MICCAI 2022
Area Chair Orientation

February 23-24, 2022

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Thanks for Your Service for MICCAI 2022!

Goals

- Orientation of process, timelines, and expectations

- Collection of feedback

- Q & A

MICCAI 2022 STATISTICS

- 2813 intent to submit

- 107 ACs
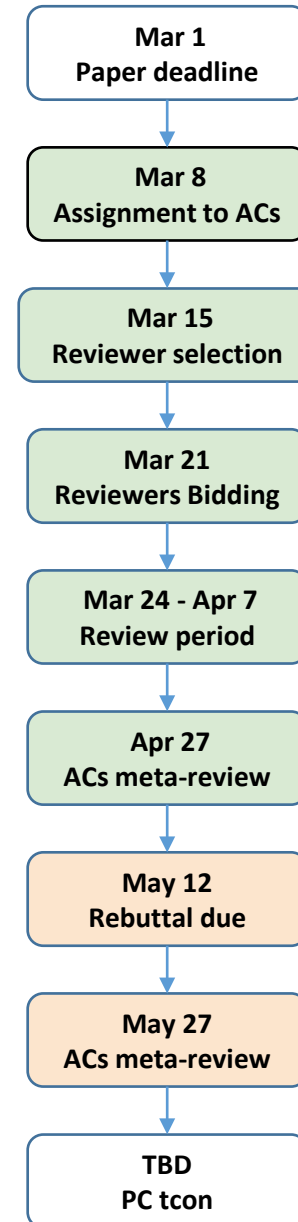 - Anticipating smaller workload

- ~1280 reviewers

Key Responsibilities for Area Chairs

- Primary AC for ~20 papers:
  - Check paper formatting, suggest reviewers, shepherd review process, monitor review quality, complete meta-reviews & make initial recommendations

- Secondary AC for an additional ~10 papers
  - **Encourage reviewers to participate in discussions & finalize their ratings after rebuttal**
  - Complete meta-reviews & make initial recommendations

- Recommend Oral papers and award candidates

- Rate reviews

Process Overview

Phase I: Primary AC on all papers (~20 papers per AC)

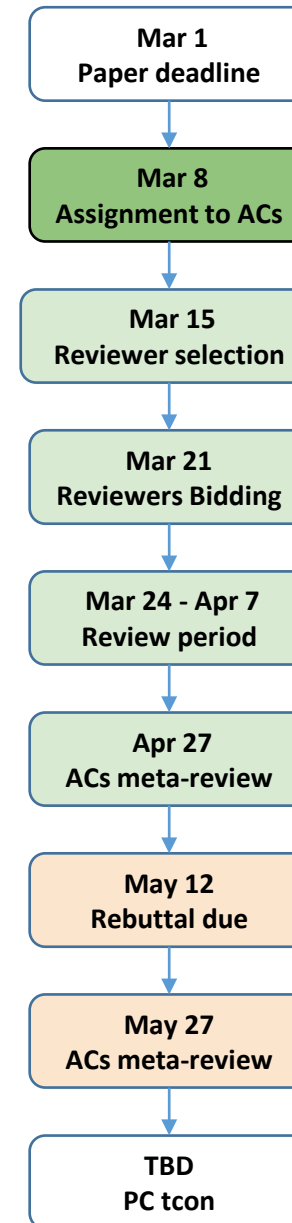**Phase II: Secondary AC on rebuttal papers (~10 papers per AC)**

