Guidelines for Authors of Conference Abstracts

When submitting your abstract, please indicate your preferred presentation format:

- Poster presentation (A0 format; size of presentation boards: 1.20 m wide and 1.63 m high)
- Short lecture (10 min presentation time, 10 min discussion)

Publication Medium

Online-Supplement to the **Journal of Integrative and Complementary Medicine** (https://journals.sagepub.com/home/cpmc). The abstracts will remain permanently freely accessible.

Formal Requirements

- Language: **English**
- Maximum number of words in the text: **350** words
- File type: Word file (*.docx)
- Font/font size/line spacing/text format: Calibri / 12 pt / single / justified
- Abstract title and subheadings: bold
- **No** tables or keywords
- References: only if absolutely necessary (Vancouver style; see the end of these author guidelines for details)
- A **declaration of conflicts of interest** is **required**

Authors

- First and last names of all authors
- Affiliation (institute/department, university/organization, city, country): in italics;
- Assigned with superscript numbers following the names in the author list
- Email address of the corresponding author: in italics
- Presenting author at the symposium: underlined

Special Notes on the Text

- Any **mistletoe preparations** used must be specified by preparation name, host tree, and potency, provided this information is known precisely.
- If possible, the abstract text should be structured using **subheadings**, e.g.:
    - for research/medical topics: Introduction/Background; Methods; Results; Discussion/Conclusions
    - for case reports: Case description, clinical hypothesis, diagnostic approach, Discussion/Findings

Sample Abstract

Quality of Life in Breast Cancer Patients Treated with Mistletoe Extract: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Martin Loef[1], Daniela Paepke[2], Harald Walach[1,3]

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Background: Breast cancer is the most common cancer type in women and quality of life an essential part of the patients' well-being. It is a matter of debate whether the pharmacological treatment with mistletoe extracts (ME) can improve the quality of life of breast cancer patients.

Methods: This systematic review included randomized clinical trials (RCTs) and non-randomized intervention studies (NRSIs) comparing breast cancer patients treated with ME to control groups. We searched previous systematic reviews and multiple databases until January 2023. We conducted a meta-analysis and assessed the risk of bias via RoB 2 and ROBINS-I and the certainty of evidence via GRADE, respectively.

Results: Nine RCTs and seven NRSIs with 833 and 2831 participants, respectively, were included. They received ME of different manufactures (e.g., Iscador, Helixor) with or without additional treatments as compared with multiple controls (e.g., no control, placebo). The pooled standardized mean difference for RCTs was SMD=0.61 (95% CI 0.47 to 0.75; p<0.0001) and for retrospective NRSIs was SMD=0.46 (95% CI 0.10 to 0.82; p=0.01). The risk of bias was medium to high for the RCTs and serious for all NRSIs. The GRADE was medium for RCTs and very low for NRSIs.

Discussion: The evidence is mainly limited due to the risk of bias. Our results indicate a moderate effect of ME on the quality of life in breast cancer patients. Further RCTs and real-world evidence need to confirm this result and should make clear distinctions between different breast cancer subgroups and stages.

Authors' Consent When Submitting an Abstract

By submitting the abstract, you declare and agree that:

- you have carefully reviewed the abstract and all information is accurate,
- your abstract will be published in the online supplement of the **Journal of Integrative and Complementary Medicine**,
- you are the solely owner of, or hold the rights to, all information and content provided to the organizers of the 9th Mistletoe Symposium for publication,
- the publication of the abstract does not infringe upon the rights of any third parties,
- in the case of multiple authors, you alone, as the corresponding author, will be informed by us regarding the status of the abstract, and that you are responsible for informing the other authors of the abstract's status,
- after completion of the review process, no further changes can be made to the final version of your abstract that was submitted.

Deadline

Submission of abstracts **by April 30, 2027**

via email to rainer.scheer@carus-institut.de

Subject: **9. MISTELSYMPOSIUM**

Further Information at https://www.mistelsymposium.de/

Review

The Organizing Committee will decide on the final presentation format and the presentation date by mid-June 2027. You will be informed of this via email.

References in Vancouver Citation Style

In-text-citations:
Numbered in parentheses in the order they appear in the text: (1), (2), etc.

Bibliography, samples:
For a journal:
(1) Stein MS, Schaller G, Pfüller U et al.: Characterisation of granulocyte stimulation by thionins from European mistletoe and from wheat. Biochim Biophys Acta. 1999a; 1426: 80-90.
For a book:
(2) Scheer R, Alban S, Becker H et al. (Hrsg.): Die Mistel in der Tumortherapie 5 - Aktueller Stand der Forschung und klinischen Anwendung. Essen: KVC; 2020.
For a book chapter:
(3) Schröder L, Senkler J, Braun HP: Special features of cellular respiration in Viscum album. In: Scheer R, Alban S, Becker H et al. (Hrsg.): Die Mistel in der Tumortherapie 5 - Aktueller Stand der Forschung und klinische Anwendung. Essen: KVC; 2020: 3-13.
For a website:
(4) Office des Leitlinienprogrammes Onkologie c/o Deutsche Krebsgesellschaft e.V.: S3-Leitlinie Komplementärmedizin in der Behandlung onkologischer PatientInnen https://www.leitlinienprogramm-onkologie.de/leitlinien/komplementaermedizin/ (letzter Accessed: June 4, 2026).

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