



EQUALLYWELL

**2023 ABSTRACT &
WRITTEN PAPER
GUIDELINES**

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

To be a part of the program for the National Equally Well Symposium, providing an abstract is the first step.

The theme for the 2023 symposium is ***Becoming an Equally Well Country: Working collaboratively to reduce health inequality***. This theme acknowledges the multiple perspectives and unique experiences of all of those who are committed to the goal of reducing the life expectancy gap for people living with mental health challenges and are passionate about achieving equal rights to health care for all, no matter where they are, who they are or where they come from.

The program will focus on a wide range of topics linking to this theme, with a particular focus on implementation and innovations to improve the physical health of people living with mental illness.

Please note: If your abstract is selected for presentation to the Equally Well Symposium it will be expected that you will submit a written paper in one of the following formats for publication in the Book of Proceedings:

- dot point summary, or
- short paper, 500-1,000 words, or
- Full paper, 3,000 words (not peer reviewed)
- Full paper, 3,000 words (peer reviewed)

POTENTIAL TOPICS

These topics suggested below are to illustrate the breadth of possible relevant content. It is not a comprehensive list and is provided only as a guide to the current priority areas that an abstract (and then papers) may cover.

- Peer workforce
- Peer navigators
- Lived Experience
- Carers
- Informed consent and informed consumers
- Young people
- Smoking
- Lifestyle
- Substance use
- Older people
- Training and development
- Improving access
- LGBTIQ+
- Human rights
- Comprehensive care
- Shared Care coordination
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
- Services and systems
- Translating research into practice
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Engagement and connection
- Chronic disease
- Medications

ABSTRACT CATEGORIES

Abstracts are sought in the following categories:

- Social and clinical prevention
- Working in partnerships
- Converting policy into practice
- Consumer and carer partnerships
- Practical project reports
- Integrated care
- First Nations social and emotional wellbeing

PRESENTATION TYPE

Abstracts may be submitted in one of three types. Authors must indicate their preferred type when the abstract is submitted.

General Presentation* is a 20-minute oral presentation presented in one of the concurrent sessions. Confirmed presenters are asked to submit a written paper to be published in the symposium proceedings.

Soapbox Presentation is a 10-minute oral presentation presented in one of the concurrent sessions. Confirmed presenters are asked to submit a written paper to be published in the symposium proceedings.

Poster Presentation is a printed A3 poster displayed during the symposium. The author(s) should be available at nominated times to discuss the poster's content. An electronic version of the poster (in pdf or jpg format) is to be provided to be included in the symposium proceedings; if the poster is not available electronically, the submitted abstract will be published. Poster presenters may provide a supporting paper for inclusion in the symposium proceedings.

**Note: As there are only limited places available for general presentations you may be offered to present a soapbox or poster presentation as an alternative.*

Papers that demonstrate a partnership approach will be considered favourably.

GUIDELINES & CONDITIONS

An abstract should summarise the important points of the proposed presentation to the symposium and highlight the relevant content to be communicated. It needs to be concise yet informative, and contain an outline of the aims, process, relevance, results and conclusions of the work undertaken.

All abstracts must:

- be no longer than **300 words**
- submitted via the [online portal](#) on the Equally Well website
- include a descriptive abstract title with no more than **12 words**
- not include tables, figures, photos or references
- must include a photograph and short biography for each presenting author, no more than **100 words**.

Authors may submit abstracts for more than one presentation. Submitting an abstract is no guarantee of a place on the symposium program.

Assistance with the presentation of an abstract is available, particularly to first-time presenters. Where appropriate, assistance can also be offered for the preparation of full papers and presentations.

ASSESSMENT **CRITERIA**

The assessment criteria used by the Symposium Scientific Committee will be:

Symposium theme and topics: will offer something significant or unique relating to the symposium theme.

Current and implementation focus: the presentation will have an emphasis on the implementation process and relevance to improving the physical health of people living with mental illness.

Analytical: the presentation will provide more than a description of a program or service; it will draw out insights, what was learnt, recommend new policies and/or actions.

Collaborative approach: will demonstrate effective partnerships with consumers, carers and other partners in design and implementation.

Broadening health: may promote understanding of the range of factors and disciplines that impact on the physical health of people living with mental illness.

Quality: of high quality scientifically and/or in other ways.

Note: Abstracts written from a health consumer standpoint, demonstrate a partnership or co-design approach, or with a multi-disciplinary focus about service challenges being overcome, are particularly welcome and will be prioritised where possible.

ABSTRACT **TEMPLATE**

All abstracts must be submitted using the following template via the [online portal](#):

Abstract title: _____

Presentation type: General, Soapbox or Poster (*select 1*)

- Categories: _____
(*select 1*)
- Social and clinical prevention
 - Working in partnerships
 - Converting policy into practice
 - Consumer and carer partnerships
 - Practical project reports
 - Integrated care
 - First Nations social and emotional wellbeing

Author(s): _____

Affiliation(s): _____

Abstract (300 words maximum):

Introduction: *Context, issue, population group*

Method: *What did you do?*

Results & Findings: *What did you find?*

Discussion: *What are the implications going forward and for other contexts*

Presenter(s) biography;

Name (speaker 1):

Biography:

Name (speaker 2):

Biography:

CHECK **LIST**

- Use template headings
- Include biography (100 words) for each presenting author
- Include a photograph for each presenting author

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SUBMITTING YOUR **ABSTRACT**

Abstracts should be submitted via the [online portal](#) on the Equally Well website. Authors who are not able to submit their abstract online are asked to contact Lee Cobb on 02 6365 7630 or [via email](#) to make alternative arrangements.

REVIEW **PROCESS**

Submissions will be assessed by the Symposium Scientific Committee according to the assessment criteria. The committee will contact authors about the status of their abstract, refer to *Important Dates* below.

Successful authors may be offered the presentation type of their choice; General, Soapbox or Poster presentation.

IMPORTANT **DATES**

27 February 2023	Call for abstracts open
17 April 2023	Abstract submissions close
05 May 2023	Notification of abstract status
16 June 2023	All presenting authors to register for the symposium
17 July 2023	Upload/submit PowerPoint presentations
28 August 2023	Submit 1st draft written paper for symposium proceedings
23 October 2023	Submit final written paper for symposium proceedings
23 October 2023	Submit revised abstract

QUESTIONS & **ASSISTANCE**

The Equally Well Symposium website has everything else you need to know about the symposium. However, should you have any questions about the abstract process, or require assistance, please reach out to Lee Cobb [via email](#) or by phoning 02 6365 7630.