Mar 1
Paper deadline

Mar 8
Assignment to ACs

Mar 15
Reviewer selection

Mar 21
Reviewers Bidding

Mar 24 - Apr 7
Review period

Apr 27
ACs meta-review

May 12
Rebuttal due

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TBD
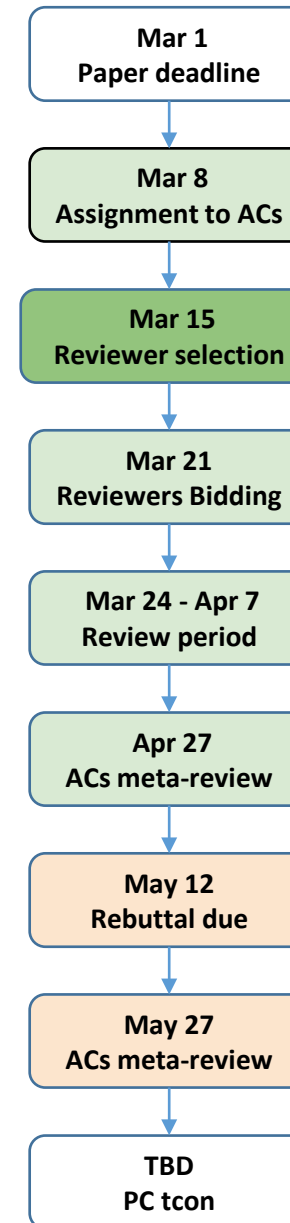PC tcon

Primary AC Assignments

- Receive primary assignments on March 8
  - Based on TPMS, subject areas (keywords), & conflicts of interest

- Screen paper for the following issues & notify PCs
  - Anonymization
  - Overlength
  - **Formatting**
  - **Overlapping submissions**

Authors are also allowed to put their MICCAI submission on ArXiv
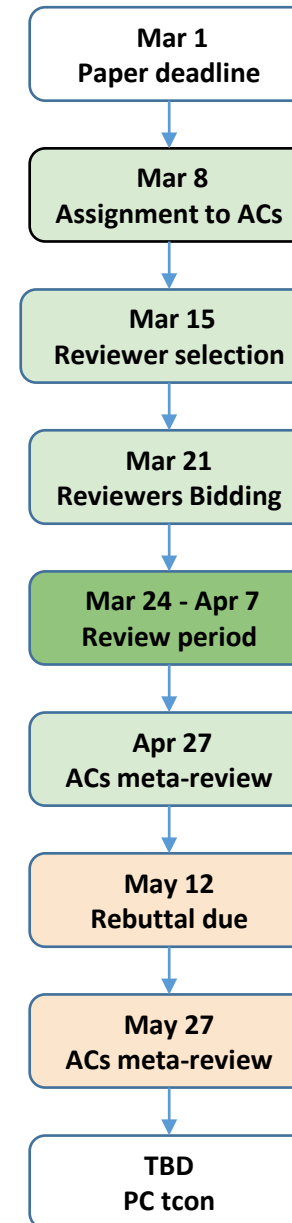
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Reviewer Suggestions

- Suggest 10-15 reviewers for each paper in ranked order, considering
  - **TPMS** ( )
  - **Reviewer profile** (expertise, publications, etc)
  - Subject areas ( ),
    - Scores of subject area matching are less informative
  - Reviewer load
    - Avoid reviewers already with >20 suggestions
- Detailed instructions will be sent later

- Final reviewer assignment considers a combination of automatic TPMS, keyword matching, AC suggestions, and reviewer bidding

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Review Period

- First 1-2 days
  - Check for issues in reviewer assignment & notify PCs (*e.g.,* COIs, reviewers from the same institute)

- Throughout
  - Shepherd review process
  - Monitor review quality as they come in.
  - Communicate with the reviewers if review quality is low (email through CMT)

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Monitor Review Quality

- **Reviews of accepted papers will be made public.**

- Communicate with reviewers for improving review quality when..
  - The review is short and uninformative
  - There is no justification of the score
  - The review has only positive comments but recommends reject
  - The review has only negative comments but recommends accept
  - The reviewer states that the work is not novel without providing evidence (eg citations to prior work)
  - The reviewer asks to cite their own paper(s) without good reason
  - The language is inappropriate
  - .....

Polling Time

Would you find it beneficial to have 4 reviewers per paper?

