



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

APLAR 2026 PRESS AND MEDIA RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Purpose and application

This policy establishes the requirements, conditions and conduct expectations for press and media representatives attending APLAR 2026. It is intended to support appropriate editorial coverage of the Congress while protecting scientific integrity, author rights, unpublished research, presentation materials and the experience of delegates, speakers, sponsors and exhibitors.

The policy applies to all media activity connected with APLAR 2026 before, during and after the Congress. This includes registration, accreditation, access, interview requests, press releases, filming, photography, social media activity, sponsor media activity and onsite conduct.

2. Registration category

APLAR 2026 will include a dedicated registration category titled Media / Press Registration. This category is complimentary for approved media representatives attending for the purpose of independent editorial reporting.

Submission of an expression of interest form does not confirm approval. Media registration will only be confirmed once the applicant has provided the required credentials and the application has been reviewed and approved by the APLAR Congress Secretariat.

The media registration category does not create a right of access to all Congress activities. All access remains subject to this policy, the registration terms and conditions, programme restrictions, room capacity, venue rules and any direction given by APLAR or the APLAR Congress Secretariat.

3. Governance and approval authority

The APLAR Congress Secretariat will manage the media accreditation process for APLAR 2026. The APLAR Steering Committee will retain governance oversight of the policy and may review implementation after the Congress.

- Receive and review media registration applications.
- Approve or decline standard applications.
- Coordinate approved media requests, including filming and interviews.
- Issue and manage media badges onsite.
- Escalate sensitive, unclear or exceptional applications to the nominated APLAR representative or Steering Committee delegate.



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

4. Eligibility for media accreditation

Media accreditation is available to representatives of recognised media outlets attending APLAR 2026 for independent editorial coverage. The applicant must be attending in a journalistic capacity and must not be using the media category to support commercial, promotional, sponsor, marketing or public relations activity.

Eligible applicants may include	Not eligible for complimentary media accreditation
Medical, health and science journalists; recognised medical publications; recognised online health or science media; broadcast media; approved freelance journalists with confirmed assignment; approved patient advocacy publications attending for editorial reporting.	Pharmaceutical or sponsor representatives; public relations agencies acting for sponsors; marketing, sales or advertising representatives; financial analysts; investor relations; corporate communications; content producers attending for commercial, promotional or sponsor-related purposes.

Applicants who are not eligible for complimentary media accreditation may still register for APLAR 2026 under the relevant paid registration category, subject to normal registration rules and access conditions.

5. Accreditation evidence

Applicants may be required to provide supporting information before approval is granted. The Secretariat may request additional evidence where the applicant's role, publication, editorial independence or purpose of attendance is unclear.

- Official media identification, where available.
- Letter of assignment from the media organisation being represented.
- Two recent by-lined health, science or medical articles.
- Publication, outlet or station details.
- Evidence that editorial content is independent of advertising or sponsor control, where required.
- Previous APLAR or related congress coverage, where applicable.
- Details of proposed interviews, photography, filming or broadcast activity.

Business cards, media association memberships or general statements of interest are not sufficient on their own to establish eligibility.

6. Freelance journalists, broadcast media and production crews

Freelance journalists may apply for media accreditation where they can demonstrate a confirmed assignment from a recognised media outlet and recent independent editorial work. Freelance



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

accreditation must only be used for the outlet or outlets disclosed and approved as part of the application.

Broadcast media representatives may be accredited where they meet the eligibility criteria and comply with the filming, recording and access requirements in this policy.

Production companies, documentary crews or similar groups must submit a detailed request in advance. The request should explain the purpose of filming, requested locations, proposed interview subjects, intended use of footage, distribution plan, funding or sponsor disclosures and, where relevant, examples of previous work.

