Guidelines for the Submission of Abstracts to TheMHS Conference

Topic: Building Health Communities – Stories of Hope and Resilience

CONSIDER THESE QUESTIONS WHEN PREPARING YOUR SHORT ABSTRACT:

- What do healthy communities look like in 2019, and how can we build them?
- What is the role of health professionals and mental health organisations in developing healthy and resilient people and communities?
- What is the right mix of support and treatment to assist people on their recovery journey and to build healthy communities?
- How can NGOs, public and private mental health services, and general practitioners provide a matrix of services to support and enable recovery and resilience in their local communities?
- How do personal stories of hope and resilience from consumers and carers help create healthy communities?

Submission Process

Your abstract should be submitted online [HERE](). After filling in your personal details, you will be required to submit the following items:

- Your abstract (200 words max for snapshots, papers, roundtables, debates and e-Posters; 800 words max for symposia, workshops and other presentation types - not including references or learning objectives)
- At least 3 key words to help describe your paper (see a list of keywords below)
- 2 academic references* (to support your abstract, relevant to the topic of the abstract)
- 2 learning objectives (see below)
- A personal biography for each presenter (50 words approximately)

See below for more detailed instructions on preparing and submitting your abstract.
References are not compulsory.

Abstracts are accepted on the following conditions:

ALL PRESENTERS MUST REGISTER & PAY FOR AT LEAST THE DAY OF THE CONFERENCE ON WHICH THEY ARE PRESENTING.

- Papers must be presented by the authors. Proxies will not be permitted except in an emergency such as illness or misadventure.
- The committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any submission.
- The committee reserves the right to allocate a session time or presentation type, which differs from that applied for.

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- Wherever possible, ensure that a range of stakeholders including consumers, are included as presenters in symposia, workshops, debates, roundtables.
- Do not include tables, diagrams or graphs in the abstract.

PLEASE NOTE that only the first author will be advised in writing with regard to the acceptance or otherwise of the abstract submission. The first author (as given in application) will be the main contact for correspondence about the presentation, therefore please include an additional email if you would like another contact copied in.

Length of Abstract

- Abstracts for all papers, snapshots and ePosters should be a maximum of 200 words (excluding learning objective and references).
- Abstracts for symposia, workshops or other innovative presentation types should not exceed a total of 800 words (excluding learning objective and references).

Content of Abstract

The abstract:

- Should be as informative as possible and truly represent the intended presentation.
- Will be used both for selection purposes and if selected will be used in the online program.
- Should include a statement of the aims of the presentation; sufficient information to allow a delegate to learn what may be gained by attending the presentation; a strong concluding sentence in summary of the abstract.

Key Words

When you are submitting your abstract online, please select the most appropriate 3 key words from the given list. These key words assist the abstract review committee to place the abstract into the most appropriate session in the conference program

- Advocacy
- Attitudes, Stigma, Discrimination
- Challenges
- Clinical Issues
- Communities
- Comorbidity
- Culture & Society
- Funding, Government Policy
- Innovation, Quality
- Lifespan – young people, adults, older people

- Lived Experience
- Mental Health Literacy in the Workplace
- Mental Health Service Reform
- New Pathways to Care
- Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (PPEI)
- PTSD
- Research & Evaluation Informing Practice
- Resilience and Grief
- Self-Harm

- Service Delivery, Implementation
- Service Systems and Programs
- Social Justice, Social Inclusion
- Suicide Prevention
- Technology, Online Services & Information
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Veterans and the Defence Force
- Wellbeing
- Workforce

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Learning Objectives

- Every abstract must be accompanied by two learning objectives.
- **Learning objective (1)** answers the question: "What will people in the audience gain or learn from attending this presentation?" (Don't say what you are going to teach, but what they are going to take away from the session.)
- **Learning objective (2)** answers the question: "How is this topic/issue relevant to mental health services and mental health issues?"
- Failure to include these two learning objectives will result in the abstract not being accepted for review.

References

- This section is preferred, however it is <u>not</u> compulsory.
- Please enter 2 references to support your abstract.
- Please note that these are academic references, not character or personal references.
- References may be formatted in your preferred academic style. If in doubt, TheMHS Learning Network recommends using the APA referencing style:

e.g. For a journal:
Surname, J.S., & Surname, A.D. (2011). Article title. Journal Title, 10(4), 299-300.

e.g. For a book:
O'Donoghue, T., & Clarke, S. (2010). Leading learning: Process, themes and issues in international contexts. London: Routledge.