- Pros
  - More feedbacks on each paper
  - Reduces chances for papers ending with <3 reviews
  - Reduces burdens on recruiting emergency reviewers

- Cons
  - 2 positive vs. 2 negative reviews?

Polling Time

Review scoring scales

- Overall motivation: spreading the scale to create a distribution
- Two options:

10-pt scale (previous)	**8-pt scale (proposed)**
10. Ground Breaking	
9. Strong Accept	8. Definitely Accept
8. Accept	7. Strong Accept
7. Probably Accept	6. Accept
6. Borderline Accept	5. Weak Accept
5. Borderline Reject	4. Weak Reject
4. Probably Reject	3. Reject
3. Reject	2. Strong Reject
2. Strong Reject	1.Definitely Reject
1.Out of Scope	

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Review scoring scales

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10-pt scale (previous)

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5. Borderline Reject
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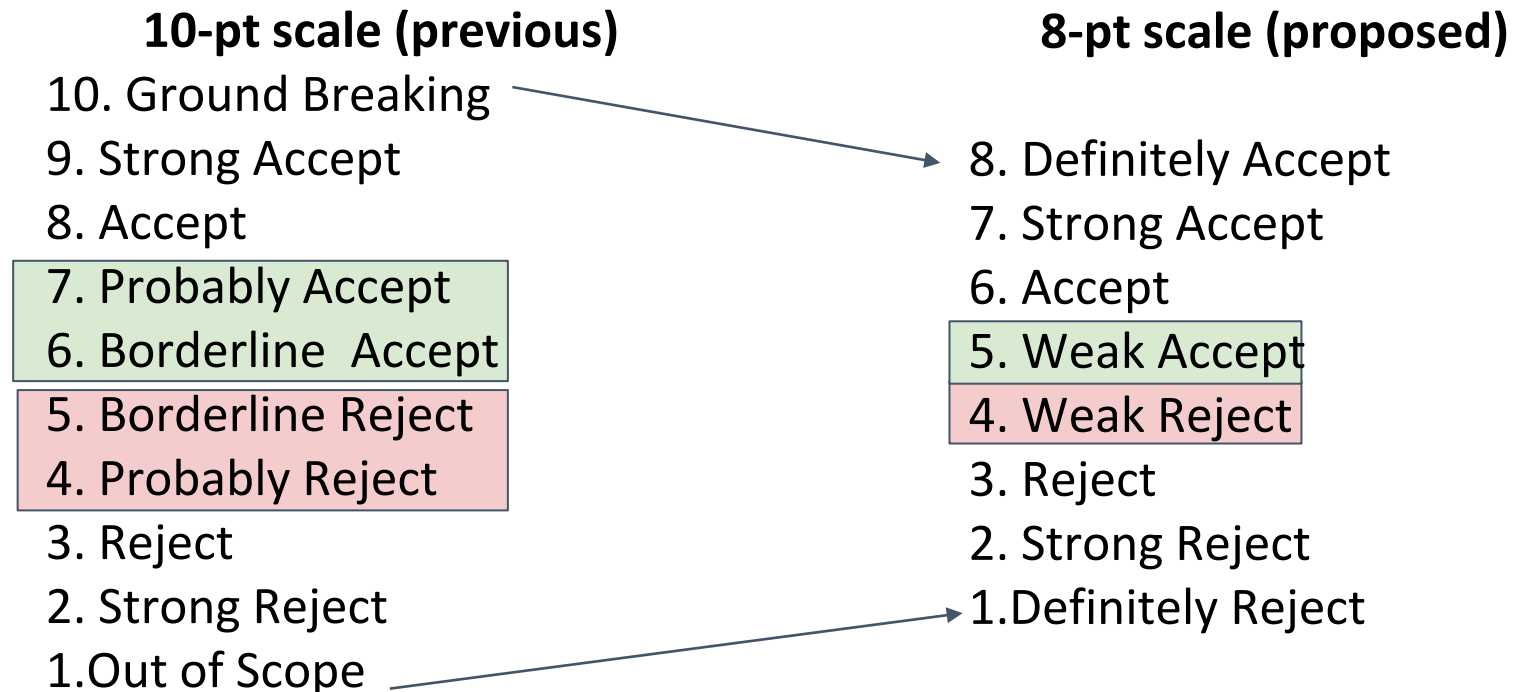3. Reject
2. Strong Reject
1. Out of Scope