7. Access entitlements and exclusions

Approved media access	Excluded unless separately approved or paid
Scientific sessions; opening ceremony; exhibition; poster areas; approved press and media briefings; approved media interview opportunities.	Ticketed functions unless a paid ticket is purchased; workshops; industry-only sessions or industry-hosted meetings; VIP functions; invitation-only events; speaker preparation rooms; faculty lounges; closed committee or governance meetings; continuing medical education credits.

Media access is subject to capacity, safety, venue requirements and any specific session restrictions. Media representatives must leave a session or area if requested by APLAR, venue security or the APLAR Congress Secretariat.

8. Abstract Embargo, Copyright and Scientific Content Protection

8.1 Copyright and Intellectual Property

All presentations, posters, abstracts, slides, images, recordings, educational materials and scientific content presented at APLAR 2026 remain the intellectual property of the respective authors, presenters and rights holders unless otherwise stated.

Media representatives must not reproduce, distribute, publish, record or commercially exploit Congress content without the permission of the relevant rights holder and any approvals required by APLAR.

Unauthorised use of copyrighted material may result in removal of media accreditation and any other action considered appropriate by APLAR.



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

8.2 Abstract Embargo and Protected Scientific Content

APLAR 2026 will apply an abstract embargo to protect authors and unpublished scientific content. Unless otherwise advised by APLAR, accepted abstracts and related scientific information must not be reported, published or publicly released before the approved abstract release date or embargo time.

Once abstracts are publicly released, media reporting should be limited to information contained within the abstract. Information beyond the abstract may remain protected until the related presentation, publication or nominated Congress release point.

Protected content may include, but is not limited to:

- Slides and presentation materials.
- Posters and poster discussions.
- Late-breaking abstracts.
- Oral presentation content and additional research data.
- Graphics, speaker commentary, interview material, audio, video and written materials associated with scientific presentations.
- Any content designated by APLAR or the presenter as restricted.

Media representatives must not request, publish, reproduce or distribute protected content without the permission of the rights holder and any approvals required by APLAR.

A breach of the embargo or unauthorised use of protected content may result in withdrawal of media accreditation, removal from the Congress, refusal of future media registrations and any other action considered appropriate by APLAR.

9. Photography

Approved media may take photographs during official press conferences, approved interviews, approved media opportunities and in public Congress areas where photography is not otherwise restricted. Photography must be non-disruptive and must not interfere with speakers, delegates, exhibitors, staff or Congress operations.

Presenters and poster authors may opt out of photography. APLAR may implement a No Photography or No Recording marker for slides and posters. Where a presenter or author has indicated that photography is not permitted, media and delegates must respect that restriction.

Photographs of slides, posters, products, exhibition stands or other materials may be restricted where intellectual property, privacy, regulatory or commercial considerations apply.



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

Official Congress photographs may be made available by APLAR for editorial use. Availability, usage rights and attribution requirements will be advised by the Secretariat.

10. Filming, audio recording and livestreaming

Filming, audio recording and livestreaming are not permitted in scientific sessions, workshops, poster sessions, exhibition areas or other Congress activities unless prior written approval has been granted by the APLAR Congress Secretariat.

Approval of media accreditation does not automatically grant permission to film, record or livestream. Any media representative, production company, broadcaster or documentary crew wishing to undertake filming, recording or broadcasting activities must submit a request to the APLAR Congress Secretariat. Requests should be submitted no later than 21 days before the commencement of APLAR 2026 wherever practicable and should include:

- Purpose of filming or recording.
- Proposed date, time and location.
- Interview subjects, where known.
- Intended use of footage or audio.
- Distribution channel or publication outlet.
- Sponsor, funding or commercial disclosures, where relevant.

Approved filming may only occur within designated filming locations identified by the APLAR Congress Secretariat or in other locations expressly approved in writing. Approval may be subject to conditions, including timing, supervision, equipment restrictions, visible filming identification and venue requirements.

Live streaming or real-time broadcast of scientific, educational or Congress content is not permitted unless expressly approved in writing by APLAR.

