

How to participate in respiratory drug delivery meetings

Want to do more than just attend the RDD meeting but don't know where to start?

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Attending Respiratory Drug Delivery (RDD) meetings can help you develop new contacts or give old friends and colleagues a chance to catch up on the latest scientific, clinical and business developments. Since 1988, RDD meetings have provided a venue for leading academic and industry scientists to share information on aerosol pharmaceutical development, and the next conference, which will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona, May 11-15, 2008, will undoubtedly have a significant impact on the industry. Many of the participants are decision makers: CEOs, managing directors, and regulators represent more than 10% of the attendees.

Meetings are held in Europe and the US in alternate years. The RDD Europe meeting held in Paris in 2007 drew about 380 delegates from 19 countries, and approximately 700 participants from 17 countries attended the last US meeting, held in Boca Raton, Florida in April 2006. In addition to the regular program, pharmaceutical companies and the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Inhalation Technology Focus Group hold side meetings, and a great deal of networking takes place in the hallways.



Peter R. Byron delivers the welcome address at RDD Europe 2007.

RDD 2008 meeting topics

- Drug and Formulation Design to Improve Lung Affinity, Duration and Disposition
- COPD - Pharmacological Targets, Treatment and Clinical Pharmacodynamics
- Progress in Lung Pathophysiology, Cancer Treatment and Pharmacogenetics
- PK-PD Challenges for New Drugs and Biotech Products for Pulmonary Administration
- Necessary Patient and Physician Education for New Aerosol Therapies
- Technologies for Enhanced Nasal and Pulmonary Delivery
- Advances in Particle Engineering, Nanotechnology and Excipient Control
- Progress in Research Methods and Regulatory Science

The conference offers opportunities for participation by both scientists and non-scientists with a large variety of job descriptions. At RDD Europe 2007, about one half of the participants were scientists, almost 15% were process and packaging technologists, and more than 25% were involved in sales, marketing and business. A table exhibition provides a forum for scientists and business professionals who cannot disseminate their work as scientific papers or poster presentations due to a lack of resources or competitive constraints. This short summary outlines the various ways to participate and how best to ensure that your proposal will be accepted.

Conference papers

Although the deadline has passed for submission of a speaker or topic nomination for RDD 2008, you may want to consider submitting your ideas for future conferences. RDD meetings feature speakers who summarize the state of the art and debate the future of nasal and pulmonary drugs, therapeutics, devices, treatment, and regulation. While the meeting organizers invite some experts to speak based on personal knowledge of their work, they also accept self nominations from the scientific, business, and regulatory communities. If you nominate yourself, you will need to communicate in your proposal that you have information the audience might be interested in hearing and that your area of expertise fits the theme of one of the meeting topics.

If your abstract is accepted for the conference, you will need to produce an 8 to 10 page paper for inclusion in the conference proceedings. An RDD content editor will help you to organize the paper effectively. After the completed paper passes the review process, the manuscript is sent to the publication coordinator for final editing. The editors are also available to help you to maximize the impact of your PowerPoint slides for presentation at the meeting.

Presenting a poster at RDD meetings

It's not too late to be considered as a poster presenter for RDD 2008. Poster presentations provide a great opportunity to communicate your research findings without having to slave over a full paper or face an audience of hundreds of people. Posters also give you the opportunity to talk to meeting attendees about your work one-on-one, giving you the chance to discuss future collaboration or to exchange contact information. Also, abstracts will be published in the meeting's proceedings and will be added to a comprehensive, searchable online database with more than 1,000 articles that is available to scientists worldwide.

Submitting an abstract for a poster:

Deadline: January 11, 2008

Mail abstract to: rdalby@rx.umaryland.edu

Abstract length: 3-5 pages plus a list of references

Topics:

- Physiology
- Pharmacology
- Chemistry
- Aerosol delivery technology
- Formulation
- Product development
- Analytical testing
- Treatment
- Clinical practice
- Patient preference
- Regulatory science.

Complete guidelines are available at www.rddonline.com

Any individual or organization can submit an abstract on a topic related to pulmonary or nasal aerosol science or therapeutics. For your best chance of acceptance, you should focus on a narrow area within one of those topics. Your proposal will be reviewed by a committee to ensure that it contains data, describes a model, or otherwise provides new insight of interest to a high percentage of the RDD audience.

Poster abstracts that criticize or comment on competitors without providing data or a reference to support the comment will be rejected. RDD editors pride themselves on maintaining a high scientific standard and will almost always reject heavily one-sided poster abstracts. In addition, you must obtain written permission for the use of copyrighted materials such as figures, tables, and large sections of text that you reproduce in your manuscript. Make sure to start contacting copyright holders early in the writing process because RDD cannot publish your work unless it receives copies of the permissions.

Poster abstracts will also go through a formatting and proofreading process before publication. The editors are very supportive, especially in the case of authors from overseas for whom English is a second language, and will help ensure that your abstract is clear and concisely written, with as few grammatical or typographical errors as possible.



RDD attendees have the opportunity to ask questions about products at table exhibit demonstrations.

Table exhibitions

This low key scientific, commercial, and networking environment allows participants and exhibitors to meet in a relaxed atmosphere adjacent to the main auditorium and poster session. Table exhibits provide an ideal way to demonstrate small devices or to describe a technology or service. Companies might feature inhaler components, a filling tool, or literature about toxicological evaluation; but whatever your exhibit is promoting, potential customers

get a chance to examine and ask questions about your display.

As a side benefit, companies that present table exhibits also have the opportunity to participate in the RDD Online resource guide that has become a valuable resource for finding products and services in the inhaled pharmaceutical market. Only one table is permitted per company, and these are assigned on a first-come basis.

If you would like to request a table, an online application is available. To find the application, go to the RDD 2008 page at www.rddonline.com and click on the "Exhibition" button at the top of the page.

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