8-pt scale (proposed)

8. Definitely Accept
7. Strong Accept
6. Accept
5. Weak Accept
4. Weak Reject
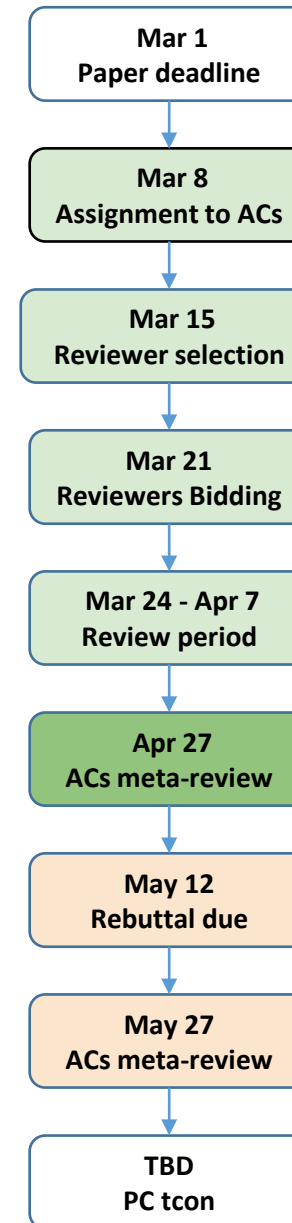3. Reject
2. Strong Reject
1. Definitely Reject

AC Initial Meta-Reviews

- Meta-reviews & initial recommendations for primary assignments

- Initial recommendations
  - Ranking of the stack
  - Early accept; early rejection; rebuttals
    - Detailed guidelines & target statistics will be given later
    - Avoid having an excessive number of rebuttal papers

- Meta-reviews

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Meta-Reviews

- **Meta-reviews of accepted papers will be made public**

- Summarize the key strengths and weaknesses of the paper

- Make a recommendation with justifications, **especially for rejected papers, rebuttal papers, or papers with divergent reviews**
  - Do not simply rely on average of scores

- For rebuttals, summarize key points the authors should focus on in their responses

- In case of deviation from the reviewers' recommendations, provide concrete justifications

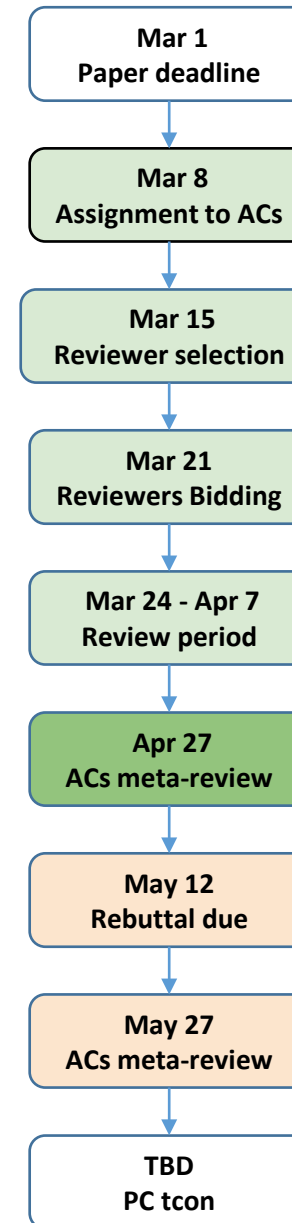# Application *vs.* Methodological Studies

- See [MICCAI 2022 submission guidelines](#)
- **Methodological studies**
  - Demonstrate clear innovations and contributions over the state of the art methodologies.
  - Evaluation and performance assessment is potentially limited to proof of concepts or small-size validation studies.
- **Application studies**
  - Demonstrate clear clinical value of existing techniques, or adoption of state-of-the-art methods to a new problem or context, with appropriate and rigorous evaluation design
  - Do not necessarily need to involve fundamental methodological innovations
- Examine how authors and reviewers have considered, argued, and justified paper contributions according to its categories.