11. Social media

APLAR supports appropriate social media engagement that promotes scientific exchange, education and Congress visibility. Media and delegates may share general Congress updates, educational commentary and session observations, provided they comply with embargo requirements, presenter preferences, recording restrictions, privacy expectations and applicable Congress policies.

- Do not livestream presentations without written approval.
- Do not record or publish full presentations.



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

- Do not share restricted slides, posters or content marked No Photography or No Recording.
- Do not publish sponsor product claims where this is not permitted by regulation or Congress rules.

APLAR 2026 Congress hashtag

Congress delegates are invited to share information on social media using the official APLAR Congress hashtag **#APLAR2026**

APLAR social media channels

The official APLAR social media channels for the APLAR Congress 2026 are:

- X: @aplar_org
- Instagram: @APLAR_org
- Facebook: @APLAR.org
- LinkedIn: aplarassociation

12. Sponsor and industry media activity

Sponsor and industry media activity must be submitted to the APLAR Congress Secretariat for prior approval. This includes sponsor press releases, media alerts, press briefings, industry-hosted media meetings, proposed interviews involving sponsor representatives, use of the APLAR name or Congress branding and distribution of corporate media materials onsite.

Sponsor and industry activity must comply with the abstract embargo, APLAR branding requirements, applicable regulatory requirements, programme restrictions and onsite conduct requirements. Sponsor activity must not conflict with key scientific sessions, plenaries or official Congress events unless approved by APLAR.

Use of the APLAR name, logo or Congress branding must not imply endorsement unless prior written approval has been granted. Corporate media materials must not be distributed in restricted areas or to audiences where this is not permitted.

13. Media interviews and facilities

The APLAR Congress Secretariat may assist with approved interview requests involving APLAR Board or invited speakers. Interview requests should be submitted in advance where possible and are subject to availability, consent, programme commitments and embargo restrictions.

For APLAR 2026, a light-touch media support model is proposed. This may include Secretariat-managed interview coordination, an approved interview location and a modest media workspace



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

where venue capacity allows. APLAR is not required to provide private media rooms, production facilities.

14. Badge requirements and onsite conduct

Approved media representatives must wear their APLAR 2026 media badge visibly while onsite. Media badges are issued only to the approved individual, are non-transferable and may be withdrawn if misused.

Media representatives must comply with the APLAR 2026 registration terms and conditions, this policy, venue rules, access restrictions, embargo requirements and intellectual property protections.

15. Breaches and enforcement

APLAR may take action where a media representative breaches this policy or acts inconsistently with the purpose of media accreditation.

- Providing false or misleading accreditation information.
- Publishing embargoed material or restricted scientific content.
- Filming, recording or livestreaming without approval.
- Photographing content where photography has been restricted.
- Misusing APLAR name, logo or Congress branding.
- Accessing restricted areas, events or functions.
- Transferring or misusing a media badge.
- Acting for a non-approved commercial, sponsor or public relations organisation.
- Disrupting sessions, speakers, delegates, exhibitors or Congress operations.

APLAR may refuse or revoke media accreditation, remove access, require removal of unauthorised content where legally permissible, decline future media applications or take any other action considered appropriate.

16. Review after APLAR 2026

These guidelines are an integral part of the press accreditation for the Congress. Each press and media representative must confirm understanding and adherence to these rules and guidelines during the accreditation process. The guidelines apply to all press and media activities before, during, and after the APLAR 2026 Congress.

All press-related activities not explicitly mentioned in this document need to be negotiated with the organisers at the earliest possible time. Activities not explicitly ruled in this document or not



APLAR 2026

28 October – 1 November 2026

*Bridging Innovative Research
and Patient Care: Shaping Our
Future In Rheumatology*

individually approved are considered inappropriate and may lead to intervention from the side of the Congress organiser.

17. Contact

All media accreditation enquiries, interview requests, filming requests, photography requests and sponsor media materials should be directed to the APLAR Congress Secretariat. Contact details

info@aplarcongress.com