Presentation Formats

General education session proposals may be submitted in any of the formats listed below. Proposals may be reclassified to a more appropriate format at HIMSS’s discretion.

60-Minute Lecture
A 60-minute traditional, lecture-type conference education session in which a specific topic is presented. The presentation includes a brief question and answer period during the last 10 minutes of the session. There is a two-speaker limit for this format.

60-Minute Essential Conversation
A 60-minute education session that consists of a 20-minute lecture followed by 40 minutes of “essential conversation” with the audience. The goal of this session is to engage the audience in active learning and participation. The speaker(s) facilitate discussion by asking for comments and questions from the audience, allowing participants to contribute to the session content and drive their own learning. Attendees are able to hear the experiences of an entire room and listen to multiple perspectives on the same issue. This format will allow attendees to connect, challenge, question, inspire, motivate and learn together through the conversation and experiences of their peers. Excellent facilitation skills are needed. There is a two-speaker limit for this format.

30-Minute SPARK Session
A 30-minute SPARK (Session Providing Actionable & Rapid Knowledge) session focuses on one key factor that encourages fresh and new ideas aligned with a HIMSS21 topic category. The intent of a SPARK is to explain a concept or idea, or impart some type of response to a problem designed to add to the attendee’s knowledge. The structure should include an introduction/problem statement, discussion of the concept or idea, and results/lessons learned.

Speakers should be comfortable engaging an audience in an extemporaneous but rehearsed style. Speakers presenting in this format will not use a PowerPoint presentation, podium or other monitor/teleprompter-type equipment.

In order to submit a SPARK proposal, a URL to a three-minute video that highlights the speaker’s style and delivery for a presentation of this type is required. This is a solo speaker format.

NEW! Life Changing Innovation Session
These interactive 30-minute sessions will feature compelling real-world stories of innovation from different perspectives of the global health ecosystem. Through the use of storytelling, speakers will share their healthcare innovation journey. There is a two-speaker limit for this format.