Types of Presentations

Please note that time limits for speakers will be strictly enforced so that there is adequate time for discussion of papers and for other speakers in the session to have their full allocated time.

Snapshots (Brief Papers)

- <u>Purpose</u>: To provide a brief update about a particular service issue, descriptions of innovative programs, personal stories or ideas about strategies for the future.
- <u>Session Length</u>: 90 - 120 minutes
- <u>Presentation Length</u>: Each presenter speaks for 10 minutes. After all speakers have finished, there will be time for audience discussion.
- <u>Suggested maximum number of presenters per paper</u>: 2.
- <u>Abstract word limit</u>: 200 words.

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Papers

- Purpose: A paper describes innovations, research and evaluation programs, outcomes, effective practice, creative services, as well as personal stories about mental illness and mental health.
- Session Length: 60, 90 or 120 minutes
- Presentation Length: Each presentation is 20 minutes + 10 minutes discussion/Q&A.
- Suggested maximum number of presenters per paper: 2.
- Abstract word limit: 200 words.

Symposia

- Purpose: The symposium is designed to take a more formal approach to the selected topic that is relevant to clinical issues, system of care, programs or a specific mental health related topic. At least 20% of the total allotted time must be devoted to questions and answers, or to group interaction. A brief plan is to be submitted by the applicant, containing a description of the unifying theme(s) as a whole, followed by an abstract of each individual paper within the symposium. The applicant arranges the chairperson.
- Session Length: 60 or 90 minutes inclusive of discussion time.
- Suggested maximum number of presenters: Chairperson and 3 – 5 presenters
- Abstract word limit: 800 words.

Workshops

- Purpose: The workshop focuses on a particular issue or topic relevant to mental health services and maximises audience participation. At least 25% of the total allotted time must be devoted to questions and answers, or to group interaction – remember this is NOT a lecture. A brief plan of how the time will be allocated/managed is to be submitted by the applicant within the abstract. The applicant arranges the chairperson
- Session Length: 60 or 90 minutes inclusive of discussion time.
- Suggested maximum number of presenters: Chairperson and 3 – 5 presenters
- Abstract word limit: 800 words.

Debates

- Purpose: A current/controversial topic in mental health is debated by experts in the field. This format gives the opportunity for delegates to hear both affirmative and negative views about important, interesting and timely concerns. Someone who has expertise in the topic area facilitates each debate. The applicant arranges the facilitator. A portion of the time is devoted to questions and answers.
- Session Length: 60 or 90 minutes inclusive of discussion time.
- Suggested maximum number of presenters: Facilitator and 3 – 6 presenters
- Abstract word limit: 200 words.

e-Poster

- <u>Purpose</u>: The e-Posters provide an opportunity to display new research or evaluation results, clinical or service advances, new program features, or work-in-progress. TheMHS will facilitate connection between delegates and authors of e-Posters by:
  - o Providing all delegates with copies of 'e-Poster Abstracts'
  - o With permission of author/s, providing all delegates with contact details for all e-Poster submitters
- <u>Format</u>: An e-Poster should be a maximum of 1 (one) PDF or JPG slide that will be available on digital touch screens in the Exhibition Area at the conference, and on the conference mobile app. More information regarding e-Posters will be provided upon acceptance of abstract.
- <u>Abstract word limit</u>: 200 words.

Roundtable Discussions

- <u>Purpose</u>: Roundtable discussions focussed on a specific topic, question or piece of research/evaluation, are designed for a small audience where there is maximum opportunity for dialogue and debate. Presenters give a very brief overview of the territory for dialogue and then facilitate the discussion. No audio-visuals will be available as the room is intimate.
- <u>Session Length</u>: 60 or 90 minutes
- <u>Abstract word limit</u>: 200 words.

Other Presentation Types

- <u>Purpose:</u> This presentation category is only for submissions that do not fit within one of the above categories. A brief plan is to be submitted by the applicant, including explanation of the proposed presentation format and how the presentation or session time will be allocated/managed.
- <u>Session Length</u>: Up to 90 minutes (maximum)
- <u>Abstract word limit</u>: 800 words.