not be released prior to the official embargo time at ACC.26, which is generally the time of presentation. Anyone determined by ACCF to have violated the embargo policy may be withdrawn from the LBCT program and/or otherwise sanctioned.



Understanding the embargo time is the sole responsibility of the author/investigator. Click here to read the [ACC.26 Media & Communications Policies](#) carefully.

- In certain cases, a determination may be made that to fulfill the requirements of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or a corresponding regulatory organization in any country where that company's stock is traded, a publicly traded company, before the public release date, must disclose data or information from confidential LBCTs. This is generally deemed necessary when it is considered probable that a reasonable investor in the company would regard such data or information as constituting a significant change to the totality of information provided to the investor.
- The LBCT generally remains eligible to be included in ACC.26 on the condition that the company, prior to the release, submits a letter to ACC signed by the company's General Counsel or other legal advisor. The letter must include the title of the abstract, specify the format/nature of the public disclosure, and state that the information must be publicly disclosed to comply with securities laws and that the information disclosed is the minimum necessary to be in compliance with these laws.
- A copy of any press releases or other public statements that would be distributed must be provided in advance. Send required letter and any press release/public statement to **Nicole Napoli, ACC Director of Media Relations**, at nnapoli@acc.org at least one week prior to planned distribution.
- The ACC reserves the right to exclude a study from consideration for the program, remove the presentation from the LBCT program, remove the study from consideration for a press release or other promotions, or to remove the study from the scientific program entirely if prior notice of public disclosure is not given and/or prior notice does not meet requirements listed above.
- All LBCTs are embargoed until the start of the ACC.26 session they are included in.
- Some, though not all, LBCTs may be selected for an ACC press conference. Participation is required by either the presenting author/investigator or a co-author/investigator. ACC staff will reach out to LBCT authors once selected with more details.
- LBCTs not selected for a press conference may be required to participate in a press release, press interviews, etc.
- Organizations with research being presented at ACC.26 may not conduct promotional media activities that disclose results of the research prior to the end of the embargo period or during the official program times of ACC.26. Promotional media activities refer to any activities that involve news media outlets, satellite media tours or corporate receptions. The only exception to the above-mentioned embargo policy is closed investigator meetings for participants in the trial. These meetings must be held at ACC.26 and may be held March 28 – 30, 2026, provided they are held during the designated time slots as outlined in the Non-Accredited Satellite Event Guidelines and are approved through the Satellite Event Request Form approval process. Only exhibitors at ACC.26 and universities and non-profit organizations that are affiliated with or supported by one or more exhibiting companies, may request permission to hold investigator meetings.



- In the event that media representatives contact authors/investigators, presenters and/or company sponsors, permission must be given by the ACC Media Relations Department before conducting any interviews or distributing embargoed information. Responsibility for information shared in this manner rests solely with the disclosing authors, presenters and/or company sponsors.
- Authors, presenters and/or company sponsors are responsible for abiding by all [ACC.26 Media & Communications Policies](#).

E: Payment Policies

- There is a USD \$399 non-refundable processing fee for each LBCT submitted, payable online by credit card only. Purchase orders, checks, and electronic bank transfers will not be accepted.
- This processing fee covers the cost of submission and processing of the LBCT.
- **No processing fee refunds** will be given in the event of rejection or non-review of a duplicate submission.

F: Registration for ACC.26

- Submission of an LBCT constitutes a commitment by the author(s)/investigator(s) to present at ACC.26 if accepted and participate in all related ACC.26 press activities. Failure to present and register for the meeting, if not justified, will jeopardize future acceptance of LBCTs.
- The ACC.26 registration fee is waived for accepted LBCT presenters. If you have already registered and paid the registration fee, please request a refund in writing by sending an email to ACC@maritz.com.
- Presenters must register for ACC.26 in the appropriate category (member, nonmember, etc.).
- Registration opens Oct. 2025. Check the ACC.26 [registration page](#) for additional details.
- ACC will not reimburse ACC.26 LBCT presenters for travel, hotel, or per diem expenses.

G: Disclosure Policies

- LBCTs will be considered “complete” without co-author/investigators disclosures and will go to review as long as all submission elements are complete.
- If an LBCT is accepted for presentation, the presenting author/lead investigator will be asked to comply with the ACC’s disclosure requirements. Indication of the relationship, the associated commercial entity, and level of support is required for each presenting author/investigator. Authors/Investigators will be asked to submit this information no later than Friday, Feb. 6, 2026. Failure to provide disclosure information will result in the removal of an accepted LBCT from the program.
- All authors/investigators presenting at ACC.26 must display a slide at the beginning of their presentation with their respective disclosure information or, if applicable, state that they have nothing to disclose.



H: Eligibility Policies

- Applications are not eligible for consideration if the data has been presented at a U.S. or international meeting held before ACC.26.
- Applications are not eligible for consideration if the data has been published before ACC.26.

SECTION 3: Accepted Submissions

A: General Information

- Titles and presenters of accepted LBCTs will be listed in the ACC.26 online program by the end of Jan. 2026.
- The submitting author/investigator of an accepted LBCT will receive an email by Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026. The submitter will be asked to reconfirm the name and contact information of the presenter.
- ACC is committed to providing the audience and faculty the best education environment possible. The ACC uses an all-electronic format for audiovisual requirements. All meeting rooms utilizing audiovisual equipment will be networked. Presentations will be downloaded from a central server and sent to the respective meeting room on a secured site. The Presentation Site will open in Feb. for presenters to upload their files in advance. As a presenter of a LBCT, presenters are required to submit a draft of their presentation two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting (or earlier, depending on whether the submission is also accepted for publication in one of the three journals ACC is working with this year). ACC will also enforce the requirement that speakers must check in at the Speaker Service Center onsite at least three (3) hours prior to their designated presentation time.
- Presentation from personal laptops, USB flash drives, or other similar devices will not be permitted. Files will be sent electronically from the Speaker Service Center to the appropriate session room. Presenters are not permitted to take their presentation directly to the session room. Any Mac-based presentations must be converted to a compatible PC format such as PowerPoint, Flash, or PDF format. There will be technicians in the Speaker Service Center to assist presenters with the conversion process if needed. The computers in the Speaker Service Center will be configured with hardware and software exactly like computers in the session rooms.