GISM NEXT GENERATION – CONTEST 2027.

Call for Abstracts - Award winners will also be invited as speakers at GISM 2027

Introduction:
The speakers of the "*GISM Next Generation - Section*", within the framework of the conference "*GISM 2027*" (Parma, Italy, 20-21/05/2027), will be selected with the "*GISM Next Generation – Contest 2027*".

Award:
There will be 3 winners. They will be awarded with the "*GISM Next Generation – Contest 2027 – Award*", which consists of (*I*) a printed certificate, (*II*) a free registration to "*GISM 2027*", (*III*) an invitation for an oral communication during the conference "*GISM 2027*" (10 minutes of oral presentation, followed by a 15-minute discussion session with all three winners), (*IV*) one night of complimentary accommodation at a hotel selected by the organizers. The other "*GISM Next Generation – Contest 2027*" candidates who are not selected among the three winners may be considered for future GISM webinars.

Rules:
Candidates must be researchers "under 40" (precisely, born no earlier than 01/01/1986). They must submit an abstract of a relevant scientific article in the field of stem cells. Eligible abstracts must be based on scientific articles published within the last four years (from 1 January 2023 onwards). Works that are currently under review are not eligible. The candidate must be First Author, co-First Author, Last Author, co-Last Author, Corresponding Author, or co-Corresponding Author of the scientific article. Each candidate may submit one abstract only, but they may be listed as authors of other abstracts submitted by different researchers. Winners of previous editions of the *StemNet*, *FIRST*, *IPLASS*, *GISM*, or *Stem Cells Research Italy* Next-Generation Contests are not eligible to apply. Candidates who participated in previous editions but were not selected as winners may reapply, provided they meet all other eligibility criteria. Abstracts related to scientific publications already presented by winners of previous editions of the *StemNet*, *FIRST*, *IPLASS*, *GISM*, or *Stem Cells Research Italy* Next-Generation Contests are not eligible. If multiple candidates submit abstracts based on the same scientific publication, only the candidate receiving the highest evaluation will be considered for the award. Finally, in case of abstracts obtaining the same identical score, the one submitted by the older candidate will be ranked first.

Evaluation:
The abstracts will be evaluated by a panel of Referees (selected by the Scientific Committee), according to their novelty and significance of the scientific work and the CV of the submitting candidate. The final acceptance decision is the exclusive right of the Scientific Committee, as well as the definition of the 3 winners of the "*GISM Next Generation – Contest 2027*".

Instructions:
The "*GISM Next Generation – Contest 2027*" is organised in 3 steps:
- First step: abstract submission; Deadline 29/01/2027; Abstract submission is free of charge and does not require membership to the GISM society.
- Second step: winners announcement; Deadline 12/02/2027: All the candidates will be notified by email.
- Third step: oral presentation at "*GISM 2027*": Winners must be present in person and deliver their presentations to obtain the award.

Disclosure:
The abstracts and the material collected during the "*GISM Next Generation – Contest 2027*" will be made public on the GISM's website, Facebook/LinkedIn pages, YouTube channels and other media. By submitting an abstract, the authors accept to publicly share their material and then their work.

How to prepare the abstract:
Please, follow these instructions:
- Language: English. Font: Times New Roman; Font-size: 12 points; Text alignment: single-spaced, justified.
- Title: It must be a precise copy of the one of the related scientific article.
- Report the Author/s names and surnames in this format: Mario Rossi, Carla Bianchi, etc. They must be the same authors of the same related scientific article.
- Report the Author/s affiliations.
- Abstract: It must be a precise copy of the one of the related scientific article.
- Report the name of the scientific journal where the abstract and related scientific article have been published, together with year of publication and DOI.
- Report the day of birth of the candidate.
- Report the email of the candidate to be used for communications.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV): a brief biosketch reporting current position, main scientific appointments, and honours (minimum 100 words, maximum 250 words).

Abstract submission:
Save the Abstract and all required info in a single Word/Writer/txt file with the following name: *GISM-NGContest27_firstName_firstSurname* of the candidate (e.g. *GISM-NGContest27_Mario_Rossi.doc*). The Abstract must be submitted to: *gismnext@gismonline.it* (please, check that you receive an email confirming the receipt of submission).