CAI vs. MIC Papers

- **Significance/Innovation** of CAI works can include:
  - Novel clinical applications
  - Demonstration of clinical feasibility even on a single subject/animal/phantom
  - Novel MIC approach to solving a CAI need
  - Proposal of a cost-effective approach
- **Experimental evaluations** of CAI works are typically much more challenging (than MIC studies) in
  - Clinical evaluation on patients
  - Large sample size
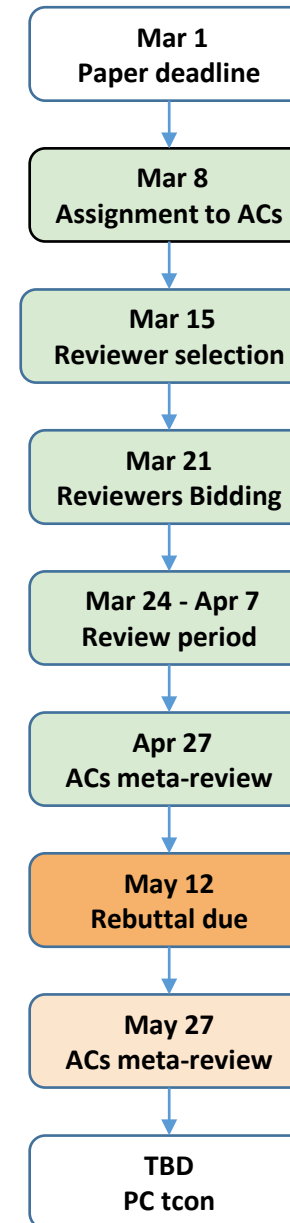 - Comparison with existing systems

AC Initial Meta-Reviews

- Additional tasks
  - Recommend Oral papers and awards
  - Select subject areas to help build conference programs
  - Score the quality of reviews

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Secondary AC Assignments

- Each rebuttal paper will be assigned 2 secondary ACs

- Each AC will receive ~10 secondary paper assignments

- **New this year:** after rebuttals are in
  - Reviewers will have the opportunity to participate in discussions and revise their ratings (by May 16)
  - ACs can discuss amongst each other as well as reviewers
  - **Encourage discussion on papers with divergent scores**

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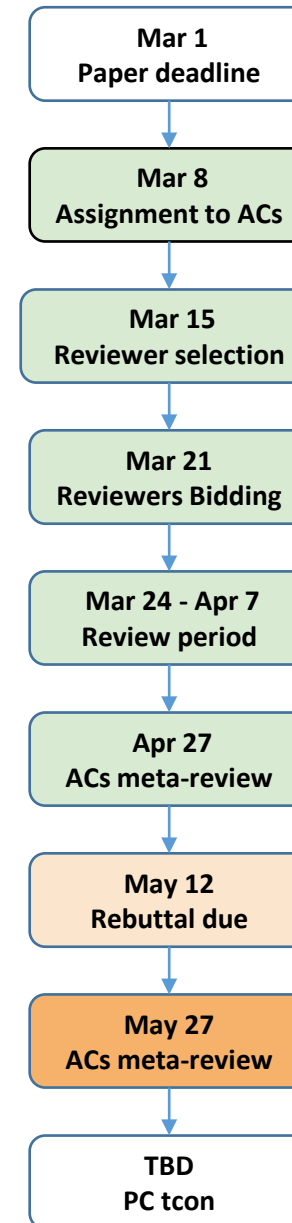May 27
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Polling Time

