

CSRH Tackling Stigma in Health Care Conference 2024

Care protocol

The Tackling Stigma Conference promote conversations and debate on stigma as a barrier to health care.

In setting up this conference, we have been guided by an advisory group of people with a range of living/lived experiences related to identities or health or social conditions that are stigmatised and we thank them for generously giving their time and expertise. One of the recommendations of this group was to develop this care protocol.

We hope, with your help, to deliver an exciting and inspiring two days – and to do this with care and sensitivity. We encourage everyone to take care of themselves and others when attending the Tackling Stigma Conference. We have provided some guidance below on the values that we ask everyone to bring to the conference. We do this so we can work towards providing a safe experience for everyone attending the conference.

Value statement

- The conference is open to everyone and aims to be a safe and inclusive space for all
- We value the expertise of people with living and lived experiences
- The topics discussed might be concerning or distressing – we encourage people to take breaks from the sessions where they feel they need to
- We encourage participants to listen and learn from the experience and expertise of others
- We come with generosity, sensitivity, and care and want to promote connectedness across our various expertise
- We recognise that discussing stigma raises opportunities and challenges
- We take a rights-based approach to discussing stigma
- We ask everyone to look after people's confidentiality and privacy
- We acknowledge that some people and practices are subject to criminalisation, which reinforces stigma

Language

Please take care with the language you use when presenting at the Tackling Stigma Conference. Language can perpetuate negative attitudes and stereotypes, reinforcing stigma towards communities. The way we talk about stigma and the conditions, identities, and practices that are the target of stigma is therefore important and can play a role in addressing this issue.

Words matter. We encourage the use of person-centred language that focuses on the person. We have included a range of language guides on our conference website that can help guide you on appropriate language to use.

Sharing personal experiences during the conference

We recognise that you may have lived and living experience of stigma and of health conditions, identities, or practices that are stigmatised. Some people really value sharing living and lived experiences and people find it empowering to share their story and talk with others who have similar experiences. You might want to think in advance about what you want to share about your personal experiences – including thinking through the consequences of sharing information about yourself. You may hear about other people's experiences and some topics might be triggering. Thinking through in advance what will help if that happens can be useful.

Taking images of presentations or presenters

We welcome sharing of the conference themes on social media. You can use the hashtag #TacklingStigma2024. We also want all conference attendees to respect the wishes of presenters who do not want their presentation or image shared on social

Source: [UNSW COVID-19 advice](#)

Please stay at home if you are unwell, have any respiratory symptoms or have tested positive for COVID

You may choose to wear a face mask while attending the conference

Clean your hands by washing them often and thoroughly

Sanitise your hands as required

Sneeze into your elbow or cover your face with a tissue when you cough or sneeze

During the breaks, please feel free to go outside the venue to get some fresh air

There will be masks and sanitiser available at the conference.

Accessibility

The Colombo venue is wheelchair accessible, and an accessible toilet is available. The venue is adjacent to High Street and has vehicular access. If you are being dropped off at the venue, such as by taxi or rideshare, you can tell the driver to drop you off at Gate 4 High St (entrance on Fig Tree Lane).

Public transport is available via light rail and bus. For public transport route and payment options see:

