



In-person Poster Meetup Guidelines for Advocates

GRASP Poster Meetups are in-person discussions at select cancer conferences, where patient advocates and researchers walk the poster session together, giving researchers a chance to connect directly with those their work aims to help.

Below is an overview of each role in a session:

Patient Advocate	A person whose life has been impacted by cancer, whether as a patient or caregiver
GRASP Mentor	An experienced patient advocate serving as the session's facilitator and point person
GRASP Scientist	A clinician or researcher serving as an interpreter to help explain the science in simpler terms
Poster Author	A clinician or researcher serving as the presenter of a scientific poster selected by GRASP

Session Overview:

Each session typically includes 2–4 patient advocates, a GRASP Mentor, Poster Author(s), and if available, a GRASP Scientist. Groups walk the poster session together, and stop at specific posters to discuss the research.

How to Prepare:

- Watch the [instructional videos](#) to understand the session format and your role.
- Review the [conference page](#) for participants and assigned posters (if any).

- GRASP Mentors (and Scientists, if participating) may connect with you prior to the event, but they will also be easy to identify during the conference.

Day-of Instructions:

- Arrive at the GRASP Poster Meetup sign at the start of the poster session.
- Find your GRASP Mentor - who will be holding up a small GRASP sign.
- Walk as a group to your assigned posters to begin the discussion. If posters are not pre-assigned, decide together which posters to review.

Tips for a Meaningful Discussion:

- Introduce yourself and share your advocacy or research interests.
- Ask questions when you need clarification or want to learn more.
- Share personal experiences that relate to the poster topic
- Be mindful of “airtime” so everyone has the chance to contribute.
- Respectfully interrupt for further explanation or if you’d like to offer insight.
- If a poster is busy, consider visiting one with fewer people first.
- Do not ask for medical advice.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Will there be GRASP Scientists participating?** It depends on the conference. If not, poster authors, who are also scientists, will explain the research.
- **Will there be poster assignments?** This varies. You will be notified if so, otherwise, groups choose which posters they want to review.
- **How many posters should the groups review?** Typically, groups review 2 posters in a 90-minute session, but the number can vary.
- **What if there is no poster author present?** We recommend focusing on the posters with an author available. If possible, note contact information so GRASP can try to coordinate a future discussion.
- **Can others join our discussion?** Yes! Invite them to listen in and encourage them to become GRASP members. Mentors can share a QR code for joining.