Would you find it beneficial to be able to see your fellow AC's identities during post-rebuttal discussion? (only for ACs; remain anonymous to reviewers)
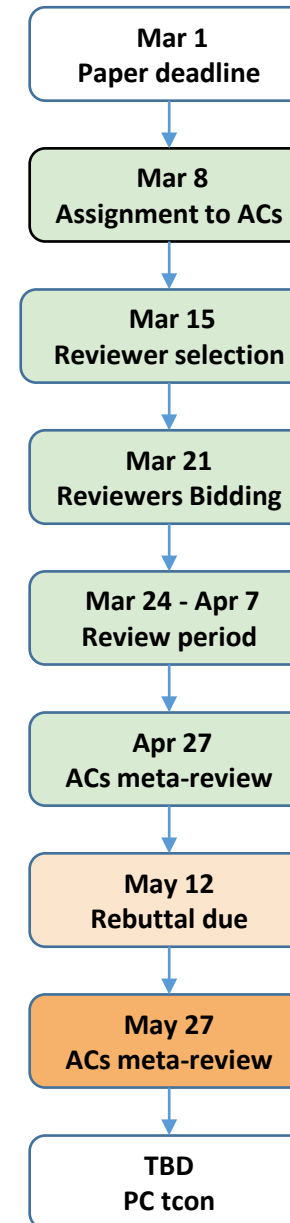
AC Final Meta-Reviews

- Recommendations & meta-reviews for all primary & secondary assignments
  - Primary assignments
    - Consider rebuttals
    - Position with newly assigned papers
  - Secondary assignments
    - Consider reviews, primary meta-reviews, and how well authors' rebuttals address these
    - **Avoid raising new critiques unless they can be justified to be fatal flaws overlooked**

- Recommendations:
  - Ranking of the stack
  - Rejection & Acceptance

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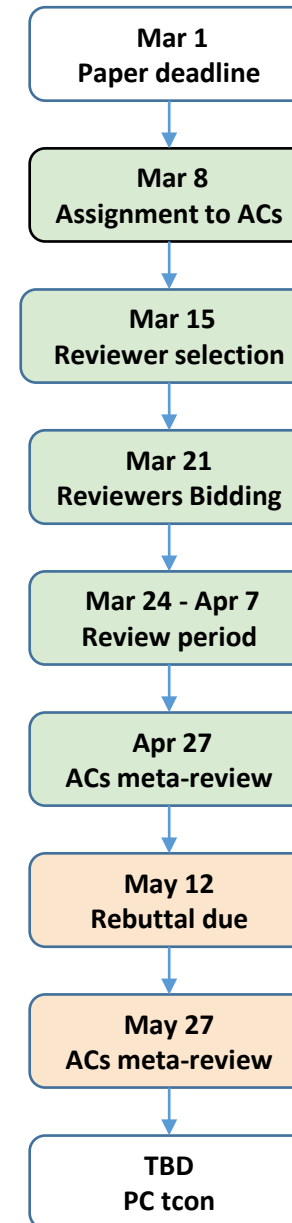May 27
ACs meta-review

TBD
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AC Final Meta-Reviews

- Meta-reviews:
  - Provide concrete justifications for the final recommendations, especially for rejection

- **All meta-reviews (primary and secondary) of accepted papers will be made public**

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Final AC Meeting

- Report summary of paper statistics
- Discuss oral programs
- Gather feedback and suggestions for next year

General remarks

- **Reviews and meta-reviews of accepted paper will be public**

- **Reviewers will be back in the loop after rebuttal**

- Reserve time for the two phases: **Mar 8 – Apr 27** and **May 12 - May 27**

- CMT emails can be flagged as spams. Check the AC information on the website https://conferences.miccai.org/2022/ and keep an eye on unresponsive reviewers

- Throughout the process
  - Please check the MICCAI Review Process and AC guidelines (website)
  - For questions on CMT, ask Kitty Wong submission_support@miccai2022.org
  - Contact Program Chairs at program-chairs@miccai2022.org (or via CMT)

Q&A